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A Message from Mayor Fedell

Thank you for re-electing me as your Mayor. I am very appreciative of the voters who re-elected me to my fifth term. In addition, I hold everyone who cast their vote in high regard regardless of who they voted for. I am looking forward to my next term with great anticipation as it will allow me to see projects which we have been working on come to fulfillment under my administration.

There are some exciting things on the horizon in Newaygo, and I am honored to continue to be a part of it all. The "I Am Newaygo" project kicked off with a successful social media campaign and some well-attended initial meetings. There are

more specifics about this project below and there are many ways for you to become involved.

It is exciting to watch the construction progress of the new elementary school which will replace the former Velma Matson Upper Elementary. Every effort is being made to incorporate appropriate building elements from the former school, and one very obvious example is the new Media Center, which faces downtown and is reminiscent of the school that stood there for more than 90 years. The plan is for students to move into the new wing in the fall of 2018.

We have new businesses, new homes, new projects and new construction going on all around us. Each new project is due to the hard work and behind-the-scenes expertise of our City of Newaygo staff and volunteers, and I want to thank all of the unsung heroes for their hard work. I would encourage you to do what you can to add to the momentum and help continue to move our city forward.



*Ed Fedell, Mayor
City of Newaygo*

Newaygo Economic Development Organization

Every small town has a variety of departments, each with their own specific purpose. Some are easy to understand, like a DPW or Police Department, others less visible but critical to the wise governance of taxpayer dollars. In the case of the City of Newaygo, that includes the TIFA Board, and the Newaygo Economic Development Organization, or NEDO.

The Newaygo City Council approved the formation of NEDO in December of 2004 and they held their first meeting on January 14, 2005. NEDO was formed at a critical time in the city's growth, and these dates coincide with the renovation of the city's downtown, with grants and investments totaling over \$9 million at that time.

So, what does NEDO do? As the name implies, NEDO is involved in the business of economic development, a process by which a city improves the economic, political, and social well-

being of its people. Today, your NEDO is involved in attracting and retaining new jobs and new businesses, improving infrastructure, and assisting in the City's Master Plan development through a Citizen Engagement Plan called "I Am Newaygo!"

In June of 2015, NEDO was formally approved by ordinance, allowing it to function as a separate department of the City Government. Scott Faulkner, longtime local business owner, entrepreneur, Board Member, and area resident was duly elected as Chairman of the Board at that time.

"We want to make the City of Newaygo the model for rural but sophisticated small town development, a true success story that is an integral part of the West Michigan growth phe-

nomenon," stated Faulkner. "More than that, we want to accomplish that goal by engaging all of our stakeholders- so that we might build the best version of a small town, using both local ideas and Best Practices from around the country.

"Recently, our focus has been looking at what we need to become the model for rural, small town walkability. Our stakeholders are telling us that slowing traffic down, improving safety, and increasing walkability and bicycling is one of their top priorities," Faulkner added.



Public Safety



From Left, Newaygo City Manager Jon Schneider, Mayor Ed Fedell, Police Chief Georgia Andres and Police Sergeant Lloyd Walerczyk proudly display the Special Tribute from the State of Michigan celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Newaygo Police Department.

Snowmobiles

Snowmobiles must obey all motor vehicle traffic laws and local ordinances. No person shall operate a snowmobile in the City of Newaygo except on marked trails through the City. For assistance or questions regarding snowmobile paths and trails, check with the Police Department.



Yield to Pedestrians

Now that winter is here and roads can be slippery, please slow down for pedestrians in general, and especially those in designated cross walks.

School Crossing Guards are in place to help children safely cross busy streets as they are coming to and from school each day. Crossing Guards are allowed to stop traffic to permit children to cross safely. If a crossing guard tells you to stop—PLEASE STOP. State law requires traffic to follow the directions of the crossing guard.

The three pedestrian crossing signs in the City of Newaygo are located on **Barton, Washington, and Quarterline (downtown)**. State law requires traffic to stop at these crosswalks if pedestrians are present OR if a crossing guard is out placing their signs in the road. Failure to yield or stop is considered a civil infraction and violators will be fined.



As of mid-December, the Newaygo Fire Department responded to over 532 calls, as compared to 502 during 2016. Those calls consisted of medicals, fires, automotive accidents, water rescues, downed power lines, gas leaks, mutual aids and more.

The members of NFD are proud to protect the City of Newaygo, Brooks Township, and Garfield Township. They give up many hours of their own time each year to respond to calls, train, and take part in community events - often missing holidays, birthdays and significant life events to provide high-quality services to the community.

Please take the time to thank all fire, EMS, and police personnel for their dedication to protecting our community.



