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The City Encourages All To Celebrate "Earth Week" (April 21-26th)

In celebration of **National Arbor Day** on Friday, April 25th, the City will again offer tree-purchase coupons. **The City coupons will remain at \$30** this year and they will go to the first 100 City homeowners that request them, in person, at the City Offices. Coupons will be available starting April 14th till gone and must be redeemed at Mellema Nursery by May 31, 2014. During the City's coupon program over the last 16 years, residents have planted over 675 trees in the community. During the same time, the City planted an additional 400 trees throughout our parks, along our streets and in our cemeteries.

The City is also planning to partner with Nestle/Gerber during this week, who is also actively pursuing activities within the community that are deemed to be sustainable for the environment. We'll be coordinating miscellaneous green activities that will promote sustainability, such as the City's tree planting program. We're looking for other organizations and volunteers willing to help plant trees and participate in additional green activities

during that week throughout the community.

Based on "best forestry management practices," it is advisable to diversify our urban forests, which helps ensure not only a variety of tree species, but also lessens the negative effects or spread of diseases like Dutch Elm Disease and the Emerald Ash Borer. Therefore, the Tree Coupon may not be used to purchase any species of Elm or Ash trees. The coupon program and other various City tree plantings and maintenance efforts have also contributed to the City's 21-year designation as a "Tree City, USA."

Having a young tree planted to honor a special person can also be a unique way to show you care in a special and creative way. It's a living gift that gives lasting recognition to the person and involves them in a partnership of renewing the forests in their State.

"HE WHO PLANTS A TREE, PLANTS HOPE!"

- Lucy Larcon. ★



Curbside Refuse Service

Each residential dwelling may choose to use a 65- or 95-gallon rollout cart (garbage container with wheels- see picture) or buy special bags with the Allied Waste logos. Cart lids must be within 15" of being closed, otherwise no overloaded carts will be emptied. Any additional garbage that will not fit into the 65/95-gallon cart must be placed in the specially purchased **Mixed-Refuse Bags** and placed beside the cart. Empty carts and recycling bins must be removed from the curbside and placed in garages or side yards by 12:00 PM (noon) of the day after the scheduled pickup.

The City does not permit residents to stop and start their refuse/recycling services. However, during the first two weeks of January and July each year, the property owner of the collection address may elect to change service from a roll-out cart to mixed-refuse bags or vice-versa by notifying the City Offices. **Changes are only allowed during these two-week periods.**



Tree Coupon Program Guidelines:

- City homeowners only.
 - One coupon per household.
 - Only the owner (not a tenant) of a rental property may request one coupon per building/yard.
 - Condo complexes are limited to one coupon.
 - Only trees, not shrubs or bushes, may be purchased.
 - Conifer trees must be 6' or higher
 - Coupons must be redeemed at Mellema Nursery by 5/31.
 - Trees must be planted on the property designated on the coupon at the time of pick-up.
- During June, the City will inventory all trees planted under the program.

Fremont Community Recreation Center

The Fremont Community Recreation Authority would like to thank the Fremont Community for its support and participation at the new Rec Center over the last year!

Last March the City of Fremont, Sheridan Charter Township, Dayton Township and Sherman Township joined together to form the Fremont Community Recreation Authority for the purpose of repurposing the recreation facilities in the former high school. The Authority

proposed to operate the Fremont Community Recreation Center in the facility and coordinate recreational programming. The Authority has made improvements to the Center and has identified additional improvements for this year.

The Authority recently hired Recreation Director Tom Elmer and Membership Supervisor Christina Earle. The Director has helped coordinate the transition of community

recreation and enrichment programs to the Center and has worked to add new programs.

In December, the Authority decided to conduct a membership blitz to encourage use

of the facility and in within three months increased membership from 35 to 600. Programming this Spring includes indoor & outdoor soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, swim lessons, swim team training, karate, Zumba, aerobics, golf, pickleball, wrestling, indoor tennis, yoga...and the list continues to grow.

The City has certainly been excited about the opportunity to take part in this transformation and hope the community continues to embrace it and takes advantage of what there is to offer. Visit the Rec Center's website (fcr.recdesk.com) to find more information regarding the recreation center and programs coming up in the near future.



