

Do you dread spring cleaning? Here's an alternative!

Help Clean Up Ridgewood Park on April 24!

Come to the annual Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day on April 24 for Earth Week 2010. We have the usual projects like weeding, mulching, and picking up trash. We're also continuing the project we began last year—clearing the invasive species.

If you haven't been to our park in the spring, you're in for a treat! We have an endless list of wildflowers waiting for you. (Three of the Park's wildflowers are shown below; and three more, on page 12. Can you identify them?) We'd like to make more room for them by eradicating those pesky invaders from our park. It takes a lot of help, and we hope you'll join us.

We will start working at 9 a.m. The Huber Ridge Area Association and the Blendon Township Trustees will provide breakfast and a picnic lunch. Work will continue into the afternoon. We invite you to come and spend as much time as you can and do what you can. We'll find a chore for you!

Dress for the weather and the tasks. Bring gardening supplies if you can. See the HRAA website (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



Swap Plants for Mother's Day Planting

The fifth annual Huber Ridge Area Association's Plant Swap is once again planned for Mother's Day weekend on Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Ridgewood Park shelter house on Buenos Aires Boulevard. The Swap is open to everyone, and it is FREE to participate. Just bring any extra plants you may have from your flower beds to share and swap with your neighbors. This event has grown in popularity each year, so plan to come. You don't even need to bring anything to benefit; there are usually plenty of plants to go around. If you have questions, please contact Carolyn Cordray at events@huberridge.org and watch for details on huberridge.org.

—Carolyn Cordray, Vice President

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Block Watch Street Representatives

