



# The Forester

www.fpcivic.org



Volume 61 Issue 11

Forest Park Civic Association

November/December, 2025

## Happy Thanksgiving - Neighbors like you make Forest Park a great place to live



FPCA extends warm wishes of the Holiday Season to everyone in the neighborhood. It doesn't matter what language you speak, we are here to represent all folks who call this home. Enjoy your Holidays with family & loved ones. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year. We will see everyone in 2026!!!

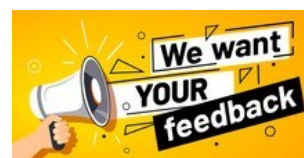


### Forest Park Residents,

Whether or not you're an official member, if you live in Forest Park, you are our neighbor in Forest Park and you are part of the Forest Park Civic Association (FPCA).

**This is *your neighborhood* — and right now, *your voice is needed*.**

The FPCA has worked for over six decades to keep our community connected — with the City of Columbus, with local services, and with each other. But our ability to do that is in jeopardy. We are running out of volunteers, and unless more residents get involved, some of the things that make Forest Park a great place to live could be lost.



Without the FPCA:

- You won't have local representation with the City of Columbus.
- You won't have someone to call when neighborhood issues arise.
- You won't have security patrols that regularly watch our streets.

This is not a distant concern — **it's happening now**. We need to hear from *you*.

Join us for an Open Forum at the **North YMCA (on Karl Rd.) in Studio A** on **Tuesday, December 9th at 7:00 PM**. Tell us what you expect from the FPCA, what's working, and what needs to change.

We're not asking for a long-term commitment — just your time and your voice. Please come, listen, and share your ideas. Help us decide what kind of neighborhood Forest Park will be moving forward.

Please mark your calendar: December 9th at 7:00 PM at the North YMCA. This meeting will help determine the future of Forest Park. Any questions, call one of the folks on the board, their numbers/emails are on page 2 of this Forester.

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees & Committee Chairs of the Forest Park Civic Association

Open Forum Meeting Dec 9 at YMCA  
Our January Meeting  
Tuesday January 13th, 7 pm  
Epworth United Methodist Church

This Forester will be ONLINE only for both the January and February 2025 issues. We do this so that our delivery volunteers stay safe for those iffy winter weather months.

धन्यवादको शुभकामना - तपाईं जस्ता छिमेकीहरूले फरेस्ट पार्कलाई बस्नको लागि उत्कृष्ट ठाउँ बनाउँछन्।

Thanksgiving Farxad leh - Deriska adiga oo kale ah ayaa ka dhigaya Beerta Forest meel aad u wanaagsan oo lagu noolaado

¡Feliz Día de Acción de Gracias! - Vecinos como ustedes hacen de Forest Park un lugar estupendo para vivir.

# FOREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & REPRESENTATIVES

## PRESIDENT

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ed1vanasdale@gmail.com

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quentinmonden@fpcivic.org

## NCC REPRESENTATIVE

Ken Gilbert .....614-888-3559  
Dave Paul .....614-325-8217

## NCC Development Rep

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

## AREA REPRESENTATIVES

### Forest Park West

1. Ernie Mack.....614-477-8452
2. Bonnie Freeman.....614-356-0816
3. Catherine Gilbert.....(614) 888-3559
4. Suzanne Conway...614-804-4404
5. Scott Biggs.....614-378-9889

### Forest Park East

6. Cindy Fenstermaker614-323-3173
7. Eileen Kunkler.....740-605-2526
8. Frances Link .....614-657-9510
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.....380-269-8878  
Francine Dillard....614-882-2717
13. Linda/Harold Bozeman  
...614-565-9976
14. VACANT.....

City Code Enforcement : Call 311

## CONTRIBUTORS THIS MONTH ARE:

Rita Woeste, Lou Bernard,  
Ziggy Cicchella, Mary Sguerra, Mark Bell  
Daryl & Katie Van Mercetta, George Schmidt  
Michael Cote,

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1/4 page AD: \$65

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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 :  
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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

Articles for the next Forester, January 2026, issue will be due by December 20, 2025.