BRUSH PICKUP

As a reminder, City crews resumed the monthly curbside brush pickup on April 1. The program will run on the 1st Monday of each month, April - October. Brush is not to be placed at the curbside any earlier than the Friday before the 1st Monday of the month. If you have questions regarding refuse services, please call the City Offices @ 924-2101, Monday-Friday, between 8 AM & 5 PM.

Irrigation Meters/Outside Watering

Looking toward spring, the City wanted to take this opportunity to remind residents who water their lawn, sprinkle flowers, etc. that they can purchase a second meter from the City that would be used strictly for outside watering.

The resident would then receive a second bill for water only, but would only receive this bill if the meter had usage during the City's quarterly billing cycle.

Having a separate meter would require separation of water lines between the domestic meter and irrigation meter that service the home. This separation would be done by either the homeowner or a certified plumber; the City Water Department Supervisor would inspect the separation upon completion.

Even though there will be costs involved for purchasing the meter and installation by a plumber, having a second meter could greatly reduce your utility billings during the watering season; residents would realize the savings in a very short time.

If you feel your summertime billings are high due to watering, you can contact Joyce Winchel at 231-924-2101 to have an estimate done to see if a 2nd meter would be beneficial for your home before the watering season begins.



Property Tax Payment Schedule

The City sends out property tax bills semi-annually. Summer taxes are mailed July 1st and are due by August 10th. A 4% late penalty is added to any unpaid taxes on August 11th. Summer taxes include millages for the Fremont Public Schools (both operating & debt levies), State Education Tax, the City tax and the County Operating tax.

Winter taxes are mailed on December 1st and are due by February 14th. A 4% late penalty is added to any unpaid taxes on February 15th. Winter taxes include millages for Newaygo County, the Intermediated School District and the Fremont Area District Library.

For the convenience of our taxpayers, payments (check only no cash please) may be placed in the drop box at the northwest exit of the City Hall parking lot at any time. The City accepts tax payments until February 28th; thereafter, all payments must be made at the County Treasurer's Office, P.O. Box 885, White Cloud, MI 49349.

Weed Control Notice to Fremont City Residents

Notice is hereby given that the Weed Control Map for the City of Fremont for the 2014 season has been filed with the City Clerk. The growth of grass and weeds as defined by Section 5-16 of the Fremont City Code may not exceed nine (9) inches in height. It is the intention of the officers and employees of the City of Fremont to enforce this Ordinance in the areas indicated on the Weed Control Map. Copies of the Map and the Ordinance are available at the Fremont City Offices.

Vicci L. TerVeer, City Clerk

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION HELD AT NEWAYGO COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

Saturday, June 14, 2014
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

TYPES OF ITEMS ACCEPTED

From Your Home	From Your Garage	From Your Garden	Miscellaneous
AEROSOLS	AUTO FLUIDS	ALGAECIDES	POOL CHEMICALS
BATTERIES	CHEMICALS	HERBICIDES	MERCURY
CHEMICALS	OILS	PESTICIDES	CLEANERS
FLORESCENT BULBS	SOLVENTS	FERTILIZERS	PAINT

The above items are accepted at No Charge for Newaygo County residents, though donations are greatly appreciated!

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

- Smoke Detectors • Bio-Hazards • Business Waste

We have applied for and are hopeful that we will receive a DEQ Tire cleanup grant – IF SO we will accept the first 1,200 tires for FREE!

No tires from businesses will be accepted for free, limits may be imposed on others. Tire prices without grant will be: Tires less than 33 inch \$1.50 each, 33 inch and bigger Tires \$2.50 each, tractor/equipment tires \$7.50 each.

Please watch the Hi-Lites and Times Indicator for updates!

If you have any questions call the Newaygo County Board of Public Works at **689-7225**.



For Those of You Who do Online Banking ...

When paying your utility bill, tax bill or special assessment, please be sure to write your Location ID or Parcel Number and/or a note in the memo line to ensure payment is credited to the proper account.



2014 Upcoming Construction Projects

Every year, the City works to maintain and improve its roads and utilities. Drivers may experience inconvenient detours, but you can rest assured that the final product will be worth it.

