

What's NEWS in Star City?

Volume 1, Issue 3

September 20, 2005

Mark Your Calendar!

- Next CIG Meeting-Monday
October 3, 7 PM
- Next Council meeting-
Tuesday, Sep 27, 7:00 PM
- **Town Hall Meeting-Sep
29, 6:00 PM, Knights of
Columbus hall**
- Trick or Treat-Monday,
October 31, 6 pm to 7 pm.

Council Meetings are held
EVERY
OTHER
TUESDAY
at 7pm.

All residents are encouraged
to attend!



We still need your
help! It's a great
playground but
around \$23,000 still
has to be raised to
cover the debt.

Donations of any size
are greatly appreci-
ated.

Checks should be
made payable to:
Community Build
Playground
and sent to:
PO Box 4548
Star City, WV 26504.
Thank You!

Star City Town Hall Meeting

The Star City Visioning Committee would like to announce that the next Star City Town Hall meeting will be held on **Thursday September 29, 2005 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus building.** Over the past several months, the visioning committee has been extremely active. This committee has gathered citizen information through the visioning surveys and the first town meeting, which was held on June 23rd.

While several areas of interest have been revealed from the surveys and original town hall meeting, three areas of focus will be examined at the September 29th meeting. Committees, which will be staffed by Star City residents and business owners, will be formed in order to address these three issues. The format will allow the participants to break into the three different groups in order to discuss these important issues. Sign-up sheets will be made available after the meeting and at the Star City Municipal building in the future for those interested in serving on a committee in the near future. The following is a list of the initial three issues to be discussed:

Committee 1: Zoning and Code Enforcement

Mission: To evaluate and update Star City's zoning and building codes. This committee will also work towards effectively enforcing the updated zoning and building codes throughout Star City. The following are issues which will fall under this committee's jurisdiction:

- ♦ Housing maintenance codes
- ♦ City zoning ordinances
- ♦ Rental housing codes
- ♦ Other related code and zoning topics

Committee 2: Community Development

Mission: To effectively plan for future community development within Star City. The following issues will fall under this committee's jurisdiction:

- ♦ Improving the city's physical appearance
- ♦ Protecting the environment
- ♦ Developing new parks
- ♦ Historic Preservation
- ♦ Road construction planning/traffic pattern evaluation

Committee 3: Economic Development

Mission: To increase the employment opportunities in Star City. The following issues will fall under this committee's jurisdiction:

- ♦ Job creation
- ♦ Business recruitment
- ♦ Riverfront development

We ask the Star City residents and business owners to come out to the **Knights of Columbus on Thursday September 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in order to discuss these important issues facing our great community.** Please be sure to urge your friends, family, and neighbors to join us as well! We hope to see you on September 29th!!

Ordinance Focus-Zoning by Bill McLaughlin, Code Enforcement

“Through zoning, a city regulates building size, population density, and the way that land is used. Zoning recognizes the changing demographic and economic conditions of the community and is a key tool for carrying out planning policy.”

Although this is a quote from the New York City Department of Planning, one of the largest cities in the United States, it can be applied equally to a small community such as Star City. Zoning ordinances should also recognize that all individual needs cannot be legislated by a sweeping rule or regulation, thus the provision for a Board of Zoning Appeal, which provide for non-political arbitration and exception to these rules when the circumstances allow. Although zoning may limit a property owner's land use, it provides for long term community planning and

ordered growth at a minimum adverse impact on the majority of its citizens.

Generally, a community wants limited congestion and lots of green space in area where families live, thus minimizing lot sizes for new homes, setback and height restrictions, and required off-street parking. Business districts allow for more intense land use and generally mandate special requirements for traffic management. Industrial zones usually prohibit dwelling units and business enterprises. History has demonstrated that if ordinances don't make provisions for a specific "use", it become difficult to control or limit adverse land-use impacts on a community. A current example is the proliferation of cellular 'towers' and "Hot Spots". It is usually not the intent of zoning laws to prohibit, so much as

to regulate or lessen the adverse and long-term impact on a community.

When non-conforming uses of land are present, ordinances sometimes allow for "grandfather" maintenance of that status until an appropriate opportunity arises to bring that use back into compliance. This may take a very long time, such as the end of the life of a particular structure or through some other means of attrition such as condemnation, but usually the intent is to make that change as painless as possible for those affected.

Most property owners do not want to be told what they can or can not do with their land, but after all is said and done, EVERYONE benefits from adherence to zoning and building codes.

