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A Message from Mayor Fedell

Spring is here, at least according to the calendar, and that means Tourist Season is not far behind. Beginning with Memorial Day weekend and the Arts and Crafts Festival, Newaygo has a lot of things to offer, including the opportunity for each of us to be hometown tourists and community ambassadors.

If you are new to the area, or have not experienced our local events, let me encourage you to take advantage of the many unique opportunities that we offer and be a Hometown Tourist. If you are a seasoned veteran who

can answer questions or give directions, please consider yourself a Newaygo Ambassador and help out. You can find a schedule of events on the City webpage, River Country Chamber of Commerce webpage and at many local businesses.

I want to draw attention to the **Special Election on Tuesday, May 8** in the City Hall Council Chambers. Newaygo Public Schools are asking for a renewal of their current operating millage, and healthy schools and healthy communities go hand-in-hand. Please get out and vote.

Finally, after several years as the Newaygo County Museum Director, Roxanne Bassett has retired and I want to wish her all the very best. She has been succeeded by Steve Ratdke, and you can read about his background and upcoming Museum events in this issue.

Take a walk, take a hike, take a boat ride, and enjoy Our Town.

*Ed Fedell, Mayor
City of Newaygo*



Local Firm Wins National Recognition

In January, Advanced Interactive Response Systems (AIRS) of Newaygo was one of three winners of a \$1 million IPF Catalyst Challenge, held in Chicago. Three Lakes Partners, a venture philanthropy committed to ending Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF), sponsored this healthcare competition and innovators from around the world presented potential solutions to help change the many quality-of-life issues affecting patients living with IPF.

AIRS was founded in December of 2013 by Valerie Obenchain and is dedicated to the development of oxygen safety systems for use in nursing homes, hospitals and private homes.

As she explains, "AIRS products ensure the proper amount of oxygen is being delivered by monitoring the oxygen supply and the oxygen user in real time. We're excited to partner with others who share the same goal of improving the quality of life for IPF, and other patients that need oxygen."

Obenchain is a respiratory therapist who graduated with honors in Respiratory Care from Ferris State University, and Business Management from Cornerstone University. She lives in Newaygo and enjoys spending time on the Muskegon River.



Valerie Obenchain, founder and CEO of AIRS, was the recipient of \$333,333 in award money for her high-quality, portable oxygen safety and monitoring products that improve Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF) patient health and caregiver performance. All of AIRS' products are portable and have a rechargeable battery. The AIRS app allows info from the device to be viewed and tracked remotely by health care professionals. For more information on AIRS' products please visit their website at www.oxygenalarms.com

Public Safety



In January, Officer Ryan Dornbos began his new position as Crime Prevention/ Neighborhood Revitalization / Community

Relations Coordinator. In this capacity he will work closely with the community and various organizations to resolve their concerns, work on initiatives, and address any other community service needs.

Dornbos has been with the City of Newaygo Police Department for several years and in his off hours he actively participates with the Newaygo Public Schools Football Program.

Funding for this position will come from

the Newaygo Business District, the City of Newaygo, and TIFA Funds, according to Chief Georgia Andres. "We appreciate the help and support of each of the organizations, and I know that it will make the city and neighboring communities safer for everyone," said Andres.

Officer Dornbos's new office will be located in the City of Newaygo office complex next to the Police Display. He can also be reached at 231-652-1655.



Officer Troy Nelson and Bella continue training in preparation for Bella's first day on the job, which is anticipated to be in late May.

Follow Bella on her Instagram account @bellamalinois



Be sure to always lock your doors and vehicles.

We live in a safe city but we must always take steps to prevent crime and protect ourselves.

In February Chief Georgia Andres (left) read to the children at Preschool Story Time held at the Newaygo Library. In addition to reading books about police she showed the children her police equipment and talked to them about what police officers do on a daily basis.



