

Join the Fun on Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day, April 25, at 9 a.m.!

Once again, it's time for spring cleaning! This year's Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day will be Saturday, April 25. We will start working at 9 a.m. The Huber Ridge Area Association and the Blendon Township Trustees will provide both a light breakfast and a picnic lunch. Work will continue into the afternoon.

Projects planned are

- 🌿 sprucing up the playground area (weeding, mulching, sanding and/or painting toys)
- 🌿 maintaining the path in the woods (clearing, mulching)
- 🌿 mulching around trees in the Park
- 🌿 picking up litter
- 🌿 removing invasive species throughout the Park

Dress for the weather and the tasks. Bring gardening supplies if you can. See the HRAA web site (huberridge.org) for a list of supplies.

Call Lori Mann at 882-3795 if you have questions or want to donate food or supplies.

—Lori Mann, Park Cleanup Day Coordinator

Monthly HRAA Meetings To Be Shorter (So Please Come!)

At the last Executive Committee meeting of the Huber Ridge Area Association, we discussed the necessity of making the general monthly meeting shorter. We want to make sure that those of you in the community who want to come and voice your opinion or offer new ideas feel welcome without subjecting you to an overly long meeting.

We have decided to formalize an agenda where we will have an open forum first at our regular monthly HRAA

meetings. That way those of you who want to speak have the chance without having to sit through the reports first. So please come! We need everyone's input!

—Kathie Butler, Secretary

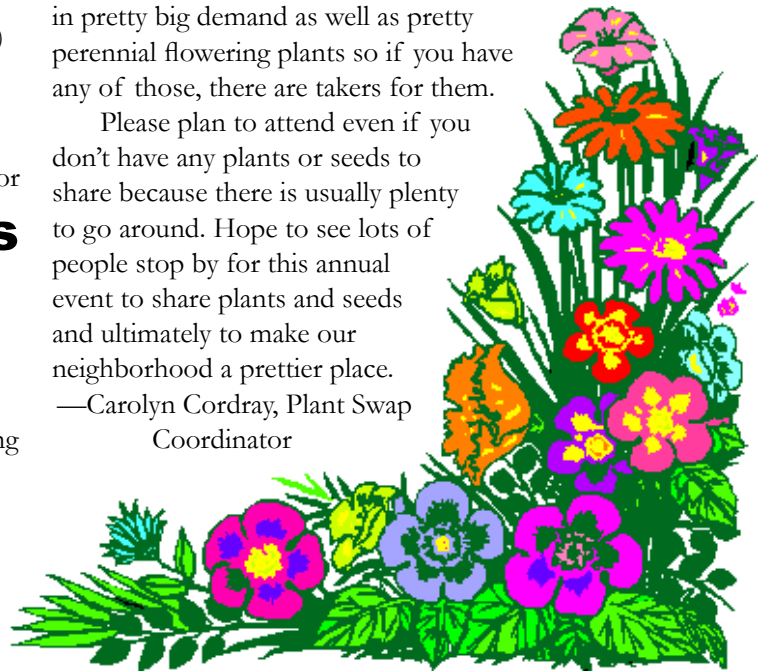
Annual Plant Swap on May 9 to Help the Ridge Bloom

The fourth annual HRAA Plant Swap is scheduled to take place Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to noon in Ridgewood Park on Buenos Aires Blvd. Each year we have seen more and more residents come down to the Park to share some lovely plants and seeds with their neighbors.

We'd like to encourage everyone to come down to the Plant Swap this year and to bring any excess plants you may pull out of your flower beds. In particular, we are hoping to see many of those who participated in the first Huber Ridge Blooms Contest last year sharing some plants from their lovely gardens and spreading some of their terrific plants around! Last year it seemed that hostas were in pretty big demand as well as pretty perennial flowering plants so if you have any of those, there are takers for them.

Please plan to attend even if you don't have any plants or seeds to share because there is usually plenty to go around. Hope to see lots of people stop by for this annual event to share plants and seeds and ultimately to make our neighborhood a prettier place.

—Carolyn Cordray, Plant Swap
Coordinator



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Membership News

Where we are with membership: We can be excited about getting new members! Of the 38 households that paid dues in January, 13 were new members! Now that is great! Then in February the “old folks” got on the bandwagon and put the number of households to 79; of those, 15 are new. Those who were members last year and not yet this year can expect a reminder card or e-mail.

To the Street/Area Reps, we hope you know you are very special to the Ridge. Without your watchful eyes and willing feet working for us, we would see our community decline. Pam Clegg recently shared with you our belief that we will never push for paying dues if you simply cannot.

Now for some good news: The Ridge made the front page of the *Dispatch Metro* a few weeks ago (although the County got the headline). The article told of the winning efforts of the Ridge residents to rid the Ridge of the abandoned house on Makassar.

One more bit of good news: The Franklin County Auditor's web site has rated communities by three classes—“Improving” as the highest, “Stable” as the middle, and “Transition” as the lowest. Huber Ridge is rated as “Improving” which is defined as “the stage in the life cycle

of a neighborhood when growth is occurring, the time frame when a neighborhood gains public favor and acceptance, a time period in which demand is increasing.” **How about that?** You can have a few days to tout that achievement, but we have more work to do. So next week will you send me your dues?

Membership Benefits

Very soon you will hear about the plans we have to give Association members special benefits at some of the Ridge events! You'll be given a button to show that you and those in your household are members, and that will give you a special opportunity. Although the plans aren't finalized, it may be a cash raffle to begin at the Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day on April 25 and on through May. Then we hope to recognize members at the Ridge-a-Palooza on May 30. Now don't get too excited. These plans might change just a bit, but there is no question members are going to be recognized!

—Joya Neff, Membership Coordinator

Street Safety for Spring—Where Can Children (and Adults) Play?

Spring is here; children are anxious to be outside, but please do not allow your children to play in the street. It is against the law. Ohio Revised Code 4511.50 prohibits playing games; e.g., catch, basketball, and football, or obstructing or even standing on any roadway. Please do not set up hoops on a curb or tree lawn or in your driveway **for road use**, even if you live on a court. It becomes a hazard for drivers and could result in serious injury or death.

The law is not limited to children.

