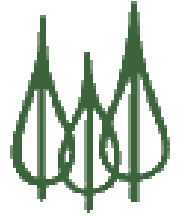




The Forester



www.fpcivic.org

Volume 60 Issue 05

Forest Park Civic Association

MAY, 2024

Annual NCC Banquet Recognizes FPCA Members

On Tuesday, April 16th the Northland Community Council held their 2024 Annual Banquet. The event was held at Villa Milano and attended by members of Northland Civic Associations, local politicians and more. Notable among the attendees were Emcee of the event and Forest Park's own Area 13 Rep Mark Bell, Columbus City Councilman Emmanuel Remy, our Ohio State House Representative Munira Abdullahi, and Columbus City Attorneys Zach Kline. The evening started with tunes sung live by a local Acapella group, and celebrated the volunteer and civic efforts of Northland Area residents all evening.

This year was made special by two Forest Park residents being recognized as Volunteers of the Year by our FPCA board. Andrea Philipsen and Laura Hayes were both honored with this award.

Andrea is the Social Committee Coordinator for our Forest Park neighborhood of nearly 3,000 households. She filled a void after the position was vacant for nearly three years. Andrea hit the ground running in 2023 and coordinated numerous events for our neighborhood, including the very well-attended Trunk or Treat event in October. She truly loves bringing people together - it's her passion, and it comes from the heart.

Laura is the newly elected Welcome Committee Chair for the Forest Park Civic Association and is proud to represent the millennial generation. She's responsible for assembling and coordinating welcome packets with a plethora of neighborhood related information. The welcome packets are then distributed by the area representatives for a chance to say hello and introduce themselves to the new neighbors. She also enjoys writing articles and delivering the monthly Forester newsletter.

Thank you to the FPCA board, and our NCC representatives who made this all possible.



Congrats to Andrea & Lauren on jobs WELL DONE!

Have you turned in your membership?

\$30/year to support you Forest Park Neighborhood

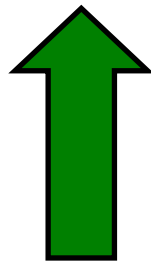


**Forest Park
Community Garage Sale Date:**
Saturday, May 18th, 9-3pm

Northland 4th of July Parade
10 AM-July 4th

Theme: 60th year, Diamonds of Columbus
FPCA will do Bikes/Trikes Contest
Prior to parade

Columbus Symphony Orchestra
Free concert at Woodward Park
Sunday July 14, 7 pm



**Pay online
at
fpcivic.org**

**Forest Park Civic
Meeting
Tuesday May 14, 2024**

- **Blockwatch** 6pm
- **311 Code time** 6:30pm
- **FPCA Meeting** 7pm

**Epworth United Methodist Church
5100 Karl Rd**

FOREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT

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ed1vanasdale@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Trevor Secord.....tsecord@unc.edu

TREASURER

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cllutman17@gmail.com

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Cynthia Alkire.....1classicyn@gmail.com

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

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volunteerfpc@gmail.com

WELCOME COMMITTEE CHAIR

Laura Hayeshayeslaura2@gmail.com

Forest Park Social Activities

Andrea Philipsen.....614-264-3846
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

Forest Park East

6. Cindy Fenstermaker.....614-323-3173
7. Eileen Kunkler.....740-605-2526
8. Frances Link614-657-9510
9. Jane Dean.....
janemarie6677@yahoo.com
10. Hilda Johnson.....614-515-7711
11. Daryll & Katie..513-479-2416 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, Lou Bernard,
Cheryl Lutman, Ted McDonnell,
Laura Hayes, Mary Sguerra,
Lisa Dove, Kate Van Mercetta

FORESTER Advertisements

For information please call
Email Lowell at

fpc.newsletter.ad.manager@gmail.com
Advertisements can be emailed (camera
ready) to: rwbuckeye@gmail.com &

COSTS to ADVERTISE:

Full page AD: \$195

1/2 page AD: \$105

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
Park Civic Association and mailed to :
Forest Park Civic Association
c/o Ads for Forester
PO Box 29160
Columbus, OH 43229-0160

Foresters are available at the Karl
Road Library, Donatos Pizza,
YMCA, Gabby's Bar, Prince Pizza