The department has seen the implementation of the first fire department based Dive/Rescue team in the county with nine certified emergency rescue divers.



Department members pride themselves in community involvement, taking part in fire prevention school visits, Newaygo County Kids Day, the Home, Health and Garden Show, Labor Day Parade and Christmas Walk.



NFD has expanded its technician rescue capabilities by sending members to multiple county-sponsored trainings, and has seven certified confined space rescue technicians and high angle rescue technicians.

From the City Manager's Desk

Happy New Year!

We enter the New Year with optimism and anticipation on many fronts here at the City.

After serving as City Treasurer for 39 years, Carol Sherwood will be reducing her hours to part time, and is planning to retire completely at the end of the first quarter. In the meantime, she will be serving as Deputy City Clerk and Deputy City Treasurer to help with a smooth transition. I am pleased to announce that current City Clerk, Kim Biegalle, has been appointed to both the City Clerk and City Treasurer positions.

Doug Day has retired from the City Council after decades of service on several different committees, and will be

replaced by Roger Ederer. I want to personally thank Doug for his many years of service to our great city, and wish him all the best as he enjoys a well-deserved retirement.

You may also notice that this newsletter has taken on a slightly different look and doubled in size. This allows us to include more news that we feel will be beneficial to our city residents. For instance, we have added the Newaygo Fire Department and NEDO to our list of regular contributors, and we will be featuring a different city-related entity in each issue. I would draw your attention to page 5 where we are featuring the Newaygo Area District Library and its many services.

Finally, I want to welcome Sable Homes to our community. They held a groundbreaking ceremony in the River Hills neighborhood on a cold and blustery day in December and have announced their goal to build approximately 20 new homes during 2018. Sable Homes will also be making a \$250 donation to BOTH the Newaygo County Promise Zone and to TrueNorth Community Services, in addition to paying \$2,000 towards closing costs for each home purchased.



Jon Schneider,
Newaygo City Manager

Property Tax Assistance

**February 14, 2018
is the last day to pay 2017 winter
taxes without penalty.**

If you, or someone you know, needs help with delinquent taxes, please call the Newaygo County Treasurer's Office at 231-689-7230. They are eager to assist taxpayers and encourage everyone to begin making minimum payments now on any delinquent taxes.

The local agencies listed here may be able to help with delinquent taxes. They typically will consider your income, assets and other circumstances to determine IF you are eligible for help.

In addition, MSHDA's Step Forward Program has RE-OPENED and is available to pay Delinquent Property Taxes for qualified applicants. For help, call 231-757-4789 or visit <https://www.stepforwardmichign.org>.

MSU Finance and Home Ownership Educator, Bill Hendrian, is also available to assist you at (231) 757-4789.

Newaygo County Department of Human Services 231-689-5500
1025 E. James St., White Cloud

**TrueNorth Community Services &
Center for Non-Profit Housing** 231-924-0641
6308 S. Warner, Fremont

Love, Inc. of Newaygo County 231-652-4099
11 West 96th St., Grant

Five Cap Inc. 231-689-6688
434 N. Evergreen (M-37), White Cloud

Department of Newaygo County Veteran Affairs 231-689-7030
1087 Newell St., White Cloud
(Serving veterans and widows)

To pay online visit <https://www.govpaynow.com/gps/user/plc/9160>



River Country Chamber News



The River Country Chamber of Commerce of Newaygo County strengthens, promotes and supports Member Businesses and community life in Newaygo County.

Several successful holiday events closed out 2017, and your Chamber is now busy making plans for the future. If you are not familiar with the many activities that they coordinate, or to find event dates, times, and locations, please visit the Chamber website at www.rivercountrychamber.com.

Job postings, monthly specials, and a business directory are but a few of the many and varied services made available to both businesses and individuals. In addition to these on-going benefits, there are many events, training opportunities and other ways to get involved in your community.

Several members of the Chamber Board braved the elements in December to celebrate a ribbon cutting to welcome Sable Homes to Newaygo. Sable Homes will be making a \$250 donation to both the Newaygo Promise Zone and TrueNorth Community Services for each home that they sell here.



Mark your calendar:
Home, Health & Garden Expo
Saturday, April 21, 2018



The Chamber hosted a "Jingle and Mingle" open house for Premier Partner Chamber members in December. Visit the Chamber website at www.rivercountrychamber.com to see how your business can get involved.

Upcoming Chamber Events

- 1/9 Monthly Board Meeting
- 1/15 Member Orientation
- 1/16 Get Found on Google
- 1/17 Get Found on Google
- 1/17 General Membership Mtng.

