**The VIEWpoint**

 **(printing courtesy of the City of Dayton)**

DVTF MEMBERS STILL NEEDED!

Okay, I admit it, some of it *IS* about the money! This print newsletter goes to everyone in the Triangle, and I send the e-letter to anyone who will give me an e-address. (If you haven’t done so yet, write me! I’m at **efrice927@att.net**.)

There are two reasons to join the DVT Federation. First, we have found that people who actually become members are more likely to get involved – and we need some new blood, especially younger people with fresh ideas. (Social media, e.g.?) We could get grants for cleanups, plantings, block parties, and so on *IF* we had the volunteers!

Second, what we can do is partly a function of how much money we have. Your trustees thank all of you who contributed to our drive to benefit the Wesley Community Center, which is most active in the neediest part of the City (which isn’t the Triangle). But as for our own monies, we have a small CD, but by fall our checking account will be just barely into triple digits!

Let me share with you what we are spending our very limited funds on. First, there’s these print newsletters. The City prints them (thank you, Dayton!), but we have to pay for mailing them. The City has very kindly provided us with address listings in label format (thank you, Tony K.!), but we have to buy the labels and pay for their printing. (And the tape to hold the newsletters’ folds together.)

Closely related is the annual membership mailing. We put a newsletter into the same envelope, to save postage, and the City prints the letter and form for us. But there’s still the cost of the envelopes (and printing the return address and maybe return envelopes), and of course more labels and tape for sealing.

Beyond that? We have insurance costs, which we are looking to find ways to reduce. We pay to rent a P.O. box, to keep a constant address. In the past we have been members of the Salem Avenue Business Association; we have supported the annual community-policing conference; and we have contributed a small amount to the Festival of Neighborhoods – $100 total for community involvement. The in-process website is currently hosted free, but we have to pay for the domain name.

That doesn’t leave us much for neighborhood improvement, such as the banners we commissioned a couple of years ago, or buying plants to make our medians look cared for! So we need to increase the number of people who care enough about their neighborhood to send us the $10 or $15 that membership calls for – and also get more volunteers with ideas for keeping up the neighborhood.

We’d be happy to see you at meetings – contact me for information if you’d like to come – but you can still help the neighborhood just by sending in a membership contribution. We’d like to be able to sponsor more neighborhood interaction, whether it’s a useful website or a picnic again, but we can’t do it without your support.

*Ellen Rice, DVTF President*

NEW CITYWIDE / PHOENIX PROGRAM

If you are one of the lucky people who lives within the Phoenix Project area, CityWide has such a deal for you! They have instituted a new program that will cover the cost of paint and supplies needed for painting the exterior of your house.

There are of course restrictions. First, you have to live within the Phoenix district. (For this special project, not only houses north of Otterbein, but houses ON Otterbein are included!) Second, the house must belong to you. Third, there are income limitations, which vary by family size (for example, just under $35K for one person, or just under $50K for a family of four).

So if you live in and own a house in the Phoenix district, and you think you make less than the median household income, give **Andy Badinghaus** a call on **853-2535**! (Or write him at **abadinghaus@citywidedev.com** .)

Andy can tentatively verify your eligibility and send you CityWide’s formal application. If it confirms your eligibility, CityWide will come look at your house to estimate the amount of paint needed, and you’ll get a coupon to use at Sherwin-Williams.

But you need to do the painting within three months, so don’t wait! Paint doesn’t like cold weather, so get your application in while the weather’s good.

SUMMER BRUSH AND BULK PICKUP

DVTF VP Mike Dolinski has queried the source! The latest word from the City’s Public Works department is:

* **Recycling** will stay on the same schedule (alternate Mondays, except holidays) for the summer.
* **Bulk pickup** will continue to be on first Fridays except in July and September (because of holidays). *BUT* there will ***also*** be bulk pickup in the third weeks of June, July, and August! The exact dates aren’t certain; when you call for a pickup that week they will tell you. But the extra-pickup possibilities are:
	+ **June:** Tues 16th through Fri 19th
	+ **July:** Weds 15th through Fri 17th plus Tues 21st
	+ **August:** Tues 18th through Fri 21st
* **Brush pickup** will take place on the same expanded summer schedule as the bulk pickup. The City still wants the brush tied into bundles no more than 18” in diameter, and no more than 4’ long. (They ask that you not lay out more than 8’ of bundles along the curb, but you can stack the bundles up to 4’ high!)