Articles for the JUNE, 2024 Forester are
due to editor by MAY 17, 2024.
Our JUNE 2024 Forester will be delivered
to homes by the first Sunday, June 2nd.
Don't forget to mail or pay online member-
ship dues. 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



2024 GABBY'S Summer Band Lineup

Friday May 31st – Sparky Brewer

Saturday June 1st – Shaun Booker Dammit

Friday June 7th - Wildcard

Saturday June 8th – Forest Park Night with
Alexander Band

Friday June 14th – Uncle Fester

Saturday June 15th – Mustangs

Friday June 21st – Linden and Melvin

Saturday June 22nd – Megabeth

Friday June 28th – Astrocat

Saturday June 29th – Elderly Brothers

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Grants

We would love to have a neighborhood resident or two who
have the time to look for grants for our neighborhood to grow
and thrive. We are looking to form a small group of people to
volunteer some time to research grants or opportunities for
us to improve our beautiful neighborhood and provide more
funding opportunities to keep us a beautiful place to live. If
you are interested please reach out
to volunteerfpc@gmail.com to get involved in this exciting
grant searching committee!

Monthly Financial Report - March 2024

<u>Income</u>	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
Household Membership	\$150.00	\$12,635.00	\$14,400.00	\$1,765.00
Business Membership	\$0.00	\$300.00	\$750.00	\$450.00
Forester				
Advertising	\$910.00	\$7,625.00	\$7,500.00	(\$125.00)
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	\$155.00	\$5,820.00	\$0.00	(\$5,820.00)
Welcome Committee	\$0.00	\$505.00	\$0.00	(\$505.00)
Interest	\$0.17	\$1.98	\$2.00	\$0.02
Other	\$0.00	\$1,765.00	\$2,000.00	\$235.00
Total Income	\$1,215.17	\$31,911.98	\$28,912.00	(\$2,999.98)
<u>Expenses</u>				
Membership				
PayPal Fees	\$4.02	\$104.68	\$70.00	(\$34.68)
Annual Mailing Printing	\$1,012.00	\$1,292.00	\$1,015.00	(\$277.00)
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	\$7,880.00	\$10,835.00	\$2,955.00
Bags	\$0.00	\$1,493.18	\$2,370.00	\$876.82
Supplemental Security	\$875.00	\$11,106.25	\$10,000.00	(\$1,106.25)
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	\$256.00	\$256.00	\$232.00	(\$24.00)
Other	\$0.00	\$82.50	\$100.00	\$17.50
Total Expenses	\$2,147.02	\$29,151.28	\$28,907.00	(\$244.28)
Net	(\$931.85)	\$2,760.70	\$5.00	(\$2,755.70)

March, 2024
Treasurer Report
Submitted by
Cheryl Lutman

FPCA runs their budget year starting April 1st and ending March 31st each year.

News from Cheryl, our treasurer: We finished the year in the black! We had total income of \$31,911.98, and total outflow of \$29,151.28, resulting in a balance carrying forward of \$2,760.70.

To meet budget & save money we had to cut printed versions of the Forester. There were only 9 print issues this past year instead of 11.

More household memberships would resolve any budget issues.

Membership dues are only \$30 a year !

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614-890-8787



Forest Park Civic Association Meeting

Date: April 9, 2024

Location: Epworth United Methodist Church

Meeting called to order @ 7:02 PM by Ed Vanasdale

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attendance was taken via role call.

OFFICER REPORTS**President** Ed Vanasdale – ed1vanasdale@gmail.com

Thanked everyone for the great turn out and great job at the annual membership stuffing over the weekend.

FPCA Volunteers of the Year: Laura Hayes and Andrea Philipsen for all of the work that they have done over the last year. They will be honored at the NCC Banquet on Tues., April 16th at Villa Milano.

Guest Speaker:

Jamie and Larry Middaugh from “The Peach Cobbler Factory” off of 4691 Morse Rd, Gahanna, OH 43230, Stoneridge Plaza. They are going to be the kickoff food truck of the 2024 Social Activities season on May 1st – 6-8pm at the North YMCA. Come and get your “cobbler flights”. They have cobblers, churros, brownies, etc. We are very excited to have them kick off our summer of fun! We had lots of free samples at the meeting. Yum!!!