Area A

3361 **Arnett Court**
Bill and Gloria Cochenour
882-2639

3525 **Dahlgreen Drive**
Mindy March
523-3184

3360 **Dempsey Road**
Chuck Marlow
895-3225

3403 **Dempsey Road**
Anita Heppner
307-4998

3473 **Dempsey Road**
Era McMahon
891-5312

3378 **Hunt Club Rd., N.**
Emily Patterson
899-3742

3390 **Montford Road, N.**
Damien Brandon
905-9576

6365 **Montford Road, W.**
Travis and Jeannie
Mackowiak
818-9220

3374 **Vickers Drive**
Jennifer Newton
634-1473

Area B

3744 **Balboa Court**
Sheldon Schoen
882-9603

3815 **Balboa Place**
Karen Boley
523-3006

6101 **Batavia Road**
Debb Candow
794-3038

3636 **Bolamo Drive**
Brian and Jaclyn Davis
557-3407

6084 **Paris Bl., N.**
Joellen Lugin
882-0030

6037 **Paris Bl., N.**
Karl and Kathy Austin
563-0711

Area C

3484 **Brazzaville Road**
Tiffany and Jubal Wagner
794-3780

3515 **Canberra Court**
Edwin England
794-3049

5903 **Dakar Road, E.**
George King

3459 **Paris Boulevard**
Doug Dapo
901-0070

3510 **Rangoon Drive**
Byron and Lori Mann
882-3795

3505 **Saigon Drive**
Jim and Amber Chill*
882-4220

Area D

5971 **Bangasi Road**
Paul and Robin Wagner
392-0091

5943 **Bangasi Road**
Melanie Kopacsi

3575 **Karikal Drive**
Anna Grant
891-1562

3582 **Karikal Drive**
Janet Brown*
882-8684

3614 **Makassar Drive**
Pam Clegg
891-9176

3480 **Manila Drive**
Matt and Jackie Shumaker
895-8184

3614 **Manila Drive**
Hope Benson
882-9796

Area E

5788 **Buenos Aires Bl.**
Lynn Hays
599-3647

3734 **Caracas Drive**
Eric and Carolyn Cordray
882-1310

3669 **Lima Drive**
Ron Bricker
890-8205

5785 **Montevideo Drive**
Erika and Michael Schlaegel
948-5294

3658 **Panama Drive**
Kathie Butler
794-1815

3677 **Paris Boulevard**
Patricia Spencer
895-0845

5784 **Varadero Drive**
Beth and Jeff Ralph
891-3905

5865 **Varadero Drive**
Trisha and Ed Purcell
581-0923

Area F

5455 **Acapulco Place**
Lou Dunbar
882-0376

5529 **Buenos Aires Bl.**
John Harris
946-2091

5588 **Buenos Aires Bl.**
Chris Feeney
679-7186

5520 **Copenhagen Drive**
Bill and June Riggs
890-6070

5584 **Copenhagen Drive**
Richard Rathkopf
776-1230

5625 **Madrid Drive**
Ralph and Judy Barrell
882-5298

3599 **Madrid Drive**
Kathy Ridgway
899-9690

5561 **Oslo Drive**
Sharon Ricker*
891-1881

3515 **Panama Drive**
Betsy Briggs
203-5404

3578 **Stockholm Road**
Leslie Jordan
823-6496

Area G

5680 **Bashaw Drive**
Cheri Gray
899-0785

5663 **Bashaw Drive**
Brent Sheffer
818-9324

3668 **Managua Drive**
Andrea Wei
890-8187

3705 **Managua Drive**
Frances Corkrean
890-1825

3661 **Mexico Avenue**
Michelle Baum
895-9601

5598 **Montevideo Drive**
Jonathan and Megan
Howard
302-4990

5652 **Natalie Court**
Amy McCarthy
899-7859

5664 **Natalie Court**
Christie Walker
392-0468

3686 **Santiago Drive**
Daisy and Kenny White
948-0635

5601 **Spohn Drive**
Robin Thomas
891-2722

5614 **Spohn Drive**
Raelena Robinson
895-2943

Area H

Blendon Square Apts.
Nick Sabo
*Area Representative

**To become a
Block Watch
representative,
call James Welch
at 882-8959.**

HRAA Expanding Web Presence

Check us out on Facebook and join as a fan. We'll be using the Facebook site as a supplementary site to our primary one at huberridge.org. Our aim is to communicate in as many ways as possible with the exciting events planned for our neighborhood. We are adding Facebook to our current communication strategy of monthly meetings; quarterly newsletters; neighborhood kiosks; and, of course, our primary website. The site is called Huber Ridge Area Association; see you there!

—Carolyn Cordray, Vice President

Ohio State School of Cosmetology is proud to call Donna Tarpey a member of our family!



Donna has called Huber Ridge “home” for many years and she has also spent many years as a member of the teaching and management staff at the Westerville location of Ohio State School of Cosmetology! (28 years to be exact!)

Donna and her sister, Vivian, completed cosmetology school in 1959 and she hasn't stopped since! After working in two hair salons, she joined Ohio State School of Cosmetology as a teacher — eager to share her talent and wisdom. Over the years, Donna has touched the lives of so many students. In fact, it's fair to say that Donna has taught, counseled and inspired at least 3,000 students! How many people can say that?

Donna has witnessed many changes in both the beauty industry and at OSSC. While trends, styles, and preferences have changed, Donna's dedication to continuing education and excellence has never faltered. Her skills as a teacher and stylist are as relevant today as they were when she first graduated from beauty school — just ask any of her successful graduates! Without Donna, surely their careers and their lives wouldn't be nearly as fulfilling! Recently, Donna witnessed the expansion of her school that includes a beautiful spa retreat named “Spa Paris.” In addition to a full menu of spa treats, clients can continue to enjoy a wide range of hair care services including cuts, styles, permanent wave, hair color and special occasion up-do's at bargain prices.

Donna's dedication to her students is second only to her dedication to her family. Donna has been married to her husband Tom for nearly 50 years and they are the proud parents of Steve and Dan. Six grandchildren keep her happy (and exhausted!)

As a tribute to Donna and all dedicated mothers — we would like to extend a special spa treatment offer. From April 1 through Mother's Day (May 9) purchase any of our luxurious facials and get the second for FREE! While you're there — be sure to say hello to Donna!

Happy Mother's Day, Donna! Thank you for your loyalty and friendship throughout the years! From your family at Ohio State School of Cosmetology.

Visit Ohio State School of Cosmetology Monday through Saturday at 5970 Westerville Road (in the Glengary Center) 614-890-3535.

www.salonschools.com



Police Department Certificate of Appreciation Awarded to Pam Clegg

The Blendon Township Police Department awarded Pam Clegg a certificate of appreciation at the annual Block Watch training on January 12. The Department has recognized all the efforts that Pam has put into being the Block Watch Coordinator. The award was presented to Pam for her high energy and continued efforts to make the Huber Ridge area a better place to live. Pam has put countless hours into the organization of the Block Watch program, which has proven itself many times as successful.

