

Hello, 25-Year Residents!

The Fourth Annual Silver Celebration



Four years—what a milestone! And it's grown! We had 36 residents attend the first celebration; then the second year we had 53; and by last year the news had gotten out about what a great time we had, and 60 attended. Let's top that! Come and catch up on the stories you shared with your neighbors last year and meet the newcomers.

Who: Members of the Huber Ridge Area Association who have been residents of the Ridge for 25 years or more are our honored guests. Non-members are welcome (see below).

When: The date is March 16, 2013. The doors will open at 5 p.m., so you will have time to look at Almina's historical posters with some punch in your hand. Then visit until 6 p.m. when we will start serving the salad.

Where: We will again enjoy the beautiful arrangements at Grace Fellowship Church at 3475 Paris Boulevard. There is ample parking.

What: A casual time for visits with friends from 5 to 6 p.m.; a dinner of salad, entrée, warm cinnamon rolls, dessert, and coffee/tea at 6 p.m. Then introductions of those who we're honoring by the year they came into the Ridge, table stories with prizes, and finally door prizes.

Reservations: Because we can't spend dues money for this event, we need to ask you to subsidize the event with \$7.50 each for HRAA *members* who have been in the Ridge for 25 years or more and \$8.50 for *non-members* who have been in the Ridge for 25 years or more.

Deadline: Reservations with payment must be in to the Conleys at 3533 Makassar by Tuesday, March 12, so that we can appropriately host you. Make your check out to HRAA.

If you have questions, you may call Tom or Roberta Conley at 882-5252.

Transportation: If you need a ride, please let us know when you make your reservation. We have drivers who are glad to help you get to the party and home. See you then!
—Joya Neff, Silver Celebration Coordinator

Watching the Block Behind Closed Doors and Pulled Curtains?

How, you might ask, can I do that? Well, now that we are into an Ohio winter and, as the song says as it plays at least 20 times a day "Baby, It's Cold Outside," watching the block is not an easy task for sure. Does the cold deter bad people from breaking into cars or houses? Maybe just the opposite since we are nestled in our homes and the noise of people outside doesn't reach us as easily inside.

So what can we do to lessen most crimes in the area? There has been some discussion that the best "defense" is that if you don't have any valuables left in your car, you should not lock your car to prevent having to replace a broken window. I would not advocate that since it might encourage the thief. With its getting darker earlier now, the need for outside lights is a must. With the darkness comes the opportunity for someone to hide in that darkness. Be alert when you are outside of your house! Train yourself to be observant in your day-to-day activities. If you see something, say something!

If you came upon a crime being committed, could you give a detailed description of the events to the police? What things should you look for and try to remember? **In April this year, the Block Watch training will focus on that very issue. How can we be trained to be better observers?** Can you remember what the last person you spoke to was wearing? Did he/she have an accent? Tattoos? Scars? For me, it's not easy to remember things; so maybe after the training, I will be better. In the meantime...look out the window for a minute.

—Doug Murphy, Block Watch Coordinator

Your HRAA Executive Committee:

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Vice President **Vacant**
Immediate Past President **James Welch**
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Treasurer **Pam Clegg**
Newsletter Editor **Marje Obrist**
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3554 Makassar Drive 794-0927
3614 Makassar Drive 891-9176
5436 Acapulco Place 891-6944
3510 Rangoon Drive 882-3795
5725 Vienna Drive 525-1488
5519 Oslo Drive 882-3345
3615 Stockholm Road 891-0204
3505 Saigon Drive 882-4220

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treasurer@huberridge.org
editor@huberridge.org
beautification@huberridge.org
blockwatch@huberridge.org
membership@huberridge.org
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Issues 35 and 36 Approved by Voters

I want to thank you, Blendon Township voters, for supporting Issues 35 and 36 in the November election.

Election results for Issue 35 Limited Home Rule were as follows:

	Absentee	November 6 Votes	Total
FOR	803	1,436	2,239
AGAINST	351	739	1,090

Election results for Issue 36 Joint Economic Development Zone were as follows:

	Absentee	November 6 Votes	Total
FOR	1,094	1,991	3,085
AGAINST	302	657	959

Over the last few years, Blendon Township as well as every other community has been faced with diminishing revenue and the pains to deal with the diminishing revenue. Your trustees have weathered these cuts fairly well. The revenue from the JEDZ will not be fully realized until June 2014 because it takes a year of tax collections paid quarterly and business collections filed yearly to realize and appropriate such funds.