In January the Newaygo Fire Department took possession of Tender 1221, a truck with the ability to transport 3,000 gallons of water to rural fires in locations without fire hydrants. Tender 1221 replaces Tender 1220, a 20 year old truck with the capacity to transport 1,600 gallons of water.

Four Newaygo Fire Fighters (pictured below and at right) received commendation from Fire Chief Jason Wolford for their hard work and dedication to duty resulting in the preservation of life. In November, 2017, they responded to a call and found an unresponsive male who would later go into cardiac arrest. The firefighters worked with Life EMS to provide lifesaving care both at the scene and during transport. As the result of their efforts the patient has made a full recovery.

Fire Fighter Nigel O'Connor



Deputy Chief Jason Cunningham presented the awards to all four fire fighters



Fire Fighter Christopher Crittendon

Fire Fighter Keith Durnell



Fire Fighter Sara Bird

From the City Manager's Desk

There are lots of things going on at the City Offices that we hope will continue to make Newaygo a great place to live. Our Master Plan process is moving forward. In mid-April we will begin work sessions for our city "Team," consisting of consultants, staff, and other stakeholders like NEDO and River Country Chamber of Commerce. I hope to have this process finished by year-end; if you have any ideas for our future, please do not hesitate to call or email me with your thoughts and ideas.

We continue to examine the concept of walkability, and are exploring modifications to M37 to help achieve this goal. A walkable city includes

addressing housing issues and how housing can be increased; and Sable Homes has recently started building their fifth home in the development on west M82.

We are working to close on a USDA Sewer Grant/Loan that will help provide repairs and improvements to our Waste Water Treatment Plant, sewage lift stations, and sewer mains. It will also prepare Newaygo for future expansions, along with providing better up-time and efficiency. This project is planned for 2018-19 and I am currently finalizing the paper work that accompanies this part loan, part grant venture.

And finally, in our on-going effort to stream-line operations, we hired Holly Wahr part-time to fill the void at The Stream created while Kim Goodin transitions to the City Clerk position and Kim Biegalle assumes City Treasurer responsibilities. Holly will help book meeting rooms, work with members and the community on meeting preparation and other administrative responsibilities.



Welcome Holly.

*Stay Tuned.
Stay Engaged.*

*Jon Schneider,
Newaygo City Manager*

NEDO

Newaygo City Council adopted a "Resolution to Improve Walkability and Mobility in the City of Newaygo" at its February meeting. Among other things, the City has contracted subject matter experts to provide expertise in updating public roads and pathways. The City will also work closely with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) on planned M-37 improvements scheduled for 2020-2021.

Improved walkability will address many issues, including parking, road lane width, bicycle safety, and other issues intended to continue making Newaygo a safe, vibrant community for both residents and visitors.



If you haven't already done so, please complete a coaster questionnaire to have your voice heard. These are available at local establishments while coasters last. NEDO will tabulate and use this information going forward.

I have an affection for a great city.
I feel safe in the neighbourhood of
man, and enjoy the sweet security
of the streets.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
1807-1882

Master Plan Public Meeting

April 17 6pm – 8pm
City Complex

The purpose of this meeting is to gather input and discuss housing and neighborhood issues.



Officer Brian Brown joined the NPD full-time March 1, and on March 22 he and Officer Troy Nelson graduated from the Metro Honor Guard Training Course.

River Country Chamber News



The River Country Chamber of Commerce has been busy making plans for 2018 spring and summer activities. Mark your calendars now for our Annual Home, Health & Garden Expo, our 4th Annual Golf Outing and the Memorial Weekend Arts & Crafts Festival. And watch our website for the most up-to-date information.



The mission of the River Country Chamber of Commerce of Newaygo County is promoting business growth through forward thinking and innovation.

