



"This institution is an equal opportunity provider"

# THE VILLAGE CRIER

Issue #14: Spring 2008

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## **Spring has Sprung!**



The birds are singing..... flowers are starting to blossom.... And the snow is leaving! With spring comes.... Tyrone Township Spring Clean-up Days! April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 3<sup>rd</sup> is scheduled for this event. Tuesday-Thursday hours: 9:00am-6:00pm, Friday hours: 9:00am-5:00pm, Saturday hours: 8:00am-1:00pm. See flyers or call the township office @ 616-678-4779 for details.

## **Remember to watch your speed....**

The Village and the Kent County Sheriff's Department would like to remind motorists to be aware and travel the speed limit in the Village of Kent City. Remember that residential and school zones are always 25mph unless otherwise posted. From time to time the sheriff's department will be posting speed radar boards about the village on certain roadways. These boards are to serve as a reminder of your speed. Immediately after the boards are removed, the sheriff's department Traffic and Safety Division will work with a zero tolerance on speed in these zones and enforce the posted speeds through citations.

### **2007 Events that will be back in 2008!**

#### **Flu / Pneumonia Vaccination Clinic**

We held a two hour flu/pneumonia vaccination clinic at the Village Office in October and it went over well for our first time. We had 18 people come in for shots. We will be putting together another clinic for this October, so keep your eye on the newsletter. We will be updating you as dates are finalized.



### **Santa Claus Visits Kent City**

The Santa Train & Visit was a great success again this year.



Kids were able to watch as Santa came to Kent City on the train, and then after Santa caught a ride on one of the Tyrone Township fire trucks the children were able to visit with him at ChoiceOne Bank. Each child received a gift that was donated by the Village. It was a fun day for all!

## **Streetscape News**

The Kent City DDA is working on a streetscape for Main Street between 17 Mile and Spring Street. This project was started about 8 years ago and has gone through some adjustments. Ideas for the new streetscape include: relocation of all power lines, new street lights, sidewalks, curbs and asphalt. For more information, please watch for posting of upcoming DDA meetings.

## **Walking Path in Ball Creek Park**

This summer we hope you plan to enjoy the new addition to Ball Creek Park near Wynwood Estates. Construction will begin soon on a ¼ mile walking path that is being funded by Community Development Block Grant monies and from the Village's street fund.

## **Kent City Fall Festival**

Last year's festival was a great success so plans are being made for 2008. The date has been set for September 13<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in helping or have any ideas, please contact Mr. John Petruska @ 678-7383 or leave a message for him at the village office, 678-7232. Meetings will be scheduled soon.

**Take A Look At This!**



**Check it out!**

Take a look out at the web...Our new site has been up and running for a few months now. We are constantly updating and changing information on it, so check us out at: [www.kentcitymi.org](http://www.kentcitymi.org) & let us know what you think!

**Playground Equipment Grant**



The Village has applied again this year for a grant to put up another swing set in Leaver Park. **We need your help!** We are requesting a 6-seat swing set to be placed by Pavilion #2. As a member of Active Michigan Communities we were informed of a grant program sponsored by Hamburger Helper. The “My Hometown Helper” grant is provided to help communities improve themselves by giving assistance in their projects. Funds will be provided based on merit of project- which includes community support. To help support our project we need individuals to visit the [www.myhometownhelper.com](http://www.myhometownhelper.com) website. Find our project listed under “Kent City” and enter comments supporting it into their website. If you have any questions, please contact the Village Office.

**Kent City Historical Society**

The Historical Society meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday each month @ 1:00pm in the Tyrone Township Hall. In May they will be moving to their new facility –the old Hall adjacent to the Tyrone Township Branch Library on Main Street. They will have educational displays of items for public viewing.

If you have items you would like to share or donate, please contact Maynard Klein-(616)675-5421 or stop into the Tyrone Township Office for information. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Historical Scenes Post Card Sets are available to purchase for a \$1.00 donation at both the Village and Township offices. Proceeds go to the expenses of the society.

**DPW Department**



American Legion-  
Village Memorial Day  
Parade is:  
May 26<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00am

**Yard Maintenance –**

This is a reminder that the grass containers cannot weigh more than 30lbs. to be able to pick them up and dump them. This spring all leaves should be raked to the edge of the street for clean up. Last clean up day is May 12<sup>th</sup>. Remember to separate sticks & stones from leaves, and no animal waste. Other yard waste (ex.: flower bed debris, etc.) is to be put in open containers.

The Village’s Yard Waste Policy was amended on January 10, 2008 to include violation enforcement. Violations will be handled accordingly:

- 1<sup>st</sup> violation: Written Notice of Violation will be given to resident.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> violation: Written Warning Notice that the service will be discontinued for the season.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> violation: Service will be discontinued for the season.

