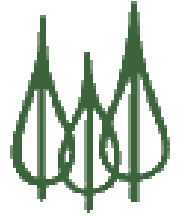




The Forester



www.fpcivic.org

Volume 60 Issue 03

Forest Park Civic Association

MARCH, 2024

“Just when I thought I was out, they pull me back in.”

That’s a quote from The Godfather Part Three by an aging Al Pachino. So there are some similarities for me: I’m aging, I’m returning to the role of membership coordinator, but unlike Michael Corleone I’m not dreading it.

The April Forester will be mailed to you. Expect it about the second week rather than the traditional first Sunday of April. With Easter at the end of March we need to move things a few days. Enclosed with the Forester News there will be the 2024 membership form and a return envelope. The cost is \$30 and your dues will go to funding neighborhood security, the Northland Security Council, the NCC Parade and a wide range of social events. A more detailed explanation will follow in the April edition.

The 2023 membership total was the lowest in neighborhood history, and if this continues the organization will disappear. We don’t want that to happen! When everyone gives their small contribution of a membership it expands and helps the ENTIRE neighborhood. So much could be done if all households would become members of the Forest Park Civic Association.

I can personally attest to the impact that FPCA makes yearly. I can also understand why so many people would be unaware of our representative group. This is partly because we are an understaffed body and communication is not as effective as we would like it to be. It’s also because the average resident is very busy and does not have time to engage on his or her own. It’s sad though, because many people do not have any idea of the positive results derived from FPCA.

Of the many challenges in operating FPCA, staffing is among the greatest. Everyone is a volunteer but more volunteers would make the workload easier. As a result it has been difficult to offer a more appropriate appreciation for the numerous households who have continued to fund us. Just understand that every membership submission lightens the economic hardship of FPCA and allows for a more positive path forward. Thank you so much to everyone who has, and will support FPCA.

Thanks for Reading, Mike Stone, proud Forest Park Neighbor

Look for your April Forester in the Mail, mid April. It will include your monthly Forester and our yearly membership dues. You will be able to mail or pay online your \$30 dues.



Forest Park Civic Meeting Tuesday March 12, 2024

- **Blockwatch** 6pm
 - **311 Code time** 6:30pm
 - **FPCA Meeting** 7pm
- Guest Speaker - Zach Williams, State Bank to discuss Financial issues for the consumer**

Epworth United Methodist Church
5100 Karl Rd

SAVE THE DATE!

**Forest Park
Community Garage
Sale Date:
Saturday
May 18th, 9-3pm**

FOREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT

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ed1vanasdale@gmail.com

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andrea@yellowumbrellahomes.com

NCC REPRESENTATIVE

Ken Gilbert614-888-3559
Dave Paul614-325-8217

NCC Development Rep

Ed Vanasdale.....614-847-1494

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Forest Park West

1. Ernie Mack.....614-477-8452
2. Bob Hinebaugh.....614-885-0691
Bonnie Freeman....614-356-0816
3. Catherine Gilbert.....(614) 888-3559
Glenda Wylder.....glendawyld@yahoo.com
4. Suzanne Conway...614-804-4404
5. Scott Biggs.....614-378-9889
Linda Ridenour.....614-846-3287

Forest Park East

6. Cindy Fenstermaker614-323-3173
7. Eileen Kunkler.....740-605-2526
8. Frances Link614-657-9510
9. Jane Dean.....
janemarie6677@yahoo.com
10. Hilda Johnson.....614-515-7711
11. Linda Whitmore..614-890-1065 or
Dave Paul.....614-325-8217
12. Rita Price.....614-776-4316
Francine Dillard....614-882-2717
13. Mark Bell.....614-818-9065
14. VACANCY.....

