



Village of Mariemont

6907 Wooster Pike
Mariemont, Ohio 45227
(513) 271-3246
www.mariemont.org



NEW YEAR BRINGS GOOD NEWS & NEW CHALLENGES

For the 11th year in a row, the overall General Fund budget ended with a balance over \$1,000,000 (\$1.1 million to be exact). This surplus was possible thanks to the 'belt-tightening' of Council, the work of our citizen volunteers, and our dedicated employees going beyond the call of duty. It is also a result of the strategic personnel reorganization that took us from 24 full-time employees to a roster of 19 without cutting our important services. Clerk Tony Borgerding commented that with this end-of-year balance, the General Fund looks to be in good shape for the next three years. It is from the General Fund that we pay most normal expenses, such as salaries and benefits, utilities, supplies, equipment repairs, and all the other typical and recurring expenses associated with running the Village. At a recent Council meeting, it was asked if some of the bills paid in January should have been paid in December and if that would have reduced the balance to less than \$1,000,000. Those bills were not received in time to be paid in December as the holidays caused the payment cycle to be shortened. The fact is that the bills which were in question totaled approximately \$75,000 and paying them in December would still have left us with an ending balance of over one million dollars. We do pay our bills on time, but we *do not* pay our bills as soon as they are received. We want that money in the bank until the bills are due so we can earn as much interest as possible. In this economy, every hard-earned tax dollar counts! This surplus, as was stated, surely shows that we are in good shape for the next three years. As one can see, we have been and we will be working very hard to keep our expenses in budget despite having to offset Governor Kasich's cuts to local governments. This is evident by the fact that our ending balance for January – even after paying all the end-of-year bills for 2011 and the first-of-year bills for 2012 – was still over \$1,000,000 and that is \$80,000 more than we had at the end of last January. While the federal government may still be having trouble with its budget, we in the Village are certainly improving ours!



TOWN MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 11TH

This year's Town Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 11, at 1:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the junior high school (Dale Park School). At the meeting, we will ask for citizens to voice their opinions about what we should do with Dale Park School. Those attending should enter through the back door off the parking lot.

TIM FEICHTNER APPOINTED NEW ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEF

Following the resignation of Asst. Fire Chief Jeff Travers at the end of 2011, Fire Marshal Tim Feichtner was appointed to fill that position. Asst. Chief Feichtner joined the Village of Mariemont Fire Department as a part-time firefighter/paramedic in 1999 and was hired full-time in 2001. Tim served as the Fire Marshal for many years and acted as a supervisor when Mr. Travers was not on duty. "Fletch", as he is known around the fire station, is extremely hard-working and very devoted to the Village and the safety of its residents. He has already made several changes and improvements to the department. I know he will do a great job as the new Assistant Fire Chief!



Tim Feichtner

CONGRATULATIONS TO OTHER NEW OFFICE HOLDERS

With the New Year, there were several new appointments made to various boards and commissions within the Village. These are unpaid positions filled by residents who have demonstrated their desire to serve the community. Like our volunteers, we owe them a great deal of appreciation for sharing their time, talents, knowledge, and ideas. We are a stronger community because of them. Some of those who accepted appointments are as follows:



Paul Allen

ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

Paul Allen has been appointed to the Village's Architectural Review Board for 2012 and 2013. Paul is a graduate of UC with a degree in Mechanical Engineering, and the inventor or co-inventor on 12 US patents. He will be a great addition to this important group in the Village.

SWIM POOL COMMISSION

Maggie Palazzolo and Jenny Baker have been appointed to the Swim Pool Commission. We look forward to the ideas this new group will bring to make improvements to the pool and its membership. All areas of the Village are now represented on the commission except for the Historic District. If anyone living in that area is interested in serving on the Swim Pool Commission, please call me.



Maggie Palazzolo

MARIEMONT PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

This year we will see a change in the leadership at the Mariemont Preservation Foundation with the appointment of their new Board President, Don Keyes. Don and his family are long-time residents of the Village and his insight into our community's history will make him a terrific asset to MPF.



Don Keyes



Jenny Baker (with Husband Frank)

