



“This institution is an equal opportunity provider”

THE VILLAGE CRIER

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The first phase of the planned streetscape for the Village of Kent City was completed last fall. Some of the improvements you will notice are sidewalks replaced in places, new curb and street resurfacing and minor underground infrastructure improvements were installed. The Village continues to work with engineer Jim Rozema of Williams & Works, and landscape architect Pat Cornelisse of Cornelisse Design Associates. **Construction on phase II is scheduled to begin in September. Be Aware of Detour Routes.**

Election News

Last day to register to vote is August 15th. Visit the Township Clerk’s Office. Exercise your right to vote @ the Village Election on September 13, 2011. The polling location is at the Village Meeting Room in the Village Offices – 83 Spring Street. Call 616.678.7232 with any questions.

Talking Taxes with the Treasurer



This year’s Village property tax bills will be mailed out on or about July 1st, 2011 and are due by: **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2011.** Taxes can be paid at the Village Office during regular business hours or by mail. For your convenience, **we also have a payment drop box located in the front of the office for after hour’s payments. The Village does not accept payment by debit or credit cards.**

IMPORTANT REMINDERS:

- When paying by mail, please enclose the bottom tear-off copy of your tax bill; payable to Kent City Village Treasurer
- If you want a receipt, you must enclose a self addressed stamped envelope.
- If you pay at the office by cash, **PLEASE HAVE EXACT CHANGE. We do not accept debit/credit cards.**
- All late payments made after September 14, 2011 will be assessed a late fee of 1% per month or any part of a month and will be turned over to the **Kent County Treasurer** for collection. You will need to call the office or the Kent County Treasurer for the exact amount due before mailing your check.
- Please check your tax bill carefully for any errors. Call the Village Office with any changes that need to be made – including name or mailing address.

Thank you,
Darrell Rotier, Village Treasurer



DPW Department



Sidewalk Information –

- Permits are required prior to repair of sidewalks. Please contact the Village Office @ 678-7232.
- Please do not park on or over sidewalks.

Sprinkler Heads –

If you have sprinkler heads near the edge of the street or sidewalk, please mark them and contact the Village Office to let us know where they are marked. The Village is not responsible for damage to sprinkler heads that are placed in the street right-of-way. There are maps in the Village office that show street right-of-way lines.

Yard Waste –

The Village has an area where you can dump tree debris if you are doing major tree or brush removal. This area is locked and fenced. Please call the Village Office to make arrangements. For a complete copy of the Yard Waste Policy visit the village’s website or contact our office.

Trees & Safety

When planting trees it is important to address safety issues that might occur with the location on your property. It is also important to know the location of your property lines. Consumers Energy will remove or trim trees that are located under their wires. Please do not plant trees under main power lines. A few guidelines are:

- Before planting in front yards, contact Village Office for right-of-way information.
- For underground utilities – contact MISS DIG @ 800-482-7171 three days prior to planting. This ensures underground utilities are marked for safety.

For more information go to: www.consumersenergy.com/forestry

Goose Hunting Lottery

The deadline is July 28, 2011 to sign up to hunt Canadian Geese at Lagoon #5 for nuisance control. The Goose Hunting Lottery is open to any interested parties. The hunters agree to hunt a minimum of 3 days/week during their scheduled hunt. A hunting group is determined by the people who fill out an application together. Groups with minors must include at least 1 adult. You cannot add/change hunters after the lottery. The maximum number of hunters allowed in a group per day/per season is 4.

Kent City / Casnovia Historical Society

The Kent City/Casnovia Historical Society Museum at 43 S. Main St. is open monthly on the second Tuesday from 2:00-4:00 pm. or you can schedule an appointment by calling Maynard Klein @ 675-5421.

Welcome to "The Zone"

Planning & Zoning News



Zoning Information for the Village...

Zoning information for the Village of Kent City can be received via our website @ www.kentcitymi.org or contact Tom Knauf, Zoning Administrator @ 616.678.7232. Please see the website for information on the new A-Frame Signs in C-1 & C-2 districts.

Ordinance Reminders:

The Village has ordinances in effect for the following issues:

- *Grass & Weeds - Inoperable Vehicles - Trash & Junk -*
- *Parking on Streets or Village Lot - Snow Removal Streets & Sidewalks -*

For complete ordinances contact the Village Office or check our website @ www.kentcitymi.org.

Permits Authorized By The Zoning Administrator:

Zoning Permits – are required prior to any form of construction or excavation.

Dwellings / Additions to existing structures
Swimming pools & hot tubs / Gazebos

Porches & decks / Sheds
Freestanding Antennas & towers

Zoning permits are also required prior to and for 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.

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 - Ph: (616)678-4779, 28 E. Muskegon St.,

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 or on the web site. We will mail or fax upon request.

Signs:



The Zoning Ordinance requires a Sign Permit for any sign placed or erected within the Village of Kent City, with a few exceptions. Prior to placing any signs within the Village, please contact the Zoning Administrator. Signs placed within the public right-of-way are routinely confiscated and held for 10 days unless prior permission by the Zoning Administrator has been granted for placement of the sign.

Kent City Planning & Development

The **Village Council** is always looking for people to help with the development of Kent City by serving on a commission or board. Please contact the Village Office for more information on these public bodies or to be considered for appointment to one. Candidates are appointed by the Village Council and may serve on one of the following:

Planning Commission-Composed of 7 members: Review & amendment of the Master Plan, review of Special Land Use requests, Site Plan review, Review of new residential subdivisions & planned unit developments, etc.

Board of Zoning Appeals-Composed of 5 members, plus 1 alternate: Hear & decide questions arising under the Zoning Ordinance. Requests for dimensional and/or use variances, & appeals concerning administrative decisions are typical items for this board to consider.

