



The Forester

www.fpcivic.org

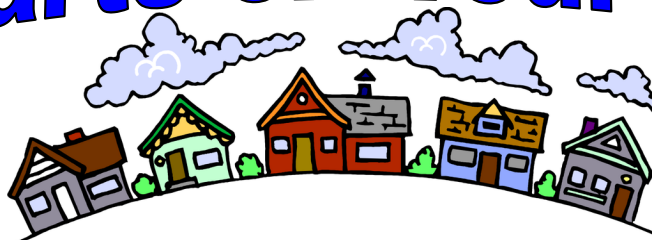


Volume 62 Issue 04

Forest Park Civic Association

APRIL 2026

It Starts on Your Block



Help Shape the Future of Forest Park

A strong Forest Park starts with something simple: neighbors knowing, helping, and connecting with one another. As we launch our 2026 Membership Drive, we invite you to think of membership as more than joining an organization—it is a way to help build the kind of neighborhood where we all want to live.

Strong neighborhoods are built through small, meaningful actions: welcoming someone new, checking in, sharing ideas, and working together to address concerns. Forest Park is home to people of all ages and stages of life, and every voice adds value to our community. We welcome ideas from residents across Forest Park, including newer neighbors, long-time homeowners, young adults, families, and neighbors from diverse cultural and language backgrounds. When more voices are included, we strengthen communication, build deeper relationships, and foster a stronger sense of connection throughout the neighborhood.

Whether you have lived here for decades or just arrived, you have something valuable to offer. Join FPCA, attend a meeting, share your ideas, and help us grow a more connected Forest Park.

FPCA Needs You, Wants You to be heard.

1st, April is the start of Membership to the FPCA. \$30 for the year, that's \$2.50/month to lend neighborhood support, security checks through the neighborhood, and a lot more.

2nd, we are all volunteers, and we are currently seeking additional volunteers for two open leadership roles: Volunteer Coordinator and Social Activities Committee Chair. There are folks to guide you in whatever volunteer role you would like to be part of with FPCA. If you want to help bring neighbors together and strengthen community spirit, we would love to hear from you.

Thanks for Reading, Presidents Ashley Howard & Quinten Monden, our contacts are on Page 2.

April 2026 FPCA Meeting

Tuesday April 14, 2026 7 pm

Epworth United Methodist Church
5100 Karl Road

There will be no Block watch meeting
prior to this meeting.

Forest Park Community Garage Sale Listing
Saturday MAY 16, 2026

You have the garage sale, FPCA puts together the
advertisement, maps and listings to pass out day
of the sale. Info on page 10

Middle School & High Schools Students

Are you interested in part time work in Forest Park??

We have FP residents looking for kids to help with
lawn/yard work.



The Forester would be happy post your
contact info or put you in touch with those
neighbors.

Email your information to
forester@fpcivic.org & we can get
neighbors helping neighbors.

FPCA would only pass on information, payment for
work is up to the resident and worker to negotiate.

FOREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION OFFICERS & REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT

Quentin Monden & Ashley Howard
.....ashleyhoward@fpcivic.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Mark Bell.....markbell@fpcivic.org

TREASURER

Cheryl Lutman.....614-783-0514
cheryllutman@fpcivic.org

SECRETARY

Lou Bernard.....614-569-9028
secretary@fpcivic.org

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FORESTER EDITOR

Rita Woeste.....614-327-5175
Forester@fpcivic.org

SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY

Daryl Van Mercetta.....513-479-2416
darylvanmercetta@fpcivic.org

BUSINESS REPRESENTATIVES

Sheridan Landon.....sheridanlandon@fpcivic.org

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

VACANT.....
Contact Lou, secretary@fpcivic.org if interested

WELCOME COMMITTEE CHAIR

Latia VanDyke.....latiavandyke@fpcivic.org

Forest Park Social Activities

VACANT.....contact Lou if interested

Grant Writing Committee

Quentin Monden.....
quentinmonden@fpcivic.org

NCC REPRESENTATIVE

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

NCC Development Rep

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

Membership

Mike Stone.....mikestone@fpcivic.org

Outreach

Michael Cote...michaelcote@fpcivic.org

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Forest Park West

1. Ernie Mack.....614-477-8452
2. Latia VanDyke.....(419) 516-2753
- 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. Vacant
7. Eileen Kunkler.....740-605-2526
8. Vacant
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,
Mary Sguerra, Michael Cote,
Katie/Daryl Van Mercetta,
Cheryl Lutman, Lisa Dove, Ken Gilbert

FORESTER Advertisements

For information please call
Email Lowell at

fpca.newsletter.ad.manager@gmail.com

Advertisements can be emailed (camera
ready) to: forester@fpcivic.org &

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

Articles for the next Forester, May 2026, are
due to editor by Friday April 17.

