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The Village
of Rockford

Rockford
Chamber of Commerce

Rockford Area
Development
Corporation (RADC)

Shanes Crossing
Historical Society

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Meeting Minutes: August 21, 2012

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[Meeting Minutes](#)

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS:

Council called to order by Mayor Amy Joseph on Tuesday, August 21, 2012 at 7:30 pm at the Rockford Village Hall.

Invocation was given by Gene Steiner

Pledge of Allegiance

Those present: Gehle, Steiner, Hodge, Pontsler, Searight, Heitkamp.

Also attending: Jeff Long, Amy Kronenberger of the Daily Standard, Jim Crocker, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Thompson, Chief May

Motion Steiner. Second Gehle to accept Agenda as orders of the day. Pontsler called for the question. Steiner = y, Gehle, Pontsler, Hodge, Searight, Heitkamp = y. Passed 6 yes.

Motion: Searight. Second Heitkamp to accept the minutes from the August 7, 2012 council meeting as presented. Hodge called for the question. Searight = y, Heitkamp = y, Hodge = y, Gehle = y, Steiner = y, Pontsler = y. Passed 6 yes.

Visitors to Address Council:

Jim Cocker addressed council regarding a lot wattage radio station for the Village. At some point the FCC will be allowing smaller areas to obtain a license for a 100 watt radio station. Jim would fill out the required paperwork and be in contact with the FCC. The Village would need to supply some space and some electricity. Jim would take care of the equipment and be the General Manager of the station. The station would broadcast public service announcements, music, and possibly have several call in type shows. There are several others like this in the area such as Russells Point. Radius would be 6 to 7 miles. Several questions were brought up about who would be responsible and liability issues. The proposal will be discussed by the Service Committee and they will contact Jim with an answer.

Thank you Jim for the information.

Mayor's Report and Correspondence:

Village Administrator's Report – Jeff Long

Pre-construction meeting to take place on Thursday regarding the paving of the streets. We are getting the streets prepped and ready. Should begin early September. We will take the grindings if possible for use in other areas.

Waterplant aerator blower motor was replaced.

Gene – Post light on East and Second – been 2 weeks and still not working. There is a hole near the area where the water leaks took place a couple of weeks ago that is still not filled in.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee – Steve Gehle

Motion Steiner to pay the bills in the amount of \$13,816.68. Of that \$6,720.00 is the Fire equipment grant monies. Second Hodge. Pontsler called for the question. Steiner = y, Hodge = y, Pontsler = y, Gehle = y, Searight = y, Heitkamp = y. Passed 6 yes.

Service Committee: Gary Hodge

The Service committee met before council to discuss the ongoing trash problems. We will be taking a more direct approach. There will be a better logging system so that council can stay informed regarding each property. Committee asked Jeff to report to the police problem areas that are seen while working in the village. The goal is to be as clean as possible without infringing on people's rights.

Safety Committee: Ron Searight

Nothing at this time.

Economic Development Committee: Eugene Steiner

An Open House was held at the New Horizons Daycare Center on August 16th. It was well attended. If anyone wants information they are to contact Amanda Smith the Director of the daycare at 419-363-3064. There will be 5 employees to begin on September 4th when the daycare opens.

THE DAILY STANDARD

August 22, 2012

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negatively charges oxygen mol-
ecules and injects them into the
water at a very high rate, explained
Mike Mangham of Eco USA, the
importer of the Japanese-made
unit.

"It disintegrates any organic
pollutants — anything with carbon
in it — by pulling the carbon out,"
Mangham said Tuesday at the Cel-
lina water intake pipe where the unit
was being set up. "Once the carbon
is removed the algae cannot photo-
synthesize, and it starves to death."

The unit also aerates and adds
oxygen to the water, causing ben-
eficial bacteria in the sediment
to grow and eat organic materials
such as algae, pesticide and fertil-
izer, Mangham said.

