

Your Community, Your HRAA, and You

Over the past year, your HRAA and many volunteers have come together to clean, brighten, improve, and unite this great community.

- ☑ April brought the Ridgewood Park Cleanup.
- ☑ June was our first Huber Ridge Blooms contest.
- ☑ July heated up with our third annual Community Garage Sale.
- ☑ September saw our second Labor Day Bike Parade.
- ☑ October we celebrated the fall season with our very popular fourth annual Halloween Party.
- ☑ December brought our first Holiday Lights and Decorations Contest and another informative, well designed quarterly newsletter.

Add to this list of accomplishments throughout 2008 the maintaining of our website, huberridge.org, monthly meetings, special meetings, and more.

Unfortunately, all these activities come with a cost. Some costs we work hard to cover with donations and advertising revenue. But ultimately to succeed and keep your community moving forward, these much appreciated donations do not cover all the expenses. So we have membership dues to the HRAA, an annual membership per household of \$15. Currently we do not require membership to participate in any of your HRAA-sponsored community functions, but it may come to that.

Another cost to manage and run your HRAA is manpower—volunteers. As the Association tasks have grown, the need for help is great. Your community needs you. If you can give weekly, monthly, or yearly, please join us in benefiting our community.

Over the past 3 ½ years, the HRAA has grown in its accomplishments—every year doing more than the previous year. Hats off and a huge thank you to everyone past and present who has given his or her time to make our community association what it is today. Without you we could not have made a difference.

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

—Jim Welch, President

HELP WANTED:

- ▶ Secretary
- ▶ Event Coordinator
- ▶ Event Volunteers
- ▶ Newsletter Advertising Solicitor
- ▶ Newsletter Carriers
- ▶ Block Watch Street Representatives
- ▶ Membership Team Members
- ▶ Kiosk Sign Assembler

The pay is \$0, but the benefits are great. Make new friends, help your community move forward, increase home values, and have fun doing it!

Interested persons should call Jim Welch at 882-8959 or e-mail him at president@huberridge.org.

New Property Maintenance Code

In October, our trustees adopted a property maintenance code. The *International Property Maintenance Code* is a 30-page book recognizing and addressing the need for a modern, up-to-date code governing the maintenance of existing buildings.

On December 10, Blendon Township Trustees appointed Bryan Rhoads the Director of Code Enforcement to oversee, implement, and enforce the new housing code.

This new code will affect everyone who resides in Blendon Township. The property code addresses several areas from grass height of 8 inches maximum to parked cars to gutters and more. While it cleans up rentals and abandoned homes, it also will address every home. Eventually it should keep our community looking good—inviting new residents and raising our home values.

The enforcement will take some time as violators can end up in court for non-compliance, be fined, etc.

A copy of the *International Property Maintenance Code* can be found on Blendon Township's website, blendontownship.org or on our website, huberridge.org where you can hot link over.

—Jim Welch, President

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

Vice President
Tom Burke
5445 Acapulco Place
895-7325
vp@huberridge.org

Secretary
Jenny Carr
3463 Paris Boulevard
899-7373
secretary@huberridge.org

Treasurer
Eric Cordray
3734 Caracas Drive
882-1310
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 Coordinator
Joya Neff
3615 Stockholm Road
891-0204
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

The Best BREAKFAST
& SANDWICHES

5916 Westerville Road
in the
Glengary Shopping Center

614-776-5788

FREE Beverage
with **Entrée**
(dine in only)
Expires February 28, 2009
one coupon per person

LETTERS

The Big Wind of '08

The destructive storm and its hurricane winds taught us a few lessons about preparation and response in Blendon Township.

With urging from [HRAA] President Welch, the Road Department agreed to run trucks through neighborhoods; but residents and volunteers, most from outside the Township, had to handle most of the loading of broken tree limbs.

Even Trustee Stewart Flaherty pitched in along with students from the Josephinum Seminary.

But recruiting help proved difficult. If a similar situation occurs again, I would hope the Township will hire temporary help to quickly get the job done.

And the Association Street Reps could respond by calling up able-bodied volunteers.

My sincere thanks to all those who did answer the call.

—Tom Wiebell, 5519 Oslo Drive

Membership as Seen by an Old-Timer

When we moved here just 40 years ago, Huber Ridge was known as an area for “young executives.” Huber-built homes were and still are among the best built! But our community is losing its luster. During the '80s and early '90s, we weren't able to work all the angles we needed to fight the poor influences which faced us.

Today is so much different! We have a Huber Ridge Area Association that is moving and shaking! True, we lost the battle with the Ohio American Water Company; but we are determined not to lose the war. We cannot let our community go down because of high water bills and lack of attention to the maintenance of our area. We need to support an effort now begun with our legislators and state advocacy groups to change the laws that allow Ohio American Water to keep increasing our rates—and there is another rate increase in the wings. We need to let our Trustees know we want their help to bring the beauty of our community back to the level we saw in the 1970s and maybe even beyond! We need members for this association! Only a mere 9 percent of the households in the Huber Ridge area are members! We simply can't make much of a difference with that few.