Board of Property Maintenance Appeals-Composed of 3 members, plus 1 alternate: Qualified by experience & training to pass on matters pertaining to property maintenance. As with all other boards, it is appointed by the village council and members serve staggered and overlapping terms.

Downtown Development Authority-

A 9-member board: Purpose is to promote economic growth & to maintain property values in the Downtown District. They also attempt to halt deterioration of property & encourage the upkeep of buildings & grounds.

Sewer System 3-1-2010/ 2-28-11

Operation, maintenance, replacement & Debt Retirement	
\$ 18,742 Salary & Wages	\$14,738 Repair & Maintenance
\$ 27,103 Professional Services	\$ 6,665 Insurance
\$ 2,493 Office Supplies & Postage	\$15,862 Utilities
\$117,052 Depreciation	\$ 1,597 Miscellaneous
\$ 77,000 Bond Debt for Series 1998A & B issued 06/25/98	
\$ 63,391 Bond Interest & Fiscal charges	

Reminder: Quarterly sewer fees are billed the months of **March, June, September** and **December**.

Memorial Committee:

There is a Memorial Committee of three village residents. You will see a new sign at Ball Creek Memorial Park. There is a site plan at the Village Office if you wish to stop in and see it. Memorial requests are brought before the Memorial Committee for approval.

Business News

The Kent City Creamery – A new ice cream shop opened up May 20th. It is located @ 280 Ball Creek Road.

Streets & Safety Notes

A reminder to all village residents that the Michigan Vehicle Code #257.674 prohibits any parking in traffic lanes.

Special Services

Recycle for Tomorrow!

North Kent Recycle & Transfer Station is located @ 2908 Ten Mile Road in Rockford, Michigan. For a complete list, please stop by the Village Office or contact North Kent Recycle: 616-866-5070.



Bluewater Sanitation Waste Tags

Village residents who have signed up with Bluewater Sanitation for their waste tags can purchase them at the Village Office. If you have any questions regarding your service, please contact Bluewater Sanitation at: (616) 887-2300.

In January 2007 Public Act 480 of 2006, MCL 484.3301 et seq, the “Uniform Video Services Local Franchise Act” took effect. The Michigan Public Service Commission is designated to implement the Act. If customers have complaints and cannot resolve video/cable problems with their suppliers then they contact MPSC by the following means:

PH: (800) 292-9555
FX: (517) 241-2400

Mail: Michigan Public Service Commission
Attn: Video Franchising
6545 Mercantile Way
Lansing, MI 48909

Web: www.michigan.gov/mpsc

Rockford Ambulance – Heartsaver CPR & First Aid Combo course: \$45.00
- Heartsaver CPR: \$30.00

Location: Sparta, 4th Saturday each month
Enrollment Info: www.rockfordambulance.com or
Call Tracey @ (616) 863-8434 to enroll.



Looking for information? Check out these sites!

Village of Kent City: www.kentcitymi.org
Kent County: www.accessKent.com/services
MI Gov.: www.mi.gov Michigan DNR: www.mi.gov/dnr

Many events/activities are listed online through community websites.
We encourage you to take a moment and check them out.

Do you know about these services?

Notary Service – Village Clerk
Township Library – free computer use
Village General & Zoning Ordinances on the internet @ www.kentcitymi.org



Call the Kent County
Animal Shelter @ 616-336-3210 for details.



Purchase by mail: Kent County Animal Shelter, 711 Ball Ave., NE, G.R., MI 49503.

Online: www.accessKent.com

Calendar

Monday, October 31Halloween – Visit the Fire Dept. from 5-8 PM
 Sunday, November 6Daylight Savings
 Friday, November 11.....Veteran’s Day Ceremony @ K.C.H.S.
 Thursday, November 24.....Thanksgiving Holiday
 Saturday, December 10.....Santa Train @ Main Street
 December 24th & 25th Christmas Holiday – closed Dec. 26th
 January 1, 2012New Years Day Holiday
 January 2, 2012.....Village Office Closed

Village Officials:

<p><u>Village of Kent City</u> 83 Spring Street PO Box 296 Kent City, MI 49330 PH: 616.678.7232 FX: 616.678.4256 Web: www.kentcitymi.org</p>	<p>President: John Petruska Clerk: Mary Portell Treasurer: Darrell Rotier</p>	<p><u>Trustees:</u> Merry Barron Erik Bitely Steve Buckner Jill Krikke Thomas Pieper Rood Vaughan</p>	<p>DPW Manager: Steve Evink DPW Operator: Jay Pike Zoning Administrator: Tom Knauf Deputy Clerk: Jennifer August</p>
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Kent City Fall Festival

The date has been set for September 10th for the year’s festival. For committee meeting date, volunteer information or ideas, contact Mr. John Petruska @ 616-520-7128 or leave a message at the village office.

A list of some of this year’s scheduled events includes:

- Friday Night: **Beer Tent & Main Street Band @ K. C. American Legion**
- Saturday **Parade – 11:00am on Main St. to High School**
- Book Fair – K.C. Schools – see program for details**
- Women’s Expo – 10:00am–2:00pm @ Tyrone Township Hall**
- Kids Street Fair (games, etc.) Noon-2:00pm @ Baptist Church – Main Street**
- Tractor Pull (\$5.00 adults/ 12 & under free) Noon, Entrance near fire barn**
- Car Show 12pm-3pm, Kent City Ford, east lot**
- Beer Tent & Generation Gap Band @ KC American Legion**
- Fireworks – Saturday night – Rain date Homecoming Night @ K.C.H.S. Football field**