



MONTAGUE MESSENGER

The Montague Messenger, the semi-annual newsletter of the City of Montague, is mailed to the City's businesses and residents during the months of April and October.

Fall 2008

City Council

Mayor Henry Roesler
Calvin "Hap" Cederquist
Leslie Chase
Tom Lohman
Dennis "Randy" Lydens
Darric Roesler
June Schmelzer

Meeting Dates

City Council

First and third Monday
of each month at 5:30 PM

Planning Commission

Second Monday of each
month at 7:30 PM

Downtown

Development

Authority

Third Thursday of each
month at 7:00 AM

*City Hall will be closed on
November 27, 28,
December 24, 25, 31
and January 1
for the Holidays*

City Staff

Melinda O'Connell, City Clerk
Susanne McGee, Treasurer
Tom Kroll, DPW Director
Steve Hammond, DPW Foreman
Robert Rought, Police Chief
Dennis Roesler, Fire Chief
Troy DeBrot, Building Official
Laurie Robillard, Utilities Clerk
Jerry Groeneveld and Dennis Burns,
City Assessors
Matt Miller, Zoning Administrator
John French, City Manager

PUMPKINFEST 2008

Saturday, October 11 will mark the 13th annual Pumpkin Roll in downtown Montague. Family fun for all ages, Pumpkinfest contests include pumpkin pie baking, pumpkin painting, seed spitting, pumpkin carving, the biggest pumpkin grown locally, and the World Famous Pumpkin Roll down the Town Hill. Montague merchants will have pumpkin food specials and door prizes.

There is also face-painting, a bake sale at the Senior Center – and you're going to want to carve a pumpkin and en-

ter it in the White Lake Realty contest because of some great prizes. The Farmers Market opens at 8:00 AM and the Pumpkin Roll begins at 11:00 and "lasts until they're all rolled." Last year there were 832 pumpkins rolled with more than 50 1st Place ribbons awarded to entrants of all ages.



2007 Champion

Back by popular request will be Pumpkin Bowling and some special heats will be added to the end of the Pumpkin Roll to pit Montague against Whitehall for bragging rights. In the Mayors' Division, come watch Montague's Mayor Roesler take on Whitehall Mayor Hatch. There's even a rumor that there may be a Cow Pie Tossing Contest

Special thanks go to the dedicated volunteers that coordinate all of the Pumpkinfest activities, especially the DECA kids who register all of the pumpkins.

PLEASE VOTE! Presidential Election Tuesday, November 4, 2008

The last day to register to vote for the Presidential Election is October 6, 2008. If you are not currently registered to vote, you may do so at your local Michigan Secretary of State Office.

Absentee Ballots can be mailed out by the City

Clerk's Office up until 2:00 PM on the Saturday prior to the Election — November 1. After that, you may vote an absentee ballot in person at the Clerk's Office in City Hall up until 4:00 PM on Monday, November 3. Call or stop by City Hall for an application to obtain an Absentee Ballot.

If you have any questions regarding the November 4 Election, registering to vote, or Absentee Ballots, please call Melinda O'Connell at City Hall at **893-1155**.

**Polls are open
from 7:00 AM to
8:00 PM.**

Leaves, Brush and Yard Waste

Curbside pick-up of limbs and brush takes place on the **first Thursday of each month** from May through October.

The Department of Public Works will be chipping normal yard waste and limbs. Brush must be placed close to the street and should not be over four feet in length or four inches in diameter. No stumps, building materials, leaves, or other debris will be collected.

Sorry... the DPW cannot collect brush deposited in alleys, nor

trees or brush that were generated by a commercial trimming service. Residents that are clearing mature trees must also have their brush removed by a private company, as this City service is not for tree removal.

Limbs and brush must be placed out by the street no



later than 7 AM on the first Thursday of each month, as the DPW collection crew will make **only one trip** through town. Please do not put brush out by the road more than a week prior to pick-up.

City residents may deposit grass clippings and leaves at the DPW yard located at the corner of Cook and Bowen Streets. Unless they are biodegradable, the bags must be removed.

The burning of leaves or brush is prohibited at any time.

Library Hours

The Montague Branch Library is open:

**Mondays and Tuesdays
11 AM to 8 PM**

**Wednesdays and Fridays
11 AM to 5 PM**

Saturdays 10 AM to 1 PM

The Library is closed all day on Thursdays and Sundays. For more information, call 893-2675.

WHITE LAKE AREA SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY

2100 West Holton-Whitehall Road – (231) 893-2405
Open Wednesdays & Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Fee Schedule

Pick-up Box—Building Supplies	\$32 single/\$50 double
Trailers—Multiple Axles	\$60 and up
Pick-up Box—Household Items	\$22 level/ \$44 double
Freezers & Refrigerators	\$30 each
Washers, Dryers, Ranges, Furnaces	\$12 each
Water Heaters	\$7 each
Brush and Leaves	\$7 to \$15 per load
Bagged Garbage	\$2 each
Passenger Car Tires	\$3 each
Truck Tires	\$12 each
Tractor Tires	\$25 each
Recycling	\$1 sorted/\$2 unsorted

The Authority will not accept tree stumps or any hazardous material.

