

Our Community Garage Sale Will Be Held on Saturday, July 7!

On Saturday, July 7, from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., your Huber Ridge Area Association will be conducting a community garage sale. To participate in this event, all you have to do is just let us know that you are going to participate (vp@huberridge.org or 891-5312) and then, on July 7, set up your display of items (bread makers, car seats, etc.) out in front of your home or garage. No need to fuss with driving around town looking for drop-off bins or resale shops, and the profits are all yours.

You may be asking yourself, "Why should I wait until July 7 to have a garage sale? Why not set up my own garage sale and have it next week or the week after?" Well, I am glad you asked. There are some advantages to participating in a community garage sale that you may not have considered:

1) HRAA will arrange for the advertising for the event. Usually, if you want to have a successful yard/garage sale, you may need to advertise in the local/suburban newspaper. That can cost money and may not be that much of a payoff in the end. Not to worry, we will supply the advertising for you.

2) HRAA will set up the signs for the event. No need to run around the neighborhood, looking for the right vantage points in which to place a garage sale sign. We will take care of this for you. We will also take care of taking the signs down when the event is over.

3) Here is what I feel is a big advantage to participating in a community garage sale: a captive audience. Usually community garage sales will bring out "die-hard" garage sale hunters. More than likely, they are looking for a good deal on some gently used products (like that bread maker or that nice set of golf clubs). Some are looking for that diamond in the rough that may get them their 15 minutes of fame on *Antiques Roadshow*. Nevertheless, an event like this will draw them out, so why not get in on it?

Hey, you are probably going to have a garage sale anyway, aren't you?
Why not take advantage of the advertising and signs that your HRAA is going
Continued on page 2

Join the Fun; We Need Your Expertise!

As you will read in this newsletter, the Huber Ridge Area Association is involved with many activities in and around the neighborhood—all in the interest of making this community a better place to live.

But the HRAA is limited by the imaginations of just those who are members now and actively involved so we need YOU! Do you have ideas that would help to make the Huber Ridge area a nicer place to live? Maybe you have a little extra time and would like to join us for our monthly meeting the first Thursday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Blendon Township Senior Center. Please come and check it out. We are always looking to add to our membership of talented, interested residents so if you're supportive of the changes brought about by the HRAA or the issues we're involved in, please consider joining. We sure could use someone like you as a member!

For information, contact Eric Cordray, Membership Coordinator, at membership@huberridge.org

—Eric Cordray, Membership Coordinator

President
James Welch
5460 Acapulco Place
882-8959
president@huberridge.org

Vice President
Brian McMahon
3473 Dempsey Road
891-5312
vp@huberridge.org

Secretary
Era McMahon
3473 Dempsey Road
891-5312
secretary@huberridge.org

Treasurer
Brent Sheffer
5663 Bashaw Drive
818-9324
treasurer@huberridge.org

Newsletter Editor
Marje Obrist
5436 Acapulco Place
891-6944
editor@huberridge.org

Block Watch Coordinator
Pam Clegg
3614 Makassar Drive
891-9176
blockwatch@huberridge.org

Membership Committee Coordinator
Eric Cordray
3734 Caracas Drive
882-1310
membership@huberridge.org

Park Cleanup Day Coordinator
Lori Mann
3510 Rangoon Drive
882-3795
beautification@huberridge.org

Welcome Committee Coordinator
Carolyn Cordray
3734 Caracas Drive
882-1310
welcome@huberridge.org

Continued from page 1

to provide. This year we have Barbara Crawford from **Century 21, Joe Walker & Associates**, who will be our flagship sponsor for this year's event. Barbara has been gracious enough to provide us with the signs and the advertising. If that is not enough, we have added an extra incentive to get folks to participate: a raffle. All registered participants will be included in a raffle. Unfortunately, the prize won't be a new car or a year's worth of maid service; but if it can help give you an added incentive to join us, we are willing to give the raffle a shot.

All we need you to do is to let us know that you would like to participate. We will be placing the participants on a map that will be handed out to folks as they pass by. If you are interested in participating, please leave a message including your name and address by e-mail at vp@huberridge.org or by phone at 891-5312. Please also indicate if you wish to enter the raffle.

By the way, you don't have to be a member of the HRAA to participate. However, as always, membership is a vital part of keeping the HRAA growing so please consider joining us (our Membership Committee Coordinator, Eric Cordray, has had a rough month so how about cheering him up by becoming a member of the HRAA!).

