



GREEN RIVER KIWANIS

Green River Kiwanis meets Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m. at Milestones
Child Development Center, 621 S. Cullen Ave., Evansville, IN
Greenriverkiwanis.org

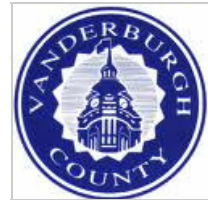
July 7, 2010

Today's guests were Chad Sullivan and Bob Musgrave.

Today's speaker was **Cheryl Musgrave**, talking about the city/county consolidation proposal/process. She began by quoting the Declaration of Independence: "Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed." Of course, given the magnitude of their grievances, the signers went on to break with Britain! Consolidation plans do not include the fire department since fire is dealt with on the township level, not the city or county. Evansville already has many combined/centralized departments, including Central Dispatch, the School Board, and libraries. Currently city government consists of the mayor, city clerk, City Council, and various officers. The county is under the County Commissioners and other elected officials. Consolidation will result in a mayor with a council and various elected or appointed officials. One concern is a lack of financial control over some of these officials. In Indiana, consolidation requires a referendum. It restructures government, and it is quite likely that taxing structures will



change. Annexation, by contrast, leaves all government units and taxing structures the same, but spreads the tax burden over a larger population, and can be accomplished by the mayor/City Council. Alternatives to consolidation include legislative consolidation (this has already been done by largely eliminating townships; it changes some elected officials to employees of the county commission; it reduces the number of commissioners from 3 to 1), or merging departments (highway and street departments, redevelopment commissions, law enforcement, parks departments). Issues raised by consolidation include increased power for the mayor (who is, by general perception, in charge of "everything"), a loss of representation with fewer council members (redistricting is needed with or without consolidation), big government (more power and money vested in fewer officials, more staff, a loss of checks and balances), and public safety issues (elected sheriff, appointed police chief, fire). Taxation as it is today leaves county residents without representation on some issues that affect them like homestead



GRK Officers /Staff

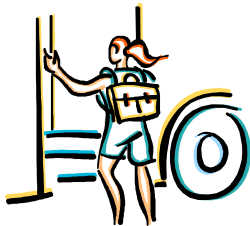
President	Chuck Young
President-Elect	Rocky Sheneman
Vice President	John Worthington
Treasurer	Tiffany Wynn
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credit, beverage tax, and water/sewer rates. Taxation as it might become with consolidation could mean service districts and more representation. If you'd like to learn more about this issue and/or discuss it,



Cheryl invites e-mails at cwmusgrave@gmail.com, or phone calls at 812-428-3833.

Sylvia Devault says that it's already time to think about the Back to School party for Central UMC's Power Group. The date will be July 27, from 4-6 pm at Central UMC. The shopping date will be the day before, July 26,



at the Greatland Target on Burkhardt, at 5:30 (meet at the entrance nearest to Dick's Sporting Goods). **Sylvia** already has the backpacks. The Lady Aces will be in attendance to help with the games. For new

GRKiwansians, Central United Methodist Church is located at 300 Mary St., near Deaconess Hospital, a somewhat economically challenged neighborhood. The Power Group provides tutoring and other activities for area kids. GRK helps by providing back to school supplies and also has a Santa breakfast, complete with personally selected, wrapped gifts. Shopping for schools supplies is a VERY quick and efficient experience—supplies are purchased and distributed in the individual backpacks in usually about an hour.

GRK will once again staff a gate at the Vanderburgh County 4H Fair—our day/time is July 28, from 3-9. **Rob Kerney** will be in charge of the volunteers.

IF YOU SIGNED UP TO HELP WITH FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN, YOU ARE ASKED TO ARRIVE 30 MINUTES EARLY FOR TRAINING.

Norm Sanders thanked everyone for their love and support in the loss of his wife. **Norm**, you will continue in our prayers.

Megan Niehaus got married on May 29 and is now **Megan Durbin**. She is not able to attend many meetings, but is the Builders Club sponsor in Henderson. Best wishes!!

Thought of the week, courtesy of **Don Parke**:

Lord, so far today I've not been grumpy, selfish, greedy, envious, proud, or angry. I'm really pleased about that. But in a few minutes now, I'm going to get up, and from then on I'll probably need a lot more help.