The following projects are expected to be completed during the 2014 construction season:

- Oak Street – Replacing water main and sewer from Stewart Avenue to Mechanic Avenue
- Downtown Beautification – Finish installing decorative fencing, lighting and dumpster enclosures in the downtown

- Main Street – Install a right-turn lane on East Main Street approaching Stewart Avenue from the west (pending available funding)

Street Milling & Resurfacing:

- Apache: Stewart Avenue to Iroquois Drive
- Pine Street: Stewart Avenue to Cherokee Drive
- Branstrom Drive: throughout Branstrom Park

2014 Fremont Farmers' Market Schedule

Dates and Times:

Tuesdays: 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Starting: June 28, 2014

Ending: October 11, 2014



The Fremont Farmers' Market is located downtown Fremont in the northeast public parking lot north of Main Street between Merchant Avenue and Division.

FARMERS' MARKET Community Information Booth

At the Farmers' Market in the middle of the pavilion, there will be an information center/promotion area for businesses located in the City. A different retail establishment each market day will promote its business at the booth by displaying its goods. Any Fremont retail establishment will be able to display promotional information at this booth throughout the season. Tote bags with the Fremont Farmers' Market logo will be available for purchase at the Community Information Booth for \$2.50. Bridge Cards will be accepted this year – double up food bucks program.



For more information on the Fremont Farmer's Market, please contact the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce at (231) 924-0770.

GARAGE SALES: *A Fun and Thrifty Summer Pastime*

The City will be enforcing its' regulations on garage sales again this summer. While many are thankful the City is doing so; others do not appreciate the effort. The regulations are being enforced because 1) the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) does not allow signs in their right-of-way, and many of the signs are placed along Main Street and Stewart Avenue in the MDOT right-of-way; 2) for safety reasons, signs should not be attached to utility poles; and 3) the signs are unattractive and often the signs are not taken down after the sale. Everyone has worked hard to have Fremont looking neat, clean and beautiful for all to enjoy, so ridding the City of unnecessary signs is part of that effort.

The City understands that garage sales are important to many people. As a result, the City organizes a community garage sale twice a year, one in May and one in August. To participate,

see below. The more people that participate in the community garage sale, the more energy the event will create. This translates into more people attending the various garage sales, which includes having visitors from outside the community take part; visitors who are good for local businesses. The community garage sales could have a positive economic impact not only for the individual home owner but for the community at-large.



Fremont's Annual Community Yard Sale

It's time to get ready for Fremont's Annual Community Yard Sale.

The dates for this event are:

May 15th – 17th, 2014 and August 14th – 16th, 2014

To participate, all you have to do is call or come into the Fremont City Office, give us your name, address and phone number, and you're on the list! You can sign up for all 3 days, or just 1 day. The offices are open Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 924-2101.



Flushing of Fire Hydrants

The City Water Department will be conducting the semi-annual Watermain Flushing Program on Friday evening, April 25th and continue through the evening until finished. Some discoloration of water may occur throughout Saturday, so let your water run for a short period until clear. While the water will continue to be safe to drink, residents are urged not to do any laundry during this time.



Maple Grove Cemetery News ...

The City of Fremont's Maple Grove Cemetery has great capabilities with its software program.

The program provides access to online burial searches by the public. Many people do genealogical studies these days so this program could be useful.

The search covers anyone who is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery and their location by using the "locate on map" feature. If you have more information on a particular burial site, it can be submitted to Maple Grove Cemetery to review and may be added to the database.

Go to www.cityoffremont.net, select the "services" tab then click on "cemetery". Next, select the "online map" link to begin your search. Entering last name only will show all burial sites with that last name. Once a burial site is found, click on "occupant name" then click the "locate on map" tab to find their placement in the cemetery.

"FRIEND" US ON

facebook

Google or search for "City of Fremont, Michigan" and you can keep up on City events and other announcements.

REMAIN SECURITY CONSCIOUS

In these economic times, it is important to remain security conscious and to be aware of your surroundings. Keep your homes and garages locked when you are away, and be sure to remove your keys from the ignition and lock your vehicles whether your car is in your driveway at home, in store parking lots, or at school. Leave only those items in your yard that you can afford to lose, especially overnight. Finally, be respectful of your neighbors, watch out for each other and each other's property. If you have elderly neighbors, please check on them occasionally. Working together will keep the City of Fremont a great place to live, work and play.