As we start to receive the quarterly revenue in April, we plan to address the repair and maintenance of aging roads more extensively than in years past. Due to the cuts in the Local Government Fund (LGF) and the price of oil driving up the cost of road repairs, we have been forced to perform minimal necessary repairs in the past.

The JEDZ requires an investment back into the Zone from which the tax base was generated. This year we are designing plans for the Zone that are shelf ready for applications for grants to match with JEDZ money to implement these plans.


The JEDZ has allowed us to promote Bryan Rhoads from part-time Township Administrator to full-time Township Administrator, thus increasing the efficiency of our local government and allowing for the overseeing and applying for grants that stretch our tax dollars just to name a few.

In a few years, you will begin to see the positive impact that JEDZ has on the communities of Blendon Township.

With the passage of Limited Home Rule, which is defined by the Ohio Revised Code, your trustees have a few extra tools to look into and possibly address local issues that we could not have addressed before.

Visit huberridge.org and blendontwp.org for updates and actions of your local government, Blendon Township.

—James Welch, HRAA Immediate Past President
and Blendon Township Trustee



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In Service to Our Country ...



We are proud to recognize Huber Ridge service personnel both in *The Herald* and on our website, huberridge.org. In this issue, we honor

- ♫ **Specialist Katie Christy**
- ♫ **Gerald E. Shaner**
- ♫ **Captain John Shinaberry**
- ♫ **Captain John Paul Smock**
- ♫ **Specialist Mark Smock**
- ♫ **Sgt. Benjamin K. Spears**

If you are serving or have served in our Armed Forces or have a family member in the service, please let us know by calling 882-8959 or emailing jimwelch@netzero.net today!

—James Welch, Immediate Past President

Block Watch Street Representatives

Area A

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

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

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

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

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

3381 **Hunt Club Rd., N.**
G. H. Mike Richards and
Linda Larrow-Richards

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
214-3889

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

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

5940 **Bangasi Road**
Marsha and Lisa Peabody
891-6620

3595 **Makassar Drive**
Dan Goodwin

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

3480 **Manila Drive**
Matt and Jackie Shumaker
973-8704

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

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

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

5520 **Copenhagen Drive**
June Riggs
370-5520

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

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

5519 **Oslo Drive**
Tom and Almina Wiebell
882-3345

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

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

3612 **Stockholm Road**
Tom and Hilda DeSteuben
882-7473

Area G

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

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

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

3661 **Mexico Avenue**
Michelle Baum
570-8035

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

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

5575 **Santiago Drive**
Tom and Jan Heichel
890-0650

5601 **Spohn Drive**
Robin Thomas
891-2772

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

Area H

Blendon Square Apts.
Nick Sabo

*Area Representative

Contact Block Watch Coordinator Doug Murphy at 525-1488 or at blockwatch@huberridge.org to learn how you can become a Block Watch street or area representative!



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HRAA Family of the Quarter**Meet the Reifeis Family**

I do hope I can do justice to the story this wonderful HRAA Family of the Quarter brings to you. Scott and Lisa Reifeis live at 5571 Madrid Drive with Blacktail, their very senior, long haired, black cat.

Both Scott and Lisa were raised in the Toledo area but actually met at a YMCA summer camp when they were in high school. They graduated and followed two very separate career paths—Scott at the University of Cincinnati and Lisa at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Scott chose to pursue a bachelor's degree in architecture, which requires a total of 6 years of study with what they called "co-op" or actual on-site work experience before being eligible to sit for the licensure test, then if successful, eligible for registration. His choice of architecture was first through an expectation that he attend college as both his parents were college graduates; then he was influenced when, in the seventh grade, he was introduced to drafting. He was "hooked" for the first time by this hands-on class.