—Sgt. Branch Wayt, Blendon Township Police Department

The Salyerses—HRAA Family of the Quarter

We are proud to introduce you to Michelle, Keith, and Ashley Salyers, the fourth honored household of the year. This is the first time we have the fun of bringing to you a family with a young person at home. Ashley is in the 8th grade at Walnut Springs Middle School. She told me that she is in high school algebra, plays the flute in the band, sings soprano in the choir, and participates in Drama Club as well as Chess Club. She quickly added that she has two pen pals in Italy and two in France! Do I need say she is so very personable, outgoing, and—on top of that—polite!

Of course, I'll add they have two other girls—Chloe Diamond, a 3-year-old blonde Shih Tzu and Jade Stilts, an 8-month-old black Dachshund/Italian Greyhound mix. I gasped when I heard that mix until Keith explained that an Italian Greyhound is a small breed, and she will get no bigger than 10 to 20 pounds! She is a cutie—all pup—with the longest legs you'll ever see on a dachshund, hence her middle name! Chloe enjoys attention and will solicit it any chance she gets. She has a handicap she doesn't seem to know about. She has but one back leg. She is amazing.

You will smile with me when I tell you about my first call to the Salyerses. Michelle answered the phone, immediately knew about the households write-ups in *The Herald*, and was excited to hear they had been chosen. As we searched our calendars for a date to meet, she checked with Keith about a date; and he said it was fine with him, but it was her birthday! So, as with other busy couples, I needed to talk with them at different times.

The Salyerses have lived at 3690 Lima Drive since January of 2000. They came to the Westerville area in search of a comfortable community, a good school district, and a spacious lot. They both came from small communities close to Marysville—Michelle from Richwood and Keith from

Watkins. They wanted the convenience of a city, but they wanted to be able to enjoy peaceful evenings outside as well.

Michelle and Keith met when they were both young, working at a Burger King in Marysville, a popular place to work for those in nearby rural areas. He was hooked on the cooking part of the restaurant even then. He has followed that love of cooking through the years and progressed from line cook into restaurant management. Anyone who has worked in the business knows the varied hours can limit your time at home. Although he had envisioned staying in restaurant management, he is more interested now in regular hours and more time with his young family. He said, "I want to see my daughter grow up." So he's in school at Columbus State pursuing his accounting degree and is currently working at Champps at Easton.

Michelle isn't that excited about cooking but enjoys baking and hors d'oeuvres and earned her bachelor's degree in accounting in 2006 through University of Phoenix Online. University of Phoenix was a good fit with her daytime job and Keith's evening hours. Michelle has worked at JPMorgan Chase for 11 years. She started at Chase as a loan counselor in the mortgage collections area, and she now enjoys her current position as an incentive administration supervisor.



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Adventure Week Goes West!

Who?

Children ages 4 through grade 6

What?

FREE week of adventure

When?

June 21-25, 9:15 am to 12 Noon

Where?

Faith Covenant Church
3607 Dempsey Road,
Westerville, OH 43081

Why?

Meet new friends & have fun

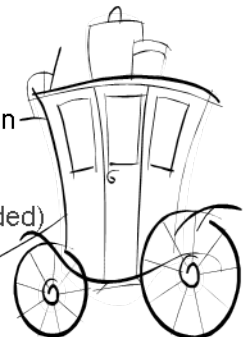
How?

Registration begins April 1
(early registration recommended)

Contact the church office

(614-865-0791)

<http://www.faithcov.net>



I cringed when I asked each of them about their hobbies. What a question for a couple with a preteen, both working and Keith going to school, not to mention two active dogs! But the answer from both was remodeling their home. Michelle explained that they try to remodel one part of their home each year. They shared some of their upcoming plans, and they are fantastic—involving the master bedroom in conjunction with the bath and a complete re-do of the kitchen. They also both enjoy reading. Then if you can believe this, they also enjoy biking! They have gotten to know a great deal about our biking paths and have biked many of the paths ranging from close by to biking on the paths toward Polaris and also toward Easton.

Come out to the Huber Ridge Area Association meeting on April 1 and meet this delightful family! You will enjoy them, and we can show them we are proud they are the Household of the Quarter!