City Code Enforcement : Call 311

CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH ARE:

Rita Woeste, Ken Gilbert, Andrea Phillipsen,
Cheryl Lutman, Mike Stone
Lou Bernard, Mary Sguerra,
Kate Van Mercetta

FORESTER Advertisements

For information please call
Email Lowell at

fpc.newsletter.ad.manager@gmail.com
Advertisements can be emailed (camera
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COSTS to ADVERTISE:

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1/4 page AD:\$65

Business card AD: \$40

If you encounter problems with an
advertiser, please notify Rita Woeste.

FORESTER BILLING ADDRESS:

Checks should be made payable to Forest
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Foresters are available at the Karl
Road Library, Donatos Pizza,
YMCA, Gabby's Bar, Prince Pizza

Articles for the April, 2024 Forester are due
to editor by March 15, 2024. Our April 2024
Forester will be MAILED with membership.
Look for your mailing the first 2 weeks of
April, 2024

Join FPCA, just \$30, helps with costs of
this Forester publication

If you can help with delivering the Forester
in your neighborhood, contact Rita Woeste
at rwbuckeye@gmail.com

Help Wanted

Our membership drive will take place between April 8 and July 20th. If you would be interested in helping in this process, it would be greatly appreciated. The participation times would be short periods so that participants can fit a bit of volunteering into their schedules.

Envelope Assembly Party Member: We need about 20 people to help assemble our membership mailing packets, taking place during the afternoon of Saturday April 6. It's a fun way to enjoy some food and socialize with other residents while doing light work stuffing envelopes.

Membership table: We hope to have membership stations during the summer where residents can walk up and join. Sites, dates and times are yet to be determined, but volunteer shifts would be approximately 90 minute shifts.

Media Help: We can also use volunteers to help promote the FPCA membership campaign through social media. If you are on-line often, consider using your talents to help promote the value of FPCA.

If interested please contact
Erin Materu (Volunteer Coordinator) at mmateru@hotmail.com

Mike Stone (Membership Coordinator) at msto0103@yahoo.com

Thanks!!



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Monthly Financial Report - January, 2024

<u>Income</u>	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
Household Membership	\$60.00	\$12,455.00	\$14,400.00	\$1,945.00
Business Membership	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$750.00	\$450.00
Forester				
Advertising	\$305.00	\$6,715.00	\$7,500.00	\$785.00
Additional Donations	\$0.00	\$765.00	\$1,000.00	\$235.00
Supplemental Security	\$0.00	\$1,632.50	\$2,000.00	\$367.50
Beautification	\$0.00	\$692.50	\$1,000.00	\$307.50
Garage Sale	\$0.00	\$170.00	\$260.00	\$90.00
Mulch Sale	\$0.00	\$5,665.00	\$0.00	(\$5,665.00)
Welcome Committee	\$0.00	\$505.00	\$0.00	(\$505.00)
Interest	\$0.17	\$1.66	\$2.00	\$0.34
Other	\$0.00	\$1,765.00	\$2,000.00	\$235.00
Total Income	\$365.17	\$30,666.66	\$28,912.00	(\$1,754.66)
<u>Expenses</u>				
Membership				
PayPal Fees	\$0.00	\$100.66	\$70.00	(\$30.66)
Annual Mailing Printing	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$1,015.00	\$735.00
USPS Bulk Mail Permit	\$0.00	\$1,630.00	\$1,600.00	(\$30.00)
Outreach Day	\$0.00	\$82.15	\$125.00	\$42.85
Forester				
Printing	\$0.00	\$6,895.00	\$10,835.00	\$3,940.00
Bags	\$0.00	\$1,319.03	\$2,370.00	\$1,050.97
Supplemental Security	\$2,331.25	\$8,793.75	\$10,000.00	\$1,206.25
Beautification				
Island Maintenance	\$0.00	\$370.00	\$690.00	\$320.00
Neighborhood Beautification	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Committees				
Welcome	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Social	\$0.00	\$220.57	\$500.00	\$279.43
Parade	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$275.00	\$275.00
Garage Sale	\$0.00	\$103.92	\$100.00	(\$3.92)
Mulch Sale	\$0.00	\$3,829.33	\$0.00	(\$3,829.33)
Office Expenses				
Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
Insurance	\$0.00	\$436.00	\$475.00	\$39.00
NCC	\$0.00	\$185.00	\$170.00	(\$15.00)
Banquet	\$0.00	\$79.70	\$150.00	\$70.30
PO Box	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$232.00	\$232.00
Other	\$0.00	\$82.50	\$100.00	\$17.50
Total Expenses	\$2,331.25	\$24,407.61	\$28,907.00	\$4,499.39
Net	(\$1,966.08)	\$6,259.05	\$5.00	(\$6,254.05)

