



President's Message—Jim Keller

CONGRATULATIONS – to the Sister of the Precious Blood. They have been chosen as the 2018 MCDO Distinguished Developer. Their selection will be celebrated at our annual Community Address. This event will be held on April 15 at 11:30 am at the Maria Stein Legion Hall. This year we will also present a Distinguished Student Award (our first ever) to Josh Applegate. Tickets, which can be obtained from any MCDO committee chairperson and at the three community banks, are \$7.50. This includes a lunch and a great chance to catch up on the all the wonderful happenings in the Marion Community including a brief history of the sisters, the shrine and the lasting impact they've had on our area.

ADDITIONAL CONGRATULATIONS to Osgood based Winner's meats. They forwarded the following news release to the MCDO: *The last weekend in February was a BIG one for Winner's Meats! In Columbus, the Ohio Association of Meat Processors held their annual convention and product competition. Meat packers from all over the state came to enter their products to see how they fare against their competitors. Winner's Meats brought home 9 Ribbons this year for a variety of different products.* The release continues with additional information which can be found on Winner's website <https://winnersmeats.com>, the Marion Community website <http://www.marioncommunities.com> or the MCDO Facebook page.

LET'S HAVE SOME FUN! Chickasaw is celebrating its 180th anniversary as an incorporated village. Their annual picnic will feature an "180th Anniversary Parade" on Sunday June 10th at 1:00pm. The Committee asked that the MCDO include the following: "The parade only takes place once every 5 years, so we want to take advantage of the rare opportunity that we have to put on a great show for all of the patrons who visit our town for the event. We want to make sure we are giving plenty of notice to all of the local businesses and groups that would like to take part in this. Take advantage of the free marketing that comes with participating by putting a memorable entry together. More details as well as a formal entry form will come in the near future. Our last parade had an awesome turnout and we expect nothing but the same from this one. Looking forward to it, and remember...Be Creative!!!"

CALENDAR – The community calendar is operative and can be found on the very first page of our website. All the participants are doing a remarkable job of keeping things posted in a timely manner. If you have questions or want something noted please contact Shannon Everman at (419) 925-5707 or admin@marioncommunities.com

716 SIDEWALK – We continue to work on this initiative. We are putting together a presentation which we plan to share with all the residents at an upcoming meeting. We will have much to discuss, including the challenging infrastructure that is already there and which will impact the location of sidewalk. We feel that we can develop a path which will suit everyone involved. All residents will be personally invited to the meeting.

THANKS – for your membership and other support. Most appreciated.

Marion Local Schools—Mike Pohlman

We postponed our community meeting that was scheduled on March 20th to discuss the proposed facilities. This meeting is rescheduled for **April 30th at 7:00 p.m. at the High School gym**. Our plan is to deliver a message with greater detail on the specifics of each component of the plan. I want to express my appreciation to our community for the feedback we have already received. It is extremely important to the Board of Education and Administration that our community receives factual information, understands the rationale for the design choices, grasps the intended benefits from the proposed facility, and receives ongoing communication on the status of the project. I want to commend the Board of Education for being diligent and researching multiple options to make the best decisions. We highly recommend every community member to attend the upcoming community meeting.

**Congratulations Marion Local Boys Basketball
2018 State Champions!**

301 Club—Mitch Thobe

The 301 Club hosted their Appreciation Party at the Maria Stein Legion on Friday, February 2nd after a home boys' basketball game vs. Minster. Food and beverages were provided for all members and their families. Below are the winners from the Appreciation Party:

\$25 Early Pay Winners: Jeremy & Jill Hess; Dan & Barb Heitkamp; Dale & Karen Poeppelman; Bill & Teresa Winner

Gift Certificate Winners:

Maria Stein Legion Bar: Walter Braun, Art & Joyce Moeller, Ron & Viv Hartings

Scott's Carryout: Alan & Sharon Hess, Dave & Kathy Buening, Ricky & Sarah Moeller

