

Colonial Hills Courier

NOVEMBER 2025 - A PUBLICATION OF THE COLONIAL HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION (CHCA)

Greetings Neighbors and Ho Ho Ho!!

What a gorgeous fall we have had!! The crimson and gold leaves that gleam in the sunlight, before falling gracefully to earth; the crisp mornings, and the smell of wood burning fires on a walk at dusk. I have heard that snow is in our forecast, which is hard to believe, as I see folks mowing their lawns and raking those leaves, donned in t-shirts and shorts!

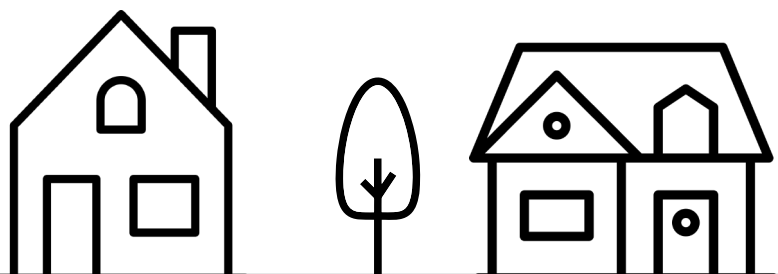
Once again we lucked out with great weather for our Trick or Treaters—what a fun evening it was, whether you were running from house to house in an adorable costume, or you were serving as a remote “home base” while safeguarding a larger “stash” for your princess/goblin, or whether you were sitting on your porch, doling out the treats. This is such a wonderful neighborhood to enjoy the Halloween festivities!

I want to take a moment to give a huge shout out to Cynthia MacKenzie and Cymack Real Estate for providing an entire field of pumpkins, the trick or treat bags for all the little ghosts and goblins, and a fantastic display for some great photo ops at the Halloween Party and Pumpkin Patch. Thanks also to our wonderful volunteers who passed out candy, or helped with games and crafts—the success of our events starts with our volunteers, and we are very thankful for your support. This year’s Halloween event could not have been possible without our Event Chair, Brittany, who knocked it out of the Pumpkin Patch this year!! Thank you so much, Brittany! I also want to recognize our Trustees Lis and Mary Ann, as well as CHCA Webmaster Will who volunteered throughout the afternoon. Lastly, a special thanks goes to our resident Ron, who was responsible for arranging for the Worthington Fire Department to bring its full Battalion to Selby Park that afternoon. Thank you so much, Ron!!

I also want to thank everyone who left canned goods and other items on their porch or dropped off items at the Selby Park Shelter House on the morning of November 8th for the Colonial Hills Food Drive. The event, organized by our friend and neighbor Erin in partnership with Scout Pack 331 made the rounds to over 800 homes that morning, to collect items for St. Michael’s Food Pantry and the Worthington Resource Pantry. Thank you so much, Erin and Pack 331!!

Finally, I want to offer a special thank you to our Courier Warriors, CHCA VP Chris, and the one and only Kate Burgener (Kateburgener.com, Kate Burgener Creative). Chris and Kate, your combined talents and creativity in putting these Couriers together is amazing! Finally, I wish everyone a special and memorable holiday season- thanks for a fantastic 2025, and best wishes for a wonderful 2026!

Warmest regards,
Leslie Caruso



Colonial Hills

~ The Friendly Community ~

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BECOME A MEMBER TODAY!

Not a member of the CHCA? You can join for \$15/ family or \$5/single or senior. Mail checks made payable to CHCA to address above or pay online at colonialhills.us.

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

The Courier is published by the Colonial Hills Civic Association and distributed to approximately 800 homes.

Residents are encouraged to contribute articles for publication.

Please submit questions, ideas, content and/or updates by email to christopher.rule@gmail.com or by mail, address above.

FOOD DRIVE ROUNDUP



Thank you Colonial Hills and to the Boy Scouts!! Scouts collected our most food EVER at 2,224 lbs!! They joined a LINE of cars waiting to donate to the food pantry which is experiencing its highest demand ever as well. So grateful for all who helped love their neighbors practically!

SCHOLARSHIP

You know what is on the top of every parent's Holiday wish list and should be at the top of every high schooler's list? A scholarship from the Colonial Hills Civic Association. And you know what? This is one list that you don't have to worry about your Elf on the Shelf watching over you to make sure you behaved to get it (although if you want, we could maybe manufacture some CHCA President on the Shelf gear if you need added motivation in exchange for a small increase in membership donations).

What do you need to do for the Scholarship. **VOLUNTEER!** Now I know all caps is something your grandma does when she texts you and signifies yelling. She may not mean to. I do. There are so many opportunities coming up to get your volunteer requirements, please take advantage of them.