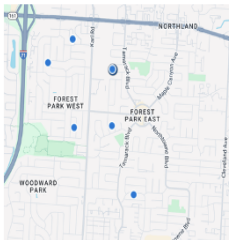
The combined January issue will be published and posted at [fpcivic.org](http://fpcivic.org) website, Our January & February 2026 issues will be ONLINE Only.

If you can help with delivering the Forester in your neighborhood, contact Rita Woeste at [forester@fpcivic.org](mailto:forester@fpcivic.org)

## Happy Forest Park

Client & her cooler!

Congrats Jane (lf)!



[www.CentralOhioHomes.info](http://www.CentralOhioHomes.info)

(614) 600-4554

## Forest Park: House, Condo: sales history 1995-2024

	# sold	Ave List \$	Ave Sold \$	Price % Change	Lowest	Highest	Ave \$/SF	Days On Market Ave	Median
1995 Condos	17	\$38,741	\$35,856		\$21,500	\$95,000	na	76	41
1995 Houses	167	\$99,257	\$97,189		\$55,000	\$126,000	na	62	40
2005 Condos	29	\$67,735	\$64,811	81%	\$25,000	\$112,500	\$73	104	70
2005 Houses	237	\$192,636	\$132,188	36%	\$67,000	\$179,900	\$81	74	54
2010 Condos	16	\$62,519	\$53,514	-17.4%	\$23,500	\$90,000	\$57	143	110
2010 Houses	143	\$104,898	\$94,547	-28.5%	\$27,000	\$150,250	\$60	84	56
2015 Condos	23	\$67,329	\$64,852	21.2%	\$25,099	\$195,365	\$69	42	38
2015 Houses	232	\$113,673	\$108,513	14.8%	\$26,000	\$158,000	\$66	46	20
2020 Condos	11	\$80,945	\$82,650	27.4%	\$55,000	\$125,000	\$93	7	3
2020 Houses	190	\$191,464	\$194,710	79.4%	\$191,464	\$194,710	\$122	11	5

2024 Condos  
2024 Houses

Coming soon - next month

How much do you think your property is worth in 2024???

Brought to you by: Michael Bishop, the cooler, Real Estate Agent

Howard Hanna 614-600-4554



**NOVEMBER BLOCK WATCH****IMPORTANT:**

Many people have requested to meet with our security patrol people. So we have arranged for a representative from the supplemental security company, US Protection Services, at the November Block Watch meeting - Nov. 11, 6:00 PM.

**Looking for folks to help us in 2026 with delivering the Forester.**

**FP West:** Rockwood Road, 38 homes

**FP East:**

Green Apple & BlackGum Place, 42 homes  
Northtowne Ct & Northtowne Blvd, 47 homes

Contact Rita at [forester@fpcivic.org](mailto:forester@fpcivic.org)  
if you can help

**Due to space constraints in this Forester Issue,**

The Forest Park Civic Association October Meeting Minutes and September Treasury Report can be found at:

**[www.fpcivic.org](http://www.fpcivic.org)** website

For everyone who completes this survey you will be put in a random drawing to win a \$25 Kroger gift Card. We will award the cards by mid December, 2025.

Thank you for taking time to help your neighborhood, Forest Park!!!



<https://forms.gle/Kr5qvNPxfswa9N1c7>



**BE A  
PART OF THE  
PARK!**

Please take a few minutes and link to this Survey.

We want to know what neighbors in Forest Park want and expect from their Civic Association.

Scan the QR code or type in the link to complete the survey.

Your Opinion and info are important to FPCA.

## Scott's Complete Car Care

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**Scott Petty**  
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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, email [forester@fpcivic.org](mailto:forester@fpcivic.org) for information.

