

From: Muncie Young Professionals Group [muncieyppg@gmail.com]
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To: MYPG
Subject: MYPG June Newsletter

NEWSLETTER

Muncie Young Professionals Group * June, 2008



Friday, June 27, 6 – 9 p.m. at Minnetrista

Be a Rock Star! Play the "Rock Band" game on stage while your fans enjoy the show on our large projection screen. Rock stars will enjoy a cash bar, food, and two exhibits featuring music.

Best dressed Rock Star will receive a prize!

\$10 per person
 Registration Deadline: Monday, June 23.
 To make your reservation, call 213-3549
 or email swiles@minnetrista.net



HEADS UP! Mark your calendars for these fine MYPG offerings:

**After 5 at Minnetrista
 ROCK ON!**
 Friday, June 27, 2008
 6:00pm - 9:00pm

Downtown Wind Down
 Thursday, July 3, 2008
 (1st Thursday of each month)
 5:00 - ?
 The Fickle Peach, 217 E. Charles

MYPG Steering Committee Meeting
 Tuesday, July 8, 2008
 (2nd Tuesday of each month)
 5:30pm - 7:00pm
 Horizon Convention Center Boardroom, 401 S. High Street

MYPG Annual Meeting & Election (tentative date)
 Friday, July 18, 2008
 7:00pm

Next Generation Survey Results with guest speaker Mayor Sharon McShurley
 Friday, August 1, 2008
 11:45 - 1:00 pm
 Minnetrista

Habitat for Humanity Build
 Saturday, Aug 2, 2008

Leadership Lunch
 Friday, August 29, 2008
 11:45 am - 1:00 pm
 Horizon Convention Center Board Room, 401 S. High St. Muncie, IN 47305

United Way Day of Caring
 Friday, Sep 19, 2008
 8:00am

Holiday Party (tentative date)

**Want to make an "impact" on our community?
 MYPG rolls out Next Generation Consulting's Global Impact Survey**

Calling all young professionals! Muncie and Delaware County need you . . . to take a survey?!? It can't get much easier: the community will benefit from this information and someone completing the survey could win an iPod. Read on.

MYPG is hosting Next Generation Consulting's Global Impact survey. Participants can give their feelings on a variety of issues that impact and attract young professionals to a community. The results of the survey could help MYPG and city and county officials as we plan to make our area a better place to live! We'll share the results at a luncheon on August 1, 2008, with special guest speaker Mayor Sharon McShurley.

Watch for more information on the survey in the near future.

Friday, December 5, 2008
7:00pm

MYPG needs YOU!

Do you know what happens in July? Fireworks? Check. Cookouts? Double check. Very important elections? Check!

It's not November (yet) but Muncie will be experiencing another very important election in July. MYPG hosts its annual meeting in July and each year we celebrate and elect new leadership for the coming year.

Have you benefited from the social experiences MYPG provides? Then consider being the Social and Volunteerism Chair. Learned something at a Leadership Lunch or training session? Maybe you should be the next Professional Development and Meetings Chair. Do you have drive, determination, passion, verve, excitement, or joy? Then you definitely need to run for a position.

Watch for information on available positions and election platforms this week.

Have you renewed your MYPG membership?

If you haven't already done so, you must fill out and submit the following quick, easy survey in order to renew your membership in MYPG and help us determine how we can better serve you. After the grace period, anyone who has not renewed will no longer receive MYPG emails.

[Click here for the Membership Renewal Survey.](#)

May Leadership Lunch**Paving the Way for Mass Transit in Central Indiana**

With gasoline prices on the rise, concerns about increasing fuel emissions and pollutants to our environment, and overall frustration with jammed roads and highways (ever commute to Indianapolis in the morning?), discussions about expanding mass transit in central Indiana are in full swing. Will we ever have a commuter rail to Indianapolis? Well, MYPG wanted to know, so we invited Mark D. Fisher, the Director of Government Relations and Policy Development for the Greater Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, to speak at our May Leadership Lunch and talk about the future of mass transportation in central Indiana and offer insight on where Muncie fits in the big picture.

Mr. Fisher's presentation was excellent. We learned that developing an effective system of mass transportation encompasses much more than adding more buses. It includes the consideration and cost-benefit analysis of offering HOV (high-occupancy vehicle) lanes, trolleys, trams, monorails, share taxis, walk paths and bike trails, making changes to existing roads, as well as changing attitudes about public transportation in our region and encouraging social change regarding the way we choose to travel. We also learned that besides the obvious benefits of relieving traffic congestion and reducing pollutants, the American Public Transportation Association says every dollar invested in public transportation provides \$6 in economic return and every \$1 billion invested in public transportation infrastructure supports about 47,500 jobs.

The [Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority \(CIRTA\)](#) is conducting a series of community input sessions in Hamilton County to gather public feedback on expanding mass transit. Although Delaware County is not included in the nine counties that comprise CIRTA, with our proximity to Indianapolis and number of residents who commute to the city for work or play, it is not hard to see that Delaware County could certainly benefit from mass transit to our capital city in the future. [Did you know that in the year 2000 over 3,300 Delaware County residents made daily commutes to Madison or Marion County for work?](#)

Although it could be a while before Muncie has access to the commuter express to Indy and perhaps decades before we see a commuter rail to the city, it will take people speaking up now to get the ball rolling. If you believe that Delaware County could benefit from mass transportation to greater Indianapolis, consider getting involved in what CIRTA is already starting in the Indy region and let them know you want to see Delaware County included in the plans. Consider writing our public and elected officials to let them know that you, too, want to ease traffic congestion, be a good steward to the environment, and save money on fuel. Finally, take advantage of the options we have already, like biking to work, carpooling, or using the award-winning MITS to get around town.

Affordable, accessible, and clean mass transportation options make sense for us as individuals and as a community, and we thank Mark Fisher for coming to Muncie to share this information and educating us on how to get involved.

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