Lisa chose Ball State after considering some nearby state universities which had strong programs in physical education

and earned her BS degree in 1978. She chose education as her career because her parents, too, were college graduates. Her mother was a home economics teacher, and her dad worked with his father-in-law in a small roofing business after the war and graduated from Bowling Green. Lisa's dad became a general contractor, and her mother became his office manager and ran the household. The office was in the house; and the warehouse was out back where the trucks, bulldozers, and extra materials were stored. Lisa usually liked to go out back and burn the trash in a large wire bin there. Wonder if that visual experience had anything to do with her falling for an architect? Although in separate states, Scott and Lisa maintained a casual mail and phone communication but said neither directly expressed an intention of a future together.

Before I continue to write about their career paths, let me share a bit about their siblings. Scott's older brother, Craig, will come into their story a bit later; but for now I will just add that he and his family are in Charleston where he is an independent computer consultant. He is married and has four children. Marc is 5 years younger, lives in Lewis Center, and is an independent consultant. He is married; his wife teaches at Columbus Academy; and they have a son. Stacy is 7 years younger, is in Indianapolis, and works at Eli Lilly as does her

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husband. They have three children; two are college football players (Erich is the Indiana University punter, and John is a red-shirted freshman at the University of Kentucky.)

Lisa has an older brother, Greg, who is a building consultant, is married, and lives in Fairfield, Iowa. He has three daughters. Can you imagine trying to have a family get-together with families in all parts of the country?

In Lisa's search for her first job, she considered several opportunities before she found the Cincinnati public schools as the best fit for her love of physical education in an acclaimed school environment. When I asked what effect Scott being there had on her decision, she said she knew he was still in school there; but it was not why she chose Cincinnati. Well, cupid wasn't done with them! They were soon in contact and enjoyed times together (Scott called them "cheap dates") until he graduated and proposed; she said, "Yes." Cupid won!

Then Scott began his search for his first job after graduation but still not eligible to take the test for licensure and registration. After some negotiations, he chose a small architectural firm in Cleveland. They leased an apartment, and Lisa continued her career in the Cleveland school system teaching seventh grade language arts. I had to ask what that was, only to learn it was the new way of saying the concept of "reading and writing" encompassing spelling and grammar—at a much higher level!

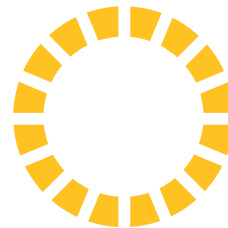
After 3 years in Cleveland, Scott was eligible to sit for the licensure test, passed it, and became a registered architect. What a journey! Now he was ready to reach a higher level in his employment and approached his boss with a declaration of his new professional status and an anticipation of a raise. The answer came: "You are worth to me the same amount today as you were worth yesterday." Scott smiled as he told that, but it didn't take him long to find a job that satisfied his need to move on in his career. That job was in Columbus with an engineering firm that needed an architect—just what he wanted to show his knowledge and skills! Lisa again had no difficulty transferring her abilities from the Cleveland public school system to the Columbus public school system where she would teach the seventh grade until a dynamic restructuring gave her the chance to teach her love, physical education.

We are now in 1984 when they left their Cleveland house, which was not selling. Do you remember the 15 percent interest rates on house loans from that time? It was a significant burden, so they rented a small apartment in Columbus until the Cleveland house was sold. After looking at various neighborhoods, they chose to buy their current home in Huber Ridge, partly because Scott's brother Craig lived on Madrid and they had seen the area. They took on a huge task of refurbishing the house which was what they called in a "severely distressed" condition, but they traded off the condition of the house for the huge backyard. They

added they felt the value was better than what they had seen elsewhere and, to repeat, they loved the backyard! In case you do not know, the homes in this area of Madrid actually encompass two lots; and Scott and Lisa have probably one of the larger lots. It is park-like in that Alum Creek forms the rear lot line. More about that later.

The house was unlivable, so they applied their skills and enormous amounts of sweat equity to virtually gutting it and rebuilding/replacing all the plumbing, all interior finishes, the kitchen, the furnace/air conditioning, roof, etc. When the lease on their apartment ended, they still weren't finished, so they moved in and used Craig's house to shower for about a week until their bath was finished. It was an interesting sight to see Scott and/or Lisa, often in a robe with shower supplies, walking to his brother's—usually in the morning. Makes one wonder why Craig moved 2 years later! (Just kidding!)