JANUARY, 2024
Treasurer Report
Submitted by
Cheryl Lutman



At the January FPCA meeting, folks got to meet State Representative Munira Yasin Abdullahi, for House District 9 which includes the Forest Park Neighborhoods. Munira lives here in Forest Park and spoke about her passion to help make Healthcare more affordable. Her contact information is : 77 S. High St, 10th Floor Columbus, OH 43215 614-466-2473 Rep09@ohiohouse.gov THANK YOU Munira for taking time to connect with us.

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Blame it on El Niño ..

FP Gardener, March 2024

I think that we can agree that this winter has not made any sense. Other than the few true “winter” days in December, we’ve basically just been existing in a cold, gray, dreary landscape. Not a lot of rain, hardly any snow, and just really kind of non-descript.

Our winter season this year, has been courtesy of our friend “El Niño”.

El Niño is a periodic weather pattern. Above average sea-surface temperatures develop somewhere in the Pacific Ocean, around the equator, and around the coast of South American and western United States. As a result, clouds form over the ocean, and ride the jet stream, crossing over the United States.



You would think that it wouldn’t really affect us here in the Midwest, but it certainly does. In fact, because of the wobble and rotation of the Earth, the jet stream moves up and down. El Niño has global consequences.

In El Niño years, the West Coast of the US receive high amounts of precipitation. With all the rain California received this winter, their drought has been practically erased, and the ski resorts in Oregon and Utah are loving it! For our region, the jet stream pushes the colder air farther north, and we end up with a warmer and drier winter. If you noticed, Chicago and Detroit got most of the heavy snow this year, which went over the Great Lakes and dumped on Buffalo, Boston, NYC, and the Northeast. When the jet stream drops, it goes much further south – bringing colder air and strong storms to the Southeastern states.



While it might be nice to get away with wearing a fleece jacket instead of the full winter coat, the lack of snow and precipitation can really be a concern. Soils with below moisture levels tend to affect the planting of our gardens and especially the farmer’s fields. Dry fields can lead to erosion, and in the home garden, perennials are more susceptible to “frost heave”. Also, you might be tempted to plant too early, due to warmer temperatures, but be careful. Weather patterns can come and go.

Many scientists believed that we would experience a Super El Niño event this year, meaning much warmer, and drier than normal in our region. That being said, our El Niño pattern will come to an end, most likely in a slow fade. Around April we should see the normalization of the oceanic temperatures and we will settle back into a more “neutral” weather pattern.

Did I mention that El Niño has a sister? La Niña tends to show up after strong El Niño events. She is contrary to her brother, and brings cooler, wetter conditions. If we do have a La Niña pattern this year, you can look for her around late June, early July, and through August.

Next change:

MAR

10

1 hour Forward
Mar 10, 2024, 2:00 am



Forest Park Civic Association Meeting
Date: Tuesday February 13, 2024
Location: Epworth United Methodist Church

Meeting called to order @ 8:01 PM by Ed Vanasdale
 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
 Attendance was taken via role call.

OFFICER REPORTS

President Ed Vanasdale - ed1vanasdale@gmail.com

None-due to extensive time needed for Membership Coordinator to plan.