The May 2026 issue will be online & a paper
copy will be delivered to homes on or near
the first Sunday of May. It will also be
available at fpcivic.org.

If you can help with delivering the Forester
in your neighborhood, contact
Rita Woeste at forester@fpcivic.org



SEND US
YOUR
NEWS

- Got a Story we should know about?
- Got an event in the Forest Park / Northland Area you want folks to attend?
- School or Sports News you want to tell everyone?

Submit your information for possible publication
in YOUR neighborhood News, The FORESTER.
email

forester@fpcivic.org

SEEING

JESUS

ALIVE

Join us as we explore John 20:1-10:
4/12 | Proof of the Resurrection
4/19 | Power of the Resurrection

KARL ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

5750 Karl Rd.

Sundays @ 10:30am

Monthly Financial Report - February 2025

<u>Income</u>	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
Household Membership	\$0.00	\$13,200.00	\$14,400.00	\$1,200.00
Business Membership	\$0.00	\$450.00	\$750.00	\$300.00
Forester				
Advertising	\$240.00	\$6,860.00	\$7,600.00	\$740.00
Additional Donations	\$0.00	\$908.34	\$750.00	(\$158.34)
Supplemental Security	\$0.00	\$1,438.34	\$1,600.00	\$161.66
Beautification	\$0.00	\$648.34	\$700.00	\$51.66
Garage Sale	\$0.00	\$275.00	\$170.00	(\$105.00)
Mulch Sale	\$0.00	\$6,328.00	\$6,000.00	(\$328.00)
Welcome Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
T-Shirts	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	(\$100.00)
Interest	\$0.09	\$1.73	\$2.00	\$0.27
City of Columbus Grant	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	(\$2,500.00)
Other	\$28.50	\$1,963.50	\$1,800.00	(\$163.50)
Total Income	\$268.59	\$34,673.25	\$33,772.00	(\$901.25)
<u>Expenses</u>				
Membership				
PayPal Fees	\$0.00	\$72.15	\$100.00	\$27.85
Annual Mailing Printing	\$0.00	\$280.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,020.00
USPS Bulk Mail Permit	\$0.00	\$2,195.00	\$2,000.00	(\$195.00)
Outreach Day	\$0.00	\$95.34	\$100.00	\$4.66
Forester				
Printing	\$985.00	\$8,865.00	\$9,850.00	\$985.00
Delivery Instruction Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
Bags	\$0.00	\$1,967.25	\$1,500.00	(\$467.25)
Supplemental Security	\$1,250.00	\$11,193.75	\$11,000.00	(\$193.75)
Beautification				
Island Maintenance	\$0.00	\$3,766.03	\$500.00	(\$3,266.03)
Neighborhood Beautification	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00	\$150.00
Committees				
Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Welcome	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
Social	\$32.00	\$207.00	\$500.00	\$293.00
Parade	\$0.00	\$231.00	\$300.00	\$69.00
Garage Sale	\$0.00	\$51.96	\$110.00	\$58.04
Mulch Sale	\$0.00	\$4,621.68	\$4,000.00	(\$621.68)
Office Expenses				
Office Supplies	\$0.00	\$14.39	\$50.00	\$35.61
Insurance	\$0.00	\$508.00	\$450.00	(\$58.00)
NCC	\$0.00	\$185.00	\$185.00	\$0.00
Banquet	\$0.00	\$159.40	\$80.00	(\$79.40)
PO Box	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$256.00	\$256.00
T-Shirts	\$0.00	\$948.90	\$0.00	(\$948.90)
Other	\$0.00	\$8,058.38	\$100.00	(\$7,958.38)
Total Expenses	\$2,267.00	\$43,420.25	\$33,131.00	(\$10,289.23)
Net	(\$1,998.41)	(\$8,747.00)	\$641.00	\$9,387.98

February, 2026
Treasurer Report
Submitted by
Cheryl Lutman

BE A
PART OF
THE
PARK!

DON'T bag your cans or plastic bottles in plastic bags. Rumpke cannot recycle items in plastic bags because those bags jam up the machines that sort all of the items in your recycling trash can.

