

MCDO

(Marion Community Development Organization)

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Summer 2013

This newsletter is distributed by the Marion Community Development Organization (MCDO). The goal of this newsletter is to inform area citizens in or near the Marion Local School District of the activities of the MCDO.

MCDO has worked on many projects and continues to be active in many areas with its eight standing committees. MCDO is constantly working on initiatives that will ultimately enable our communities to grow and develop. Contact us with questions, comments and concerns.

OFFICE LOCATION The MCDO office is located in the Marion Township Building in the Industrial Park. MCDO meetings are normally held the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Marion Township building

2013 Board of Directors

Jim Keller, President	419-925-4764
Barb Kahlig, Secretary	419-925-6301
Jean Bender	419-925-4254
Greg Garman	419-925-5202

Coordinator

Jim Keller	419-925-4764
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Committee Chairpersons

Agricultural Development:	
Mark Hardesty, DVM	419-925-4212
Business Retention & Dev.:	
Randy Bruns	419-925-0241
Health, Safety & Education:	
Elaine Wolters	419-925-4620
Housing:	
Bob Unrast	419-925-4151
Infrastructure:	
Jeff Schwieterman	419-925-4345
Land Use:	
John Bruns	419-925-4712
Membership:	
Bob Dippold	419-305-0128
Recreation:	
Eric Eyink	419-925-6803

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MARION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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Phone: 419-925-4764

Website: <http://marioncommunities.com>

Email: mcdo@bright.net

MARION COMMUNITY UPDATE

Jim Keller, President

NEW CHAIRPERSONS: At its June, 2013 meeting, the MCDO welcomed two new chairpersons to its board. Replacing Sister Barbara Ann Hoying as our treasurer is Jean Bender, and replacing Bill Winner as our membership chairperson is Bob Dippold. Bill served a number of years in his membership role and did a fantastic job of attracting new members, both family and business. Sister Barb served many, many years. She rarely missed a meeting, always making solid contributions to all decision processes, while keeping a close tab on the organization's finances. Our heartfelt thanks to both of them for their service and dedication. We sincerely welcome Jean and Bob on board. We're confident that they'll do the same great job that their predecessors did.

BOOSTER BANNER: The Booster Banner which hung proudly on a grain bin in full view of our football home crowd was dealt a critical blow by a winter wind storm. Gary Poeppelman with **G&L Sales and Service** donated time and equipment to remove the banner. Shelly Bruns with **RB Advertising** had it repaired at no charge. Gary will be reinstalling the banner again this fall in time for what we all hope is another very successful football season. Thanks to these businesses and all the original contributors for their continued generous support.

ANNUAL BANQUET: Our 2013 Awards banquet went well. Jared Ebbing, Mercer County Economic Development director addressed the crowd stressing the business and employment opportunities that we have in the area. He highlighted Hometown Opportunity a website his department created to facilitate local business growth and employment opportunities. We were proud to award our Distinguished Developer awards to two very deserving entities; Moeller Door and Window and the Country Fest Committee. Both of these organizations have and continue to provide economic benefits to the community.

AGRICULTURE: By all measures, Ag Education at Marion Local continues to be a resounding success. The MCDO is justifiably proud of its role in the reestablishment of this program. We continue to deal with significant challenges regarding our efforts to help our farm community remain viable while keeping excess nutrients out of our waterways. We continue to meet and explore ideas some of which hold promise. Most challenging is how to deal with phosphorous built up in

the soil which appears to dissolve and leach out and into the lake. Please learn more at one of our Ag Solutions meetings which are open to all. Join us at 8pm on the first Monday of each month in the Chickasaw Library basement. The July 2013 meeting has been moved to the second Monday which is the 8th.

COMMUNITY REPORT: Al Lochtefeld President of the Chickasaw Board of Public Affairs reports that the village council has given the Board approval to seek funding for the installation of a new well field and water treatment facility. The council is also working with the state to get an income survey conducted in the village. These surveys are required before grants for such public works can be approved. Since the village is able to meet their water requirements with their current facility they have adopted a measured approach to the project.

Negotiations continue to expand the Marion Industrial park. Recently Ron Puthoff, who is spearheading the effort and Jared Ebbing, our county economic development director met with the Marion Local board and administration to discuss Tax Increment Financing (TIF). A TIF allows for temporary redirection of property taxes to be used to pay for infrastructure such as streets and sewer. Much of the original industrial park was funded in that manner and after 10 years or so, significant tax revenues started flowing to the school and other entities. If you have an interest in starting or growing a business in this community contact Ron Puthoff directly at 419-925-4084 or email puthoff1@bright.net.

For months we have been unable to get an update regarding Hometown Cable's unfinished installation of service to Osgood and the Maria Stein area. The New Knoxville Telephone Company (NKTelco) has purchased the installed infrastructure and is working diligently to clear a few hurdles regarding completion of the project. Their plans are to cover the entire Marion Community from Chickasaw to Osgood. NKTelco hopes to be issuing a press release shortly with formal notification of their intentions to our community.