Vice President Trevor Secord –tsecord@une.edu Absent No Report**Secretary** Lou Bernard – loubernard3@gmail.com

Attendance:

Officers/Committee Chairs Present: EV, LB, CL, MS, RW, DVM, KVM, SL, LH, EM, AP, KG

Officers/Committee Chairs Absent: TS, CA, DP, SB
Area Reps in Attendance: 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13
Area Reps Absent: 5, 6, 8, 10, 14 (Area 14 remains vacant)

Total meeting attendance: 25

Reviewed minutes from March, no changes or corrections were needed, minutes have been approved and were entered into the official records.

Attendance Sheet thru April will be available on the online version of the minutes on the website. [Attendance thru April](#)**Treasurer** Cheryl Lutman – clutman17@gmail.com

A copy of March’s Treasurer’s Report and draft budget are available in the online minutes of the website.

Mulch sales are already starting to roll in, and more are coming. We also received 5 new household memberships. The bulk of our annual mailing printing has been paid, but the last sheets for the mulch sale will be in 2024, and booked as an expense against the sale.

The biggest item of note – we finished the year in the black! We had total income of \$31,911.98, and total outflow of \$29,151.28, resulting in a balance carry forward of \$2,760.70.

Notes for the 2024 – 2025 budget: we need at least 480 household memberships and at least 10 business memberships. If folks have items they want included, now is almost past time to speak up.

A quick shoutout to Mike Stone who figured out how to navigate the new USPS system for our annual mailing. We have some work to do with

the post office to get everything the way it should be, but he is definitely the hero of our mailing this year!

Public RelationsMary Sguerra – marysguerra@howardhanna.comForest Park Spring Garage Sale: May 18th. \$5.00 to get your ad in the *Forester*.**Forester Editor** Rita Woeste – forester_ed@fpcivic.orgRita needs to buy bags to stuff the *Forester* in, money was approved from the budget.

Made a motion to put a 1 month ad in the *Forester* for Schoedinger Funeral Home as a gift for their services in letting us use their facility for the membership stuffing. The motion was voted on and passed.

May *Forester* articles are due April 19th. June articles are due May 17th.

Supplemental SecurityDaryl Van Mercetta – dvanmercetta@gmail.com,Katie Van Mercetta – kvanmercetta@gmail.com,

Dan Yandrich (CPD Liaison Officer) –

dyandrich@columbuspolice.org 614.645.1418

Crime in the greater FP area is down 23% for the first quarter.

See full report in the *Forester*.**Business Representative**

Sheridan Landon –

slandon52@gmail.com Cynthia Alkire –1classicyn@gmail.com Absent

Nothing new. Getting ready to start heading to businesses.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Welcome Committee Chair**Laura Hayes – hayeslaura2@gmail.com

Two homes were sold in Forest Park in the month of March, in Area 8 and Area 2. Laura contacted all the area reps to ask if the Welcome Packets that were passed out at the past few meetings were getting distributed.

Laura contributed an article to the annual mailing edition of the *Forester* (April) about the welcome folder and to encourage neighbors to connect with new residents of the neighborhood.

Volunteer CoordinatorErin Materu – volunteerfpc@gmail.com

Membership drive envelope stuffing was a success, we had 29 people attend. Thank you all for participating. Extra thanks to Penny and the Schoedinger Funeral Home, for all of their help.

Membership Coordinator Mike Stone –msto0103@yahoo.com

Thanked all those involved in the stuffing, especially Katie, Dave, Rita, Lou, Mary, Erin, and Cheryl for all of the behind the scenes prep work. We had 29 volunteers in attendance. It took 2 hours to complete—that’s a record folks! Thanked Andy Hunt for the use of his truck to take all 2800+ membership envelopes to the USPS.

We will be having drawings throughout the spring for all those who have sent in their membership application (gift cards as prizes.)

People who have sent in their membership will be recognized in the *Forester*. Cont..... page 5

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.

STEVEN K. BORING

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Worthington, OH 43085 • 885-5973

.....continued from page 4, FPCA meeting minutes

Social ActivitiesAndrea Philipsen – andrea@yellowumbrellahomes.com

Andrea hope you all enjoyed “March Madness” on Facebook – 14 days of Forest Park social event announcements! Please take note of the upcoming events column featured in all upcoming issues and check our neighborhood page on Facebook for all the latest.

