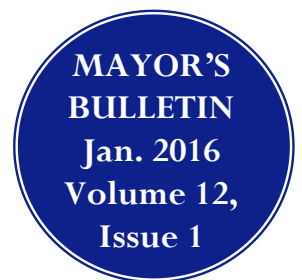




Village of Mariemont

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



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SAFETY SERVICES DEPARTMENTS

This has been an outstanding year for our Police and Fire Departments! Congratulations to Police Chief Rick Hines and the members of the Mariemont Police Department! On December 3rd, the department received the AAA Platinum Traffic Safety Award for the sixth year in a row. There are approximately 148 police departments in the Greater Cincinnati/Tri-State area. Of those 148 departments, only 10 received an AAA Traffic Safety award and we are one of the very few to have received the Platinum Award for six years straight! This award signifies how dedicated our Police Department is to traffic safety and to the safety of our residents. They deserve our full support and gratitude.



Chief Hines receiving Platinum Award from AAA President Wiedemann

In 2015, the Fire Department was able to improve their ISO rating to become one of only eight municipalities in Ohio with an ISO rating of 2, which is an indication of the high level of skills of our firefighters and the quality of the equipment we have. We are fortunate to have such a great full-time fire department. Congratulations to Jason Kiefer for the wonderful job he has done since becoming the Asst. Fire Chief in 2014 and to all our firefighters for their dedication and hard work.



Don Keyes

WELCOME TO NEW BUILDING COMMISSIONER DON KEYES

Following the resignation of Kirk Hodulik, long-time Village resident Don Keyes was appointed to be the new Building Commissioner for the Village of Mariemont. We were very fortunate that Don was willing to take on this task. He and his family have lived in the Village for more than 42 years. He spent his career as an engineer and is familiar with the many aspects of construction. For many years, Don has been an active member of the Mariemont Preservation Foundation and understands the importance of maintaining our historic buildings and preserving the essence of our Historic Districts. Don has said that if he ever gets caught up on the day-to-day work of the department, he would like to establish some new systems that would help to better catalog all the construction and improvement projects for each home in the Village. Welcome, Don, we're glad to have you!

MARIEMONT RECEIVES RECYCLING AWARD

For the 6th year in a row, Mariemont earned the award for having the highest recycling rate of any village in Hamilton County. We recycled more than 33% of all the trash we generated. Not only does this give us bragging rights, it also means we will receive more in Residential Recycling Incentive Funds. So, congratulations to all our citizens who have shown they understand the environmental importance of recycling and helped to earn the Village extra revenue in the process. For receiving the award in 2014, the Village earned \$18,412.92. We should do even better for 2015. Well done, Village citizens!



Council Members Joe Miller and Dennis Wolter receive Recycling Award from Michelle Balz of the Hamilton County Solid Waste and Recycling District.

WOOSTER PIKE NO LONGER CLUTTERED BY SIGNS

After a meeting with Village Engineer Chris Ertel and Service Department Superintendent John Scherpenberg, I was able to give Mr. Scherpenberg the OK to remove several of the redundant "Share the Road" and "School Zone" signs from the islands and other areas of Wooster Pike. We reduced the signs on Wooster Pike by 16 and on Madisonville Road, we removed 6 signs. All in all, 22 signs were taken down. State law requires us to keep the crosswalk signs near school zones, so those signs must remain in place. Also remaining in place will be the stop signs that have gone up over the past year. These signs were put up to maximize traffic safety in areas where a large number of children live and play. They were installed due to advice from Police Chief Rick Hines, who studied the areas and felt the signs were necessary. When it comes to traffic safety, we will always follow the lead of Chief Hines. Additionally, we will be working with the residents on Mt. Vernon and adjacent streets regarding the 'NO PARKING' signs that are to be put in. Just as it is with the stop signs, the 'NO PARKING' signs are an effort to increase safety in the Village. We must make sure our fire trucks and other emergency vehicles can quickly maneuver through all streets in the Village. Parking on most streets will eventually be limited to one side only and that will be the side without fire hydrants. To help reduce any unsightliness from the signs, we will look into planting more trees behind the signs as we work with the homeowners.