I would also like to thank Barbara Crawford again for helping us out with this year's event. If you have any questions, let us know. We look forward to hearing from you.

—Brian McMahon, Vice President

Whom Would You Like to Hear?

HRAA Plans for Speakers at Monthly Meetings

A huge part of your Huber Ridge Area Association is providing information to you, the resident. Issues such as the latest developments in the Ohio American Water rate increase settlements affect all of us. The HRAA makes gathering and providing this information a huge priority. The HRAA has three key methods for providing this information: 1) our meetings on the first Thursday of each month, 2) our newsletter, and 3) our website—www.huberridge.org.

Another way that the HRAA is looking to provide useful information to our residents is through the use of guest speakers. Occasionally, a guest speaker will agree to come and talk at the monthly meetings about a particular topic that affects the residents of Huber Ridge. Guest speakers usually can provide more in-depth information that couldn't be covered in a newsletter article or by a monthly report. Guest speakers can also address questions that residents may have.

In the past, the HRAA has supplied guest speakers such as

Chief John Belford and Road and Service Director John Giamarco from Blendon Township and Maureen Grady from the Ohio Consumers' Counsel. At the June 7 meeting, new Blendon Township Trustee Stew Flaherty was present for a question-and-answer session. Obviously when we think of issues that affect our day-to-day lives, we think of the bigger picture: the issues we see in the newspaper headlines and on television. The purpose of the HRAA and our guest speakers is to provide useful information to help residents in dealing with what may seem to be the small issues but usually are the ones that have a great impact (such as the safety of our neighborhoods and the quality of our drinking water).

I have asked the HRAA Executive Committee what topics guest speakers might address. One topic that came up right away was landscaping—more specifically landscaping in terms of overall curb appeal for our neighborhood. I have attempted to contact a friend of mine who is a horticulturist but have not been able to come up with a date for him to come out to speak with us.

That does not necessarily mean that we only have to discuss landscaping. If you have any ideas for topics you might like to see discussed, do let me know at vp@huberridge.org. Please keep in mind that the main purpose for a guest speaker is to provide information and to educate the residents, not to solicit a product or a service. We would respectfully ask that you keep this in mind when suggesting a topic or a potential guest speaker.

Hopefully, I will be able to arrange for some prospective speakers in the next couple of months so stay tuned to our website and our next newsletter for dates and speakers.

—Brian McMahon, Vice President

Ohio American Water Public Meeting Is Planned for Tuesday, July 10

On May 30, 2007, I attended a meeting with the Ohio American Water Company, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, the Ohio Consumers' Counsel, and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency regarding the Huber Ridge treatment plant area and the progress report for our stipulation and agreement. OAWC has planned a public meeting for residents served by the Huber Ridge treatment plant on July 10, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. in the Blendon Township Senior Center, 6330 Hempstead Road. **All residents are encouraged to attend.** This meeting, featuring a PowerPoint presentation, is to report

the progress made on the brown water cleanup (what has been done and what is yet to be done), to explain the new winter/summer rates and water conservation, and to answer any questions you may have.

Your feedback is important. Without your feedback, there will be no real way to gauge OAWC's progress. OAWC encourages your attendance and encourages you, when you have a water quality and/or delivery problem, to call 1-800-673-5999 and to call the PUCO at 1-800-686-7826 if your concern is not resolved after calling OAWC. OAWC has stated that it will have someone there to check your complaints within an hour.

Please mark this meeting on your calendar. To truly improve our community, we must improve its services. **Without residents' feedback, OAWC cannot fix the quality of its product.**

—Jim Welch, President

Ridgewood Park Cleanup— A Sterling Success

Thanks to all who helped make the fifth annual park cleanup a resounding success this year! There were approximately 65 neighbors who helped this time. This number included Junior Girl Scout Troop 1870 and Brownie Troop 1704 from Huber Ridge Elementary School and Boy Scout Troop 560. What started as a service project for the Boy Scouts has turned into a wonderful community event!

Results of this year's cleanup show what teamwork will accomplish!

- 🌳 The shelter house is completely painted.
- 🌳 All the trees in the front of the park are mulched.
- 🌳 The volleyball court is almost completely grass free with just a couple feet left to clear.
- 🌳 The east loop of the path in the woods was cleared of fallen trees.
- 🌳 The west loop was completely mulched, and about 75 yards of the east loop was done.

