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## New Police Reserve Officers

Recently 13 candidates graduated from a 74 hour training course, 10 candidates from Fremont Police and three from Newaygo Police.

Candidates were selected through an interview process then donated their time to attend and complete a 74 hour training course. The training offered included defensive tactics, criminal laws, firearms tactics, ethics, and report writing, as well as many other topics.

This was a combined effort between Newaygo PD and Fremont PD. Both Departments had a need to train Reserve Officers and quickly established a collaboration plan. The Reserve Officers will volunteer their time to ride with Officers providing another level of security and assistance.

Reserve Officers will also work special events such as parades and festivals. Having a Reserve Officer staff available allows the Police Departments to provide assistance despite budget restraints.



*Pictured: Ed Cook, Justin Taylor, Kurt Brant, Jamin Rushing, Matt Kempf, Kurt Delia, Jamie Wiles, Tyler Sheppard, Burt Cooper, Harry Hook, Brian Brown, Mike Hikade. Not Pictured: Jesse DeKuiper*

## Branstrom Park Disc Golf Course Improvements

Our Disc Golf Course just received some new improvements, enhancing our already amazing course to take it to the next level. Fremont Rotary, local disc golfers and City staff teamed up to install 22 cement pads (4'x10') on the 24-basket course. The cement pads make a much safer to tee-off area, giving discers stability and grounding for more accuracy.



Benches and trash receptacles have also been placed throughout the course for discers and to help keep the course clean. Next Spring, the City will team up with the new Fremont Recreation Center (old High School) to establish new disc-golf leagues and coordinate tournaments.



## Public Art Going Strong in Fremont



Places with strong public art expressions are giving communities more distinct identities – creating places where people want to live, work and visit. Fremont is one of those places. The DDA Public Art Committee, chaired by Marianne Boerigter, has done an outstanding job in the past few years of fundraising for multiple public art projects. No tax dollars have been used for the art projects spearheaded by the Committee. Funds have been raised through a variety of means, but it is the generosity of individual community members that has made the biggest difference in many instances.

The Public Art Committee just finished raising funds for a steel sculpture entitled, “Waves of Grain”, a dramatic, symbolic tribute to the area’s agricultural strength. The artist, Lee Brown, plans to have the sculpture installed in May 2014. It will be placed in the

art node at the corner of Merchant Avenue and Dayton Street.

People working together can accomplish all things small and large.

### Major Funders – “Waves of Grain” Sculpture

- North Central Cooperative
- Land O’ Lakes Foundation
- Walmart Foundation
- Contributors to the Fremont Public Art Fund

### DDA Public Art Committee Members

- Marianne Boerigter, Chair
- Major James M. Rynberg
- Jeannie Caris
- Bonnie Erber
- Tom Schmidt
- Nancy Schwingler

## REFUSE CONTAINER CHANGES

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.



**Reminder:** Overloaded carts with lids open more than 15” will not 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.

## Fremont’s Yard of the Month Award

This year as part of Fremont’s Neighborhood Improvement Program, the City of Fremont implemented a Yard of the Month Program. The City is proud to announce the following award recipients:



511 E. Pine – Wynn and Harold Kolk  
September Yard of the Month



318 E. Pine – Cassie and David Witham  
Halloween Yard of the Month

The Award Program was initiated to recognize the hard work exhibited by Fremont residents who take time and effort to beautify their yard. This type of effort has a positive overall impact on the City, and it makes Fremont a better place to live for all.

The City’s Deadhead Committee is charged with selecting award recipients. Nomination forms can be found on-line at the City’s website at [www.cityoffremont.net](http://www.cityoffremont.net). A 2014 award schedule will be posted on the City’s website after the first of the year.

## Surprise Public Art Gift Coming to Fremont for the Holidays

The Fremont Public Art Committee is giving the community a holiday gift – public art in three pieces that will appear on the berm on Main Street by the Nestle/Gerber Facility some time in December – thanks to the generosity of community members. For a sneak preview see the artist, Renae Wallace, (below) at work.