—Joy Neff, Membership Coordinator

The Flaherty Consulting Group

Have you noticed the ad from The Flaherty Consulting Group in just about every *Herald* publication? Did you ever wonder what this company is all about? From the ad, you can realize that The Flaherty Consulting Group offers financial consulting. Well, I had the privilege of finding out about the company from the founder and owner, Stewart Flaherty.

Flaherty Consulting has been around for over 32 years. Before I talked to Stew about his company, I was under the impression that financial consulting is for people who are well off and have money to invest. I asked Stew how his company can help the average middle-income family that is struggling to pay off debt and may not have a lot of extra income to invest. I was really impressed with Stew's answer. Stew said that his company deals with Middle America. Their mission in life is to help the average family "allocate limited resources among unlimited choices."

Stew has built his company based on ethics and high moral standards. I asked Stew what sets his company apart from other financial companies. Flaherty Consulting treats every client the same whether they have a lot of money or a little. Developing relationships with clients is valued at Flaherty Consulting. The client comes first. Over the years, Flaherty Consulting has become the trusted advisor to four generations of clients. This is because clients are given a very personal service.


If someone wants help from Flaherty Consulting regarding financial matters, the process starts with a phone call to make an appointment. The initial appointment to gather facts is free. Stew and his staff will meet with the client and find out what the client wants. Each client is given

a custom approach to meet his or her specific needs. An upfront quote will be presented to the client for the cost of developing a plan to address the present concerns. The cost for a tailored plan is very reasonable. The client can then decide whether or not he or she wants to proceed with the plan.

Stew relayed to me a story of one of his clients who was a student studying here from another country. This student had no money but wanted to start a business. It seemed amazing to me that Stew's company would seek to help a poor student. Stew and his staff were able to guide this student regarding his finances because the student wanted to improve his net worth. The result was that the student was able to eventually launch a successful business that is very profitable today. Stew said that you don't need a high net worth to seek help from his company. You just need a desire to want to improve your net worth.

I asked Stew what financial advice he would give families in our present unstable economy. First, get a handle on your debt (credit card, car, mortgage, etc.). Second, look at your assets (401K, retirement plans, etc.) to make sure they are being maximized to get the best results.

—Doug Dapo, Neighbor



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Let's Honor the Following for Serving Our Country:

- ♣ Gerald E. Shaner, over 33 years of service in the Army in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.
- ♣ Specialist Mark Smock, service in the Army Reserve attached to the 342nd Military Police Company based at Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio, with tours of duty at Fort Dix and in California, Indiana, and Italy.
- ♣ Sgt. John K. Harris, service with the 37 IBCT Army National Guard in Kuwait from January 5, 2008 to December 7, 2008.
- ♣ Lt. John Shinaberry, service with the Air Force (currently completing pilot training after graduating from the United States Air Force Academy).

Please email us the name, military branch, location (unless confidential), and other relevant information about Huber Ridge personnel who have served or are serving our United States of America. We will post the information on our website (huberridge.org) and in *The Herald*.

Your HRAA is proud to support our troops and veterans. We thank you!

—Jim Welch, President

Let's Try Something New!

You Can Get A Free Year's Membership to the Association

We have used our activities and *The Herald* as the primary ways to bring new members into the Association. The Silver Celebration even brought in two new families!

So now let's see how you can do! **April is Membership Appeal Month**, and we declare it a month when you can win a 12-month paid membership by bringing in the most new members. Now that's not renewals. If you turn in the dues (\$15) with their names, I'll let them know I have their money and that they are members. You'll get the credit. If new members send me dues and say you brought them in, that's fine, too. You'll get the credit.

It's all over the 30th of April. Go get 'em—let everyone share the fun!

—Joy Neff, Membership Coordinator

Large Indoor Garage Sale at Blendon Senior Center

A bake sale, a quilt raffle, and lunch from 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. will be part of the large indoor garage sale to be held at the Blendon Senior Center, 6330 Hempstead Road (off Dempsey Road) on Thursday, April 15, and Friday, April 16, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Saturday, April 17, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For more information, call 882-1260.

—Donna Jordan, Director, Blendon Senior Center

2nd Annual Ridge-a-Palooza Planned

Plan to kick off your summer in the Ridge in a big way by coming to the second annual Ridge-a-Palooza on June 12 beginning at 5 p.m. at Faith Covenant Church on Dempsey Road. The all-Huber Ridge block-party type event will once again feature fun attractions such as inflatable games, face painting, volleyball, an alpaca petting zoo, a raffle, great food, and a movie with popcorn at dusk.

