# Lamplighter 1999



Vol. 14 No. 2 April 2020

# **Sheltering in Salem:** What does the Stay-at-Home Order Mean?

Ohio has declared a state lockdown and has told all residents they must stay at home to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. But Ohio residents are still allowed to go outside and socialize with members within their household. What, then, does the stay at home order mean?

It means people have to stop socializing with people outside of their household, as all public and private

gatherings of people (from different households) are banned and any gathering made up of 10 or more people is prohibited. However, members of the same household are allowed to gather, so families *who live in the same house* may continue socializing.

You may leave your home for health and safety reasons—for example, if you're seeking emergency health care, to get medication or visiting a health care professional—on behalf of

yourself or somebody in your household who cannot or should not leave the home.

You may also leave your home to go walking, running, hiking and cycling, but you must stay six feet away from other people.

You are allowed to leave home to purchase essential items, such as groceries, or household items like cleaning

supplies. People are also allowed to leave to get items they need to be able to work from home and automobile parts.

Buying groceries is essential but how often should you go to the store? Buy more to avoid frequent trips to the store. There's no need to take every can or package of an item off the shelf, but, if you can afford to, buy enough food to last two to three weeks. Buy and enjoy fresh foods now and stock

up on dried spices and fruits, eggs, hard cheeses, shelf-stable cans and packaged goods, as well as frozen foods. This may mean you won't have the freedom to satisfy every craving, but you'll have the sustenance you need.

The second part of the order is that, when using shared or outside space, everyone must stay six feet away from each other, except for—again—members of the same household. In addition, people are

encouraged to wear cloth masks in public.

Some may find these restrictions difficult or excessive. Others may not be abiding by them simply because they don't understand them. The fact is, whether or not we like or believe in the stay-at-home order, the sooner and closer we abide by it, the sooner it will be lifted for all of us. *Excerpts from* Newsweek *article by Seren Morris* 



# **Seeking Salem Pioneers**

by Jake Wheeler, Membership Chair

As I've said many times, I think our neighborhood is a hidden gem in the city of Columbus. I also think many of our residents are hidden gems themselves.

Most of the houses in our neighborhood were built in the 1960's and some of our current residents are actually original occupants. If you or someone you know moved to Salem when the neighborhood was first developed, we would love to hear from you. It would be great to hear what Salem was like sixty years ago. Even if you came here as a

child with your family when the neighborhood was just getting started, your input would be greatly appreciated.

With enough participation, I would like to write an article or series of articles reflecting on the beginnings of our neighborhood. If Salem has been your lifelong home, I would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you inperson or via telephone about your experiences. You may contact me at 330-265-5228 or jakewheeler.780@gmail.com.

# **Salem Civic Association Meetings**

The April 28 meeting of the Salem Civic Association has been cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 26, pending the lifting of the lockdown. Meetings are held at Salem Baptist Church on Sinclair Road at 7:00 p.m. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend!

# Salem Civic Association Meeting Minutes: February 25, 2020

by Angela VanHulle, SCA Secretary

Motion made to accept January, 2020 minutes. Passed.

#### Columbus Police Liaison - Scott Clinger

Officer Clinger reported the issues with apartments at 887 E. Dublin Granville Road are not crime issues but are code and squatter issues. He encouraged residents to call if they see any crime/code issue in the neighborhood.

Area hotel issues, including Innwood Suites and Extended Stay America, are actively being processed and have come before the judge. Owners of these properties must comply with CPD direction of where lights and cameras must be placed. CPD is keeping a close eye on these types of properties.

# City of Columbus Community Liaison - Kyle Kirker (environmental court) Property at 5661 Crawford Drive will soon be filed on for non-compliance.

The property at 5428 North Meadows home is vacant; Kyle will follow up.

Walking paths from Strimple to Minerva, Norcross to Salem Elementary and Crawford to Sinclair are the responsibility of Columbus Schools. These issues have been reported to them.

Residents complained about the lot at 961 E. Dublin Granville behind the Dollar Store being full of trash, tires, mattresses, and the parking lot has super deep potholes. Kyle is going to work with code enforcement to get it cleaned up.