After settling into their new home, they welcomed their three children: Kate born in 1986, Allison born in 1989, and Alex born in 1990. All three are college grads: Kate from The Ohio State University with a BS in Economics and now working at OSU in the Facilities Department; Allison from Kent State University in Fashion and Merchandising and now a project manager for a local company that provides art/



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interior finishes for large retailers, and Alex from Marymount College in theater in New York and now with Apple in New York City.

Through Scott's advancing career in architecture, he worked at both local firms and for himself as the opportunities made sense. In 1993 he joined a local hospital to direct their building programs. He remains there today and manages a staff of 20+ professionals who continue to build and renovate for the hospital.

Lisa chose to "retire" after teaching 20 years and continued to raise the children with all the normal complexities of parenthood. After a delightful visit, I realized I had a few fun or funny "stories" about what life had dealt them and urged them to share some. It turned to their children. They explained that the neighbors were always watchful when their children were "out and about" since they were as comfortable in the neighbors' yards as in their own.

Now the family next door had a crab-apple tree which was a fun challenge to climb, just the right size for 4- to 6-year-olds. One day Mr. White anxiously notified Scott that their kids were high up in the tree! Not alarmed, Scott said they would get down okay—or might not. Then in the same setting—a concerned neighbor, three adventurous children, and parents who were not easily alarmed—the neighbor notified Scott that his little ones were out playing in the snow *with no shoes on!* In Scott's accepting way, he explained they would come in when they got cold.

For years, they had two trampolines in their backyard. They were extremely popular with their children and all their friends. The trampolines were carefully positioned outside some large windows which allowed both parental observation of the shenanigans that typically occurred and on most days served as a large mirror—the kids could jump and watch themselves in the reflections. Although the trampolines are now gone, the remaining play equipment and Lisa's easy ways have encouraged some new generations of youngsters to play at their house. If nearby parents are looking for their kids, they often look (or holler) towards Scott and Lisa's.

As we talked through this story, there were constant references to the families around this family. They named those with whom they had shared part of their lives from as far away as Paris Boulevard. One teenaged neighbor baby sat their children, and they still stay in touch. They knew names, some incidences, and even a time when they joined together to resolve a situation involving the Grace Fellowship (then Baptist) Church. At that time the Church owned the flood plain along Alum Creek behind the homes on Madrid and wanted to sell it. Scott took on the issue and convened the neighbors; and together they negotiated the sale with the church, which in the end cost the home owners \$1 each! Interestingly enough, the regulatory paperwork to prepare the

deeds and property descriptions cost in excess of \$2,000.

Being able to get things done in the neighborhood must be in the Reifeis DNA. After Scott's brother lost his beloved cocker spaniel who had been killed at the corner of Madrid and Stockholm, he went to the Trustees and asked/demanded that a stop sign be erected at the corner. It was and is today. Unfortunately, cars continue to move quickly on Madrid; Scott and Lisa have had four cats killed by vehicles over the years. To us who are animal lovers, that is so sad!

I do hope you come to the Huber Ridge Area Association meeting on January 3, 2013, at 7 p.m. at the Blendon Senior Center on Hempstead to meet this amazing family. Maybe we will even be lucky enough to meet their children as well!

—Joya Neff, Membership Coordinator



**Want to learn
KEYBOARDING
right here in the Ridge?**

Call Karen Boley at 614.214.3889 today!

Karen S. Boley, Huber Ridge Piano Teacher

Huber Ridge has a neighborhood piano teacher in residence named Karen S. Boley. If you or your children would like to play the piano and need lessons, then look no farther than the Ridge! How's that for convenience?

Karen teaches out of her home at 3815 Balboa Place and has been teaching piano for 33 years. She started out as a home economics major but also took many music classes during her education. As it turned out, those music classes helped Karen meet a big need later on.

In 1976, Karen and her husband moved from Westerville to Anderson, Indiana, where they both accepted teaching positions in a private Christian school. There were many needs at the school in the music department. This is where Karen's music background came in handy. She was called upon to fill a void in the music department to teach kindergarten, first-, second-, and third-grade classroom music and direct the school choir. People also saw Karen playing the piano and asked her to give piano lessons. This was the beginning of Karen's career as a piano teacher.