You still have to **call Public Works** (on Thursday or earlier) if you want ***any*** bulk or brush pickup. The drivers’ orders are to pick up only where they are told to, even if they go right past your house (which they may not). The number to call is **333-4800**. You can also make a request via Dayton Delivers,[**http://daytonohio.gov/ daytondelivers**](http://daytonohio.gov/%20daytondelivers). Remember, you can call in your neighbors’ heaps as well!

RECYCLING REMINDER

Recycle everything you can – help the City use our tax money better! And if you get the free blue bin from the City, you’ll be entered into a monthly drawing!

DAYTON IS YOURS: AN UPDATE

In recent years our neighborhood has been something of a 'gentle' participant in the DIY program. As you are probably already aware, **D**ayton **I**s **Y**ours is a program, initiated by the City, that encourages the reporting of trash and debris, tall grass, and failing home maintenance to a neighborhood representative.

When a report is made, the neighborhood rep enters the property address into a City database, and sends out a postcard to the homeowner in the hope that he or she can be motivated to address the problem.

For a few years the Triangle’s participation was minimal, because the need was not pressing. With selective demolition, good participation in the scheduled bulk trash pickups, and perhaps other factors, progress seemed to be both self-generating and self-sustaining. Even the plant growth along the alleys (homeowners are responsible for that, up to the mid-line of the alley) seemed to have been ‘tamed.’

Lately, however, there have been signs that this progress has slipped a bit. The alleys in particular are looking rather ratty. We are entering eight addresses into the database this month because of issues with trash in the alleys behind them, as well as other shortfalls in code conformance. The goal is to motivate the Triangle to shape up in 2015, starting with this summer!

If you see problems with a house, a yard, or the alleyway behind a property, please tell us. We will put the address into the database (which will ultimately go to the City’s Housing Inspection department, if the homeowner doesn’t take action) and send the responsible homeowner a reminder card. You can reach us at **mdolinski@woh.rr.com** and **tjscheidt@sbcglobal.net**, or call us on 238-1210 and 275-4960 respectively.

One final thought. You always have to call the City to schedule a bulk pickup. There are extra pickups during the summer, and the City will provide you with the next scheduled date. But please have some consideration for your neighbors who may not want to look at your bulk items for several weeks before the pickup date! Try not to put out your material until a day or two before the scheduled pickup. Thank you for helping in this effort to keep the Triangle looking great!

*Mike Dolinski and Ted Scheidt, DIY and Housing Committee*

TOWARD A MORE BEAUTIFUL TRIANGLE

I have volunteered to try to keep the Otterbein Islands looking good this growing season, with more blooms and fewer weeds.   The weeds will always find a way to try to take over, though.  I’d be grateful for some help in keeping the Islands looking good.

Thank you to whoever cleared out the leaves from the big bed! I was gone for a few weeks this spring, and when I went to do that chore it was already done.

I’m working right now on getting rid of the weeds in the big bed.  Some of the plants from last year didn't make it through the winter, and I’d like to replace them with divisions from any of you who have some to share.  The Triangle is known for its trees and lovely gardens; we need to show that face not only to our neighbors but to potential buyers.

I hope to rejuvenate the small middle island this season.  There are some perennials there, but also a lot of weeds! If you have some time to help or plants to share, give me a call and we can work together.

Here are some ways you can help:

1. Donate a bag of black mulch to help keep the weeds away.
2. If you need to divide your perennials, share some of them for the Islands.
3. As you see them when you walk by, pull some weeds and get rid of them.

If you have plants, questions, or suggestions, you can reach me at **tjscheidt@sbcglobal.net** or at 275-4960.

*Judy Scheidt, Triangle Landscaping Coordinator*

 FALL COMMUNITY MEETING? YOU DECIDE WHAT WE NEED!

Some of you might have noticed that we have had no spring community meeting yet this year. This is because so few people came to the last couple of years’ community meetings that they were obviously not doing much to bring the Triangle neighborhood together! So this year your trustees are asking you in advance:

* What topics should we be talking about as a community? Do you have concerns that we can address better together?
* Can we identify a need that we could submit a grant request to the City for? There is money available, but we have to carry out the project.
* What day of the week and time would work best for meeting to discuss the possibilities?

We would be happy to try to organize a meeting for whenever enough people are willing to get together. We are currently thinking maybe late October, when everyone should be in town but not yet facing the holidays. Please let me know at **efrice927@att.net** or 277-1814 what you think would work best, and what ideas you have for keeping this neighborhood attractive and comfortable!

 *Ellen Rice, DVTF President*