If all that isn't enough, there are a few new attractions in the works for this year as well.

Huber Ridge Area Association members will get free admission as a benefit of membership, and non-members will pay a nominal admission fee. To help defray some of the costs of renting the inflatables, the HRAA will be sponsoring some fund-raising events in the



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near future.

Be sure to check huberridge.org frequently for developments. Hope to see you there!

—Carolyn Cordray, Vice President

Downsize to Make Some Extra Cash

Benefit from your spring cleaning by participating in the annual Huber Ridge Area Association's Community Garage Sale on June 26 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Be sure to register your address so that it will appear on the community map that will be compiled by the HRAA and distributed to shoppers coming into the neighborhood.

The sale will be advertised in several local publications to draw more people, and plans are in the works to add some attractions to help keep shoppers in the area longer—which could mean more sales for you.

Participation is FREE! General registration will begin the end of May; but if you'd like to register early, contact Carolyn Cordray at events@huberridge.org and be sure to watch huberridge.org for details.

—Carolyn Cordray, Vice President

2010 Annual Block Watch Training Recap

This year's block watch training held in January was a triple bonus for approximately 25 residents.

Battalion Chief John Bokros of Westerville/Blendon Fire Division gave us lessons and literature on smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, emergency planning and disaster preparedness, and fire escape plans and practice. The personal touch and advice he offered was invaluable. His willingness to serve and his enthusiasm were apparent and inspiring.

Sgt. Branch Wayt of our Blendon Township Police Department put together a training manual that contained a one-page summary of how to prevent crime with the acronym "S.T.O.P. T.H.I.E.F." (see huberridge.org for the summary); an identity theft "repair kit" from Ohio Attorney General Richard Cordray's office (a very comprehensive booklet); a document prepared by Franklin County Children Services about child abuse and neglect; and safety tips for runners and walkers. All of these offered a wealth of useful information. He interacted with us and gave us scenarios to challenge our thinking about safety. In keeping with his tradition, he generously awarded one fortunate resident a \$25



Car repair is about TRUST. Here is what our customer, Patrick H. of Westerville, says: "We have multiple cars and have used Wayne's Auto Repair multiple times. Their service is quick, professional and courteous. Their diagnostics are accurate and the job is done right the first time. I've recommended them to several people already, and will continue to do so going forward. Thanks, Wayne."

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gift certificate to Carsonie's at Glengary Plaza.

Finally, Director of Code Enforcement Bryan Rhoads gave us an update on how potential grant money from our government could help pay for sidewalk repair in our township. He encouraged residents to identify sidewalks in need of repair in the event we are awarded the grant money. He shared the success of the Land Bank program that aided in tearing down community eyesores: one in Huber Ridge and another in Cleveland Heights. Both were possible through the help of our Franklin County Treasurer's (Ed Leonard) office. These properties were delinquent in their taxes, which adversely affects all of us. Bryan stressed the importance of property maintenance as the key to a better community—a well cared for community, a desirable community, a healthy community.

Plan to attend next year's training. As usual, we will keep you posted on when to expect it. And, as usual, it will be free and open to all.

—Pam Clegg, Former Block Watch Coordinator

First Silver Celebration a Wonderful Party

The idea of a party for those who had been in the Huber Ridge area 25 years or more was conceived by Art and Linda VanTassel, who have been in the Ridge 40-plus years. It sounded like a great idea, but we worried a little that folks might just rather stay home than come out for a gathering that had not been done before, especially in the winter. We were astounded! Of the 51 Association member families who were eligible to attend, 42 were there! And two families who were not members joined and came to enjoy the fun.

Rich and Jessica Rathkopf and Roberta and Tom Conley took the reservations, but Rich and Jessica were unable to attend. Roberta and Tom were surprised by many who arrived early; but they were ready to greet everyone, and the fun began!

