



Planning Progress

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Happy Birthday!

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The Stock Pile (TSP) is celebrating its 10th birthday during 2009! It is hard to believe SCRPC's non-profit building material reuse warehouse has been going strong for 10 years. To celebrate, TSP is having a birthday party on Saturday, May 23 from 9 am – 2 pm and the public is invited! It will be at the warehouse, located at 1387 Clarendon SW, in Canton, just 7 blocks south of Aultman Hospital. There will be food, fun, and special deals for this festive occasion, so be sure to attend!

TSP focuses on improving housing conditions for low-to-moderate income families while preserving natural resources and reducing unnecessary waste. Non-profit agencies and qualified low-to-moderate income members can purchase new and used building materials at approximately 1/3 of the original retail cost. Those who do not qualify can still shop any time with the use of a Day Pass, which is available at the warehouse.

Since opening in 1999, TSP has received awards from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, and the Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne Joint Solid Waste Management District. TSP has diverted nearly 800 tons of reusable materials from landfills, returned over \$1.8 million worth of materials to useful life, and assisted over 1,500 low-to-moderate income families by providing materials for home repairs. For further information, call 330-455-4585.



From the Farm Gate to the Dinner Plate

For every hour of every day, the United States loses 125 acres of farmland. This figure is staggering, but according to the nationally recognized, non-profit organization, *American Farmland Trust*, a new trend in eating locally grown foods may be coming to the rescue. In recent years, locally grown food has been making its way back into the mainstream as more people are flocking to farmers' markets and roadside stands. Advocates point out several benefits of consuming locally grown foods, such as:

- 1.) Economic Development – Buying local re-circulates dollars into the community by supporting a cycle of local food production and consumption;
- 2.) Public Health – Food that has traveled over 1,500 miles to reach a grocery store loses some of its freshness, nutritional value, and quality;
- 3.) Agricultural Viability – Closing the gap between local production and consumption increases the profitability for farmers, helping them to better preserve their farmland and maintain daily operations;
- 4.) Environmental Quality – Our country's industrialized agricultural system uses vast quantities of energy and fuel to grow, package, and distribute food across the country, whereas local farmers support a less energy-intensive method of farming; and
- 5.) Homeland Security – Reducing our nation's dependency on fossil fuels for food production allows us to maintain a more sustainable approach to globalization, climate change and economic disruptions.

The biggest challenge still facing the local foods movement is that it takes time to seek out local foods. Fortunately, some grocery giants are realizing the potential of selling locally grown foods as they are working with other groups to bring local foods back into the stores. In addition, new programs that provide alternative measures to help capitalize on this emerging trend are starting to appear throughout the country. These include the more traditional methods such as farmers' markets and roadside farms, as well as less conventional farm-to-chef or farm-to-commercial buyer programs that connect farmers to local, bulk food-purchasing venues such as schools or restaurants. Emerging programs such as Community-Supported Agriculture sell food subscriptions to consumers in the area, which provide subscribers with weekly baskets of fresh vegetables and fruits. Agri-tourism allows vacationers to visit and participate on working farms or ranches.

Stark County Farmers' Markets and CSA's:

- Alliance Farmers' Market
- Canal Fulton Farmers' Market
- Canton Farmers' Market
- Hartville Marketplace
- Massillon Farmers' Market
- Minerva Farmers' Market
- Sunny Slope Orchard, Navarre
- Mud Run Farm CSA, Navarre
- High Mill Park CSA, Massillon
- Hawk Creek Farm CSA, Bolivar
- Simon Certified Organic Farm CSA, Canton

Participating in the local foods movement is a form of sustainable economic development that connects farmland preservation and the community. Urban consumers help protect farms by keeping the farms in business through local food purchases. Stabilizing farm production helps ensure that our American agricultural heritage will continue for years to come. For local farm market information, go to www.ohioproud.org

Food by the Numbers

1,500: average number of miles food travels from producer to consumer

340: number of farmers' markets in the U.S. in 1970

4,385: number of farmers' markets in the U.S. in 2006

1.1 million: number of barrels of oil that could be conserved per week if every U.S. citizen would eat one meal a week prepared with local, organically grown produce

2006: the first year in U.S. history that the value of food imported into the U.S. exceeded the value of food exported to other countries

Stark Receives Funding for Continuum of Care

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development announced recently that Stark County will receive \$2,137,139 in funding under the Continuum of Care program for the Homeless and Homelessness Prevention Activities. The following programs will receive funding. Four are new to the Continuum of Care, while the others are renewals of currently funded activities.

