

Pipeline

A Quarterly Newsletter for Citizens of Yorktown and Mt. Pleasant Township, IN

Town Council Members

Mike Beeman
Larry Crouch
Bob Flanagan
Richard Glaub
Steve Lowry

Important Numbers

Town Manager

Tim Kelty, 759-4003

Clerk-Treasurer

Beth Neff, 759-4000 x 102

Yorktown Municipal Utilities

759-8521 (8:30-4:00 daily)

After Hours Emergency

747-7204

Yorktown Police Department

759-7760

Fire Department

759-5836

Town Hall

759-8521

Zoning, Building Permits

748-7985

Town Court

Patricia J. Zeabart, Judge, 759-4006

(M-Th-9:00-4:00, Friday-9:00-Noon)

Yorktown/Mt. Pleasant Twp. Assessor

759-7359

Mt. Pleasant Twp. Trustee

759-7359

Best Way/Waste Removal

800-745-5714

Yorktown/Mt. Pleasant Comm. Library

759-9723

Yorktown Post Office

759-5855

Yorktown High School

759-2550

Yorktown Middle School

759-2660

Yorktown Elementary School

759-2770

Pleasant View Elementary School

759-2800

Town Council Meetings

Third Monday at 5:30 p.m.

at the Town Court

June 16

July 21

August 18

September 15

Plan Commission/BZA Meetings

2nd Wednesday at 5 p.m. at Town Hall

Park Board Meetings

2nd Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Town Hall

Library Board Meetings

2nd Thursday at 6 p.m. at Library

Yorktown Hosts Summer Heat June 13-15

One of the largest events to dot the calendar in the Muncie area during the summer has a new Yorktown location. The Summer Heat Air Festival will be moving to Morrow's Meadow located along Tiger Drive in Yorktown. The event is scheduled for June 13-15 this year.

In its 14th year of operation, the event has been held the second full weekend of June for the past three years. According to event director Christie Sheridan, "Many of the activities that have proven to be crowd favorites will remain. Hot air balloons, live entertainment, carnival rides, art and craft vendors plus food vendors will make a return."

Sheridan went on to say, "Another popular

activity for corporations, business owners and organizations has been the 'corporate picnics.' Large and small alike, the picnics have become a positive addition to any company function. They are a great idea for class reunions, too!"

While there will be free viewing of the balloon launches each morning at 6:30, the gate officially opens at 4 p.m. on Friday, and at noon on Saturday and Sunday. Tickets for the event are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the gate. For more information or to purchase advance tickets to the 2008 event, individuals may contact the Muncie Visitors Bureau (284-2700). Advance tickets may also be purchased at the Yorktown Town Hall.



photo by Dr. Kurt Alexander

Chamber Plans Summer Heat-related Activities

Yorktown merchants will be "Turnin' Up the Heat" during the weekend of the Summer Heat Air Festival June 13 to 15. In addition to all the Summer Heat events planned, the Yorktown Chamber is sponsoring a variety of activities.

Kicking off the weekend's festivities will be LifeStream's Family Fun Fair at its transportation center, 9000 W. Smith St., from 4 to 8 p.m. on Friday, and continuing from noon to 8 p.m. Saturday. The fair will include free entertainment, games and bingo. Ice cream and cool drinks will be available too.

The Farmers Market will be open from 4 to

7 Friday evening in the Yorktown-Mt. Pleasant Twp. Community Library parking lot, where fresh vegetables and fruits, honey, baked goods, meat, and cheese will be available.

Saturday's activities will start with a pancake breakfast from 8 to 11 a.m. at Yorktown United Methodist Church. Those arriving at 8 a.m. will have an opportunity to meet the hot air balloon pilots. Other activities planned by Chamber members from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday include free games such as dunk tank, ring tosses, duck pond, mini balloon launches, hair painting and putt putt golf as well as a pie eating contest, food, crafts and jewelry.

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Community Cleanup Details On Page 2

New Utility Office Hours

Utility office hours have been extended. The office is now open through lunch. New hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon-Fri. Closed on Holidays.

Chamber Activities Continued...