After teaching piano for 33 years, Karen can tell you that

you're never too young or too old to learn to play the piano. She has taught a student as young as 3 years old and as old as 88 years old. Today there are so many piano methods that can meet the needs of any age. Karen's philosophy is that if a person wants to learn how to play the piano, she will teach them, whatever his/her age or ability.

A typical lesson is 30 minutes once a week, and payment is made monthly costing \$65. Lessons for adults and advanced students are 45 minutes weekly costing \$95 a month. There is a discount for the second and third child in the family.

Karen starts each student in a method book, theory and technique book. Students learn scales and chording. Flashcards are used to help students learn note names. After teaching the basics, Karen likes to find out what type of music each student enjoys. Students have fun learning to play their favorite music!

Many of Karen's students are now playing piano in their churches. Some of her students teach piano lessons and music in schools. One of Karen's students plays piano accompaniment for her husband who is a professional opera singer.

So if you want great piano lessons, there is no need to drive all over town. Old or young, whatever your ability, Huber Ridge has a teacher who says: "If you want to learn to play the piano, I will teach you!" Her name is Karen S. Boley. Call her for lessons at 214-3889.

—Doug Dapo, Neighbor

"I'm Too Busy!"

Have you ever gotten this response when you asked someone to do something? And conversely, have you ever responded with those same words when someone asked you to do something for them? How does a person define "too busy"? Is it working a job with long hours or two or more jobs to try to make ends meet? Is it going to school and working and being heavily involved in church, sports, or (more recently) politics?

Have you ever stopped to help someone change a flat tire or helped someone stranded on the road with a broken-down car? Have you ever picked up someone else's trash left behind at a park with the thought of "leaving the place better than you found it" going through your mind? Why do we do those kinds of things? Or do we do them at all?

The HRAA is looking for people to place on January's ballot for the President and Vice President positions. But why should you care if you're too busy? What does the HRAA do for you? Good questions. Should you care that the HRAA is working to get and keep your neighborhood in good or great shape? Your house value isn't going down because of crime in the neighborhood, right? Just because you've lived

here your whole life and have heard of the Ridge Rats and have been in the PTA doesn't mean you need to get involved in one more "thing" now. Just because your neighbor helped you when the power went out last year doesn't obligate you to return the favor, right? Because they know **"you're just too busy."**

—Doug Murphy, Block Watch Coordinator



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Happy holidays!

Last Fall Brought Many Bargains Through Community Garage Sale

The HRAA in partnership with Kimberly Sherrod's team at Keller Williams Greater Columbus Realty sponsored a fall community garage sale this year. The idea to add this event to the HRAA calendar came from residents requesting that the HRAA coordinate a second community garage sale. Kimberly and her partner, Sheri Foster, had the opportunity to talk with several neighbors at the summer community garage sale and brought the idea to the HRAA. Since we're very open to suggestions from the residents, our group thought we'd give it a try; and, of course, Kimberly and her team were very much in favor of it. The date was set for Saturday,

October 6. Although not as many residents registered for this one, on the day of the sale, there was so much neighborhood traffic generated by the advertising for this event that several additional sales opened up as well. Residents reported good sales along with good traffic, so the HRAA is looking to plan a fall garage sale again next year as long as there is interest. Thank you again to Kimberly Sherrod and her team at Keller Williams Greater Columbus Realty for covering the advertising and printing costs associated with this event.

—Carolyn Cordray, President

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So Many Thanks for a Successful Halloween Party

Putting together an event as large as the annual HRAA Halloween party takes many people. This year we saw 332 partygoers attend in Ridgewood Park on Saturday, October 27. In spite of the chilly weather we had at Halloween this year, we had a great time!

To kick off the Halloween planning, the HRAA held a fund raiser at City BBQ at the corner of Schrock and Westerville roads. YesPress Graphics LLC at 414 South State Street

in Westerville donated the cost of printing flyers which were delivered to each resident in the autumn issue of *The Herald*.

Long-time neighbor Duff Kelley generously arranged for the HRAA to get a discount through his employer GFS in Lewis Center. Then the Blendon Westerville Little League Baseball group agreed to allow us to use their concession stand in the Park this year. This greatly improved our ability to serve everyone quickly and to take care of congestion near the registration tables and the shelter house. Faith Covenant Church once again loaned us many tables, chairs, and drink coolers.