# Treasurer's Report - Pat Hammel (acting treasurer)

Year-to-Date Income:

Income - \$673.00 Expenses - \$40.26 Net Income - \$632.74 Checking account balance - \$5,126.17 Remaining budget obligations - \$4549.74 Annual Cash Reserve - \$2,335.00 Cash Available - (\$1,768.57) Motion made to accept Treasurer's report. Passed.

#### **NCC UPDATE - Pat Hammel**

Karl Road library construction begins March, completed July 2021 - will double current size (2 stories). Existing library will remain open during construction.

Free Immigration Law Clinic, March 11, 11 a.m.-7 p.m., The Mix Charcoal Chicken Restaurant, 4362 Karl Road - 10% of food sales donated to Elevate Northland.

Columbus Parks and Recreation Urban Forestry Master Plan Open House meeting to get input on preserving, increasing and maintaining the city's tree canopy, March 4th, 6-8 p.m., Wyandot Lodge, 3228 Indian Village Rd.

NCC Development Meeting Wednesday, February 26 (nothing from neighborhood).

# **Communications - Charlene Combs** (acting)

Lamplighter articles due April 13 (firm). Delivery the week of April 24. Articles needed and need to be turned in on time.

Inkwell gives \$50 off every printing. Web Page - memberships have been processed online. They would like items and pictures to post.

**Membership - Jake Wheeler** Residential members YTD - 35 + 12 received tonight.

Business members YTD - 26 Business Membership income has already met budgeted amount of \$1.600.

# **Safety Committee - Jeff Combs**Reported neighborhood has been quiet.

He reminded residents to turn on porch lights, lock cars, and call in any crime issues to CPD.

Police can respond to illegal activity at vacant Walgreens parking lot. Please call 645-4545.

The importance of calling crime issues is that it affects the amount of police and cruisers allocated to Salem when Columbus Public Safety re-draws all precinct and cruiser lines.

**Social Committee - Need chairperson** *Lamplighter* delivery: Jane Cooley and sons helped deliver Sinclair.

Block Party: Stacy Smith and Jane

February Minutes con't. on page 9

#### **Salem Civic Association**

#### President

Charlene Walker Combs 614-738-0617 ccombs16@yahoo.com

Vice President

Pat Hammel phammel11@gmail.com

**Secretary** 

Angie VanHulle 614-597-0221 Angie.vanhulle@att.net Treasurer

**Communications Officer** 

#### Membership Officer

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Doug Moody dougandaud@att.net

#### Trustee

Cindy Baker 614-266-1795 cab0932@aol.com

#### Salem Lamplighter

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Design/Layout/Editor Leslie Baab lesliebaab@yahoo.com

#### Social Media

www.salemcivicassociation.org www.facebook.com/groups/





# Salem's Community Cats

by Pam Unger

In 1975, when Bill Unger and I first moved to our decaying mansion on the Columbus Near East Side, the TNR (Trap/Neuter/Return) movement hadn't yet begun to address the problem of free-roaming cats—or at least we'd never heard of it. In fact, we had no idea that free-roaming cats were an urban problem! But in the three decades we lived there, we personally solved the problem in our neighborhood by trapping (or taming!), neutering and rehoming several dozen cats. In all that time, we ended up releasing only *one* cat, who seemed unable to adjust to being in a crate even to recover from her surgery; she immediately became our Porch Cat and remained as the responsibility of the new owners when we sold our home and moved to Salem in 2007. Did I mention we brought, um, eight indoor-only cats here with us? I give you this background of my own experience with "ferals" (aka free-roaming cats with no owner) so you'll understand my delight at learning that Salem had more than one managed colony of community cats and that the Salem Civic Association

contributed to their support. Currently, Salem has two small colonies behind the Eden Springs apartments and one larger colony on North Meadows Court.

