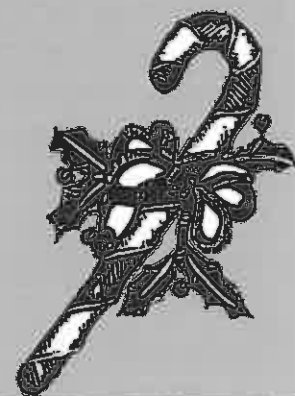




Columbia
Park

Season's Greetings
From the Staff of Columbia Park

NEWS



December 2009

Christmas... Around the World

* *Ukraine:* If you find a spider web in the house on Christmas morning, it is believed to be a harbinger of good luck! There once lived a woman so poor, says a Ukrainian folk tale, that she could not afford Christmas decorations for her family. One Christmas morning, she awoke to find that spiders had trimmed her children's tree with their webs. When the morning sun shone on them, the webs turned to silver and gold. An artificial spider and web are often included in the decorations on Ukrainian Christmas trees.

* *Italy:* The "Urn of Fate" is part of the Christmas celebrations in many Italian households. The Urn of Fate is brought out on Christmas Eve. It holds a wrapped present for everyone. The mother tries her luck first, then the others in turn. If you get a present with your name on it, you keep it; otherwise, you put it back and try again.

* *Mexico:* The poinsettia is a traditional Christmas flower. In Mexico (its original birthplace), the poinsettia is known as the "Flower of the Holy Night".

* *Sweden:* In Sweden, a common Christmas decoration is the Julbukke, a small figurine of a goat. It is usually made of straw. Scandinavian Christmas festivities feature a variety of straw decorations in the form of stars, angels, hearts and other shapes, as well as the Julbukke.



Holiday Office Hours



In observance of the Christmas and New Year holidays, the park office and sales office will be closed on the following days: December 24th - 27th and January 1, 2010

Happy Holidays!!!!

Reminder *** There is no January issue of the Columbia Park News***



GET SET FOR FUN! Fun Night

The last fun night of 2009 will take place on Monday, December 21st, just a few days before the holiday on the 25th. Come and celebrate with friends and neighbors at the social hall. Fun begins at 5:30p.m. when the doors open.

Dinner will be served, starting at 6:00p.m. The menu for this evening will consist of roasted chicken breast, baby carrots, redskin potatoes, rolls with butter, and the usual beverages. (Of course, many people bring their own special appetizers or desserts; which always seems to be of gourmet quality for our little senior park. So, bring your favorite dish, if you wish.)

Featured as our entertainment for the night will be vocalist Deborah Rose, who comes with glowing references.

NOW FOR FUN NIGHT 2010...

The first fun night of the year will take place on Monday, January 18th.

We will be celebrating an Italian night with a meal of rigatoni with meat sauce, mixed salad, rolls with butter.

Entertainment will be the fabulous team of "Heart to Heart". Remember their last show? They were fantastic!

You may call Bunny at 235-1068 for tickets on Tuesday, December 22nd at 12:01a.m.

This will be a great beginning for 2010 fun nights, so be sure to call for tickets and mark your calendar.

BINGO Night

Plan now to attend BINGO with a friend or neighbor and enjoy all the fun that is taking place right here at the social hall on the second Tuesday and fourth Wednesday of each month.

Cost for game packs is in multiples of \$6.00 per packet per person. Play as many as you can handle. 50/50 available.

December Bingo Night Dates

Tuesday, December 8th

Wednesday, December 23rd

January Bingo Night Dates

Tuesday, January 12th

Wednesday, January 27th

Any change or cancellation of the above dates will be announced on Ch. 7.

Come early to get your seat. Game time at 6:00p.m. No reservations required. Refreshments available for purchase.

Contact Tom Treadway with questions: 235-7326

See you at BINGO!

Winter Freeze-ups

Temperatures and wind chills can be brutal in the winter. As a result, water lines in your home can freeze and cause damage. Should you experience a winter freeze up, you must contact the park office within 72 hours of the freeze so we can send someone from our maintenance staff to check your water meter. Should it be necessary to replace a meter due to a freeze up, you will be billed for the cost of the replacement meter.

Contact the park office or monitor channel 7 to get telephone numbers of contractors that can do winter water line checks to include making sure that your heat tapes are working properly.

Movie Night



Tim Allen

in

"SANTA CLAUSE"

Coffee & Christmas Cookies

Wednesday, December 16th

Doors open at 6:00

Movie at 6:30

Chinese Raffle ~ Tickets 3/\$1.00

For reservations or questions call...

427-9645

We are all children in our hearts during the holidays. Come and enjoy a different and playful twist on a Christmas traditional figure, a movie for all ages.



January Movie Night

Wednesday, January 20th

MOVIE: TO BE ANNOUNCED

Look for flyers and notice on Ch. 7

Doors open (weather permitting) at 6:00



Movie time at 6:30

FREE POPCORN

50/50 RAFFLE

Feel free to bring your own soda pop and water.

Ice will be provided.



