## ISSUE 7 - COMMUNITY RIGHTS MOVEMENT COMES TO ATHENS

## TISH O'DELL PRESIDENT, OHIO COMMUNITY RIGHTS NETWORK

3:00–5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 30, 2014 Friends of the Library Room Alden Library 319

## "ATHENS IS NOT ALONE: HISTORY OF RIGHTS-BASED ANTI-POLLUTION ORDINANCES"

In 2012 the City of Broadview Heights, a suburb of Cleveland, passed a municipal Bill of Rights as a Charter Amendment, and used those rights to ban new fracking and injection wells inside the city. Tish O'Dell founded a neighborhood organization called Mothers Against Drilling in Our Neighborhoods (MADION). There were 90 drilling operations in the city before the ban was passed; now the city is locked in litigation to defend the ban. The oil and gas companies are suing the city so they can drill the 91<sup>st</sup> well.

There is no protection for neighborhoods whatsoever from the state regulatory agencies. A well can be dug 150 feet from a school. Neighbors need not be forewarned about a planned well next door. Toxic fluids are held in secret.

Sponsored by the Bill of Rights Committee, SJ Wiley, Treasurer, 44 Graham Drive, Athens