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EVE  
CANDLELIGHT  
SERVICE**  
on December 24,  
at 6pm

- A welcoming church for all ages

## KARL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

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614-885-3929**

*Come as you are and leave  
with a heart full of joy!*

## Finding Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love This Holiday Season

The holidays bring lights and laughter, but for many, they also bring quiet moments of reflection and emotion. Maybe this year has been difficult. Maybe you're searching for peace, hope, or simply a place to belong.

At Karl Road Baptist Church, we understand that life isn't always easy, and you don't have to face it alone. Whether you've never been to church, haven't gone in years, or simply want to reconnect, you'll find open arms, genuine friendship, and a community that cares.

Beginning Sunday, November 30, Karl Road Baptist Church invites you to worship with us this holiday season as we celebrate Advent with meaningful messages of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Each week reminds us that God's love is constant and enduring, even in uncertain times.

Karl Road Baptist Church invites you to worship with us this holiday season. Come as you are, and leave with a joyful heart.

Karl Road Baptist Church  
5750 Karl Road, Columbus, OH. 43229  
[www.KarlRoadBaptist.org](http://www.KarlRoadBaptist.org)  
614-885-3939

KRBC Sunday Mornings:  
Adult Bible Study Classes 9am  
Children's Church 10:30am  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

*"We love Him, because He first loved us." 1 John 4:19 (KJV)*

## GET A QUOTE, GET A \$10 KROGER GIFT CARD!

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fquachey@amfam.com

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In 2023, I partnered with my friends Eryca and Ellie to create an organization that was desperately needed in Franklin County. Gifting Youth Joy provides holiday gifts to teenagers through donations and volunteer shoppers.

All three of us have worked directly with families who struggle to make ends meet, and we heard their cries for help. Teenagers are an important part of our community, taking on many household responsibilities while they are still young enough to need care and support.

Providing holiday gifts (and basic essentials like hygiene products and clothing) is a simple act of kindness that provides dignity and joy where it is lacking. Our vision is to bring teenagers the happiness and connection they want, need, and deserve.

Through fundraising and donations, we helped 23 teens during our first year and 49 teens last year. Please help us continue to grow! To donate or get involved, please visit [giftingyouthjoy.org](http://giftingyouthjoy.org) or follow us on Facebook and Instagram. You can also email us at [giftingyouthjoy@gmail.com](mailto:giftingyouthjoy@gmail.com). I am looking forward to inviting you to our Christmas in July raffle. I have a feeling 2026 will be our best year yet!

To maintain a healthy work and life balance, I plan on alternating my involvement with Gifting Youth Joy and writing these articles each year. I will pause the articles to focus on the nonprofit in 2026 and will be back with these articles in 2027. There are no words to describe how incredibly grateful I am for everyone's love and support with both projects.

Ziggy Cicchella,

LISW [ziggy@altandrotherapy.com](mailto:ziggy@altandrotherapy.com)

[altandrotherapy.com](http://altandrotherapy.com)

# **AMVETS POST 89**

**HAS MOVED FROM COMMUNITY DR TO  
6241 SUNDERLAND DR**

## **AMVETS Post 89 Information**

### **Hours of Operation**

**AMVETS Post 89 is open Monday through Thursday 2 till 10:00**

**Friday and Saturday 2 till 12:00**

### **Location and Contact**

**The post is located at 6241 Sunderland Drive.**

**For any inquiries, please call 614-698-6883.**

### **Membership Information**

**New members are always welcome at AMVETS Post 89.**

**Membership is open to all veterans who have served honorably,  
including those who served in the National Guard and Reserve.**

**Stop by during regular hours with a copy of your DD-214**

### **Auxiliary Memberships**

**We also welcome Sons of Veterans as well as members of the Ladies Auxiliary  
With Eligibility requirement.**



## Hello Forest Park & Happy Holidays!

With the longer hours of darkness, we all need to be extra vigilant about watching out for children in the street; make sure your headlights are working and on and be mindful of your speed. 25 MPH is the maximum nearly everywhere in the neighborhood. Ensure that when parking in your driveway, your car does not overhang over the sidewalk forcing people into the street. Blocking the sidewalk is both a safety risk and a ticketable offense.