Milt Miller, LRC manager, said
no local money will be spent on the
test.

"As vendors have approached
us our standard pitch has been to
do a pilot study on our lake. They
need to bring their technology here
and they need to pay for third-
party validation; it's been at that
point recent companies have shied
away," Miller said. "This company
has great confidence in their prod-
uct and they said 'no problem.'"

Miller said an official with the
distributor, Minnesota-based Prem-
ier Materials, contacted him four
weeks ago about testing the
machine.

MAD Scientists Associates,
Westerville, will evaluate the

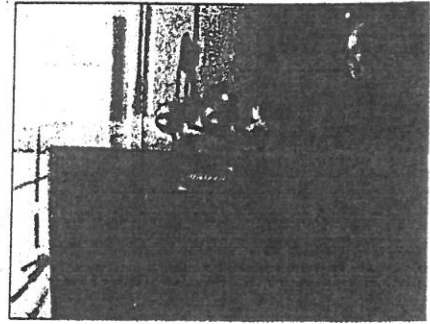
results and produce a report, said
Mark Dilley, the company's owner.

Mangham said the units have
been used in Japan to destroy toxic
blue-green algae and to clean up
oil in a bay at Orange Beach in
Alabama, following the 2010 BP oil
spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

Each unit treats a half-mile radi-
us, he said, adding that he rec-
ommended spacing them a mile
apart around the lake's shoreline.
The ionizers cost \$299,000 each and
have a 10-year life, he said.

Keith Boulais of Premier Materi-
als said the units are a better
investment than alum. Alum deac-
tivates phosphorous, the algae's

See TESTING, back page



Nancy Allen/The Daily Standard

Keith Boulais of Minnesota-based Premier Materi-
als sets up a Kria ionizer Tuesday inside the Celina
Water Treatment Plant intake building along U.S.
127. Designed to destroy algae, the unit will be tested
in the lake for three weeks starting today.

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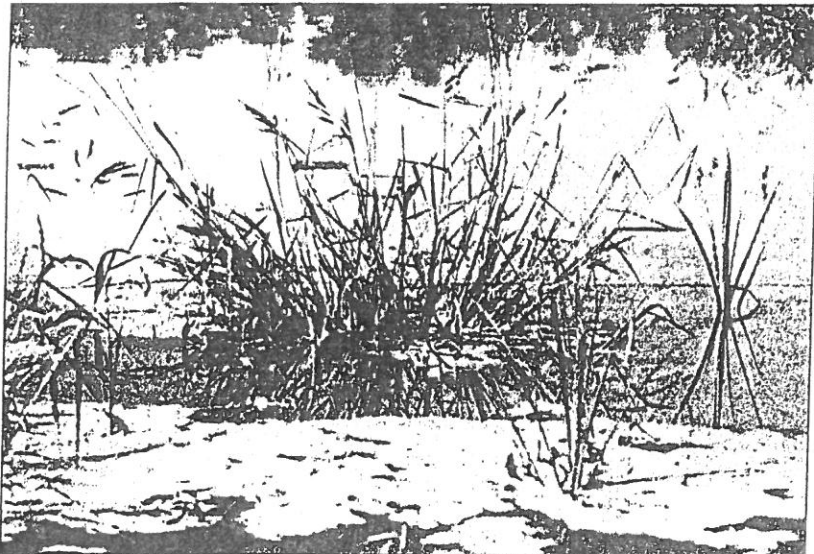
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Mark Pummell photos/The Daily Standard

A native wetlands plant — seeded earlier this year — thrives in one of the ponds in the Prairie Creek
Treatment Train in Montezuma.

feet of the property.

The creation of littoral wet-
lands, which blanketed the
lake's shoreline more than 40
years ago before disappearing,
will serve as a natu-
ral filter for phospho-
rus and other pollut-
ants, officials said.