Guest Speaker: None

Vice President Trevor Secord - tsecord@unc.edu *Absent*

Secretary Lou Bernard - loubernard3@gmail.com

1. Attendance:

Officers/Committee Chairs Present: EV, LB, CL, RW,
 DVM, KVM, SL, CA, LH, MS, EM, AP, KG
 Officers/Committee Chairs Absent: TS, MS, DP, SB
 Area Reps in Attendance: 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13
 Area Reps Absent: 1, 4, 5, 6, 11, 14 (Area 14 remains
 vacant)

Total meeting attendance: 22

2. Reviewed minutes from January, no changes or corrections needed,
 minutes have been approved and were entered into the official records.
 Attendance Sheet thru February is available online.

Treasurer Cheryl Lutman - cllutman17@gmail.com

1. Not much activity this month.
2. Two new household memberships. The one coming through PayPal paid the fee - thank you!
3. Advertising revenue has come in.
4. Paying the last couple of months of security invoices

Public Relations Mary Sguerra - marysguerra@howardhanna.com

1. Save the Date for this year's SPRING Forest Park Community Garage Sale to be on Saturday, May 18th.
2. Mary is volunteering to help with the Forest Park Membership drive by applying the labels on all of the envelopes like in the past.

Forester Editor Rita Woeste - forester_ed@fpcivic.org

1. Items are due this Friday, February 16th for the March *Forester*. Delivery will begin as early as Feb. 23 thru the following week.
2. Bags will be ordered for 4 months of *Foresters*. April *Forester* articles will be due based on when mailing takes place for membership drive.

Supplemental Security

Daryl Van Mercetta - dvanmercetta@gmail.com ,

Katie Van Mercetta - kvanmercetta@gmail.com ,

Dan Yandrich (CPD Liaison Officer) - dyandrich@columbuspolice.org
 614.645.1418

We would like more folks to attend Block Watch. Officer Yandrich was here and it didn't look good to have such a small crowd. We originally split the time to give people the chance to speak with a member of the CPD. A more complete Block Watch report will appear in the *Forester*.

Business Representative

Sheridan Landon - slandon52@gmail.com

Cynthia Alkire - lclassicyn@gmail.com

1. Sheridan has been out visiting area businesses, and trying to drum up more business memberships.
2. Cynthia has been hitting up area business, too. She has been working in the area of Columbus Square shopping area, especially Bakaro International Market, trying to get them to become business members.
3. The Happy Druggist has closed. We are sad to see them leave.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Welcome Committee Chair Laura Hayes - hayeslaura2@gmail.com

1. This month we have 5 new Forest Park homeowners. So we have new Welcome Folders to distribute.
2. Thanks to all those who helped pass out the folders last month.

Volunteer Coordinator Erin Materu - mmateru@hotmail.com

1. We have filled the position of Membership Coordinator, thank you Mike Stone; and have found people to support Mike in this process.
2. We are still looking for an Area 14 Rep. This position has been vacant for years. If you are interested, please contact Erin.

Membership Coordinator Mike Stone - msto0103@yahoo.com

1. The most critical point is that the earliest that we could (should) do the membership stuffing and delivery would be for the April edition.
2. There are a number of new procedures and protocols which will need to be followed through the USPS and this will take some time.
 We are still doing a bulk mailing with the *Forester*-this has been protocol for the last 7+ years. We will need lots of help pulling this thing off.
3. Things to try: competition between areas with the highest percentage of members, weekly reminders to previous members, have area reps get more connected with people in the neighborhood, setting up tables at area events, yard signs to remind people of membership drive, etc.
4. There will be a meeting with the executive board to iron out the final details this week.

Social Activities Andrea Philipsen - andrea@yellowumbrellahomes.com

1. March 8th Family Fun and Movie Night postponed due to staffing change at YMCA.
2. The Forest Park Social Season kicks off in the YMCA parking lot on May 1st with "Peach Cobbler Factory" from 6-8pm! More event announcements in the weeks to come!

