



# City of Luna Pier Winter 2011

## NEWSLETTER



can worry about their lives and know that their interests are being attended to. I need to make sure they get updated on how I am doing that. So starting after the first of the year I will schedule a "Coffee with the Mayor" once each quarter, in January, June, August and November. Come sit, I will buy you a cup of coffee, and we will chat about what is important to you. If you are on Facebook search for my page, "Mayor Mary Liske", click on the Like button and we can kibitz in-between. Other ways to contact me is by e-mail at [mliske@cityoflunapier.com](mailto:mliske@cityoflunapier.com) or through my contact page at [www.maryliske.com](http://www.maryliske.com). Thanks for your trust!

### From the Mayor's Desk

Reflection is a wonderful tool that we tend to have no time for on a regular basis. Usually it requires an event that forces us to make the effort, for instance when sick in bed with the flu. I recently took time to reflect on my path as Mayor, not because I planned it, but because I had an opponent in the recent election. As a result I had to evaluate if I was in fact the one for the job and was I doing the job as I should, with the passion I once had. As I was going door to door talking to residents I realized I haven't spent enough time reaching out. I need to spend time in between elections meeting with residents. I found not because I didn't know what they think and what was important to them, but because they did not know what I was doing, why it was in their best interest or how it would all play out. People have chosen to trust me with this position so they



### Yard of The Month

**Congratulations to the winner of our October yard of the month.**

4533 Dix Street  
Larry and Linda DeBagio

A **BIG THANK YOU** to Cindy Zohn-Conyers and the Luna Pier Beautification Committee for keeping our city so beautiful in 2011!!

## Christmas Light Contest

Snow soon will be falling and the sounds of sleigh bells will be in the air. That can only mean one thing, Christmas is almost here! In the spirit of Christmas, Luna Pier has received 4 entries for the Christmas Light Contest. Our Contestants are:



4407 Center 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
10962 Harold Drive  
11113 Harold Drive  
4331 South 4<sup>th</sup> Street

One winner will be chosen by our very own residents of Luna Pier. Online voting will begin Friday, December 9, 2011 and run until 4:00 PM on Friday, December 16, 2011. To cast your vote, visit the City of Luna Pier website at [cityoflunapier.com](http://cityoflunapier.com). The survey can be found on the middle of the main page. The winner will be contacted by phone and will be listed in the next newsletter.

Good luck to all our Contestants!!



### ITEMS NEEDED FOR OUR VETERANS

The Erie VFW Post 3925 is collecting the following items for our veterans. If you would like to donate, please place your items in the box at City Hall.

Baby powder, chap stick, dental floss, deodorant, lotion, mouth wash, nail clippers, playing cards, pill dispenser (7-day), shampoo, razors (disposable), tooth brushes, toothpaste, soap (liquid only), crossword puzzle books, lap blankets, etc.

**Many thanks to all those who have already donated to this worthy cause!!**

## A Great Big Thanks!

Without the Christmas Spirit and the generosity of the following business, Luna Pier's Christmas Light Contest would never have gotten off of the ground. The winner's basket is overflowing with wonderful gifts.

Lucky Lady Charters  
Luna Pier Market  
Ganders Family Restaurant  
Roma's Pizza  
The Lighthouse Factory  
Super 8 Motel  
Luna Pier Baptist Church  
Luna Pier Self Storage  
Luna Pier Harbour Club  
Sunoco Gas Station  
Pyramid Transport  
Light House Dance Company  
Luna Pier Beach Café  
Rasey Memorial Library  
Holli Pendleton @ Erie Office / Monroe Bank & Trust  
Consumers Energy  
ACR Copier Sales & Service  
Luna Pier Auto Wash  
Eco-Marine, Inc.  
Luna Pier Post Office  
Luna Pier Downtown Development Authority (DDA)



### Copies, Faxes, Notary

Due to the increase cost associated with many of the service offer at City Hall, there has been a price adjustment to these services. This price adjustment will take effect January 1, 2012. The new rates are listed below.