🌳 Tom Burke did a wonderful job repainting the Huber Ridge Area signs at Buenos Aires Boulevard and Dublin-Granville Road and at Paris Boulevard and South State Street. The difference is amazing.

The Blendon Township Trustees furnished all the food for the day with the exception of the hot dogs brought by Cathy Ridgeway. Donuts, bagels, and coffee were bought at Tim Horton's on South State Street at a discounted price.

Additional incidental supplies not furnished by Blendon Township (rollers, paint pans, and stir sticks) were purchased at a remarkable price at Lowe's Easton.


We appreciate the support of the Trustees, who have been kind enough to furnish the supplies we need to make Ridgewood Park a fun, clean place to play.

Thanks again.

—Lori Mann, Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day Coordinator



*Photos from
the Park
Cleanup by
Hillary
Sheffer*



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Lawn Chair Cinema

This summer, experience the fun of big screen movies on the lawn!

Free outdoor movie nights start at dusk at Faith Covenant Church every other Saturday this summer!

All movies are family friendly and the popcorn is free, too!

Bring family friendly drinks, chairs and blankets, friends and the kids!

July 14
July 28
Aug 11
Aug 25
Sept 8
Sept 22

Faith Covenant Church
3607 Dempsey Road, Westerville, OH 43081
Phone: 614-865-0791
Email: ask@faithcov.net
Web: www.faithcov.net

Worship
We are a church with a heart for God
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Smoke-Free Restaurant

<p>Carsonie's Italian Restaurant 6000 Westerville Road \$2 off any stromboli or pizza Expires on August 31, 2007</p>	<p>Carsonie's Italian Restaurant 6000 Westerville Road \$3 off on any entree Expires on August 31, 2007</p>
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Spring Slip and Seed Swap Blooms

The second annual HRAA Spring Slip and Seed Swap took place on Saturday, May 12, in Ridgewood Park. As was the case last year, a nice assortment of plants was brought by neighbors; however, this year we had the opportunity to perk up the park with plantings!

Blendon Township agreed to supply the makings for new flower beds in the park. Roundup was laid in the areas designated by the HRAA; then topsoil was delivered. Volunteers Pam Clegg, Lori Mann, Eric Cordray, and Carolyn Cordray worked the topsoil around the sign next to the shelter house to make a flower bed around the sign. Beautiful donated plants were put into that bed as well as around the flagpole nearby. In the course of raking out the dirt and planting, the volunteers attracted some additional help from youngsters playing in the park that day. Alan Kincaid, Isiah Mullens, and Emmanuel Mullens helped to collect rocks from the creek bed to place around the flower bed next to the shelter house.

The weekend after the Swap, Marje Obrist and Carolyn Cordray raked out the topsoil left for two beds on either side

of the park entrance; and soon thereafter Jim Welch covered the topsoil with mulch which was provided by Blendon Township. Then Eric and Carolyn Cordray added the plantings you see in the beds.

We hope you, our neighbors, like the additions to the park! Come be a part of it; we're looking for volunteers to help maintain those plantings so if you're interested in helping to beautify YOUR park, please contact Carolyn Cordray at welcome@huberridge.org.

—Carolyn Cordray, Spring Slip and Seed Swap Coordinator

Spring Blooms with New Home Sales

Despite a continuation of a slow home sale market, houses in the Huber Ridge area continue to sell as buyers recognize a good deal!

For those of you on the list, if you have not already received your Welcome Bag, the Welcome Committee is working hard now to pull the bags together and to get them out to you in the coming weeks. On behalf of the Huber Ridge Area Association, we officially welcome you to the

neighborhood!

The following list of Huber Ridge Area new home sales was graciously provided by Compuname (www.compuname.com):

March Sales:

Jessica Wilkins-Bibbs, 5660 Montevideo Rd.
William and Jill O'Connor, 6083 W. Dakar Rd.
Barry and Meghan Roach, 3791 Dempsey Rd.
Donald and Candie Lee, 5547 Buenos Aires Blvd.

