

1819 New State Road
Norwalk, Ohio
August 14, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

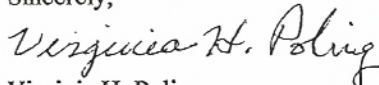
I have been asked to write this letter to express my opinions about the city of Norwalk, Ohio. My husband grew up here and he and I have lived here for fifty four years. Our children had a wonderful childhood which included a fine education in the Norwalk City Schools. They moved easily into higher ed and have had successful careers. The parents of Norwalk have a number of excellent options for their children's education. Our public schools are rated excellent by the state, and our parochial schools have continued success with the O.G.T. tests - an important indicator of their excellence. There also are other private opportunities. I worked for the public schools for thirty-nine years, the last nine of which were as superintendent of schools. This gave me a an unusual opportunity to witness the outstanding programs that we have.

The people of Norwalk are passionate about their hometown. The clock in our courthouse tower stopped running. A young business man put together a committee to solve the problem, and I'm sure we will soon be able to tell time as we had for so many years. Our city government is made up of honest, caring citizens who always put the needs of our community first when decisions are made. We welcome newcomers to our "family". We have many churches of different denominations who work at including new residents in their groups.

Many programs and facilities here reach out to our senior citizens with everything from affordable housing to meals on wheels, exercise groups, and fun activities. We have a hundred bed hospital to which new facilities and programs are constantly being added. Our recreation department offers all kinds of activities for all ages. We have a wonderful performing arts center which was provided for us through the generosity of a local foundation. It is part of our new high school which was made possible when the voters of Norwalk passed a bond issue for the construction of the facility.

We love our city. We would never want to live anywhere else.

Sincerely,



Virginia H. Poling