<https://www.columbus.gov/Services/Trash-Recycling-Bulk-Collection/How-to-Dispose-or-Recycle/How-to-Recycle>

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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 for information.

SEQUOIA

FOREST PARK'S FUN SINCE 1963

NEIGHBORS SAVE

Buy 1 game Get 1 game

(Mon-Thurs Some exclusions)
Thank you for supporting local



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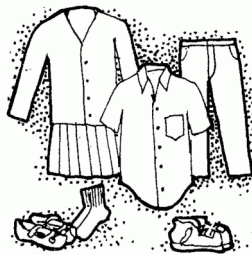
Follow Us On Facebook For Ideas For Your Next Remodel
[@MoeglingHomeRemodeling](https://www.facebook.com/MoeglingHomeRemodeling)

NCOC Clothing Closet + Kids Event

My name is Courtney Sizemore. I've lived in Forest Park West for five years and as a member of the Northland Church of Christ (NCOC) I volunteer in the Clothing Closet, organizing donations and helping neighbors shop. I've seen how quickly life can change—weight loss, fires, family changes, financial hardship, or a move to a new city—so having a local place for clothing and essentials matters to me.

The Clothing Closet is open by making an appointment and offers clothing, plus kitchenware, books, and toys. We accept gently used, clean clothing, games, small toys, and small household items. No furniture or electronics please.

If you or someone you know is in need, please come without hesitation or shame. We want the Clothing Closet to be a place of help, dignity, and welcome. For more information on how to shop or donate, visit ncocfamily.com/northland-clothing-closet/



Craft & Story Time – Karl Road Library (Ages 3–10)

NCOC volunteers are also hosting a kids' event at the Karl Road Library on Saturday, April 25, 2026, 11:00 AM–12:00 PM with story time, crafts, and a snack.

Space is limited, you can pre-register at ncocfamily.com/craftandstoryregistration2026/. Day of registration starts at 10:55 AM

To learn more about NCOC visit ncocfamily.com

We can connect in English, Spanish, or Twi. // Yebetumi abo wo Borfo, Spania, anaa Twi kasa mu. // Podemos conectar en inglés, español o twi.

Don't forget,
FPCA dues are only \$30/year

RENEW MEMBERSHIP

Fill out the form included in the envelope
this month or renew online at
Fpcivic.org

CONGRATS & THANK YOU!

In December we asked Forest Park Residents to fill out a survey on needs and wants for the neighborhood. This was followed up with a meeting just to hear what Residents wanted FPCA to know. We were thrilled with the responses both on the forms and at the meeting.

For those who took the time to answer the form, we selected at random 2 homes for \$25 Kroger gift cards. Congrats to the Carter family on Satinwood and the Smith family on Teakwood. Gift cards were hand delivered to their homes in March.

FPCA continues to review comments/suggestions from those forms and from the meeting.

NCC March Meeting Update

Submitted by Ken Gilbert

1. We have a new Columbus Police liaison in the 18th Precinct. Officer Yandrich has moved to the mounted horse patrol. Our new liaison is Officer Duane Hicks. He has the same phone number (614)-645 1418 and his email is Dhicks@columbuspolice.org
2. Armed robberies are up—often connected with Facebook Marketplace deals. Be careful! No Parking signs have been posted around the area to deal with the semi truck issue. City Attorney Klein will be holding a Block by Block community safety meeting March 11 at 6 pm at Northern Lights Library.
3. We have a new Zone Attorney from the City Attorney's office, Heidi Carr, who was a former Zone 5 attorney and also worked with the US Attorney's Office. We've been asked to submit issues to 311 first and then contact the City Attorney's Office with that info. A 311 report gives them a good place to start.
4. NABA (Northland Area Business Association) notes:
 - ♦ They reported that there would be no quarterly luncheon.
 - ♦ NABA needs more volunteers for the 161 Clean Up days.
 - ♦ Devin Deal, our city liaison reports on a number of items.
 - ♦ Check the city website for summer internships for teens.
 - ♦ A Town Hall took place on March 4 about a new mapping project.
 - ♦ There were public workshops on March 19 at Bethel UMC. Rise Up Columbus will visit Northland on Jun 25 at Woodward Park Rec Center. This is a good way to meet city officials and fellow residents.
5. Officers were re-elected by acclamation.
6. Hoover Farms was suspended due to missed meetings.
7. Banquet is April 7 at Villa Milano, replacing the normal NCC meeting.
8. Independence Day Parade meetings are the 3rd Wednesday at the Y on Karl from 7-8 pm.
9. Note that the next round of work on 161 will likely demolish and remove the garden boxes along 161. If you want to save any of that material, best do it after the bulbs bloom.