So, what is a managed colony of

community
cats,
and how
do they help a
community? TNR
programs are
controversial.
Some people
simply believe
that NO cat
should be allowed
to roam free . I am a lifelong bird watcher, and I can
tell you that many, if not most, bird watchers consider

roaming cats a menace. I do believe that some cats are simply natural hunters, no matter how well fed they are. But I also believe that their role in eliminating a dangerous rat population far outweighs their threat to a wild bird population. Salem was spared the rat problem that plagued Clintonville a few years back, and I'm sure we can thank our community cats in part for that. I regularly see dead rats in the vicinity of one of the colonies; I can only assume that the cats kill them but are too choosy to eat them! Virtually no one supports the notion that the problem of free-roaming cats can be solved by killing cats: more cats will arrive, and breed, faster than they can be killed. The estimates of the number of descendants from one unspayed female in seven years range from 98 to 420,000—in any case, too many for a neighborhood to sustain! And let's not forget, cats are *not* a native feral species: Once upon a time, that unspayed female was a pet or a descendant of a pet whose owner was irresponsible.

So, TNR, to me, is a humane solution that provides a great service to the neighborhood as well as to the cats themselves. All free-roaming cats in the vicinity of the

colony are captured and spayed or neutered plus given a rabies shot. While the cats are anesthetized, one of their ears is clipped so that they can be identified at a distance as having had surgery. Cats that are not good candidates for adoption must legally be returned to their original trapping site (per Columbus Board of Health regulations). Colony volunteers provide them shelter (small wooden structures filled with straw) and daily food and water. The Salem community cats "vote with their feet": They soon realize that volunteers will arrive at a particular spot at a particular time, and the cats hang around and wait for their food. They recognize the regular volunteers and come running when they hear or see a familiar vehicle arriving to park. Many of the cats 'speak' to the volunteers, and a few

Con't. on next page







**Did you know** Columbus tap water is perfectly safe? *By law, tap water has to meet stricter federal and local health standards than bottled water.* 

**Did you know** one tree has the same cooling effect on the environment as five air conditioners? *Plant a tree on your property and you'll also reduce your heating and cooling bills.* 

**Did you know** LED bulbs last on average twenty-five times longer and use 75% less energy than traditional bulbs? *They may cost slightly more, but the savings add up.* 

even tolerate being petted. Their life doesn't compare to that of a pampered house pet, but they're relatively safe, comfortable and well fed—and their population doesn't increase every breeding season!

Maintaining a community cat colony isn't cheap. While it is true that some folks will contribute from their own pockets to the management of the colonies (just as they'll contribute to food banks from their own pockets), I am glad that Salem Civic Association has historically taken on support for colony management (and food bank support) as a, yes, civic responsibility. Dry and canned food, traps, housing units, limited veterinary care and, of course, spaying and neutering are ongoing expenses. Veterinary practices sympathetic to the TNR cause offer reduced rates, but reduced rates are not free. According to the estimates of Rae Kirkbride, who coordinates SCA's colony cat TNR program, "I use one 16-pound bag of dry food each week between all the colonies. That's about \$15. I use two cans of wet cat food at Eden each day and three cans of wet food at NM Court on the weekend days, totaling eighteen cans of

wet food a week, at \$.54 a can, which Is \$9.72 a week (no tax included). SO, that equates to approximately \$1285.44 per year." And these figures don't include the amounts contributed by other volunteers! Once donated funds are exhausted—usually by March—Rae and Linda Strapp (who has been largely responsible for the North Meadows Court colony) have traditionally picked up the substantial remaining tab themselves. In addition, there's no way to quantify the value of volunteer time, the most precious resource of all.

If you have questions about the Salem Community Cats program or would consider volunteering, please contact Rae Kirkbride, cell phone 614-418-8917; or e-mail rk@sregroup.com. And of course, if you are not able to volunteer your time, your regular dry and/or canned cat food donations would be welcome at the SCA membership meetings. Your pledge of one bag of dried food or case of canned food would make a huge difference to Salem's community cats and the expense of caring for them.



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### Ditch the Gas Can: Upgrade to Electric Lawn Equipment this Year

by Jake Wheeler

Spring is finally here. The grass is growing and the flowers are blooming. Our trees are budding with leaves that will provide us with shade until they fall in November. For some of us, lawn care is a pleasurable hobby and for the rest of us it's just another chore. If your front yard is a perennial salad bar like mine, maybe you have mixed feelings. Whatever your feelings are about your plot of real estate, having the right tools to maintain it can make the task even more enjoyable, or at least more tolerable.