This year we had a visit from the Sunny 95 Treat Truck where candy and ice cream (yes, ice cream!) were handed out to partygoers. This was a very fun addition to the party this year, and hopefully they will come again next year.

Another addition to this year's party was a second hayride back to the haunted woods. An antique tractor along with a wagon was brought by former Huber Ridge resident Mike Littlefield. Current Huber Ridge resident, Bret Thompson, owner of Ubiquitous Improvements LLC, drove the second hayride. We certainly didn't see the long lines we had the previous year for the hayride with these two on board! Dean Zaiser, neighbor Joya Neff's son-in-law, volunteered to deliver straw that was loaned to us by Mike Forman of Forman Realtors.

Some further volunteers who helped pull this party together are as follows:

- ☆ Registration and Raffle—Hope Benson, Claudia Carney, Dulcy Francis, Doug and Diane Murphy, Joya Neff, and Marje Obrist. We received donations for the raffle from Claudia Carney, Eric and Carolyn Cordray, Lori Mann, Joya Neff, Almina Smock-Wiebell, and others. Unfortunately we did not capture more names of those who donated for the raffle; please know that we appreciate your generous donation!
 - ☆ DJs—Kevin and Angie Diamond
 - ☆ Food Service—Eric Cordray, Duff Kelly, June Riggs, and Jean Welch
 - ☆ Bonfire—Byron and Lori Mann and Tom Wiebell
 - ☆ Haunted woods—Mason Crow, Chris Halsey, Heather Lewis-Halsey, Noah Lewis-Halsey, Paxton Lewis-Halsey, Winter and Loria Hisks, Sharon Littlefield, David and Jo Nelson, Mark Smock, Jaret Wagner, and Jubal Wagner. The Halloween Store loaned some props and one of the employees from the store also came to the party to volunteer in the woods. We also had a couple of volunteers from Mid-Ohio Food Bank. If we did not capture your name, we didn't have you registered as a volunteer; but please know that we appreciate your help!
- Finally, thanks to Aqua Ohio for the use of their parking lot and to Blendon Township for loaning some traffic cones.

—Carolyn Cordray, President

Always learning, always growing.
Come grow with us.



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3607 Dempsey Rd. Westerville OH, 614-865-0791

At this busy season of the year when we are engaged in family activities, cooking, collecting items for charities, sending gifts to our soldiers, and more, let us take *time* to take a homebound neighbor, friend, or family member out to see the light displays or to share treats and cookies as we visit. Both everydaycheapskate.com and notimetocook.com are websites which may help.

If you are thinking about doing a remodeling project in 2013, I have a newsletter that I will be glad to email to you with great tips on hiring those to help. Email me at Barbara.Crawford@KingThompson.com.

Relocation, referrals, your satisfaction is my goal!

May you have a very happy new year!



Barbara Crawford
GRI, ABR, ePRO, SFR



614 402-7317

Barbara.Crawford@KingThompson.com
www.CrawfordsHomeTeam.com



... and for Another Year of THE HERALD

This issue of the Huber Ridge Area Association's quarterly newsletter is the 29th to be published by your civic association. The four issues of *The Herald* published in 2012 were made possible with the help of many people. First of all, we could not have done the newsletter without the support of our local advertisers. They include Blendon Westerville Little League; Karen S. Boley, Piano Teacher; Carstar; Mary Katherine Clegg, Classique Innovations Salon; Gregg Sapp, author of *Dollarapalooza or The Day Peace Broke Out in Columbus!*; Faith Covenant Church; Mark Betts, Farmers Insurance Group; The Flaherty Consulting Group; The Garment Doctor; GRACE Fellowship Church; Kimberly Sherrod, Keller Williams Greater Columbus Realty; Barbara Crawford, King Thompson; Koorsen Fire & Security; Kurtz Bros.; "Love Your Pet" Grooming Shop; Ohio State School of Cosmetology; Roush Honda Used Car Company; Varment Guard; Schwartz Driver Training; Donley E. Strong, CPA, CDFA; Sunbury Auto and Pet Wash; Sunbury Plaza Dental; W.A.R.M.; and Wayne's Auto Repair. Revenue from these advertisers covers most of the cost of printing *The Herald*.