Copies	25¢
Fax	\$1.00 for 1 <sup>st</sup> 3 pages \$1.00 for each additional page
Notary	\$5.00 for residents \$10 for non-residents
Assessment Cards	\$5.00

## Winter Taxes

Winter Taxes will be payable December 1, 2011 thru February 14, 2012.



You can now pay your taxes on line on the City of Luna Pier's web site at [www.cityoflunapier.com](http://www.cityoflunapier.com) by following the steps below:

1. Go to: City Government
2. Click on Treasurer
3. Pay your taxes online
4. Create an account

Once you have completed the above steps, put in the amount that you will be paying. Make sure you choice the correct tax season and then submit your payment.

There is a \$1.00 convenience fee that will be charge to your account for using this service and you can only use a checking or savings account. You will receive a confirmation number that your taxes have been paid, please print or write this number down for your records.

If you have any questions or need help with this service, please contact me at 734-848-8120 x203 during our regular business hours.

Happy Holidays  
Dee Parran, Treasurer



### **A Word From The DPW :**

Winter weather is well upon us. To make our job easier and more efficient we would appreciate residents cooperation in not parking on side streets when there is any measurable snow fall. In addition, there is no parking of vehicles or trailers of any kind at the end of streets with no outlets.

### **Memorial Bricks**

Personalized, memorial bricks may be ordered at City Hall during regular business hours. These bricks will be placed in Memorial Park. The cost of the bricks is as follow:

4 X 8	\$115.00
8 X 8	\$200.00
4 X 8	\$30.00 (Veterans/Fire Dept.)

## Mark your calendar for the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Event



**Luna Pier Memorial Park  
December 3, 2011 at 5:30 PM  
Hosted by the Luna Pier  
Business Association. Please  
bring your family and join us!**

It will be a fun evening beginning with a short ceremony to light the tree and sing carols with Santa.

After the ceremony, Pyramid Transport will have their festively decorated flatbed available to transport everyone to 10501 Evans Drive. Pyramid Transport is graciously providing refreshments, great music, and a chance for the kids to visit with Santa. Lighthouse Dance Company of Luna Pier will be providing entertainment at 7:00 PM and Miss Monroe County 2011 will be stopping by later in the evening. A can food drive will also be taking place.

The **Luna Pier Firemen** will be there to hand out goodie bags to the children.



**Make this a family tradition  
Mark your calendar so you  
don't miss the fun!**

**Allied Waste** will be maintaining their normal schedule for Friday, December 23, 2011 (Christmas Eve) and will be one day behind for the week of Thanksgiving and New Year's. Remember we do have unlimited trash pick-up.



**Reminder that burning in the City of Luna Pier is not permitted due to the close proximity of the homes in the area and health hazards to residents due to the smoke.**





**ELECTION RESULTS:**

The City's General Election was held Tuesday, November 8th.

Congratulations to Mary Liske, who was re-elected for another two year term. Mary Liske will be joined by Jim Gardner, the newly elected Council-member. Councilwoman Dawn Gramza and Councilman Richard Russell was also re-elected for another four year term. Their four year terms will begin on January 1, 2012. All of us would like to thank Richard L. Murray Jr. for all of his years of service to the city.

A Big THANK YOU for a job well done to our election inspectors who put in a long day at the poll. Thank you: Bonnie Carsner, Rose Laderach, Dorothy Johnson and Mary Liechty.

And don't forget, if you haven't already registered to vote, you can come into City Hall during regular business hours and we will be happy to help you.

Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday and a Wonderful New Year!

Crystal Manley  
City Clerk

**Rasey Memorial Library Activities**

4349 Oak Street  
Luna Pier, Mi. 48157  
(734)848-4572  
Mymcls.com



See our website for a complete Calendar of Events

**RASEY MEMORIAL LIBRARY ACTIVITIES**

Kids Craft Saturdays - 11:00 AM the second Saturday of the month. Registration required.

Preschool Storytime - Thursday, 10:30 AM - Preschool Storytime is intended for children ages 3-5 years. This program offers stories, songs, movement activities, art experiences, and fun each week. Registration required.

