



Yellow Springs'

Winter 1997 Vol. 3 No. 2

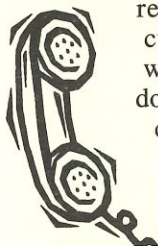
# The Village Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF THE VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS

## A New Ordinance for the Village

Village Council recently adopted an ordinance regulating use of the Village's public rights-of-way. These areas are owned by the Village and used for public purposes, i.e. streets, utilities, sidewalks, etc. A typical right-of-way in the Village includes any street, plus the adjacent sidewalk and tree lawn. The regulations adopted were the result of advice from the Miami Valley Cable Council following the passage of the Federal Telecommunications Act. The demand and need for access to local rights-of-way by telecommunication industries is expected to increase from the Act's passage.

The locally adopted regulations provide the Village government an active role regarding all activities occurring in public rights-of-way. Proposed work to be done in the right-of-way, including activities such as the installation of utility equipment, repair and replacement of any facilities already in the right-



### RIGHTS-OF-WAY USERS

YELLOW SPRINGS & OTHER MUNICIPALITIES

UTILITY PROVIDERS

TELEPHONE SERVICE

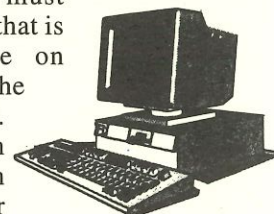
CABLE TV AND SIMILAR SERVICES

RESIDENTIAL USERS

of-way and even the construction of a driveway apron will be reviewed and approved by the Village. Fees are assigned to the various uses. Residential uses such as a driveway cut carry a one-time fee while others such as underground cable are payable every year.

One of the benefits of this ordinance is the requirement regarding prior notification of all work to be done in the right-of-way. All parties effected by this work are to be notified of the activity and its duration. The ordinance specifically states that those performing work in the

right-of-way must work in a way that is least intrusive on other users of the right-of-way. The regulation also provides an opportunity for cooperation through coordination of activities between various right-of-way users to minimize disruption of the area.



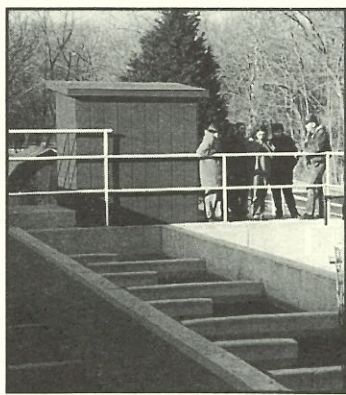
### Any Volunteers Out There?

The Village Council is always interested in hearing from any community member interested in serving on the Council's various Boards and Commissions. Appointments are typically made annually. The specific vacancies to be filled in any given year are advertised in the Yellow Springs News with an invitation to volunteer. Anyone interested in learning more about how to participate please contact Margaret Silliman, Clerk of Council, 767-7202.

### A Request

The Village of Yellow Springs is in the process of correcting problems encountered by the Utility Department staff when trying to read residents' electric and/or water meters. It is the responsibility of the property owner to trim and maintain foliage and/or landscaping in such a way as to assure clear and easy access to meters so that proper maintenance can be done and accurate readings can be taken. The Village requires that a path two feet wide leading to the meter and a space three feet on either side of the meter must be cleared. The Village will notify the owners of specific properties that are not providing this access. Thank you for your cooperation.

Troy Slone, Plant Operations Supervisor, gives Antioch students a tour of the Village's wastewater treatment plant. Groups interested in touring the facility should contact Troy at 767-7208.



## Newsworthy

It wasn't one of our typically controversial issues that recently captured national interest — but rather the uncomplicated story of a 'random act of kindness' — one that has become a venerated tradition in our little Village.

It began on a Monday in early December with a phone call from a Wall Street Journal reporter requesting information about our annual flour and sugar distribution. Larry Campbell, Police Department dispatcher, received the call, answered a few questions, and passed the caller on to Margaret Silliman, Clerk of Council, who passed it on to Lina Verdon, Administrative Assistant. When the WSJ article appeared the very next day we were all pretty excited.

Then the Village phones started ringing off the hook. A Chicago-based CNN reporter called, followed by the producer of ABC's World News with Peter Jennings, Good Morning America (also ABC), Associated Press (AP) and United Press International (UPI), as well as the Dayton Daily, WOSU in Columbus and WPHT Radio in Philadelphia. We even got a call from Pillsbury, offering to donate the flour! A BBC affiliate in Toronto, with a program called Around The Block, called to ask a few questions the week after the distribution had been completed.

