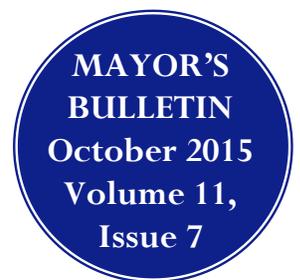




# Village of Mariemont

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[www.mariemont.org](http://www.mariemont.org)



## **CONGRESSMAN BRAD WENSTRUP TO SPEAK AT MARIEMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION – THURSDAY - OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup> AT 7:00 PM**

The Mariemont Civic Association has lined up some great speakers for their upcoming meetings, including Congressman Brad Wenstrup, who will be giving us an update on all that is happening in our nation's capital. Congressman Wenstrup is a wonderful speaker and this should be a very informative Civic Association meeting. On November 19<sup>th</sup>, the speaker will be Michelle Balz of Hamilton County Solid Waste District that will provide valuable information about new recycling guidelines. All Civic Association meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from March through November at 7PM in the Village Church of Mariemont on the corner of Oak and Maple. For information about joining the Mariemont Civic Association, please contact President Bob Keyes at 271-7632 or call the Mayor's office at 271-3246.

### **HEAVY RAIN STORM CAUSES DAMAGE THROUGHOUT AREA**

The Village of Mariemont, Fairfax, and parts of Newtown, Madison Place, and the City of Cincinnati were hit hard on September 4<sup>th</sup> with a rain storm that stalled over our area and dumped up four to five inches of rain in less than an hour. Some streets looked like rivers and many residents were faced with basements flooded by sewer backups. Even the Municipal Building had over a foot of water in the basement. Residents who have lived in Mariemont for most of their lives said they had never seen a storm bring this much rain or cause this much water damage. The storm eventually passed and now we must focus on the lessons learned from it.

As an insurance professional, I cannot stress enough the importance of being proactive in doing all you can to 'water-proof' your basements. Steps that should be taken include:

- If you live in a low area, install a sump pump WITH A BATTERY BACKUP system
- Make sure your homeowner's insurance includes coverage for sewer backups and sump pump failure coverage
- Contact your insurance agent and purchase FLOOD insurance. Premiums for Mariemont residents should be very reasonable thanks to the fact that the Village is a member of FEMA's Flood Management program
- Consider replacing basement windows with glass block windows, especially if your window wells hold water during a rain storm
- If you are remodeling your basement, consider using ceramic tile instead of hardwood or carpet. In the event of a sewer backup, the tile can simply be cleaned instead of having to be replaced like hardwood or carpet would.

If you need to have work done to repair damage due to this storm, you may need a permit to have the work done. HOWEVER, I will waive all fees the VILLAGE would normally charge for those permits. Please contact me at 271-3246 for authorization to have the fee waived.

The Village is going to be looking into grants that would help to cover the cost of more retention pipes in the community. In the past, we had basements flooding at the bottom of the hill on Miami Road on the northeast side of the Village. We installed a retention basin at the top of the hill and that made a big difference. Now we need to try to do the same thing in other trouble areas. We have already applied for an Ohio Public Works Commission grant. We will also be applying for a grant from the Hamilton County Storm Water District as soon as it becomes available next year.

### **UNWANTED COMPUTER DROP-OFF PROGRAM TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED**

As you know, the Village has a program that allows residents to drop off unwanted computers at the Fire Department, who then takes them to Staples to be recycled. However, due to the sewer backup at the Municipal Building, we are suspending that program through October while the Municipal Building basement is being cleaned and restored. Residents may start dropping off computers again beginning November 2<sup>nd</sup>. We appreciate your understanding and patience.

### **SIGNS ON WOOSTER PIKE**

About three years ago, the Village of Mariemont and our school district entered into an agreement with ODOT for a "Safe Routes to School" program and grant. The signs that recently appeared on Wooster Pike are there because of that program. As you know, Wooster Pike is a state road and it appears ODOT feels they have the right to put up signs on a state road as they see fit. As a result of the "Safe Routes to School" grant, we are getting a sidewalk between Park Lane and Harvard Acres, crosswalks through the islands on Wooster Pike to make it safer for children when crossing the street, and we will be part of the "Share the Road" program for bikes. These are all good things, but the best thing is that we will be getting a HAWK traffic light on Plainville Road near Chestnut Street. This will allow students and other pedestrians to hit a button which will trip a signal giving them the right to cross the road by making on-coming traffic stop. The HAWK light should be installed within the next three to four weeks. The total cost of all these additional safety improvements was \$180,000 and 100% of the project was funded by ODOT. Once the work is complete, I will work with the Village Engineer to eliminate the redundant and unnecessary signs. If ODOT comes back and tries to "call the shots", as they have tried to do in the past, we will let them know that there is a thing known as 'home rule', and as we have done in the past, we are going to enforce to it. We will only allow the signs that are necessary to promote safety, which is our #1 priority!

