



The Channel

City of New Baltimore
36535 Green Street

Volume 18, No. 1
Winter/Spring, 2010

NEW BALTIMORE MAYOR - LARRY SMITH

First off I would like to thank everyone for the overwhelming turn out and support in voting me in as your new Mayor. I am honored that so many of you put your confidence in me and I promise that I will do everything in my power not to let you down. I told many of you that I did not seek this job because it has such a prestigious title, but I worked as hard as I did because I feel in my heart that I can help make our community better for us all.

It's been several weeks now since taking over and what an experience it has been. It started out with a great number of meetings which I found to be most interesting and somewhat confusing, but being the person that I am, I sat back and nodded pretending that I understood everything that was going on.

The atmosphere in City Hall is a delight to be around. Everyone is friendly, helpful and receptive to new ideas. I have met with most of the employees and I think everyone is on the same page when it comes to wanting to make the City a better place. Many ideas have been passed around and I think we as a group are going to hit the ground running in a very short time. Plans are in the works already to make the downtown more attractive and to expand our recreation programs. We are challenging ourselves with new ideas and perspectives.

However, I don't want you to think that this is all fun and games. We are facing some very troubling times and we have to tighten our belts the same as everyone else. We are looking at budget cuts and any way we can to save our City some money. I am sure though that with the caliber of people we have working in our City we will accomplish our goals. We will survive and at the same time find ways to make improvements we all can enjoy.

Again, thank you for your confidence in me and your trust in my ideas.

Larry Smith, Mayor

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Mayor

Laurence C. Smith

City Council

Kenneth C. Butler II

Mayor Pro-Tem

Carlos Aprea

Susan Burkhardt

Jeffrey Christie

David Duffy

Florence Hayman

WATER DEPARTMENT

The City of New Baltimore Water Department has been operating our new state of the art micro-filtration plant since Oct. 1 2007. We are very pleased with the quality of water we can provide to our citizens. With the current economic situation we realize homeowners are looking to save money anywhere possible. Checking for and repairing toilet leaks can save wasted water and money. Most high water bills are caused by leaking toilets.

Homeowners should check the over flow level in the toilet tank. Water level lines are marked on the inside of the tank. As fall comes to an end we would like to remind homeowners to have your sprinkler systems winterized, the backflow devices on these systems are very important for maintaining a safe drinking water system, and are prone to freezing. Also the

City is offering second water meters for sprinkling. For more information contact City Hall at 725-2151 ext. 111. We are currently nearing the end of a total water meter replacement project. If you have not had a new radio read meter installed please contact us at the Water Department at 725-7300 between the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 pm to set up an appointment.

THE NEW BALTIMORE FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRE MARSHAL ADVISES:

The best time to prepare for an emergency is *before* it happens, so the New Baltimore Fire Marshal advises New Baltimore residents to teach children about using 911.

New Baltimore Fire Marshal Tony Spina said having emergency numbers on hand is essential to ensuring all of your family members are prepared.

"Make sure your family knows emergency phone numbers. Most importantly, make sure your kids, including young ones, know how to place a call for help," Spina said. "During an emergency, it is easy to become disoriented or upset, so you need to have all important telephone numbers readily available ahead of time."

Spina noted it is very important that children can dial 911 and they understand that it should be called for emergencies – and nothing else. Spina added, "They should understand that if the emergency is a fire in their home, they should get out immediately and dial 911 from a neighbor's house – never go back inside where the fire is to dial 911."

Even very young children can be taught how to place an emergency call for help. Teach your child what he or she will need to know to place a call to 911 and talk to the operator:

- how to dial 911 (or the emergency number in your community)
- his or her full name
- his or her full address
- a short description of the emergency

Have your child practice by speaking into an unplugged telephone. Suggest a situation, such as "Mommy's fallen down the stairs and can't get to the telephone. Now what do you do?"

After your child dials the number, prompt him or her with questions that an emergency operator would ask, such as "What is your name?" "Where are you calling from?" and "What is the emergency?" Stress that the description should be short ("Mommy fell down the stairs") and that he or she should try to stay calm. Practice until your child feels comfortable.

Finally, teach the child to get out of the house immediately if there is a fire and go to the designated family meeting place so everyone can be accounted for that was in the house.

"No one wants to think about an emergency happening at home, but it's better to face that possibility than to be caught unprepared," said Spina. "So keep emergency numbers close by - it's a small step that could have big consequences."

COOKING SAFETY TIPS

Fire Marshal Spina reminds all of us that cooking fires are the number one cause of home fires and home injuries. The leading cause of fires in the kitchen is unattended cooking. It's important to be alert to prevent cooking fires.

Safety tips

Be on alert! If you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol don't use the stove or stovetop.

- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period of time, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.

Keep anything that can catch fire — oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels or curtains — away from your stovetop.

IF YOU HAVE A COOKING FIRE

- Just get out! When you leave, close the door behind you to help contain the fire.
- Call **9-1-1** or the local emergency number after you leave.
- If you try to fight the fire, be sure others are getting out and you have a clear way out.
- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

FROM THE TREASURER—JEANNE BADE

It has been an exciting time in the Treasurer’s office with Donna Quinn retiring and me taking over the position. The transition has gone quite smooth. I took office on November 9th and immediately began to prepare the winter tax bills. They were mailed on November 30th. If you have not received your bill please call my office. My direct line is (586)716-7604. My office hours are generally 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Please keep in mind I am responsible for making bank deposits and do step out of the office daily. I will return your call as soon as I possibly can. You may also contact me by email at: jbade@cityofnewbaltimore.org.