Here I go! We can't just write articles like this and think people will just call and join—maybe a few will, but we need you to join our new Membership Team. Let's design a plan to bring our neighbors to membership. I have some ideas of how, and I want to hear yours! Please let me know you'll help. **Either fill out the form on the back page of this newsletter or call me or any of the Association officers; get our phone numbers and e-mail addresses from the front of this newsletter.**

—Joya Neff, Membership Coordinator

OAWC, PUCO, and Your Water Bill

In November 2007, Ohio American Water Company (OAWC) applied for another increase to raise your rates (water bill). On November 14, 2008, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) approved the opinion and order to raise your water bill.

A lot of things happened in between these dates. Over 130 residents wrote letters opposing this increase. Approximately 500 signatures on petitions were submitted to the rate case, and numerous residents attended and spoke at the PUCO public hearing here at Faith Covenant Church in Blendon Township.

Then came the stipulation and agreement signed by all parties intervening in this increase. The stipulation and agreement was submitted on September 4, 2008. It took the PUCO over two months to rubber stamp their approval on the agreement and issue an opinion and order. As I had stated back in September, I had anticipated that the PUCO would wait until after the elections to approve this; and guess what—they did. The approved rates quoted from the order are as follows for Franklin County:

	OAWC Applied for	PUCO Staff Report	PUCO Approved
Water	30.08%	29.97%	30.37%
Wastewater	36.61%	37.08%	36.94%

In the 23-page PUCO opinion and order are some very notable paragraphs which I will copy word for word here:

Page 4:

II. Summary of the Hearings

More than 170 letters, petitions, and other correspondence were filed in this docket by Ohio-American customers and public officials in opposition to the proposed rate increase. Most of the comments relate to the amount or percentage of the proposed increase and the frequency of Ohio-American rate increases, given that this proceeding marks the third rate case in five years, and the company representatives have indicated the need to file yet another after this case has been decided.

I suggest you read the last sentence again.

Page 14:

(B) Minimum Amount Owed for Disconnection

Ohio-American agrees that it will not physically disconnect a customer's service unless the amount owed is more than \$75. The Company will, however, continue its collections calls for the amount owed.

I find this amusing; OAWC states the average customer usage is 7 ccf. This equates to \$111 a month for 7 ccf; \$75 is less than 2/3 of the average monthly bill.

There are several orders in this approval but none that I find very relevant to OAWC customers.

As you read in the page 4 quote, we realize there will be another rate increase application soon from OAWC. We as customers need more opposition and need to change our game plan. Please stay tuned to your HRAA; as these details are worked out and become available, we will get them to you. Check our website, huberridge.org, our kiosks, and monthly meetings as well as our quarterly newsletter for these updates.

—Jim Welch, President

2009 Annual HRAA Sponsored Training January 13, 6:30 p.m. at BT Police Station

This year's Block Watch training will pack a little more into it than previous years. We will offer three components: a 5-minute HRAA membership promotion, crime prevention and block watch education, and a briefing on the new property maintenance code and compliance. Registration is requested for planning purposes and materials. Please call Pam Clegg, 891-9176, or e-mail blockwatch@huberridge.org.

Sgt. Wayt of our Blendon Township Police Department will once again take time to teach Huber Ridge Street Reps and all interested residents more about crime prevention and block watch. If you have ever heard Sgt. Wayt speak, you know that he speaks passionately about crime prevention and block watch. Last year's rash of burglaries in Glengary Woods brought a heightened awareness of crime and need for crime prevention in the community.

Joya Neff, long-time resident and HRAA Membership Coordinator, will speak briefly about membership during this session. Joya will have membership applications with her and will be asking for your help in recruiting HRAA members.

Bryan Rhoads, our newly hired full-time Director of Code Enforcement, will educate us about some of the most obvious code violations that will be enforced as the newly approved *International Property Maintenance Code* take effect. If you are wondering what some of these codes will be and when and how they will be enforced, then this is the meeting for you.