Upcoming Chamber Events

April

- 18 Annual Dinner
- 21 Home, Health & Garden Expo 9:00 am—2:00 pm
Including FREE Document Shredding 10 am—1 pm
- 24-25 Customer Service Seminar:
"From Purple Goldfish to Colored Parachutes"

May

- 7—11 National Small Business Week
- 23 4th Annual Golf Outing 8:00 am—4:00 pm
- 25-26 Memorial Weekend Arts & Crafts Festival

June

- 9 Newaygo County Kids Day 12:00—3:00 pm
- 14 Senior & Caregivers Expo—Fremont Middle School
- 16 Farmers Market Opens



Find us on Facebook: **River Country Chamber of Commerce of Newaygo County**

And for Volunteers:

RC3 Chamber Champions

Visit our Website

www.rivercountrychamber.com

Where to Live, Eat, Shop, Do Business, Play & Stay.... It's All There!

Newaygo Library News



Baby story time is a great way to foster early language skills, meet other families, and bond with your child. Join us every Thursday at 11:00 am in the Children's Library for songs, stories, finger plays, music, and much more.



Congratulations to Isaak Grabill (left, center) and Kathleen Swendrowski (bottom), winners in the Winter Reading Program. All library patrons were eligible to enter the drawing up to 10 times by reading 10 different books, and the two winners were randomly selected. It pays to read!

The Library is working on a long-range plan and would like community input.



Please access their survey at
www.surveymonkey.com/r/9QW9WS9

Newaygo County Museum and Heritage Center

Working to collect, preserve and share Newaygo County's history.

In January, Steven Radtke assumed the position of Executive Director of the Museum, replacing Roxanne Bassett who retired after five years. Steven is a Muskegon native and has a BS degree in Psychology from Central Michigan University, with a focus in museum studies. He spent 11 years with the Tri-Cities Museum in Grand Haven in various capacities. For the past four years, he served as its Executive Director.



In 2015, Steven received the Grand Haven Chamber of Commerce "20 under 40" Award for Excellence in Leadership, and has graduated from the Chamber's Leadership Connect program.

Radtke currently serves as the Vice President of the Muskegon Historic District Commission, and as the Design Chair of the Ottawa County Courthouse Learning Center. He also advocates statewide for historical preservation.

"Ever since starting in my new role on January 22nd, I am continuously amazed at the strides that Roxanne Basset, her staff, and volunteers at Newaygo County Museum and Heritage Center have made since reopening at 12 Quarterline. I hope that I can work with the community to build on the solid foundation already created to make the Museum a place where citizens and visitors alike can experience the rich and varied history of the area," said Radtke.



Visit our website at

www.newaygocountyhistory.org

Find links to local history, including historic photographs, Ancestry.com, newspaper archives, census records, cemetery indexes, and much more.



Like us on Facebook to keep up-to-date on happenings and events, and to get your daily dose of history!

FREE ADMISSION

April 1 - October 31
Tuesday – Saturday
11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sundays

Memorial Day and Labor Day
Weekends

12 Quarterline Road
PO Box 361
Newaygo, MI 49337
231-652-5003

The museum reopens for the 2018 season on April 1st and has an exciting new exhibit on Newaygo County's natural resources and how man has affected them over time, as well as permanent exhibits highlighting the history of the area. The local research room helps you to connect to your history and ancestors using an extensive collection of materials and resources.

Speakers are now being scheduled for the 2018 Season.

If you have a topic of local history you would like to present, please email newaygo.co.museum.dir@gmail.com

Subject Line: **Speaker Series**

Speakers are scheduled the third Wednesday of May, June, July, August, and September.

The Museum Board and staff would like to offer congratulations to Roxanne on her dedicated service, and wish her the best in retirement. Enjoy those grandkids and your new puppy!



Our program is one of the few youth archaeology programs in Michigan where National Forest Service Archaeologists teach proper digging techniques and careful handling of artifacts to youngsters.

Register soon, as space is limited. Need-based scholarships are available; for information, contact Luanne Nelson at lnelson@newaygocountyhistory.org.

Archaeology Day Camp

June 18 – 22
Ages 10-14
\$25/camper

Contact the
Newaygo County Museum
for more information.