Senior Moments Level 1 (1 of 6 wks) Rasey Memorial - Computer Classes - Begins 1/4/2012 and ends 2/8/2012 Wednesdays

10:00 AM No skills needed. Registration required.

This class is intended for those who have very limited or no knowledge of computers. Participants will gain knowledge on understanding Hardware and Software, Information Networks, Intro to Windows, Working with a Windows, a Program, Files & Folders-Toolbars, Create, Edit and Save a document, Exploring the Internet-Web pages, Email, Change your homepage, Pop-up Blocker and Firewalls. There will be hands-on exercises, along with group projects to reinforce skills.

Luna Pier Book Club - Meets the third Tuesday of the month. Newcomers welcome!



**Building Department News**

The winter cold and heating season are well upon us so if you have not already done so please take time to check that your furnace or boiler have been cleaned and serviced to insure safe and reliable operation. If your home has a fireplace or wood-burning stove you should have your chimney, flue and damper cleaned and checked.

The City of Luna Pier, in conjunction with the State of Michigan enforces the state mandated Building Codes. The current version is the 2006 edition. The state, after several setbacks has finally adopted the 2009 version. The building department should be contacted before planning any remodeling or new construction to confirm code requirements and obtain required permits.

The most important pieces of safety equipment in your home are your smoke alarms. They should be checked regularly to insure they are operating properly and that fresh batteries have been installed. Smoke alarms are required for all residential premises by law. Smoke alarms should be located in the following areas:

- In each bedroom or sleeping room
- In the area adjacent to bedrooms
- Minimum of one on each level

*For additional information contact the Building Department. Remember...*

**SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!**

## **Flood & Erosion Protection Committee**



As some of you may already know our committee was formed with the intention of putting in the necessary hard work to get things

done, but we have run into roadblocks along the way. Below are some updates and information for all of you.

- **Info on Web site includes:**

1. original permit for our existing dike
2. Original dike and harbor plans from 1985
3. USDA application approved Oct 2010 by Mayor
4. Mayor's answers to the FEP Committees request for action
5. Minutes of past meetings with details

- **USDA Loan info:**

1. Can't make changes now – would delay or trigger other issues
2. FEP didn't know we were "locked" into rip rap for loan
3. USDA has added requirements
4. Although approved/ not appropriated for 2011
5. Appropriation is scheduled for 2012

- **The shoreline/flood account** balance of about \$450K currently. The City has spent some money on engineering, surveys and bids for replacing our storm pumps. The money in this account will be used to repay the loan (if we get it) and to pay for other flood protection projects such as dredging and repair/replacement of the Venice Canal flood gate that are not listed in the USDA loan application. We are concerned that we do not have enough money in this account to bring our flood protection plan fully up to a safe standard that will protect all of our citizens from the rising waters of Lake Erie.

- **US Corp of Engineers (USACE) & DEQ** met with us and looked at our dike and pier system. They were positive about dredging since we have a place to put the dredging materials (additional support of the dike wall and to assist in keeping the rip rap in place).

1. FEP has discussed the option of using dredging material and sand to cover a much smaller amount of riprap but has experienced some

resistance from our engineer, Mayor and a councilmember. Based on our research it appears that dredging material/sand will hold the riprap in place for 3-10 years and we dredge on a regular basis to keep this flood protection wall from further deterioration.

2. USACE & DEQ were very helpful in explaining about permits and provided us with the original permit of our dike system.

- **Turnover and absences of FEP committee members** has hampered our progress. However, we have added two new members Cheryl Krakow and Stacy Grimes who are eager to get involved and help with our research and ideas.

- **FEMA discount:** If we do not follow the recommendations and requirement of FEMA we will lose our **10% discount** on our flood insurance. FEP is working on required processes and flood procedures as required by FEMA.

- **PUMPS** The City and FEP have discussed using the shoreline/flood money to replace the storm water pumps if our loan is not funded by early 2012. If this happens we will have to find other funding thru grants, loans, assessments or mileages to maintain our dike systems.

