

City of Leslie

Newsletter Volume VIII

February 2009

Greetings!

Welcome to the City of Leslie electronic newsletter.

We will be using this newsletter to keep you up to date on what is happening in Leslie. Your e-mail has been added to our database as an interested community member. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter, please see the bottom of this newsletter for the unsubscribe link.

We are interested in your feedback. Over the coming weeks and months our format and content will evolve to provide the best product for you. We will keep you up-to-date on the latest important news and events in the City of Leslie.

Please let us know how we can improve this newsletter by e-mailing us at reedb@cityofleslie.org.

We hope you enjoy our efforts! Thank you!



Need Assistance Fixing The Appearance of Your Home?

If you are interested in fixing up your home but need financing or help, you may be eligible for low interest loans from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority or the USDA Rural Development office. Both agencies specialize in low interest loans for rural Cities and Townships less than 10,000 population. For more information you may call Brian Reed at 517-589-8236 or visit each agency's website below:

[Michigan State Housing Development Authority](#)
[USDA Rural Development Office](#)

Recycling Information

Where do I recycle computers, cooking oil, paint???

Thanks to Northwest Refuse, Inc., the City of Leslie has a wonderful recycling center that is located on Commercial Drive next to the police station. However, have you ever wondered where you can recycle the many different things you may acquire throughout the year such as old computers, cooking oil, books, propane tanks, athletic shoes and almost anything you can think of? Ingham County recently sent out an inventory of different recycling activities, dates, and centers where you can bring different materials. That information can be found by visiting the City of Leslie's website or visiting this link <http://www.cityofleslie.org/forms/Recycling%20Info.pdf>.

Please remember, recycling centers are for everyone. If a recycling bin is full, please alert the appropriate people and do not leave materials on the ground.

Potholes

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Quick Links

City of Leslie
 Ingham County

City Council

Mayor:

Ron Schmit

Mayor Pro-Tem:

Pete Zamora

Council:

Pam Beegle

D.K. Beyer

Randy Fox

Shelly Motes

John Stewart

Tis the season. One of the "joys" of living in Michigan is the amount of potholes you encounter particularly in Spring. Potholes are created by pressure on weak parts in the pavement where a freeze/thaw has undermined the integrity of the pavement. Potholes are even more prone to happen with the frequent shifts in weather going from 15 degrees and snowy to 40 degrees and rainy in a matter of a day.

City crews attempt to fix potholes as quickly as possible, however it is difficult to fill potholes when it is wet or if there is snow or ice in the pothole. With limited resources, nearly every community is struggling to keep up with the potholes. The City of Leslie will work hard to keep potholes filled. Eventually, the worst roads will be reconstructed, however this is a very expensive undertaking and generally requires additional types of funding. Thank you for your patience.

Best of America Car Show Canceled

Due to the lack of sponsorship and the current economic climate the Best of America and Cruise Into Leslie Classic Car and Truck show will not be held this year. The Best of America committee would like to thank everyone for their past support and they look forward to bringing this event back in the near future.

Stimulus Funding for the City

Most have heard by now of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which provides money for projects intended to stimulate the economy (The Stimulus bill). The City of Leslie has submitted several infrastructure projects for consideration including the Mill Street Bridge, North and South Main Street, and for necessary repairs and renovations to our water treatment and iron removal plant and wastewater treatment plant. These projects are critical needs for the City and are vastly expensive. In order to accomplish these projects, the City will need assistance through typical funding streams from the Federal or State government.

At this point, it is unclear how the streams of money will be distributed. There is much less money than initially thought for infrastructure projects. The City will continue to explore every option possible to seek funding for these major projects.

Michigan Cyber Safety Initiative

Mark your calendar for April 21st, 7 pm, at the High School Auditorium for the "Michigan Cyber Safety Initiative". The community seminar provides practical tools, including a PowerPoint handout of slides covered during the seminar. The seminar provides concrete tools, including a demonstration of how to access the Michigan Sex Offender Registry and sign up for e-mail updates.