Where can children (or adults) play? Huber Ridge Elementary School has basketball hoops and other amenities that facilitate recreation. If your child is older and can get there on his/her own (with your permission), the Vineyard Church on Cooper Road has basketball hoops available for use. Faith Covenant Church, 3607 Dempsey Road, also has basketball hoops available for use. These are places where permission has been granted for **daylight use only**.

First offenders will be issued a written warning; i.e., a flyer explaining the law and the consequences of breaking the law. A list of those warned will be kept and updated on a regular basis. Upon a second contact, any person previously warned may be issued a summons to appear in the appropriate court. For example, children will be required to appear in Juvenile Court downtown.

The law is enforced because in the recent past children have been struck by cars in our township. Fortunately, their injuries were neither fatal nor severe. We are not willing to take the risk that perhaps the next time, someone will be seriously injured or killed. Please do not let your children play in the street. It is unsafe, and it is against the law.

Thank you.

—Sgt. Branch Wayt, Blendon Township Police Officer

You Voted; Here Are the Results!

At the January 8 meeting of the Huber Ridge Area Association, you elected the following officers for 2009:

- ☒ Jim Welch, President
- ☒ Tom Burke, Vice President
- ☒ Kathie Butler, Secretary
- ☒ Eric Cordray, Treasurer
- ☒ Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

Pam Clegg will serve as Block Watch Coordinator and Huber Ridge Block Watch Coordinator; Joy Neff, as Membership Coordinator; Lori Mann, as Park Cleanup Day Coordinator; and Carolyn Cordray, as Welcome Committee Coordinator, Plant Swap Coordinator, Labor Day Parade Coordinator, and Halloween Party Coordinator.

There are still many positions that need to be filled including event volunteers, newsletter carriers, Block Watch street representatives, Membership Committee members, and a kiosk sign assembler. Can you help? Contact anyone listed at the bottom of page 1 to volunteer!

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

HRAA Welcomes All New Neighbors

The holidays this year didn't yield the home sales they have in the past. Sales have slowed to a crawl much as they have across the country, yet we do have a few new neighbors who have bought homes in Huber Ridge. It does seem, too, that many of the rental properties have become occupied recently. Unfortunately, the HRAA doesn't have a consistent or reliable way of identifying those new neighbors; but we'd also like to welcome those that are renting here in the Ridge. We'd love to see all residents become involved in the many opportunities the Huber Ridge Area Association has put together to bring neighbors together and make our neighborhood a better place in which to live.

We welcome the following and congratulate them on the purchases of their new homes:

December 2008 Sales:

Brian D. and Heather R. Todd, 3489 Manila Dr.

Irma Gomez, 3654 Mexico Ave.

January 2009 Sale:

Randall F. Smith and Denise Cramer-Smith, 3725 Lima Dr.

February Sales (through February 23, 2009 only):

No sales!

We're so glad you've joined the neighborhood, and we'd love the opportunity to get to know you at one of our Huber Ridge Area Association events. Be sure to read through this newsletter for details of upcoming events as well as to drop by our web site at huberridge.org. Sales data are compliments of Compuname (compuname.org).

—Carolyn Cordray, Welcome Committee Coordinator

Graduation Is Coming Soon

We wish to honor and congratulate your graduate(s) from high school, vocational/technical school, and/or college on our web site and possibly in our next newsletter, if space permits. Please e-mail name(s) and school(s) to Marje Obrist, editor@huberridge.org. A web page will be created on huberridge.org as your information is received.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator

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- ▲ For more information, please contact Jeff at 882-7346.

Block Watch Street Representatives

Area	Street	House	Name(s)	Phone
A	Arnett Ct.	3361	Bill and Gloria Cochenour	882-2639
	Dahlgreen Dr.	3525	Mindy March	523-3184
	Dempsey Rd. (3399-3458)	3403	Anita Heppner	307-4998
	Dempsey Rd. (3362-3547)	3473	Era McMahon	891-5312
	Hunt Club Rd., N.	3378	Emily Patterson	899-3742
	Montford Rd., N.	3390	Damien Brandon	905-9576
B	Montford Rd., W.	6365	Jeannie and Travis MacKowiak	818-9220
	Balboa Pl.	3815	Karen Boley	523-3006
	Batavia Rd.	6101	Debb Candow	644-9849
C	Paris Bl., N.	6084	Joellen Lugin	882-0030
	Brazzaville Rd.	3484	Tiffany and Jubal Wagner	794-3780
	Canberra Ct.	3515	Edwin England	794-3049
	Dakar Rd., E.	5903	George King	
	Paris Blvd. (3370-3496)	3463	Wayne and Jenny Carr	899-7373
	Rangoon Dr.	3510	Byron and Lori Mann	882-3795
D	Saigon Dr.	3505	Jim and Amber Chill*	882-4220
	Bangasi Rd.	5971	Paul and Robin Wagner	392-0091
	Bangasi Rd.	5943	Melanie Kopacsi	
	Karikal Dr.	3575	Anna Grant	891-1562
	Karikal Dr.	3582	Janet Brown*	882-8684
	Makassar Dr.	3614	Pam Clegg	891-9176
E	Manila Dr. (3477-3551)	3480	Matt and Jackie Shumaker	895-8184
	Buenos Aires (North of Paris)	5788	Lynn Hays	599-3647
	Caracas Dr.	3688	Barbara Muldrew	818-2712
	Caracas Dr.	3734	Eric and Carolyn Cordray	882-1310
	Montevideo Dr. (North of Caracas)	5785	Erika and Michael Schlaegel	948-5294
	Panama Dr. (3640-3744 East)	3658	Kathie Butler	794-1815
F	Paris Bl. (3625-3695)	3677	Patricia Spencer	895-0845
	Paris Bl., E. (3699-3752)	3723	Dorothy Crawford	882-8243
	Varadero Dr.	5784	Beth and Jeff Ralph	891-3905
	Acapulco Pl.	5455	Lou Dunbar	882-0376
	Buenos Aires (South of Paris)	5529	John Harris	946-2091
	Copenhagen Dr.	5520	Bill and June Riggs	890-6070
G	Copenhagen Dr.	5584	Richard Rathkopf	776-1230
	Madrid Dr. (5519-5645)	5625	Ralph and Judy Barrell	882-5298
	Madrid Dr. (3525-3620)	3599	Kathy Ridgway	899-9690
	Oslo Dr.	5561	Sharon Ricker*	891-1881
	Panama Dr. (3515-3622 West)	3515	Betsy Briggs	203-5404
	Stockholm Rd.	3578	Leslie Jordan	823-6496
H	Bashaw Dr.	5680	Cheri Gray	899-0785
	Bashaw Dr.	5663	Brent Sheffer	818-9324
	Managua Dr.	3668	Andrea Wei	890-8187
	Managua Dr.	3705	Frances Corkrean	890-1825
	Mexico Ave.	3661	Michelle Baum	895-9601
	Montevideo Dr. (South of Caracas)	5598	Jonathan and Megan Howard	302-4990
	Natalie Ct.	5652	Amy McCarthy	899-7859
	Santiago Dr.	3686	Daisy White	948-0635
	Spohn Ct. and Dr.	5601	Robin Thomas	891-2722
	Spohn Dr.	5614	Rae Robinson	895-2943
	Blendon Square Apartments		Nick Sabo	