We're always looking for individuals with good ideas concerning how our community can grow and prosper. If you have some ideas give me a call. I'd love to discuss them with you.



MARION LOCAL SCHOOL NEWS

Mike Pohlman, Superintendent

The 2012-2013 school year was a success and it was an honor to watch the 64 graduating seniors become Marion Local alumni. Currently, we are patiently waiting to see what happens with the new funding formula and to see what impact it has on the state funding Marion Local receives. As I have mentioned before we are very thankful for the support we have received from our local tax payers for the passage of our levy. We want to continue to be fiscally responsible to the tax payers of the Marion Local community.

This summer has been moving right along and we had some excitement with hiring many new employees. I would like to welcome Mr. Bob Gecewich who will be teaching Social Studies, Mr. Dan Thobe who will be teaching Math, Mr. Casey Layer who will be our band director, Ms. Amanda Rhonemus who will teach elementary music, Mrs. Kim Bruns will teach elementary art, Mr. Cody Smith will teach third grade, Ms. Tami Post will teach first grade, Mr. Kevin (Pooch) Hartings as maintenance supervisor, and Mr. Nick Wilker as our elementary principal. We are currently in the process of hiring a head elementary cook and will hopefully have that by the July board meeting. I would like to welcome all of these new employees to our district and invite the community to open house on August 19th to meet them. The parking lot renovations were completed last summer but we will need to seal only the brand new asphalt this year. We are hoping to complete this project before the start of the school year. We might be closing down certain areas of the parking lot during this time and we thank you for your understanding.

I am looking forward to the start of the 2013-2014 school year and our goal is to build on the successes from this past year. This year our staff will continue on with the Race to the Top initiative and this is our fourth and final year unless it is extended for another year. New to this school year will be the teacher evaluation system which was recently adopted. Teachers have been extremely busy preparing for "Student Learning Objectives". There is a push to make sure that every student is receiving at least a year's worth of academic growth with the ultimate goal of each student receiving above expected growth. Student learning objectives also known as SLO's will enable our teachers to gauge how much growth each student gained in certain areas. We appreciate your support and the work you do with your children.

Go Flyers!

SPIRITUAL CENTER

Robin Goettemoeller

Interested in doing something different right in your own neighborhood this summer? The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein invites you to the annual outdoor Fatima USA Mass on Friday, August 9 at 7:30 p.m. with Fr. Rob Muhlenkamp presiding. After Mass there will be a candle lit procession throughout the grounds of the Spiritual Center while participants pray the Rosary. On Sunday, August 11 the Spiritual Center and the Northern Network of Catholic Youth Ministers will be hosting an outdoor Christian Concert featuring well known artists Matt Maher and Audrey Assad. The concert will take place rain or shine and will be under a tent on the south side of the Spiritual Center. Doors will open at 4:00 p.m. Audrey Assad will take the stage at 6:00 p.m. and Matt Maher will begin at 7:00 p.m. Pre-sale tickets are available online only at www.itickets.com and are \$15. Tickets the day of the event will be \$20. Consider joining us for one or both of these events this summer! For more information on these or our other events, check out our website at www.spiritualcenter.net, like us on Facebook, or call us Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:00.

MCDO 301 CLUB RECREATION COMMITTEE

Eric Eyink, President

The 301 Club would like to thank everyone who has renewed their memberships for 2013. We would also like to welcome the new members that are joining us. It is because of all of our members that we are able to help support so many different summer programs and also assist the local parks with additional funds. If you have not received a renewal form in the mail or would like to become a member, please contact Eric Eyink through email eeeyink@ios-inc.com, by phone 419-305-9129 or any of the other committee members (Kevin Nagel, Nick Eifert, Tim Pohlman, Greg Nietfeld, Darin Poeppelman, Kurt Goettemoeller, Jason Winner, and Kirk Stucke).

The summer sports programs are well underway for the 2013 season. We would like to thank all of the volunteers who help coach and assist these programs. We would like to especially recognize Ben Kramer for once again being the summer baseball program director.

Our annual chicken dinner fundraiser is scheduled for July 14th, 2013. The pickup will again be at the Marion Local High School between 11:00 and 12:30

The 301 Club is a non-profit group that has been actively supporting Marion youth programs and our local parks since 1996. Our goal is to help sustain active programs and the development of our parks? Our community and kids benefit from your generosity.

Thank you!

**2013
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Business Membership Dues: \$60.00 _____ Family Membership Dues: \$15.00 _____

Please indicate if you would like a receipt for tax deduction: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Please circle any committees listed if you are interested:

MEMBERSHIP/PROMOTION
AG-DEVELOPMENT
PARK AND RECREATION

HEALTH/EDUCATION
LAND PLANNING
INFRASTRUCTURE

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
HOUSING
TOURISM sub-committee

COMMENTS: _____

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