Department of Public Works—Spring Projects

Flushing Water Mains and Valve Exercising

April 9th – 16th 7AM to 3:00PM

Customers may notice some water discoloration, and we recommend that you do NOT do laundry during this time.

Bulk Leaf Pick-up **April 16th – 20th**

- ◆ Rake leaves to edge of the road in a long windrow.
- ◆ Piles should be located just off road edge, no more than two feet from road.
- ◆ Piles should only include leaves. **NO BRUSH PLEASE.**
- ◆ Piles should not be within 4' of mailbox or street signs.

Brush Pick-up **April 23rd - 27th**

- ◆ Brush must not exceed 4' in length or 6" in diameter.
- ◆ Brush must be piled neatly, with butt ends facing the road.
- ◆ Brush only, **NO LEAVES PLEASE**

Brush may also be brought to the D.P.W. during working hours.

Bag Leaf Pick-up

- ◆ Composting bags are available at the City office.
- ◆ The City **WILL NOT** accept any bags that are not composting bags.
- ◆ Bags must have leaves only.
- ◆ Sit bags by edge of road.

For any questions, please call the City office at 652-1657.

Landscaping

City residents may purchase various landscaping supplies at a discounted cost and have it delivered to their home.

Top Soil.....\$ 20/yard
1" Stone.....\$ 35/ yard
Crushed Concrete...\$14/ yard
Wood Mulch.....\$ 18/yard

Payment must be made prior to delivery at the City Office front desk, and delivery will be arranged at that time. Sorry, there are no weekend deliveries.



At Left: City officials recently purchased a Vactor Truck from the City of Fremont that will be used for sewer cleaning and vacuum excavation on water leaks.

Watkins Awarded National Honor

Newaygo County Emergency Management Director, Abby Watkins, recently received the 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Award from the USDA Forest Service at the Wildland-Urban Interface Conference in Reno, Nevada. Locally, she was honored by the Newaygo County Board of Commissioners at their March Meeting.

Watkins was recognized for use of her creative and financial savvy to secure project funding to implement wildfire mitigation efforts in those areas prone to wildfires.

"To me, this award is for Newaygo County," said Watkins. "Without the willingness and support of the private property owners partnering with Newaygo County, these projects to make our communities safer would not occur. I feel honored to serve such an amazing community."

Over the past six years she was able to treat high hazard fuels on 360 acres and 100 properties, and improve ingress and egress for 24 homeowners.



Abigail Watkins was honored at a recent Newaygo County Commissioners Meeting for receiving the 2018 Wildfire Mitigation Award from the USDA Forest Service. Shown from left are Matt Kooiman from Rep. Bill Huizenga's Office, Forest Supervisor Leslie Auriemmo, Mark Watkins, Abby, her father Ron Marek, County Commissioner Pat Gardner, and Jon Bumstead.

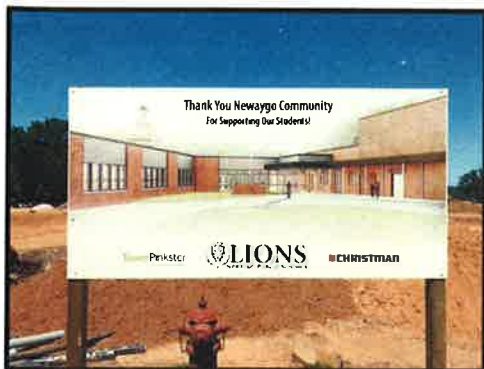
The Stream Welcomes...

Holly Wahr joined the staff at The Stream as Administrative Assistant in February. She will be assuming the task of scheduling, meeting coordination and assisting members as needed.

Welcome Holly!



Newaygo Public Schools



The Newaygo School Board has officially named the new/renovated primary school *Newaygo Elementary School*. The three internal wings will be designated the Vera Wilsie, Velma Matson, and Jack Long wings.