Keep your eyes open for a very pleasant surprise!



### 2013 Holiday Gift Wrap Service

There will be a community gift wrap service during the 2013 holiday season at the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce located at 7 E. Main St. in Fremont. There will be a nominal charge for the service. The proceeds will go to the following nonprofit organizations whose volunteers will wrap the gifts:

- Fremont Music Boosters
- Newaygo County Museum
- United Way

#### Dates and Times:

- Friday, December 13, 2013: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday, December 14, 2013: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 19, 2013: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- Monday, December 23, 2013: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



## 2013 Construction Projects

Every year, the City strives to maintain and improve its streets and water/sewer utility systems. During that time, residents and drivers experience inconvenient detours and construction noise, but the results of every project are always worthwhile. We thank residents for their patience!

During this past 2013 construction season, the following street & utility system improvements were completed:

- Maple Street – Replaced the water main, street, some sidewalks & curb/gutter sections, from Weaver Avenue to Darling Avenue
- Mechanic Avenue – Replaced the water main, street, some sidewalks & curb/gutter sections, from Woodrow Street to Sheridan Street
- Sidewalks – Constructed new sidewalks along:
  - Gerber Ave from Main to Middle School
  - Mechanic Ave from Maple to Pine Street
  - Pine Street from Lake Dr. to Mechanic Ave
  - Cherry St from Merchant to Darling Ave and from Division to Stewart Ave
  - Middle School entrance from Lake Dr. to the school

- Town & Country Path – Installed new sections on W. Lake Dr., from 2<sup>nd</sup> St. to Lake Dr.
- Town & Country Path – Installed new section along Oak St., from Connie to Lake Dr.
- Market Avenue – Mill & resurfaced from Main Street to Countryview Lane
- Main Street – Mill & resurfaced from Stewart Ave. to Luce Ave.
- Division & Mechanic Avenues – Mill & resurfaced from Main St. to Sheridan St.
- Downtown Parking Lots – Mill & resurfaced the Southwest & Southeast blocks, and replaced the southwest downtown block's concrete alleyway and most of the concrete approach areas behind the buildings



## 2013 FREMONT CHRISTMAS STROLL

REMINDER: The Illuminated Christmas Parade is Friday, December 13, 2013 at 6:00 PM. The Parade will assemble at the Fremont Fire Department and then proceed west down Main Street to Veteran's Memorial Park.

## CHRISTMAS TREE PICKUP

As a reminder, City crews will provide curbside chipping of Christmas trees the first two weeks of January.





## Dedicated Community Members Work to Beautify Residential Neighborhoods in Fremont

The City has focused a lot of its attention in the past few years on revitalizing its downtown. While we are still focused on our downtown, we have begun to expand our revitalization efforts to our residential neighborhoods, especially the ones around the periphery of the downtown. We are implementing an overall Neighborhood Improvement Program, which includes more zoning enforcement, the Yard of the Month Program and, most recently the Fremont Neighborhood Beautification "Adopt-A-Block" Program just to name a few activities.

This past August the City launched the Fremont Neighborhood Beautification Adopt-A-Block program. Churches and service organizations were asked to "adopt" houses on designated blocks and make improvements to the houses and yards. The City selected neighborhoods based on their close proximity to the downtown. The churches and service groups supplied the labor, and the Fremont Area Community Foundation provided grant funds to support the program.



*Representatives of Adopt-A-Block Volunteer Groups at a "Thank You" picnic.*

Participating organizations and their project leaders included:

### **Organization**

Trinity Christian Reformed Church  
Second Christian Reformed Church  
All Saints Catholic Church  
Fremont Lions Club  
Fremont Rotary Club  
Habitat for Humanity of Newaygo County  
State Government  
City of Fremont

### **Project Leader**

Pastor Ron Baker  
Reverend Case Admiral  
Sherry Nook  
Steve Adsmond  
Chuck Whitman  
Julie Sanders  
State Senator: Honorable Geoff Hansen  
DPW Staff: Brian Hettinger