NCC Representatives

Ken Gilbert - kgilbert78@att.net, Trevor Secord - tsecord@unc.edu
 Read report in the *Forester*

NCC Development Representative

Ed Vanasdale - ed1vanasdale@gmail.com

No cases pertaining to the Forest Park Area were heard this month.

Website Administrators

Scott Biggs - sbiggsmail@yahoo.com

Dave Paul - dwpaul@fpcivic.org

Our website/Facebook page is always - always being updated with new and upcoming info! Please check it out!! Please subscribe/follow us.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/IDEAS

March Guest Speaker: Our guest speaker will be Zach Williams, from State Bank. (*Zach was going to be our Nov. '23 guest speaker, but he was unable to make it due to illness.*) Zach is an expert in all things home loans, and he's ready to speak on a variety of topics including hosting financial literacy classes, if there's interest! You can find Zach on Instagram (loanswithZach), and we look forward to seeing him and YOU on the 12th! (Copied from Facebook post by A. Phillisen)

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM

Meeting minutes submitted by Lou Bernard, Secretary, FPCA

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Support our Local Business Members!!

If you know of a business who would like to advertise in the Forester or just become a FPCA business member, have them contact Forester Editor, 614-785-1555 or email forester_ed@fpcivic.org for information.

NCC Northland Community Council February 2024 meeting summary

The Northland Community Council held its monthly meeting on February 5 at Westerwood. These meetings are open meetings, and any resident of the Northland Area may attend. The following groups made reports: The Community Liaison Officers from the Columbus Police reported that the major issue in the Northland area is stolen cars, and it's not just limited to Kias and Hyundais. One of the big issues is folks warming up their cars without being inside them (this is a ticketable offense). It can take less than 30 seconds for someone to steal a car. Members of the Community Response Team were also present. Sarah Pomeroy, our zone attorney from the City Attorney's Office, reported on issues of concern to the community. She is continuing to work on objections to hotel and liquor licenses in the area, It was noted that there has been a few issues at the hotels near The Continent, as they are currently being used to house some of the people from the Colonial Apartments closure emergency. They hope to have all of those people rehoused in a few months. Many already are. The issues at the Beechwood Newsstand on 161 are being worked on. New lighting and security cameras are being added by the owners of the plaza.

There are many events going on at the Karl Road branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library. Check the website for more info. The Northland Area Business Association will be holding their quarterly lunch at the Elevate Northland Center on March 12 at 11:30 am. Columbus City Schools will be holding a Summer Job Fair soon. Our Community Liaison Devin Deal noted a couple items of interest. The city is working on a flyer to promote home ownership. The Columbus Police's Citizens Police Academy is now taking applications for the next class. I know that FPCA president Ed Vanasdale has attended in the past and considered it quite useful.



There was an open roundtable with Brad Westall from Columbus Recreations and Parks about the purchase of the old rail right of way that parallels Westerville Rd from Linden up to 161 for a new park. More on that in a separate article.

The Northland Volunteer Awards Banquet will be at Villa Milano on April 16. Tickets may be purchased from the NCC website. The Northland Fourth of July Parade Committee meets at Casa Mescal on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm. The theme for this year's parade is Diamonds of Northland, as this will be the 60th parade.

Officers were elected by acclamation for 2024: President, Alicia Ward; Vice President, Pat Hammel; Secretary, Christine Otero; Treasurer, Roger Davidson. NCC Representative (Forest Park) Ken Gilbert conducted the election. No major items came from the NCC Development Committee. Finally a lively discussion took place regarding improvements to 161. We found out that the flower boxes are being removed and will not be replaced. There are currently no plans for anything other than very basic landscaping (i.e., grass) to replace them, as the roads department appears to have ignored our concerns. The NCC hopes to have a discussion on this issue with the city in the near future. It is hoped that there will be some grants available for beautification.

Ken Gilbert
NCC Representative
Forest Park Civic Assn.