The seminar also demonstrates how to access online tutorials to: search and access a child's social networking site(s) (i.e., MySpace and Facebook); view Internet history logs to determine where a child has been online; and turn on safe surfing filters. For more information please visit the Michigan Cyber Safety Initiative site at http://www.michigan.gov/ag/0,1607,7-164-17334_48889---,00.html

Volunteer Opportunities

The City of Leslie is always looking for volunteers. If you are looking for a volunteer opportunity, or have any volunteering ideas please contact Brian Reed (589-8236) or Martha Owen at (589-5115).

Newspapers in Leslie

The City of Leslie currently has two local newspapers serving the community. [The Leslie Weekly Guardian](#) and [The Weekly Pride](#) are both fresh and exciting avenues to learn about news, events, and special interest stories from our community. The challenges facing small town newspapers are numerous so we are fortunate to have two entities willing to provide this service. Please work hard to support both of these newspapers. You may subscribe to the Leslie Weekly Guardian on-line. The Weekly Pride is available on-line and in paper format dropped around Leslie including City Hall and other Downtown merchants.

City Overnight Parking Rules and Mailboxes

Residents are reminded that there is no parking on any City streets from 3am to 5am by City Ordinance. Those leaving cars parked in the street have and will be ticketed. Your cooperation greatly helps City workers keep streets clear of snow.

We would like to thank the residents for being so diligent about getting cars off the streets for the snow plows this year. The number of cars parked in the streets is down

Proposal A and my Property Taxes

You may have received your assessment notice in the mail recently. If you haven't you should receive it soon. With the recent economic downturn, your property taxes may be difficult to understand. This is especially the case if you have owned your property for many years. To better understand how Proposal A and your local property tax assessment works, the City has provided a guide on its website. You may access it by [clicking here](#).

Board of Review

The March Board of Review will be held on the following days:

- Monday March 9, 2009: 9am to 3pm
- Tuesday March 10th: 3pm to 9pm

If you have any questions, please call 589-8236.

Newsletter Archive

Past issues of the Electronic Newsletter will be available on the City of Leslie website. You may visit <http://www.cityofleslie.org/news-archive.shtml> to view past issues.

tremendously from last year. It would be helpful to keep the sidewalks clear also, but we understand if you need to block the sidewalk to keep the cars off the street. We would like to remind everyone to keep the mailboxes clear for the mail carriers. We try to get as close as we can to the mailboxes but as the snow gets deeper there is a greater risk of the snow bank or the plow ruining the mailbox.

Frequently Asked Questions About Snow Removal

Why does the plow truck throw snow on my driveway right after I shovel the driveway? Are the sidewalks my responsibility? Why doesn't the City plow my road? These are questions all of us have asked at one time or another. Depending on how you look at it, snow is either a fun aspect of living in Michigan or it is a depressing aspect that we all have to live with. View our frequently asked questions on-line by [clicking here](#).

Upcoming Events In Leslie

For information on any of these events, please call 517-589-8236.

- Week of March 2 - Leslie High School will host the Districts for Varsity Women's Basketball
- City Council Meeting - March 3, 2009, 7pm at City Hall
- March Board of Review - Monday, March 9, 2009 - 9am to 3pm
- March Board of Review - Tuesday, March 10, 2009 - 3pm to 9pm
- City Council Meeting - April 7, 2009, 7pm at City Hall

Contact Information

City Administration:

Phone: (517)589-8236

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[Brian Reed](#) - City Manager

[Cheri Neu](#) - Finance Director/Treasurer

[Denaé Davenport](#) - City Clerk

[Carrie Fancher](#) - Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

[Martha Owen](#) - DPW Director

[Robert Delamarter](#) - Police Chief

WE WISH YOU THE BEST THIS NEW YEAR!

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