Within the last five years, brushless electric motors have improved dramatically. In the past, battery-powered lawn mowers and weed-wackers were often weak, expensive and even sometimes unreliable. Now, cordless equipment presents great quality and value to the homeowner. Battery-powered lawn mowers are powerful and effective. Electric trimmers and leaf

blowers are light and simple to operate. Electric tools are much quieter than their gasoline counterparts, so you can do your yard work as early or late as you want without feeling like you are disturbing your neighbors. Electric tools are now very reliable, so no more worrying about whether the old mower will start. Obviously, electric tools produce zero-emissions, so they are better for the environment and more enjoyable to use. Fortunately, electric tools are gaining significant market-share and are even priced comparably to gasoline equipment.

Most of us in Salem have medium-sized yards that battery-powered tools are more than capable of servicing. If your gasoline equipment is in good shape and you are happy, there is no need to replace it. However, if you are thinking about replacing an old tool or just want to upgrade, consider going electric.

#### Do Not Pour Kitchen Grease Down the Drain

Some timely tips from the City of Columbus to prevent sewer line backups as we, presumably, cook more at home:

Do not pour cooking fats, oils and grease (FOG) down any drains or toilets. FOG will clog sewer pipes, which can then cause costly sewer overflows and basement backups. When homeowners have to hire a plumber to remove built-up grease from their kitchen-to-sewer service lines, rates vary from \$200-\$400 the first hour for response, with additional charges for extra time and after-hours service calls.

A basic grease blockage service call costs the Columbus Division of Sewerage and Drainage at least \$2,000 to respond. If the blockage causes a sewer overflow, the city must pay fines for the discharge into the environment. The maintenance costs associated with the blockages are passed along to all sewer rate payers. These additional costs would be unnecessary if the problem did not exist. Clearly, the prevention of grease entering our sewers is the key to solving the problem.

To dispose of FOG in your trash, first make sure it is in solid form:

- Absorb the grease with paper towels, wiping thoroughly before washing.
- For small amounts in a pan, let the grease cool and solidify and then scrape into trash.
- Pour the grease into a lidded container with wood shavings or cat litter to throw in the trash.
- Place the grease in a strong container (tin can, coffee can or bottle) and freeze until solid. And remember, cooking oil can be re-used; do not throw it away if you can re-use it.





#### A Journey into Entrepreneurship with Kickin Chicken Mobile

by Michael Venne, owner, Kickin Chicken

I've worked in food service as a career since I was fifteen years old and have been manager at several major restaurant corporations. In 2004, I knew I wanted to start a business so I started to build my personal credit. I had many different ideas I wanted to pursue with no focus on one in particular, so I started writing business ideas on paper and trying to build businesses with other people. After a failed attempt at a restaurant in 2012, I realized trying to build a business with other people would never work. I left the partnership with the burning desire to start my own restaurant. One major problem—I had no money. My goal became to save as much money as I could to start my own business. So I had to go back to work and save.

Kickin Chicken Mobile was started September 2014 as a food trailer for less than \$10,000 in start-up cost. I had no idea what kind of an adventure I was getting into. The real cost of going all-in on your business is that you are the sole means of income, not only for any and all personal costs you already had, but also new ones, too. I soon discovered the problem in getting started in business was that I had no idea how to start selling my product. I started off playing the game of business as a level one "noob" with my personal

savings in my bank account dropping, my personal rent due, and bills to pay with little to no revenue coming in from selling food, my only means of creating income. I didn't find my footing until mid 2015 when we started selling lunch in downtown Columbus. Lunch downtown started slow because people had not discovered us yet and would often say "No!" to our free samples. This is why our philosophy is, we only focus upon those who say "Yes!" The momentum for downtown lunch grew as our chicken's fame spread by word of mouth and by 2017 I realized we were a lunch-only, high volume, quick-service food truck able to handle over 100 customers per hour.

