

Clinton Estates Newsletter

January 2009 Issue XI

Civic Action: Neighbors Helping Neighbors

In September, we learned that there are many ways we can work together to help our neighbors in times of crisis. The one thing the Civic Association participated in was a Spaghetti Supper for those still without electricity. You may know of people living around you who could be helped with snow shoveling or trips to the store, etc. My parents were trying to raise 3 children in the Great Depression without jobs. They got by because some neighbor would call offering Dad a day's work for 10 pounds of potatoes or some other necessity.

How can we improve our neighborhood? Some of you have concerns and others have ideas for solutions. A meeting to explore concerns and ideas will be held **February 2 @3:00 P.M. in the Unity Church, 4211 Maize Road.** This is not just for Clinton Estates, but will include the Maize Morse Civic Assoc., Unity Church, Maize Road Baptist Church and any other organization that wants to participate.

I do regret that this first meeting is much later than I had originally anticipated. If you work during the day, you can give your ideas to me to take to the meeting. We will have an evening or Saturday meeting later in the month after this organizational one.

Mariellen Miller – 267-7844

Clinton Estates Online

Would you like to receive information about the neighborhood electronically? Our newsletter is great, but issues arise more frequently than every two or three months. Several of your neighbors are currently getting that news online. We do our best to screen any mail that we forward, as we know your days are busy. Currently mail originates only from the President and Block Watch Coordinator. We are open to feedback about any mail sent.

Of course, not everyone has a computer or the internet, but those who do can help create an "online presence" for Clinton Estates. If you would like to join the online service, just e-mail your name and email address to Chuck Lynd at chuck.lynd@gmail.com.

Send feedback to the address designated in the email or to hiMariel@sbcglobal.net if none is included. Please do not hit the reply button. If you are currently receiving Clinton Estates e-mail and wish to discontinue, contact Chuck at the above listed address.

Mariellen Miller, Pres.

Mark Your Calendar

Jan 20	CECA Trinity Church	7pm
Jan 28	NCC Development Committee	7pm
	Minerva Park Community Ctr.	
Feb 2	Community Crisis Organization	3pm
	4211 Maize Road	
Feb 3	NCC Friendship Village	7pm
Feb 10	CECA Block Watch	7pm
	Trinity Church	
Feb 17	CECA Trinity Church	7pm
Feb 25	NCC Development Comm.	7pm
	Minerva Park Comm Ctr	
Mar 6	NCC Awards Banquet	6pm
	Villa Nova Banquet Hall	

Nominations needed for April Election

Clinton Estates Civic Association will hold elections on April 21, 2009. We now have five officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary. A nominating committee will be formed at the **January 20** meeting. Some of our current offices are open for competition. If you would like to be on the nominating committee or are interested in any office, please come to the meeting at **7:00 P.M.**

Blockwatch Notes

Citizen Alert – allows the Columbus Division of Police to instantly update you about crimes, emergencies, and other important information. Sign up today at www.citizenobserver.com/registration.

At the December block watch meeting Detective Thomas Sanford of the Columbus Police Department Fraud/ Forgery Unit talked about how to protect ourselves from identity theft. Some highlights from his presentation were: Common methods used to steal identity: Stolen Mail, Dumpster Divers, Dishonest Employees, Office Creepers, Shoulder Surfers, Stolen Purse or Wallet, Telephone – Caller ID, Internet.

Common methods ID information is used: Physical Use, New Credit Accounts, Dormant Accounts, Fraud Checks, Counterfeit Documents, Utilities Fraud, Income Tax Fraud, Internet.

Immediate actions if you suspect you are a victim of ID theft: Call Police – File a Report, Attempt to close accounts, Check credit report, Place fraud alert on accounts, Contact Fraud Unit.

Recent crimes in our area from <http://www.columbuspolice.org/Reports/PubDefault.aspx>
Robbery Howard Johnson 01/03/2009 887 Morse Rd. Officers responded on a robbery in progress at listed location. Upon arrival officers determined that the suspect was unable to make entry into the lobby and therefore did not get anything from the business. The suspect left the business in an unknown direction of travel.

Burglary Mosaica Education 12/28/2008 1333 Morse Rd. Officers dispatched to listed location on a burglary alarm. Burglary Columbus Humanities 12/29/2008 1333 Morse Rd. The listed address was entered by 3 unknown suspects, listed property was damaged.

Menacing Cathy Conley 12/30/2008 3760 Maize Rd. Officer responded to the listed address on a report of a theft. When Officer arrived he made contact with the victim who stated that her ex- husband stole some guns that belonged to her and when she confronted him about them he made threats against her life.

Our block watch is working to protect your neighborhood. We can't do it alone. You can help by joining with your neighbors and becoming a block watch member. Working together we can keep crime away from our community. If interested contact me, Dave Schutz, at 447-9987; or **come to our next meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb 10** at Trinity United Church of Christ, corner of Shanley Dr and Maize Rd. When driving or walking through the neighborhood please keep an eye out for crime. Report anything suspicious to the police and your neighbors. Police emergencies should be reported by calling 911. Suspicious activity can be called in to the police non-emergency line at 645-4545.

FROM AN UNKNOWN STREET REP

Edited by Tim Darago

We all want Clinton Estates to give off a safe and inviting air. We want our mail carriers, newspaper delivery people, kids going to school and anyone else using our sidewalks and driveways to be able to get from A to B upright and dry, especially in these snowy winter months. Please keep this in mind after a snowfall, and please try to keep your little patch of heaven shoveled or snowblown. Of course, some of our residents aren't physically able to get outside and do this work, but if you are, please try (and if you have a neighbor who isn't, maybe walk your shovel or snowblower a few extra feet down the road).