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COUPON VOID IF ALTERED.
EXPIRES: JUNE 30, 2026**

**ADDITIONAL TOPPINGS EXTRA. NOT VALID
WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. COUPON VOID IF ALTERED.**

March 2026 Outreach Report

Submitted by Michael Cote

Northland High School will host its first Northland Market in the heart of our Forest Park neighborhood! Please see the attached flyer. The Northland Market is an initiative of the Community Campus School model that is being implemented at Northland High School (NHS). The event will feature games, craft sales, musical performances, and food vendors. Renee Grice, teacher and organizer of the event, reports that over 50 vendors and community partners have already signed up to attend. I have taken the initiative to sign up the Forest Park Civic Association (FPCA) for a booth. A table and chairs will be provided by NHS. I will provide a canopy tent, a welcome flag, and bunting to showcase our FPCA banner at the table. The Northland Market event date of May 9, 2026 gives us time to prepare materials and promote our 2026 Summer Membership Campaign to lots of people that live in Forest Park. We'll need an ample supply of "Brag Sheets" that highlight what makes our neighborhood special to distribute to attendees as well as membership forms to sign up any interested future members. Volunteers will be needed to staff the FPCA table at the Northland Market. Please contact me if you are interested. Northland Market organizers are also looking for volunteers to help with the event. I've attached a flyer for the Northland Market with QR codes to apply as a volunteer and/or apply as a vendor. There are still spots available.

Northland High School held its third Community Conversation, "Creating Community in a Digital Age" on February 26, 2026. Over twenty students, faculty and members of the community participated in a lively 90 minute conversation about the future of digital communication in schools and within local communities.

In honor of Black History Month the Woodward Park Community Center hosted a "Celebration of Black Excellence" event for the community on Feb. 26, 2026. Nearly 250 people attended! The event featured 10 amazing performances by dancers, drummers, poets, a violinist, a pianist, a belly dancer, and a 10 year old essay award winner! There were dozens of vendors selling their art and crafts as well as many nonprofit agencies giving away resource materials. A delicious complimentary Soul Food meal was also served!

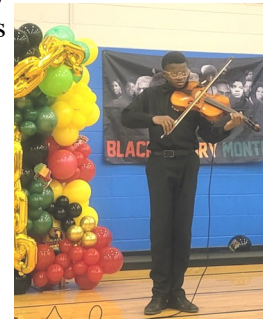
In honor of Spring's arrival the Woodward Park Community Center will hold an "Egg Hunt" on April 4 from 10 AM - 12:30 PM. The event will be filled with fun activities, facepainting, hotdogs, Easter baskets, etc., for youth in our neighborhood. Hop on over to Woodward Park!

The North YMCA will host a Columbus Community Jobs and Career Resource Fair on Friday, Mar 27, 2026 12-3. This is a free community event designed to connect job seekers with employers. The event is hosted in partnership with Ethiopian Tewahedo Social Services (ETSS), the Ohio State University Global Leadership Initiative, and the North YMCA.

The Forest Park Civic Association and the Karmel Woodward Park Civic Association are planning to develop a joint working group to support conservation efforts and enhance the natural beauty of Woodward Park and Natural Preserve that border our communities. The goals of the Friends of Woodward Park Group is to enhance the natural beauty of our shared environment by planting native wildflowers, removing invasive species, planting trees, etc. In the process of working together to develop this group we will strive to improve collaboration between our sister civic associations, the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, Franklin County Soil & Water, and environmental groups such as Green Columbus and FLOW that can provide us with planting material and technical assistance. If you are interested in helping form the Friends of Woodward Park Group, please contact michael-cote@fpcivic.org

We are hoping to have an event for us to work on together at Woodward Park for Earth Day, April 22, 2026!

(Pictures from the Black History Month celebration at Woodward Park Community Center)



SATURDAY MAY 9, 2026

NORTHLAND Market

AT 10:00AM - 1:00PM

1919 NORTHCLIFF DR. COLUMBUS, OH 43229

**FOOD, GAMES,
MUSIC, MARKET**



SIGN UP TO BE A
VOLUNTEER



SIGN UP TO BE A
VENDOR

FOR QUESTIONS, EMAIL
RGRICE@COLUMBUS.K12.OH.US

Hello Forest Park!