- 2/13 Monthly Board Meeting
- 2/19 Member Orientation

- 3/13 Monthly Board Meeting
- 3/19 Member Orientation



Find us on facebook:

**River Country Chamber of
Commerce of Newaygo County**

And for Volunteers

RC3 Chamber Champions

Newaygo County Emergency Management Services

In December of 2016, the Newaygo County Board of Commissioners approved \$239,316 in grants to implement a new flood warning system for approximately 35 miles of the Muskegon River in Newaygo County utilizing the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Flood Inundation Mapper System.

This system will allow emergency officials to detect threatening flood events in advance, enabling officials to disseminate meaningful warnings to the at-risk public so that actions can be taken to reduce the adverse effects of the flood event to save lives and protect property.

Through this project, two new automated river gauges were installed along the river to provide for more targeted warning.

Property owners, business owners, and recreational users of the Muskegon River are urged to attend a Community Meeting and learn more about flood monitoring and communications resources within Newaygo County. This meeting will be staffed with representatives from various local,



state, and federal agencies who will provide the most current information about flood monitoring and communications resources, flood warning, flood response, and mitigation resources. For more information, please contact the Newaygo County Emergency Services Department at (231) 689-7354.

Community Meeting

Learn about the new Flood Warning System on the Muskegon River

Thursday, March 1, 2018

6:00pm—8:00pm

Newaygo High School Cafeteria

Newaygo Area District Library

The Newaygo Area District Library serves more than 6,000 residents with a wide range of programs and services. Take advantage of all there is to read, see, explore, watch, discover, study and ENJOY!

Hours of Operation

M-F 10:00 am—6:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am—1:00 pm

Michigan Grown Arts Program

Each month the Newaygo Library will feature an artist or speaker with Michigan connections. A broad range of artistic expressions will be showcased in this series, such as authors, musicians, painters, storytellers and photographers. These opportunities are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Programming for All Ages

For the youngest: Weekly Preschool Storytime and Baby Storytime

1000 Books before Kindergarten

For Tweens: Afternoon Movies
Tween Monday's (Animation Club, Pizza and Pages book club, and various other activities every Monday after school.)

For Teens: Animation Club
Manga Club
Teen Advisory Board

For Adults: Staff Picks books
Bestsellers lists

For Adults: Feature Author
Adult Book Chat Book Club
Free Adult Coloring Sheets

Available for Check Out:
Books, Magazines, Audiobooks, Videos, Books on CDs, DVDs, Playaway Launchpads, and Board Games

Available for Free Use:
WIFI, public computers, study rooms

Available for a small fee:
FAX – sending and receiving
Photo Copies
Printing
Conference Room Rental

The NADL provides borrowing privileges to all LLC member card holders. In addition, you may use your library card at any library displaying the **Lakeland Library Logo**.



X: A Novel

Every two years a panel of teachers, librarians, community leaders and book lovers chooses a new Great Michigan Read. This statewide literary program focuses on humanities themes and aims to connect Michiganders throughout the state.

The 2017-18 Great Michigan Read is *X: A Novel* by Ilyasah Shabazz and Kekla Magoon. The program runs through May, 2018, and several copies of the book are available at the NADL.

X: A Novel explores the Michigan roots of minister and human rights activist Malcolm X, including his early life in Michigan that molded him into one of the most prominent human rights leaders of his time.



Income Tax Forms

Tax forms may be printed from the State and Federal websites for 15 cents a page. A *limited* quantity of printed tax forms will be available at the NADL after February 1.

Visit our website for more information
<http://newaygo.llcoop.org/>

 www.facebook.com/Newaygo-Area-District-Library

 @newaygolibrary

Have reminders about library programming sent to your phone or email!

Download the app **Remind:**

All Programming - remind.com/join/44kk72
Adult Prgrmng - remind.com/join/63b24e
Teen Prgrmng - remind.com/join/9ba4d8
Tween Prgrmng- remind.com/join/bec22e
Children's Prgrmng – remind.com/join/c6d276

Commission on Aging



The Newaygo County Commission on Aging (COA) welcomed three new full-time staff members recently. From left are Andrea Murray, Senior Programs and Community Relations Coordinator; Allison Maat, Secretary and Receptionist; and Denise Suttles, Transportation Director.

Joseph Fox, COA Director, says, "We welcome these new COA team members as we go into a

New Year seeking to expand our mission of making available caring services that enhance the quality of life and supports the independence of the nearly 12,000 adults who are 60 and over in Newaygo County."

To learn more about the COA please call 231-689-2100 or pick up the latest edition of **THE SILVER TSUNAMI** at over 100 locations throughout the county.



Department of Public Works

The Department of Public Works offers guidelines to facilitate snow removal and to help keep all Newwaygo Residents safe during the winter months. Please review these procedures carefully.