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. (3352-3547)	3473	Era McMahon	891-5312
	Hunt Club Rd., N. and W.	3378	Emily Patterson	899-3742
B	Batavia Rd.	6101	Debb Candow	728-6817
	Paris Bl., N.	6084	Joellen Lugin	882-0030
C	Canberra Ct.	3515	Edwin England	794-3049
	Dakar Rd., E.	5903	George King	
	Paris Blvd. (3370-3611)	3463	Wayne and Jenny Carr	899-7373
	Rangoon Dr.	3510	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.	3582	Janet Brown*	882-8684
	Karikal Dr.	3581	Merry Neff	804-7426
E	Makassar Dr.	3614	Pam Clegg	891-9176
	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
F	Varadero Dr.	5865	Tony Miller	890-1402
	Acapulco Pl.	5455	Lou Dunbar	882-0376
	Copenhagen Dr.	5520	Bill and June Riggs	890-6070
	Madrid Dr.	5625	Ralph and Judy Barrell	882-5298
	Madrid Dr.	3599	Kathy Ridgway	899-9690
G	Oslo Dr.	5561	Sharon Ricker*	891-1881
	Panama Dr. (3515-3622 West)	3515	Betsy Briggs	203-5404
	Bashaw Dr.	5680	Cheri Gray	899-0785
	Bashaw Dr.	5663	Brent Sheffer	818-9324
	Bogota Dr.	3706	Nicholas Halliwell*	946-7615
	Managua Dr.	3668	Andrea Wei	890-8187
	Managua Dr.	3705	Frances Corkrean	890-1825
Mexico Ave.	3661	Michelle Baum	895-9601	
Santiago Dr.	3686	Daisy White	948-0635	
Spohn Ct. and Dr.	5601	Robin Thomas	891-2722	

* Area Representative

If your street is not listed, we need you! E-mail blockwatch@huberridge.org or call 891-9176.

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Brian Hargrove, 6077 Batavia Rd.

Steven Clark, 3636 Bolamo Ct.

Adam Zink, 6069 Batavia Rd.

April Sales:

Jamie Higginbotham and Sarah Crawford, 5548 Buenos Aires Blvd.

E & L Properties of Ohio, LLC, 3438 Dahlgreen Dr.

Aaron Pauley and Ashley Pierce, 3562 Karikal Dr.

John and Deborah Kalmbaugh, 5562 Madrid Dr.

Scott and Sonia Hess, 3486 Manila Dr.

May Sales (through May 21, 2007, only):

Richard, Jr., and Gretchen Hays, 3381 Arnett Ct.

Federal National Mortgage Assn., 3384 Dempsey Rd.

Yuen Yi Mak, 3584 Dempsey Rd.

Karen Wolfe, 5636 Madrid Dr.

David Rector and Tiana Edwards, 3566 Makassar Dr.

Adam and Christina Walker, 5664 Natalie Ct., N.

Leslie Linard, 3359 Vickers Dr.

The Welcome Committee in conjunction with the HRAA would also like to recognize and thank the generosity of our local area merchants who have contributed contents to our Welcome Bags this year. Those merchants are:

Belleria (coupons and menus)

Buckeye Corner

Carsonie's (menus)

China House Restaurant (menus)

Fuentes, Omar and Marie

Home Depot (credit card applications, coupons, and paint sticks)

Hollywood Studio Theatre (free movie passes)

Lifestyle Family Fitness (coupons and information)

"Love Your Pet" Grooming Shop

Lowe's

Mary Kay (Barbara Muldrew—catalogs, coupons, and samples)

Mini Storage (50-percent-off coupons and key chains)

Monroe Brakes and Tires (coupons)

Nail-A-Dumper.com (magnet and bumper stickers)

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Ohio State School of Cosmetology (price lists)

Private Donation (loose candy)

Rub-a-Dub Pet Salon

Saturday's (coupons)

Speedway (rewards cards)

Subway (menus)

Sunbury Dental (introductory letters, toothbrushes)

USPS (new address kits)

Varmint Guard

Vineyard Church (coupons and cards)

Waffle House (menus and \$1-off coupons)

The HRAA also contributes to the bags: back issues of *The Herald*, a list of important phone numbers, a welcome letter, free introductory membership to the HRAA (\$15 value), and a bookmark.

If you are a local area merchant and are interested in including something in our Welcome Bags, please contact Carolyn and Eric Cordray at welcome@huberridge.org.