We found our restaurant on Sinclair in 2018 and after approval by the health and fire departments, began operating in May 2019. While still operating as a food truck, restaurant hours were limited. We added to the restaurant and expanded the hours but we were still split as a food truck on Thursdays and Fridays. We are now open Monday-Saturday 11 a.m.-8 p.m. for pickup, carryout, and delivery.

We are happy with our decision to open our first restaurant in Salem and look forward to meeting you!

### **Treasurer Report: Salem Civic Association**

Submitted by Pat Hammel, SCA acting Treasurer

#### March 2020

2020 Budget Actual as of 3/6/20 \$4,850.00 \$ 3,145.50 \$4.850.00 \$567.26

**EXPENSES** \$0.00 \$632.74 **Net Income or (Loss)** 

Checking Account Balance as of 3/6/20 (-) Remaining Budget Obligations as of 3/6/20 \$4,282.74

(-) Annual Cash Reserve

**INCOME** 

\$7,071.67

\$2,355.00

#### **April 2020**

2020 Budget Actual as of 4/7/20

**INCOME** \$5,055.00 \$4,095.50 \$5,055.00 **EXPENSES** \$883.81 **Net Income or (Loss)** \$0.00 \$3,211.69

Checking Account Balance as of 4/7/20\$ 7,705.12

(-) Remaining Budget Obligations as of 4/7/20 \$ 4,171.19 (-) Annual Cash Reserve \$ 2,355.00







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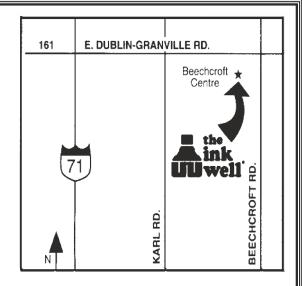
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#### February Minutes con't. from page 2

Cooley have volunteered to coordinate; they will come to future executive committee meetings.

National Night Out August 4. Start thinking about what we want to do. Chairman is needed for this event. **Hospitality - Charlene Combs** 

Bring canned good for Salem Baptist Food Bank.

PTA/Salem Elementary - volunteers needed: May 15 - Shark Frenzy

Spring Clean-Up (needs volunteers to help clean up ground) - no date vet.

Want to install a garden and need help to maintain the vegetable garden over the summer.

**Beautification Committee - Leslie Baab (not present)** Chaseland park has a nice bright corner - residents want to approach Parks and Rec to be able to plant milkweed and wildflowers. Doug will talk to Phyllis.

This idea could be used to designate space for wildflower and community gardens behind Dollar Store. Helpers needed for this committee.

#### Old Business:

4th of July Parade - "Using our 2020 focus to elevate Northland.'

#### **New Business -**

A suggestion was made to begin a "Movies in the Park" night at Chaseland Park. If anyone wants to pursue, please do.

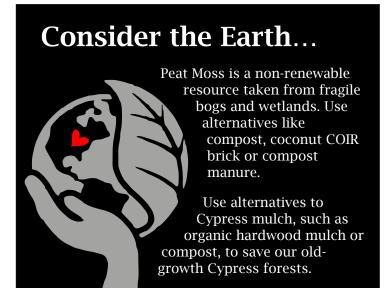
Rae Kirkbride: New cats to feral site on North

Meadows need to be trapped and TNR. Volunteers needed. See article in this issue.

Resident reported outgoing mail is being taken off of mailboxes; it is best to take to a post office or drop in a mailbox.

There is informed delivery you can sign up for to see what is to be delivered to your house. Need to sign up for on USPS website.

Motion to adjourn.



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#### How The Charleston Salon Came to be

by Lori Nnyanzi, owner, The Charleston Salon

Amy Knapp, Jeni Engel and Lorie Nnyanzi all came from previous salons. Jeni had owned two salons in Ohio previously and worked in New York doing color corrections. Amy worked in a salon previously to meeting Jeni. Lorie worked in a few salons in the Columbus area and became the manager of a salon located in the Polaris Fashion Mall before they all met up at the Salon Lofts in Clintonville.