If you are experiencing water or sewer problems, the DPW is available weekdays from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. The **new after hours number is 231-414-7311**. If you want the DPW to respond to your house after hours and learn that the problem is *not* the city's responsibility, you will be billed for overtime.

Snow removal will occur in a specific order.

Plow drivers will not move to the next level until adequate driving conditions are met.

- ◆ Hills first – Croton, Whiskey Wood, and Quarterline

- ◆ School Bus routes and major roads
- ◆ Local neighborhood and secondary streets.

NO PARKING

during winter months:

Barton Street
 M-37 from 3:00 AM to 6:00 AM
 ALL OTHER city streets from
 2:00 AM to 7:00AM
 East Water Street has odd/
 even parking— on even days
 park on the NORTH side; on odd
 days park on the SOUTH side.

OTHER REMINDERS:

- ◆ It is the **resident's responsibility to maintain sidewalks** in front of your residence (with the exception of those living inside the Principal Shopping District, or PSD)
- ◆ Please remind snowplow services **NOT to push snow onto the sidewalks.**

- ◆ Apartment Tenants in the PSD must **park in designated parking areas** to avoid being ticketed. Call the City Offices to determine designated parking areas.



- ◆ Blue "locator stakes" will be placed by meters to locate them if the water must be shut off due to a leak. **PLEASE do not remove these stakes.**

Principal Shopping District

The Stream... Where Talent Flows

Membership at The Stream continues to grow and over the past months more and more businesses are renting classroom and office space.

In addition to other benefits, all Stream Members receive a 10% discount on membership dues with the River Country Chamber of Commerce, and may attend many Chamber-sponsored events at a discounted price.

Visit our website for more information:
www.newwaygostream.com

The Stream Welcomes New Members

- Adecco—Kathy Lull
- Janet Vanderleest
- Newwaygo Veterinary Services
- Lake & Land Realty—Chris Ortwein
- One Fit Life—Rachael Bridges



Digital Works at The Stream is a computer-based customer service training program that assists graduates find employment in both telework and with local employers. For more information go to www.digitalworksjobs.com and complete an application. This program is free to qualified Newwaygo County residents thanks to a grant from Fremont Area Community Foundation.



The Principal Shopping District, or PSD, is commissioned by the City Council to regulate the "look and feel" of River Stop Landing, the downtown commercial district. They manage public spaces and parking lots, introduce development initiatives, collect dues and represent the business owners to city government.

Recently, the PSD Board approved the repainting and repair of our River Stop Landing monuments and archways and the creation of seasonal "Welcome" banners along State Road. Currently the board is working with City Council on an initiative to install public-use electric vehicle chargers in the PSD parking lots.

Future goals include creating public restrooms, installing outdoor fireplace seating areas, and creating a member nomination process in which business owners could participate in the election of PSD officers.

The PSD meets the second Wednesday of each *quarter* at City Hall at 7:30 am, and the public is invited to attend.

Property Tax Assistance

Questions on your tax assessment?

You do not have to wait for the Board of Review to have your questions answered. A common misconception is that municipalities determine the inflation rate multiplier, or amount of the tax increase each year. This is not true.

The State Tax Commission sets the rate, or multiplier, and that is the number used to determine your taxes each year.

If you have questions, please contact the City Assessor at 231-652-1657 Ext. 216.

If you wish to meet with the Board of Review, contact City Hall at 231-652-1657 to schedule an appointment.

Board of Review

Call City Hall ahead of time to make an appointment.

March 13	3:00 pm—9:00 pm
March 14	9:00 am—3:00 pm

City of Newaygo Directory

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

City Manager/Zone Administrator	Jon Schneider	231-652-1657 ext. 211
City Clerk/Treasurer	Kim Biegalle	231-652-1657 ext. 222
Deputy City Clerk/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	Kim Goodin	231-452-6401

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

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

City Resident

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".



January - March 2018

January:

8	7:00 pm	City Council Meeting
9	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting
10	7:30 am	Principal Shopping District
11	7:00 am	NCRA Meeting
12	7:00 am	TIFA Board Meeting
12	11:30 am	NEDO Meeting

February:

8	8:00 am	NCRA Meeting
12	7:00 pm	City Council Meeting
13	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting
14	Until 4:00 pm	WINTER TAXES DUE

March:

8	8:00 am	NCRA Meeting
12	7:00 pm	City Council Meeting
13	3:00 pm-9:00 pm	Board of Review (Call City Hall ahead of time to make an appointment)
13	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting
14	9:00 am-3:00 pm	Board of Review (Call City Hall ahead of time to make an appointment)