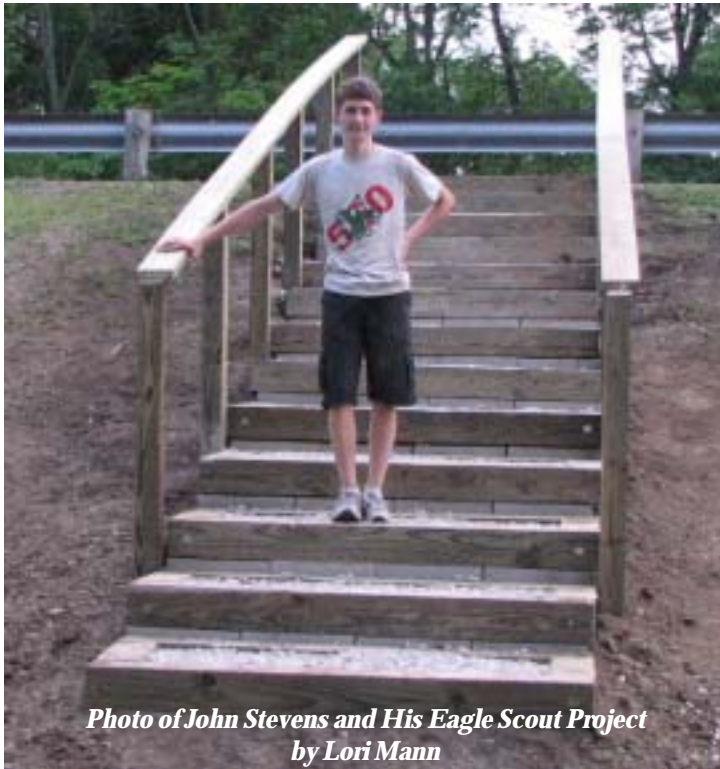
—Carolyn Cordray, Welcome Committee Coordinator

And Yet ANOTHER Eagle Project at Ridgewood Park!

Thanks to John Stevens of Boy Scout Troop 560, Ridgewood Park has a new, safe stairway from Buenos Aires Boulevard to the playground. All this took place from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on June 9 and from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on June 10 as John and his fellow Scouts from Troop 560 disassembled the existing stairs and replaced them with a whole new set.

All this was done in order to fulfill the requirements to earn the rank of Eagle Scout as John had chosen to replace the previous set of steps and railings. The new steps are more durable, being designed to withstand the water that runs down the hill there. Sturdy banisters have been specified, and treated lumber will hold up to the weather for years to come.

John graduated this year from Thomas Worthington High



*Photo of John Stevens and His Eagle Scout Project
by Lori Mann*

School but has been a member of Troop 560 since crossing over from Cub Scouts in fifth grade. He is part of an active scouting family. He and his family have participated in the Ridgewood cleanups, building the bridge, and erecting the markers along the paths. Thanks to John and his family for helping make the park more appealing and friendly!

Congratulations and best wishes in your future endeavors, John!

—Lori Mann, Ridgewood Park Cleanup Day Coordinator



Let's Celebrate

This is the third year that Huber Ridge Area residents have been encouraged to participate in National Night Out, a crime and drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW). **The date for this year's National Night Out is Tuesday, August 7!** According to the NNO website (www.nationalnightout.org), residents are encouraged to turn on their outdoor lights and to consider organizing such activities as

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Faith Covenant Church
Welcome to Faith Covenant Church!

Summer Events

<u>July</u>	<u>September</u>
1 Free Concert	8 Lawn Chair Cinema
7 Youth – Spirit Song @ King's Island	9 Fall Christian Formation Classes begin
14 Lawn Chair Cinema	15 Men's Prayer Breakfast
21 Men's Prayer Breakfast	15 Youth – Amazing Race
21 Women Ministries Bike Ride	17 Beth Moore Bible study begins
28 Lawn Chair Cinema	19 Youth programs begin
	19 Choir begins
	22 Lawn Chair Cinema

August

11 Lawn Chair Cinema	Hours
18 Men's Prayer Breakfast	
19 Church Picnic	
25 Lawn Chair Cinema	

Worship Topics

<u>July</u>	<u>Fall Hours begin Sept 9</u>
God Strong	Sunday School @ 9:30 am
<u>August</u>	Worship @ 11 am
Tales of the Kingdom	Wed. Youth events @ 6:30 pm
<u>September</u>	Choir @ 7 pm
Ruth, A Love Story	

Faith Covenant Church is at 3607 Dempsey Road and on the web at <http://www.faithcov.net> call for more information 614-865-0791

The Right Way to Throw Away Prescription Drugs

So you have some old prescription drugs that are left in your cabinet. What should you do with them? Save them. I might need them some other time.