There were approximately 50 – 60 people from these organizations who rolled up their sleeves and took time to paint porches, clean up landscaping, fix fences, build steps, etc. Why – so they could be part of a positive community endeavor that not only created more beautiful neighborhoods but also made someone else's life – in many cases – a total stranger's life – just a little bit nicer. These folks put their hearts and souls into these projects; they did more than what was asked in many instances because they applied their unique skill sets to the project. Nine houses/yards were improved during the first round of the Fremont Neighborhood Beautification "Adopt-A-Block" program. Thank you to all who dedicated their time on lovely August days and evenings.

## WORKING THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS

Any persons interested in working future City Elections please contact the City Clerk at 231-924-2101. Applications may also be obtained on the City's website at [www.cityof-fremont.net](http://www.cityof-fremont.net).



## City Snow Plowing Policy

The Department of Public Works (DPW) will quickly address specific road hazards like icy intersections or drifted sections of road. Around 1" accumulation of snow, the salt crew will begin salting operations. The crew will salt the main roads (Main, Stewart & Stone), all intersections, roads with curves and steep slopes. To completely salt every street would be prohibitively expensive and would result in damage that is corrosive to streets, light poles, lawns and trees. It would also greatly increase the salinity of our area's lakes and streams, causing stress on our fish and wildlife populations. Following an accumulation of 2", the crews begin plowing operations of the entire street system.

Crews are called in during the early morning hours (approximately 4:00 AM) to begin opening up the major routes for business & school bus usage. We also have to clear the parking lots downtown before the breakfast crowd hits the restaurants. Typically, DPW uses the sidewalk brush or blower downtown to move the snow onto Main Street where it is plowed toward the center of the street and removed later in the day, most of the time by early afternoon. The



sidewalk plow will begin clearing residential sidewalks once the streets are clear.

When snow continues all day, it is difficult to completely remove the City's snow - especially downtown. Cars parked along the streets and in the downtown parking lots prevent the DPW from making a clean sweep of these areas during the day. It is very important for residents to comply with the "no parking" on City streets between the hours of 2:00 AM and 7:00 AM in order to allow snowplows proper access.

Above all, please stay safe and warm during our winter season.



## ELECTRONIC MAILING AUTHORIZATION FOR "QUARTERLY" UTILITY BILLINGS

Go green! Go Paperless! City of Fremont residents have the option of receiving their utility bills electronically. Electronic bills will be emailed from the "City of Fremont ([jwinchel@cityoffremont.net](mailto:jwinchel@cityoffremont.net))" email account. If you do not receive the electronic bill, please check your SPAM/JUNK folder or contact City Hall at (231) 924-2101 or [jwinchel@cityoffremont.net](mailto:jwinchel@cityoffremont.net). Bills will be emailed around the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following months: January, April, July and October.

I authorize the City of Fremont to email my quarterly utility bill to the email address indicated below. I understand that the quarterly utility bill is the only statement that will be emailed and that I will no longer receive a printed utility bill. I will notify the City of Fremont if my emails address changes or if I wish to receive a printed utility bill again. Further, I understand that failure to receive the electronic bill does not waive penalties.

Name (as shown on your bill) \_\_\_\_\_

Service Address \_\_\_\_\_

Utility Bill Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

**THIS FORM CANNOT BE PROCESSED WITHOUT YOUR SIGNATURE**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## ATTENTION VETERANS!

Governor Snyder recently signed into law P.A. 161 of 2013. This Act amends MCL 211.7b regarding Veterans Exemptions.

The Act expands the qualifying criteria for an exemption from property taxes. The exemption now includes disabled veterans who were discharged from the armed forces of the US under honorable conditions. "Disabled Veteran" means a person who is a resident of this state and who meets 1 of the following criteria:

1. Has been determined by US Department of Veteran's Affairs to be permanently & totally disabled as a result of military service and entitled to veterans' benefits at the 100% rate.
2. Has a certificate from the US veterans' administration certifying he or she is receiving or has received pecuniary assistance due to disability for specially adapted housing.
3. Has been rated by the US department of veterans' affairs as individually unemployable.