Tax Payment Deadline – February 15, 2010

Winter Tax Bills are due and payable thru February 15, 2010 without penalty. After February 28th, 2010 all unpaid 2009 summer and winter tax bills will be turned over to the Macomb County Treasurer’s office for collections. Payments must be made at their office after that date.

Online Lookup

If you would like to look up tax and assessing information for parcels within New Baltimore you may do so through the city website. The link is located in the right hand column on the Treasurer’s page at: <http://www.cityofnewbaltimore.org/treasurer.asp>. I am happy to offer this service free of charge.

Payments—Current Tax Year

I know that it is tough financially for many and can offer the option of making payments for the current tax year. To make payment installments, simply send the payment making sure to include your Parcel ID and/or address. I can take payments on the 2009 summer and winter taxes through February 28th, 2010. Making payments will not eliminate interest. It will reduce the amount since the interest is computed on the balance owed at the end of each month. Interest is one percent on the unpaid balance each month late.

Payments—Prior Tax Years

After February 28th all taxes owed are turned over to the Macomb County Treasurer’s office for collection. You may view the county’s website to look up the delinquent amount owed at: http://gis.macombcountymi.gov/Delinquent/macomb_county_tax_delinquent_properties_search.asp. They can be reached by phone at: (586)469-5190.

General Tax Information

In order to ensure accurate billing, it is imperative that any change in your information be communicated to the city. Examples of that change include:

- Mortgage Company - call Treasurer at: (586) 716-7604
- Transfer of Ownership - call Assessing at: (586) 725-2151 Ext: 106
- P.R.E. - Principal Residence Information (Homestead) - call Assessing at: (586) 725-2151 Ext: 106

If you pay your property taxes through an escrow account, you will receive a courtesy copy of your tax bill for your records.

*P.R.E. is the Michigan Homeowner’s Principal Residence Exemption Program (Homestead Exemption). Information is available through the State of Michigan at: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/2856_11014_7.pdf

TOTAL MILLAGE RATES FOR 2009

Total Homestead Mills for 2009..... 40.16230
 Total Non-Homestead Mills for 200958.16230

2009 Winter Millage Rates

Anchor Bay School Operating	9.00000
(Non-Homestead only)	
Anchor Bay School Debt.....	5.00000
Macomb County Zoo Authority	0.10000
Macomb County Debt.....	0.00500
Smart Bus	0.59000
HCMA Operating.....	0.21460
Veterans.....	0.04000

Total P.R.E Winter Only (Homestead)..... 5.95010
 Total Non P.R.E (Non Homestead).....14.95010

*P.R.E. is the Michigan Homeowner’s Principal Residence Exemption Program (Homestead Exemption). Information is available through the State of Michigan at: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/2856_11014_7.pdf

2009 Summer Millage Rates

State Education	6.00000
City Operating	9.82990
City Library	1.34460
City – Street #1.....	0.36500
City – Street #2.....	0.53000
City – Street #3	0.21000
City Water Debt	2.00000
Anchor Bay School Operating	9.00000
(Non-Homestead Only)	
Anchor Bay School	5.00000
Macomb Community College Operating	1.42120
Macomb Intermediate School Operating	2.94300
Macomb County Operating	4.56850
Total P.R.E. Summer Only (Homestead).....	34.21220
Total Non P.R.E. (Non Homestead).....	43.21220

Wastewater Treatment Plant and Collection System Improvements

Winter is upon us and the Wastewater Treatment Facility is just about ready to go online. As I write, the headworks building, which gave us so many problems, is just about complete. Most equipment startups have been performed to check for any problems. Leak testing has also been performed on the oxidation ditches and clarifiers and all have passed. The biggest job is the communication system within the complex. We have to make sure that all buildings and the equipment in them can communicate with each other. The importance of this can't be stressed enough.

The collection system has been online for a few months now. The majority of the problems have been worked out. We still have had to work through some communication problems, but these are being resolved. The BalClair St. station is still not online at present. This will happen when the headworks building is operational. This station flows directly to this part of the process, which is the reason for the delay.

We have an open house for the new facility scheduled for sometime in May. The Citizens Advisory Committee will be handling much of this. Details will be on the City of New Baltimore website when a definite date is set. Hope to see everyone there. As always, I would like to thank everyone for all their patience and understanding throughout this whole process. This entire project has been trying for not just the people directly involved in the construction, but also for the citizens, who have had to put up with traffic backups, road closures, and some having their property disturbed. Again thank you for all your understanding. As always, if anyone has any questions or concerns about any part of the project, please don't hesitate to give me a call at (586) 725-9363. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all and we'll see you in the spring.

Sincerely, Craig Higgins, Plant Superintendent

Building Department—2009 Year in Review

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

The building department has been active this year despite economic factors. The City welcomes Bad Brad's BBQ and Tomorrow's Treasurers Quilt Shop, both of which have recently opened for business. Also welcome to Slippery Rock Restaurant and Sweet Escapes Pastry Shoppe which opened this past summer.