Chickasaw Qwik Stop: Mark & Jane Fleck, Tim & Dawn Goodwin, Brian & Janis Bohman

Winner's Meats: Craig & Nancy Heckman, Dale & Lynn Homan, Kevin & Lori Albers

Town Tavern: Terry & Lisa Moeller, Brian & Becky Evers, Doug & Tracy Klosterman

Moeller Brew Barn: Don & Tess Mescher, Paul & Amy Knapke, Jerry & Karen Moeller

Korner Kafe: Dale & Pam Schulze, Randy & Linda Bergman, Roman & Naomi Schaefer

Mercer County Elks: Scott & Marlene Livingston, Dianne & Larry Post, Mark Griesdorn

MVP Sports: Lee & Tiffany Heitkamp, Howard Bruggeman, Carl & Linda Koenig

Free Membership: Roger & Lynn Ungruhn

Cash Winners: \$301 – Allan & Terry Spoltman, \$150 – John & Kathy Spoltman, \$50 – Glenn & Connie Prenger

As always, we have to thank all of the businesses who help our cause by donating a gift certificate each. We also thank all of our members for your continued support of not only our organization, but your support of our youth programs and parks in the Marion Community.

If anyone would like to join the 301 Club, please talk with Mitch Thobe or any other 301 Club member. Go Flyers!

Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics—Don Rosenbeck

On the mornings of February 20 and March 8, the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics welcomed Sister Joyce Ann Zimmerman, C.P.P.S., as part of the Adoration Guild Learning Series titled "The Daily Journey to Heaven". Sr. Joyce has been a member of the Sisters of the Precious Blood for over fifty years and is a nationally known lecturer on spirituality and liturgy. For the past three years, she has been offering seminars and presentations to the community sponsored by the Shrine Adoration Guild. The presentations range in topics from Humor in Scripture to the Theology of Prayer.

The two spring discussions focused on Lenten topics. The first session in February addressed the notions of sin, grace, and the Church's contemporary understanding of indulgences. The March topic was on holiness, reminding attendees that we are all holy and that we are called to grow in God's holiness each day, especially during Lent. Both of these talks were presented to a record number of people, some coming as far as Columbus, and were moved to the large chapel to accommodate everyone. Videos of the presentations are available on the Shrine's YouTube channel.

The Maria Stein Shrine Adoration Guild is made up of local people who offer at least an hour a month to pray before Jesus, present in the Blessed Sacrament. These dedicated women and men continue a 170 year tradition of Eucharistic devotion began by the Sisters of the Precious Blood at Maria Stein in the 1840s. If you are interested in spending



some quiet time of mediation and prayer with the Lord, please call the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics at 419-925-4532 to join the Adoration Guild's rotation. The public is also welcome to visit the Shrine Chapels at any time for peaceful moment in their day.

The Shrine and its Adoration Guild, would like to invite the public to the fall sessions with Sr. Joyce Ann. Information about these and all events is available on Facebook, our website, in local parish bulletins and in newspapers.

The Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics provides faith nourishment and spiritual renewal through opportunities for prayer and pilgrimage and inspiration from the lives of the saints. People from around the world visit the shrine to explore and enjoy this environment rich in holiness and history.

The Shrine is located at 2291 St. John's Rd. in Maria Stein. For more event information, visit www.mariasteinshrine.org.

Marion Township Park—Lee Heitkamp

The Park Board of Marion Township Park meets monthly. We continue to focus on improving and maintaining the park for our community for use by all ages.

Recently, members voted to proceed with adding a new, additional scoreboard to diamond #2 (softball diamond). We already have a used scoreboard we purchased from the school that we have been using for a few years already on diamond #3 (Pony league diamond). This will add to the facilities and be enjoyed by many. We are hopeful to complete this in time for use for at least a portion of this season.

Also, board members recently removed perimeter bricks from around the concession stand to enable more to be engraved. We appreciate the donors who purchased bricks from our mailing as well as those who became new park patrons this year. We will be making much more soup for the Appreciation Party in August and look forward to seeing the newly engraved bricks installed before the busy season. Please be cautious until this project is completed while walking in the park.

Looking ahead, we look forward to seeing you at this year's Alumni Tournament on the park grounds July 27th, 28th, and 29th. Jay-Are band is already booked for Friday night for a long-awaited Jay-Are reunion. Mark your calendars to attend!