For a complete copy of the Yard Waste Policy visit the village’s website or contact our office.

# Welcome to "The Zone"

## Planning & Zoning News

### Ordinance Reminders:

#### *Did you know?....*

A Village Ordinance (law) prohibits parking on any village street from 12:01a.m. to 6:00a.m. This is especially important during the winter months as our Village employees attempt to keep the streets and sidewalks clear of snow and ice.

#### *The Village has ordinances in effect for the following issues:*

- *Grass & Weeds* –
- *Inoperable Vehicles* -
- *Trash & Junk* –
- For complete ordinances contact the Village Office.

### Zoning & Building Permits:

#### *Zoning Permits* –



are required prior to any form of construction or excavation; including – but not limited to the following list:

- Dwellings / Additions to existing structures
- Porches & decks / Garages / Barns / Sheds
- Swimming pools & hot tubs / Gazebos
- Freestanding Antennas & towers

Zoning permits are also required prior to the demolition or moving of a building larger than 200 sq. ft. in area. Applications are available by mail, e-mail or faxed through the Village Offices. Please contact: Tom Knauf @ 616-678-7232 with any Zoning questions or application requests.

*Building Permits* – are needed prior to construction of most of the above structures. For questions on building codes or to obtain a building permit application contact:

Casey Patterson, Building Inspector  
Tyrone Township Offices - Phone: (616)678-4779  
28 E. Muskegon St., Kent City, MI 49330

#### *Fencing & Walls:*



Permits are not required

to construct a fence or wall; however, they must comply with the provisions of the Zoning Ordinance. The ordinance regulates the height and location of fences and walls. Barbed wire and above ground electrically charged wire are prohibited in residential districts.

A free, one-page information sheet is available at the Village Office. We will mail or fax upon request.

Call 616-678-7232 with questions or to obtain the information sheet.

# Important Contact Information

## Village of Kent City Office Hours & General Information:

**Phone: 616-678-7232**

**Fax: 616-678-4256**

**\*Mail Slot in door for after-hour drop off**

**\*Message recording for after-hour calls**

Monday	8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Thursday	8:30 am – 4:00 pm
Friday	Closed

### Village Council Members:

President – John Petruska  
 Steve Buckner  
 Jill Krikke  
 Sandra Wylie

Merry Barron  
 Thomas Pieper  
 Bert Rose

### Village Meeting Dates:

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday - Planning Commission

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday - Village Council

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday - Board of Zoning Appeals

(meets per applicant request)

Annually - Downtown Development Authority

\*All meetings are open to the public

For more details, schedules are posted at Village Office

### Village Officers:

**Officers:** Clerk – Mary Portell

Treasurer – Darrell Rotier

### Village Staff:

Deputy Clerk – Jennifer August

Zoning Administrator – Tom Knauf

DPW Sewer Lagoon Operator – Steve Evink

DPW Sewer Lagoon Operator – Jay Pike

DPW Sewer, Part-time – Greg VanHouten

## Town Hall

The Town Hall (owned & operated by Tyrone Township) is adjacent to the Library on S. Main Street. The hall is equipped with a small kitchen, and can be rented for events. Call Tyrone Township at 678-4779 for rental information

### Police Protection



The Kent County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement within Kent City & the surrounding areas.

**Emergencies: (including crimes & suspicious activities)**

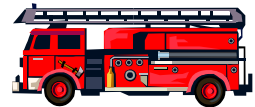
\*Always call 911

**Non-emergencies:** 1-800-442-4661

**Deputy Todd Frank** works as the Resource Officer. He can be reached during school hours @: **(616) 678-4210**. He can be reached during summer hours at the Kent County Sheriff's Dept. Sub-Station.

The Kent County Sheriff's Dept. Sub-Station is located at: 790 – 17 Mile Rd, Kent City, MI 49330 – **(616) 632-6020**.

### Fire Protection



The Tyrone Township/Kent City Fire Department is located within the Village limits at: **218 E. Muskegon St., NW (next to Leaver Park)**. It is a 21 member volunteer department which responds to **911** calls reporting fires and medical emergencies within the area.

#### **Burn Permits:**

Required before burning any items on a property. Please contact one of the following to request a permit:

**Fire Chief Mike Rexford-** (616) 474-9532 –days/pager  
 (616) 675-4156 –evenings

**Asst. Fire Chief Paul Rogers-**  
 (616) 887-7381 –work  
 (616) 678-4124 –evenings

**Fire Mechanic Mike Helsel-**  
 (616) 678-7641 –days  
 (616) 678-4347 –evenings