Spring has sprung - well, at least between the reoccurrences of winter. Oh, Ohio. Officer Hicks has taken over for Officer Yandrich, who has moved on to the mounted patrol unit, as our new police liaison, and he attended our March meeting to introduce himself to the neighborhood. He's worked in various parts of Columbus and plans on working in our area until he retires. We're lucky to have him and are grateful for the years of service Officer Yandrich has provided to our neighborhood! If you have any questions for him, please feel free to send them to Daryl at security@fpcivic.org and he'll make sure to get you some answers. Officer Hicks can be reached at dhicks@columbuspolice.org or 614-645-1418 but he prefers to have questions routed through a single person. Please send all issues through Daryl at the above email.

Supplemental Security News



Now that the days are getting warmer and the night is getting shorter, there are a lot more people out and about the neighborhood, so it's a good time for some reminders. When parking in your driveway, ensure that your car is not overhanging the sidewalk. Not only is it against Columbus City Code, blocking the sidewalk also puts pedestrians in danger and makes travelling difficult for anyone with mobility issues. Also, kids are out playing a little later so be mindful of your speed. 25MPH is the speed limit for almost the entire neighborhood. Finally, don't leave your cars unlocked or your garage door open and unattended. This invites people with ill intent to do bad things, and we want everyone to know that

Forest Park is secure and we look out for each other.

If you're a paid member of the Forest Park Civic Association and are planning on being out of town, don't forget to submit your vacation request to Daryl Van Mercetta at security@fpcivic.org, online at fpcivic.org, or mailing it to 2131 Honeytree Court, Columbus, OH 43229. As we start our membership drive, now is the perfect time to get your membership in, only \$30 for the entire household for the entire year, and take full advantage of all the benefits it brings you.

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

In Photo: Daryl VanMercetta introduces Officer Duane Hicks, Forest Park's new Liaison officer.



walk WITH a DOC

educate. exercise. empower.

TAKE A **STEP** TOWARD BETTER HEALTH!



Saturday April 18, 2026, 9 to 10 am

Location: Woodward Park & Community Center, meet at the front picnic tables on the Karl Road side of the park

Leader: Jordan Ouellette-Huber & Colleen Bailey, MS, RDN, LD (Dietitian), Nutrition Empowered

Topic: Diabetes Prevention (with a special Food Demo event!)

This walking program is a fun and safe place to take a walk (at your own pace), learn health tips from local healthcare professionals, and meet new people. The event is **FREE** and all are welcome!

Learn more and register:



wALKWITHaDOC.org

ADULT WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BASKETBALL CLUB

All skill levels welcome!

Come play, get active, and meet new people in a relaxed and friendly environment.

Starts: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Tuesdays • 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Location: Forest Park Elementary (Basketball Court)

- Casual Games
- Shooting
- Friendly Fun

FREE! All Welcome!

Come Join the Fun!

FOREST PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

Date: 10 March 2026

Location: Epworth United Methodist Church

Meeting called to order @ 7:04 PM by Quentin Monden

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attendance was taken via roll call.

OFFICER REPORTS

President Quentin Monden - quentinmonden@fpcivic.org,

Ashley Howard - ashleyhoward@fpcivic.org *Absent* –

No Report

Guest Speaker:

Hugo Barragan from the Franklin County Auditors Office came back to speak about programs being offered.

Franklin County Auditor Dog Licensing Services.

Ohio law requires dogs to have a valid dog license.

Dog of the Week – Franklin County Auditor's Office recognizes licensed dogs who live in Franklin County every week throughout the year on the Facebook page @mstinziano. Winners will be selected randomly and will be notified via email. For additional questions, please contact auditor-outreach@franklincountyohio.gov.

The Franklin County Board of Revision (BOR) hears complaints on the Auditor's appraised value of your property and can adjust the value based on presented evidence.

When filing your complaint, consider submitting supporting documentation to expedite the process. Some examples of supporting documentation include settlement/closing statements, purchase contracts, and appraisals.

Your case may be chosen for mediation, which is a less formal process that can be an efficient way to resolve your complaint.

Homestead exemption:

The homestead exemption for senior and disabled persons allows eligible homeowners to exempt the first \$29,000 of their home's auditor's appraised value from taxation. For example, an eligible owner of a home with an auditor's appraised value of \$100,000 will be billed as if the home were valued at \$71,000.