The City will hold a **Special Election on Tuesday, May 8** in the City Hall Council Chambers. Newaygo Public Schools are asking for a renewal of their current operating millage which expires within the

2018 levy. Polls are open from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm. If you would like to be on the permanent Absent Voter (AV) list, OR if you would like an AV application for this election, please call the City Clerk's office at 652.1657 x 222 to request a form.

For up-to-date information and photos of the building project, visit the school's website at <http://www.newaygo.net/schools/facilities/>

City of Newaygo Directory

Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 7:30am-4:00pm
Phone (231) 652-1657

City Manager/Zoning Administrator	Jon Schneider	231-652-1657 ext. 211
City Clerk/Treasurer	Kim Biegalle	231-652-1657 ext. 222
Deputy City Clerk/Deputy Treasurer	Carol Sherwood	231-652-1657 ext. 212
Newaygo Police	Chief Georgia Andres	231-652-1655 ext. 215
City Assessor	Dan Kirwin	231-652-1657 ext. 216
Utility Billing Clerk	Ann Quick	231-652-1657 ext. 210
IT Administrator	Brad Peets	231-652-1657 ext. 218

DPW	Ron Wight, Superintendent	
	M-F 7:00 am – 3:00 pm	231-652-7984
	Emergency After Hours	231-414-7311
The Stream	Holly Wahr	231-452-6401
	Kim Goodin	231-452-6401 ext. 1009

City Building Inspector	Duane Cruzan	231-652-1657 ext. 236
North Country Inspection Services, LLC		Newaygo Hours: M, W 1:00pm-3:00pm

Boards and Committees

(For meeting dates, locations, and contact information, visit our website at www.newaygocity.org)

City Council:	Ed Fedell, Mayor	Mike Hikade
	Roger Ederer	Marcello Santana
	Roger Palmiter	Katie Walerczyk
	Eric Johnson	

Planning Commission	Dave Chambers, Chair
Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA)	Ron Armstrong, Chair
Principal Shopping District (PSD)	Nick Looman, Chair
Newaygo Community Recreation Authority (NCRA)	Jennifer Badgero, Chair
Newaygo Economic Development Organization (NEDO)	Scott Faulkner, Chair

Visit our website: www.newaygocity.org

Find us on  "City of Newaygo"



CITY OF NEWAYGO

City Resident

28 N. State Road
 P.O. Box 308
 Newaygo, MI 49337
 Phone 231-652-1657

City of Newaygo financial and performance information can be found on the City's website at: <http://newaygocity.org/forms-publications.php>

On this page select the category "City Financial Information".



April—June 2018

April:

- | | | |
|-----|--------------|---|
| 2-6 | Spring Break | Newaygo Public Schools |
| 9 | 7:00 pm | City Council Meeting |
| 10 | 6:30 pm | Planning Commission Meeting |
| 11 | 7:30 am | Principal Shopping District |
| 13 | 7:00 am | TIFA Board Meeting |
| 17 | 6:00 pm | Master Plan Public Meeting—Housing |
| 17 | 7:00 pm | NPD Neighborhood Watch, Newaygo High School |

May:

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 8 | 7:00 am—8:00 pm | Special Election—City Hall Council Chambers |
| 8 | 6:30 pm | Planning Commission |
| 11 | 8:00 am | NCRA Meeting |
| 14 | 7:00 pm | City Council Meeting |
| 28 | City Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day | |

June:

- | | | |
|----|----------|---|
| 9 | 12:00 pm | Newaygo County Kids Day |
| 11 | 7:00 pm | City Council Meeting |
| 12 | 6:30 pm | Planning Commission Meeting |
| 19 | 7:00 pm | NPD Neighborhood Watch, Newaygo High School |
| 25 | 7:00 pm | City Council Meeting |
| 29 | 10:30 am | NEDO Board |
| 29 | 11:30 am | NEDO Networking |

