

# MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER

JULY 7, 2017

## BERGELIN HOUSE

Painting and maintenance has begun at the Bergelin House. Thank you to the Big Rapid's Historic Preservation Commission for their commitment to the community and upkeep of its historic assets.

## A JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> THANK YOU

Thank You to the Big Rapids Jaycees for organizing and funding the special events on July 4<sup>th</sup>! As always, the fireworks were fabulous!

## MECOSTA COUNTY AREA FAIR

Next week, the fair starts and runs from July 10<sup>th</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup>. Make sure you take the time to enjoy the festivities.

## MUSEUM DEDICATION

Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00–4:00 p.m., the Mecosta County Historical Museum will host a dedication/ribbon cutting for the new barrier free ramp that was constructed.

## LIBRARY

The Summer Reading Program continues to gain momentum for our area's avid readers. Participants not only choose to read their favorite titles, but the software program offers challenges to earn extra points by reading some specific books on certain topics. This helps everyone get interested in different topics when they see these new titles. Plus, of course, there are outside activities and programs that can garner points for the participants, as they work for lots of offered prizes.

The activities this holiday week for the Summer Reading Program included a picnic & activities in the park centered around Storytime; Lego Day at the Library; where new and fun creations were built, and the upcoming journal/book making DIY project that is open to adults on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, Noon – 3 pm.

Don't forget the Friday Classic Movie in the Park. The July 7<sup>th</sup> movie is "His Girl Friday", the 1940 film starring Cary Grant and Rosalind Russell. Movie starts at 8:30 p m; bring a chair or blanket. Fun entertainment for all!

The library is working with The Pioneer newspaper, providing book lists centered around our American holidays. On Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Patriotic Book List was published in The Pioneer and a picture of Tirzah, a member of our staff was featured in the accompanying article.

The week of July 10<sup>th</sup> will include a new activity for our Summer Reading Program. Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> (during the library's hours) are "Fort Days". Kids and adult will build forts out of cardboard and hopefully create structures they can play in. Should be lots of fun. Watch for the pictures on our Facebook page – seeing will be believing!

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

- In the past week, the Police Division responded to 91 calls for service. There were no calls of significance. Officers continue to investigate the unauthorized use of a credit card that had been lost. Suspects have been identified and charges will be sought the first of next week.
- In the past week, the Fire Division responded to 17 calls for service. There were no calls of significance to report.
- On Thursday, members of the department helped celebrate the retirement of Officer Tom Adams of the FSU Police department after 32 years of service. He will be greatly missed. We wish him happiness in his retirement.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

#### **Violations:**

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| (3) Blight                | (2) Disabled Vehicles    |
| (1) Furniture             | (2) Garbage & Rubbish    |
| (7) Grass & Weeds         | (1) Permits              |
| (5) Polycart Placement    | (6) Property Maintenance |
| (1) Recreational Vehicles | (9) Signs                |
| (1) Swimming Pools        | (1) Yard Waste           |

### **PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES**

#### **DIAL-A-RIDE**

**175** Adult Riders - (\$2.00 Fare)

**251** Children Riders - (\$1.00 Fare)

**679** (\$1.00 Fare) - Seniors (89) and Disabled (590) passengers of which 154 used the wheelchair lift to board

**71** Free Riders - Aides that ride with disabled passengers and children 4 and under with an adult

**15** No Shows - A person who calls for a ride and when we go to pick up and they are not there for ride

**NO** Safe Riders – Done for the summer, will start back up in September. Free rides from local establishments to anyone in the community on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 12:00am to 2:30am.

**NO Ferris Shuttle Bus – East Campus Mailbox, Lot 28, Allied Health, Campus Community Center, Lot 4, Rock Cafe', Arts and Science, 7:30am -7:00pm**

**1,191 Total Passengers**

**481 Out of City Riders - Anyone we pick up or drop off outside the Big Rapids City Limits**

### **DPW: STREETS**

- Worked on Rust Ave all week; put road gravel down, installed manhole covers, black dirt behind curbs; hauled away excess materials; applied brine to control dust; picked up cones and barricades
- Put together road closed signs for upcoming Michigan Ave project
- Graveled some alleys
- Watered trees
- Installed a water service on Chestnut St
- Swept downtown
- Set out and picked up cones and signs for July 4<sup>th</sup> parade
- Checked and jetted sewers per normal daily and call ins
- Set out Farmers Market cones and signs on Tuesday and Friday

### **DPW: PARKS**

- Prepped ball fields for games
- Watered and maintained flowers
- Mowed and weed whipped parks, downtown and ballfields
- Repaired irrigation leak at Vogel Field
- Took extra supplies to Hemlock for Old Timers Game
- Trimmed bushes in city parking lots and grounds
- Picked up trash downtown and in parks
- Opened, cleaned and maintained City Hall and park public restrooms daily

### **MAIN MAINTENANCE**

- MISS Digs
- Shut offs/ons
- Meter reads, rereads, final reads

### **WATER PLANT**

#### **Safety Topic: “Message to Self: Distracted Driving Is Dangerous”**

- Checked generators.
- Ran customer samples.
- Performed QA/QC procedures in lab.
- Buffed and polished floors at the plant.
- Cleaned up scrap metal left at Perry water tower by cell phone contractors.
- Calibrated the PH and Chlorine probes at the State St booster station.

- Cleaned up clutter in the State St booster station.
- Assisted Rob from Mall City Mechanical with the removal and replacement of the plumbing to the sprinkler system and sample tap at the State street booster station. This was done to correct the high lead concentration level found at this site during last month's Lead/ Copper testing.

Mark Gifford, City Manager