The enhanced homestead exemption for disabled veterans and the homestead exemption for surviving spouses of public service officers killed in the line of duty allows eligible homeowners to exempt the first \$58,000 of their home's auditor's appraised value from taxation. For example, an eligible owner of a home with an auditor's appraised value of \$100,000 will be billed as if the home were valued at \$42,000.

You can reach Hugo at (c) 614.499.3570 or email him at hugo.barragan1@franklincountyohio.gov

Vice President Mark Bell - markbell@fpcivic.org – No Report

Secretary Lou Bernard - secretary@fpcivic.org

Attendance:

Officers/Committee Chairs Present: QM, MB, LB, CL, RW, DVM, KVM, EV, SL, LV, MSt, KG, DP, SB

Officers/Committee Chairs Absent: AH, MSg

Area Reps in Attendance: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13

Area Reps Absent: 6, 8, 10, 14

Total meeting attendance: 32

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

Attendance Sheet thru March: Online

Treasurer Cheryl Lutman - cheryllutman@fpcivic.org

1. Cheryl reviewed the new budget and changes therein. Copies of the 2026 budget and minutes from the budget meeting were made available to those in attendance.
2. The major increase in the budget that we will see is in the price of printing the *Forester* and the price of the bags.
3. There will be a shortfall this fiscal year, and in order to cover that, we will need to pull money out of the savings.
4. The 2026 FPCA Budget was approved.

Community Concerns/Announcements/Ideas None

Public Relations Officer

Mary Sguerra - marysguerra@fpcivic.org *Absent*

Save the Date - Forest Park Community Garage Sale - Saturday, May 16th

Forester Editor Rita Woeste - forester@fpcivic.org

1. We need all articles, photos, and ads by March 25th.
2. The April newsletter will be printed and delivered to Shoedinger by Sat. April 11th in time for the membership stuffing event.
3. We lost another delivery person. Thanks to Julie Barker for her many years delivering to 80 homes in Forest Park East.
4. Here is the list of streets not covered by a regular delivery person: (all of these homes are in FP East) **If you live on one of these streets and want your Forester delivered, you need to think about stepping up and volunteering.**
 - a. Green Apple Ave (29 homes)
 - b. Blackgum Pl (13 homes)
 - c. Coghill Dr (12 homes)
 - d. Dandridge Dr (9 homes)
 - e. Judwick Dr (8 homes)
 - f. Lyle Rd (16 homes)
 - g. New: Cedar Willow Dr (30 homes)
 - h. New: Cedarbush Rd (20 homes)
 - i. New: Aspen Dr (30 homes)

That's a total of 157 homes in Forest Park not covered right now for the upcoming May issue of the Forester

Other Forester future concerns:

- Microsoft is dropping Publisher in October 2026, so a new app or software will need to be used to create the monthly *Forester*. We are actively looking into a program called CANVA that has been recommended on various discussion boards for folks who are avid MS Publisher users. Still determining costs that might be involved.
- Rita called to get an order for more clear doorknob bags for the year and Columbus Bag and Burlap closed its doors; it was sold to a company in Illinois. This will now add shipping charges in addition to the cost of the bags, we are waiting on a quote for that. In the meantime, Rita has contacted 2 other places (both would need to be shipped) on types of the doorknob bags they have and costs, etc.... TO BE CONTINUED.....

Supplemental Security Officer

Daryl Van Mercetta - darylvanmercetta@fpcivic.org,

Katie Van Mercetta - kvanmercetta@fpcivic.org

Daryl introduced Officer Duane Hicks, our new CPD Liaison Officer. Officer Hicks introduced himself, coming from the S.Linden area. He has served his career in Columbus, and is looking to serve his remaining years serving us and our community. If you have questions that need answers, please funnel them through Daryl.

Past President

Ed Vanasdale - edvanasdale@fpcivic.org – No Report

.....continued from page 8 FPCA March meeting minutes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Business Representative

Sheridan Landon - sheridanlandon@fpcivic.org – No Report

Welcome Committee Chair

Latia VanDyke - latiavandyke@fpcivic.org

There are Welcome Folders that are being delivered to new homeowners.

Volunteer Coordinator VACANT

Want to get more involved? We have a volunteer opening and would love your help! Please get in touch with Lou Bernard if you'd like to learn more.