Not a good choice! You probably didn't take the full prescription that the doctor ordered to be sure your condition was fully treated. Please take them all the next time. Flush them. That's what "everyone" does.

Although we hope not, some prescription drugs can be flushed. Look at the label and/or the patient information sheet to see if it is a drug which can be flushed. Indiscriminate flushing has caused the Environmental Protection Agency to announce that prescription drugs are one of the major contaminants found in increasing concentration in our streams. Just toss the whole bottle in the trash.

You're on the right track but need to add a step. While we are in an area where we think, "It can't happen here," drug abuse does cause those in severe need to rummage through trash. A prescription bottle is an eye catcher for them.

The right way:

Mix the drugs with some garbage, put it in a can or bag, then throw it in the trash. Simple and safe!

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

-  a block party
-  a cookout
-  a visit from a Blendon Township police officer
-  a flashlight walk

The purpose of National Night Out is to increase crime and drug prevention awareness, to generate participation in anticrime programs such as our Block Watch program, to strengthen neighborhood spirit, and to send a message to criminals that the neighborhood is organized and "fighting back."

Last year after turning on our porch lights, Acapulco Place neighbors gathered in Jerry Ward's front yard to share appetizers and desserts and to talk informally with Blendon Township's Sgt. Branch Wayt about ways to deter crime. We also updated our list of the names, house numbers, and telephone numbers (home, work, cell) for all the residents on the court; this list goes on refrigerators or cupboard doors and allows us to call any neighbor quickly should the need arise. We have similar plans for this year. Won't you join us in lighting the night on August 7 (and every night) and in getting to know your neighbors better?

—Marje Obrist, Neighbor

HRAA Profile: Joya Neff, BSN, MPH, RN

HRAA member and "resident nurse" writer for *The Herald* Joya Neff has lived in Huber Ridge since September of 1968. She resides on Stockholm Road with her husband, Bob, and their cat, Glory. Their younger son and their daughter live with their families in the Sunbury/Galena area; their oldest son is, according to Joya, "married to a Corvette" and living on the West side.

Joya explains those impressive initials after her name as follows: Nurses can sit for the National (Registered) Nurse Examination if they graduate from a hospital program (although there are few left), a 2-year associate degree program, or a 4-year baccalaureate degree program. If the graduates pass the examination, they earn the title "registered nurse" or RN. The BSN simply shows that the person graduated from the baccalaureate program with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing (Joya graduated from The Ohio State University, College of Nursing). The MPH stands for Masters (Degree) in Public Health—a speciality graduate

program traditionally of about 12 months (Joya earned this degree from—Oh, no!—the University of Michigan!).

When she graduated, public health nursing was her choice of practice. After a short stint as a surgical nurse where Joya missed the patient contact, she joined the Columbus Health Department and began almost 30 years of independent practice—helping people in communities with their physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual issues—and ended her career as Director of Nursing in the Ohio Department of Health.

Joya, Bob, and Glory like to travel in their motor home whenever they can. Joya also enjoys her grandchildren, sewing, crafts, and her involvement with Job's Daughters, a Masonic youth group for girls.

Joya reports that she was a member of the original Huber Ridge association, which—she says—had some successes and strong leadership but *not enough membership to endure*. She is excited about the leadership and activities of HRAA and hopes to become more helpful. Watch future issues of *The Herald* for more articles from Joya Neff, our Huber Ridge “resident nurse.”

—Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

Building Permits—A Safe and Right Decision

Our Blendon Township government complex relies on Franklin County to provide services that relate to health, zoning, or building issues and concerns. Building permits *are required* for certain home improvement projects such as additions, alterations, repairs, replacements, and new buildings. Separate permits are required for electrical wiring, heating and ventilating, plumbing, moving, wrecking, shoring, use of public property, and tents.

How to Obtain a Permit

Permits are obtained through the Franklin County Department of Development and the Division of Building Regulations, 280 East Broad Street, Room 202, Columbus, Ohio. Telephone: (614) 462-3166, Fax: (614)462-7155, www.FranklinCountyOhio.gov. Their hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Permits are valid for one year from the date of issuance. After one year, you must reapply. You are expected to sign each permit you obtain. Your signature indicates your compliance with the laws of the State of Ohio, Franklin County Building code, and all applicable ordinances.