Eligible disabled veterans will be able to apply for a 2013 exemption at the December 2013 Board of Review. Please contact City Hall for more information and to receive the affidavit required to obtain exemption. The affidavit and certification of entitlement must be filed with the Assessor's office prior to December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

## Welcome Kurt Delia – New Part-Time Police Officer



Fremont PD is pleased to announce the arrival of Part-Time Officer Kurt Delia. Kurt retired from the Newaygo County Sheriff's Office almost two years ago to concentrate his efforts towards his new company Delia Tactical. Kurt served for 20 years in Law Enforcement before pursuing his dream.

Kurt recently graduated from the Fremont

PD Reserve Officer academy. Realizing he still has a strong desire to serve his community Kurt decided to join Fremont P.D. on a part time status. This will allow Kurt to serve while managing affairs at Delia Tactical. We are very fortunate to have someone with Kurt's experience serving this community.



## 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 Hospital	(231) 924-3300
Fremont Public Schools	(231) 924-2350
Fremont Community Recreation Center	(231) 924-3750
Dogwood Center for Performing Arts	(231) 924-8883
Newaygo County Sheriff Department	(231) 689-7303



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 7:00 AM)** – From December 1st - April 1st

## WINTER TAXES

Winter tax bills were mailed on 11/29/13 and are due and payable on or before 2/14/14. On 2/15/14, a one-time 4% penalty is applied, but unpaid tax bills can still be paid with the penalty until 2/28/14.

**\*\*Postmarks are not accepted\*\***

On 3/1/14 taxes are turned over to the Newaygo County Treasurers office, and will incur additional penalties. You should contact the Newaygo County Treasurer's Office @ (689-7230) to confirm the amount due prior to mailing your payment.



## Membership Blitz

**Fremont Community Rec Center**  
**Phone: 231-924-3750**  
**Website: [www.fremontcra.com](http://www.fremontcra.com)**  
**Address: 201 East Maple Street**  
**Fremont, MI 49412**

### Rec Center Hours

Monday thru Friday: 6:30 AM to  
10:00 PM

Saturday and Sunday: 12:30 to 3:30  
(Open Rec)

### Rec Center Office Hours

Mon- 9AM to 7PM

Tues- 9AM to 4PM

Wed- 9AM to 7PM

Thurs- 9AM to 4 PM

Fri- 9AM to 3 PM

Sat- 9AM to Noon

### Monthly Memberships

**Individual \$15.00**

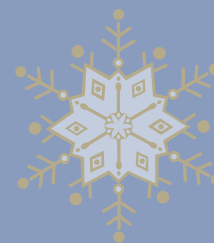
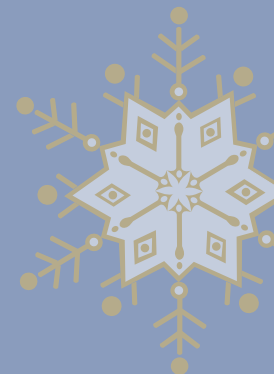
**Family \$30.00**

**Senior (55+) \$10.00**

**Offer open until January 31st 2014**  
**Lock in your rate for 2014**

Zumba, Aqua Zumba, Weight Room, Cyber Café, Open Basketball and Volleyball, Walking Path, Yoga, Work-it-out mix, Leagues, Open Rec Day Saturday and Sunday!!

**[www.fremontcra.com](http://www.fremontcra.com)**



## 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

### Parking-Ban on Streets During Winter

Every Winter season, beginning December 1st, residents are not to park in the streets between the hours of 2 AM and 7 AM. The Public Works Department can not effectively plow the streets with vehicles parked along the curb. Effective April 1st, the winter on-street parking ban will be lifted, and residents may again park overnight on City streets.

### 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 them occasionally. Working together we will keep the City of Fremont a great place to live, work and play.



facebook

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

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