Now accepting candy donations for the July 4th parade. Please bring candy donations to the June meeting. Call 614.264.3846, Andrea – for more info or drop off.

NCC Representatives Ken Gilbert – kgilbert78@att.net,Trevor Secord – tsecord@une.eduSee NCC report in separate article in the month's *Forester*.**NCC Development Representative**Ed Vanasdale – ed1vanasdale@gmail.com

The committee met on March 27th and heard 5 cases. None of the cases pertained to the FP area.

Website AdministratorsScott Biggs – sbiggs@mail@yahoo.com *Absent*Dave Paul – dwpaul@fpcivic.org *Absent*

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

OLD BUSINESS**Updates on the 2nd Annual Mulch Sale:**

- We have received several online orders and expect many more when the flyer hits mailboxes with the membership mailing. We will need volunteers on Sat., May 4, from 9 am to Noon or 1 pm for delivery.
- Delivery Central is Sequoia Pro Bowl parking lot at Sandalwood and Yellowwood Dr.
- We will need: trucks and trailers, physically fit adults and teens, drivers, navigators, lifters, and a few on-site managers to keep everyone coordinated. We will again provide route maps and a list of addresses for delivery crews.
- If we do not get enough big trailers volunteered, we will rent a Uhaul trailer(s).
- Our highest need is physically fit people to load and unload mulch for a few hours.
- The deadline for orders is Friday, April 19th. The final order is due to Ohio Mulch on April 22nd.
- Orders and delivery is limited to Forest Park.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/IDEAS

Secretary, Lou Bernard, asked for suggestions for possible guest speakers in the future. He received a list of great ideas, and will coordinate with Erin (Volunteer Coordinator) to begin making contacts.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM

Meeting minutes submitted by Lou Bernard, Secretary, FPCA

**Felix Quachey, Agent**

Felix S. Quachey Jr. Agency LLC

1425 E Dublin Granville Rd

Ste 102, Columbus

(614) 536-0237

fquachey@amfam.com

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Hello Forest Park! U.S. Protective Services is the company we use to perform security patrols around the neighborhood and, for the most part, things have been calm during their patrols. There have been some complaints of poor parking and other 311-related issues but nothing out of the ordinary.



They did have a resident report that someone had entered their home uninvited and steal some tools but had not reported the incident to the police because the door was left unlocked. We cannot stress it enough: any incident should be reported. If not an emergency, contact the non-emergency number at 614-645-4545 and make a report.

Each reported incident is tracked and used to allocate funds for the area and if an incident isn't reported, it didn't happen in the City's eyes. As a neighborhood, we want to be seen.

We also hire U.S. Protective Services to provide additional patrols for the neighborhood when folks go out of town. If you want an extra set of eyes on your home while you're away, simply return the form below to Daryl Van Mercetta at dvanmercetta@gmail.com or 2131 Honeytree Court, Columbus, OH 43229. You can also fill it out online at fpcivic.org. The additional patrols are included in your annual Forest Park Civic Association membership fee of \$30 per year for the entire household. If you haven't gotten your membership yet, now is the time!



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

Hello Forest Park! Officer Yandrich wasn't able to attend the April Block Watch meeting but he did provide some information to pass along for our precinct: Precinct 18.

- Car thefts are still up, as they have been and are anticipated to continue to be for the foreseeable future, so he cautions residents to keep your car doors locked, don't keep valuables in your car, and park in the garage when you can.
- Red Lobster on 161 has been placarded by Code Enforcement and is being monitored because unhoused people have been using a ladder to gain access to the roof and then gain entry to the building.
- Several armed robberies occurred in a small area off of Morse on the other side of Cleveland Avenue.

Compared to Quarter 1 2023, most of the crimes decreased this year except for:

- Aggravated assaults (22% higher), individual robberies (100% higher), and commercial burglaries (33% higher) on 1 Precinct
- Residential burglaries (66% higher) on 6 Precinct – most likely due to the neighborhood burglaries on 60 CD, between McCutcheon Rd & Agler Rd (mentioned in February Stats)
- Aggravated assaults (17% higher) on 18 Precinct

Fortunately, Forest Park is considered a "safe zone." We all count on each other to keep it that way and encourage you to assist in the effort by attending our monthly Block Watch meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm at Epworth Church on Karl Road. It is held on the same day and at the same place as the monthly Civic Association meeting.