Cost

When planning our recent home improvement project, we found it necessary to include building permits in our budget. To be honest, we did not initially consider a building permit as part of the project. Fortunately, the subject surfaced before the



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www.roushhonda.com

project got into full swing. For an idea of cost, here is our breakdown: the application for building permit (ours is an alteration), \$120; application for heating system permit, \$65; application for electrical permit, \$50; for a total cost of \$235. The cost is usually about 1 percent of the cost of the job. Most professional estimators would build in at least 10 percent error on cost to make sure the job is budgeted correctly. Why Get a Permit?

Did we want to pay an extra \$235? Not any more than you would want to. But we did it for at least two reasons—it is the law, and we want our home to be safe for our children. The primary reason for having building codes is **SAFETY**. Keep in mind that Franklin County has minimum standards. Other municipalities have more stringent codes to follow. It bears repeating—the codes are in place for our safety. Although safety is the primary concern, your plans will be professionally reviewed for other deficiencies, such as energy concerns, which may save you money in the long run. Franklin County Department of Development is staffed with certified inspectors who have a wealth of knowledge. They are available for phone consultations about your project.



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What If You Don't (or Did Not) Get a Permit?

Beginning January 1, 2008, a homeowner can be fined for not getting a permit. Additionally, contractors will face fines if they fail to obtain a permit. Currently, there are no fines in place; but you may be forced to pay for a permit for work already completed.

If you completed a project and never obtained a permit, be aware that you may encounter problems closing on your home should you choose to sell it in the future. If your bathroom, deck, addition, or other projects are not on the County Auditor's records, then the selling process may be hindered as well.

So, before you build your deck or add that bathroom, call or visit Franklin County Department of Development. Keep it safe and keep it right.

This article was reviewed by Mike Helleher of Franklin County Department of Development for accuracy.

—Pam Clegg, Neighbor

Your Home ...

For most of us, our homes are the single biggest investment we will ever make. I have done a lot of research; and, by

my research, only 60 to 68 percent of Americans will ever buy a home. Home ownership, the "American Dream," is a privilege—a privilege for those who are able to maintain a good credit score and save for the down payment. Yet this "American Dream," a privilege and an investment, often is taken for granted and ends up neglected. Sixty-nine to 74 percent of homeowners have admitted to not taking care of their homes' curb appeal. Their top offenses include poor landscaping, weed filled lawns with large brown or bare spots, needed painting, and junk that should be hauled away.

Unfortunately, this is part of a bigger picture, your community. When you buy a home, you are not only investing in your home but also in a community. By maintaining your home's curb appeal, you not only increase your home's value, you increase your community's value as well.

So you have a mortgage, homeowner's insurance, and property taxes; but don't get caught thinking that's all you owe month to month. Landscaping requires maintenance, siding needs paint, asphalt driveways need sealed, yards need weed and feed and mowing; and several other little taxes are just part of the "American Dream." A community that fails to increase its value at the rate of the rest of the county will succumb to poverty and crime.

Are you a good neighbor? There are 1,628 homes in Huber Ridge; that's 1,628 investments in our community. That's approximately 1,500 families living the "American Dream." Let's unite this community. Huber Ridge is located in a great area: south of Westerville, west of New Albany, north and east of Columbus. We should be proud of our community, proud that we are able to be in the 60 to 68 percent. Let's show it and make Huber Ridge the community we know it can be. Good communication builds great communities.

—Jim Welch, President

Emerald Ash Borer Is Here!

The Ohio Department of Agriculture has confirmed infestation of ash trees by the Emerald Ash Borer in Blendon Township and Worthington. Recently I found two ash trees in Ridgewood Park that apparently show signs of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation. This has not yet been confirmed by the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) EAB Division as of this writing.

The confirmation of the EAB surrounding Huber Ridge and possible infestation in Huber Ridge can be serious for homeowners who have ash trees. Homeowners with ash trees really have three choices: 1) Before infestation treatment: There are treatments annually that will kill the EAB upon infestation either by a professional or by yourself. 2) Eradication: Have your ash tree cut down either before or at the first sign of infestation. You must have the tree ground up at

approved ODA businesses. 3) Let the tree die: The danger of property damage exists with this option. As the tree dies, large branches can/will fall and could hit your house, car, etc.