Hello Forest Park! We have continued to experience the car theft and break-ins that tend to increase this time of year due to unattended vehicles warming up in driveways and the boys are still stealing Kias, but Officer Yandrich reported that crime in our area, the 18th precinct, is "normal."

What does "normal" mean? Normal just means that crime isn't above average, but it also means that it's not exceptionally below average. While that's good news, it can be better, which is why the Forest Park Civic Association reimplemented the Block Watch.



Per usaonwatch.org, here are the reasons to have a neighborhood block watch:

Basic Crime Prevention: Practice crime safety measures that eliminate opportunities for criminals. Encourage others to join in crime prevention efforts. Aid others when they become victims of crime. Work for a better and safer neighborhood through protecting and honoring the rights of others.

Disaster Preparedness: Learn skills to prepare for man-made and natural disasters. Local, state, and the federal government do a lot to prepare for disasters but citizens have to be ready to care for each other. Encourage citizen involvement in preparation and planning.

Build a Stronger Community: Get to know your neighbors. In our fast-paced world we don't spend enough time learning about our neighbors. Watch groups give community members a reason to get together and talk about making their community a better place. Neighborhood Watch Activities are a fun way for community members to get to know each other while making a difference.

The Forest Park Block Watch is held on the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm at the Epworth Church on Karl Road. It is the same day as the Forest Park Civic Association and at the same place. Our Police Liaison, Officer Yandrich, joins us at each meeting and dedicates 30 minutes of his time to provide us with updates of crime in the area, answer any questions we have, and address any concerns. If you cannot make the meeting, you can feel free to send any questions you have to Daryl Van Mercetta at dvanmercetta@gmail.com and he will bring them up for you.



In order for Block Watch to be successful, we need your help. We hope to see you there next month!

If you're a paid Forest Park Civic Association Member (only \$30/year for the entire household), supplemental security house checks is one of the added benefits of your membership. Simply return the form below and return it to Daryl Van Mercetta at dvanmercetta@gmail.com; 2131 Honeytree Court, Columbus, OH 43229; or 513-479-2416. Alternatively, you can fill out the form online at fpcivic.org. Once received, Daryl will send it to the Security Company, who we hire to patrol the neighborhood, and

they will keep any eye on your home while you're away.

As always, if you see something, say something and stay safe everyone!

See more information on this chart on Page 9

18 Precinct Bi-weekly Stats 1/23/2024 to 2/5/2024

Crime Type	Bi-Weekly Average	Normal Range	Current	Activity Level
Burglary - Commercial	2.6	1-5	3	NORMAL
Burglary - Residential	3.4	2-5	3	NORMAL
Theft from Motor Vehicle	4	1-7	5	NORMAL
Motor Vehicle Theft	25.3	18-33	26	NORMAL
Robberies - Individuals	3	1-5	4	NORMAL
Robberies - Commercial	0.8	0-2	1	NORMAL
Aggravated Assault	2.8	1-5	2	NORMAL
ALL CRIMES	42	34-50	44	NORMAL



FPCA Officers, Committee Chairs, & Area Reps present at the January 9th FPCA Civic Meeting are sworn in by Sarah Pomeroy, Columbus Senior Assistant City Attorney. Each January the new slate of FPCA folks are sworn in as part of their volunteer commitment to serve and assist the Forest Park Neighborhood and the city of Columbus.

18th Precinct Chart (page 8)
 This chart was given at the February Blockwatch, Officer Yandrich was there to give info and answer questions

- Forest Park is a small part of the 18th Precinct
- 18th Precinct borders to the south on Cooke Road, to the north at 161, on the west along Indianaola, and goes almost east in parts to Westerville Road (Route 3) It does not include Minvera Park.
- From the map provided, which is not shown, issues in Forest Park were car thefts or car break-in thefts.
- Come learn more of what is going on in your neighborhood at the Block Watch meeting each month. You are not required to stay for all meetings, just spend the 30 minutes from 6 to 6:30 to see what you can learn to keep your neighborhood safe.
- Next BlockWatch meeting is Tuesday March 12 at 6pm at Epworth United Methodist Church, 5100 Karl Road

Be Part of the Forest Park Blockwatch

**Officer Daniel Yandrich, #2206
 Forest Park's Community Liaison
 18th Precinct
 614-645-1418
 dyandrich@columbuspolice.org**

Supplemental Security House Check
Forest Park Business Members and Homeowner Members only!