* Area Representative

E-mail blockwatch@huberridge.org or call 891-9176 if you can be a Block Watch Rep!



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2008 Annual Block Watch Award Recipient

Beth Ralph of Varadero Drive did what we all should do when we hear or see something suspicious—call the police. The police responded and did what they do best—investigate the incident and solve the crime. It turned out Beth's instincts were correct; a vandalism crime was in progress and had occurred on another street as well. Sgt. Wayt was ultimately the one who cracked the case.

Beth was awarded a certificate and honored at the December 23, 2008, Trustees' meeting with the Block Watch Award. This award is given annually, if warranted, to residents who have a part in solving a crime in the community. Thanks to Sgt. Wayt who recognized this achievement just in time for the 2008 award to be decided. Thanks to Beth who **acted** on her suspicions.

We all benefit from residents like Beth who are not hesitant to report. Let us do our part to keep our community crime-free; look, listen, and report.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator

Sgt. Branch Wayt Honored for 25 Years of Service to Blendon Township

Sgt. Branch Wayt has been a Blendon Township police officer for almost 25 years. Your HRAA honored him for this achievement at the January 2009 Block Watch Training with a beautifully framed certificate that said:

ON THIS DATE OF JANUARY 13, 2009,
THE RESIDENTS OF HUBER RIDGE WISH
TO COMMEND, THANK, AND HONOR
SERGEANT BRANCH WAYT for 25 years
of selfless service on behalf of the residents
of Blendon Township as a police officer. We,
the residents of Huber Ridge, THANK YOU,
COMMEND YOU, and HONOR YOU.

You have taught residents how to prevent crime; you have been an advocate for the community associations; you have worked long hours and various shifts; solved crimes; spoken up on behalf of the residents and the betterment of the community (even when/if you were the only voice); and you put your life on the line every day for all of us.

THANK YOU for working tirelessly on our behalf. Thanks to your family for their support of you. May God continue to bless and protect you.

Huber Ridge Area Residents

The certificate and the picture below say it all.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator



Sgt. Branch Wayt Receives a Certificate Commending Him for 25 Years of Service to Blendon Township

Honoring Those Who Are Serving Our Country Year Around

In our effort to support those men and women who have served our country, we have asked for the names, military branch, location (unless confidential), and other relevant information you want us to post about Huber Ridge service personnel. We also post this on our website, huberridge.org.

Honoring:

- ☆ Gerald E. Shaner has over 33 years of service in the Army in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam!
- ☆ Specialist Mark Smock has served since December 2008 with the 342nd Military Police in Iraq!
- ☆ Sgt. John K. Harris served with the 37th IBCT Army National Guard in Kuwait from January 5, 2008, through December 7, 2008!

Thank you all for serving our country!

Remember to thank a veteran. If you would like to post a name, please e-mail me at president@huberridge.org or call me at 882-8959.

—Jim Welch, President

HRAA Profile: Kathie Butler

Meet Kathie Butler, the Huber Ridge Area Association's newly elected Secretary! Kathie and her family moved to Huber Ridge in 1991 from the Boston, Massachusetts, area and rented for a year on Caracas. Then one day, while taking a walk, the Butlers saw a Panama Drive home having an open house. They loved it, bought it, and have been in the Ridge ever since!

Kathie has been married to Russ, who works for First Data Corp in Blendon Township, for 29 years. Their three children are Tracy (27), Russell, Jr. (26), and Brian (25). Tracy and her husband, Nick, live in Worthington; Russell and his wife, Jen, live in Delaware and are expecting their first child in October. Brian is attending Bible College in Baltimore, Maryland.

Kathie is currently unemployed. She has a degree in Elementary Education with a minor in English and Communications. She has been a tutor, a Title One reading teacher, a Christian school (grades 4-7) teacher, a home school mom, and a radio announcer among other things! (Such talent and experience! Anyone hiring for any of these?!) Kathie's most recent job was as a "brain trainer" for Learning Rx, which just recently closed its doors. She also works twice a year for Pearson Educational Measurement as a temp. Since she has been unemployed, Kathie has been doing a lot of crocheting for charity and for her first grandchild! She also

co-leads a support group at her church for people who suffer from anxiety and depression.

Kathie says:

I was involved with the HRAA back in the early '90s as a Block Watch rep. But it seems there was always something going on at my church on Thursday nights so I couldn't attend any of the meetings. Well, my Thursday nights just became free in December; and I decided I should become involved again. I had the idea that I would like the Secretary position (jump in with both feet) when I read in the newsletter that it was open. But I didn't think it was right to nominate myself. Fortunately, two of my friends were at the January meeting where the election took place. They said, "You should run for Secretary." I hadn't even told them I was interested. When I told them I had considered it, they nominated me! And the rest—as they say—is history!

Welcome to the Executive Committee, Kathie! We are glad to have you!

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor



Kathie Butler, HRAA Secretary



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Roush Honda Used Car Company

[Editor's note: Tracy Robb, Roush Honda Used Car Company Sales Manager, gave the Huber Ridge Area Association its first advertisement and much encouragement for our budding civic association. He has continued to advertise in every single issue of *The Herald* since then.]