This **free educational opportunity** is available through the efforts of your HRAA. Membership in the HRAA is encouraged so such events are scheduled and coordinated for the community. Plan now to attend. The police station is only minutes away on Hempstead Road. See you January 13 at 6:30 p.m.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator

DONLEY E. STRONG
Certified Public Accountant

(614) 898-TAXX (8299) 20 Huber Village Blvd.
DStrong374@aol.com Westerville, OH 43081

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.	3378	Emily Patterson	899-3742
	Montford Rd., W.	6365	Jeannie and Travis MacKowiak	818-9220
B	Balboa Pl.	3815	Karen Boley	523-3006
	Batavia Rd.	6101	Debb Candow	644-9849
	Paris Bl., N.	6084	Joellen Lugin	882-0030
C	Brazzaville Rd.	3484	Tiffany and Jubal Wagner	794-3780
	Canberra Ct.	3515	Edwin England	794-3049
	Dakar Rd., E.	5903	George King	
	Paris Blvd. (3370-3496)	3463	Wayne and Jenny Carr	899-7373
	Rangoon Dr.	3510	Lori Mann	882-3795
D	Saigon Dr.	3505	Jim and Amber Chill*	882-4220
	Bangasi Rd.	5971	Paul and Robin Wagner	392-0091
	Bangasi Rd.	5943	Melanie Kopacsi	
	Karikal Dr.	3575	Anna Grant	891-1562
	Karikal Dr.	3582	Janet Brown*	882-8684
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	Montevideo Dr. North of Caracas	5785	Erika and Michael Schlaegel	948-5294
	Paris Bl. (3625-3695)	3677	Patricia Spencer	895-0845
	Paris Bl., E. (3699-3752)	3723	Dorothy Crawford	882-8243
	Acapulco Pl.	5455	Lou Dunbar	882-0376
	Copenhagen Dr.	5520	Bill and June Riggs	890-6070
G	Copenhagen Dr.	5584	Richard Rathkopf	776-1230
	Madrid Dr. (5519-5610)	5625	Ralph and Judy Barrell	882-5298
	Madrid Dr. (3525-3620)	3599	Kathy Ridgway	899-9690
	Oslo Dr.	5561	Sharon Ricker*	891-1881
	Panama Dr. (3515-3622 West)	3515	Betsy Briggs	203-5404
G	Stockholm Rd.	3578	Leslie Jordan	823-6496
	Bashaw Dr.	5680	Cheri Gray	899-0785
	Bashaw Dr.	5663	Brent Sheffer	818-9324
	Managua Dr.	3668	Andrea Wei	890-8187
	Managua Dr.	3705	Frances Corkrean	890-1825
	Mexico Ave.	3661	Michelle Baum	895-9601
	Montevideo Dr., South of Caracas	5598	Jonathan and Megan Howard	302-4990
	Natalie Ct.	5652	Amy McCarthy	899-7859
	Santiago Dr.	3686	Daisy White	948-0635
	Spohn Ct. and Dr.	5601	Robin Thomas	891-2722
Spohn Dr.	5614	Rae Robinson	895-2943	

* Area Representative

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



Roush HONDA USED CAR COMPANY
RACE TO THE SAVINGS!

www.RoushSaysDrive.com

**Our closest great location
to serve you
as a customer!**

**5885 Westerville Road
Westerville, Ohio 43081**
Phone: (614) 794-3525
Fax: (614) 794-4515

Huber Ridge Appealing to New Home Owners

Even though the housing market is experiencing a well documented slump, the Huber Ridge area continues to be a good option for new and first-time homeowners. For the period included in this quarter's newsletter, the HRAA welcomes several new neighbors!

The following listing of Huber Ridge area new home sales was graciously provided by Compuname (compuname.com):

August Sales (from August 15 to August 31, 2008):

Caitlin Marie Starkey and Ricki Lee Allman, Jr., 3711 Caracas Dr.
John B. Cosner, 6133 Batavia Rd.
Christian E. and Melissa R. Dunn, 3600 Manila Dr.
William and Deborah R. Zamora, 3637 Manila Dr.

September Sales:

Steven M. and Elly K. King, 3540 Stockholm Rd.
Holly B. Lingo, 3687 Managua Dr.
Ronald V. Kohsman, 5615 Copenhagen Dr.

Anita Heppner, 3403 Dempsey Rd.
Jennifer L. Johnson, 6200 Arnett Rd.

October Sales:

Kaylee D. Manville, 3503 Dempsey Rd.
Casa Investment Properties, LLC, 3475 Saddle Ln., S.
Brian A. and Kati E. Kern, 3679 Panama Dr.
Reserved Homes, Ltd., 5418 Lisbon Pl.
The Bank of New York Mellon, 3489 Manila Dr.

November Sales (through November 16, 2008 only):

Rene and Dawn Orozco, 3615 Panama Dr.
Jarrell Properties, LLC, 3700 Managua Dr.
Dale A. Monette, Jr., 3511 Rangoon Dr.

Welcome to the neighborhood!

—Carolyn Cordray, Welcome Committee Coordinator

Faith Covenant Church Serves Our Community

Faith Covenant Church, located at 3607 Dempsey Road, first opened its doors in March of 2000. Prior to the Dempsey Road address, it was located at Morse and Cherry Bottom Road. Pastor Tim Heintzelman has served his congregation of 170 for the last ten years. Assistant Pastor Kevin Diamond came to Faith Covenant in the fall of 2007. Their membership consists mainly of 27 percent Gahanna residents, 25 percent Westerville residents, then extending to members from the Huber Ridge, Hunt Club, Fox Chase, Glengary Heights, Glengary Woods, and other surrounding areas.