Also, with the darkness and the holidays coming, be very aware of the possibility of having packages stolen by "porch pirates". If you're getting deliveries when you're not home, make sure they're (as much as possible) not visible from the street or have a friend/neighbor pick them up for you. Porch lights and cameras are easy deterrents to having people come up on your porch. If someone *does* steal a package, be sure to report it to the police non-emergency number at 614-645-4545. Even if the package isn't recovered, it should still be reported for tracking and resource allocation.



Don't forget, if you're travelling for the holidays and are a paid Forest Park Civic Association member, submit your supplemental security request to Daryl Van Mercetta at [dvanmercetta@gmail.com](mailto:dvanmercetta@gmail.com) or mail a copy of the form to 2131 Honeytree Court, Columbus, OH 43229. You can also submit it online at [fpcivic.org](http://fpcivic.org).

As always, if you see something, say something, and stay safe everyone!  
Daryl & Katie Van Mercetta

## Northland Community Council Notes October 7, 2025 Meeting



### Reports from local officials:

Columbus Police - Violent crime is down in Northland, but robberies are up. Please remove valuables from cars and lock doors. Motorcycle patrols will be looking for speeders in the Northland area. If you see people racing, call 311.

161 Road project - current phase is now complete.

Next phase will be Ambleside to Maple Canyon Westerville Road closure and its impact on the neighborhoods and Cleveland Avenue was discussed. The city will look at changing light timing on Cleveland Avenue to help traffic.

Roundtable discussion on Zoned In - Next phase will look at Industrial/Institutional/Mixed use parcels. New maps are available, public comment period is open.

Guest Speaker - COTA report - update on expanded services in Franklin County. Discussion of new Bus Rapid Transit routes, and possible BRT route on SR 161.

Committee reports - Parade committee is working on 2026 4th of July Parade. Expenses are increasing.

Old Business - NCC's Dec meeting will be held at a local restaurant, location TBD.

Mark Bell, FPCA Vice President



## New Trees for Forest Park

The FPCA Grant Committee over the summer was awarded a grant for neighbors to receive new trees from the City of Columbus.

Over 20 homes in Forest Park applied and received their "new" trees this past September and October. What a great addition to the home and it was FREE!!

Thanks to Laura Hayes and Erin Materu for diligently writing, organizing, delivering and planting the trees. Thanks to all of our other volunteers who helping with planting.



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## From Our Basement to the Bookshelves: FPCA History Goes Public!

We're excited to share that the Forest Park Civic Association will be partnering with the Columbus Metropolitan Library to preserve our 63 years of history. While volunteering at the main library downtown, Lou Bernard reached out to Eugene Rutigliano at the CML Local History & Genealogy Department, and together we are establishing a special FPCA collection to archive all of our historical materials.



CML will digitize, catalog, and securely store everything, creating an online, publicly accessible, and fully searchable collection for future generations to explore.

**At our November 11th FPCA meeting, 7pm, there will be a display for attendees to browse through old *Foresters* and photographs before they are transferred downtown. After the meeting, Lou and Rita Woeste will deliver the materials to the library.**

*(This partnership was approved by the membership at the September meeting.)*



This partnership ensures that the history of Forest Park—and the people who built this community—will be preserved and accessible for generations to come. It's a meaningful step toward honoring our past while keeping our story alive for the future.

## Forest Park Business Memberships—2025

### Home, Services

Mary Sguerra  
Howard Hanna Real Estate Services  
614-818-7636

Cindy Fenstermaker  
AO Real Estate  
614-323-3173

### Restaurants/Entertainment

Sequoia Pro Bowl  
5501 Sandalwood Blvd  
614-885-7043

### Shopping, Services

Moegling Home Remodeling  
330-301-3845  
[Justin.moegling@gmail.com](mailto:Justin.moegling@gmail.com)

Martin's Dumpster Hauling Services  
614-600-9426  
[Martinsdumpster13@yahoo.com](mailto:Martinsdumpster13@yahoo.com)



## U Turn or not to U Turn.... HMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMM!

What to do I do not know  
The roundabouts seem to work although  
We really start to have our fun  
When we get to State Route One Sixty-One.