We have made sharing information and concerns even easier by creating a designated email to use for Block Watch issues. Feel free to send any questions for Officer Yandrich to us at ForestParkBlockWatch@gmail.com prior to the meeting and we'll pass along any questions for Officer Yandrich to review prior to the meeting.

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

NCC Report April 2024 Meeting



Due to the storms coming through Columbus that evening, many members and reporters were absent. One of our police liaisons noted that aggravated assault was up 18% but many other indicators were down. One of the Rise up CBUS events will take place in our area: April 26 at the Fedderson Rec Center. Free admission. No time was given (may be all day)

The City Attorney's office is resolving license objections. They are working on an arrangement with one of the properties—the old Motel 6 behind the Continent along I-71. The former Colonial Village Arts residents are gradually moving out of the local motels they have been housed in.

FACT (Friends of Alum Creek and Tributaries) has won the Westerville Volunteer Organization of the year. April is Earth Month, and Busch Blvd is doing bike lanes. The Linden Branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library has closed for renovations and a swing space will open April 15.

The first 161 Clean Up Day will be Saturday April 13 from 9 am-12 pm, meeting behind the Jiffy Lube at 161 and Sharon Woods Blvd. Gear is provided. Mary Jenkins, head of the North Columbus chapter of CONNECTED. She is a Forest Park resident, and the group is designed to connect residents and businesses to make a difference in our community. See <https://www.connectednetworkinggroup.com/>.

Festus Manly-Spain, from the Department of Building and Zoning, City of Columbus, spoke about the new Zoning Code Update. See Zone in Columbus at <https://zone-in-columbus.hub.arcgis.com/>. There is a place for community comments.

The Northland Community Council's annual Volunteer Banquet will be held at Villa Milano on April 16 at 6 pm. Tickets are still on sale. The Northland Independence Day Parade Committee is holding planning meetings from 7-8 pm on the third Tuesday of the month at Casa Mescal on 161. That's "Taco Tuesday", and we have been getting discounts on tacos there on that day.

One last note—the Columbus Symphony Orchestra will be presenting a free concert in Woodward Park on July 14 at 7 pm.



FOREST PARK SPRING COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE Saturday, May 18, 2024

Spring Cleaning time is here again! Your junk can be someone's treasure. Have fun and make a little money by joining the Forest Park Civic Association Garage Sale which will be held on May 20 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Advertisement will appear in the local newspaper. Maps and listings of addresses of participants will be handed out to prospective buyers at the East and West Island entrances to Forest Park on Karl Rd from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on the day of the sale.

The Association charges a minimal fee of \$5.00 per household to advertise in the paper & flyer in this gigantic community sale. You receive quite a bargain when one considers the advertisement drawing card to all the Northland communities, fun with your neighbors, and some extra cash in your pocket. The fee helps defray the cost of the advertising.

Please complete the form below and mail with your check of \$5.00 made payable to F.P.C.A. by **Wednesday May 15th** to Mary Sguerra, 5395 Pine Bluff Rd. Columbus, OH 43229

If you have any questions, please call Mary at 614- 818-7636

Forest Park Spring 2024 GARAGE SALE ENTRY FORM - \$5.00 Saturday, May 18 9-3pm

Name _____

Address _____

Email: _____

phone#: _____ Make checks out to F.P.C.A.

Featured Items:

SPACE IS LIMITED, SO LIST THE MOST IMPORTANT ITEMS
Mail to Mary Sguerra, 5395 Pine Bluff Rd. Columbus, OH 43229
by Weds, May 15, 2023



andrea@yellowumbrellahomes.com



***Your Trusted Real Estate Agent in Central Ohio
Team Leader and Forest Park Resident
Your "Neighbor in the Know!"
Andrea Philipsen
614.264.3846
andrea@yellowumbrellahomes.com***

Below is the FPCA Proposed Budget that will be discussed and voted on at the May 2024 meeting on May 14. Review the comments and articles, attend the meeting to ask any questions and vote. These funds go to help where you live.