### **IRS SCAMS ON THE RISE – DON'T BE A TARGET**

Several residents have reported being contacted on the phone and/or through email by someone claiming to represent the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and asking for information to settle a lawsuit, process a refund, or update tax information. DO NOT speak to these people or reply to their emails. THEY ARE SCAMS! The IRS will never phone you without prior arrangements being made to do so and they will never contact you by email. Almost all IRS communications will be in the form of a letter or notice sent by regular or certified mail. To avoid becoming a victim of these IRS scams and other cons, here are some steps you should take:

- Screen calls and don't answer unknown numbers
- Do not return a call if you suspect it's a scam
- Refuse to engage with a scammer by simply hanging up
- Block numbers which are known to be illegitimate
- NEVER give out your credit or debit card numbers over the phone. NEVER give out a PIN, bank or social security numbers or any other personal identifying information. NEVER send out any money
- If uncertain about the caller, hang up without giving them any information. Call the IRS at 800-829-1040 to determine if the caller is legitimate or you may telephone your trusted accountant for advice. DO NOT CALL ANY NUMBERS THE SCAMMER GIVES YOU!
- Stay updated on the news to be aware of the latest scams
- Report scam calls to the Treasury Inspector General for the Tax Administration (TIGTA) at [www.tigta.gov](http://www.tigta.gov)
- If you suffered a loss due to scammer or feel threatened, report the situation to the Police Department by calling 271-4089

**BOATHOUSE PATIO AND FIRE PIT TO BE ADDED**

For several years, we have wanted to make improvements to the Boathouse by adding a concrete patio and fire pit area. Thanks to two grants from Mariemont Preservation Foundation (MPF) and a donation from the Mariemont Civic Association, those plans are becoming a reality. A grant we received earlier this year allowed us to complete Phase I of the patio. Now MPF has awarded the Village a second grant in the amount of \$5,850.00, which will cover most of the cost of Phase II of the patio project. The Mariemont Civic Association's donation will cover the balance and we can now announce that the patio will be completed by the end of this month. Also, we wanted to take this opportunity to apologize to anyone who wasn't named in the previous bulletin when we thanked all those who helped clear the area that made it possible for us to put in the patio and make other improvements to the landscaping at the Boathouse. Those people include Brian Vianello, John Fakes, Terri Spooner, Jane Spooner, Reilly Bates, David Haynes, students and teachers from the Waldorf School. There were certainly others who helped and, when we get all of their names from those who organized this important volunteer project, we will be happy to acknowledge them. In the meantime, thank you one and all!

**LEAF COLLECTION TO RUN FROM OCTOBER 16 THROUGH DECEMBER 18**

The Village of Mariemont Service Department will begin vacuuming leaves from the curb during the week starting October 19<sup>th</sup> and will continue to do so through the week ending December 18<sup>th</sup>. Each street in the Village will be serviced one time per week. The day for each street may differ from week to week depending on the volume of leaves to be collected. To ensure your leaves are collected once per week, please have them at the curb by 8 AM each Monday. DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO THE STREET as they clog the storm water drains. DO NOT mix brush, limbs, pumpkins, and rocks in with your leaves due to the damage those items cause to the vacuums. If you miss the collection on your street one week, you will need to wait until the following week for leaves to be vacuumed up. The Service Department CANNOT break from their route for special service requests. You may still bag your leaves and place them at the curb to be picked up by Rumpke on your regular trash collection day.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

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▶ **PORSCHE RALLYE – SATURDAY - OCTOBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**

Cars will be on display at the Village Square and along nearby streets for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ohio Valley Region Porsche Club of American Mariemont Porsche Rallye. All proceeds from the rallye go to charity.

▶ **MARIEMONT MIXER – THURSDAY - OCTOBER 8<sup>th</sup>**

You're invited to attend a special event sponsored by Mariemont businesses on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, from 6PM to 9PM. Those attending the "Mariemont Mixer" can enjoy a glass of wine and visit the unique shops and restaurants of the Village to the accompaniment of live music on the Village Square. The Dilly Cafe and the Quarter Bistro restaurants will have their patios open so passers-by can stop in for a bite. Participating businesses include Chuck T. Madden, DDS, Dilly Cafe, Eva's Esthetica, Eyecare on the Square, Keller Williams Advisors Realtors, LaRosa's, Lolli's, Mariemont Alterations, Mariemont Inn, Matthew Lackney, DDS, Pomegranate & Lime, Sara Benjamin's, Spinnenweber Builders, The National Exemplar Restaurant, The Quarter Bistro, The Sweeterie, The Travel Authority, The Villager, Roosters Men's Grooming Center, The Wardrobe, Top Drawer and Tri Health – Health First Physicians.