- **Research of City Files** It appears that over the past years the flood committee's have been doing the same thing over and over again with little to no results. So now we will start anew. We will organize all the files and be placing important documents on the web site. We are asking the City to scan these documents for the quick and easy retrieval of past flood information. This will also include lawsuits that dealt with flooding or flood protection.

We will have our **first meeting of 2012 on January 17<sup>th</sup>** at 7PM at Council Chambers at City Hall. Hope to see you then. If you do not have time to join us please check the City web site under the tab under Boards & Committees and click on Flood and Erosion Protection.

Sue Lopes, Chair of Flood & Erosion Protection  
[Susan.s.lopes@gmail.com](mailto:Susan.s.lopes@gmail.com)

## **Community Involvement**

The City of Luna Pier is a great community. This community has been shaped by thousands of decisions made by our residents and our elected officials. As we continue to grow and move towards our long term vision, we need residents to take more active roles. If you have a desire to participate in the development of Luna Pier, currently the City has many opportunities for residents to serve. Following is a quick synopsis of Commissions/Boards who currently have vacancies. *If you are interested in serving on any one of these boards or commission, please submit a letter of interest / application to the City Clerk or call (734)848-6495 for more information.*

### **Openings for Commissions/Boards**

**Downtown Development Authority (DDA) – 2 openings**

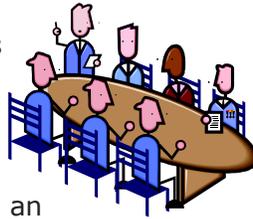
Term: 3 years

Requirements: Citizen or Business

Owner of the City of Luna Pier

Meets: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the Month

Description: The DDA board members consist of the Mayor and local residents who have an interest in the development of the downtown district. The Board function is to help create an attractive business district that meets the need of the community.



**Housing Committee- 1 opening**

Term: 1 Years

Requirements: Citizen of the City of Luna Pier

Meets: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the Month

Description: The Housing Committee consists of a representative from Council along with members of the community. The Committees basic function is to develop policy and procedures for the housing.

**Planning Commission/EDC - 3 openings**

Term: 3 Years

Meets: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of Every Month

Requirements: Citizen of the City of Luna Pier

Description: The Planning Commission board consists of a representative from Council along with local residents. The boards basic function is to make recommendations to City Council on land use policies and ordinances.

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) – 1 opening, 1 Alternate opening

Term: 3 years

Meets: On a as Need Basis

Requirements: Citizen of the City of Luna Pier

Description: The Zoning Board of Appeals consists of a representative from City Council and members of the Community. The Board is the advisory body for the City for the hearing of special use and variation petitions.

**Tax Board of Revue- 1 Opening, 1 Alternate**  
Term: 3 Years

Meets: 1/2 day in July, 1/2 day in December, 3 1/2 days in March

Requirements: Citizen of the City of Luna Pier

Description: The Tax Board of Revue consists of the City Assessor and members of the community who have an interest in determining whether an assessment is fair and correct. This Board has the power to revise, correct, change, alter, modify or confirm any assessment in whole as per legislation.

**Parks & Recreation- 2 openings**

Term: 4 years

Meets: the second Monday of each month at 5:30 PM

Requirements: Citizen of the City of Luna Pier

Description: The Parks & Recreation committee consists of a representative from Council along with members of the community who have an interest in promoting and improvement of parks and recreational facilities and events.

## **The Dumpster Dilemma**

We are facing rising costs and falling revenue. As we look at our services and ways to remain fiscally responsible, one issue that keeps popping up is the city dumpster. It is becoming more and more expensive to keep, it is being abused by non-residents and some residents are dumping inappropriate materials. Many residents need this dumpster and it is the cities desire to keep it, but to do so we all will need to:

1. Stop filling it with waste that can be picked up on the regular route
  - We have unlimited pick up and you can call 1-800-234-3429
2. Be Patient
  - We are going to one dumpster a week
3. Be watchful
  - Let us know if you see nonresidents using the dumpster.

In order to reduce cost and reduce the abuse of the dumpster, changes will be needed to be made.