Hello, Forest Park! One of my responsibilities as your Treasurer is to prepare a budget on how we can best use your membership dollars to promote and make our neighborhood better, and that is published in this newsletter. When I project the number of households that will join the FPCA (for just \$30/year!), I'm projecting less than a quarter of the households, or about 500! Imagine what we could do if 50%, or 1,400 households join! That would give us \$39,000! Imagine the additional security patrols we could have, the additional social activities we could host (I'm sure Andrea Philipsen has tons of ideas!), the ways we could make Forest Park an even more beautiful place to live! If you haven't yet, I encourage you to return your membership form and check, or go online and join through our convenient PayPal link. I also encourage you to come to our meetings and get involved - there are opportunities for all!

Thanks, Cheryl Lutman

**Forest Park Civic Association
2024 - 2025 Draft Budget**

Income

Household Membership	\$14,400.00
Business Membership	\$750.00
Forester	
Advertising	\$7,600.00
Additional Donations	\$750.00
Supplemental Security	\$1,600.00
Beautification	\$700.00
Garage Sale	\$170.00
Mulch Sale	\$6,000.00
Interest	\$2.00
Other	\$1,800.00
Total Income	\$33,772.00

Expenses

Membership	
PayPal Fees	\$100.00
Annual Mailing Printing	\$1,300.00
USPS Bulk Mail Permit	\$2,000.00
Outreach Day	\$100.00
Forester	
Printing	\$9,850.00
Delivery Instruction Printing	\$100.00
Bags	\$1,500.00
Supplemental Security	\$11,000.00
Beautification	
Island Maintenance	\$500.00
Neighborhood Beautification	\$150.00
Committees	
Welcome	\$500.00
Social	\$500.00
Parade	\$300.00
Garage Sale	\$110.00
Mulch Sale	\$4,000.00
Office Expenses	
Office Supplies	\$50.00
Insurance	\$450.00
NCC	\$185.00
Banquet	\$80.00
PO Box	\$256.00
Other	\$100.00
Total Expenses	\$33,131.00
Net	\$641.00

2024 FPCA Budget Meeting

April 17, 2024

Epworth United Methodist Church
Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM

Cheryl did a quick review of the budget and asked for questions or suggestions.

1. Laura needs money for printing for Welcome Committee
2. There was \$500 raised in 2023 for the Welcome Committee. That money was allocated to the WC for 2024. Thank you Mark Bell!
3. Andrea has \$500 to spend. If more money is needed, it could be requested, voted on and allocated. National Night Out falls under the Social Committee and is not a separate line item in the budget.
4. Trevor will try to secure grant money to increase the FP involvement in NNO.
5. Mary will be looking into finding someone to cut and maintain the grass at the 2 main island entrances off of Karl Rd. She will look into possible grants to help with the upkeep.
6. Rita needs \$100 for printing supplies for the *Forester* delivery. It was voted on and passed.
7. By reallocating some funds, we are left with \$641 in the black.
8. Discussed giving possible discounts for year long ads taken out in the *Forester*. The Board decided the advertising price is reasonable enough (compared to other places where one could advertise) that discounts do not need to be given.
9. A discussion was held about trying to find someone to write grants for the FPCA.
10. The new budget was voted on and approved to be put forth before the members at the next meeting for a vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM

Letter from Ted McDonnell, Forest Park West Neighbor

“As a long time member of the FPCA, (1978), I attended my first meeting in March, 2024. I was completely impressed by how well it was organized, from the Blockwatch report by Officer Dan on activity in the area, as well as concerns by those in attendance. President Ed led a discussion on 311 Code. Following the pledge, each of the officers and committee chairs gave very detailed information on their activities.

It was easy for me to see how and why the FPCA continues to be around for such a long period (60 years). Thanks to my Area #4 Rep.”

Sincerely, Ted McDonnell

Thanks Ted for the nice compliments. The Forest Park Civic Association is full of great volunteers who just want to be involved in their neighborhood community and keep it safe. We appreciate the comments!



Forest Park Gardener – May

It's always a challenge to write the garden newsletter because it has to be completed 2 weeks before the month that I'm writing about! You should be receiving this May edition, right when you are ready to be planting in earnest.

Remember: Our frost date is May 15th! Don't be in a hurry to plant your tender plants: impatience (not a pun, I promise), tomatoes, begonias, and canas. At the very least, wait until Mothers Day.



Most gardeners have their tried and true performers, and know exactly what they want to plant, and where... but what if you are just getting started? We've had a lot of new neighbors move in to our neighborhood this year, and there are some neighbors who are just starting a new garden...