The Church provides services at 11 a.m. every Sunday and Sunday school at 9:30 a.m. They are very proud of their worship band. The building houses a beautiful entryway, sanctuary, fellowship hall, and welcome center complete with a gas fireplace, comfortable furniture, and a television set. Refreshments are always available in the welcome center. In addition, there are Sunday school rooms and a kitchen.

A unique Vacation Bible School referred to as "Adventure Week" is held every year in mid-June. Talented member of the church Jennifer Shaw co-writes a play and the music, which is put on a CD for the youngsters with words from scripture.

Faith Covenant members have been of tremendous help to the Huber Ridge Area Association and its members.

- ▶ They are a visible presence at the Association's monthly meetings.
- ▶ They hosted a question-and-answer session to allow residents to hear the candidates for the Blendon Township leadership positions.
- ▶ They hosted the August 20 PUCO water hearing.

- ▶ They hosted gang awareness training for adults entitled “New Age” endeavoring to teach adults how to recognize the effects of “gangs” in the community.
- ▶ In the summer months, “Lawn Chair Cinema” began. Ed Chilcoat, Outreach Chairman for Faith Covenant, oversees this project. Adults and children alike bring chairs and blankets to the church lawn where movies are held approximately twice a month on Friday and/or Saturday. Prior to the movie, games are played; and popcorn is provided at no cost to the public. A safe and fun way to get together!
- ▶ For the past two years on Halloween, volunteers—all from Faith Covenant—provided “extra sets of eyes” in the interest of safety for our children (also done to avoid unpleasant incidents as in previous years). In pairs of two, they wore orange vests, carried flashlights and cell phones, which were their link to the Blendon Township Police. All volunteers first underwent a background check. Once again, Ed Chilcoat coordinated this project.
- ▶ In November, the Church serves as a voting precinct. In addition, the members contribute to WARM, are active in inter-city projects such as “Day Care” services, and this Thanksgiving fed 11 families.

As Pastor Heintzelman said, “We are in the community to see, hear, and ask, ‘What do you want us to do; what is the need we can address?’”

Faith Covenant has certainly seen and listened well as shown by all the selfless time and help they are giving in so many ways in so many areas. How fortunate we are to have them in our community!!!

—Almina Smock-Wiebell, Neighbor

HRAA Helps First Graders Grasp Concept of Community

One hundred first graders recently heard from Pam Clegg, HRAA Block Watch Coordinator, about community—what it means and how they can do their part right now. To help them understand how community affects them, Clegg gave them details about the HRAA sponsored Halloween Party. After their excitement was contained, Clegg asked who they thought made the party possible. Then they began to understand that volunteers or “community” make a difference because willing people make good things happen for others. (Maybe these excited first graders were partly responsible for the exceptional turnout at the 2008 Halloween Party.)

Using pictures and examples, the essence of the message was community is for everyone right now, right where you

are, with a right attitude that does not give up or give in to apathy. Many first graders at Huber Ridge committed to make a difference at home, on the streets, and at school. Parents, please take the opportunity to encourage them in their commitments.

Thanks to Mrs. Nagel, first grade teacher, for inviting us to speak and who, along with the other first grade teachers, chose to teach community.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator

Police/HRAA Cooperation on Recent Burglaries

Within recent months, some residents living in the Huber Ridge area of Blendon Township were victims of a disturbing crime trend. A stealthy but bold criminal entered the homes of residents while they were sleeping and robbed them of their personal property.

When a crime pattern was recognized, the Blendon Township Police Department issued a Crime Alert flyer for the community and called upon the Huber Ridge Block Watch to assist in distributing these flyers door to door. The flyers proved to be a key turning point as the citizens recognized the need to contact the Blendon Township Police with any tips related to residential burglaries. These tips resulted in the identification and subsequent arrest of the person responsible for the crimes.

This case proves that the police and the community can work together to prevent and solve crimes in the area.

—Lt. Dustin Lephart, Blendon Township Police Department

In Service to Our Country

Specialist Mark Smock, son of Mark Smock of Huber Ridge, is with the 342nd Military Police. Stationed at Fort Hayes, Columbus, OH, he has trained in Indiana and California and is presently at Fort Dix, New Jersey, leaving for Iraq in December.

—Almina Smock-Wiebell



**Vote for
Your 2009 HRAA Officers
on January 8
at the Blendon Township
Senior Center
at 6:30 p.m.**



The following slate of officers will be presented:
 President.....Jim Welch
 Vice President.....Tom Burke
 SecretaryOpen
 Treasurer.....Eric Cordray
 Newsletter Editor...Marje Obrist
 Nominations will be accepted from the floor!
 —Marje Obrist, Newsletter Editor

Ridgewood Park Spring Cleanup

Hold April 25 open and come join the fun! We'll be sprucing up Ridgewood Park for our Seventh Annual Spring Cleanup!