Applicant	Project Name	New/Renewal	Funding Amount
SMHA	Shelter + Care Samaritan (Gateway II)	New	190,680
SMHA	Shelter + Care (Gateway II)	New	326,880
PAL Mission	Exodus Program	New	218,602
New Beginnings Recovery	Recovery House I & II	New	65,776
ICAN, Inc.	Basic Accommodations Lease Technician	Renewal	46,856
Crisis Intervention	Continuum of Care Supportive Housing Program	Renewal	62,132
ICAN, Inc.	Housing First Apartments	Renewal	48,134
YWCA of Canton	Housing Support Specialist	Renewal	47,951
SMHA	ICAN, Inc. Shelter + Care	Renewal	169,920
Western Stark Medical Clinic	Mobile Health Care for the Homeless	Renewal	124,951
YWCA of Canton	Outreach and Referral Services	Renewal	47,957
SMHA	Shelter + Care	Renewal	211,680
SMHA	Shelter + Care Tenant Based Rental Assistance	Renewal	207,720
United Way of Greater Stark County	HMIS System Coordination	Renewal	105,437
Community Services of Stark County	Supportive Services – Gateway	Renewal	133,333
Alliance for Children and Families	Transitional Housing	Renewal	129,130
TOTAL			2,137,139

The Stark County Interagency Council on Homelessness (SCICH) Evaluation Team reviewed and made recommendations on each of the projects.

Proposed FY 2009-2011 Stark County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and FY 2009 HOME Programs

In late April, the Board of Stark County Commissioners will adopt the FY 2009 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME programs, and tentatively will adopt the CDBG program for the 2010 and 2011 years, as well. This adoption will take place after the thirty-day comment period for both programs is completed. The programs submitted for adoption will be the same as those presented by the Stark County CDBG staff during the public hearing. Both the FY 2009-2011 CDBG and FY 2009 HOME programs have previously been adopted by the Stark County Regional Planning Commission in early March and the CDBG Citizens' Advisory Council in mid-March, prior to the March 25th public hearing. Below is the breakdown of the proposed FY 2009-2011 CDBG and FY 2009 HOME programs.

FY 2009 - 2011 PROPOSED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Board of Stark County Commissioners is proposing to undertake the following housing and community development activities during funding program FY 2009 – 2011*.

<u>PROJECTS</u>	<u>PROPOSED FUNDING FY 2009</u>	<u>PROPOSED FUNDING FY 2010</u>	<u>PROPOSED FUNDING FY 2011</u>
CDBG Administration	148,808	148,808	148,808
Comprehensive Planning	80,415	80,415	80,415
Fair Housing	54,615	54,615	54,615
Housing Rehabilitation Program Costs	210,500	210,500	215,500
Emergency Rehabilitation Program	100,000	100,000	100,000
Stock Pile, Inc. - LMI Reuse Warehouse	50,000	50,000	50,000
Community Services of Stark Co. - Family Living Center	20,676	21,543	22,447
Western Stark Free Clinic-Healthcare for the Uninsured & Underserved	30,000	30,000	30,000
Alliance for Children & Families - Alliance Emergency Residence	14,989	14,989	14,989
Prescription Asst. Network of Stark Co.-Prescription Medication Access	16,000	16,000	16,000
Salvation Army of Canton - Homeless Motel Vouchers	35,000	35,000	35,000
Canton Negro Oldtimers, Inc. - Three Annual Giving Events	5,000	5,000	5,000
Kent State Stark - KSU Micro Enterprise Development Program	27,966	27,967	27,967
Canal Fulton - High Street/Erie Avenue Plum Creek Culvert Replacement	-	91,715	-
Plain Township - Orchard View Storm Sewer Improvement	45,000	-	-
Hartville - North Prospect Street Improvement Project	-	155,000	-
Minerva-Murray Avenue Storm Sewer - Phase I	150,000	-	-
Minerva-Valley St Storm Sewer/Road Reconstruction Project - Phase IV	-	-	150,000
North Canton - North Main Street Waterline/Sewer Replacement	-	375,000	-
North Canton - Hower & Witwer Sanitary Replacement	-	-	189,000
Waynesburg - Water Line Extension - West	235,478	-	-
Stark Metro Housing Authority - Waterline Extension for Zircon	191,390	-	-
Marlboro Township - Marlboro Sanitary Sewer & Storm Sewer Project	-	-	275,000
Contingencies	3,355	2,640	4,451
TOTAL	\$1,419,192	\$1,419,192	\$1,419,192

It is anticipated that the County will receive an additional \$95,000 in program income from the current housing rehabilitation revolving loan fund program. This program income will revolve back into this program.

FY 2009 PROPOSED HOME PROGRAM

The Board of Stark County Commissioners, as the lead agency for the HOME Consortium, is proposing the following expenditure of funds for the HOME program, which follows the same program year as the CDBG program.