First- know how much Sun you have in your particular garden. Take your cell phone and take a picture every 2 hrs from the same location. If you have a small area, focus on that part of your yard. See just how much sun, or shade you are dealing with. And know, that the picture you take in April/May, is going to be very different than August/September.

- Before you buy plants at the garden store – **read the tag!** Remember all plants need sunlight, but how much depends on the plant.
- **Full Sun:** 6 hrs or more of direct sunlight – very heat tolerant.
- **Partial Sun:** 4-6 hrs or more of direct sunlight – mostly heat tolerant, but some of the sun exposure should be morning *or* afternoon.
- **Partial Shade:** 4-6 hours of direct sunlight – but mostly morning hours, when the sun rays are not as direct.
- **Full Shade:** less than 4 hours of direct sun per day. Least heat tolerant.

Second – know your water levels. After it rains, do you have pools of water, or does the water just run off your garden? Soil structure is really important. We have clay soil, so amending the garden with organic matter like – peat moss, dried/crushed leaf matter, compost, is really a good idea. By breaking up the clay, it helps plants with aeration and drainage. If you have a water problem (like I did on the side of my house), it might require some regrading or the installation of a drain. I also added a water spigot to the side of my house – where I had no water access. I got tired of dragging hoses around the yard. I have a rain barrel and a small fish pond – which I use as water resources, especially in the summer.

Third- Mulch. Other than making the gardens look nice, mulch is really a very important element in the garden. It keeps the soil temperature regulated (cool roots in the summer, and warmer soil in the fall). It adds to the soil structure as it breaks down, if you buy the non-colored hardwood or natural mulch. It retains soil moisture during the dry times of the summer. People argue about whether or not it keeps out weeds. I don't think anything will keep out weeds. Many people use a pre-emergent, like Preen, which prevents airborne seeds from rooting in your garden. If you do, make sure you put it *on top* of your mulch, and water it in.

Fourth – ASK! If you want more information, and you are at the garden store, ask the professionals. Nursery growers and retailers, are more than willing to help you. They don't want you to be unhappy with your purchases! Walk around the neighborhood and take pictures of what you like (and what you don't). If someone is working in their garden, stop and ask them about what you see. We still have Covid, so be respectful of space....

Enjoy the time as we transition from Spring to Summer. Time to get out there and get dirty.

Lisa Dove - ForestParkGardener@gmail.com



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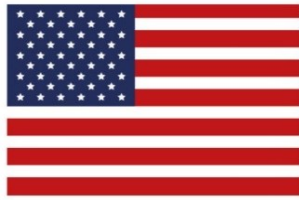
4691 Morse Rd, Gahanna 614-532-5147

NEIGHBORHOOD Update!



Real Estate Services

May. 2024



Memorial Day - May 27th

MARY SGUERRA

CBR \$25 MILLION CLUB
FOREST PARK RESIDENT

818-7636

Dear Neighbors:

On Memorial Day we remember all the sacrifices made by the men and women who died in service to our country, and a time to reflect on the true cost of freedom.

Thank you to all who have reached out to me to sell their home. I will have a few new listings coming on the market soon. If you need help in 2024 with either buying or selling a home please give me a call for details. **Let me show you what Howard Hanna and I can do for you!**

NEW LISTING

5566 Driftwood Rd. - Wow! 2 Story home w/3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, hardwood floors, 2 car garage, Full basement, lovely brick patio overlooks landscaped & treed backyard. **Asking \$276,500**

CURRENT MARKET WATCH

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

5566 Driftwood Rd. 2-Sty/3BR 276,500 *



Howard Hanna homes In Contract

(Looking for Buyers to help them find a New Home :)

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

All Homes SOLD

Homes sold since 3/23/24	Asking Price:	Sold Price:
1981 Torchwood Dr. Bilvl/3BR	250,000	256,500
5371 Tamarack Blvd. 2-Sty/4BR	285,000	285,000
5229 Honeytree Lp W Ranch/3BR	280,000	301,500
2133 Pine Knoll Ave. Split/4BR	339,900	345,000

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

Information obtained from the Columbus Realtors - MLS as of 4/18/24. If your property is currently listed For Sale with another realtor please disregard this offer