As details about Wheeling Gaunt and his bequest unfolded during conversations with each of the callers, CNN and ABC World News asked if they could come to town and go out with the crew to 'capture' the distribution on film. A reporter from the Chicago bureau of the L.A. Times was already scheduled to ride with the crew (arranged in December of '95 when she called too late to come then), so we said "sure, no problem."

Monday, December 9, the first day of distribution arrived, as did the reporters,

with their serious cameras. Arrangements had been made for them to meet the crew at the Bryan Center at 9 a.m. before the crew's trip to Weaver's to load the flour and sugar on to Village trucks. (They wanted footage of everything!) Pouring into the Bryan Center at 8 a.m., they talked with the staff and got shots of Wheeling Gaunt's photo and the portion of his will hanging in the alcove on the second floor.

The reporters and their camera crews were cautioned to be respectful of the recipients and not overwhelm them with questions, microphones and equipment. They were asked to follow the lead of our crew as to whether they could approach the recipient's house and request an on-camera interview.

Mike Applin and Lina Verdon had spoken with a couple of the women beforehand about their willingness to be interviewed on film and others responded 'on-the-spot' with great enthusiasm when they opened their front door and saw the cameras. To help complete the story, the media visited Nina Myatt at Antiochiana and Phyllis Jackson, Gaunt historian, as well as Mary Morgan, of the Yellow Springs Historical Society. Phyllis appeared in the ABC piece and NPR interviewed Nina. The Yellow Springs News sent a reporter to cover the unfolding media frenzy.

Three camera crews, plus reporters and equipment were, indeed, too much. Since two public works crews and trucks handle the distribution, Mike split things up in the afternoon by sending ABC out with the second truck. This helped minimize the impact on the recipients and afforded our crew and theirs a greater opportunity to experience the person-to-person aspect of the distribution.

Thanks to AP and UPI, newspapers around the country, including the New York Times, picked up the story and we received

appreciative calls and notes from near and far. The ABC crew returned to town on Tuesday, shooting more footage, eating cookies baked with the distributed materials, and soaking up the flavor of Yellow Springs. They, as well as the CNN crew, spoke repeatedly about how much they were enjoying themselves here...and they couldn't stop talking about how friendly and helpful everyone was. A couple of them suggested that they would like to return — maybe even to live here! Thanks to all who accommodated their visit.

Channel 13 has a copy of the tapes from CNN and ABC. Check your cable schedule for broadcast times.

## Just a Reminder...

Community members are reminded that chipped brush and compost can be picked up at the Sutton Farm free of charge. The mulch is not considered landscape quality but can be useful in the yard and garden. Anyone interested in stocking up on these materials should call the Public Works Facility at 767-7205, Monday- Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., to make arrangements for accessing the material.

**Note:** Yard waste bags will be available for use through November 1, 1997. After that time, the Village will no longer provide this service. The Greene County Solid Waste District has designated yard waste drop-off sites throughout the County. Additional details will be provided before the November 1 deadline.

## For Electrical Contractors

In the past, the Village has supplied contractors with the electric meter socket for new services and upgrades. The Village is discontinuing this service once the current inventory of 100, 200 and 400-amp sockets is gone.

## RUMPKE 1997 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR GARBAGE PICKUP

Garbage collection throughout the Village will be delayed by one day following these holidays in 1997:

<b>Memorial Day</b>	Monday, May 26
<b>Independence Day</b>	Friday, July 4
<b>Labor Day</b>	Monday, September 1
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	Thursday, November 27
<b>Christmas</b>	Thursday, December 25

## Other Important "Waste" Dates!

Used Oil Igloo back in service (Corry Street parking lot)

March 1

Spring Clean-up Week

May 5-9

## Waste Not: Trash Policies Enforced

We are working with Rumpke to perform regular audits of solid waste customers throughout the Village. Please make sure that you post your "1," "2," or "3" sticker so the Rumpke driver can see it. We have directed Rumpke not to pick up trash if the number is not posted or the volume of trash exceeds the amount to be picked up based upon each service level.

Reminder: 1 = 30 gallons per week    2 = 60 gallons per week    3 = 90 gallons per week.



## Police Department News



Good news from Officer Al Pierce: after suffering a broken leg last April, Al returned to work in February. This will help make this a Happy New Year and the Department is delighted to have Al back on the force.