Upcoming projects to be completed in 2010: Grillo's Marketplace will be expanding their operations to the building fronting 23 Mile Road, and St. Mary's will be enlarging the food pantry to serve those in need. There have been many inquiries about Burger King. The plans have been approved by the City however the plans for a building permit have not been submitted by the owner. The future of this project is still pending.

Thank you to the residents on Washington and in the Baltimore Square Subdivision for their patience and cooperation during the sidewalk installation this past summer and fall. The 2010 sidewalk maintenance program will focus on the DePestel Estates, Bay Estates, and Ashley Farms Subdivisions with a concentration on St. Clair Drive from Edmunds Grove to County Line, Blakely Court, Orson Drive, Brennan Road, Haley Drive, Audrey Road and D.E. Hare Court. Additional repairs may be made to other areas in the City as needed.

Rental Inspections The rental inspection program is ongoing. There are some properties that have yet to receive follow-up inspections. There have been delays due to the building official's injury this past summer. Inspections will resume beginning in early 2010. We apologize for the delay. Anchor Bay Apartments is under new ownership and repairs and upgrades are being made. Water's Edge Apartments is also under new ownership. They are currently making steps to bring the buildings into code compliance.

City Certification All business uses require city certification prior to occupancy by a new owner or tenant. This includes properties located in commercial, local commercial, industrial, central business, and business transitional zoning districts. The property must be inspected by the plumbing, mechanical, electrical, fire, and building inspectors. Knox boxes must be installed prior to the issuance of the city certification.

Sidewalk Clearing Chapter 48 of the Code of Ordinances requires any occupant or owner of a lot or premises to clear sidewalks of snow and ice. Snow is defined as a snowfall of one inch in depth or more. Failure to clear sidewalks may result in the City clearing the sidewalk, the cost of which would be the property owner's responsibility. Please be advised that the costs incurred will be substantially higher than standard contractual charges. Snow or ice removed from private property shall be deposited on those premises. *It is not permitted to shovel snow into the street.*

Code Enforcement The majority of code enforcement violations pertained to the storage and/or parking of vehicles and trailers in

Building Department (Continued)...

the front yard. Section 60-64 of the Zoning Ordinance states that the “parking of travel trailers, motorized watercraft and/or other recreation vehicles that require MC numbers, or utility trailers, shall be permitted within the front yard for a *temporary period not to exceed 72 hours.*” A front yard is defined as the required front yard setback from the property line to the house and in most cases includes the driveway. A corner lot has two (2) front yards. Vehicles must also have current license plates. Vehicles without current license plates must be stored in a completely enclosed building.

Other blight and property maintenance issues are being addressed through legal channels and, although progress may seem slow, we are making every effort to resolve these matters.

Permit Activity Total permit issuance has remained steady with only a slight decrease in permit activity from 2008. A study of comparable overall data indicates a reduction in permit issuance of just 1.1%. The largest reductions were for permits for new homes, in-ground pools and temporary pools. A comparison of plumbing permits excluding water meter permits in 2008 reflects a 21% increase in plumbing permits from 2008. There were increases in other permit categories including, but not limited to, commercial additions and alterations (170%) signs (35%), fences (20%), Siding (10%) Re-shingle (6%) and at-grade concrete (5%). Other permit categories remained unchanged from the previous year. Code enforcement violations increased 7 percent from last year.

Foreclosed/Vacant Properties

It would be greatly appreciated if you contacted us when there is a vacant house in your neighborhood. It is important that we know this information in order to keep the property maintained, secured, and patrolled.

It would also be appreciated if neighbors could help clear the sidewalks of vacant houses to allow safe travel by pedestrians. Due to legal notification requirements it often takes several weeks to contact a responsible party for a bank owned property.

Non-Conforming Signs

There has been some misunderstanding regarding non-conforming signs. The sign ordinance states that “any sign which advertises a bona fide business or industry being conducted or a product being manufactured or sold on the property, but which is nonconforming as to size, projection, location, number of signs, position, material or construction, shall be taken down, removed, repaired, rebuilt or replaced, in such a manner as to bring the sign into compliance by the owner, agent or person having the beneficial use of the building, structure or land by January 1, 2011.” **This applies to all non-conforming signs not just pylon signs.**

Business Licenses

The building department will now be processing business licenses. We will be working closely with the Clerk’s office and the Fire Department to ensure that all businesses are in compliance with City requirements. Please be advised that Knox box installation and approval by the Fire Inspector are required. Due to the implementation of new software, the mailing of renewal applications has been delayed. Thank you for your patience.

Please call the building department if you have any questions, we will be happy to help you. Have a safe winter.



CITY OF NEW BALTIMORE MEETING SCHEDULE

All City business meetings are open to the public. Most are also shown on the Community Calendar in every issue of The Channel. Any special meetings, such as public hearings, are advertised in the local newspaper and the City website:

www.cityofnewbaltimore.org. All citizens are invited to attend and are welcome to observe and/or participate. All meetings are held in the Council Chambers at City Hall:

36535 Green Street—New Baltimore
(586) 725-2151

City Council:	2nd and 4th Monday	7:00pm
Planning Commission:	3rd Tuesday	7:30pm
DDA:	2nd Wednesday	7:00pm
Historic District Comm:	1st Tuesday	7:00pm
Citizens Advisory Comm:	4th Thursday	7:00pm
Parks & Recreation:	1st Thursday	6:00pm

Please see the Community Calendar for additional meeting dates and times.