Community Development Activities



1. Emergency and Homeowner Rehab Program Grants: If you are in need of rehab work on your home, there may be grant funding available through Newaygo County to assist with the project. Examples of appropriate projects include: electrical work, plumbing, sewer work, heating and specific roof repairs. Program details may be found on the County's website at www.countyofnewaygo.com. Please contact Amanda Auw, Housing Coordinator, Community Development Department, at the Newaygo County Office at 231-689-7091 or at aaauw@co.newaygo.mi.us for more information.



2. Fremont Adopt-A-Block Neighborhood Program: The City plans to conduct another round of the "Adopt-a-block" Neighborhood Beautification Program in 2014. The overall goal of the Neighborhood Improvement Program is to make positive physical improvements to properties in residential neighborhoods within the City of Fremont. Churches, community groups and service organizations are being asked to "adopt-a-block" or at least one property on a designated block and then organize a group of volunteers to make positive physical changes to the property. This Program not only has a positive impact on the entire neighborhood, but it also provides an opportunity to help people on a personal level. The Program will take place sometime in the summer of 2014. If your organization is willing to provide a group of volunteers, or if you are a property owner and would like your property to be considered as one that could be improved as part of the Program, please call the Fremont City office at 924-2101.

3. Celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day: Nestle/Gerber is actively pursuing activities within the community that are deemed to be sustainable for the environment. The City is partnering with them during the week of April 21, 2014 to coordinate and perform miscellaneous green activities that will promote sustainability, such as the City's tree planting program. We need volunteers to help plant trees during that week and to help with other miscellaneous green activities. This is in celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day, both of which are celebrated that week. If you are interested in volunteering for this effort, please contact Todd Blake at the Fremont City office at 924-2101.



4. Yard of the Month Program: During the coming year we encourage community members to either nominate your own yard or someone else's yard for the "Yard of the Month" by filling out a Yard of the Month Award application, which can be found on the City's website at www.cityoffremont.net, or it may be picked up at the Fremont Municipal Building located at 101 E. Main Street, Fremont, MI. Awards are given out for recognition during the following months:

- July – For Yard Beauty (Nominations must be submitted by June 16.)
- August - For Yard Beauty (Nominations must be submitted by July 15.)
- September – For Yard Beauty (Nominations must be submitted by August 15)
- December – For Holiday Yard Decorating (Nominations must be submitted by December 8)

Anyone may nominate a yard, whether they live in the City or outside the City, but the yard needs to be located within the City limits.

5. Deadhead Volunteers Needed: During past flower seasons, you may have seen people hard at work dead-heading flowers, pulling weeds, and picking up cigarette butts in downtown Fremont. The Dead Head Committee provides this service because they care about their community. All they ask in return is for the cooperation of the community. Please do not throw your cigarette butts on the ground, properly dispose of them.

If you see a Dead Head hard at work during the 2014 flower season, which is from June to September, please thank them for their community service. More Dead Heads are needed. We encourage students to join the Dead Head Committee. Volunteer hours are determined based on your schedule. Please contact the City Office at 231-924-2101 if you have the time and motivation to serve as a Dead Head.

Dead Head Committee includes: Jim Breinling (Chair), JoAnn Dekleva, Norma Fikse, Marcia Eib, Jim Rynberg, and Bonnie Erber.



THINK FREMONT FIRST!

Liberty Jewelers – A Family Business

Liberty Jewelers has been a mainstay in Fremont since 1982. If you need jewelry for some special occasion or if you just want to treat yourself, Chris Youker, the owner of Liberty Jewelers, has something to offer you. She sells traditional jewelry, bridal jewelry, a new line of contemporary silver jewelry – Frederic Duclos, watches, clocks and crystal. Liberty Jewelers also repairs jewelry using an Orion Welder. In the rear of the building Chris runs the “Favorite Things Boutique”, which is a gift shop that has been open since November 2013. At the Boutique you will find greeting cards, Woodwick candles, scarves, spa products, and purses, to name a few things.



Chris says “Our jewelry store has been located at three different downtown Fremont locations over the years and is now located at 35 W. Main Street, a building that has recently had a facelift” (see picture). The façade renovation was a project approved as part of the Fremont Façade Improvement Program.

