

What's NEWS in Star City?

Volume V, Issue I

September 30, 2009

Mark Your Calendar!

• Upcoming Council Meetings:

Tuesday, Oct 20,

7:00 PM

Tuesday, Nov 3,

7:00 PM

Tuesday, Nov 17,

7:00 PM

Tuesday, Dec 1,

7:00 Pm

Tuesday, Dec 15,

7:00

Tuesday, Dec 29,

7:00

• HOLIDAYS

(adjusted Garbage Pickup)

Veteran's Day-Nov 11

Wednesday GB picked up

Thursday

Thanksgiving-Nov 26

Thursday GB picked up

Friday

Christmas-Dec 25

Friday GB picked up

Monday

New Year's Day-Jan 1

Friday GB picked up

Monday

Meet Your Council!

Mayor Thomas Konchesky

Newly elected Mayor Thomas Konchesky was born in Queens, New York City, New York in 1963. His family moved back to Morgantown, where they still live in the Cheat Lake area. He graduated from University High School and attended WVU with a major in Business & Economics. After holding a few part-time jobs, Tom was employed by Mylan Pharmaceuticals.

Tom lived in Star City for four years before meeting his wife, Jennifer Straface Konchesky (a daughter of late former Mayor Joseph Straface and Marianne Straface). They married in December of 1996 and have resided in Star City since then. They have three children, Jake, Ty, and Josie. In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family and golfing "when he has time-and with three kids, who has time?" He also coaches the youth sports teams where his sons are active members.

Before being elected Mayor, Tom served for three terms (six years) as a councilman. He decided to run for Mayor because he felt the finances of the town needed more attention than he felt they were getting from previous councils. As Mayor, he is a member of all council committees and is able to provide input at that level before the committees take issues and suggestions to council.

His primary goals for the city include: financial reorganization, with an emphasis on each department head managing their own department's finances; replacement of outdated vehicles and equipment; a system of administrative checks and balances to avoid errors and make sure customers are not being under or overcharged, and maintenance of the police and service departments to keep them equal to or exceeding the town's current standards.

A Message To The Citizens of Star City:

"I would like to thank the citizens for their support in electing me Mayor and hope that I can exceed your expectations of me. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at city hall to schedule some time to talk. I welcome the input from all citizens and look forward to continuing Star City's progress into the future. "

Recorder Sharon G. Summers

Sharon Summers has been a resident of Star City for nearly thirty-five years. Sharon graduated from Mapletown High School in Mapletown, PA and holds a Bachelor's and Master's degree from West Virginia University and retired after thirty-five years of service as a kindergarten teacher with the Monongalia County School System.

Sharon is married to Monongalia County Magistrate Darris Summers. They have a daughter, Shalane, who will be completing her Master's degree in December from WVU.

Sharon also volunteers for the Morgantown Public Library by hosting a weekly Star City Story Time at town hall where she interacts with local preschoolers. She is also very active at her church, Kingdom Evangelical Methodist, in Westover. In her spare time, Sharon enjoys traveling, reading, spending time with friends and family.

This is Sharon's second term as Recorder for the Town of Star City. She serves on the Sanitation Committee, the Traffic Committee, the Beautification Committee, and is Chairperson of the Ordinance Committee. She also serves as clerk of the municipal court, held twice per month.

Councilor Anthony "Jambie" Giambrone

Anthony "Jambie" Giambrone has been a resident of West Virginia since 1977, moving to Star City in 1985. He was appointed to Star City Council in 2008 and then elected to his first full term in June 2009. Giambrone has worked in state government as the administrative assistant to the Speaker of the House and as the Chairman of the Lottery Commission. Before becoming the state of West Virginia and Monongalia County's first Litter Control Officer in 1999, Jambie previously was a private entrepreneur in the restaurant business as owner of the much-missed "Jambie's".

Jambie oversees the operations of the Roadside Litter Cleanup Program, the Illegal Dump Program, and coordinates special recycling events for the Mon. County Solid Waste Authority. He has also worked as the marketing agent for the Solid Waste Authority. He is a current member of the Dilapidated and Abandoned Property Enforcement Committee, and is the Chair of the Mon. County Solid Waste Taskforce Umbrella Group. He is also an Ex-Officio of the Mon. County Solid Waste Authority. On council, Jambie serves as the Chair of the Sanitation Committee and the Street Committee, as well as serving as a member of the Finance, Beautification and Traffic Committees.

He resides in Star City with his wife of 35 years, Mary Rose, and their children, Bettina, currently residing in Pittsburgh, PA, and Anthony (a WVU graduate), and is grandfather to little Antonio.