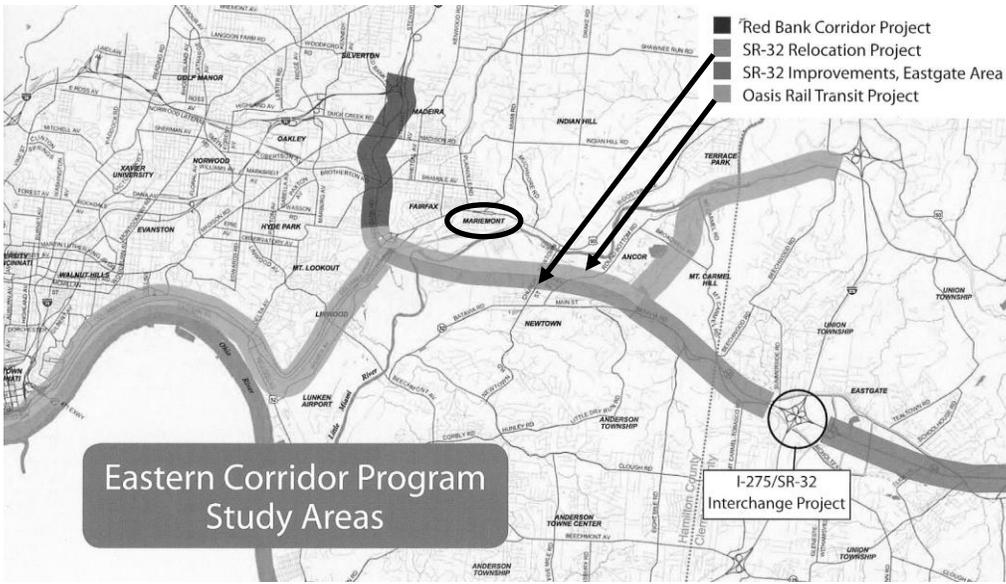
PRESERVATION FOUNDATION OFFERS NEW BOOK

Mariemont Preservation members Karen Monzel Hughes and Millard Rogers have collaborated on a terrific new book entitled, *Mariemont: A Pictorial History of a Model Town*. Available for purchase at MPF, the hardcover book, published by Ohio University Press and Mariemont Preservation Foundation, details Mariemont's history in beautiful black and white illustrations drawn from MPF's extensive archival collection of drawings, maps, and photographs. It also includes color photographs by award-winning photographer Robert Flischel and the book's designer, Karen Monzel Hughes, that show Mariemont in the present day. Text for the book was provided by Millard Rogers. If you would like to order a signed and personalized copy of this book, please call 272-1166 or email jsetchell@mariemontpreservation.org.



EASTERN CORRIDOR PROJECT UPDATE

Councilman Dennis Wolter and I had the opportunity to attend a recent meeting about the proposed Eastern Corridor project. While construction of the corridor is still a long way off, we were pleased to find out that the route will swing away from the Village and the Little Miami River. It will cross the river at Horseshoe Bend near Fairfax and the passenger train route and relocated path of State Route 32 will run parallel to each other and to the corridor. As you can see from the diagram, this



means the corridor will not run as close to the Village as was once feared.

ACE HARDWARE SELLING TRASH STICKERS

Ace Hardware has opened a new store in the Mariemont Promenade and has Village of Mariemont trash stickers available for sale. They also carry the clear plastic trash bags for yard waste, as well as the brown paper yard waste bags. The clear plastic bags have been hard for some residents to find, so having them in stock at Ace Hardware will be a big convenience. I hope you will welcome our new neighbors.

SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL

1 STICKER
Limit: 45 Gallon Can or 50 Pounds

2 STICKERS
Cans Larger than 45 Gallons

SAVE MONEY BY COMPOSTING & RECYCLING

1048177



POLICE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES GRANTS

The Village of Mariemont Police Department recently received two grants. The first one allowed for the department to receive, for free, a new radar unit to detect speeders. The second one, which is a federal grant through Homeland Security, provides the department with a license plate reader that would have cost \$14,000. A growing number of police departments are turning to these mobile plate readers (LPR) to fight motor vehicle theft and identify unregistered cars. The LPR reads the license plates of parked and moving cars -- hundreds per minute -- and checks them against vehicle databases. Police officers are then quickly and easily able recognize vehicles that have been reported as stolen and/or those reported as having been involved in a crime or as belonging to a person who has been issued a warrant for arrest. It will also alert the officer if the person associated with the car is considered a terrorist threat. This is another wonderful tool to help our Police Department keep the 'bad guys' out of the Village and keep our residents safe.

TOWNHOME LANDSCAPING BEAUTIFICATION CONTEST ANNOUNCED

With spring right around the corner, now is the time for owners and tenants of our historic townhouses to start planning their front yard gardens for the second annual Townhouse Beautification Award! Members of the Mariemont Parks Advisory Board will judge the landscaping of the townhouses, looking for the one with the most improved and beautifully designed front yard. The grand prize will be a one-year family membership to the Mariemont Swimming Pool. (If the winner of the pool pass has already purchased one, they will be reimbursed.) Additional prizes include breakfast at the National Exemplar in the Mariemont Inn, tickets to the theatre, and more donation prizes are being added. The Mariemont Civic Association will announce the winners at their meeting on June 21st! Those wishing to participate should contact the Village office at 271-3246.



MARIEMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION BICYCLE PROGRAM

For the third straight year, the Mariemont Civic Association will be providing a limited number of new bikes to children in the Village who cannot afford to buy one. If you know of a child in need of a bike, please contact Dennis Wolter at 271-1155, Joe Miller at 561-3514, or Dan Policastro at 561-2619.

SPRING SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK

The State of Ohio will conduct a severe weather awareness program during the week of March 25th through March 31st, with a tornado drill on Wednesday, March 28th at 9:50 a.m. Hamilton County will NOT set off the sirens for this test. However, because sudden spring weather changes enhance the possibility of tornadoes, the county has asked us to make you aware of the test and to remind you of the difference between a warning and a watch. A tornado **watch** means severe conditions are possible; a **warning** means severe conditions are imminent and you should take shelter immediately. When a warning is issued in Hamilton County, the outdoor sirens will sound a steady tone for five minutes.



JUST A REMINDER: Rumpke will collect trash, recycling, yard waste, and large items on all holidays EXCEPT Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Sincerely,
Dan Policastro
Dan Policastro, Mayor