Department of Public Service

The New Baltimore DPS has purchased a salt brine making system to aid in the battle of the ice and snow that comes with the season. This new equipment will allow us to pre-treat streets and our parking lots with a salt water mixture before the storm events arrive. The salt brine dries on the surface of the road and activates as soon as snow or moisture appears on the surface. This should help with black ice and slick conditions caused by freezing temperatures and those little dustings of snow. The dried anti-ice brine also has a residual affect which can last several days and start to melt snow after plowing of larger accumulations. This system will also reduce our use of rock salt by allowing more coverage with less salt and less re-salting. The brine makes rock salt work better and faster. This is good for the environment and our budget.

Please remember not to clear driveways into the streets. It is against the law and can create a hazardous situation for traffic. Sidewalks must be cleared of snow and ice within 24 hours of a snowfall. Help out the neighbors and keep the bus stops cleared for the kids.

The City's street maintenance program has hit a few bumps in the scheduling of repairs due to the poor economy. There will still be maintenance done, just on a smaller scale. The City has received a grant to rebuild Cricklewood and Cypress streets this spring and is planning on rebuilding the last remaining section of Cricklewood from Birch St. to the most recently finished Huntley.

Metro Sewer Cleaners and Tri County Vac Services along with Michigan Pipe Inspection have completed two phases of cleaning and video inspections of the sanitary sewer system. The focus of these inspections has been the older portions of the City's system which was installed in the 1960's. So far the collection system appears to be in good condition. The system is being inspected in an effort to reduce ground water infiltration and to see the condition of the pipes. When ground water gets into the system it costs just as much to treat as sewage. So the more ground or storm water that is kept out the more it helps the keep the cost to process sewage down.

Police Department

I realize that this is a reprint of a past article however I think it is important to repeat the topic of crime prevention. The post holiday season crimes such as home invasions and thefts from garages will be on the rise.

The objective of crime prevention is to make your home, car, garage etc. difficult to break into or steal from. In crime prevention terms it is called target hardening. Criminals do not like to work hard; if they did, they would get jobs. Instead they would rather sleep late, get up, break into someone's home, car, etc. to support themselves. The police department's objective is to reduce the opportunity of making a profit from our residents and businesses so difficult that they will go somewhere else. The following is a brief list of things you can do to help reduce crime in New Baltimore and more specifically, in your neighborhood.

First of all, lock your doors. Yes we would all like it to be like the old days when we didn't have to lock our doors but times change. The investment in a good deadbolt, alarm, home video security system is of no use unless you use them.

Second, don't leave valuables in your car. Thieves like the night and don't mind breaking out your car window to steal your possessions. Now remember, this will be even easier for the thief if the car isn't locked.

Third, don't leave your garage door open. This is a perfect and easy way for the thief to make a profit by stealing your new snow blower, golf clubs, tools...need I continue?

Fourth, put your outside lights on a timer so that your home and driveway are well-lit in the night. Thieves don't really want to be seen.

Fifth, when a young male or female comes to the door in the daytime and asks for someone that doesn't live there or you have never heard of, call 911. They were trying to find out if anyone was home. If no one answers, they break in.

Sixth and last, be a nosey neighbor. Watch out for each other. It is your business. Why? Because if you watch your neighbor's place, they just might watch yours when you are gone.

Do not rationalize why you shouldn't call the police. We respond to all 911 calls. Yes, a suspicious person is a 911 call. Neighborhood watch is more than signs at the opening to subdivisions. It is a way of thinking and living. Get to know your neighbors, watch out for others and as the movie says, "pay it forward."

Keeping New Baltimore safe is everyone's job. The police will take the risks but we need all the eyes watching out. Just say, "what's wrong with this picture. " If it looks suspicious—call.

The Police Department's "Facebook" page is also a useful tool for both the Department and residents in helping reduce crime. We have made several arrests as a direct result of citizens calling on information from "facebook".

John J Bolgar

Chief of Police

Election update from Marcella (Marcia) Shinska, City Clerk

Election News 2010

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who voted on November 3, 2009. The City of New Baltimore had a 29 percent voter turnout despite the wind chills and frigid temperatures. Congratulations to everyone who ran for office.

COUNTY CHARTER UPDATE:

With the passage of the Macomb County Charter on November 3, 2009, the Macomb County Apportionment Commission will begin meeting to draw 13 county commissioners' districts as specified in the Charter. A complete copy of the County Charter can be found on the City's website by clicking on the Clerk's Department or the Macomb County Clerk's website, www.macombcountymi.gov/clerksoffice/electiondept.htm

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION:

On May 4, 2010 the registered voters in the Anchor Bay School District will be voting to elect two (2) school board members. These positions are four (4) year terms. School board candidates who wish to seek office at the May 4, 2010 election must file an Affidavit of Identify and a nominating petition no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at the Macomb County Clerk's Office. Further information can be obtained at the Macomb County Clerk's Office 586-469-5209 or www.macombcountymi.gov/clerksoffice/electiondept.htm

REGISTERING TO VOTE:

If you are not registered to vote and you would like to vote in the May 4, 2010 School Board Election, you must register to vote no later than Monday, April 5, 2010. To register, just visit the Clerk's office, any Secretary or State or the Macomb County Clerk's office. The City Clerk's office is located at City Hall 36535 Green Street, New Baltimore. Our office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM.