Jeni and Amy worked in one loft together while Lorie worked in her own. One day when Lorie needed to get gas for her lawn mower and a dish for her family reunion, her car was blocked in the driveway. She called to tell Jeni her situation and Jeni offered to give her a ride. On the way back from the grocery store they stopped at the UDF on High Street. Just behind UDF sat a little house that was for rent as a commercial property. They looked at each other, looked at the house, eventually got approved to lease it and Jeni and Lori found themselves co-owners of their own salon!

Located at the corner of Charleston and High, it was the street sign that inspired the name for the salon. While driving around talking about business, the sign for Charleston Avenue caught Lorie's eye. She asked Jeni what she thought of calling it the Charleston Hair Salon. Jeni liked the 'Charleston' part but thought it was too long so they compromised and it became the Charleston Salon. Says Lorie, "Hey, it was easier to say when answering the phone, too."

They look forward to seeing some neighborhood friends when the salon is able to open again.

#### SWIFTLET: Soil and Water Information for Teachers "Lessons on Environmental Themes"



In an effort to get educational materials and activity ideas to teachers and parents (who may be finding themselves in a new and different kind of teacher role), the Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District has created 'SWIFTLETS.' These mini SWIFTs are sent out weekly, March-May. The SWIFTLETS include soil/water information and learning activities related to a weekly theme that parents can immediately utilize at home. Activities are aligned with Ohio's New Learning Standards for Earth and Space Sciences and Life Sciences.

Each week, they add the activities and coloring page to their website: www.franklinswcd.org/swiftlets



# Observations...

by Doug Moody

Let's get the important stuff out of the way first: Duke is doing just fine. He completed his recuperation and is back to running, jumping, and long walks. He's even had (limited) play times with his dog-buddies, Eli and Obi. He is back to his old effervescent self and I'm relieved. There have even been a couple of bonuses as a result of his surgery. In total opposition to the Moody household tendency, Duke is losing weight. Of course, this is a result of our feeding him less, a concept I just can't seem to grasp. He was also ordered onto joint supplements, including fish oil, which has cut down on his shedding by a lot. We are no longer chased around the house by dog-fur tumbleweeds. All in all, very good results all the way around! Thank you to everyone who expressed concern over Duke's well-being.

Things have certainly changed since we last read the Lamplighter. New phrases have invaded the American's lexicon: coronavirus, COVID-19, shelter-in-place, social distancing, flattening the curve, N-95, PPE and "alone together" (my personal favorite), among them. Schools and businesses have closed, throwing millions onto the unemployment line. All of this could have had the result of overwhelming fear, anxiety and panic. However, aside from some panic buying (whoever started the idea that we would need toilet paper by the bale?), little of this has occurred. In fact, by my observation, it has brought our nation closer together, albeit from six feet away. The rancor of Left vs. Right and Us vs. Them, which has been at a steady roar the past few years, has faded into the background. It seems all of us, except maybe the political and media elites who can't find agreement on sunrise, have recognized a common enemy and have coalesced around a common purpose to defeat this enemy. In my memory, this is the closest thing to a war-footing America has experienced since the Greatest Generation dedicated itself to the defeat of the Axis powers. Governor DeWine and Dr. Acton have done veoman's work providing us with information, trusting us with the facts, and laying out a common-sense strategy to fight

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the enemy and we have responded, mostly with grace and good humor. Good on us!

How has this been manifested in Salem? Since we've no place else to go, families, couples and individuals are out walking. Everyone has a smile and a kind word as we pass by at an appropriate distance. Duke has made many new friends. As is my habit while walking with Duke, I wave at passing cars. I am finding that a much higher percentage of folks are waving back. Our neighborhood has become more neighborly in the face of battle. Of course, entertaining the kids has become a renewed focus for parents. A nearby neighbor has purchased a trampoline. I can imagine the conversation: Mom: "We don't need a trampoline, the kids will kill themselves!" Dad: "But honey, it'll be fun for them and they'll burn so much energy!" That thought makes me smile as I watch Dad gleefully bounce ever higher, doing flips and spins. And yes, the kids sometimes use it. too.

I do believe this crisis has brought us closer together, as families and as neighbors. It is my fervent prayer that this closeness is not lost when we return to "normal." As time passes, may this spirit of unity become the oft-touted "new normal" for our families, neighborhood and country.