These choices are not cost free. For information about your options and pretreatment, please visit our website, www.huberridge.org, and click on our links or visit www.ohioagriculture.gov/eab or www.ashalert.osu.edu or call ODA EAB at 1-888-OHIO-EAB (1-888-6446-322).

—Jim Welch, President

A Tip from Sgt. Wayt ...

A few years ago we had several kids stuck by cars while playing in the road. Those who were injured did recover; however, we now strictly enforce laws pertaining to pedestrians in the road. Although children playing in the street may seem innocent enough, the enforcement applies to ALL streets and roadways in Blendon Township. Please provide parental guidance and make sure your children are complying with the laws. Our hope is that since nice weather is now upon us, your children remain safe while playing outside.

—Sgt. Branch S. Wayt, Blendon Township Police

Priceless!

- * HRAA, your association, yearly membership—\$15
- * Volunteering for community projects supporting your community—a couple of hours a year
- * Attending a few HRAA monthly meetings—a couple of hours a year
- * Improving our community, uniting neighbors, raising property values—priceless

—Jim Welch, President

The Herald—Your HRAA Community Newsletter

In October of 2005, when the HRAA was reestablished, one of our goals was to keep the *whole* community (1,628 homes) informed. We developed *The Herald*, a quarterly publication, to keep all Huber Ridge residents informed of what is or is not happening, of what the Association is doing, and of community functions the residents can participate in. In doing so, we made a commitment to deliver *The Herald* to every household regardless of membership.

As you read through this edition of your Association's publication, please remember the time and expense required to put out the newsletter every three months. We have covered some of the expense by soliciting advertising. Please do not skip over the local merchants who support our community, and remember them when their services or products are

needed. Your membership dues help with the rest of the expense. If you enjoy this publication, please become a member today—\$15 a year. *The Herald* is only one of the many things that your membership supports. Thank you!

—Jim Welch, President

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 size ad

\$65 per issue for a quarter-page ad

\$125 per issue for a half-page ad

\$225 per issue for a full-page ad

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for your real estate needs!*



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www.CrawfordsHomeTeam.com.

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Are YOU Eligible to Join HRAA This Year?

The **HUBER RIDGE AREA ASSOCIATION** represents the interests of Blendon Township residents and merchants who are generally located in the area surrounded by I-270, Route 161, and Route 3 (Westerville Road) plus Batavia Road and Court and Bader Road and Court.

Membership is open to any adult who resides within, owns real property within, or operates a business physically located within the Association boundaries. This includes adults who reside in neighborhoods adjacent to our boundaries but not within the boundaries of another neighborhood citizens' or civic association. An adult is any person who has attained the age of 18.

Only members in good standing are eligible to participate in business meetings, to vote, or to serve in any of the elected or appointed positions. A member in good standing includes any member who is current in his or her annual Association dues and has agreed to abide by the Bylaws as they are now or may be amended in the future. A member in good standing who is an absentee owner of real property or a business entity is allowed one (1) vote in any matter before the Association membership.

Dues are set for households and businesses, not individuals. One payment covers all members of a household including their minors. The minors shall enjoy all of the privileges of membership including service on committees and participation in activities but cannot vote. **The current dues amount is \$15, which covers the 12-month period through the end of the anniversary month and is non-refundable.**

—Brent Sheffer, Treasurer



HUBER RIDGE AREA ASSOCIATION 2007 MEMBERSHIP FORM

(Application deems agreement by each person to abide by the Bylaws now or as amended.)

(Names of Adults)

(E-mail Addresses: Please indicate the e-mail address for each adult in the household.)

(Street Address)

(Phone)

2007 membership dues are Fifteen Dollars (\$15) *per household*. Dues may be paid at any meeting or mailed to **Brent Sheffer, 5663 Bashaw Drive, Westerville, OH 43081**. Please make checks payable to the Huber Ridge Area Association and include a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your membership information.

Please indicate if you would be willing to participate in the following activities:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Watch Street Rep | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Halloween Haunted Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Ridgewood Park Cleanup | <input type="checkbox"/> Costume Party |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Night Out | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizens Assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OAW Water Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> HRAA Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> HRAA Committee Assistant |

Come to
the Huber Ridge Area Association meetings
at the Blendon Township Senior Center,
6330 Hempstead Road, at 6:30 p.m. on

July 5	August 2	September 6
October 4	November 1	December 6