A U.S. Citizen who will have been a resident for at least 30 days and is 18 years of age by May 4, 2010 may register to vote. If you register by mail, please contact my office to determine your eligibility to vote by absentee ballot.

ABSENTEE VOTER INFORMATION:

Should you need to request an absentee ballot, please contact my office at (586) 725-2151 or go to our website www.cityofnewbaltimore.com complete an application for an absentee ballot and mail it to the Clerk's Office located at 36535 Green Street, New Baltimore, MI 48047. The deadline for an absentee ballot application by mail is 2:00 PM on May 1, 2010.

Election law allows all registered voters to vote by absentee ballot for the following reasons:

1. 60 years of age or older.
2. Expect to be absent from the community in which the voter is registered for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day.
3. The voter is physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another.
4. The voter cannot attend the polls because of the tenets
5. of their religion.
6. The voter has been appointed as an election inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where they reside.
7. Unable to attend the polls because the voter is confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

If any of these situation exist, you can obtain an absent voter ballot by writing your City Clerk. You must state the reason why you need an absent voter ballot and you must sign the absentee voter ballot application. Please feel free to contact my office and remember that the last day to request an absentee application by mail is 2:00 PM on May 1, 2010.

The City Clerk's office will be open Saturday, May 1, 2010 from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM to accept and process absentee voter ballots. On Monday, May 3, 2010 a citizen qualified to vote as an absentee voter may apply in person at the Clerk's office before 4:00 PM to vote an absentee ballot.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT ALL ABSENTEE BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE BY 8:00 PM THE NIGHT OF THE ELECTION IN ORDER TO BE COUNTED.

EMERGENCY ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS:

You may be eligible for an emergency absent voter ballot if a family death or illness requires you to leave your community on Election Day, or you are unable to attend the polls because of personal illness or accident. The emergency must have occurred late enough that you could not file a regular absent voter ballot request. Should an emergency occur you must contact the Clerk's Office before 4:00 PM on Election Day to obtain an emergency ballot.

FIRST-TIME VOTERS AND COLLEGE STUDENTS:

If you registered to vote by mail and this is the first time voting, you must do so in person at your assigned precinct. The only exception to this rule would be, if you personally delivered your voter registration to my office, the County Clerk's Office or registered at

the Secretary of State, then you may request an absentee voter application. Should you have any questions, I want you to always feel free to contact me at (586) 725-2151 ext. 108.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

All voters must present valid photo identification prior to receiving a ballot at the voting precinct. The following are acceptable forms of identification:

- Michigan Drivers license or State Identification card
- Driver's license or personal identification card.
- Federal or State government issued photo identification.
- U. S. Passport.
- Military identification card with photo.
- Student identification with photo from your high school or an accredited institution of higher education.
- Tribal identification card with photo.

If you forget to bring an acceptable form of identification with you to the precinct you will be required to sign an "Affidavit of a Voter Not in Possession of Picture Identification" form.

ELECTION INSPECTORS NEEDED:

Election Inspectors are always needed. If you are interested in becoming an election inspector, please stop by City Hall or the City's website to complete an application. You must be a Macomb County resident. The City conducts approximately three elections per year including the Anchor Bay School, City, State and Federal Elections.

REMEMBER TO VOTE – May 4, 2010 The polls will be open from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

VOTING PRECINCTS:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Precinct 1 - 36535 Green Street, | - Fire Station (City Hall Building) |
| Precinct 2 - 36535 Green Street, | - Fire Station (City Hall Building) |
| Precinct 3 - 52805 Ashley Street, | - Anchor Bay Middle School North |
| Precinct 4 - 52347 Ashley Street, | - Anchor Bay Elementary School |
| Precinct 5 - 51880 Washington Street, | - Lighthouse Elementary School |

THE YEAR AHEAD:

Your elected Officials will be faced with making some difficult decisions in the next few years due to the economy and the budget cuts that the City will have to face as a result of the revenue sharing cuts sent down to each community from the State of Michigan. It is time to forge solutions for the challenges that we will be facing as a community.

WEBSITE UPDATE:

The City website www.cityofnewbaltimore.com has a design and look to it. Take a few minutes to see look it over. The website features new pictures from various locations throughout the City along with more user friendly drop-down menus with more information being offered to the community. The City welcomes your comments and suggestions regarding the website. If you would like to share them, please feel free to email them to your City Clerk at mshinska@cityofnewbaltimore.org.

AUTOMATIC WATER BILL PAYMENTS

The Clerk's Office offers you the opportunity to simplify your life. The City's automatic bill payment program can help you do just that. With Automatic Bill Payment, you can pay your water bill automatically through your participating bank, checking account, or credit union. Simply complete the automatic bill payment authorization form which can be found on the City's website under the water department and/or Clerk's Office. Simply follow the directions on the authorization form. Please feel free to contact the Clerk with any questions or concerns you may have regarding this program.