The Blendon Senior Center was decorated in a festive spring theme with music to create some ambiance; the tables were adorned with live flowers, planting tools, and favors of "silver" buckets from Logan's Steakhouse, filled with jelly beans and topped with spring flower seed packets. Rich Rathkopf works at Logan's and helped in getting all the tiny buckets. All of that had the special touch of Carolyn Cordray, Eric Cordray, and their families along with Ron Bricker and Danielle, Jim Welch's daughter. The music was Carolyn's idea, and she sought the help of Ed Chilcoat, Faith Covenant Church, to provide the sound system. The evening surely would have been dull without those special touches—even with all the conversations.

Although all of the committee brought cups, bowls, silverware, condiments, holders, etc., since we were not able to use any of that in the Center, there were some items worth

mentioning. Sharon Ricker brought matching ceramic salt and pepper shakers, which were a conversation piece, and a Mr. Tea, which brewed tea. One man commented about the glass cups—saying he wasn't used to "little finger" cups. The plates were very special. It's too bad we had to put food on them before guests had a chance to see that they were a muted silver with a large soft-hue daisy in the center. They were loaned by the Cordrays, who had them for their reception when they renewed their wedding vows.

The evening began with a welcome by Jim Welch, President of the Association, and a message of thanks by Bill Riggs before the dinner was served.

The three-course dinner was prepared and served by your neighbors. The seasoned pork loin, the scrumptious baked potatoes, and the delicious rolls were prepared by Bill and June Riggs. I had a hand in the salad, vegetables, and dessert. There were no long waits to be served thanks to Lori and Byron Mann; Ron Bricker; Jim and Jean Welch and Jim's daughter, Danielle; and Carolyn and Eric Cordray with their son, Rob, and Eric's mother, Nita. Those who served were very attentive and handled the service like experts!

You probably saw in the March 3 issue of *This Week* that Jennifer Nesbitt talked with several guests during dinner and Jim Decamp took pictures. We appreciated their considering our party a worthy news event!

After dinner, door prizes were given out; many brought pictures of the early years to display. Eric Cordray introduced the guests by the year they came into the Ridge, and special recognition was given to four who came into the Ridge in 1961 and are the earliest original owners in the Association. Sue Mitchell was the first in October. Almina and Tom Wiebell came in November; Alfred and Mary Carder, in early December; and Harry and Kris Lehman, in mid-December.

A huge thank you goes to everyone who gave of their time, energy, and ideas to make the Silver Celebration the great success it was. And you, the guests, are truly a community in every sense of the word! It was a delight to see you enjoying being together and sharing stories of the past in which you were a part.

—Joy Neff, Membership Coordinator

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First Annual Silver Celebration for Huber Ridge Residents on February 27

Were You There?



Almina Smock-Wiebell, Huber Ridge's Second Resident, and Sue Mitchell, the First Resident



Mary Carder, Huber Ridge's Third Resident, and Harry Lehman, the Fourth Resident



Residents Standing to Signify How Many Years They Have Lived in the Ridge



Guests Mingling at the First Annual Silver Celebration for Huber Ridge Residents of 25 Years or More

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Update on the OAWC Rate Increase Application

Here we are in the midst of the third rate increase application in as many years. This time Steve Kennedy, Prairie Township Trustee, and I have united the communities serviced by the Ohio American Water Company by forming and co-chairing respectively Fight the Hike Ohio and by including the best practices of other states' opposition to the frequent and exorbitant rate hikes.

Our collected and organized opposition to the OAWC's rate increase request has opened a few doors this year. We have received some attention from a few state representatives, and House Bill 344 has been introduced. This bill limits the amount a water utility can apply for in reimbursement from its customers for attorney fees and fees related to the cost of each application to 50 percent of the increase. The other 50 percent must be absorbed by the stockholders. This is a start and not the answer. While we have some elected state lawmakers' attention, the letters of support for House Bill 344 and stories related to OAWC's abuse must continue.

Ultimately OAWC needs to go, but it is not that easy. A lot of things must happen to pave the way. As long as

American Water Company caters to the stockholders, the prices their "hostages" (i.e., customers) pay and the quality of services will not change. This would mean a new business structure from not just OAWC but also from AWC (OAWC's parent company.)

This is not a vendetta against OAWC; this is our community's ability to invite good residents to move here. Recently the HRAA honored residents who have lived here for 25-plus years with a dinner. There are many great stories as to why Huber Ridge residents have lived here for so long: the community, the people, the amenities, etc. And there are only two complaints: the water bills and services and the number of rentals.