Also essential to the publication of our newsletter are those who write the news: Claudia Carney, Ed Chilcoat, Elisabeth Clegg, Pam Clegg, Carolyn Cordray, Eric Cordray, Barbara Crawford, Doug Dapo, Susan Dapo, Donna Jordan, Linda Laine, Lori Mann, Scott Mueller, Doug Murphy, Joya Neff, Bryan Rhoads, Sharon Ricker, Deb Wallace, James Welch, and Almina Smock-Wiebell.

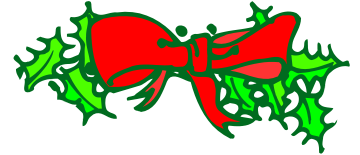
Last but certainly *not* least are those folks who see that *The Herald* is delivered to your door: Newsletter Distribution Coordinators Almina and Tom Wiebell and Jim Chill; Area Captains Claudia Carney, Pam Clegg, Doug Dapo, Sharon Ricker, Linda Royse, Tom Wiebell, and Jean Welch; and the faithful delivery people: Ralph and Judy Barrell, Hope Benson, Karen Boley, Tom Borgerding, Damien Brandon, Ron Bricker, Betsy Briggs, Karen Broering, George Carey, Amber and Jim Chill, Carolyn and Eric Cordray, Jason and Shannon Cunningham, Susan Dapo, Tom and Hilda DeSteuben, Lynn Hays, Ron and Suzi Jones, Duff Kelley, George and Diane King, Diane Lobdell, Nick and Jo Lugin, Lori and Byron Mann, Mindy March, Julia Mathias, Doug Murphy, Joya and Bob Neff, Jennifer Newton, Emily Patterson, Justin Pitts, Matt and Jackie Shumaker, Robin Thomas, Christie Walker, and Tiffany and Jubal Wagner.

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

Congratulations to the 2012 Holiday Lights and Decorations Contest Winners!



*Marie DeCarlo-Barry and
Boyce Barry
with Sgt. Eric Moynihan
1st Place*



The HRAA sponsored its annual Holiday Lights and Decorations Contest and awarded prizes to the winners on December 18. Receiving third place was the Phinick residence at 5624 Bashaw Drive. Second place was awarded to the Finneran residence at 5635 Montevideo Drive. First prize was awarded to the Barry residence at 6028 Balboa Drive with its brightly decorated trees and wreaths.



*Jason, Camryn, and Kristi
Finneran
with Sgt. Eric Moynihan
2nd Place*



Assisting in giving out the prizes was Sgt. Eric Moynihan of the Blendon Township Police Department.

This is the fifth year for the contest. Many houses throughout the neighborhood were brightly decorated this year using the new LED lights.



*Dan Phinick
with Sgt. Eric Moynihan
3rd Place*



We look forward to next year's decorations. Jason Finneran, second-place winner, has promised us something new and exciting in the future using his computer skills to coordinate music and lights.

Congratulations to all of our residents for making our neighborhood sparkle with the lights of the Christmas season.

—Sharon Ricker
Holiday Lights and
Decorations Contest
Coordinator

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for over 55 years.****We taught your parents and
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SNAP to It!

If you are having a hard time putting food on the table, the Food Assistance Program—known nationally as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—helps eligible low-income Ohioans stretch their food budgets and buy healthful food. A household may consist of an individual or a group of individuals who live together and usually purchase and prepare their food together. This program was formerly known as the Food Stamp Program; but instead of coupons, food assistance benefits are made available to eligible families on electronic benefit transaction cards (EBT) similar to credit cards.

You may qualify for benefits if your household's gross monthly income is at or under 130 percent of the federal poverty guidelines. Some households may qualify if they have incomes over the limit if someone in the household is elderly or disabled. If your household's income is under the limit or if the limit does not apply, your benefit amount will be determined based on your household expenses. This includes your rent or mortgage, utility costs, medical expenses, and payments for child support and child care. Other factors in determining eligibility include the number of people in your

household who purchase and prepare food together and, in some situations, resources such as cash, savings, and stocks.