In addition to picking up trash and spreading mulch, we plan to mark native wildflowers and eradicate invasive species along the path in the woods. So not only can you come and enjoy the camaraderie of your neighbors and have a free lunch but also see and appreciate the hidden treasure in our community.

We welcome all groups and individuals. Watch for more details in the spring edition of this newsletter and on our website. If you have any questions or would like to join in planning the event, please contact Lori Mann (beautification@huberridge.org) or Tom Burke (vp@huberridge.org).
 —Lori Mann, Park Cleanup Day Coordinator

Huber Ridge Elementary Bulletin Board

Huber Ridge raised \$16,000 through the Walk-A-Thon fundraiser this past fall; \$7,000 was used toward different activities and needs for our students through PTA; \$9,000 was put toward our walking trail. It is estimated that approximately another \$9,000 will need to be raised to complete the walking trail. Thank you to everyone in the Huber Ridge community who continues to support our students through our school fundraisers!

Our next fundraiser is Chris' Cakes "all you can eat"

pancake dinner at Huber Ridge Elementary, Friday, February 13. Time will be determined later. Check with the school or watch the huberridge.org community calendar.

—Laura Malaby, Huber Ridge Clerk

HRAA Annual Clothing Drive

This year's HRAA clothing drive was held on Sunday, November 9, from 1 to 3 p.m. in Ridgewood Park.

Although the date has changed every year for four years now—ranging from the first Sunday in December to the first Sunday in November—the weather has not changed. Again this year, it was cold and wet as my son, A. J., and I were in the Park collecting clothing to benefit the less fortunate.

As in years past, we called AWARE (All Westerville Area Residents Enriched) to set up a donation time and date to drop off the clothing collected. This year was different; Marge Lewis answered the phone but informed us AWARE had lost its space to sort and clean the clothes and could not benefit the needy this year. She stated that the need is still here and that volunteers are still eager; but the building they had been using had been sold, and the new owners needed the space AWARE was using.



**Sunbury Plaza
Dental**

David Loveday, DDS
 Beth Loveday, DDS
 general dentists

Michele Renick, DMD MS
 providing orthodontic services
 6025 South Sunbury Road
 Westerville

891-6767
www.sunburyplazadental.com

- Convenient Hours Available
- Modern, Comfortable Office
- State-of-the-Art Techniques and Sterilization
- 1 Year FREE Financing Available*
(*based on credit approval)

[Signature]

Zoom Whitening: Buy one; get one to share!
 Not valid w/any other offers at Sunbury Plaza Dental.
 Offer expires 3/31/09.

So we donated the clothing collected in this year's clothing drive to Grace Baptist Church at 3475 Paris Boulevard. We have also been trying to find a place AWARE could call home and could help those less fortunate. As the economy declines and the unemployment increases, the need has also increased.

If you are aware of any business or church which can donate space to benefit the people who are in need of the services AWARE has been offering, please call Marge Lewis at 890-0229. In the meantime, your generous donations on November 9 will benefit those who are deserving. Thank you!

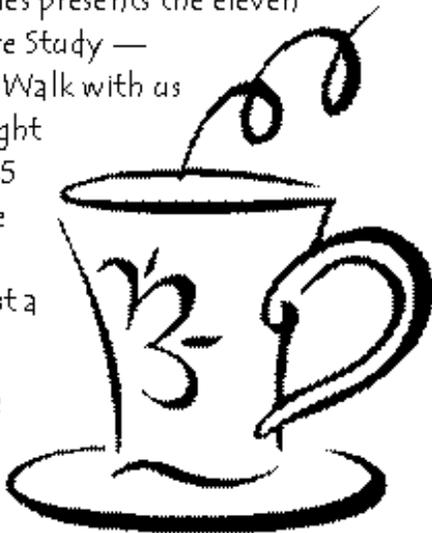
—Jim Welch, President

"Break Free" this winter with a hot cup of coffee, a warm fireplace, fellowship, and a Beth Moore Bible study.

Beginning January 5, Faith Covenant Church Women Ministries presents the eleven week Beth Moore Study —

"Breaking Free." Walk with us each Monday night beginning at 6:45 pm as we explore how to make freedom in Christ a daily reality.

Call or email the church for registration information.



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

Faith Covenant Stand-in Block Watch Successful Again

Halloween 2007 in Huber Ridge had a new look: Faith Covenant Church volunteers were on our streets and at Huber Ridge School encouraging a peaceful, uneventful Beggars' Night. Our police appreciated their efforts so much that Acting Chief Dusty Lephart contacted them to request

a repeat performance for Halloween night 2008. Once again, our community benefited by having a safe, fun-filled night thanks to these community-minded volunteers.