Special Election

Olmsted Falls School Tax Levy

February 2, 2010

Social Hall



Lynn's Lip-Smackin' Recipes

Polynesian Pork Chops

From: Campbell's Kitchen Prep/Cook Time: 20 min.

4 boneless pork chops, 3/4" thick each

1 tsp. garlic powder

1 tbsp. Crisco® Vegetable Oil

1 medium onion, chopped

1 can Campbell's® Golden Mushroom Soup

1 can (8 oz.) pineapple chunks

1/4 cup water

3 tbsp. soy sauce

1 tbsp. honey

2 cups cooked instant white rice

Sliced green onions

Directions:

SEASON chops with garlic powder. HEAT oil in skillet. Add chops and cook until browned.

Add onion, soup, pineapple with juice, water, soy and honey.

Heat to a boil.

Cook over low heat 10 min. or until done.

SERVE with rice and garnish with green onions.

Serves 4.

December Collected Thoughts from Marion

Well, I just finished cleaning off the turkey, and made what I think and hope will be the last of the turkey dinners in one shape or form. Everyone is filled with homemade cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, turkey and stuffing. Thanksgiving is a great day, but sometimes it lives on and on and on in snacks, lunches and dinners. The china is washed and back in the cupboard the silver has been cleaned and stored in the buffet. All the turkey decorations, cornstalks and pumpkins have been put to rest. Out comes Christmas for me. I bring out all the Christmas boxes at once to the dining room and unpack everything, excited to see all those decorations again along with anything new that was bought last year on sale. Some of my decorations were my mothers; such as the glitter-covered angels, an old huge Santa Claus bank with the paint chipped off, and a green holly pitcher. Of course, my own ornaments are upward of fifty years old now, having been bought by me as a new bride. I try to keep them in boxes they came in so my children and grandchildren can see how they packaged ornaments back then and how cheap they were. I have some translucent Christmas teacups that I bought for \$2.50 for a set of six, and still use them every holiday.

Each day I put a few more decorations out, replacing the everyday items that have been stored until after the holiday season. And each room has special decorations to make a theme. So no matter what room you go into, Christmas shines through there. I try to put up a tree in every room (even the bathrooms have small trees). One of my special trees is a branch of a pear tree taken from outside my front porch with an artificial partridge setting in it. (You know, from the Twelve Days of Christmas - a partridge in a pear tree.) This usually occupies the island in my kitchen where I can enjoy it every day. Another favorite tree is an old feather tree with miniature kitchen utensils hanging from it. I move this tree around each year, so you never know where you may find it in my home.

Our Christmas Eve is very special as the family gets together for a special dinner and the exchange of gifts afterwards. We do this so the children and grandchildren can be at their own homes on Christmas morning. After all, they have to be there to see what Santa brought them for their stockings and under the tree. Each year the dinner takes place at a different family member's home. We use a lot of candles on the dinner table along with fresh greens to make it festive. Christmas Day is sort of a go-with-the-flow day. We may visit a friends or someone in the family or just settle down to read a new book. It is a quiet sort of comforting day knowing we have completed another holiday and enjoyed our family being together.

The amount of money you spend isn't the "thing" at holidays, it is seeing your family happily eating a dinner together and having fun. It is getting excited about the decorating. It is having friends over to celebrate the holidays together with just a cup of coffee and some homemade cookies. So, put on your happy attitude, put a lift in your walk and enjoy your holiday; may it be Christmas, Hanukkah or Kwanzaa...

M...

Columbia Park News

Visitors or Deliveries????

Many people use "GPS" to get directions now-a-days and for some reason the "GPS" systems navigate drivers to the back gate.

It is important that you as residents advise any visitors or delivery drivers that they must come through the Columbia Road entrance of the park.

Some delivery services will charge additional fees for the inconvenience. Be sure to mention when you are making delivery arrangements that the delivery must come through the front entrance.

Art & Craft Show

Thanks to all who visited the First Sunday in November Art & Craft show at the Columbia Park social hall.

We were pleased to be able to donate all the proceeds from the charity bake sale to Share our Strength's Great American Bake Sale, benefiting low income children.

We are hoping to plan another Art & Craft Show for spring 2010.

Thanks again!

Kathleen



Alternative Option for Paying Lot Rent

You can still sign up to have your lot rent/cable automatically deducted from your bank account.

ACH is a free service. It eliminates writing checks, paying postage and delays in the mail. It is similar to automated credit card billing except the payment is extracted directly from your bank account.

The forms are available at the park office.

A Message from the Fire Department

Recently, a member of the Columbia Park family found out first hand that smoke detectors save lives. This resident narrowly escaped from their home after a fire swept through it. Only the sound of the smoke detector saved their life.

Please make a habit of changing the batteries in your smoke and CO detectors when you change your clocks for day light savings time.

If you are unable to replace your batteries, or if you need a new detector call the Olmsted Township Fire Department at (440) 235-3746.

We stock smoke detectors and batteries at no charge to residents. We can even help you install them.

Sincerely;

Chief Mario Bellido and all the Firefighters.