The completed application **MUST** be received by April 4, 2026 and you can find the application on colonialhills.us. You can deliver your application either in person or to be received via the CHCA e-mail address (CHCA.worthington@gmail.com). Minimum requirements are:

- 1) Attend a Colonial Hills Civic Association meeting **OR** Interview a CHCA Officer. **AND**
- 2) Submit one (1) letter of recommendation from an adult who knows you well and has worked with you in a relevant capacity. **AND**
- 3) Write a 2-page (double spaced) essay about the Colonial Hills neighborhood that answers the questions – Why do you love living here? What role has your community played in your development? **AND**
- 4) Volunteer at two (2) Civic Association events **OR** Complete a (Civic Association pre-approved) neighborhood project.

LUMINARY KITS ASSEMBLY



Please sign up, using our SignUpGenius, for Luminary Kits Assembly, Saturday, December 6, starting at 10:00 AM, via the link in our website blogpost or FB posts - or you can type the link into your browser: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C4EABA629A5FF2-60136405-2025#/> .

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 6,
SELBY PARK
SHELTER HOUSE

LIGHT YOUR
LUMINARIES
ON SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 14

We hope to be completed with our assembly tasks by around 11:00 AM, the same as last year, when 29 adult and 13 youth volunteers, completed assembly for 902 kits for our 826 homes in Colonial Hills at 10:50 AM, one of the fastest times on record. Volunteers for any task can include any youth middle-school age or older, and this event is an excellent opportunity for high school seniors to add one missing CHCA event credit for their scholarship application in 2025 before their schedule fills up.

Please sign up for one of these positions:

- Inside the shelter house component assembly (up to 2 volunteers per each of the 8 workstations)
- Outside the shelter house component assembly (up to 9 volunteers, plus the Event Chair)
- Bundling supervisor (1 volunteer)
- Bundling concierge (1 volunteer)
- Pea gravel shovelers (up to 8 volunteers), who are requested to bring their own standard-size, pointed-tip garden shovel. There will be teams of two people at each of the 4 shoveling station chairs. Each shoveling team can decide how long each member will shovel, while the other team member holds open the grocery bags (team members could switch roles halfway through)
- Take down / clean up (1 volunteer)

The same as the previous three years, signing up via SignUpGenius for a given position and arriving about 5 to 10 minutes before 10:00 AM, will reserve this position for you. After all reserved positions have been filled, we will assign those volunteers who didn't sign up beforehand, to fill any remaining inside and outside positions -- and please note that we very much appreciate all volunteers, whether previously signed up or not, and we have always been able to find a position for everyone.

Dunkin' donuts, coffee and hot chocolate will be served, and plenty of hand sanitizer will be provided inside the shelter house.

Regarding the Trustees picking up their bundles of kits for their Districts: **We are asking the Trustees to start coming over no earlier than 11:30 AM on Saturday morning** to pick up their bundles, so as not to increase the number of people present in the shelter house area during the kit assembly timeframe, which is expected to be from 10:00 AM to about 10:45 to 11:00 AM, especially if it is not raining too hard that day.

Light Your Luminaries! **Our luminary display evening will be Sunday, December 14, starting at 7:00 PM** per the instructions which will be enclosed in each resident's luminary kit.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, or if you encounter any difficulty using our event's SignUpGenius.

Thank you,
Will Pearce, Luminaries Event Chair
365 S. Selby Blvd
614-888-8236
willpearce@columbus.rr.com



HOLIDAY PARTY

Families of Colonial Hills! Please read! Mark your calendars for the best (and only) neighborhood Winter Holiday Party! Be there Sunday December 14th from 3-5pm at the Selby shelter house for fun, games, cookie decorating, and prizes with a side of Santa tucked in his holiday room for those who want to meet with him to talk about their wish lists. In this digital age, a little face to face communication with the Big Man might just help get the job done. We hope to mingle and be merry with our neighborhood families so see you there! Watch Facebook for Help Wanted posts for teens and adult helpers!

**SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 14,
3-5PM,
SELBY PARK
SHELTER HOUSE**

HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST

JUDGING TAKES PLACE ON DECEMBER 16

Did you miss out on the Halloween Decorating contest? Well, to quote the legendary Clark Griswold, "Nobody's walking out on this fun, old-fashioned family Christmas. No, no. We're all in this together. This is a full-blown, four-alarm holiday emergency here." Maybe you don't celebrate Christmas but tis the season for more lights and holiday cheer. Whatever that holiday may be for you, we are gonna light luminaries and walk around the neighborhood and enjoy living in a magical neighborhood.

So hit up the thrift stores, Beechwold or Schreiner Ace Hardware (or if you must, Amazon, Home Depot or Lowes etc) and decorate your home to spread cheer. Bonus points if your decorations are somehow interactive. Judging will be the evening of December 16 but we encourage you to have your decorations up by December 14, the Luminary Night. We all hope to be able to step back and say, "It's a beat, Clark."

