

THE ATHENS VILLAGE VOICE



Driving tips to be given at 2nd Brown Bag



"Mature Driver Issues" will be the subject of the officer from the Athens Post of the State Highway Patrol when he meets with us at our December Brown Bag in the ACVNA Conference Room on Dec. 9. He will talk about defensive driving, winter driving, and how to tell when it's time to give up one's license or encourage a friend to do so. He will also answer questions and share real examples senior drivers may encounter.

Grants Committee will meet

The Grants Committee, chaired by Norm Cohn, will meet at the ACVNA Conference Room at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Milena Miller, development director of ACVNA, will meet with the committee, which will apply for grants to fund special projects, to assist people who would like to join the Village but find the annual

dues a burden, and to explore funding possibilities for other proposals.

Other members of the Grants Committee are Sue Foster, Lyle McGeogh, and Kathy Riestenberg.



Membership is 65 and growing

Additional people joining the Village have raised the membership to 65, and new applications are coming in.

If you have new people to suggest, send Patty Mercer the names so she can send them info.

I.D. cards to be distributed at December meeting

I.D. cards for all members will be ready for distribution at the Dec. 9 Brown Bag, according to Director Patty Mercer. They are the size of a business card, laminated, with contact information on the back. Cards will be mailed to those unable to attend.

Mercer will also share findings from her recent surveys when we meet on Dec. 9 so we can become better acquainted.

The Village handyman, Lane Hoisington, has done six free home inspections and is available for more—594-8226, ext. 406.

Calendar

Tu, Dec. 8, 10:30 a.m.
Grants Committee
ACVNA Conf. Room

We, Dec. 9, 12 noon,
Members' Brown Bag
ACVNA Conf. Room

Tu, Dec. 15, 10 a.m.
Board Meeting
ACVNA Conf. Room

We, Jan. 13, 12 noon
Members' Brown Bag
ACVNA Conf. Room

**The Athens
Village Voice**

is sent to you every month to catch you up on the who, what, when, where, why, and how of our Village. Your feedback is very welcome.

Dru Riley Evarts,
editor. 592-1231,
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For assistance, call

Patty Mercer, director, at ACVNA, 30 Herrold St., Athens, OH 45701, 594-8226, ext. 406. (If no answer there, dial 0 and speak with operator for assistance.) e-mail: pmercer@acvna.org. After hours (4:30 p.m. to 8 a.m.), call the answering service at 594-6259 or (if away from Athens) 1-800-837-1112. Web site: <http://theathensvillage.org> (use no spaces.)

Board of Directors

Ellsworth Holden
Ted Foster
Sue Foster
Margaret (Peg) Cohn
Gerald Mollica
Mark Snider
Kathleen Riestenberg

Fire Inspections

Athens Fire Department's free fire inspections are for city dwellers only. If you qualify and are interested, call 592-3301.

Attorney shares '10 traps' tips with D.C. group

Attorney George Meng tipped off the Capitol Hill Village to 10 traps people should avoid when planning their estates. Former *Washington Post* finance writer and Capitol Hill member Al Crenshaw said that these are worthwhile warnings to help in estate planning, the goal of which is to be sure your money goes to those you choose to receive it. (The tips are put positively here rather than as the "traps" Meng used.)

- 1) Have your will witnessed by one or two persons who will be available to testify as to its validity.
- 2) Name just one executor, not two or more, who could disagree and cost extra time handling the estate.
- 3) An ordinary will usually suffices, so you probably don't need a trust. Ask your attorney about this.
- 4) Don't just leave everything

jointly to spouse and kids. Any one of them could empty the bank account or be sued or otherwise liable, which would do that also.

- 5) If a relative has done something bad, don't presume he or she won't get anything. Unless you exclude that person specifically, he or she could turn up with a claim.
- 6) If you want anyone else excluded, say so specifically. Don't just leave him \$1, or the person could turn up to try to claim more.
- 7) Think again if you are considering "being fair" to a family member who is a complete foul-up. Be realistic. It could be money lost.
- 8) Use percentages, not specific money amounts.
- 9) Don't put off preparing or reviewing your will.
- 10) **DO have a will. Get it done.**

Short notes, opportunities

(If you want a note here next month, send it to Evarts by 1-3-10. See masthead. Include your contact info.)

- Need help with snow removal or want to give help? Contact Patty Mercer. (See masthead.)
- Want to establish or join a neighborhood or interest group? Norm Cohn, 592-4074 or norm4075@gmail.com.
- Want to join a Scrabble group? Dru Riley Evarts will supply place and equipment. Rules to be set by group. May play other board games, too.

**Volunteers
Needed!**

To prepare basic federal & state electronic tax returns
Greet customers at our front desk
Screen callers

**To volunteer, call Amy Smith
at Athens County Job & Family Services:
797-2523 or 1-800-762-3775**

Open January - April, 2010 with day, evening and weekend hours available



An IRS Certified, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Center

One Villager appreciates the help of another

Elise Sanford thanks Ted Foster for volunteering to help her install and connect her new DVD-VCR combo. She says he was knowledgeable and patient — and got the deed done. A true Villager, she says.