<u>PROJECTS</u>	<u>PROPOSED FUNDING</u>
City of Massillon - Housing Rehabilitation	147,842
Alliance for Children & Families - A-F.I.R.S.T	163,151
Stark County - Housing Rehabilitation	452,284
City of Massillon's Homebuyers Assistance Program	1,325
Stark County/City of Alliance Homebuyers Assistance Program	5,898
Administration	84,808
TOTAL	\$ 855,308

After adoption by the Board of Stark County Commissioners, the Stark County CDBG program will submit the fully-approved "Stark County FY 2009 CDBG and HOME Programs - One-Year Update of the Consolidated Plan" to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by May 15th for their acceptance and a July 1st start date.

*Funding allocations for FY 2010 & 2011 have been tentatively approved by the Board of Stark County Commissioners.



Western Stark Free Clinic's Homeless Medical and Dental Van

Water Efficient Landscaping

With spring on its way, many are wanting to work in their yards. Watering our yards and gardens is something we seem to take for granted. In the summer, the amount of water used outdoors by a household can exceed the amount used for all other purposes in the entire year.

Gardening and lawn care account for the majority of this seasonal increase, but other outdoor activities, such as washing cars and filling swimming pools, also contribute. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, of the 26 billion gallons consumed daily in the United States, approximately 7.8 billion gallons, or 30% is devoted to outdoor uses. The majority of that is used for landscaping. It is estimated

that the typical suburban lawn consumes 10,000 gallons of water above and beyond rainwater each year.

Beautiful lawns do not require extensive watering, fertilization, and pesticide application. Water-efficient landscaping produces attractive landscapes because it utilizes designs and plants suited to local conditions.

- Group plants according to their water needs
- Use native and low-water-use plants
- Make sure soil is healthy
- Remember to mulch
- Provide regular maintenance

For specific information about how to best apply water-efficient landscaping principles to your area, consult with your local nursery.



Proper landscaping techniques not only create beautiful landscapes, but also benefit the environment and save water. In addition, attractive, water-efficient, low-maintenance landscapes can increase home values. Water-efficient landscaping offers many economic and environmental benefits, including:

- Lower water bills from reduced water use
- Conservation of natural resources and preservation of habitat for plants and wildlife such as fish and waterfowl
- Decreased energy use (and air pollution associated with its generation) because less pumping and treatment of water is required
- Reduced runoff of stormwater and irrigation water that carries topsoils, fertilizers, and pesticides into lakes, rivers, and streams
- Fewer yard trimmings to be managed or landfilled
- Reduced landscaping labor and maintenance costs
- Extended life for water resources infrastructure (e.g., reservoirs, treatment plants, groundwater aquifers) thus reduced tax-payers costs

Annual Dinner



Pete Raymond's captivating performance made for an enjoyable evening.

Approximately 120 guests attended this year's RPC's Annual Dinner on March 25th. Pete Raymond, who portrayed President Abraham Lincoln, was the guest speaker. Raymond has an uncanny resemblance to Lincoln and took us on a journey through his life presenting history in a very unique manner. He spoke of his difficult childhood and how he became a self-taught attorney. Unfortunately, he had to endure the untimely deaths of two of his four young sons. His political career spanned many years taking him to the presidency. Raymond's speech ended with Lincoln's assassination and the tragic end of his life. A standing ovation was given for the wonderful performance.

Pete is from Wooster, Ohio and has traveled across the eastern United States making presentations in schools, churches, social and civic groups since 2000. He is a life member of the Association of Lincoln Presenters, a national organization of nearly 170 portrayers of Lincoln who make first person presentations in Lincoln-Era attire.

SCATS Stimulus Projects

SCATS Policy committee adopted a resolution at its March meeting approving the projects utilizing American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. SCATS received \$6.6 million in addition to reallocating \$5.8 million of previously authorized Surface Transportation Program funds. To meet the guidelines of putting the money to work quickly, the Policy Committee agreed to fund three projects currently on the SCATS Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and one new project. Approved projects were the Hills & Dales widening, Louisville Main Street Improvements, and the Deer Creek Pedestrian Bridge. New projects that will be added to the TIP are: Wooster St. Bridge; Deerfield Bridge; Kemary Avenue Bridge; Cleveland Avenue reconstruction in Canton; Main Street resurfacing in North Canton; Martin Luther King Viaduct in Alliance; and the Main Street resurfacing in Massillon.

Upcoming Events

April

6	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
7	SCRPC	7:30 PM

May

4	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
5	SCRPC	7:30 PM
27	CAC	1:30 PM

June

8	Subdivision Review	1:30 PM
9	SCRPC	7:30 PM
23	SCATS	1:30 PM

Credits

Editor/Graphics
Malia Watkins

President
Pamela Bossart

Executive Director
Robert Nau

Phone
330-451-7389

Fax
330-451-7990

Website
www.rpc.co.stark.oh.us



Stark County Regional Planning Commission
201- 3rd St. N.E.
Canton, Ohio 44702

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