Jim Welch, the President of our Huber Ridge Area Association, asked the Association members to present new ideas for our community for 2009. One idea that I want to pursue is to interview the area businesses and find out what they have to offer our community in the way of their products and services. I want to give these businesses a chance to toot their own horns and tell us why we in Huber Ridge ought to buy their products and use their service. I truly want the area businesses to succeed. Their doing well helps our community. Buying from businesses located in Blendon Township will help put money back into our community and keep our property values up! It's a win/win situation. After visiting some of the area businesses, I will then write an article for our newsletter, *The Herald*, to let residents know what they have to offer.

Well, on Thursday, February 26, 2009, I began my quest by visiting Roush Honda Used Car Company on Westerville Road. I interviewed Mr. Tracy Robb, the Sales Manager, who has worked at Roush Honda Used Car Company for five years. Here are some of the questions that I asked Tracy and his answers:

What do you like best about your job? Tracy said there is so much about his job that he likes. For example, Roush Honda Used Car Company is employee owned, and there is a tangible interest in taking care of the customer because the profits of the Company come back to the employees. If the customer is satisfied, then the company succeeds; and the employees of Roush benefit. This makes it easy for the employees of Roush to take care of the customer.

What do you like about the Roush Honda Used Car Company? Tracy said Roush really wants to take care of the employees and the customers. Roush's business philosophy is to improve on customer satisfaction daily.

Why should someone buy a car from Roush Honda Used Car Company? The prices are fair. All cars are inspected to make sure they are ready for the road. The used cars with a 30-day or 90-day warranty have gone through a 150-point inspection. Cars sold "AS IS" do not have a warranty, but they have been inspected to make sure that the cars are safe and in good working order. When a customer buys a car "AS IS," Roush will let the customer know exactly what he/she is getting.

Can you give us some tips on how to buy a used car? Start with getting the CARFAX. Roush Honda Used Car Company will show the CARFAX on all cars that they sell. Roush will not sell cars that have major damage. Roush will show the customer what was inspected on a car, what was wrong with the car, and what was done to repair the car. Tracy said that the feeling that he has done everything he can to satisfy the customer is something he really likes. This is a great management philosophy embraced by Roush.

Does Roush Honda Used Car Company sell certified used cars? No. Roush Honda down the street on Schrock Road sells new Hondas and certified used Hondas. The certified used Hondas sold at Roush on Schrock Road have gone through the same 150-point inspection as the used cars sold at Roush on Westerville Road.

If a customer buys a car from Roush Honda Used Car Company and later discovers a problem with the car and comes back to Roush because he/she is not satisfied, what would Roush do to try to help this customer? If the car is under warranty, Roush will do whatever they can to make it right. Roush will try to fix the problem in a timely manner. Tracy showed me some recent customer surveys. You can tell from the glowing responses that these were satisfied customers. Some of the customers were repeat customers as well.

Going to a used car lot can be an unpleasant experience. Sometimes this conjures up images of aggressive salespersons preying on customers like vultures. What does Roush Honda Used Cars do to make the buying experience pleasant and helpful? Tracy said that Roush wants to sell cars the way customers want to buy. Roush tries to have a calm atmosphere so that the customer feels pleasant. Salespersons are courteous and do not use high pressure tactics. The salesperson will try to accommodate the needs of the customer. If a customer is looking for a particular kind of car, the salesperson will try to find that car and then contact the customer.

So the next time you are in the market for a good used car or you know someone who is, consider giving Roush Honda Used Car Company on Westerville Road a try. Just ask for Mr. Tracy Robb. Tracy and his staff will offer you a pleasant buying experience with the goal of customer satisfaction as job one! Tracy can be reached at (614) 794-3525, trobb@roushhonda.com. The company web site is www.roushhonda.com.

—Doug Dapo, Neighbor

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Thank You, Bill Bates!

After 27 years of service to Blendon Township as Trustee, Bill Bates has decided to retire. His retirement begins April 1 after his last day of public service on March 31, 2009. We wish you the best in your new adventures, Bill.

The Blendon Township Senior Center hosted a retirement/thank-you party for Bill on March 18 after the Township Trustees' meeting. The Huber Ridge Area Association honored Bill's service to the Township with a clock inscribed as follows: "Presented to Bill Bates in Recognition of 27 Years of Service as Blendon Township Trustee from the Huber Ridge Area Association and Residents, March 2009." His years of experience and knowledge will be missed and will be hard to replace. Bill ran for Trustee seven times and won seven times. May your next chapter in life be as successful, Bill!

—Jim Welch, President



HRAA President Jim Welch Presents Retiring Blendon Township Trustee Bill Bates with an Inscribed Clock



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Want to See Your Township Government in Action?

Attend one or more of the following meetings of the Blendon Township Trustees:

March 31	May 27
April 15	June 10
April 29	June 24
May 13	July 8

Meetings are held in the Blendon Senior Center, 6330 South Hempstead Road, at 6:30 p.m. Meeting times are sometimes changed, so call Blendon Township Administrative Assistant Linda Harter at 882-1270 to confirm the meeting time. Residents may speak about matters of concern during the open forum part of the meeting.

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

Come to the Ridge-a-Palooza on May 30!

Hey, everybody! Have you ever lived near people but never really met them or spent any time with them? Then when you did meet them, you discovered how much fun they were and how much you had in common? Whenever that has happened to me, I always think, "I should have everybody from the neighborhood over for some fun and a chance to get to know each other." Well, why not now?

Your neighborhood Huber Ridge Area Association and Faith Covenant Church want to do just that, and we want to do it BIG. We're inviting the whole community to the first Ridge-a-Palooza (Huber Ridge area neighborhood block party). We will be holding the party outdoors at the Faith Covenant Church property at 3607 Dempsey Road

There will be big food, big games, big music, a big outdoor movie on a 20-foot screen when the sun goes down, and all the fun neighbors you can imagine (some of us are pretty big, too). We'll be starting with games and dinner at 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 30, and finishing with a movie and popcorn for everyone at sundown (about 8:30 p.m.). Come, eat, play, and stay as long as you like.