Membership Coordinator

Mike Stone - mikestone@fpcivic.org

1. Mike is working to assess attendance for the FPCA envelope stuffing event scheduled for April 11. Members interested in volunteering are encouraged to complete the provided form or make direct contact.
2. Area Representatives and officers have been asked to place yard signs promoting the membership drive. Initial response has been very positive. The signs, measuring approximately 18" x 24", will include a message inviting residents to join, along with a QR code. Distribution is anticipated at the April meeting.
3. Plans are underway to host membership tables at various locations throughout the summer to increase outreach and attract additional members. Further details will be provided as they become available.
4. A discussion was held at the Membership Meeting emphasizing the importance of continuing to educate residents about the specific role and impact of FPCA within the community. The group reaffirmed the need for home visits to reconnect with FPCA-friendly households, particularly those who have previously been members, in order to renew their participation.

Mike is exploring the option of providing lanyards for visitors to wear during outreach and home visits.

Social Activities VACANT

Want to get more involved? We have a volunteer opening and would love your help! Please get in touch with Lou Bernard if you'd like to learn more.

NCC Representatives Mark Bell - markbell@fpcivic.org,

Latia VanDyke - latiavandyke@fpcivic.org,

Ken Gilbert - kengilbert@fpcivic.org

See full report in the *Forester*.

NCC Development Representative

Ed Vanasdale - edvanasdale@fpcivic.org

Exciting news: A Culver's Restaurant will be going in next to the Take 5 Oil Change and in front of Space Shop Self Storage on Rt. 161.

See report on the website: <https://www.fpcivic.org/development-reports/>

Grant Writing Committee Chair

Quentin Monden - quentinmonden@fpcivic.org,

Laura Hayes - laurahayes@fpcivic.org - No Report

Outreach Committee Chair

Michael Cote - michaelcote@fpcivic.org

See report in the *Forester*.

Website Administrators

Scott Biggs - scottbiggs@fpcivic.org (Website/Facebook),

Dave Paul - dwpaul@fpcivic.org (Website),

Ashley Howard - ashleyhoward@fpcivic.org (Instagram/Facebook) *Absent*

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

1. **National Night Out (NNO):** Proposed shifting from a YMCA-hosted event to neighborhood-focused front yard parties. The board will explore grants to provide small stipends for local hosts. The Board will be meeting to create guidelines for residents who are interested in participating.

2. **Community Events:**

Family Picnic: The board aims to reinstitute this event and will begin recruiting a coordinator.

Beautification Committee: While prizes are budgeted, the program is currently on hold. The Association is actively seeking a volunteer Chair to manage the program and oversee the award process.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 PM

Meeting minutes submitted by Lou Bernard, Secretary, FPCA



Alex Wolfingbarger, DVM
"Dr. Wolf"
serving the greater Columbus, Bexley,
and Westerville areas

1 (833) CODAPET
1 (833) 263 2738
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www.codapet.com






TAX RETURN • ITIN • EIN
Agente Certificado E-FILE
Leticia Martínez
(614) 478-9348
5395 Tamarack Blvd
Columbus, OH 43229

Homeowner Assistance Spotlight: Rebuilding Together Central Ohio Tool Library

Forest Park residents have access to a valuable home improvement resource through the **Rebuilding Together Central Ohio Tool Library Program**. Designed to support low-cost home maintenance and neighborhood beautification, the program lends tools and equipment **free of charge** to eligible residents and nonprofit organizations within designated service areas.

The Tool Library offers more than **200 types of hand and power tools**, making it easier for homeowners to complete repairs, painting projects, landscaping, and routine maintenance without the added financial burden of purchasing equipment. Whether you're tackling a small fix or a larger improvement project, this program helps make home care more accessible and affordable.

To determine eligibility or learn more about borrowing tools, residents should contact **Modcon Living** at **614-258-6392** or visit: www.modconliving.org/tool-library.



Investing in our homes strengthens our entire community. If you've been putting off a repair or upgrade, this may be the perfect opportunity to get started.

FOREST PARK SPRING COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE Saturday, May 16, 2026



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 16 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 13th** 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 16 9-3pm

Name _____ Email: _____

Address _____

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 deadline: Wednesday May 13, 2026

New Garden trends in 2026 (April, 2026)

I am sure that I am not the only one who spent WAY too much time watching reels on FaceBook this past winter. Sometimes, these videos give us some really cool ideas for things that we probably should have thought up ourselves.

