



# THE ATHENS VILLAGE VOICE

## CPA panel will speak on income tax on Feb. 10

Don Cooley, partner in Cotner & Cooley, CPA; Pat Smith, president/owner of Financial Accounting & Advisory Services; and Ted Lynch, professor of accounting at Hocking College, will make up the trio of CPAs who will speak to Village members on Wednesday, Feb. 10, as we consider income taxes for senior citizens.

We will gather for the Brown Bag Lunch at 12 noon in the ACVNA Conference Room, and the panel will begin with its presentation at 12:30. The three participants will welcome your questions.



## Expect a call about face-to-face interviews for Village study

Graduate student Melissa Huist began calling Village members during the last week of January and will continue calling through the first week of February. Please talk with her.

Melissa will be making appointments for face-to-face interviews with you by graduate and undergraduate members of Associate Professor Margaret Manoogian's Family Ties and Aging class. There is no requirement for anyone to participate in this study, but the information rendered will help in the creation of programming for our group as well as the coordination of volunteer efforts among members.

Data resulting from these interviews will be analyzed, then used by Village members and staff for our future benefit. This project will be important to all of us as our Village develops.

## Census seeks information, urges caution

Educating the public about the 2010 census is the goal of the U.S. Census Bureau, which visited Athens and other nearby towns in January to let people know the importance of filling out the forms.

You can read about the main tips given during these visits by going to the Jan. 20 *Messenger*.

### Here are some tips:

Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information. The official Census worker does not ask for them.

You need not answer anything about your financial situation.

Do not respond to census questions on e-mail. The Census Bureau does not contact you in that way. Do not click on attachments to such e-mail inquiries.

## Calendar

**All of February.** Face-to-face member interviews. You will be called for appointment.

**Th, Feb. 4, 1:30-3p.m.** Opera discussion. 52 Charles St.

**We, Feb. 10, 12 noon.** Members' Brown Bag, ACVNA Conf. Room. (See p. 1 story)

**Th, Feb. 11, 1:30p.m.** Coffee hour to brainstorm a logo/slogan for the Village, ACVNA Conf. Room. (See story on p. 4.)

**Tu, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.** Board meeting, ACVNA Conf. Room.

**Th, Feb. 18, 1:30 p.m.** Coffee on decluttering, ACVNA Conf. Room. (See note on p. 4.)

**Fr, Feb. 26, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.** Strategic planning retreat for all members. O'Bleness meeting room. (See story on p. 3.)

**Sa, Feb. 27, 10 a.m.-noon.** Board and PRAC follow-up on Friday's retreat.



**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, [evarts@ohio.edu](mailto:evarts@ohio.edu)

**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](mailto: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.

**Board of Directors**

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

*Please tell a friend about the Village. You will enrich that person's life.*

**Calling in a nuisance trapper for help**

Have you ever had a bird get into your house or a snake or skunk plant itself on your front stoop and refuse you admission to your pad?

Experts call these "nuisances," and here is how Arline McCarthy found they are handled.

As she sat on the deck of her Phillips Lane home one early January day, Arline enjoyed the cavorting of two red squirrels, obviously in love. She followed their antics for several more days. Then suddenly there was just one squirrel. She wondered where the other had gone.

The next day, as she sat in her living room, she heard a rustling from her wood stove. At first she thought a bird had probably gotten in there, so she hated to open the door in case it would fly out and make a complete mess. She waited for almost a week, hearing movement sometimes and silence sometimes. Finally, when she dared to peek inside, she saw two beady eyes staring out at her. How did the squirrel get in there through a chimney that was capped and had several acute turns?

Arline called the Ohio Natural Resources Office, Wildlife Division (589-9930), which referred her to Tim Warga, a nuisance trapper (592-3844). Tim went to her house, opened the wood stove, confirmed there was indeed a squirrel in there, and said he finds them very difficult to deal with. He asked Arline to clear a path to the front door, then put on the thickest pair of gloves known to man, grabbed the interloper, ran to the open door, and threw the squirrel into a snow bank.

Unfortunately, the squirrel did not survive, so its mate is now alone in the world.



*Want Ads:*

**Old music boxes** — Joe Berman is looking for old music boxes, preferably in working condition. 593-6213.

**Steamer trunks** — Dru Riley Evarts is offering 3 flat-top steamer trunks, not beautiful enough for storing quilts or hope chest items, but perfect for storing stuff in garage or barn. Free. 592-1231.

**Rowing machine** — Natsu Taylor has a Concept 2 Rowing Ergometer to give away. 592-3783.

**Fire escape ladder** — Chain-link ladder, for a casement or double-hung window, 15' long, in box 15" x 19". Never used. Can be stored under bed. Free to a good home! (We're decluttering). Peg and Norm Cohn. [cohn@ohio.edu](mailto:cohn@ohio.edu) (592-4074).

**A testimonial about plumbing**

"This is a note of thanks to Javon Thompson of Thompson Plumbing for his prompt response to our leaking drain on a cold weekend. His name and reputation came to our attention through the good offices of Patty Mercer and Lane Hoisington. We can attest to Javon's excellent and timely service and his fair charges."

**Lyle and Florence McGeoch**



## Lane's Corner

(a monthly list of our handyman's tips)

February is the time of year for power outages. If you have a generator for backup, make sure you keep it a safe distance from the windows of the house because of the exhaust fumes.



Always let it cool before you refill

the gas and never try to refill it while it's running.

If you don't have a generator during a power outage, you can take things from your refrigerator and put them in a cooler or outside. If the weather is cold enough (preferably 32 degrees or lower), you can store freezer items in the trunk of your car parked outside. Do not store in the main part of the car because the sun coming through the glass will defrost the food.