Generally, your household cannot have more than \$2,000 in resources (things you own); but, if your household includes a disabled person or a person age 60 or older, the limit is \$3,000. The resources of a person who is getting SSI or benefits under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program are not counted for SNAP purposes either. Resources include cash, bank accounts, and other property. Not all resources count; for example, your home and the land it is on do not count for SNAP eligibility. A car or truck counts differently depending on how it is used.

If you would like to find out if you are eligible for food assistance, you can go to this website and use an online tool to see if you might qualify: <http://www.snap-step1.usda.gov/fns/index.jsp>.

You can also apply online at <https://odjfsbenefits.ohio.gov/SelfServiceSplash.jsf>; or if you prefer to apply in person, contact a customer service representative from Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services at 233-2000. The ODJFS office which serves our area is located at 1721 Northland Park Avenue, Columbus, OH 43229.

Don't let pride keep you from applying for help. The worst that can happen is that you are not eligible, but you may be missing out on benefits you have earned and need during these trying times. Some seniors may only be eligible for \$10 a month; but that adds up to \$120 a year which can help with unexpected emergencies, and you can "keep" benefits on the EBT up to 365 days before they are removed; unlike previous benefits, they do not expire at the end of the month they were issued.

—Claudia Carney, Secretary

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" wide x 2" tall) ad
\$65 per issue for a quarter-page (3.75" wide x 5" tall) ad
\$125 per issue for a half-page (7.5" wide x 5" tall) ad
\$225 per issue for a full-page (7.5" wide x 10" tall) ad

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








Welcome, New Members and Residents!

Please extend a welcome to the following three families who have become members of the Huber Ridge Area Association and let them know we are glad they chose to have closer ties to the “goings on” in the Ridge:

-  Akinyi Oponga, 5970 Bangasi
-  Linda Smith, 5596 Buenos Aires
-  Zachary and Diane Villers, 5597 Santiago

Our membership now totals 220 households.

Then we should also welcome the following new residents who, according to our source of information, have moved into the Ridge since last quarter:

-  Stephen Caswell, 5808 La Paz
-  Shannon Chandler, 5959 Balboa
-  Elizabeth Hornikel and Ann Furbie, 3750 Caracas
-  Brian Johnson, 5816 Buenos Aires
-  Benjamin King, 3491 Dempsey
-  Brittany Kirwin, 3479 Dempsey
-  Brittany Little, 3716 Panama
-  Carl and Kay Wagner, 5943 Bangasi
-  Bowdree Zigler, 5643 Buenos Aires

—Joya Neff, Membership Coordinator

Log on to huberridge.org for the Latest News and Views!

Lots of your neighbors have done so. Here is the hit report for the last six months of 2012:

	Dec 12	Nov 12	Oct 12	Sep 12	Aug 12	Jul 12
All Pages	5,494	9,924	15,853	11,013	11,308	14,020
Calendar	52	98	221	89	93	124
Discussion	1,394	2,173	3,084	1,572	2,438	3,560
Home Page	567	927	1,350	962	1,127	1,607
Map	30	39	83	46	44	43
Meet Your Neighbors	38	75	101	61	71	93
Newsletter	102	124	134	98	111	127
Our Info	126	170	254	203	292	254
Pages & Docs	773	1,151	2,099	1,331	1,397	1,472



Find us on Facebook as well. Search for “Huber Ridge Area Association” and join your 172 neighbors who are already part of this group.

While you’re on Facebook, search for “Blendon Township” where 145 folks have joined this group.

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

HUBER RIDGE AREA ASSOCIATION 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) _____

Email _____

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 Thom Conley, 3533 Makassar Drive, Westerville, OH 43081 or call him at 882-5252. 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!



January 3	Blendon Township Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
January 3	HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.: ELECTION OF 2013 OFFICERS
January 16	Blendon Township Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
January 17	HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.
January 30	Blendon Township Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
February 7	HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.
February 13	Blendon Township Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
February 21	HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.
February 27	Blendon Township Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
March 7	HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.
March 13	Blendon Township Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
March 16	4th Annual Silver Celebration at Grace Fellowship Church at 5:00 p.m.
March 21	HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.
March 27	Blendon Township Trustees Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
April 4	HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Senior Center at 7:00 p.m.