Ed Chilcoat, Outreach Chair of Faith Covenant Church, coordinated 18 volunteers at his church who were all background checked. Volunteers wore identifying vests and name tags as they intentionally roamed our streets. They had fun socializing as they passed out candy. In addition to a good report of no incidents, the FCC volunteers observed that there did not seem to be as many "beggars" on the streets this year.

Faith Covenant Church is an active member of the Huber Ridge Area Association with an open door and a desire to be a valuable, involved resource to the community. Check them out at faithcov.net. Again, our sincere thanks to Ed and all the volunteers of Faith Covenant Church for their work in helping our community be extra safe Halloween night, 2008.

—Pam Clegg, Block Watch Coordinator, HRAA

—Ed Chilcoat, Outreach Chair, Faith Covenant Church

HRAA Annual Halloween Party Best Ever

If you weren't able to attend the annual HRAA Halloween Party this year, you missed a GREAT time! This year's was the largest in terms of attendance in the history of the event—having drawn over 300 attendees. Party-goers enjoyed several new activities and some traditionally popular activities as well as some delicious food and snacks all wrapped up into one fun night! Also, this event is fully self-funded through donations from local merchants, raffle sales, and some donations from attendees; so no HRAA treasury funds were used toward the cost of this party, and residents were all admitted free of charge.

Several very generous donations or discounts from local area merchants were used as prizes and helped to buy party food and supplies. Additionally, many neighbors donated bags of candy which were given out to young partygoers in the traditional "Trick-or-Treat Street" activity. The HRAA is extremely grateful to the following merchants and individuals who made this event possible: Kentucky Fried Chicken on State Street, Sunbury Plaza Dental, Roush Hardware, Bike Source, Napa Auto Parts, City of Minerva Park, Stewart Flaherty, Hometown Buffet, Sam's Club, Brian McNamara (manager at Marc's), Wendy's on State Street, Burger King on Schrock, Subway in Glengary Shopping Center, the Chiller at Easton, Blendon Square Apartments, Cushions, McDonald's on State Street, Half-Price Books, Tim Horton's on State Street, Blendon Township, Brent Sheffer, Joy Neff, Jerry and Liz Ward, and Bill and June Riggs. The HRAA would like to thank our generous supporters again and encourage residents

to thank them as well with their patronage.

This year's event saw many new fun activities as well as some return favorites. Activities this year included Monster Fish Bog, Skull Hunt, Candy Walk, Pinatas, Bonfire and S'mores with entertainment by Rob Cordray and Nick Connolly, Raffle, Hayride, Costume Contest, Trick-or-Treat Street, and—of course—the annual favorite, the Haunted Woods.

Raffle winners were Kayle Spring (Roush Hardware \$25 gift card), Heather Lewis-Halsey and P. Spaulding (Bike Source \$25 tune-up certificates), Cheri Gray (NASCAR flag), Holly Falcone and Nick Sabo (Cheryl's Cookies packages), Cheri Gray (DVD player), Kierstyn Schbacher (Minerva Park Pool passes), Chris Falcone (Spaulding basketball), June Riggs (Raisin Rack gift card), Nick Sabo and Marie Fuentes (Bear iPods), Mike Newman and Michelle Dixon (glow lamps), and Holly Falcone (Checkers game). Congratulations to all of the raffle winners!

Costume Contest winners were Marris, Ava, and Elijah (ages 5 and under); Janice, Catalina, and Sariat (ages 6 to 9); Hannah, Kaylee, and Steven (ages 10 to 12); Thomas, Jeremy, and Katie (ages 13 to 18); and the Shroade family, Sherry, and Holly (adults). Congratulations to all Costume Contest winners! Prizes were various combinations of Blendon Square Apartments backpacks and coolers; Easton Chiller passes; gift cards from Wendy's, Burger King, Kentucky Fried Chicken (all located on State or Schrock); Subway cards at Glengary Shopping Center; and Cushions gift certificates (for adults).

Special thanks to our volunteers: Kelly Hayes, Robin Wagner, Savanah Stark, Annie McCash, Marje Obrist, Jenny Carr, Tom Burke, Janet Brown, Anna Grant, Jean Dawson, A. J. Welch, Pam Clegg, Rob Cordray, Nick Connolly, Eric Cordray, Jim Welch, John Giamarco, Betty Miller, Cindy Baise, Bobby Spiers, Eddie Wagner, Peggy Petty, Lasan Milton, James Burforth, Stephen Haines, Allen Paxton, Lewis Halsey, Jevin Clinksealy, Dylan Bishop, Eddie Wolfe, Carlos Zarate, Gray Felts, Annie Cochren, Annie Felts, Decon Bateman, Michael Felts, Sara Pierce, Scott Meyer, Bryan Fowler, Allen Fowler, and Alfred Combs. An event like this takes many people pitching in to help out and a number of neighbors did just that at the party. Unfortunately not all names were captured to appear in this article, but please know that all contributions of time and effort are very much appreciated so thank you, one and all.