Columbia Park News

WINTER REMINDER

With winter quickly approaching, please remember the following when the snow begins to fly...

- * If able, please wait until the plow clears your street of snow before you begin to shovel your drives. Please note, when the plows pass, the snow has no other place to go but into your driveway apron. Save yourself the hassle of extra snow removal by waiting.
- * DO NOT shovel or snow blow the snow back into the street. Shovel or aim your snow blower toward the lawn and/or tree lawn. Putting it in the street will result in the plows pushing it back into your apron as it passes, or it will freeze into ice patches in front of your driveway.
- * If there is snow accumulation of 2 inches or more, please DO NOT park any vehicle in the street. Not parking in the street when roads need to be plowed will allow our crew to properly remove the snow and allow for safer passage.
- * Please use common sense when operating your vehicles in the park when road conditions are poor. Although salt is applied, roads may still be hazardous. Please slow down and be cautious.
- * Our snow plow crew works hard and sometimes all hours of the night to be sure roads are safe in the park. In the past, residents have cursed at, yelled at and even thrown snow at them. This type of behavior will not be tolerated and will be considered as harassment. Please direct any comments or concerns to the park office.
- * As in the city, the main streets of the park are done first, then the secondary streets and so forth. Please be patient. All streets will be plowed. If perhaps a street is overlooked, call the park office or the gatehouse (if it is after hours) to inform us.
- * Prepare now! Be sure you have telephone numbers handy of contractors you can call for snow removal in the event of heavy snow fall.
- * For residents who have flat carport/patio awnings: heavy snow can cause these awnings to collapse as we have found in the past. Be sure to have the snow removed promptly to avoid the awnings coming down.

DIY Craft Workshop

My name is Beverly Strieter (park resident) and I would like to help pass the cold winter months ahead of us.

Join me on Tuesday, January 5th @ 1:00 at the social hall. We'll start with a scarf so bring a skein of yarn and a size "H" crochet hook.

Crafts will be taught at a "beginner" level. If you have already mastered the art of crochet and have a question or problem, I will be glad to help any way I can.

I can be reached at 216-287-0636.

See you there!

AARP

We need a volunteer to set up appointments for taxes.

If interested...

Please call

Pat: (440) 235-6080

Columbia Park News

Post Office on Wheels

December 17th
January 21st
9:30 - 10:00
Social Hall



Fairview Hospital Nurses

December 2nd	January 6th
10-Noon	10-Noon
Blood Sugar	Blood
2 Hour Fast	Pressure
	Screenings

Dr. James Schneider D.D.S.

General Dentist
Dentures ~ Partial
Lab on premises.
20% discount for
Columbia Park residents.

24-Hour Notice
necessary for
cancellations.
8660 Columbia Road
235-9590



Bob's Budget Painting



Interior
Exterior
Powerwashing
Free Estimates
Park References
Call
Bob
440-225-9535

Tom's Connections

- * Gift Items
- * Watkins
- * Fuller Brush
- * Boxed Greeting Cards

Call Tom Delawder
440-427-1106
Free Delivery
www.tomsconnections.com



AVON Rep.

Call Marge:
235-6945

Housekeeping...
Errands...
Free Estimates
Reasonable
Call Vicki
216-440-0653
Park Resident

RANDE R. REINHARD

Certified Public
Accountant
Income Tax Prep.
in your home!
440-918-8101
440-257-4101



Belltone

December 14th
January 11th
10 ~ Noon
Social Hall

Mary Kay Cosmetics

Gifts Galore!!!
Freebies with purchase

Call Louise 427-9650

Precision Hearing Solutions Audiology & Hearing

Social Hall
December 28th
January 25th
10:00 ~ Noon
Free hearing screenings,
Otoscope inspections and
cleaning of any hearing aid.

Social Hall Activities

<p>Cards Mondays 6 ~ 10 Jane ~235-0339</p>	<p>Bible Study Tuesdays 10 ~ Noon Doris ~ 235-4723</p>	<p>Crafts Wednesdays 1 ~ 3 Kitty ~ 235-3356</p>
<p>Exercise Thursdays 10 ~ Noon Instructor wanted to take over the exercise class.</p>	<p>Mah-Jongg Fridays 10 ~ 2 Pat ~ 427-1125</p>	<p>Fairview Nurses 1st Wednesday 10 ~ Noon</p>
<p>Garden Club 1st Wednesday 6:30p.m. Marion ~ 235-8641</p>	<p>Savvy Singles 2nd Wednesday 6:00p.m.</p>	<p>Bocci Ball Seasonal Millie ~ 235-5541</p>
<p>Golf Seasonal Lou ~ 235-2849</p>	<p>Horseshoes Seasonal</p>	<p>Shuffleboard Seasonal Judy ~ 427-1275</p>

"Twas the Night Before Christmas"

Come, join the children of the Early Childhood Center

at

7105 Fitch Road

for a reading of

"The Night Before Christmas"

with Santa and Mrs. Claus

December 15th at 9:30a.m. or 1:00 pm.

Sponsored by: Columbia Park Management