Whether you are new to the neighborhood or you've been here for years, come for a great time with a great community. Remember to put it on your calendar. Check the Huber Ridge kiosks for more information as May 30 gets closer. You can also check the Huber Ridge Area Association web site at huberridge.org or call Faith Covenant Church at 865-0791. We'll see you there, neighbor!

—Ed Chilcoat, Faith Covenant Church



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Community Garage Sale Is June 27!

Community garage sale time is approaching. This year the HRAA will hold our annual community garage sale on Saturday, June 27, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To register for this event, contact me (Tom Burke) at 895-7325 or at burket007@gmail.com BEFORE Wednesday, June 24. For more information closer to June 27, check the kiosks or the HRAA web site, huberridge.org.

—Tom Burke, Vice President

Head Start for 2nd Annual Huber Ridge Blooms

Mark your calendars for July 18 and expect to see more of the finest yards and gardens in the neighborhood at the second annual Huber Ridge Blooms contest. Last year's contest was such a success that we are seeking a repeat and expanded performance. Our goal is to cultivate the joys and

benefits of gardening while beautifying the neighborhood.

The Blooms contest is open to all Huber Ridge area residents. Enter by e-mailing Pam Clegg, blockwatch@huberridge.org, or by calling 891-9176. Provide your name(s), phone number, address, and e-mail. A letter of confirmation will be mailed or delivered to each participant. Entries will be accepted May 11 through July 3 until 5 p.m.

Judges will tour and judge gardens the week of July 6. Garden lovers can visit yards July 18 from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. All participating yards will be listed on our web site as entries are received. Judges will decide first, second, and third prize winners by July 11. New this year—a Visitors' Choice Award—decided by those who tour gardens on July 18.

Prizes are a \$100 gift card to a local home improvement store (donated by Trustee Stewart Flaherty), a \$50 gift card to Oakland Nursery (donated by Sharon Ricker, last year's first-place winner and one of the judges for this year's contest), a \$35 third-place prize, and a \$25 Visitors' Choice Award courtesy of your HRAA.

—Pam Clegg, Huber Ridge Blooms Coordinator

—Stewart Flaherty, Honorary Chairman



Crystal Clear Cleaning

- Would you like the same consistent cleaning by the same experienced house cleaner?
- Unsure if trustworthy people are cleaning your home?
- Tired of cleaning companies sending anyone and everyone to clean your home whether they know how to or not?

If so, call me, Angie. I have over 20 years experience as a professional home cleaner. I do it right the first time, every time.

I will also provide cleaning services that other cleaning companies will not provide, such as stove and refrigerator cleaning, windows (inside) and dishes for a small additional charge.

Contact Angie @ 614-725-3444.

References available upon request.

2009 HRAA Block Watch Training a Combined Package

This year's Block Watch Training attendees profited with a two-pronged session of crime prevention and code enforcement. Sgt. Branch Wayt conducted the former; and Bryan Rhoads, Director of Code Enforcement, conducted the latter.

Sgt. Wayt took a unique approach to his training by asking for a volunteer to be questioned about home security. Jonathan Howard, street rep on Montevideo, was in the spotlight as he answered 20 questions about security related to his home and practices. He scored fairly well but, like the rest of us, knows he needs to improve. To his delight, he was compensated for being put on the spot with a \$20 gift certificate from Carsonie's.

After sharing the code enforcement Mission Statement, Core Functions, and Program Goals, Bryan Rhoads fielded questions from residents who wondered about specific code violations. Bryan answered resident concerns about junk vehicles, rats, wood piles, and parking on the grass—to name a few.

In short, code enforcement states and covers: no inoperable vehicles, weed/grass length not to exceed 8 inches, no parking on grass, enforcement for infestation, trash enforcement, PODS, demolishing homes, siding, and fencing.

Sgt. Wayt's questionnaire is available upon request. There is also security and crime prevention information on our web site, huberridge.org.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator

Huber Ridge Elementary Bulletin Board

All money has been raised to complete the walking path around the school!!! Work to begin the second-phase completion of the walking path is to be determined. The path was primarily funded by the efforts of students helping out with two fund raisers—the Walk-A-Thon and the Butter Braid, an event that involved selling a line of pastries. THANKS to the parents, the PTA, the students, and the residents who all did their part to make this a reality.

Still Save Your Box Tops for Education!

Box tops are still needed to help the school because they are used to help fund school field trips, bring artists into the schools, purchase updated equipment, etc. Give the box tops to your student or a student you know or get them to the school office.

—Laura Malaby, Huber Ridge Elementary School Clerk

—Deborah Asta, Huber Ridge Elementary School Secretary

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Huber Ridge's Flo Doyle Is an Expert on Siberian Huskies

Flo Doyle, long-time Huber Ridge resident and owner of "Love Your Pet" Grooming Shop in the Glengary Shopping Center, has had Siberian Huskies for over 20 years. "They are wonderful dogs but not for everyone," Flo says. "They are a beautiful breed and very intelligent, but they also get bored very easily and need quite a bit of training as small puppies. They are very family oriented, but you as the owner must be the Alpha and the leader of the pack."

Flo has been showing her Siberians for seven years now. Her first champion, (Gracie) CH Highlander's Amazing Grace, finished her championship in February of 2007; and now Flo has started out a new baby boy (Toby) Highlander's How Do You Like Me Now to follow in Gracie's footsteps and become a champion, also.

So if you would like to know about Siberian Huskies, please go see Flo at the Grooming Shop. She welcomes any questions you may have concerning Siberians.

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor



Flo Doyle's Siberian Husky, (Toby) Highlander's How Do You Like Me Now

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Many Ways to Support Your HRAA

In the last four years, your community association (Huber Ridge Area Association) has come a long way—each year doing more for this community; but we need your help.

To save space, I will not list our accomplishments; but if you have lived here for a few years, you cannot help noticing. It takes a lot to accomplish these goals and add more each year. To those who have been a part of it, thank you.

We need you to be a part in one way or another. You can

- pay your dues
- become an active member
- attend your HRAA monthly meetings
- buy an HRAA t-shirt
- volunteer at any event

This is your community; you can and do make a difference.