STORM WATER CONTROL FOR SETTLE ROAD

This fall, we had an unprecedented rainfall that resulted in most of the basements on Settle Road flooding. Since then, the Village has been in the process of finding funding to install a storm water detention system on Settle Road. A detention system is used in areas where storm water needs to be detained and allowed to discharge at a controlled rate. We installed such a system on Miami Road several years ago. Storm water running off the hill on Miami Road used to turn yards at the bottom of the hill into 'lakes' and caused basements to flood with each heavy rain. The Miami Road detention system has eliminated that problem and we now need to do the same for the Settle Road area. We applied for one grant from the Hamilton County Storm Water District (HCSWD), but were denied. We have now hired Choice One Engineering to conduct a study of the storm water issues on Settle Road, determine where to put the underground detention tank, and prepare a report that will become a part of our next grant application to HCSWD. This should greatly improve our chances of getting funding. We will keep you posted on our progress.

YARD WASTE and BRUSH COLLECTION SCHEDULES HAVE CHANGED

In the colder months, residents generally do not set out a lot of yard waste for Rumpke to pick up. Therefore, some changes have been made to the schedule for collecting yard waste. Rumpke will pick up yard waste at the curb on Tuesdays ONLY. They will resume their regular schedule of Monday and Tuesday collections during the first week of March. We will be reviewing the schedule for brush collection and will be including that schedule in a future bulletin.



RESIDENTS OF MARIEMONT RECOGNIZED BY CINCINNATI MAGAZINE AS TOP DOCTORS

Long-time resident and Village of Mariemont Town Crier, Dr. Robert (Bob) Keyes, has been named as one of the top doctors in Cincinnati in 2016 by *Cincinnati Magazine*. Dr. Keyes, who is affiliated with Christ Hospital's Health and Aging Center, graduated from the University of Cincinnati College of Medicine in 2000. He specializes in Internal Medicine with a focus on Geriatrics. We have always known Bob was an outstanding doctor and a great guy. It is nice to see him getting the recognition he deserves. However, Dr. Keyes was not the first Mariemont resident to have the honor of being included on the 'TOP DOCTORS' list. In 2015, Dr. Stephen Lewis, a cardiologist with Tri-Health Heart Institute, and Dr. Karl Braun of the Urology Group were also included on the list. Congratulations to all the Top Doctors in our community!

MARIE HUENFELD RETIRED FROM SCHOOL BOARD

On December 15th, Marie Huenefeld was presented with a proclamation in recognition for her 28 years of service to the Mariemont City School District. Marie was first elected to the Board of Education in 1987 and served as the Board's President for five separate terms. She also was on the Facilities Committee for the multi-building construction project that was completed in 2012. A long-time resident of the Village, Marie graduated from Mariemont High School, as did both of her sons. We applaud Marie for her dedication to Mariemont Schools and thank her for all she has contributed to the schools and to the Village of Mariemont.

OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

As of the first part of January, we will start accepting nominations for the 2016 Outstanding Citizen of the Year award. Nomination forms are available at the Village office and must be returned to the office by March 17th. For someone to be considered for the Outstanding Citizen award, they must have made a major contribution to the quality of life in the Village of Mariemont. There is no limitation as to the type of work done or in what way it has benefitted residents, but the amount of positive influence in making the Village a desirable place to live is a major consideration. The nominee must also be a current or former resident of Mariemont and must be living at the time of their nomination. The recipient of the award will be announced at the 2016 Memorial Day Parade.

WINNER OF CIVIC ASSOCIATION RAFFLE ANNOUNCED

At the December 14th Council meeting, SCOTT KELLER's name was drawn as the Grand Prize winner of the vintage Lionel Train set. Ken Fields won the Second Place prize of 'Scenes of Cincinnati' keepsake Christmas ornaments. Thanks to all those who bought tickets to support the Civic Association. All money raised by the Civic Association stays right here in the Village and is used solely to benefit our community and its citizens through supporting events like the fireworks show and to help Mariemont families and our kids in need.