Use this form to have your home checked while you are on vacation. The form will be passed on to the supplemental security officer and the Security Officers. Or fill out the request on our website, www.fpcivic.org

Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____

Vacation Dates: Depart _____ Return _____ Please notify _____

Alternate person Address _____ Phone _____


Who has key? _____

Lights on timer? _____ Location of lights _____

Radio or TV continuously on timer? _____
 Location of devices _____

Will older children be in and out? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, make and model of their car _____



**Mail to:
 Daryl Van Mercetta
 2131 Honeytree Court
 513-479-2416
 Or
 Email at:**

Park & Greenspace planned for Eastern edge of North Columbus

From Ken Gilbert

Brad Westall of Columbus Recreation and Parks presented information on a new Columbus park, tentatively known as the Linden Green Line, at the Northland Community Council's February 2024 meeting.

This new park will consist mostly of the old CSX rail line right-of-way that once ran from Downtown Columbus through Westerville paralleling Cleveland Avenue and Westerville Rd.

A grant allowed the city to purchase the approximately 58 acres, 7 mile long corridor. The goal is to transform it into a linear park with a 10 ft shared use path, running from about Windsor Park at 17th Ave. to Cooper Park just north of 161. This could connect to the current bike trail in Westerville. Some of the old rail bridges and the tunnel under 161 may be able to be used, but a bridge over Morse Rd. will be needed. There will also be connections to other parks and the Alum Creek Trail with at least 40 access points to the new park.

There will be over 100,000 people in the area within 10 minutes of this new park in 13 neighborhoods. The original grant only covered the purchase of the park and some basic planning, so competing it will require requesting additional grant money. It will take 18 months to construct, and Parks and Recreation hopes to have it in service by 2026.



Food Waste Drop-Off Program

The City of Columbus is operating a Drop Off Composting site at Anheuser-Busch Sports Park, located on Olentangy River Road just south of Bethel Road.

**(Bill McDonald Athletic Complex,
4990 Olentangy River Rd.)**

- It's a 24/7 site, and items you can drop include:
- Fruits and vegetables, including peels, trimmings
 - Grains and beans
 - Pastas, baked goods
 - Eggs, eggshells, dairy
 - Small amounts of cooked or raw meats, seafood, shellfish
 - Small amounts of oil or grease

Remove any plastic or other wrappers.

I've been there, and it was really easy. Just pull in the parking lot and find the containers. Drop your food in (mind the bees!) and leave!

I started a sealed container on my counter and throw things in it. Then, every few weeks, I stop by the site and empty the container. Give it a wash and it's ready to collect more compost materials.

Until we get a drop off site going in the neighborhood, this is a great way to keep food waste out of the landfill!

For more information, you can visit [Food Waste Prevention](https://www.columbus.gov/foodwaste/),
<https://www.columbus.gov/foodwaste/>