WATER BILLS

With the tough economic times, everyone is squeezed for funds while trying to juggle their budgets. Please remember that you can always pre-pay your water bill. You can make payments ahead of schedule to assist you with your family budget. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact your Clerk at extension 108 and/ or Wendy Meldrum, Utility Billing Clerk at extension 111.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS

This service will be available within the next four to six weeks. Residents will have the convenience of being able to pay their water bill and tax bill online. This service was delayed due to the turn of events with the closing of Citizen State Bank. Your City Clerk and Treasurer have been working together to offer this service to the community. Please check the City's website in the next few weeks for further information regarding this service.

Books & Bytes by the Bay

MacDonald Public Library
City of New Baltimore

Winter/Spring 2010
Volume 10, Issue 1

Notes from the Director

YES, WE ARE OPEN.

The library renovation project is moving along quickly, the nice November weather helped. Thompson-Phelan Group has broken down our construction project into three phases. Each phase is an independent phase and designed to improve the existing facility and services offered.

Phase 1, which consists of converting the entire building exterior to brick, the addition of heating and cooling apparatus, a new roof, new entrance, new restrooms, and a large addition to the front of the building. This new addition will provide a larger facility able to accommodate more people for community programs or events. An added feature to this new addition will be a built in partition which will allow the space to be converted into two smaller rooms so that two events can be held simultaneously. The new lobby area will house an information center featuring community news and events.

Phase 2, will be the expansion of the children's area which includes a closed storytime area for children and the addition of new shelving units. The expansion of the circulation desk, and larger staff work areas are also included in this phase.

Phase 3, will cover the renovation of adult services and teen areas. Improvements to this area include the addition of 3 enclosed study rooms, new shelving in both the fiction and teen areas, and 1 large bank of computers.

The library currently has enough funding to complete Phase 1, and would like your help to continue with our vision for phases 2 and 3. Within the next few weeks the library will be mailing information on how your donations will help make phases 2 and 3 a reality and allow you to leave a rich legacy for future generations!



Meet the Artist - Carolyn Weins

Saturday March 27, 2010 at 11:00 am

Join us at MacDonald Public Library to meet local artist, Carolyn Weins.

Carolyn works primarily with pastels. She holds a B.A. in art from Eastern Michigan University. Carolyn is an award winning artist, her artwork has been featured all over Michigan, including having one of her pastels chosen as the featured art for promotional items/advertising for the 2004 State Street Area Art Fair, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Come to the library to meet the Carolyn and embrace your inner artist! No registration required.



Anchor Bay Artist Show

April 17 – 23, 2010

Prestige and People Choice Award Show

This is a juried show, showing the best original works of our local artists. People are encouraged to come and vote for their painting. The painting that receives the most votes will be awarded the People's Choice Award. Most of the paintings will be for sale at the end of the show by contacting the individual artist.

Come in, any time during the week, and vote for your favorite work of art.

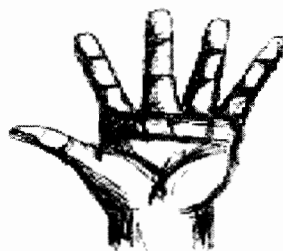
JUST FOR KIDS

STORYTIME

We meet at 10:15 am or 11:00 am on Tuesday or Wednesday mornings

January 5th and 6th - My Five Senses

Storytime sessions run five weeks. Join us for songs, stories, and fun for toddlers and preschoolers!



Kidding Around

Kidding Around is for kids in grades K, 1, and 2 held at 4:30pm on the second Wednesday of every month, September through May.

January 13 - Get Moving!
February 10 - Guinness Book of World Records
March 10 - K-9 Unit of Macomb County
April 14 - Grossology

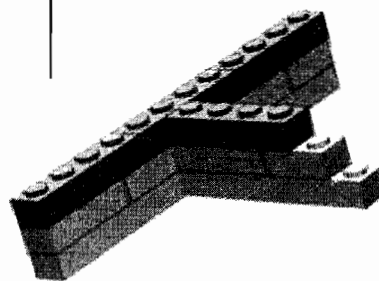
ATLAS (At The Library After School)

ATLAS is for kids in grades 3, 4 and 5 held at 4:30pm on the first Wednesday of every month, September through May.

January 6 - Get Moving!
February 3 - Loco For Cocoa
March 3 - Drawing Class with Mr. Mike
April 7 - Grossology

LEGO Club

In January 2010, we will be starting a LEGO club for school-age kids. Please contact the library for information in January.



Computer Classes:

MacDonald Public Library offers free computer classes to area residents on the following Monday & Thursdays. Each class will be 90 minutes long. Registration is not required for computer classes. All classes will be drop in, seating is on a first come first serve basis, classroom will open up 10 minutes prior to the start of each class.

MONDAY DATES & CLASSES: February 8, March 8, April 12, 2010

Introduction to the PC (using Windows XP)

1:00 - 2:30 pm

Learn the basics of computers, including mouse skills, keyboarding skills, and terminology.

Introduction to the Internet

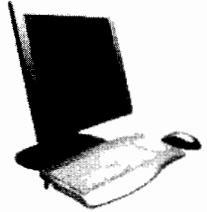
3:30 - 5:00 pm

Learn the basics of navigating the web. Pre-requisite: Basic mouse & keyboarding skills.

