

Ward



Word

Editor: Mary Krupa Co-Editors: Members of the 7th Ward Citizens Coalition, Inc.
Post Office Box 1264 Youngstown, Ohio 44501

Officers: President Mark Memmer, Vice President John Kish, Treasurer Kathy Mahalko, Secretary Mary Krupa
Trustees: Eleanor Booher, Pete Draia, Patti Dougan, Wally Dunne, Bill Graurich, John Jerek, Ray Miller, Marty Novotny, Rick Swan
Ex Officio: Dorothy Snovak

NOVEMBER MEETING UPDATE

The November general meeting was held on Thursday, November 20th at the Word of Grace Church on Mt. Vernon Avenue. The Ipe Kids World Committee reported that all of the fencing is up. Curbing has not been done yet because of problems with a clogged sewage drain (John Swierz reported at the December Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting that the city will take care of the drain).

Nominations, both written and from the floor, for next year's officers and trustees were received and reported.

Food was brought in for the Thanksgiving food drive. The turkey won during the raffle was donated back to the food drive (food baskets were made and delivered to 6 homes the weekend before Thanksgiving).

We can no longer hold meetings in the public schools unless we are insured. Plans will be made to attend a School Board meeting to protest this concern.

Other topics discussed were Powers Cemetery, block watch partnerships, CDC status, sidewalk inspections, Youngstown 2010, truancy concerns and "quiet citizens".

YOUR BOARD IN ACTION

Two BOT meetings were held at business member Bobby D's Restaurant since the last newsletter was published. One was on November 17th and the other was on December 9th. The following actions were taken:

- A motion was made and passed to add the name of Albert H. Ipe to the Mary Gertrude Ipe memorial stone at Ipe Kids World.
- Ron Hoffman, chairman of the Membership Committee presented the second draft of a Coalition poster to be given to each business member.
- The December meeting election process was discussed.



"I find life an exciting business and most exciting when it is lived for others.."

—Helen Keller

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH, 6:30 PM

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT:

WORD OF GRACE CHURCH

2734 MT. VERNON AVENUE

PARK IN THE REAR & GO DOWN THE STAIRS TO THE END OF THE HALL ON THE LEFT

ELECTION NIGHT

CREDIT CARD FRAUD—PART II

We have all heard horror stories about fraud that is committed by the stealing of a name, address, Social Security number, credit card, etc. Unfortunately, the author of this message had firsthand knowledge because his wallet was stolen. Within a week, the thieves had ordered an expensive monthly cell phone package, applied for a VISA credit card, had a credit line approved to buy a Gateway computer, received a PIN number from the Division of Motor Vehicles to change the author's driving record information online and more!

Here is some critical information to limit the damage in case this happens to you or someone you know:

Even though we have been told to cancel our credit cards immediately, possibly the most important thing is to have the toll free phone numbers and your credit card numbers handy so you know whom to call. Keep those where you can find them easily.

File a police report immediately in the jurisdiction where the card was stolen. This proves to credit providers that you were diligent and is a first step toward an investigation (if there ever is one).

But here's what is perhaps most important: Call the 3 national credit reporting organizations immediately to place a fraud alert on your name and Social Security number. The author had never heard of doing that until a bank called to tell him that an application for credit was made over the Internet in his name. The fraud alert means that any company that checks your credit would then know your information was stolen. They have to contact you by phone to authorize new credit. By the time the author was advised to do this, almost two weeks after the theft, all the damage had been done. There are records of all the credit checks initiated by the thieves' purchases. This seemed to have stopped them in their tracks.

The numbers are:

EQUIFAX: (800) 525-6285

EXPERIAN (formerly TRW): (888) 397-3742

TRANS UNION: (800) 680-7289

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (fraud line): (800)269-0271



THIS AND THAT

A huge thank you to **OCCHA** and **Word of Grace Church** for allowing us to use their facilities in October, November and December!

Did you know that there is a new **coffee house** open downtown called the Bean Counter Café? And, that if you wanted to repair your shoes, purses, etc., that only one **shoe repair shop** exists in Youngstown? That shop, since 1920, is John's Boot and Shoe Repair on Mahoning Avenue. Although large chain stores are everywhere and serve our needs, we cannot do without our **small businesses**. (Editor's note: I'd give anything to have a neighborhood hardware store again instead of having to drive out into the suburbs.)



Here is the phone number for the Youngstown Police Department **City Watch** Citizens Information Line: (330) 742-8957. Feel free to call for city information.

We are happy to welcome back to the Coalition for 2004, **National Fire Repair Company**, a business located on East Indianola Avenue. Look for a story in a future newsletter.

Common sense, please. The Boardman Police Department reminds us that if you are operating snow removal equipment, please refrain from piling snow up in right-of-ways, on sidewalks, or near **fire hydrants**! This creates a vision obstruction for motorists, impedes pedestrians and creates a situation where it becomes difficult for the fire department to locate and use the hydrants.