HALLOWEEN DECORATING CONTEST AND PARTY WRAP-UP

The CHCA wants to thank our Secret Judges for what must have been a really difficult task; trying to select the 2025 winners of the Annual Neighborhood Halloween Decorating Contest. Folks went all out to show their Halloween spirit this year, and there was no shortage of amazing decorations. The Winners of the contest are:

FRIENDLIEST



322 Loveman

SPOOKIEST



363 Loveman

MOST CREATIVE



215 E. Selby

BEST EFFECTS



5778 Hartford

BEST ACTIVITY



519 N. Selby

And Honorable Mentions go to the following in no particular order:

- 332 Colonial, Mowed over Skeletons
- 291 E Selby, March of the Skeleton Army
- 417 Kenbrook, Wizard of Oz is Alive and Well in Colonial Hills
- 308 Loveman, Ghostly Glowing Ghosts
- 287 Loveman, Creepy Twins and Murder Icons
- 176 Loveman, Glowing abdomen Arachnids
- 524 Colonial, Monster House
- 525 Colonial, Arachnid Infestation
- 368 Park, Skeletal Block Party
- 492 Kenbrook, Disco Daft Punkins



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Congratulations to everyone who created Halloween-scapes that were awe -inspiring and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone in Colonial Hills!!

Let's all give a Hip Hip Hooray to Event Chair Brittany Smith, who made the 2025 Halloween Party the Best Ever! Brittany gathered all of the candy for the 125-150 trick-or treaters, and selected some amazing crafts for kids of all ages~~ even big kids enjoyed making the Bat and Witch Cauldron Shaker Ornaments and the Halloween Pendant Necklaces, not to mention the Fuzzy Doorknob Hangers, Ghost Kid Magnets and Halloween Spider Glasses. In addition to crafts, kids tried their hands at rolling the Giant Dice, Halloween Plinko and the Spooky Ball Toss, where everyone was a winner!! Thanks to our CHCA VP/Events Alan Miroslaw who posted and publicized this event, we were able to staff not only the craft table and games but also had 9 candy stations with treats!! I want to thank each and every volunteer who participated in making this Halloween Party a success ~~ this would not have been possible without you!!! And speaking of Volunteers, we are looking for a Co-Chair for the Halloween Party for 2026 ~~ please consider throwing your "broom" into the ring for this wonderful volunteer opportunity.

Finally, please join me in giving a HUGE thank you to Cynthia MacKenzie and CYMACK Real Estate for providing 150 pumpkins to create Colonial Hills' very own Great Pumpkin Patch!! Not only did Cynthia transform Selby Park into Pumpkin-Ville, but she provided all those fantastic Trick or Treat Bags, along with a spot for photo ops, complete with hay bales and gorgeous mums.

Halloween 2025 is In the Books!! Thank you, Colonial Hills, for bringing your trick or treaters and joining in the fun of this annual event!!



THANK YOU KATE

Just this week, we got the following feedback. "Your Courier is so professionally done, you all do a wonderful job on that." We have a secret. The reason it looks amazing is Kate Burgener (kateburgener.com), our amazing Newsletter Designer and all around All-Star. Truly, we do not have the skills to pull this off. If we were designing the Newsletter, it would look like a Powerpoint presentation designed by a 6th grader (no shade on talented 6th graders).

Kate, we could not do this thing without you. Your generosity knows no bounds when it comes to making this look much more professional than we are. We would offer to double your fee but since you graciously give your talents in support of this effort, it will have to suffice to know that our appreciation is as numerous as the deer living in the neighborhood. Which means a lot.

And now, dear neighbors, let me write some public mail to you as well. Do you have newsletters you run for sports teams or school or work? Do you want interactive tools to make your business more actionable for your audience. Kate can help design PDF's that work for you, whether you run courses or coach or are a service provider. Head on over to her website and see for yourself. And if not, at least drop her a note to say thanks for serving Colonial Hills at kate@kateburgener.com.



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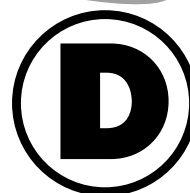
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Etta Kilzer-Whisman, 614-749-9513
Regan Jones, 614-318-9182
Zoe Lawhead, 614-361-3832
Lily Millwater, 614-844-3836 (cell) or 614-396-6144⁺
Julia Orloff, 614-885-4963⁺
Alaina and Charlie,
 thewatchfuleyebabysitting@gmail.com^{+(BB)}
Norah Steidle, 614-668-6793; Parent helper for
 kids ages 2-4

⁺ = Red Cross certified

^{*} = Girl Scout certified

(SS) = Safesitter certified

(BB) = Better Babysitters class

*This list also appears on the CHCA website; to be
 added or removed, email christopher.rule@gmail.com*

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Ruth Glass, glassruth@icloud.com; pet sitter/
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Noah Graff, 614.329.6898; pet sitter/dog walker
Matthew Harrison, 614-888-6360; house/pet
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Gavin Steidle, 614-668-6793; pet sitter (dogs &
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