OAWC is the source of both complaints. As long as OAWC's business model doesn't change or our water/sewer supplier doesn't change, our ability as a community to invite good neighbors and good neighborhood businesses will suffer. The values of our homes won't increase as they should, and more investors will buy homes here for rentals.

I ran for president of your HRAA to unite the community for the betterment of the community. In the past four years, we (the community) have united for several causes and made a difference here. OAWC's pricing and water quality is a big detriment, and we as customers have the tools to change that: a pencil/pen and paper and the power of the vote. Our local and state lawmakers are supposed to be elected for the people by the people. It's time to write and express our concerns about our investment in our homes and what the OAWC has done and continues to do to our community. We have made and can continue to make a difference. Accountability is the key.

To all who have written letters about the past increases and attended the public hearings, thank you!

To all who have attended the functions of our community and our HRAA, thank you!

To all who have served on HRAA committees, thank you!

To all who have united to help make this great community be all that it can be, thank you!

This is your community, and you *have* made a difference!
—James Welch, President

DONLEY E. STRONG

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Election Results

The results of the election for Huber Ridge Area Association officers on February 4 were Jim Welch, President; Carolyn Cordray, Vice President; Eric Cordray, Treasurer; and Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor. No one was on the ballot for the office of Secretary; that position still needs to be filled. Can you help?

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

huberridge.org Is a Popular Website

The Huber Ridge Area Association website, huberridge.org, continues to be of interest to residents of the Ridge. Here is the hit report for the past six months:

October, 2009	3,389
November, 2009	2,580
December, 2009	1,535
January, 2010	1,816
February, 2010	1,509
March 1-18, 2010	962

Although the Home Page and Discussion areas are viewed most often, the Calendar, Map, Meet Your Neighbors, Newsletter, Our Info, and Pages & Docs sections also receive a lot of attention.

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

As A Snowy Winter Melts Behind Us ...

I want to take a small minute to remind us all as the rough winter is exiting to take a look at our homes and properties. Our homes shelter us from the elements that include the snow and cold; but they, too, weather the elements.

February brought us 30+ inches of snow. As it melts away, hopefully for nine months or more, we should check our properties as damage may have occurred in gutters and downspouts, patio and window awnings, etc. Snow may have covered trash that has collected around.

Blendon Township adopted a housing maintenance code in August 2008 and started enforcing it in January 2009. Bryan Rhoads is the Township code enforcement officer; and although he is an understanding and caring person, you may not want to see him at your doorstep reminding you about the maintenance code and how it pertains to you and your home.

Blendon Township's property maintenance code can be read on and/or printed from our website, huberridge.org, and on the Township's website, blendontwp.org.

—James Welch, President



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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.



This Is on the Back Page Because I Am So Sad!

After loads of attempts to keep members current in their dues for our fantastic Huber Ridge Area Association, we have lost 12 members! I'm sad because they will

- ☒ be in the dark as to what is current in the Ridge,
- ☒ lose out on the fun of being "in the loop" of activities,
- ☒ be paying \$1 for each member of their home to come to our events, like the Ridge-a-Palooza and the Halloween party,
- ☒ and more.

I don't want to print names, so if you don't remember my contacts or wonder if your dues are paid up, just call me at 891-0204.

—Joy Neff, Membership Coordinator

HUBER RIDGE AREA ASSOCIATION 2010 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Application shows your agreement to abide by the Bylaws and be a member in good standing.)

Name(s) 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 Road, Westerville, OH 43081. Checks are to be made payable to the Huber Ridge Area Association.

Here's What's Happening in the Ridge!



Put these dates on your calendar!

- April 1..... HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- April 14..... Blendon Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- April 15..... HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.
- April 24..... Spring Cleanup at Ridgewood Park beginning at 9:00 a.m.
- April 28..... Blendon Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- May 6..... HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- May 8..... 5th Annual HRAA Plant Swap at Ridgewood Park from 10:00 a.m. to noon
- May 12..... Blendon Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- May 20..... HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.
- June 3..... HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- June 9..... Blendon Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- June 12..... RIDGE-A-PALOOZA All Huber Block Party on the Faith Covenant Grounds, 3607 Dempsey Road, at 5:00 p.m.
- June 17..... HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.
- June 23..... Blendon Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- June 26..... Community Garage Sale in Huber Ridge from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- July 1..... HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.