contributed by Cherly Lutman

Forest Park Business Memberships

Churches

Epworth United Methodist

5100 Karl Road
614-885-8015

Karl Road Christian Church

5400 Karl Road
614-888-3444

Home, Services

Mary Sguerra

Howard Hanna Real Estate Services
614-818-7636

Columbus Window & Siding Doug Bond

614-453-5332

Jonathan Allen Landscape

jalen8352@wowway.com
614-899-6085

Cindy Fenstermaker

Realtor, AO Real Estate
614-323-3173

Andrea Philipson

Yellow Umbrella Homes at
Home Central Realty
614.264.3846

Restaurants/Entertainment

Massey's Pizza

1951 E. Dublin-Granville Rd
614 (888-0022)

Sequoia Pro Bowl

5501 Sandalwood Blvd
614-885-7043

Shopping, Services

Toro Meat Market

1405 E. Dublin-Granville Rd
614 (813-8395)

Kreiger Ford

1800 Morse Road
614-783-3673

Circle Smoke Shop

1852 Tamarack Circle South
614-396-7837

Circle Drive Thru

1848 Tamarack Circle S
614-505-0032

Gabby's Bar

1887 Tamarack Cir N
614.433.0583

Forest Park Christian Early Learning Center

5600 Karl Road
614.888.5282

Advantage Funeral & Cremation Services by Schoedinger North

5554 Karl Road
614.436.9220

**Located in Forest Park West
5501 Sandalwood Blvd**

Beach Bar **Great Food**
Karaoke **Bowling**



Reminder to All Drivers

Turn ON your HEADLIGHTS :

- When its Raining & you are using your windshield wipers, your headlights have to be ON. (it's Ohio code)
- At Dusk, don't wait til its dark, you want other drivers to see you especially when you are turning onto another road.

This past week with the days being so cloudy and rainy, I have seen endless times drivers who don't have headlights on and other cars don't see them. Tonight in a 5 mile trip back to my house in Forest Park, I counted 11 cars without headlights on at 6 pm with a steady rain coming down. One driver cut over and cut off a truck and almost got hit because the headlights were not on.

Be Safe out There!

10% NEIGHBORHOOD DISCOUNT for Forest Park Homeowners

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NEIGHBORHOOD Update!



Real Estate Services



March, 2024



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

MARY SGUERRA

CBR \$25 MILLION CLUB
FOREST PARK RESIDENT

818-7636

Dear Neighbors:

Now that things have settled down after the holiday season, the real estate market is beginning to pick up. If you need help in 2024 with either selling or buying a home, please give me a call! Let me show you what Howard Hanna and I can do for you. I hope you have a **GREAT 2024!**

NEW LISTING

5516 Driftwood Rd -Wow! 4 Level Split with 4 BR's, 2 BA's, Family Rm w/WB stove, 2 car garage \$279,500

2023 YEAR END FOREST PARK HOME SALES REPORT

STYLE & NUMBER OF HOMES SOLD	AVERAGE LIST PRICE	AVERAGE SOLD PRICE	RANGE OF SOLDS (Low-High)
2 STORY 26	\$296,854	\$296,627	\$ 240,000 - \$393,500
SPLIT 25	\$288,000	\$290,468	\$ 217,000 - \$350,000
RANCH 29	\$261,143	\$272,288	\$ 150,000 - \$335,000
BiLvI/CapCds 4	\$270,950	\$274,500	\$ 227,000 - \$364,000

TOTAL SOLD 84 * (FYI Great News! Average Days on the market for 2023 was 21 days)

CURRENT MARKET WATCH

The following homes are **For Sale** with **Howard Hanna**:

- 5516 Driftwood Rd Split/4BR 279,500
- 5371 Tamarack Bl 2-Sty/4BR 279,900 Coming Soon



Howard Hanna homes In Contract

Looking for buyers to help them find a new home :)

(C)=In Contract Contingent (E)=I/C w/Escape clause

**I KNOW FOREST PARK!
I LIVE IN FOREST PARK!
I SELL FOREST PARK!**

All Homes SOLD

Homes sold since 1/31/24	Asking Price:	Sold Price:
5503 Aqua St. Ranch/3BR	271,000	279,000
2109 Teakwood Dr. Ranch/3BR	279,900	273,900
5679 Sandalwood Bl Split/4BR	289,400	285,000

Information obtained from the Columbus Realtors - MLS as of 2/15/24. If your property is currently listed For Sale with another realtor please disregard this offer