Keep your eye on your car's tires during cold weather. Their rubber can harden and cause air loss. If you have aluminum wheels, check your tires often for loss of air in cold weather.

## Entire Village is invited to Feb. 26 planning retreat

The Athens Village is still a baby as organizations go — trying to learn and make wise decisions as we proceed.

Having a strategic plan as a guide to helpful and effective "Villagedom" has been a goal of the original planners and the present Board since the inception of the Athens Village idea more than a year ago.

Now that we are under way, it is time to gather together for a sufficient amount of time to do the job — set a few goals and determine ways of reaching them.

Ed Penson, who has had extensive experience with strategic planning, is heading this effort. In his preliminary meetings with the Board, he warned against setting too many goals. Instead, he said, set reasonable achievable ones and make definite plans to reach them.

Ed has met twice with the Board, which is now ready to have the planning meeting (9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 26) at the O'Bleness meeting

room. All Village members are welcome at the meeting. If you can't come for the whole day, come for any part of it you can make so your ideas can be considered.

After the daylong retreat, the Board (see list on masthead) will meet the following day to summarize and begin the implementation. They will be assisted by the Planning and Resource Advisory Council (PRAC), made up of Anne Braxton, Max Evans, Dru Riley Evarts, Jacki Legg, Warren Reininga, Gladys Bailin Stern, and George Weckman.

The Board and PRAC group will be meeting through the rest of the winter and spring to bring the plans to fruition in order to reach the agreed-upon goals.

You will be getting an e-mail notice of the Feb. 26 meeting. Please respond to it so Patty Mercer will know how much seating and supplies will be needed. Lunch will be available in the hospital's lunch room. And please do attend. Your ideas are important.

## Legal concerns of seniors is topic of March Brown Bag

Legal issues of older people (wills, power of attorney, etc.) will be the subject of attorney and Village Board member Gerald Mollica when he speaks at the Brown Bag lunch on March 10. He would appreciate questions in advance.

Those can be sent to Patty Mercer (see masthead), preferably to her e-mail address. By having questions in writing, he can center his opening remarks on what legal concerns our members have, then go on to new questions from the audience.



**Athens Village Membership List 2010**

- |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Adams, Anne M. (Nancy)                | James, Anita                   |
| Atkins, Charles G. (Chuck)            | Johnson, Marcia R.             |
| Baum, Edward                          | Kaneshige, Harry M. & Susan L. |
| Beale, William & Carol                | Larsen, Elizabeth H. (Betty)   |
| Berman, Joseph & Lynda                | Light, Patricia P. (Pat)       |
| Braxton, Anne                         | Love, Cynthia Wallace          |
| Brown, Catherine L.                   | McClanahan, Anne               |
| Cohn, Norman & Margaret (Norm & Peg)  | McGeoch, Lyle A. & Florence    |
| Conover, James & Helen (Jim & Lennie) | McWilliams, Alvi               |
| Crook, Sue                            | Mitchell, John & Lillian       |
| Dakin, Robert F. & Elizabeth A.       | Murphree, Carolyn T.           |
| Dean, Phyllis D.                      | Penson, Edward M & Georgann    |
| Doxsee, Gifford B.                    | Powell, Mary Lee               |
| Drevenstedt, Jean                     | Prisley, Joanne Dove           |
| Edgar, Richard E. & Eleanor I.        | Reininga, Warren               |
| Evans, Max W. & Kathleen (Kathy)      | Sanford, Elise Mitchell        |
| Evarts, Dru Riley                     | Stern, Gladys Bailin           |
| Flournoy, Mary Anne                   | Stone, Marjorie (Marj)         |
| Foster, Ted & Marilyn Sue (Sue)       | Stout, Don & Dawn              |
| Fox, Ann                              | Taylor, Natsu O.               |
| Gilfert, James C. & Sara I.           | Weckman, George A.             |
| Grean, Patricia (Pat)                 | Wells, Arvin R. & Jeanne L.    |
| Holden, Ellsworth & Ann F.            | Wistendahl, Jean D.            |
| Howell, Suzanne                       | Woolley, Arthur P.             |
| Hummon, William D. & Margaret (Meg)   |                                |

**Short Notes**

**Opera Discussion** — The group will meet at Joe & Lynda Berman's house 1:30-3 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 4. Each person should bring a recorded copy of a favorite opera. Joe will report on Joan Sutherland's *The Art of the Prima Donna*. Norm Cohn will present famous arias sung by four or five different singers.



**Vetting** — Marj Stone and Gifford Doxsee have volunteered to assist with vetting of service providers suggested by Village members.



**Decluttering** — The coffee hour on decluttering met on Jan. 7, but so did quite a few snowflakes in the sky. They met again on Jan. 28 to determine what they know and what they need to know. On Feb. 8 they will go into the action of decluttering. Join in! and declutter your life.

**Got a creative yen? Exercise it at the Feb. 11 Coffee Hour**

A logo and a slogan for the Village's website is the goal of a "creative" brainstorming coffee hour to be held in the ACVNA Conference Room at 10 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 11. Any and all ideas are welcome, so please come and have a good time while you exchange ideas and exercise your creativity.



This coffee is being hosted by the Ad Hoc Website Committee, made up of Patty Mercer, director of the Village; Kathy White, executive assistant at ACVNA; and Cynthia Love and Georgann Penson, Village members. They met on Jan. 22 with Diana Schwerha, assistant professor of industrial and systems engineering, and student volunteers to discuss and plan our website.

Now it is your chance to help come up with a slogan, as well as a logo that would not only express that slogan but represent the Village and bring the Village's purposes and philosophy to mind when people see it. Come, or if you can't, e-mail your idea and/or design to Patty Mercer.