**OFFICERS & TRUSTEES NOMINATED
FOR 2004.**

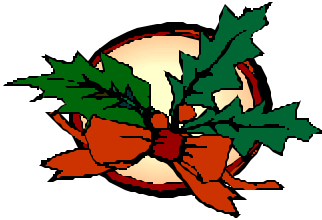
Officers

President: John R. Swierz
 Vice President: John Kish
 Treasurer: Rick Swan
 Secretary: Mary Krupa

Trustees

Eleanor Booher
 Patti Dougan
 Wally Dunne
 Bill Graurich
 Andy "Ron" Hoffman
 John Jerek
 Ray Miller
 Ken Norris
 Marty Novotny

**PLEASE VOTE AT THE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18TH
 MEETING AT WORD OF GRACE CHURCH.**



**HELP RESCUE THE FIRE HOUSE
 FAVORITE**

BY MARTY NOVOTNY

Most, if not all of us, can remember at one point or time, seeing a Dalmatian wearing a fireman's hat. Maybe even one riding in the cab of a fire truck. From *101 Dalmatians* to fire stations across America, these lovable polka-dotted dogs have become a family favorite. However, like many pets, there is a large number that have been abused, mistreated and left to die at the pound, resulting in the needless destruction of many wonderful dogs.

This is where The Greater Ohio Dalmatian League (or Dalsavers) comes in. This 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization is dedicated to finding good loving homes for abandoned and death row dogs. Dalsavers is truly a grass roots effort utilizing caring people across the state, who foster and care for the rescued dogs until a good home can be found. Actually, there is a Dalsavers foster home right here in the 7th Ward with one of these playful and loving dogs just waiting for a new home. For information on adopting a rescued Dalmatian, you can visit the web site at <http://www.saveadal.com> or just call me, Marty Novotny, at (330) 782-4633 and I can put you in touch with your local Dalsavers foster home.

MEMBERSHIP

Please consider joining the 7th Ward Citizens Coalition, Inc. Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of every month except June, July and August, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The meeting location is Jackson Elementary School at Lenox and Windsor Avenues. The 7th Ward Citizens Coalition, Inc. was started in 1995 for the betterment of the 7th Ward. We are a grass roots, nonpartisan, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation. Members consist of residents, religious and educational institutions, businesses, civic and social service agencies, fraternal organizations and labor organizations located in the 7th Ward of Youngstown, Ohio.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail to: 7th Ward Citizens Coalition, Inc. Post Office Box 1264 Youngstown, Ohio 44501

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

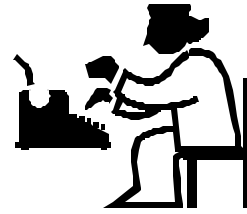
TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP (CHECK ONE):

SINGLE (\$10) _____ COUPLE (\$18) _____ FAMILY (\$25) _____ BUSINESS (\$35) _____

NOTE: Phone number will be submitted to City Watch Program which will leave messages about meetings and other Coalition-related events.

FOR COALITION USE: Paid by cash _____ Paid by check—No. _____ Date _____

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...



To The Membership,

The following statement can be found in "Articles of Association for the Seventh Ward Citizens Coalition" ~ Article I, Section 1. Executive Officers: [No paid elected government officials may be an Executive Officer or serve on the Board of Trustees].

After the November General election I became the councilman-elect for the 7th Ward. On December 20th I will take the Oath of Office. Therefore, I will be forced to offer my resignation to the organization on December 18th at our regularly scheduled meeting. My resignation will be effective December 19, 2003.

My time as President of the Seventh Ward Citizens Coalition has been enjoyable. I wish I were permitted to stay on for another term. I offer many thanks to all the officers, trustees, committee members and volunteers. Thanks to all who participated at the meetings and other events held throughout the year.

There will be no gap in service, as the election of new officers will be held on December 18th. The current officers will make every effort to afford the new administration a smooth transition.

Thank you,
Mark Memmer

ROMANCE, RITUAL AND THE COOKIE TABLE

The Mahoning Valley Historical Society's current exhibit *Mahoning Valley Weddings: Romance, Ritual and the Cookie Table* examines the various aspects of the wedding celebration from courtship to the "Big Day" and finds the meaning behind the rituals and how they have changed throughout the ages.. Breathtaking historic wedding dresses are on display. The exhibit also takes a humorous look at the evolution of photography and explores why certain food traditions are unique to Northeast Ohio and Western Pennsylvania. Call the society at (330) 743-2589 for times. The exhibit is in the Arms Museum at 648 Wick Avenue.

Peace on Earth, Good Will toward Men.

NEW YEAR'S EVE IN THE CITY

BY JOHN R. SWIERZ

It's not too early to think about what you will be doing this New Year's Eve. The 4th First Night Youngstown will be held in downtown Youngstown on Wednesday, December 31st from 6 pm to midnight. It's a family friendly, alcohol free celebration of the arts. Back this year by popular demand is Youngstown's own, The Edsels. New is the Carmen Mico Band and a children's fireworks display at 9 pm. Prices are \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors and students and free for children 12 and under. Call John R. Swierz at (330) 788-5114 to purchase admission buttons or check it out on the web at www.youngstownfirstnight.org. See you there!

Happy Holidays!



Merry Christmas!

Happy Hanukkah!

Happy Kwanzaa!

Happy New Year!