Appearing briefly downtown at 10 that morning will be Pablo and Uniqua from Nick Jr.'s The Backyardigans who will give away free Summer Heat tickets. Ruditoonz will be performing as well. Nearly 200 hot rods from Crown City Cruisers will gather about 3 p.m. at the west end of Yorktown before parading through town on their way to Morrow's Meadow, home of this year's Summer Heat. Following them at about 4 p.m. will be the Harley Bear Back Riders.

Local author Max Knight will be signing copies of his fourth book "Spinning Through the Clouds—Tales from an Early Hoosier Aviator." A block party featuring Knot a Kloo is planned for that evening.

Yorktown Band Boosters will be selling opportunity tickets for signed John Cougar Mellancamp posters and CDs. Available for painting from Girl Scout Troop 30422 will be tiles for benches that will be placed in Morrow's Meadow. The Hoosier Lottery bus also will be

in town, and merchants will be offering in-store specials throughout the day.

Since Saturday is also Flag Day, residents are asked to decorate with red, white and blue to welcome visitors. Chamber members are encouraging residents to hold a city-wide yard sale on Saturday also since there will be lots of visitors in town. Vicki Veach, president of Yorktown Chamber, said, "We want to show visitors what a welcoming community we are, and how excited we are to have Yorktown host this year's Summer Heat."

Wrapping up the activities will be a Sunday church service at 10 a.m. in Morrow's Meadow. Admission is free for the church service. More information on activities and times will be available at from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. that Saturday at the downtown Gazebo.

Community Cleanup Set for This Saturday

The Town of Yorktown and Best Way, Inc. have scheduled Saturday, May 31, for the annual Curbside Spring Cleanup. This is one of two opportunities per year for residents to clean out attics, basements, and garages to get rid of accumulated junk.

Please place all unwanted items at your curb for pickup by 6 this Saturday morning to ensure pick-up.

Items that will not be accepted include:

- Old fuels or caustic cleaning solvents

- Old TV tubes (cabinets are ok but tubes are unacceptable)

Special instructions:

- Old refrigerators, freezers, or air conditioners need to have Freon removed prior to discarding
- Limbs cannot be longer than four feet and should be bundled if possible
- Old paint should be mixed with kitty litter or other absorbent material

Widening of State Road 32 Begins Next Year

According to INDOT, the second phase of the State Road 32 widening project is scheduled to begin next year. The first phase, which extended from Borg Warner to Nebo Road on the east end of town, was completed in 2005. The next phase (which may be broken in to two separate projects) will extend from Nebo Rd. to Tiger Dr.

The project includes a three-lane stretch of highway from Tiger Dr., east to Andrews Rd., where it becomes four lanes plus a center turn-lane east to Nebo. However, in undeveloped areas along the stretch east of Andrews, a grassy median replaces the center turn lane. The median is broken into three equal parts providing access north and south. The design fits with Yorktown's Comprehensive Plan which calls for parallel access roads in that area to be constructed as the area develops.

The originally designed project called for the highway to be expanded to five lanes for the entire 1.75 mile stretch. INDOT held a public hearing on the project in the summer of 2006, in which more than 50 people attended. Most at the meeting expressed concerns regarding the aesthetics of the design, compared it to McGalliard Rd., and suggested ways it could be altered to fit with Yorktown's

Comprehensive Plan.

As a result, the Town Council passed a resolution endorsing the design changes suggested at the public hearing and INDOT agreed to redesign the project. Town officials and representatives from the Muncie Metropolitan Planning Area met with INDOT officials, and a new concept was developed.

However, when Town officials received a new design for the highway last Fall, it included a median that extended from Nebo to west of Andrews Rd. with breaks proposed only at Pilgrim Blvd. and Sarasota Dr. "We were very concerned that every existing business and resident along that mile stretch had only right-turn access to and from the highway," said Tim Kelty, Town Manager.

Letters from affected property owners were submitted, the Town Council passed a second resolution, and INDOT was lobbied to make the additional changes. Recently INDOT announced that the requested design changes have been incorporated. "I am very pleased that INDOT officials have been cooperative on this matter and am looking forward to the project getting started," Kelty added. A February letting has been scheduled to receive bids.