CIVIC ASSOCIATION 2016 CALENDARS STILL AVAILABLE

Once again, the Civic Association has used Joe Stoner's wonderful photos of Mariemont to create a beautiful calendar for 2016. The calendars are available at a cost of \$10 each, but supplies are limited. If you would like to purchase one, please contact me at 615-5729.



STRAY CAT PROJECT

As you may know, Mariemont schools take part in the Destination Imagination competition each year and have had several teams selected to participate in the annual Global Tournament. This year, one of the Destination Imagination teams has chosen as their project to round up the stray cats in the Village and work to find these cats good homes. The stray cats create a problem for the Village, using flower beds as litter boxes and killing birds that many of our residents enjoy feeding and watching. They also carry diseases and parasites that can be transmitted to people. They reproduce rapidly which just adds to the problem. More importantly, these cats are without the basic essentials of life. They have no

food, water, or shelter. The Destination Imagination team is asking for donations to help with their project. They will be capturing the strays and helping to get them placed in loving homes where they can be healthy and happy. If you would like to donate to this noble cause, please contact Councilman Eric Marsland at emarsland@gmail.com. If you are a cat owner, do not let your kitty roam free. It might be mistaken for a stray and accidentally be sent to a new home.

VANDALISM AT BELL TOWER

We were sad to see that someone had used spray paint to mark the Bell Tower restroom doors with graffiti. Fortunately, we were successfully able to clean it all off, but we will not tolerate any type of senseless vandalism in the Village. If you know who is responsible for this graffiti, please contact our Police Department at 271-4089. You may also contact me at 615-5729. Let it be known that anyone caught committing an act of vandalism in Mariemont will be held responsible for all damages.



DO NOT KEEP VALUABLES IN YOUR CAR & LOCK YOUR CARS!

There has been a rash of car break-ins in the Village recently. In all cases, valuables had been left in the cars and those are the things that were stolen. The most recent car break-ins were committed by a team driving around in a SUV. While one person drove, the partner walked up to cars, looking for items to steal. Wherever they spotted valuable items, such as laptops, phones, purses, or cash, they broke into the cars and helped themselves to the items they could sell or trade. This is especially upsetting because it takes so little to avoid being a victim of this kind of crime. The solution is simple: Take your valuables inside and lock your car. While the Village is one of the safest communities in all of Hamilton County, please remember that we are not immune to crime. Don't allow yourself to be a victim. If you are a victim of a crime, PLEASE REPORT IT TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT IMMEDIATELY. This is the only way the Police can investigate and, hopefully, make an arrest.

THANKS TO THE MAYOR'S BULLETIN VOLUNTEERS

We couldn't start the New Year without thanking all those who helped to distribute the Mayor's Bulletins last year. There is no way we could get the bulletins out and keep citizens informed if it were not for these volunteers who deliver the bulletins come rain, shine, the hot days of summer, and the cold winter days. Last year's volunteers included:

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Wendy Ackenbach | Carl DeBlasio | Eric Marsland | Nina Rogers | Jani Viox |
| Dave Alexander | Carole Demaret | Larry McGonegle | Syd Sabo | Joy & Ken White |
| Maria Bailey | Jennifer & Bill Ebelhar | Darla Michael | Mary Ann Schwartz | John Widecan |
| Joan & Bill Bender | Mike Eisenhauer | Joe Miller | Terry Spooner | Becca Wilson |
| Sophie Borgerding | Leah Geldbaugh | Beth Moone | Nancy Stelzer | Leah Wilson |
| Jack Borgerding | Jim Howe | Bob Naugle | Joe Stoner | Jack Wineland |
| David Boyles | Wes Iredale | Jen O'Brien | Mary Ann Terry | Dennis Wolter |
| Merret Collister | Becky Jones | Kelly Rankin | Carolyn Tuttle | |
| Laura Cruickshank | Mary Marchal | Father David Robisch | Jerry Vianello | |



Sincerely,
Dan Policastro
Dan Policastro, Mayor