Introduction to Email

6:30 - 7:45 pm

Create a free web based email account, and learn how to create, send, attach, receive emails and much more! Pre-requisite: Basic mouse, keyboarding skills, Internet class or basic Internet knowledge.



THURSDAY DATES AND CLASSES: February 18, March 25, April 22, 2010

Introduction to WORD 2007

10:15 - 11:45 am

Learn the basics of word processing using the Microsoft Word 2007 program.

Pre-requisite: basic computer & keyboarding knowledge.

Creating a Resume

1:15 - 2:45 pm

Learn how to create a resume using Word 2007. Make sure you bring your resume with you and/or past/present employment data. After completion, you can save it and send it to your email account or bring a jump drive with you. Prerequisite: Word Class, or basic Word knowledge, keyboarding /mouse basics.

Introduction to the Internet for Job Seekers

3:30 - 5:00 pm

Learn about available online job resources and job search engines. Prerequisite: Must be comfortable with mouse and surfing the Web.

JUST FOR TEENS

MacDonald Public Library is looking for VolunTEENs. What does a volunTEEN do?

Attend monthly Teen TAB meetings and earn community service hours by help out by working on a variety of projects, from planning teen programs at the library to participating in the library adopt-a-shelf program. Interested teens can contact Mary Jo 586-725-0273 at the library to see how you can help.

Teen TAB meetings will be held on the following Monday evenings from 7:00 - 8:00 pm at the library:

January 18
February 15
March 22
April 19



Sit 'n Knit

Monday mornings from 10:00 am – Noon

This is a BYOP (Bring Your Own Project) gathering of local knitting and crocheting enthusiasts who meet weekly for a sit 'n knit. New members are always welcome! Just drop-in/ no registration required.

Important Library Info

A big change that has taken place at libraries around the state is the requirement for patrons to get a card from their home library. Your home library is in the city or township to which you pay taxes; not necessarily the city listed on your driver's license. This change ensures that library patrons are matched up with the library that their tax dollars support. Don't worry though, as a member of the Suburban Library Cooperative (SLC) your MacDonald Public Library card is still good at all other SLC libraries.

Traveling around Michigan? Ask for the Michicard sticker for your library card. This allows you to check out books at other Michicard libraries. To find out more, ask at the Circulation or Reference desk.

Library Closings

New Year's Eve

Friday, January 1 ~ closed

Easter

Friday, April 2 ~ open 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Saturday, April 3 ~ closed



Book Break

Do you enjoy reading and discussing a good book? If so, mark your calendar and stop by the Library on the following Thursdays from 11:00am - 12:30pm or 6:30 – 8:00pm for a lively and riveting book club discussion.

Jan 14 - **Shadow of the Wind** by Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Feb 11-**Twenty Wishes** by Debbie Macomber

Mar 11 - **People of the Book** by Geraldine Brooks

Apr 8 - **Shanghai Girls** by Lisa See

“Celebrating the Joy of Shared Reading”

Sponsored by *The Friends of MacDonald Public Library.*

Friends of MacDonald Public Library

BE A FRIEND TO YOUR LIBRARY!

The Friends of MacDonald Public Library sponsor and assist with special projects and programs at *your* library. Want to get involved? The next meeting of the Friends will be held on **Monday, January 11th at 7:00pm** in the Velma MacDonald Meeting Room. Hope to see you there!

Looking for a good place to recycle your used books or videos? The Friends are happy to receive slightly used and new items such as music, books and movies during regular hours. We cannot accept magazines, encyclopedias, or textbooks. A tax deduction slip is available for donations.

MACDONALD PUBLIC LIBRARY

36480 Main St

New Baltimore, MI 48047

586-725-0273 Fax: 586-725-8360

www.libcoop.net/newbaltimore

Monday—Thursday	10:00am - 8:00pm
Friday	10:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday	10:00am - 4:00pm

Margaret Thomas, Director

Annette M. Goike, Assistant Director

Mary Jo Beranek, Reference Librarian

Megan Goedge, Children's Librarian

Circulation Clerks: Sandi Van Tiem, Sally Waye-Hudson, Laurie Laporte, Marilynn Bernhard

Pages: Lisa Cesaro, Angela Dell, Julia Kinter

Downtown Development Authority News

The Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is proud to announce the renewal of its 20 year operating plan which incorporates all of the initiatives identified in the Blueprint Plan as well as projects slated for future years. This year-long endeavor was a collaboration between the DDA Board of Directors, City Council, Macomb County Planning and Economic Development Dept., city staff, local businesses and you, the community at large through your involvement in the Blueprint process. If you would like to read the plan you can find it on the DDA's website at: www.downtownnewbaltimore.com or on the city's website at: www.cityofnewbaltimore.org

We are incredibly optimistic about New Baltimore's future and look forward to a revitalized, bustling downtown!

To that end, we are excited to tell you about the new **Downtown Gift Certificate Program** recently introduced by the Downtown Development Authority. Anyone can purchase a downtown gift certificate at City Hall, in any denomination, that can then be redeemed at participating downtown stores. The gift certificates will look similar to this and will be offered year-round for purchase:

DOWNTOWN NEW BALTIMORE	No. 101
<h1 style="margin: 0;">Gift Certificate</h1>	
To: _____	
From: _____	
Amount: _____	
Expires: <small>(Date inserted should be one year from issue date)</small> _____	
Authorized Signature: _____	

The purchaser may make the certificate payable to someone in particular or can leave it blank. Included with the certificate will be a list of all participating businesses, their contact information and hours of operation. What better way to keep money in the community than by giving downtown gift certificates as gifts to friends and family!! Contact Judy Sproat for more information: (586) 716-7620.