First K-9 Joins Yorktown Force

"Leo" the Town of Yorktown's first Police K-9 was introduced to the Town Council at its May meeting. Through an \$8,500 grant from the Yorktown Lions Club, the Town was able to acquire the dog and have Leo and its handler trained through the Delaware County Sheriff's Department. The town had to specially outfit one of the squad cars and will have the ongoing cost for food and vet bills. "Without the help of the Lions Club, this would not have been possible; they have been great," said Marshal Todd St. John.

Officer Nathan Smith was appointed the department's K-9 officer and will be responsible for handling Leo and taking care of him when

the two are off duty. However, the added responsibility means that Smith will be on call when Leo is needed. "Officer Smith is one of the newer officers on the department and he jumped at the opportunity," said the marshal.

Leo is strictly a drug sniffing dog, not a "Bite Dog," according to St. John. He will be used on car stops and other situations where drug possession or other contraband is suspected. He will also be used in community policing activities.

Leo is two years old and should be active with the department for about eight years before he retires.



Leo and Officer Nate Smith

Town Launches New Website

The Town of Yorktown has increased its presence on the world wide web, with the introduction of the official Town of Yorktown Website (www.yorktownindiana.org). The new website offers residents and visitors the availability to access information regarding government functions, recreational activities, and industrial and commercial opportunities. The website has been going through beta testing and content input for the last few months, and will continue to be updated in the future.

Residents are encouraged to utilize the website to keep up to date with the Town Council meeting minutes and contact town officials and staff. Also available is the ability to report pot holes and other problems to the field operations for correction. Individuals are offered an anonymous tip hotline to the police department to report suspected illegal activity or other law enforcement concerns. The site will enhance community members' interaction with government officials and encourage more communication with town staff.

"The goal of the website is to create a virtual portal to the Town of Yorktown and highlight what a great community we have," said Deputy Town Manger, Pete Olson, who also is the site's webmaster. Residents and visitors alike will find vital information about the community, government, activities and opportunities to promote the community. Content for the website will continually be updated focusing on economic development. Individuals and companies looking for information about Yorktown will be able to find data that

can be utilized in determining a location for a new business.

Another progressive goal for the website will be community interaction, where members of the community will be allowed to enter events on the community calendar, allowing other visitors to see upcoming meetings, activities and assemblies. Coinciding with the interactivity will be the ability of visitors to submit pictures from around the community. Submitted pictures will then be placed in a gallery for other viewers to enjoy.

The Yorktown Court additionally redesigned their website and integrated it with the Town's. This move creates efficiency and effectiveness when visitors are trying to obtain information regarding the

town or the court. Patrons can find out about court times, payment options and other miscellaneous court functions.

"The website is a positive step for the community and will help provide efficient and effective government," said Olson. "Special attention has been paid to appearance of the site and to the functionality. Citizens, visitors and patrons should find the site dynamic and easy to use."

Steve Lowry, Council President, said, "In today's information age environment, it's important that the community have a safe, reliable place to interact with government, and the Town of Yorktown's website is providing that opportunity."



Girl Scouts Working Toward Gold Award

In April the Town Council voted to support the efforts of Local Girl Scout Troop 30422 with promotional business funds. Katie Smith, Gwen Ash, Jackalynn Schafer, and Mindie Ward, all 10th graders, are working on their Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout age 14-18 may earn.

Someone once described the Girl Scout Gold Award as being "what you really want to be remembered for" in Girl Scouting. For many, the leadership skills, organizational skills, and sense of community and commitment that come from "going for the Gold" set the foundation for a lifetime of active citizenship.

When making the decision on what they wanted to do for their Gold Award, they all knew that they wanted to do a project that would improve their community. After meeting with Pete Olson, Deputy Town Manager, the scouts decided to bring an art culture project to the town and to get the community involved. The project includes getting kids and adults to decorate tiles that will then

be set in concrete benches.

The four scouts will be at Summer Heat downtown Yorktown and also at Morrow's Meadow for the Fireworks Festival on Saturday, July 5. At either event individuals can paint a tile for \$1. The tiles will be fired before mounting. Tiles can also be decorated at The Artist Within in downtown Muncie for \$3.