The RAB (roundabouts) are working better than I thought they would. It was good to move them closer to the service roads. The problem seems to occur when we get to 161. We should have the city engineer look at this to see if some things need to change and be different on future intersections.

As we heard during the town meeting stage the main goal was to lessen the left turns. People were making unlawful left turns, ignoring signs even. With the new system at the intersection, it seems there are more left hand turns than before. It all depends on what a person is to do and how you U Turns.

It has become a regular practice for people driving North on MC (Maple Canyon) from the South who want to go South, say to MC South or McDonalds along the service road, make a U Turn around the island. Are they supposed to go through the light up around the RAB and back South through the light and onto the service road West. It takes a run on sentence to say that. Most people are not going to drive through a run on sentence. At first it was rare to see someone make a U Turn. Now it is common practice. I have seen two accidents from that. It seems dangerous especially since the East Lane on 161 gets a green right turn arrow. I heard a rumor that U Turns are not legal in Columbus, but wonder. What are drivers to do? Seems like more left-hand turns.

Then we have the drivers travelling West on the service road who want to pass MC and continue on west on the service road. Are they to make a right turn, go through the light, up around the roundabout and back South through the light and right onto the service road. That is not what they are doing. They wait until they think the coast is clear and drive kind of straight curving around the island. More left turns, kind of.

I have only seen one car do that heading East.

The same thing happens when people drive South on MC and want to go to Walgreens. There is an added problem there. The design has a shorter radius, and most cars cannot make the U Turn clean. They must back toward 161 and adjust the U Turn.

This week I saw a brand-new practice. A truck was heading South on MC. I was behind it. It waited in the left turn lane until the traffic had emptied out in the North Lane on the south end of 161 and quickly moved toward the North Lane on the South side, going against traffic, and made a left hand turn on to the service road heading east. You might want to sketch that one out.

Maybe a few simple things can be done to give direction or force people to do what the engineer wants. Maybe we can eliminate some left-hand turns.

Another note backed this time by lots of experience, not like the road directions. There was a suggestion given before the project began. "Please do not put in green spaces that a city mower cannot cut." The city does not trim the green space. There were green spaces put in that look nice between the curbs and walks. The weeds there are nearly 4 feet tall. Who is going to cut those weeds on a regular basis? Businesses should not be responsible for something we asked not to happen.

I notice green space all along the corridor from MC to Cleveland Avenue between the bike/pedestrian walk and 161. I hope our big mowers can cut that.

Please take a look and adjust as you see fit. I am excited to see the big plans for 161 and hope it includes some weed whacking.

Submitted by George Schmidt, neighbor in Forest Park



Alex Wolfingbarger, DVM  
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Business Rep		
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NCC Rep		
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Website Administrator	Scott Biggs	5
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Grant Writing Chair	Quentin Monden	1
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Area	Name	
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Area 2	Latia VanDyke	2
Area 2 Asst.	Bonnie Freeman	2
Area 3	Catherine Gilbert	3
Area 4	Susan Conway	4
Area 5	Scott Biggs	5
AREA REPS - EAST		
Area	Name	
Area 6		6
Area 7	Eileen Kunkler	7
Area 8		8
Area 9	Jane Dean	9
Area 10	Hilda Johnson	10
Area 11	Daryl & Katie Van Mercetta	11
Area 11 Asst.	Dave Paul	11
Area 12	Rita Price	12
Area 12 Asst.	Francine Dillard	12
Area 13	Linda & Harold Bozeman	13
Area 14	Vacant	14

### NOTICE: Slate of FPCA Candidates for Year 2026

Above is the Slate of Officers, Committee Chairs & Reps that the FPCA needs to Post prior to the acceptance of these volunteers to work with FPCA for the 2026 year. This is a tentative working list and we are looking for additional folks.