To make a difference, please check our web site, huberridge.org or e-mail any member of the HRAA Executive Committee (see page 1) or call me at 882-8959.

Without support from the community, your HRAA will diminish. Thank you for your support.

—Jim Welch, President

huberridge.org is **HOT!**

Log on to the Huber Ridge Area Association web site to learn more about what is going on in your community and to express your opinions and ideas!

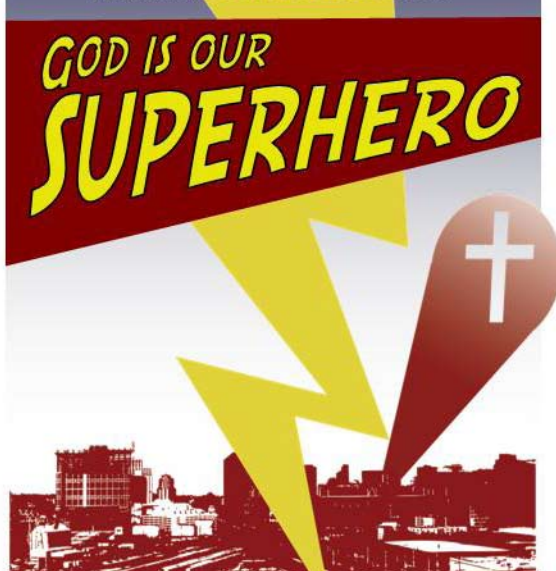
Here is the hit report for the popular huberridge.org for the last six months:

October 2008.....	3,285
November 2008.....	2,192
December 2008.....	3,033
January 2009.....	2,891
February 2009.....	1,963
March 2009 (through March 19).....	1,093

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

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Woodworkers: Your Craft Is Needed

If you enjoy working with wood and would like to showcase your craftsmanship, we need you. The HRAA has four kiosks in the Huber Ridge area that need some work. We would like to add to each kiosk a piece of wood the width of the kiosk inscribed with www.huberridge.org. The kiosk at Paris and Buenos Aires needs to be encased like the other three; some repairs are needed on all of the kiosks. Take a look at all four kiosks located at Buenos Aires near Route 161, Paris and Route 3, Paris and Buenos Aires, and Arnett and Dempsey; and give us your ideas. The HRAA will provide the materials if you provide the skills. Join us as we work to beautify our community. If you are interested, e-mail me at president@huberridge.org or call me at 882-8959.

—Jim Welch, President

What's the Latest Buzz About Heartworm Disease?

We've all heard about heartworm disease; but what is it, can both dogs and cats get it, and how is it prevented? I'll attempt to cover the lengthy topic of heartworm disease by

hitting the important take-home points that all pet owners should know.

First, let's consider the heartworm itself. As its name implies, the adult heartworm (*Dirofilaria immitis*) is a large roundworm that can reach nearly 14 inches long! It has a complex life cycle which requires 2 hosts for completion: dogs and mosquitoes. The adult heartworm takes up housekeeping in the heart and pulmonary arteries of dogs; and when it reproduces, larval stages enter the bloodstream. Mosquitoes bite the infected dog and pick up larvae; and then after further larval developmental stages, the mosquitoes can pass infective-stage larvae to new, vulnerable dogs. These larvae then migrate to the heart and develop into adults. Some parts of the country have a very low incidence of the parasite while other parts have severe heartworm problems. For heartworms to become problematic, there must be mosquitoes, warm weather, infected dogs or other wildlife, and vulnerable host dogs in the area. Here in Central Ohio, we have all the necessary ingredients; and therefore we have quite a high incidence of heartworm disease.

How does heartworm affect our dogs? Adult heartworms actually prefer to live in the pulmonary arteries where they are nourished by the dog's blood as it circulates by. When multiple worms are present—and there can be many in a single dog—they can't all fit in the artery and so back up into the right ventricle of the heart. This decreases the amount of blood the heart can hold and pump. Let's say we have an average 40-pound dog. If this dog is infected with 25 worms or more, the worms begin to back up into the heart. If 50 worms are present, they completely fill the right ventricle of the heart and begin to back up into the right atrium (the upper chamber). When 100 worms are present, "caval syndrome" develops in which hardly any blood can be pumped. Few dogs survive this.

How do we know if a dog has heartworm disease? There are two types of tests that veterinarians use to detect heartworms, both requiring blood samples from your dog. One type looks for the presence of *microfilariae* (immature worms) and the other, newer type detects adult worm proteins. Since it takes between 5 to 7 months for adults to develop and reproduce after initial infection, puppies less than 5 to 7 months old do not need to be tested. All other dogs should be tested on a schedule recommended by your veterinarian. It is important to know that no adult dog should be placed on heartworm medication without first being tested for heartworm.

How do we prevent and treat heartworm disease? Prevention is the key, and it is accomplished by medications that kill off freshly introduced larval stages before they can mature into adults. There are many products on the market now that are available by prescription from your vet. You can

select a product that fits with your lifestyle, ranging from daily dosing, monthly dosing, or even semi-annual dosing. Some medications are given orally, some topically, and others by injection. You and your vet can decide on the best choice for you and your pet. Treating heartworm disease is not as easy as preventing it and the medications can be costly and treatment can take up to a year. The secondary effects of heartworm disease can cause permanent, irreversible heart damage even after the worms are gone.

What about cats? Cats can indeed get heartworm infection; but because the cat is not a natural host for heartworms, the disease presents differently. The heartworm larvae are programmed to seek out canine heart proteins, and this guides them in their migration. If they are instead placed in a cat, they can migrate all around in the body and essentially be "lost." They can cause a tremendous amount of tissue reaction and inflammation wherever they end up. Some may make it to the heart, but even those generally do not grow to normal adult size and rarely reproduce. So in dogs, heartworm disease is a true cardiovascular disease; but in cats, it is more a disease of inflammation anywhere in the body. Feline heartworm disease is 100 percent preventable, and there are numerous medications on the market all available through prescription from your vet.

The weather in Central Ohio can get warm enough for mosquitoes to pop out as early as March. Current recommendations are that our pets should be on heartworm preventative year round in Ohio. Let's get a jump on the heartworm season by making sure all our canine and feline family members are protected!