In the fall the Girl Scouts will organize an art show called "Pathway to Color" where local artists of all ages can enter their art work/photography for judging. Winners will be awarded ribbons and other prizes. On that day visitors will receive a map of Morrow's Meadow showing the location of the benches. The artistic talent of the Yorktown community will be on display.

If a business or family would like to sponsor a bench, they may do so. After the art show, sponsors can pick up their bench to display at their home or place of business, or donate the bench to the Yorktown Park System.

Fireworks July 5

While residents are looking forward to Summer Heat in June, they should remember the Yorktown Park Department is still planning its 8th annual Fireworks Festival to celebrate Independence Day. The Festival will be on Saturday, July 5, in Morrow's Meadow.

Festivities will begin around 6 p.m. Saturday. Fair food, music in the pavilion, the Chamber of Commerce Duck Race, and, of course, fireworks at dark will be available for folks to enjoy. There will be no entry fee as usual. Entries for the Duck Race, which will be held at 7 p.m. in Buck Creek, are currently available at various business throughout town. They will also be available at Summer Heat.

Questions about the festival may be directed to Pete Olson, Deputy Town Manager, 759-2203.

Post Office Considers Address Changes

Discussion about changing the newly annexed areas of Yorktown from Muncie addresses to Yorktown with a 47396 zip code is planned for a public meeting Tuesday, June 17, at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Court. Yorktown

postmaster Vince Hughes will conduct the public meeting. Citizens who will be affected will have the opportunity to ask questions or voice concerns regarding the impact of the change. The Town Council passed a resolution endorsing the change of zip codes in the annexed area to 47396 and has encouraged the post office to make the change.

Lions Club Seeks Members

During the past 11 years, the Yorktown Lions Club has provided \$26,300 in scholarships to Yorktown High School graduates. As part of its more than \$9,000 donations in 2007, the local club made contributions to Cancer Services of Delaware County, Indiana Eye Bank, Yorktown Fire Dept, Yorktown/Mt. Pleasant Historical Alliance, Little League, First Choice for Women, The Traveling Vietnam Wall, and the Yorktown Police Department. The group also recycles used eyeglasses to needy people in other countries and supplies guide dogs for the vision impaired. According to treasurer Ray Turner, the club is looking for new members. If interested, call 212-7659. The group meets the second Monday at 6 p.m. at the Yorktown/Mt. Pleasant Township Fire Department.



Farmers Market

Beginning Friday, June 6, a Farmers Market will be open from 4 to 7 p.m. in the parking lot of Yorktown-Mt. Pleasant Twp. Community Library. The market will feature fresh vegetables and fruits, honey, baked goods, flowers, meat, cheese and more. The market will close for the season in October. For more information, contact Ron Orebaugh, 744-6825.

New Building Commissioner/Zoning Administrator Named



Matt Ray

In April, Yorktown hired a new building commissioner/zoning administrator. Matt Ray will take up the post vacated by Toni Cecil late last year. Because of the slow down in the housing market and the elimination of storm water management from the job description, the position was returned to part-time status, as it had been previously.

Ray will be responsible for issuing building and zoning related permits including permits for new construction, remodeling, fences, signs, zoning compliance and more. He will enforce unsafe building regulations and address blight. Applications for design and/or use variances will be processed by Ray before they are considered by the Board of Zoning Appeals. He will also handle new and final plat applications which go before the Plan Commission. "The timing of his hiring fortunately coincides with the updating of our Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance," said Town Manager Tim Kelty.

The town's comprehensive plan has not yet been updated to reflect the North East Annexation, which extended the border Yorktown shares with the City of Muncie. The Town Council recently approved a contract with Ground Rules, Inc., Indianapolis, to facilitate those updates. In 2001, Brad Johnson of Ground Rules assisted the town in creating its first ever Comprehensive Plan and replacing its out-of-date 1970s zoning ordinance with a state-of-the-art working zoning document which truly protects the town's character and encourages new development and redevelopment to be creative and enhance that character.