My favorite one is Seed Snails.

The premise is, instead of starting your seeds in a traditional flat tray (with cubes or not), why not use a strip of plastic or bubble wrap, add some soil, and your seeds, the roll it up in a coil like a Hostess Ho-Ho! There are literally thousands of variations on how to do these. A great article on the process from Better Homes & Gardens, is referenced here: <https://www.bhg.com/seed-snail-method-11681857> Or, in your browser simply query "seed snail method", and find everything you need. Select to see videos, and down the rabbit hole you will go!

I decided to use the plastic from my bird seed bag and cut it into long strips. I used organic seed starting mix, and planted parsley and snow peas. We'll see how it works.

Another trend for 2026 is incorporating or replacing our lawns with white clover. While this may be desirable for some, it will not be so for others. Clover should sowed in late winter or very early spring. Ideally, however, fall is the best time. It requires cool temperatures and good moisture to start.

Here are some pros and cons to adding clover to your landscape:

Pros:

- Cost Effective – little to no fertilizer
- Requires little to no mowing
- Resistant to drought – less watering needed.
- Pollinator Support -
- Pet Friendly – resistant "yellowing" by animal urine



Cons:

- Not good for high traffic area's (heavy foot traffic)
- Bees! Can be a challenge for someone who is sensitive to stings (wear your shoes!)
- Chlorophyll stains – hard to remove from clothing as compared to grass
- Takes a few seasons to establish, to choke out unwanted weeds.
- For lawns that are a combination of clover and grass, weed prevention cannot be done chemically. Most lawn treatments target broadleaf weeds – which includes clover.

Types of Clover recommended for lawns:

- Microclover (Trifolium repens var.) – grows 3-4 inches tall, blends well with turf grass
- White Dutch Clover (Trifolium repens) – most common, fast growing, dense coverage
- Strawberry Clover (Trifolium Fragiferum) – thrives in poor soil
- Red Clover (Trifolium pratense) taller variety, fast growing, may require more mowing (unless you have livestock, like a goat or something)

I am going to try to establish cover on my tree line between the street and sidewalk. It is not a high traffic area, it gets full sun, and the soil is like concrete. We'll see how it goes!

Lisa Dove, Gardener, forestparkgardener@gmail.com

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

Martin's Dumpster Hauling Services
614-600-9426
Martinsdumpster13@yahoo.com

NEIGHBORHOOD Update!



Real Estate Services

April, 2026



Hello Spring

We're so glad you're here!



MARY SGUERRA

CBR \$25 MILLION CLUB
FOREST PARK RESIDENT

818-7636

Dear Neighbors:

IF I LIST YOUR HOME.....START PACKING !!

I've got a problem! Normally I'd run an ad telling you about my listings in **FOREST PARK**.

But I can't do that. Why? Because I **SOLD** or put **In-Contract** all of them!!

Every single Forest Park owner who hired me during the calendar year 2025 to sell their home has been rewarded with a trip to a closing table! I'm pretty proud of this record!

Chances are that we start at your kitchen table, we'll finish at a closing table!

You gotta **LOVE** the odds!

Spring has arrived & now is a great time to get your house on the market and to start looking for another home or condominium. The real estate market is very active and you might be surprised at what your house is worth in today's market. 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**:

(All of my listings are **In Contract** or **SOLD**

LISTINGS NEEDED - Please give me a call today!)

Howard Hanna homes In Contract

5575 Karl Rd. Ranch/3BR 229,900

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

All Homes SOLD

Homes sold since 2/12/26

		Asking Price:	Sold Price:				
4857 Tamarack Bl	2-Sty/3BR	160,000	200,000	5008 Sienna Ln	Split/4BR	319,900	325,000
5480 Cedarbush Rd	2-Sty/4BR	185,000	202,000	2259 Tuliptree Ave	2-Sty/4BR	349,000	349,000
5485 Tamarack Bl	Bilvl/4BR	279,900	275,000	5231 Arrowood Ct	2-Sty/4BR	365,000	357,000
5577 Cherrywood Rd	Ranch/BR	299,000	285,000	5396 Teakwood Ct.	2-Sty/4BR	375,900	375,900
1705 Ivyhill Lp S	Ranch/3BR	299,900	295,000	5399 Teakwood Ct	2-Sty/BR	384,900	373,000

Information obtained from the Columbus Realtors - MLS as of 3/30/26. If your property is currently listed For Sale with another realtor please disregard this offer



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