The Department extends a sincere thanks to members of the community for their generous donations to the Yellow Springs coat fund at Christmas. Once again we provided quality winter wear for children in need. There were enough funds to "adopt" five families and provide food and gifts to them on Christmas. This effort was organized and completed by dis-

patchers Norma Lewis and Lisa Crosswhite and Officers Debbie Foster, John Grote and Kim Monhollen. A big thank you to everyone involved.

Officer Debbie Foster and her husband Joe are the proud parents of their new daughter, Jordan, born last September. Debbie tried to adjust her work responsibilities to minimize the difficulty of combining them with those of a new parent. Unfortunately for us, Jordan's needs won out. Debbie resigned as a full-time officer but will remain on part-time status. As you may remember, Debbie was training to be the new DARE officer. She contributed much to the Department and the community during her eight years with the Department. We will miss her, but wish Debbie and her family the best.

It's not too early to remind everyone of weed and plant growth issues. Even though the present temperature may not indicate it, Spring will be here soon. We ask that residents keep vegetation trimmed from the adjacent sidewalks and clear areas near intersections for visibility. We receive many calls regarding obstructed vision due to plants or trees. We ask that everyone review their property with these issues in mind. Also be reminded that plants or flowers in the public right-of-way may not grow above 12 inches so as not to impair visibility. If you have questions regarding these requirements, feel free to call the police department. We will attempt to answer your questions or direct you to someone who can.



Village employees shared a holiday luncheon last December. Here, retired employee Catherine Geis gets a present from Santa (Hugh Livingston).



Harold (Dunie) Hamilton was recently recognized for twenty-five years of service to the Village. Others who were recognized were Troy Slone (25 years), Terry Cox and John Winks (20 years), and Ted Dunevant (10 years).

## What's Up With the Environmental Commission?

The Commission began 1996 with a presentation of the 10-year plan to Village Council. After thorough discussion of its elements, the plan was accepted by Council. The Village has already taken actions that are congruent with the plan: a Utility Rates Task Force analyzing the present rate structure which may include incentives for conservation, creation of non-mowed wilderness areas on Village-owned land, upgrades of the electrical distribution system, placement of a PM10 air quality monitor on the Bryan Center roof, the purchase of recycling containers for use downtown and in the park areas, and reduction of the number of hazardous products used in Village operations.

The Environmental Commission worked with the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Committee and helped interview IPM specialists for consideration in working with the Yellow Springs public schools later this year. Stephanie Slowinski, on behalf of both

the Committee and the Commission, produced a draft ordinance for the Village that outlines IPM strategies for pest control and maintenance programs. The ordinance, which the Commission will work to have adopted before spring, will commit the Village staff to seeking out the least toxic problem-solving and prevention to pertinent issues.

The Commission will continue research toward the Village's long-term commitment to replace peak energy consumption with locally generated energy. Our goal in 1997 is to create a report that:

- analyzes data from AmpOhio to create a Community Energy Profile which determine how and where energy is being used and how much it costs, particularly during peak consumption;

- assesses the economic viability of wind turbines. The Commission has talked with those developing a

prototype for use in low wind regimes scheduled to be used in the Spring. A feasibility study may be pursued.

- assesses the viability for numerous cost-effective photovoltaic systems being piloted in other communities;

- researches the options for Demand Side Management (DSM) where energy efficiency as a Village may be improved;

- assesses funding options including grants and the use of a "green rate" as in other communities, where citizens voluntarily pay a small fee on their monthly bills to finance alternative energy projects.

The Environmental Commission is also concerned with the design of the proposed affordable housing neighborhood on the Village-owned Glass Farm and will report its considerations and research directly to the Task Force.

## Scheduled Public Meetings at the Bryan Community Center

Village Council  
7:00 pm First/Third Monday

Village Mayor's Court  
7:30 pm Second/Fourth Monday

Village Planning Commission  
7:30 pm Second Monday

Environmental Commission  
7:30 pm First/Third Tuesday

Cable Advisory Panel  
5:00 pm First Wednesday

Human Relations Commission  
7:00 pm Second Monday

Wellhead Protection Advisory Commission  
7:00 pm Third Tuesday

## VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS

100 Dayton Street  
Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387

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David Heckler, Village Manager

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Police, non-emergency ...767-7206  
Police, emergency .....9-1-1  
Clerk of Council .....767-7220  
Gaunt Park Pool .....767-9064  
Fire, non-emergency .....767-7842  
Fire, emergency .....9-1-1  
Rumpke Waste .....1-800-223-3960  
Public Works .....767-7205



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