Councilor Diana Kerns

Diana Kerns is a Councilor for the Town of Star City. She has been a part of council since 2006, after previously serving as recorder in the 1980's. She was re-elected in June 2009. She serves as the Chair of the Finance Committee and the Business Committee. She also serves on the following committees: Building Committee, Ordinance Committee, Personnel Committee, and Insurance/Benefits Committee. Kerns has worked with past and present mayors as well as a host of business and community partners to enhance Star City's growth and diversity.

Additionally, she works for Hydra Tools, Inc. as a Controller, providing Accounting and Financial Reporting, Customer & Market Direction, and overall Team Support.

Kerns has an Associate of Science Business Administration from Waynesburg College and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Finance from Waynesburg, Pennsylvania, where she graduated magna cum laude.

Diana has lived her entire life in the Town of Star City. Her husband, Terry, has lived in the Town of Star City for the past 26 years where they have raised their two sons, Jim and John, along with their two dogs and two cats.

Councilor Andrew Laskody

Andy Laskody was born and raised in Star City, residing first on Congress Avenue; he now lives on Broadway Avenue with his wife Tracey and their daughters Rachel and Emily. He graduated from St. Francis High School and attended Potomac State College and Fairmont State College.

Andy is a career firefighter, serving as a Lieutenant with the Morgantown Fire Department. He also owns and operates Mountain State Trailer Rental and is part owner of Storage Solutions. He has been a member of the Star City Volunteer Fire Department since 1983, serving in various capacities including eight years as Fire Chief. Although not currently an active firefighter with SCVFD, he still serves on the Board of Trustees.

Andy's election to council is his first entry into politics. He serves as the Chairperson for the Building Committee and as a member of the Finance Committee, the Street/Paving Committee, the Business Committee, the Personnel Committee, and the Insurance/Benefits Committee.

Councilor Robert Musick

Bob Musick has been working in the field of Community Behavioral Health in West Virginia for the past 36 years. He is currently the Chief Executive Officer of The West Virginia Council for the Prevention of Suicide. He received his Bachelor and Master's Degrees from West Virginia University's School of Social Work.

He has taught courses in the School of Social Work with an emphasis on Management/Supervision. In 2001, Bob was awarded The Exemplar Award for Excellence in Social Work Management by the National Association of Social Workers West Virginia Chapter. Bob's background in Mental Health has been in Crisis Management Services with Valley HealthCare System. He has been certified in Critical Incident Stress Management and works as a member of Valley's Crisis Debriefing Team. Bob has co-published several articles with Dr. Bill Fremouw in the text "Innovations in Clinical Practice: Focus on Group, Couples, & Family Therapy". Bob has been presenting workshops across West Virginia on Suicide Prevention and Awareness and in the past five years over 750 participants have attended these workshops.

He was elected to council in 2005, where he currently serves as Chair of the Traffic Committee and the Personnel Committee. He is also a member of the Business, Streets, and Insurance/Benefits Committees. He and wife Tanya have lived in Star City "26 wonderful years!"

Councilor Janice Rowan

Janice was born and raised in the Town of Star City, the daughter of Carl (Jumbo) and Rosalie Price. She graduated from Morgantown High School and then continued her education at West Virginia University, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Library Information Services. She is currently employed by University Health Associates, where she serves as Residency Coordinator in the Department of Anesthesiology at Ruby Memorial Hospital.

Janice is married to James Rowan and has one daughter, Melissa Chesanko. In her spare time, she likes to read, walk, and play tennis.

Winning this seat on the city council is her first foray into politics. On council, she serves on the Sanitation Committee, the Ordinance Committee, and is Chairperson of the Beautification (Clean Up) Committee.

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**HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT
WILL BE HELD ON
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
FROM 5:30 PM TO 7:00 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.**

Dear Citizens,

City Council and the Town of Star City would like to honor the veterans who have served in the Armed Forces by building a tribute in their honor. We currently have a small WWII plaque, but would like to honor all the veterans of the town.

If you or any family member who is/was a resident of Star City while in the Armed Forces and served in the following wars: WWI, WWII, Vietnam, Desert Storm, or Iraqi Freedom, please email the following information:

Name and Rank
Branch of Military
War in which you (they) served
If submitting the name of relative who was killed in action, please indicate as such.

to Janice Rowan, Chairperson of the Beautification Committee at jmpriceless@yahoo.com. If you do not have access to email, please bring the information to city hall and give it to Kim.

Our intention is to gather the information from October through December 2009. Once we have received all the information, council intends to construct a Veteran's Memorial Wall to honor and remember the citizens of Star City who have served their country.

We appreciate your cooperation in helping make this dream become a reality in the near future. We will keep you informed of our progress in the coming months.

Thank you!

Janice Rowan