In closing, I would like to urge you to do some good things. If you have an elderly neighbor, check in on them regularly. When heading out to the store, see if you can bring anything back for them. This virus is particularly nasty to older folks and, whether they admit it or not, they are probably scared. Your loving kindness would be the bright spot of their day.

During this national emergency, we are living less under the rule of law and more under the Executive Order. Therefore, I urge you to vote in the upcoming (on-going?) primary. If you haven't already done so, get an absentee ballot and vote! Doing so affirms our steadfast belief in the American way and a common trust in the return of normalcy.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't remind you that it is time to become a 2020 member of our Salem Civic Association. I know we all enjoy living in the safe and friendly confines of our Salem neighborhood. The association has been a steadfast presence in protecting our neighborhood. I urge you to become a member. Please fill out the form included with this edition of the *Lamplighter* or go on-line and join through the association's website. (You can pay by credit card!) Your participation demonstrates your commitment to our home. Thank you in advance.

Remember, we are all in this together!



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#### Salem's Most Famous Settler? Bill Moose, The Last of the Wyandots

by Scott Williams

His home had just collapsed, a cave set into the cliffs of Adena Brook running along Cooke Road. The good citizens of Clintonville decided, then and there, to build Bill Moose a real shack to live in! Bill Moose must have grumbled about the solution, but accepted it; after all, he preferred to sleep outdoors on the ground. But where did they build this shack? Through word-of-mouth history, we know it was at Salem's southern-most tip of territory, where Morse Road and railroad tracks cross.

Worthington and Clintonville kids came to see the last living Wyandot, never knowing if he would be home. If so, perhaps they got to learn some Indian-lore and hunting knowledge. He handed out and sold postcards of himself to visitors and at OSU football games. Bill Moose's parents lived in northern Ohio when he was born. His family was one of just a few able to refuse being shipped to a

reservation on the Western Plains. He ended up in Columbus, where he became a local legend-in-histime, living to about a hundred years of age. Some exaggerated accounts of his funeral overlooking the Scioto River said twenty thousand people attended what was labeled a near riot. That was back in 1937. Other reports estimate two thousand attended. We do have first-hand accounts by popular local reporters like Ben Hayes, whom many of our senior Salem Civic Association members may remember as a newspaper columnist (he was a cousin of Woody, by the way). At Bill Moose's funeral, the crowd surged forward when Columbus leaders began their own, final, heart-felt version of a Native American burial ceremony. In the chaos, the first shovels of dirt were also tossed, landing onto Ben Haves. who had been pushed into the

grave from the crowd's surge. Now that's covering a funeral story for you! You can still visit Bill Moose' grave today, on the east bank of the Scioto.

Bill Moose, last of the Ohio Wyandots, got around. He thought nothing of walking from his Salem shack to the Scioto River to fish. He probably hunted in Salem's former forest. For many years, Bill Moose worked for Columbus' own Sells Brothers Circus which included travels across America and Canada, and a trip to Australia. He did not play an Indian, but did become close friends of famous Indians when the circus was out west. A massive war bonnet given to him was worn at OSU football games, which always got him a guest seat.

Not only did Bill Moose "probably" live and hunt in Salem, the source spring that feeds his like-named creek, Bill Moose Run, begins in Salem; and flows all the way to

the Gulf of Mexico, as we say. Today, that spring would be better called a seep. It exists at the end of Minerva, driving east, just before the street hooks around to become Strimple, heading west. Just about year-round, you will see a sheet or streak of water running across the road, heading for a nearby storm sewer. For those who know the superstitious story about Wyandot Chief Leatherlip's "rainy" haunting of Jack Nicklaus' Memorial Golf Tournament, I think I have uncovered evidence that Bill Moose has been haunting his namesake creek! But that's a story for next time.

Credits: For image of one of Bill Moose's marketing cards, I thank Richard Barrett, Columbus historian and Senior Times columnist ("Postcard from Columbus"). Ben Hayes' column on the funeral can be found in The Ben Hayes Scrapbook, compiled by Jay Hoster and Christine Hayes, Ravine Books, 1991.