Extra special thanks to Marnita Kosinski, Heather Lewis-Halsey, and Holly Falcone as they have already committed to helping out for next year's Halloween event! Anyone else who is interested in committing to next year's party, please contact Carolyn Cordray at welcome@huberridge.org.

—Carolyn Cordray, Halloween Party Coordinator

\$5 OFF COMPLETE GROOMING

New and Established Customers

Expires March 31, 2009

"LOVE YOUR PET"®

GROOMING SHOP

5858-A Westerville Road

Westerville, OH 43081

(614) 899-0226

GROOMER: Animal Health Technician



WHERE YOUR PET IS "SOMEONE" SPECIAL®

Loving care for your pets

in your home

or in our facility!



RIDGEWOOD ANIMAL CARE

Wendy McCullen Vermillion, DVM

🐾 House-call services

🐾 Full-service clinic

Call 740-369-9123 for an appointment!

New Decals for Blendon Township Police Cruisers

Acting Chief Lephart and Sergeant Greg Boggs selected a new design for the police cruisers in Blendon Township. These decals are currently on two of our new police cruisers and will be on a third in the near future. The new design will be incorporated on each police cruiser that is added to the fleet from this point forward.

—Lt. Dustin Lephart, Blendon Township Police Department

Grant for New Mobile Data Computers

This past fall, the Blendon Township Police Department was awarded seven Mobile Data Computers and docking stations for our police cruisers through a grant with Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security. These computers saved the Township thousands of dollars that would have been spent on these necessary tools. These computers have enabled our officers to have online reporting right from their cruisers and have been a great convenience to each of them.

—Lt. Dustin Lephart, Blendon Township Police Department



The Flaherty Consulting Group
Lifestyle Financial Management

577 Office Parkway
Westerville, OH 43082
(614) 891-4844
www.lpl.com/stewart.flaherty

Securities Offered Through Linsco/Private Ledger
Member NASD/SIPC

CHASE  **RETIREMENT PLANNING**

I'm here to help you make the most of your retirement plans.
Call me today for a FREE financial analysis.

Bruno A. Pellegrini, Financial Advisor
Chase Investment Services Corp.
77 Huber Village Blvd. Westerville, OH 43081
(614) 248-5120

Securities and investment advisory services are offered through Chase Investment Services Corp. (CISC),
CISC, a member of NASD and SIPC, is an affiliate of JPMorgan Chase Bank, NA.

NOT FDIC INSURED · NO BANK GUARANTEE · MAY LOSE VALUE

Rats in the Ridge?

Some have said there are rats in Huber Ridge. If there are, should we treat rat infestations any differently than we treat mice infestations? According to Mike Adair of the Franklin County Board of Health, the presence of rats should be handled differently because of the potential health threat posed by rats. They carry diseases such as plague, hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS), murine typhus, eosinophilic meningitis, food poisoning, leptospirosis, and rat bite fever.

If you think you have rats, rather than just trap the rats and assume the problem is resolved, contact and involve the Franklin County Board of Health. The registered sanitarians are trained to assess the situation, educate, intervene, and—if needed—help in elimination. In assessing a situation, it could be that a surrounding property is a contributor of the rat infestation. The health department can properly address the issues related to the rat infestation. Call or e-mail Mike Adair, R.S., at 462-3160, mradair@franklincountyohio.gov.

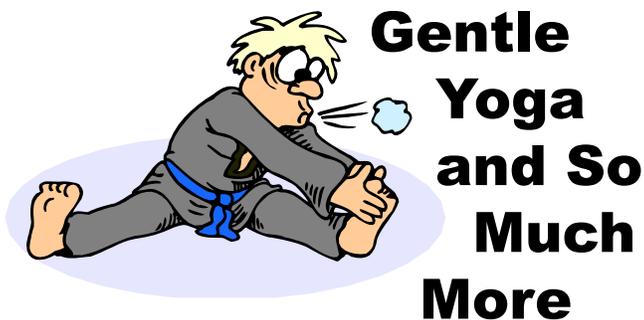
How to Prevent Rats: (from Ohio Department of Health 2172.32)