—Wendy McCullen Vermillion, DVM

Inside Nursing

In previous articles, I have focused on you—that's the way nurses think. But I asked our editor for a little space to share with you two fantastic news briefs about nursing, which, of course, will also benefit you. Research has now proven what we have known for years—higher hospital-nurse staffing results in reduced hospital based mortality, hospital based pneumonia, infections, and length of stay. The facts and figures with dollars saved are published in the current issue of *Medical Care*. The complete article is at www.lww-medicalcare.com. Typing *Nursing* in the Quick Search box; then scroll down to Item 55.



Lastly, for the seventh consecutive year, nurses were voted as the most trusted professionals in America! Rounding out the top five this year were pharmacists, high school teachers, physicians, and police officers. Way to go! I won't reveal the lowest ranking.

—Joya Neff, BSN, MPH, RN, Resident Nurse

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Huber Ridge History

[Editor's note: The winter 2008 publication of *The Herald* reported a meeting on January 25, 2008, of a talk by Almina Smock-Wiebell presented on the history and beginnings of Huber Ridge and the surrounding areas. The first article based on this talk was published in *The Herald* in the spring of 2008; the second, in the summer of 2008; and the third, in the autumn of 2008. The winter 2009 issue featured her story on the Faith Covenant Church, which serves our community so well. This article, also written by Huber Ridge's unofficial historian, Almina Smock-Wiebell, tells about Operation Traffic Light, the Recreation Program, Block Parties, the Police and Fire Departments, and the Senior Center.]

Operation Traffic Light!!!

In September 1970, I was appointed to research ways and means of solving the safety problem of Huber Ridge School at the intersections of Paris and Buenos Aires Blvd. Our student enrollment was 576 students at that time. Forced to drop grades, we only had kindergarten to 3rd grade with one 4th grade. The children were not old enough to meet Safety Patrol requirements. The Township Police tried to be at these corners each morning to help remedy the situation! Together with Stanley Bohorek, Principal of Huber Ridge School and Tim Kenny, a member of the Huber Ridge PTA and legal counsel for same, we met with the Superintendent of Schools at that time, Mr. McDermott.

We learned while certain codes prohibited them from helping with a traffic light device, they were obligated to assist by providing crossing guards at this intersection and to pay for same. So from October 26, 1970, until the traffic light was installed, that is what transpired.

On October 16, 1970, myself, Tim Kenny, and Mick Dawson, President of Huber Ridge Civic Association at that time, attended the Blendon Township Trustees meeting along with a number of concerned parents. We requested that the Township pass a proposal to install the traffic light. All the necessary information was made available, including a survey to be taken by the County Division of Traffic. Our proposal was not taken enthusiastically! Heated discussions ensued, and we were told the Township did not have the funds!!! It became a challenge I had to take! So I proposed that myself personally, the PTA, and the Civic Association would collect from the residents half the cost of the traffic light; and the Township would pay the other half. Otherwise, I personally would run for Township Trustee in the hopes of ensuring better funding and cooperation for these necessary objectives. Of course, it always helped to express interest in a voting year, which it was. Consequently, the resolution passed that evening. We received wonderful backing from the residents, the community, businesses, etc.

It was great!!! We reached our goal. Some money contributed by the Huber Ridge School staff was given as a memorial gift for Jo Claire Miller, a deceased teacher. The traffic light was installed exactly one month and one day, November 16, 1970, after we met with the Trustees, who raised the other half of the cost of the traffic light.

"OPERATION TRAFFIC LIGHT" was written up in *The Public Opinion* as one of the top stories of 1970!

One funny thing—people for some reason thought I actually operated the traffic light from my home!!! Many calls came in asking that I put the light on flashing at certain hours.

The installation of the traffic light at the Buenos Aires and Paris Blvd. location led to the County Commissioner at that time and myself conducting a survey which led to the installation of the traffic light at the corner of Cairo and Dempsey Roads for the safety of the children from that location.

The Recreation Program

It seemed we just successfully completed "Operation Traffic Light," and I was in charge of a committee to look into a recreation program for the ever increasing number of children in our community.

In November 1971 we started with a meeting in my home with key individuals: the Township Clerk; the President of the Civic Association; the President of the Westerville Area Civitan; the Huber Ridge PTA; representatives of each area in Huber Ridge, Glengary, Fox Chase, and Hunt Club; and Dick Rano, Recreation Director for Westerville. Each group mentioned contributed \$300 for a total of \$900 to get started with the program. The Blendon Township Trustees helped to finance the needed equipment and to pay the hired co-directors. We were allowed to use the Park as well as Huber Ridge School grounds. Proper insurance was arranged, volunteer parents worked with the directors, the Girl Scouts served as babysitters for the volunteer parents, and the men were trained by a naturalist from the Columbus Metropolitan Parks to conduct nature walks.

Once again, the community came together; and with much planning and preparation and man hours, the Recreation Program began the summer of 1972!! It was so well attended that starting the next year our area was included in the Westerville Recreation Program!!! (Still today, my children and grandchildren call Ridgewood Park "Mom's Park" or "Grandma's Park.")

Block Parties

Block parties were popular in the areas. "Family Night" at the movies—through the efforts of Glenn Ackerman of Paris Blvd., N.—of Glengary ran six weeks in the summer. Families would bring blankets, snacks, and drinks to watch the shows. Later we incorporated it into our "recreation program."

Blendon Township Police Department

Through the efforts of Ken Noble, Blendon Township Trustee, our police department was initiated with one part-time policeman in 1965.

In 1967, the first Chief of Police was hired—Donald L. Champ.

By 1971, two full-time policemen were in the Department—Chief Bob Schumaker and Pete Foreman. Four auxiliary policemen put in many volunteer hours to protect our areas. They were Harry Schwend (4 years), Richard Clapman (2 1/2 years), Herbert Keipe (4 months), and Dick Fisher (4 months). There were two police cruisers.

In 1971, the first police levy was presented to the Township by Mr. McVay, Chairman of the Civic Association, and myself, Co-chairman; the levy passed with flying colors.