In addition to geographical changes in the documents, the Plan Commission and Town Council have talked about looking at other issues, including architectural overlay districts, and looking more closely at the expansion of County Rd. 600 West as it relates to the Thoroughfare Plan.

A committee will be appointed to begin work, and public hearings will be scheduled to receive public input.

Work Begins on New Field Operations Complex

Construction has started on a new Yorktown field operations complex. In February the Town Council approved a contract with Mid States Concrete and General Construction for the construction of three new buildings and site improvements at Lions Club Park.

The Town received eight bids on the project from general contractors with Mid States coming in the lowest, just under \$805,000. "I was very pleased with the bid," said Tim Kelty, Town Manager. "It came in very close to the estimate U.S. Architects gave us almost a year and half ago and did not require the Town to make any deductions from what was designed." The project is being paid for from part of the proceeds of the General Obligation Bond the town issued last year.

The first of the three buildings being constructed will house a three-bay general maintenance garage in one half. The other half

will include office areas for the Deputy Town Manager, Building & Zoning, Water Department, and Park Department, and an employee break room.



The second building will be a salt/sand storage building. The third is a large pole building for indoor storage of all the town's vehicles and equipment. It will include a second floor mezzanine for additional storage. The site is expected to be completed and ready to move into by September.

Yorktown Municipal Utilities Offers Direct Debit

Yorktown Town Council voted to offer a Direct Debit option to customers for payments of utilities at its May council meeting. This process has been used by several residents for other bills and has often been requested to be an option of payment for utilities. The Town Council thought this service would make bill paying easier, faster and more convenient for utility customers. Currently, the town takes only cash or check for payments.

Once individuals have completed and filed paperwork, the service will begin within the next utility billing cycle. For those customers

who sign-up, each month, trash, water and sewer utility charges will be deducted directly from the individual's account. Customers will continue to receive a bill from the town showing the amount that will be deducted.

Authorization forms are available at the Town Hall for customers to request this service. According to the Utility Office, the first direct debit transactions from customers' checking and savings accounts should start happening in July.

Lieutenant Governor Announces Miasa Jobs in Yorktown

Lieutenant Governor Becky Skillman visited Yorktown last month to make a joint announcement regarding the creation of new jobs and investment in Yorktown. Officials from Miasa Automotive LLC, a manufacturer of transmission components for the automotive industry, announced that the company would expand its operations in Delaware County, moving into the vacant Yorktown Precision building behind Town Hall, creating more than 57 jobs by 2012.

Miasa, a subsidiary of a Spanish transmission components manufacturer, established its operations in America less than one year ago to accommodate contracts from New York-based Magna Powertrain. Miasa Automotive will invest more than \$8.4 million into facility improvements and machinery upgrades at its new 54,000 square-foot manufacturing location in Yorktown.

"East Central Indiana continues to be a leader in advanced manufacturing," Skillman said. "More and more companies are recognizing that Indiana is a great place to do business, and we're glad Miasa chose to continue their growth here."

"We are delighted with the support provided at the state and local level, and from the hard-working workforce that exists in Indiana,"

Miasa plant manager Sergio Palacios said. "Indiana is where we are building our base for future success."

The Indiana Economic Development Corporation offered Miasa Automotive up to \$450,000 in performance-based tax credits and additional training assistance contingent upon the company's job creation plans. The Town of Yorktown approved tax abatements on the new real estate improvements and manufacturing and information technology equipment earlier this month. The Muncie Industrial Revolving Loan Fund is lending \$600,000 as a bridge loan until

the Town of Yorktown can reestablish its Economic Development Commission and set up a similar type of funding mechanism. The Muncie-Delaware County Economic Development Alliance (Vision 2011) assisted the company in site selection, and financial and incentive procurement.

"This is a great day for the Town of Yorktown and Delaware County," said Steve Lowry, President of the Yorktown Town Board. "We are extremely pleased Miasa has chosen to expand in Delaware County and we pledge to continue to work with them and help them grow and achieve their maximum potential here."



Presort Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 30
Yorktown, IN

Yorktown Municipal Utilities
P.O. Box 518
Yorktown, IN 47396