

Ward



Word

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Post Office Box 1264 Youngstown, Ohio 44501

Officers: President John R. Swierz, Vice President John Kish, Treasurer Rick Swan, Secretary Mary Krupa
Trustees: Eleanor Booher, Patti Dougan, Wally Dunne, Bill Graurich, Ron Hoffman, John Jerek, Ray Miller, Ken Norris, Marty Novotny
Ex Officio: Mark Memmer, Kathy Mahalko

JANUARY MEETING UPDATE

Our Thursday, January 15th meeting took place on an extremely cold and snowy evening. But that did not stop the more than 40 people who showed up to see and hear the candidates for next month's primary election. Dan Rivers, of WKBN radio, and Gerry Ricciutti, of WYTV, along with our own Wally Dunne who presented audience questions, put the candidates through their paces. Each candidate was asked to answer the question, "Why do you think you are uniquely qualified for this position?"

After the initial introductory question, the questioning was turned over to our panel members who, with some assistance from the audience, kept things hopping. Among the candidates, who fought one of the worst storms in recent history to participate in our evening, were candidates for Congress, Judge of Mahoning County Juvenile Court, Mahoning County Sheriff, both County Commissioner seats, Mahoning County Prosecutor, Mahoning County Recorder and Mahoning County Engineer.

The candidates forum was preceded by a short business meeting. While there were a few wrinkles in the evening, overall it was an informative and enjoyable evening for all. Please mark your calendar for Thursday, October 21, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. when we will reunite with the "survivors".



YOUR BOARD IN ACTION

The Board of Trustees (BOT) held its most recent meeting on Tuesday, February 2nd, at Brownlee Woods Presbyterian Church. Discussion was held on the potential closing of the Brownlee Woods branch library. Some members are planning to attend the library meetings in February to comment against this. Also, President John Swierz will attend the Youngstown Community Summit on March 11th at YSU. In conjunction with this, the 7th Ward Citizens Coalition (7WCC) will complete a crime survey the results of which will help formulate the summit agenda.

Swierz and other interested BOT members will attend a meeting of Youngstown neighborhood coalitions this month. The agenda will include discussion of common interests such as rental property issues and planning joint projects such as a citywide cleanup and citywide candidates night.

Also, the BOT voted to embrace the Youngstown 2010 comprehensive citywide plan by including its logo on the 7WCC letterhead and website.

"I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can."

—George Bernard Shaw

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 6:30 PM
BROWNLEE WOODS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1970 EVERETT AVENUE

SPEAKER: WILLIAM D. DECICCO, CASTLO DIRECTOR
"MAHONING RIVER CORRIDOR OF OPPORTUNITY & THE REDEVELOPMENT OF FORMER STEEL MILL PROPERTIES"

MAHONING COUNTY VOTERS (AS OF NOVEMBER 2003)

Total of Registered Voters*	180, 899
Registered Democrats	64, 529
Registered Republicans	19, 482
Registered Libertarians	8
Registered—Natural Law Party	3
Registered for Issues Only	725
Undeclared Voters	96,152



*The Green Party and other parties are not recognized in Ohio.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUOTE

"The earth will not continue to offer its harvest, except with faithful stewardship. We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for use by future generations."

—Pope John Paul II, homily, Monterey, California
September 17, 1987

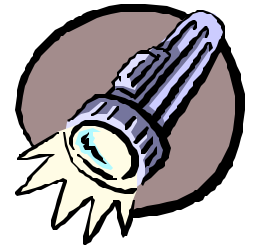
Are we faithful stewards of the 7th Ward natural environment?

GIBSON HEIGHTS BLOCK WATCH — ELEVEN YEARS STRONG

Block Watch President Gene Lederman, Jr. and his wife, Carol, have been in this block watch since the beginning. Prior to Gene, Debbie Housel served as President for 9 years. I asked Carol how it all started and she said it had to do with the rise in burglaries in the area. Fortunately the burglaries have declined but she and Gene still patrol 2 to 3 times a week. She said the police are doing a pretty good job, too.

Another area of concern was the corner of Homestead and Indianola. The new Day-break Center located there has been good for the corner since it is lit up at night. There are up to 10 children there at any one time.

This block watch covers about 12 to 14 blocks in the neighborhood of Homestead Park. The residents in this area are mainly older adults and we would like to see more of them participating. Age should not be a factor in stopping anyone from contributing to his or her community. In fact the wisdom and life experience that usually comes with age are incredible assets. We have to get past our fears (there is safety in numbers) and reclaim our neighborhoods by getting out there and seeing what's happening.



THIS AND THAT

We would like to wish trustee **Bill Graurich** a speedy recovery from his recent surgery. Get well soon, Bill!

The Vindicator reports that the **Public Library** of Youngstown and Mahoning County will conduct the remaining 2 of 3 public comment meetings this month on the **strategic plan** under consideration by its trustees, which would reduce the system from 19 branches to 13 or 14 branches with expanded hours.