The store has always been a family business. Chris and Bruce Youker and her mom and dad, Chris and Anita Meeuwenberg, bought the Jewelry business in 1982 after her father retired as one of Fremont’s well-known downtown pharmacists from 1954 - 1980. In 1982 her father and

mother still had a lot of energy, and she and her husband had a lot of ambition, so they decided to open a family business. Her father made an offer on an existing Jewelry business, and it was accepted, and thus began a career in jewelry. Chris says admittedly, “I did not know much about the jewelry business back in the day, but I always loved jewelry and over the years I educated myself and my employees on the business.” In her younger years she would bring her kids to the shop, so she could balance family and business. Chris explained, “The store was named ‘Liberty Jewelers’ because Dad was a coin collector and his favorite coin was the ‘Walking Liberty Silver Dollar’.”

Chris says, “We pride ourselves in providing excellent customer service. We recently had an older man in who had his watch repaired through us. When it was ready for pick up, the weather had taken a turn and outside had become a wintry mess. Although he very much wanted his watch, he did not feel it was safe for him to drive to pick it up. Knowing how important his watch was to him, we delivered it to his doorstep the very next day!” Customer service is something Chris feels sets her store apart from other jewelry businesses. Chris reflected, “I love Fremont - our customers have become my friends. What a great job I have – serving people I care about!”



Liberty Jewelers Store Hours

Monday – Thursdays: 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Fridays: 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Saturdays: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

FREMONT PUBLIC ART HAPPENINGS

Vintage Holiday Cards – Painted by Artist Renae Wallace

You may have seen vintage holiday cards in the berm area on Main Street in front of Gerber/Nestle this past holiday season. The DDA Public Art Committee spearheaded the project and through community members’ generous donations, the Vintage Holiday Card Program was born. The idea is to have the charming vintage holiday cards displayed throughout the City during December – in front of businesses, in parks, and at churches. If your organization is interested

in commissioning Renae Wallace to paint one of the Vintage Cards (see examples), please contact Mayor Rynberg at the Fremont City Hall at 231-924-2101 or at Mayor@cityoffremont.net.



“Waves of Grain” Sculpture

Created by Artist Lee Brown

To be installed Downtown Fremont in the Fremont Market Pavilion block at the corner of Dayton and Merchant in May 2014.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

NCCA-Artsplace
Statewide
Photography Competition
Exhibit
NCCA-Artsplace
April 29-May 31, 2014

New West Guitar Group
Concert
Dogwood Center
Saturday, May 17, 2014
7:30 p.m.

Chamber Chicken BBQ
Veterans Memorial Park
Friday, June 6, 2014
11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Chamber Summer
Concert
Series
Veterans Memorial Park
Thursdays
June 12 – July 31, 2014
7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

NCCA-Artsplace
“Art in Action”
Market Place Pavilion
Saturday, June 21, 2014
10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

5th Annual Public Art
Fundraiser Dinner
Dogwood Center
Friday, June 27, 2014
6:00 p.m.

Fremont Farmers Market
Market Place Pavilion
June 28 – Oct. 11
Saturdays:
8:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Thursdays:
3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Fremont City Beat

101 E. Main Street
Fremont, MI 49412

PRE-SORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE **PAID**
FREMONT, MI
Permit No. 12

RESIDENT
FREMONT, MI 49412



If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about the Fremont City Beat, please contact the City Offices at 231-924-2101 or stop by to see us at 101 East Main St., Fremont, MI 49412

Important Numbers

City of Fremont – Administration	(231) 924-2101
– Police Department	(231) 924-2100
– Fire Department	(231) 924-2103
– Cemetery	(231) 924-2330
– Municipal Airport	(231) 924-7080
Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce	(231) 924-0770
Fremont Area District Library	(231) 924-3480
Spectrum Health-Gerber Memorial	(231) 924-3300
Fremont Public Schools	(231) 924-2350
Dogwood Center for Performing Arts	(231) 924-8883
Newaygo County Sheriff Department	(231) 689-7303
Fremont Community Recreational Center	(231) 924-3750

Emergency – Fire – Police – Ambulance
Call 911

Refuse & Recycling Pick-up – Place curbside every Tuesday by 7:00 AM

Leaf Pick-up – Begins 3rd Monday in October; continuous for four weeks, weather permitting

Brush Pick-up – Place curbside by 7:30 AM on the 1st Monday of each month, April - October

Watermain Flushing – April and October

Winter Street Parking Ban (2:00 AM to 6:00 AM) – From December 1st - April 1st