The gift that endures...

ENGRAVED BRICK PAVERS

Memorialize your loved ones and friends with an engraved brick placed in the sidewalks of Downtown New Baltimore. A project of the Downtown Development Authority.

To purchase bricks or for more information, please call Nancy Gruca at: (586) 725-9365 or visit www.downtownnewbaltimore.com or www.cityofnewbaltimore.org

February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Amvets Post 52 Plan Comm-Work Study VFW Post 7573	2 Ground Hog Day Civic Club Historic District Commission NB Senior Citizens United Senior Pioneers	3	4 Parks & Recreation	5	6
7 Civic Club Flea Market	8 Amvets Ladies City Hall Closed	9 Fire Department NB Senior Citizens Zoning Board of Appeals	10 Downtown Development Authority	11 K of C Meeting St. Marys Meeting VFW Ladies Aux	12	13
14 Valentines Day	15 Presidents Day City Hall Closed VFW Post 7573	16 NB Senior Citizens Planning Commission United Senior Pioneers	17 Ash Wednesday Bay-Rama Meeting L.D.F.A.	18 Citizens Roads/Sidewalks Historic Society Meeting	19	20
21	22 City Council	23 NB Senior Citizens	24 Library Board Public Utilities Committee	25 Amvets Sons Citizens Advisory	26	27
28						

March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Amvets Post 52 Plan Comm - Work Study VFW Post 7573	2 Civic Club Historic District Commission NB Senior Citizens United Senior Pioneers	3	4 Parks & Recreation	5	6
7 Civic Club Flea Market	8 Amvets Ladies City Council	9 Fire Department NB Senior Citizens Zoning Board of Appeals	10 Downtown Development Authority	11 K of C Meeting St. Marys Meeting VFW Ladies Aux	12	13
14 Daylight Savings Time Ends	15 VFW Post 7573	16 NB Senior Citizens Planning Commission United Senior Pioneers	17 Bay-Rama Meeting St. Patricks Day	18 Citizens Roads/Sidewalks Historic Society Meeting	19	20 First Day of Spring
21	22 City Council	23 NB Senior Citizens	24 Library Board Public Utilities Committee	25 Amvets Sons Citizens Advisory	26	27
28	29	30 NB Senior Citizens United Senior Pioneers	31			

April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 April Fools Day Parks & Recreation	2 Good Friday City Hall Closed	3
4 Easter	5 Amvets Post 52 Planning Commission-Work VFW Post 7573	6 Civic Club Historic District Commission NB Senior Citizens United Senior Pioneers	7	8 K of C Meeting St. Marys Meeting VFW Ladies Aux	9	10
11	12 Amvets Ladies City Council	13 Fire Department NB Senior Citizens Zoning Board of Appeals	14 Downtown Development Authority	15 Citizens Roads/Sidewalks Historic Society Meeting	16	17
18	19 VFW Post 7573	20 NB Senior Citizens Planning Commission United Senior Pioneers	21 Boy-Rama Meeting L.D.F.A.	22 Amvets Sons Citizens Advisory Earth Day	23	24
25	26 City Council	27 NB Senior Citizens	28 Library Board Public Utilities Committee	29	30	

CITY OF NEW BALTIMORE

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New Baltimore, MI 48047

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City of New Baltimore
36535 Green Street
New Baltimore, MI 48047

CITY DIRECTORY

WHO TO CALL

Fire-Medical-Police Emergency:..... **911**
Police Non-Emergency:..... (586) 725-2181
Fire Non-Emergency:..... (586) 725-0990



City Hall Main Number..... (586) 725-2151

Mayor	Laurence C. Smith.....	Extension 119	mayor@cityofnewbaltimore.org
Treasurer	Jeanne Bade.....	Extension 107	jbade@cityofnewbaltimore.org
Clerk	Marcella Shinska.....	Extension 108	mshinska@cityofnewbaltimore.org

City Management Team

Assistant to the Mayor	Marc Levis.....	Extension 109	mlevis@cityofnewbaltimore.org
Assessing	Darlene Burden.....	Extension 114	dburden@cityofnewbaltimore.org
	Emma Germain.....	Extension 106	egermain@cityofnewbaltimore.org
Building	Greg Nikkel.....	Extension 116	gnikkel@cityofnewbaltimore.org
Planning & Economic Dev'p.	Judy Sproat.....	Extension 110	jsproat@cityofnewbaltimore.org
Fire Department	Ken Lawfield.....	(586) 725-0990	klawfield@cityofnewbaltimore.org
MacDonald Public Library	Margaret Thomas.....	(586) 725-0273	thomas@libcoop.net
Parks and Recreation	Mike Hoffard.....	(586) 725-0291	recdirector@cityofnewbaltimore.org
Police Department	John Bolgar.....	(586) 725-2181	jbolgar@cityofnewbaltimore.org
Pollution Control Department	Craig Higgins.....	(586) 725-9363	wpcf2004@sbcglobal.net