▶ **WARRIOR RUN – SATURDAY - OCTOBER 10<sup>th</sup>**

The Warrior Run Race for Life is an annual Village event featuring a 5K race and one-mile walk. It will be held on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM this year, with the course starting and finishing at the Bell Tower. The family-oriented fundraiser benefits Cincinnati Children's Medical Center's "Surviving the Teens" program. Enjoy a fun-filled evening that includes the race, great food, fun music, carnival style kid's games and a movie at dark. For information on registration, please visit [www.cincywarriorrun.org](http://www.cincywarriorrun.org)

▶ **MARIELDERS PRESENTS OPERA IN THE PARK – SUNDAY – OCTOBER 11<sup>th</sup>**

MariElders and the Cincinnati Opera request the honor of your presence at Dogwood Park on Sunday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, from 4PM to 6PM for a performance of *The Marriage of Figaro: The Essentials*, a light-hearted presentation of Mozart's masterpiece. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 and include dinner served by Smoker EZ from 4PM to 5PM, a Carillon concert from 4:30PM until the beginning of the opera performance at 5PM. For tickets or more information, please contact the MariElders at 271-5588.

▶ **MARIEMONT PAINT OUT – FRIDAY and SATURDAY - OCTOBER 16<sup>th</sup> AND 17<sup>th</sup>**

The Woman's Art Club of Cincinnati will host a "Paint Out" benefit on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. What is a Paint Out? It is an event where artists register a blank canvas, then set up at a spot of beauty somewhere within the Village limits, and start painting. For this event, artists will paint on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> and Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup>. They will then turn their work in at the Woman's Art Club Cultural Center (The Barn), where the paintings will be offered for sale. Visitors can view the paintings at a reception and sale on Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, from 7PM to 10PM. Awards will be announced during the reception. Make sure to walk around the Village during those days to see the artists at work and stop by the reception Saturday evening for an opportunity to purchase artwork depicting our beautiful community.

▶ **BLACK-EYED SUSAN DAY – SATURDAY - OCTOBER 17<sup>th</sup> – BEHIND THE BOATHOUSE**

The Village will be collecting Black-Eyed Susan plants on October 17<sup>th</sup> to replant behind the Boathouse. If you have any of these plants you would like to give to the Village, please place the plants in plastic bags, making sure they are damp or in a small amount of water. You can then drop them off at the front steps of the Municipal Building or at the top of the steps leading to the Boathouse, or you can plant your flowers yourself. You can also call my cell (615-5729) and I will pick up your plants. The garden are will be ready for planting by October 11<sup>th</sup> if you want to plant prior to October 17<sup>th</sup>.

▶ **TRICK OR TREAT – SATURDAY – OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup>**

Trick or Treat in the Village of Mariemont will take place on Halloween, Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, from 6PM to 8PM. Don't forget to stop by the Police and Fire Departments for glow sticks and treats. Please use extra care when driving during that time. Parents can help insure their children's safety by having them stay on sidewalks wherever possible and dressing them in light-colored costumes. Those who do not wish to participate in Trick or Treat should turn off their front porch light, and parents should remind children NOT to knock on any door if the front porch light is not turned on.

▶ **LUMINARIA – SATURDAY – DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup>**

The annual Tree Lighting and Luminaria Night, organized by the Mariemont Preschool Parents Group (MPPG), will be held in the Old Town Square on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Festivities will be held from 5:30-8:00 PM with a Carillon concert and a visit from Santa. There will be lots of activities for the kids, carriage rides, and musical concerts. The Luminaria kits are sold by MPPG and order forms were included in the September issue of the Town Crier. For your convenience, order forms are also available on the MPPG website ([www.mariemontppg.com/luminaria](http://www.mariemontppg.com/luminaria)). There will be no door-to-door sales. THE DEADLINE TO ORDER KITS IS FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2<sup>nd</sup>. A limited number of kits will also be sold for an additional charge by MPPG at the Boy Scout tree sales at the municipal building. The Tree Lighting and Luminaria Night event has become a treasured Village tradition enjoyed by residents and visitors of all ages.

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Sincerely,

*Dan Policastro*  
Dan Policastro, Mayor

**GO BENGALS!**