In 1973, Tom Heichel became Police Chief; he held that position for the longest time and was perhaps the best known chief. The Police Department grew to a 15-man department (7 full-time and 8 reserve officers) with 5 modern equipped police cars in which to provide 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week protection.

In early 1980, police operations were moved to a fully updated facility at 6340 Hempstead Road.

In 1981, the second police levy was passed. Also in 1981, Chief Heichel left the Department for approximately eight months and then again later on for another period of time. During his absences, we had three Police Chiefs—Oliver Harris, Marion Alex, and Keith Thatcher. Fortunately for the Township and its residents, Chief Heichel returned as Police Chief, retiring on April 13, 2004. He led the Township Department with 24 officers—12 full time—with 11 cruisers and 4 unmarked vehicles.

Presently John Belford is our Police Chief. While he is doing military service, Lieutenant Dustin Lephart is acting as Chief. There are now 10 regular police officers, 6 part-time officers, 1 reserve officer, 10 police cruisers, 2 reserve cruisers, and 2 unmarked vehicles.

In August 2008, Director of Code Enforcement Bryan Rhodes was designated to enforce property maintenance codes.

Blendon Township Fire Department

For most of the existence of Huber Ridge and surrounding areas, fire and medical service has been furnished by the combined efforts of Westerville and Blendon Township.

In 1970 or 1971, Blendon Township was contracted with Galena to provide fire protection throughout the entire Township. We were also contracted with Minerva Park to

provide ambulance service.

In 1973, a movement to establish an independent fire station in the Township ensued. Citizen committees were formed for pro and con. Much controversy occurred. A levy for this purpose was defeated!

When a second levy passed, the building of a Blendon Township Fire Station was made possible. Located at 6350 Hempstead Road, it was dedicated in July, 1979. The Township entered into a contract with the City of Westerville to provide equipment and manpower to operate this facility.

The current fire station located on Schrock and Hempstead Road opened in 2004. It has ten full-time and ten part-time salaried firemen! Headed by Chief Bernard Ingles, the firehouse serves Westerville and Blendon Township.

Senior Center

The Blendon Senior Center was dedicated in July 1974 with additions built on in 1991-1992 and in 2005-2006. The Center recently acquired a new bus, which seats 26 people including the driver.

The current staff of the Senior Center includes Director Donna Jordan, Program Coordinator Charel Bowman, Receptionists Sandra Daugherty and Rita Hollandsworth, and Drivers Keith Jordan and Tim Rector.

The 2009 Senior Center Advisory Council members are President Libby Bryan, Vice President David Quast, Secretary Dottie Rector, Jerry Boone, Trish Burnside, Paul Christopoulos, Jim Ellis, Dot O'Donnell, Sarah Rhodes, Della Walter, and Bertie Yarnell.

—Almina Smock-Wiebell, Neighbor

Editorial Guidelines for the Publication of THE HERALD

Purpose

The Herald is published quarterly by the Huber Ridge Area Association (HRAA) for the purpose of informing the members and potential members of the Huber Ridge Area Association of the activities, concerns, and achievements of the HRAA. The HRAA Executive Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving the content of this newsletter.

Advertising Rates

Advertising rates are as follows:

- \$25 per issue for a business-card (3.5 x 2 inches) ad
- \$65 per issue for a quarter-page (3.75 x 5 inches) ad
- \$125 per issue for a half-page (7.5 x 5 inches) ad
- \$225 per issue for a full-page (7.5 x 10 inches) ad

If you are interested in advertising in the summer issue of *The Herald*, please contact Marje Obrist at 891-6944 or at editor@huberridge.org.

A Plea for Support— Not Just Dollars

You have read this section of your *The Herald* in past issues and have seen our plea for your membership and support of the Huber Ridge Area Association. Now the time has come to **RECRUIT!**

We simply cannot sit still and let our community become a haven for low income housing! Don't smile—it can happen! We have a lot of beauty in our community; and I, for one, will fight to keep it that way. I hope you will, too. Let's focus on the good things: we have homes that are exceptionally well built; we have space—not lots that are crunched together; most homes are well maintained, and many are showcases; we have a new property maintenance code that will improve our community; we have our snow removed quickly; AND, even more importantly, we have an association with strong

leadership and many members who care and are working to improve our community.

I have heard some of you complain, but that won't make a difference. We know we can show our muscle. We proved that at the "water hearings"! So let's get together as members [see the article on page 2] and 1) show Ohio American Water that the legislation they have been leaning on to increase our rates is going to be changed, 2) show our absentee landlords we care how their property looks even if they don't; and 3) show our Trustees by our attendance at their meetings that we expect more from them—we want street signs on every street and all signs to be straight, not all twisted; and we expect to have our "entrance street"—Route 3—repaved, not just promises. We'll start there!

See how much we need you? Please join and help us decide our priorities. We need new blood—and frankly we need some young energy!

—Joya Neff, Membership Coordinator

HUBER RIDGE AREA ASSOCIATION 2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Application shows your agreement to abide by the Bylaws now or as amended.)

Names of Adult(s) _____

Address _____

Phone number(s) _____

E-mail _____

Membership dues are \$15 per household. Dues are for a 12-month period and may be paid at any time throughout the year. You can bring your dues to a meeting or mail them to the Membership Coordinator, Joya Neff, 3615 Stockholm, Westerville, OH 43081. Checks are to be made payable to the Huber Ridge Area Association.

Here's What's Happening in the Ridge!



- April 9..... HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.**
NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!
- April 16..... HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.**
- April 25..... Ridgewood Park Spring Cleanup at Ridgewood Park beginning at 9 a.m.**
- May 7..... HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.**
- May 9..... 4th Annual HRAA Plant Swap at Ridgewood Park from 10 a.m. to noon**
- May 21..... HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.**
- May 30..... RIDGE-A-PALOOZA All Huber Block Party on Faith Covenant Grounds, 3607 Dempsey Road, at 5 p.m.**
- June 4..... HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.**
- June 18..... HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.**
- June 27..... Community Garage Sale in Huber Ridge from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**
- July 2..... HRAA Meeting in the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.**
- July 16..... HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.**
- July 18..... Huber Ridge B!@ms Tour from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.**