Finally, we would like to welcome Renee Hartings to the park board. She will be taking over the concessions and secretarial duties at the end of the year for Shelly Hartings. We thank her for joining us! Shelly plans to remain on the board and help transition until Renee takes over at year's end.

If you have suggestions for the park's future, we welcome those discussions. Current Park Board Members include: Lee Heitkamp (President- 419-305-8238), Eric Schroeder (Eagle Scout project manager – 419-296-8570), Kara Ahrens (419-733-7774), Ryan Stucke (rentals – 419-852-5088), Nick “Shaggy” Pavelka (social media/email coordinator 419-852-3858), Jeff Wolters (Treasurer - 419-953-6863), Shelly Hartings (Secretary/Concessions 419-953-2569), Renee Hartings (Secretary/Concessions 419-305-5530) & Jesse Rose (419-305-6695).

Please feel free to contact. We have now updated to a new page on [Facebook \(Marion Township Park\)](#) and on [Twitter \(@MarionTwpPark\)](#). Please follow us for listings of future events and details. You can also contact us through email: mari-ontwppk@gmail.com.

Zahn Marion Township Library—Juli Berning

Starting the last week of May will be our summer reading program. This year's theme is “Libraries Rock!” Our kickoff program will be on Monday, June 4th at 1:30 pm. Why sign your child up for summer reading? Beside the great prizes they could win, the benefits to readers in a summer reading program include:

- encouragement that reading become a lifelong habit
- reluctant readers can be drawn in by the activities
- reading over the summer helps children keep their skills up

the program can generate interest in the library and books

And it being summer, the program can just be good fun and provide an opportunity for family time. More information will be handed out at school or available in our library starting in late May.

Join us for these upcoming events:

Thursday, April 5th—Trivia on Tap. Get your teams together for “Trivia on Tap” which the library will be hosting at the Moeller Brew Barn. Sign up is at 7:30 pm with trivia beginning at 8 pm. No fee to enter. Prizes will be awarded.

April 8-14th – National Library Week. “Libraries Lead” is the theme for National Library Week which is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and libraries across the country each April. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. Kids can stop in and guess who our local readers are for a chance to win a \$10 Dairy Station gift certificate. Adults can enter for a chance to win a free book by going to our Face book page. Like and comment why you love your library and don't forget to share with your friends.

Tuesday, April 10th—Family night. Join us for stories, songs and a craft. Family night is held on the second Tuesday of every month (with the exception of August) at 6:30 pm. No pre-registration is required—just come on in.

Tuesday, April 17th—Skin care with essential oils. Nancy Kremer will be presenting this program on making cold crème and eye moisturizers using essential oils. Samples will be available for participants to take home. No pre-registration required. 6:30-7:30 pm.

Thursday, April 19th—Lego night from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. Lego nights will be held the third Thursday of every month. No age limit, no pre-registration required. Parental supervision required for younger children as some pieces are rather small.

Tuesday, April 24th—What's the Buzz? Why are honey bees important to the environment? How are the bees in a hive organized? What is the life cycle of bees? What do beekeepers do? How can we help honey bees and other pollinators survive? Come to the library at 6:30 pm as Ron and Carolyn Stucke explore these questions and more.

All dates, times and information on all of our upcoming programs are available on our Face book page. Just go to www.facebook.com/ZahnMarionLibrary and “like” our page. So come in to the library today and check us out!

Marion Community Development Organization
PO Box 65
Maria Stein, OH 45860-0065

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Memberships—Bob Dippold

It is time for the 2018 Membership Drive! Memberships will be due in January and the form is included below. Membership for the year is \$15.00 for a family and \$60.00 for a business. Thank you to all who have supported and continued to support the MCDO in 2017!

2018 MCDO Membership Form

| | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------|------|
| Business Membership \$60.00 _____ | | Family Membership \$15.00 _____ | |
| Please indicate if you would like a receipt for tax deduction: | | _____ | |
| Name: | | Date: | |
| Address: | | | |
| City: | | State: | Zip: |
| Phone: | | Email: | |

***Please make checks payable to: Marion Community Development Organization
Please send remittance to: MCDO - PO Box 65 - Maria Stein, OH 45860-0065***