- ▶ **NO FREE MEALS.** Don't give the rat a free meal with garbage. Put your garbage (solid waste: food, soiled diapers, dog feces, etc.) in a solid trash can with a tight-fitting lid. Without a lid, you are giving the rat or other vermin a free meal and encouraging their presence. Lid it and ensure it is hauled away weekly. Don't give the rat a free meal with your pet food or pet feces. Clean up feces daily. If you store pet food outside, use metal tins with tight-fitting lids. Clean up uneaten pet food.
- ▶ **NO FAMILIES.** Don't give the rat a place to raise a family. One pair of rats equals 50 babies a year. Rats like to live in piles of wood, rubbish, leaves, ashes, and debris; old boxes and lumber; rags and old piles of paper; discarded chairs and bedding; abandoned automobiles. Raise stored materials a minimum of 12 inches off the ground.
- ▶ **NO PLACE TO HIDE.** Don't give the rats a place to hide. They like dark, enclosed spots where you cannot clean regularly such as double walls, wooden floors in basements, staircases, wooden sidewalks, boxed-in plumbing, closed platforms under furniture; enclosed decks or outdoor buildings that have not been rodent proofed; and open basement drains. Rip out these dead spaces or rodent-proof them. Basement drains should be covered with hardware cloth or a drain cover with openings less than 1/2 inch in diameter. Clean out attics, store rooms, basements, garages, etc.
- ▶ **NO HOUSE GUESTS.** Don't let rats get into your house. Doors should be no more than 3/8 inches from the frame. If rotted or gnawed, use metal channels or flashing to fix. Basement windows should fit tightly and have no broken panes. In foundation walls, all openings within 30 inches of the ground should be rat-stopped with metal collars or shields or filled in with masonry.
- ▶ **NO RATS.** Kill rats, poison rats, exterminate rats. The safest rat-killing baits you can buy are sold in most hardware, discount, or grocery stores. Be sure to follow directions on labels.

Remember that rats move closer to the food sources. Survey property and eliminate favorable conditions that promote rat harborage and proliferation. In areas where infestations have been identified, the Board can and will enforce Rodent Regulation. For example, a resident could be ordered to rodent-proof a shed or clean up debris. Keep in mind that the Franklin County Board of Health should not be considered the panacea for rat problems—you may need an exterminator.

—Pam Clegg, Neighbor

(Mike Adair has reviewed this article for content and accuracy.)



The Blendon Senior Center at 6330 Hempstead Road offers as many as 32 different activities in a week including a Gentle Yoga class at 3 p.m. each Tuesday. This beginners' class taught by Martha Owens is designed to give senior citizens more energy and improved flexibility and posture.

Other classes include art, jazz and tap, swimnastics, and line dancing. Morning mingle, pinochle, bunco, bridge and bid euchre, quilting, mahjongg, discussion group, and special tours are also available.

How do you join the Blendon Senior Center? You must be 55 years of age or the spouse of a current member who is, and you must pay the \$15 dues for each calendar year. Membership includes a monthly newsletter mailed to your home with details of upcoming activities and tours.

Why not join the 1,000 active members of the Senior Center in 2009? For more information, contact Senior Center Director Donna Jordan at 882-1260 or drop by for a visit.

—Marje Obrist, Blendon Senior Center Member

huberridge.org Hit Report

July 2008	4,471
August 2008	2,545
September 2008.....	4,008
October 2008.....	3,285
November 2008.....	2,192
December 2008 (through the 18 th).....	1,327

PRESCRIPTION *Hope*

\$7 Brand Name Prescription Drug Program for the Uninsured

Families and individuals who are uninsured now have access to over 1,500 brand-name medications for only \$7 per prescription per month with no application fees, no other medication costs, and no other hidden costs.

Eligible applicants cannot be covered by Medicaid, cannot have any prescription coverage, or earn more than \$21,800 for individuals or \$31,000 for couples.

We have helped thousands of people in central Ohio get the medications they need at a price they can afford. We work directly with pharmaceutical company to acquire your medication.

To learn more call toll-free 877-296-HOPE (4673) or go to

www.prescriptionhope.com

“Helping people get the medications they need at a price they can afford”

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 spring issue of *The Herald*, please contact Marje Obrist at 891-6944 or at editor@huberridge.org.

A Plea for Support—Not Just Dollars

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

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

I have heard some of you complain, but that won't make a difference. We know we can show our muscle. We proved

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

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

—Joya Neff, Membership Coordinator

HUBER RIDGE AREA ASSOCIATION 2009 MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

Names of Adult(s) _____

Address _____

Phone number(s) _____

E-mail _____

Membership dues are \$15 per household. Dues are for any 12-month period beginning with your first payment and may be paid at any meeting or mailed to the Membership Coordinator, Joya Neff, 3615 Stockholm, Westerville, OH 43081.

Checks are to be made payable to the Huber Ridge Area Association.

Here's What's Happening in the Ridge!



- January 8 HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!
- January 13 2009 Annual HRAA Block Watch Training at the Blendon Township Police Station at 6:30 p.m.
- January 15 HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- February 5 HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- February 13 Chris' Cakes "All You Can Eat" Pancake Dinner at Huber Ridge Elementary School, Time to Be Determined
- February 19 HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- March 5 HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- March 19 HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- April 2 HRAA Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- April 16 HRAA Executive Committee Meeting at the Blendon Township Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- April 25 Ridgewood Park Spring Cleanup