

Tom Collins, Administrator



## FROM GASOLINE TO BACON FAT

With the continuing rise in gasoline prices, I can't help but reminisce back to some of the gasoline rationing stories told to me by the late Leo Wise. According to ole Leo, during World War II they rationed everything from gasoline to bacon fat. You couldn't just walk into a shop and buy as much sugar or butter or meat as you wanted. Nor could you fill up your car with gasoline whenever you liked. All these things were rationed, which meant you were only allowed to buy a small amount (even if you could afford more). The government introduced rationing because certain things were in short supply during the war, and rationing was the only way to make sure everyone got their fair share.

Contrary to what most believe today, gasoline was rationed to save on rubber, not gasoline. The Japanese had seized plantations in the Dutch East Indies that produced 90% of America's raw rubber. With rubber in short supply, President Roosevelt called on citizens to recycle scrap rubber items such as old tires, rubber raincoats, garden hose and rubber shoes. In fact, Leo told

me that rubber tires were so scarce, that when one got "bald" they would cut another used one and wire it over the bald one. He said, "it sure flapped and wobbled but got you where you were going".

The OPA (Office of Price Administration) established the *Idle Tire Purchase Plan*, and could deny mileage rations to anyone owning passenger tires not in use. Voluntary gas rationing proved ineffective and by the spring of 1942 mandatory rationing was needed. To get your classification and ration stamps, you had to certify to a local board that you needed gas and owned no more than five tires. By the end of 1942, half of U.S. automobiles were issued an "A" sticker which allowed four gallons of fuel per week. That sticker was issued to owners whose use of their car was nonessential. I can't imagine what would be considered "nonessential" in today's world.



A gas station attendant checking ration coupons

The pictured rationing stamps and folder are actual rationing coupons Leo received in 1945. Note the license number Y 944 A. At one time the YA license plate was issued only in the Crooksville area. It was common back in the "day" to be out of town and recognize YA license plates on a car. To this day I notice that there are still a select few that have kept the YA license plates through the years.

## FROM THE MINUTES



**Monday evening, March 3, 1947**—Mrs. Gladys Showers, President of Four Mothers Clubs was present and stated that the Mothers Clubs, for the record, were presenting a petition to Council requesting a garbage collection system for the Village of Crooksville.

\*This issue has been argued and discussed for the past 60 years but will finally be put to rest in

March. On the March ballot, the voter of Crooksville will get to decide if they want a Village wide trash collection system or not.

**Monday evening August 1, 1955**—Mr. Lyle Talbot addressed Council in regards to putting lights at the tennis court in the Village Park by the Tennis Club. Motion to approve was made, seconded on roll passed by Council.

\*Through a grant from the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources (Nature Works Grant) and Village "matching funds", the tennis courts will be completely renovated this year to include new asphalt, textured painting, and new posts and nets



## Abraham Lincoln and George Washington's Birthdays

**Abraham Lincoln** (2/12/1809–4/15/1865) was the 16th President of the United States, serving from March 4, 1861 until his assassination. As an outspoken opponent of the expansion of slavery in the United States, Lincoln won the Republican Party nomination in 1860 and was elected president later that year. During his term, he helped preserve the United States by leading the defeat of the secessionist Confederate States of America in the American Civil War. He in-

troduced measures that resulted in the abolition of slavery, issuing his Emancipation Proclamation in 1863 and promoting the passage of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution in 1865.

**George Washington** (2/22/1732–12/14/1799) was a central, critical figure in the founding of the United States, as well as the nation's first president (1789–1797), after leading the Continental Army to victory over the Kingdom of Great Britain in the

American Revolutionary War (1775–1783). Washington was seen as symbolizing the new nation and republicanism in practice.

While often underrated by scholars, still consistently Washington is ranked first or in the first three with Abraham Lincoln and Franklin D. Roosevelt, both of whom radically altered the Constitutional government envisioned by Washington and the Founders, as one of the top three U.S. Presidents.

*Word of the month!!!*

**Subprime Mortgage** - a real estate loan often made originally below the prime rate, offered to individuals or enterprises with weak credit ratings; also, this type of mortgage solution with higher interest rates than for prime customers.

## On the March Ballot—Contract Trash Hauling

You may not realize it, but Crooksville does have the “garbage woes”. Stop and take a look around...drive down our streets and alleys and you too will realize the trash piled up everywhere, in fact, it's probably right next door.

Well, if you're concerned about cleaning up the town, you will have that choice in March. Village Council has decided to let you, the voter, decide on what is best for our Village and its future. Council realizes through the numerous complaints received at Village Hall what your concerns are. Many of you are concerned about your neighborhoods being trashed up, your property values dwindling, and the importance of recycling and lower rates for those on a fixed income. On the other hand, Council is concerned about the numerous compactors destroy-

ing our streets and alleys that we don't have the funds to repair (I'm sure many of you remember when our alleys were stone). Our alleys do not have the base (1 1/2") to support numerous large trucks.

If you want to make a difference in the appearance of our Village, it's up to you in March to decide that. If the Contract Trash Hauling is passed, the Village can contract the residential pick up out to one hauler to insure every single house is serviced. Having a single waste hauler, with the Village, would provide a substantial savings to each resident.

Other services would include:

- \*Specified days and hours of pickup.
- \*Curb side collection or refuse and recyclables,
- \*Collection of yard waste.
- \*Reduced rates.
- \*Uniform trash and recycling containers.
- \*All complaints would be directed to one hauler.

[Environmentally we need to do our part and recycle too!](#)