One more item. I know most of us could live the rest of our lives without ever seeing *TheBag* and the rest of the throw-aways that seem to infest our porches like one of the biblical plagues, but they begin to be an eyesore as they accumulate. Let's keep Clinton Estates classy and try to reach down and pick up those items after we fetch the mail.

Thanks for your ears, neighbors.

Harry & Beth!!

As you have observed, Harry and Beth Yeprem have given our social events a lot of creative energy. They both have new and exciting ideas that infuse our community with enthusiasm and hope. Thus it seemed only logical to name them to a position of Social Chairpersons! This is not a Board position, yet it does recognize the work they do.

There are others who have contributed to social events, such as Christine Creagh (Halloween Parade '07) and many who bake cookies and shop for events. As the association grows, it is appropriate to have Social Chairs and we are grateful to Harry and Beth for accepting the responsibility.

Behind the Scenes

For more than two years we have been blessed with the excellent work of Traci Fletcher. Traci has been great to work with, as she does not get flustered when this writer sends confusing messages, is late for the deadline and other 'sins of omission.' Her usual response is "It's okay, not a problem." Over the two years, we have worked out most of the wrinkles. She has worked quietly behind the scene and I just wish to acknowledge her contribution to our Association. She give a gift of time and skill.

Mariellen Miller, President

Code Enforcement at Work

What is the benefit of code enforcement? We recently witnessed a change because of it. A new owner was installing a high solid fence that would block the view of an intersection. Quick action by the enforcement supervisor, Jeff Pharion, lessened the impact. The height was lowered, the corner was beveled and now one can see through the fence.

As a specific resident, you or I may be on either side of the controversy. Sometimes we just want to do on our own property what we want to do. Yet when we live in a community, what we do has an impact on the surrounding residents. Zoning laws are in place to facilitate a certain level of quality to a neighborhood. You can find different laws and regulations in other areas. We may agree or disagree with the regulations in Clinton Estates. Some residents would like stricter regulations and others may desire less restriction.

At the NCC meeting this month, we heard various opinions about the shootings at the *Underground*, the new business on Dublin Granville Road. Many questions were asked about the legality of the gatherings there at the times of the incidents. Sometimes, we believe we have enough control, and later learn that there is not enough.

Two years ago, we struggled with the problem of noise emanating from a building on Morse Road rented out for parties, etc. There were different understandings about what was and was not allowed. Thankfully, the problem was mostly resolved or at least greatly reduced. It took bringing in negotiators from the City to come to resolution. This situation needed police intervention as it was disturbance of the peace; property uses and rights are Code issues. If you are concerned about uses and rights in Clinton Estates, it is appropriate to call the City Call # **311** and make a report. When reporting an issue this way, there is a tracking of the situation; you will be given a tracking # and you can use it later to check the status of your issue. You can also report by going online at www.311.columbus.gov.

Trash and Bulk Pick-up

When you have furniture that is not in good enough condition for reuse and you want it picked up by the City, just call **311** several days ahead of your regular trash pick-up day. You can get rid of large items or boxes of trash for which there is no room in your green trash can. You do need to give several days notice, as they have to plan their routes for a different truck, although they do come on the same day.

We hope to keep this service, yet are not sure what comes under the chopping block for the reduced city budget. There are currently considerations of cutting back on the yard waste pick-up.

Neighborhood Blast!

Last June, people who had not seen each other in years became reacquainted during the Neighborhood Blast and Garage Sale. Harry and Beth Yeprem have started a wonderful tradition. Watch for specific information on this years event in the March Newsletter.

Street Gutters and Debris

Winter has set in although we have seen little snow. On Blythe Road, we have witnessed a lot of ice because of a water line break and debris, mainly leaves clogging the street gutters. After the sudden deep freeze taking temperatures below 0, a city line ruptured. When the water came to the leaves it covered half of the street, causing risky driving conditions. Do you have time to help keep our streets clear and safe this winter? Pitch in if you can.

Strategic Response Bureau

In November, I reported to you that the Columbus police Strategic Response Bureau would be moving to Morse Road. We heard at the NCC meeting this month that the move is to happen within the next month. They will locate at 1120 Morse Road. This not only gives this area another police presence, it cuts down response time for Strategic issues in this area. This is not a station for regular police calls, but it will be the location for the Police Liaison Officer for the 18th Precinct, who reported to NCC. Although we currently do not have a Liaison Officer (again), it is helpful to hear the reports at the NCC meeting. As you are probably already aware, the budget cuts will greatly affect the Police Department, as they are not planning to hire new officers at this time. Thus we do not know when we will get a new Liaison Officer. More reason for us to be watchful.

Mariellen Miller

Remembering Anne

Residents of Clinton Estates have various memories of Anne Blatherwick, depending on where and when they met her. Yet several constants are her gentle ways, her love of nature and kind soul. Anne walked the neighborhood, often with her husband, Chuck Lynd, helping to deliver the newsletter or giving a friendly wave to anyone within view. She came to the Association Board meeting to advocate for a Community Garden. To know her was to admire and love her.

Anne died at home on November 29, 2008 after a long and hard fought battle with cancer. To express her love for nature, she was buried in Foxfield Wilderness Preserve, near Wilmot, Ohio on December 2nd. Besides Chuck, she leaves behind her daughter, Caylan, several other family members, many dear friends and neighbors.

A beautiful memorial service was held in her honor on December 27th at the Unity Church on Maize Road. If you knew Anne and Chuck and have not been aware of her death, you can send condolences to Chuck at chuck.lynd@gmail.com.