Please note: there are several positions still Vacant as of this publication, including President, 2nd Business Rep, and some Area Reps. Please review these names and positions and join us at the January 13th Civic Meeting, 7 pm, where the list of positions will be voted on and sworn in for their duties for the year 2026.

If you are interested in filling a position or know someone who would like to Volunteer, please contact Lou Bernard, email: [secretary@fpcivic.org](mailto:secretary@fpcivic.org) or Erin Materu, email: [volunteerfpc@fpcivic.org](mailto:volunteerfpc@fpcivic.org), or contact them at their phone #'s located on page 2 of the publication.

Thanks for Reading



The rain did not stop any Trick or Treating or any festivities at the YMCA or the Woodward Park Rec Center to celebrate Halloween. Forest Park passed out candy "inside" instead of out of a trunk due to rain, and kids got their handful of candy, games and crafts at both locations to prep them for the next day of Halloween.





# NEIGHBORHOOD Update!



## Real Estate Services

November / December, 2025

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**



**MARY SGUERRA**

CBR \$25 MILLION CLUB  
FOREST PARK RESIDENT

**818-7636**

**Dear Neighbors:**

Thank you for your business, your trust and your confidence. I just wanted to tell you how blessed, grateful and thankful that I am to be living here in our wonderful neighborhood of **Forest Park**. Thank you for all the referrals of your family and friends - they are much appreciated.

This is an amazing time of year. No matter how you celebrate, I hope your holiday is filled with great company, good food, meaningful traditions and cherished memories. As this year comes to a close and we begin to look ahead, I hope you find this magnetic calendar helpful. I also hope you will think of me when buying or selling real estate this coming year. I specialize in this area & I'm always here to help.

I just closed on **1501 Hazelwood Pl.** If you are thinking of making a move - please give me a call & let me show you what Howard Hanna and I can do for you.

### CURRENT MARKET WATCH

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

1704 Riverbirch Dr. 2-Sty/4BR 347,000

### **Howard Hanna homes In Contract**

5288 Butternut Ct W. Ranch/3BR 315,000

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



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

### **All Homes SOLD**

Homes sold since 9/16/25

		Asking Price:	Sold Price:			Asking Price:	Sold Price:
5717 Karl Rd	Ranch/3BR	235,000	220,000	5421 Teakwood Ct	2-Sty/4BR	319,000	310,000
5707 Lindenwood	Ranch/3BR	248,948	245,000	5464 Aspen Rd	2-Sty/3BR	325,000	320,000
5715 Lindenwood	Ranch/3BR	269,000	290,000	1236 Lindenwood	2-Sty/4BR	330,000	310,000
1601 Sandalwood	2-Sty/4BR	269,900	257,900	1763 Sandalwood	2-Sty/4BR	335,000	330,000
5800 Sandalwood Bl	Split/3BR	274,900	280,000	1301 Yellowwood	Split/4BR	335,000	317,000
1399 Firwood Dr	Split/3BR	275,000	282,500	5440 Aspen Rd	Split/3BR	339,900	330,000
<b>1501 Hazelwood Pl</b>	<b>Ranch/3BR</b>	<b>275,000</b>	<b>265,000</b>	1328 Ironwood Dr	Bilvl/3BR	349,900	349,900
5506 Sandalwood Bl	Ranch/3BR	280,000	275,000	5328 Torchwood LpE	2-Sty/4BR	360,000	350,000
1618 Arrowood Lp N	Ranch/3BR	289,900	287,000				

Information obtained from the Columbus Realtors - MLS as of 10/31/25. If your property is currently listed For Sale with another realtor please disregard this offer.





# NEIGHBORHOOD Update!



Real Estate Services



November / December 2025

**MARY SGUERRA**

CBR \$25 MILLION CLUB

FOREST PARK RESIDENT

818-7636

## *Christmas Wishes For You*

*This merry greeting comes your way  
To brighten up your holiday.....*

*The special wishes that it brings  
Are for the very nicest things.....*

*Not just when Christmas Day is here  
But every day throughout the year!*



*Have a Very Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year!*

*Mary*