A raw water
line pump station
and alum dosing
system also will be
added at the site to
divert some of the
water from the creek
through the wetlands
and earthen dams
before entering the
lake. The pumping system will
add alum to the creek water
before it flows into the wetlands.
Alum bonds with phosphorus
and makes it unavailable to
algae.
Ebbing said the county is tak-



A deep-cell, manmade pond encourages natural habitat near the
banks of Prairie Creek and Grand Lake. At left, one of several
species of green foliage that were planted to filter phosphorus and
attract wildlife

"We'll test the water before
it goes into the lake and see

The area is accessible to the
public and will eventually be

Auglaize County

Donation will give hikers, nature lovers new woodland

By AMY KRONENBERGER
akronenberger@dailystandard.com

ST. MARYS — Auglaize resi-
dents soon will have access
to 15.84 acres of wooded land
just north of St. Marys for hik-
ing and other nature activities
thanks to a donation from a
local family.

Residents John and Alma
Kuffner donated the land to
Heritage Trails Park District
in the memory of their mother,
Dr. Elizabeth Yahl Kuffner. The
area is adjacent to county Road
66A, just north of U.S. 33.

"We built our house 45 years
ago on (state Route) 66 north of
St. Marys," John Kuffner said.
"During that time we always
had an unobstructed view of
that woods. We saw it in every
season, and it's just beautiful."

Kuffner's mother also built
her house there in the 1950s.
The Kuffners wanted to retain
that view for the future.

"In her off time, that's where

she (Elizabeth Kuffner) would
go to commune with nature,"
he said. "She loved it there;
I thought it would be a good
memorial to her."

Park district director Allison
Brady said during a monthly
meeting on Tuesday that mem-
bers are still working out details
and legalities of the deal.

"It's being divided from
a larger plot of land so we're
going through surveying the
area and planning what all the
park could offer."

Brady said it would be the
first public wooded area owned
by the district. One of the Kuff-
ners' stipulations for donation
is cutting as few trees as pos-
sible. Some would need cut for
hiking paths and safety.

Brady met with Ohio Depart-
ment of Transportation officials
to discuss a parking lot near the
woods. They found they could
build a six-space lot with room

See WOODLAND, back page

Rockford considers starting radio station

By AMY KRONENBERGER
akronenberger@dailystandard.com

ROCKFORD — Rockford
may have its own low-frequency
radio station in the near future,
playing a mix of hits from the
last 40 years and providing
local news and information.

Resident Jim Crocker during
a regular village council meet-
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like to run the station but would
need the village's help. Periodi-

'All I ask is you
supply the electric,
which isn't much,
... and provide a
small room.'

— Jim Crocker,
who wants to operate

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See WOODLAND, back page

Rockford considers starting radio station

By AMY KRONENBERGER

akronenberg@dailystandard.com

ROCKFORD — Rockford may have its own low-frequency radio station in the near future, playing a mix of hits from the last 40 years and providing local news and information.

Resident **Jim Crocker** during a regular village council meeting on Tuesday said he would like to run the station but would need the village's help. Periodically the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) opens a window for radio operators in the state to start new, 100-watt stations.

Crocker expects the window to open next year but it may be two or three years.

According to the FCC, a 100-watt station typically has a broadcast radius of about three to four miles.

The FCC will give a 30-day notice of when the window will open. The license must be held by a government agency or non-profit organization.

"I would file for the application on behalf of the village. I would buy all the equipment needed, and I would be general

'All I ask is you supply the electric, which isn't much, ... and provide a small room.'

— Jim Crocker,
who wants to operate
radio station

manager," he said. "All I ask is you supply the electric, which isn't much, ... and provide a small room to hold everything."

The station would be housed at village hall and Crocker would pay to build an 80- to 100-foot antenna at the location. Crocker said he has two volunteers to help run the station.

As part of the regulations, the FCC does not allow low-frequency stations to sell advertising. However, Crocker would be allowed to receive donations and sponsors.

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