Police News

Calls For Service

From January 1, 2005 through September 15, 2005

Total Number of Calls: 2,856

Total Number of Citations: 293

Total Number of Arrests: 120

Traffic Stops: 682

Business Checks: 1,027

Assist Other Departments: 129

Parking Complaints: 15

Traffic Accidents: 67

K-9 Calls: 26

DUI Calls: 67

Weapon
Violations: 2

Drug Incidents: 6

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we report the loss of our faithful canine officer, Thor. Thor died of an apparent heart attack at the home of his current partner, Patrolman Thomas Varndell.

Thor was instrumental in finding evidence during many arrests involving drugs. He was a good dog and an excellent officer and will be greatly missed by the department.

*Watch your speed on
roads and alleys!*

In Memoriam

As many of you know, our long-time Building Inspector Jim Williams passed away suddenly at the beginning of July. We mourn the loss of our friend and co-worker and express our deepest sympathies to his wife Betty Lou and their children. Jimmy was an essential part of Star City and he will be missed by family and friends alike.

On the afternoon of July 20, 2005 William "Bill" McLaughlin was sworn in as the new Code Enforcement Official. Bill has, in the past, stood in for the previous Code Official Jim Williams and assisted the town on other matters of Code Enforcement. Bill is a retired general contractor specializing in the electrical trade in the Monongalia County area for 40 years. Bill no longer takes an active role in his

New Faces!

business, but occupies his time and resources as a Municipal Code Officer, stained glass artisan, and educator in the electrical field. Bill has already been working hard with all the building projects in town!

The Public Works Department also has two new employees, Robert Costello, and Jerry Boyers. Give them a wave if you see them out mowing the grass!



New CVS Store Construction:

As you can see from the photo at above, work is proceeding very quickly on the new CVS store in the River Landing Plaza. This new store will feature an expanded shopping area, a drive-thru pharmacy, a one-hour photo shop and more! Grand Opening is slated for mid-November.



Golden Corral Construction:

Above, construction proceeds on the new Golden Corral Restaurant, also slated to open in November. Golden Corral family-style restaurants specialize in the biggest and best buffet and grill available anywhere. They will be open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. We look forward to their grand opening!



Help Pay Off the Playground!

Tugboat Depot, the Community Build Playground, is a big hit with both kids and adults. We are extremely pleased with the amount of usage the playground is getting. However, we still have a debt to pay. We are kicking off a Mary Kay fundraiser and have several other fundraisers in mind. We will be selling the leftover materials from the playground. And you can still buy engraved pavers and fence pickets. The pickets are going up on the front fence as they're sold and the pavers will go in a decorative design to the right of the playground next spring. Many people are buying them in their family name, in their children's name or as a memorial to a loved one. The forms for both can be found in the mailbox at the playground entrance. If you have questions about fundraisers or would like to help as a volunteer, call Becky at 292-2222.

Grand Opening Day- August 21, 2005



THANKS! To the Morgantown North Rotary Club for their invaluable contribution to this project!





**370 Broadway Ave.
Star City, WV 26505**

**Phone: 304-599-3550
Fax: 304-599-1130
Email: scclerk@adelphia.net
Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00AM--4:00 PM**



*Star City-Where Our Citizens And
Guests are STARS!*



For information about emergencies such as water main breaks, please listen to radio station **97.9 WKKW**.

Please consider a donation to the "Tugboat Depot" playground. See article and contact information on the front page of this newsletter. THANKS TO A GREAT COMMUNITY!



Volunteers Needed!!!



Maybe you've asked yourself "I wonder what I could do for the Town of Star City?" Well, here are some ideas:

- 1. Adopt-A-Street**-based on the popular Adopt-A-Highway program, participants "adopt" a street or section of street and pledge to keep it free of debris and trash.
- 2. Star City Beautification**-this committee is looking for ways to enhance everyone's perception of the town. One of their main objectives is the Memorial Tree Program. For a donation, a tree will be planted in memory of a loved one. Members of the tree board coordinate tree location and suitability.
- 3. Common Interest Group**-meeting once a month, this group is responsible for the "Vision" of Star City's future. Different committees to suit different abilities.
- 4. Neighborhood Watch**-Assist the police department by letting them know about suspicious activity in your area.
- 5. Glass Festival**- Many folks have asked "When will the Glass Festival come back?" If you have an area of expertise that you feel could help revive the Festival, please let us know! If enough people are interested, our Festival could come back!

WISH LIST

(all original photos or documents will be returned unharmed)

-Photographs of former mayors of the town to add to the "Wall of Mayors"

-Photographs of former chiefs of police for our "Wall of Police Chiefs"

-Any old photos of historical Star City or those relating to the history of the town.

-Any memorabilia or memories of the town you choose to share.

-Any historical information you may have or know of personally.

Please contact Kim at the business office to discuss the History of Star City Project.