The meetings will be at 4 pm Wednesday, February 18th at the Boardman branch and 6 pm, Thursday, February 19th at the Main library. The library administration said the strategic plan responds to the public's desire for stronger collections and longer hours. The plan will be on the agenda in a special library trustees meeting at 4 pm Thursday, March 4th



at the Main library.

Editor's Note: You can also go to the library website (www.libraryvisit.org) to easily comment on the recommendations. Click on "Strategic Planning Underway".

Anyone wanting more information about the **Youngstown Community Summit** to be held on Wednesday, March 10th should contact John Swierz at (330) 788-5114.

Visit our website at www.7wcc.org.

There will be a **talent competition** with cash prizes at St. Rosa of Lima Parish Hall on Sunday, March 21st. If you are interested in performing, call Mary Ann at (330) 519-9678.

LANSINGVILLE BLOCK WATCH REORGANIZES



At a reorganization meeting held on January 12th, the Lansingville Block Watch voted to continue meeting. New officers are Ken Stanislaw, President, Marty Novotny, Vice President, Mary Ann Troy, Secretary and Estelle Chizmar, Treasurer. The group will hold meetings on the 2nd Monday of each month at St. Matthias School. In their first action, they voted to rejoin the 7WCC. We thank them for belonging to our organization and we will assist them as much as possible.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Please welcome our new 7WCC members, some brand new and some returning after an absence of a few years (glad to have you back!):

- | | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Jason Marvin | Frances Shevetz |
| Uptown Kiwanis | Anne Siman |
| Daily Mart | Lincoln Place |
| Jumpin' Jacks | Easterday's Printing |
| Vivo's Boulevard Floral | Ecoquest |
| National Fire Repair | Donald P. Scott |
| Patricia Trell | Final Faze Car Waxing |
| Dorothy Schraider | Bill Schraider |
| Suzanne Maloney | Fire Station No. 9 |
| South Side Auto Sales | Vitullo Florist |
| Philomena & Larry McCaffrey | |
| Brownlee Woods Presbyterian Church | |
| Sacred Heart of Jesus Polish National Catholic Church | |

OCCHA'S KITCHEN

OCCHA is continuing its Friday lunches for Take-Out or Eating-In at 3660 Shirley Road. The menu features specialty foods such as rice and beans, mo-fongo, pastelillos, pastels, rellenos de papa and tostones. Place your order before 10 am on Friday by calling (330) 781-1808.

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 Brownlee Woods Presbyterian Church at 1970 Everett Avenue.

The 7WCC was started in 1995 for the betterment of the 7th Ward and is 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): NEW _____ RENEWAL _____

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 _____



PLEASE PAY MEMBERSHIP DUES THIS MONTH.

After March, anyone not renewing his or her membership will be dropped from the mailing list.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK...

Dear Members,

At our January meeting we presented a candidates forum which was very informative. The Coalition does not endorse any candidate as mandated by our By-Laws. However, we do encourage you to exercise your right to vote. I believe it is our responsibility to go to the polls and vote for the candidate or issue that you agree with. Remember that election day is on Tuesday, March 2nd this year, so mark your calendars.

Your Board will continue to provide you with informative programs in the future.

Respectfully,

John R. Swierz
President



IT'S THE LAW!

SECTION 1511.05 BONFIRES AND OUTDOOR RUBBISH FIRES

- (a) **General.** Burning of rubbish shall be prohibited except in approved incinerators. Bonfires may be permitted only under the following conditions and subject to the air pollution provision of this chapter.
- (b) **Permit Required.** A person shall not kindle or maintain any bonfire or authorize any such fire to be kindled or maintained on any premises without having obtained a permit or permission of the owner of the land upon which the bonfire site be kindled.
- (c) **Location Restricted.** A person shall not kindle or maintain any bonfire or authorize any such fire to be kindled or maintained unless; (1) The location is approved by the Fire Official and is not less than 50 feet from any structure and adequate provision is made to prevent fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure; or (2) The fire is contained in an approved burner located safely not less than 15 feet from any structure.
- (d) **Bonfire Material.** Fuel for bonfires shall consist of seasoned dry wood only and shall be ignited with a small quantity of paper only. Bonfires shall not contain any rubbish, material and shall not contain any flammable or combustible liquids. The allowable quantity of wood to be burnt shall be determined by the Fire Official and shall be based upon the fire safety requirements of the situation and the desirable duration of burn.
- (e) **Attendance at Open Fires.** Bonfires shall be constantly attended by a competent person until such fire is extinguished. This person shall have fire extinguishing equipment readily available for use as deemed necessary by the Fire Official.
- (f) **Prohibited Bonfires.** The Fire Official may prohibit any or all bonfires when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fire hazardous or which are or could be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions. The Fire Official shall order the extinguishments, by the permit holder or the Fire Division, of any bonfire which creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation. (**OAD 1301:7-703**)

SECTION 1511.99 PENALTY

Whoever violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor of the 3rd degree and shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned not more than 60 days, or both.