E-Mail the City

City Clerk – Melinda O'Connell
E-Mail: ClerkMOC@aol.com

City Treasurer – Susanne McGee
E-Mail: SuzMMcGee@aol.com

Police Chief – Robert Rought
E-Mail: morjrl@mcd911.net

Public Works Director – Tom Kroll
E-Mail: montaguedpw@chartermi.net

Zoning Administrator – Matt Miller
E-Mail: CityofMontague@aol.com

City Manager – John French
E-Mail: Manager@CityofMontague.org

City's Operating Millage Lowered

With the adoption of the 2008-09 Budget, the City Council again lowered the operating millage from 15.75 mills to 14.75. This was made possible by the passage of the Fire District Millage Proposal in May to build a new fire station and fund the operations and equipment replacement of the Montague Fire District for the next 20 years. This voted millage enabled the City to discontinue its approximate one mil subsidy of the Fire District, so the City Council shaved the same mil off of its operational property tax revenues.

City Cemetery

All Oak Grove Cemetery decorations and flowers are to be removed by October 26, 2008 or they will be disposed of by City personnel. Winter decorations and wreaths are not to be placed before November 1, 2008 and must be removed by April 1, 2009.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Brian Dawson, Sexton

Fire Prevention Week

October 5 through October 11 is Fire Prevention Week. The Montague Fire Department will be coordinating a number of public educational activities and events.

On Tuesday, October 7, beginning at 6:30 PM, will be the annual Fire Prevention Parade of fire trucks and emergency vehicles traveling throughout Whitehall and Montague.

Wednesday, October 8, the firefighters will host an Open House at the fire station (8660 Water Street) from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. There will be plenty of cider and donuts, and folks can take a ride on a fire truck. Firefighting equipment will be on display and educational materials will be available. This will be the last Open House at this location, as the new fire station will be built at the corner of Wilcox and Scharmer Drive in the Industrial Park.

On Thursday, October 9, firefighters will be serving lunch to the kids at the Oehrli Elementary School. Firefighters will be conducting fire drills at all of the schools throughout Fire Prevention Week.

Garbage Cans

The long term storage of garbage cans on the side of the road is not allowed. Garbage cans may be placed roadside the night before the scheduled weekly pick-up and removed the day of pick-up. All garbage on any premises must be completely contained in garbage cans and covered with tight-fitting lids at all times. Garbage in plastic bags may be stored outside awaiting pick-up for no more than twelve (12) hours.

Sign Rules

Reminder: Political signs, or signs for garage sales and yard sales, should not be placed in the City right-of-way (approximately 33' from the center of the road including utility poles and street trees). Political signs *must* be removed within 10 days after an election. **Thank you**



Watch Out for Little Trick or Treaters!

The City of Montague will be observing Halloween on Friday, October 31. Trick-or-Treating is scheduled from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The Police Department will have additional officers patrolling in squad cars and on bicycles and the Fire Department will be assisting with safe crossing at the busy intersections. All Montague Police and Fire personnel will be in uniform and have emergency lighting on their vehicles.

Basic Safety Tips:

Trick-or-Treat with an adult. Visit only people you know. Make sure your children's costumes allow them to see and hear properly, so they can watch and listen for cars — and fits properly so they won't trip. Wear bright colored clothes or glow in the dark stripes, and carry a flashlight.

BE CAREFUL!!

Infrastructure Projects

A new sidewalk is currently being constructed, approximately 3,000 linear feet, on Cook Street between Old Channel Trail and the Medbery Bike Trail. This project is being partially funded by a Special Assessment District, and should be completed by late October/early November.

The Downtown Development Authority is funding the total reconstruction of Ferry Street between Hunt Street and Spring Street. This project includes new water main, replacement of curb, gutter, sidewalks and repaving of the street to include the block of Spring Street between Water Street and Ferry Street. Overhead utility lines were buried underground, and the final stage of this streetscape project will include seven additional antique streetlights, several Bradford Pear trees and a couple of decorative planters. The majority of this project is scheduled for completion prior to Pumpkinfest on October 11.

Property Checks

Any City resident that wants the Montague Police Department to do daily patrol checks on their property while they are gone on vacation or gone for the winter can contact the Police Department and fill out a request form.

Call Police Chief Robert Rought at Montague Police Department at **893-0810**.

CITY OF MONTAGUE

8778 Ferry Street
Montague, MI 49437

City Hall: (231) 893-1155

Fax: (231) 894-9955

Police Dept: (231) 893-0810

Fax: (231) 893-3903

City Garage: (231) 893-2235

Fax: (231) 893-0815



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World's Largest Weathervane*

E-mail: CityofMontague@aol.com

Visit the City's Website at:

CityofMontague.org

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Winter Reminders

Please observe the **No Parking on City Streets between 2:00 AM and 7:00 AM** law so the DPW can remove snow.

No pushing of snow in or onto a sidewalk or street is allowed. *Violators may be ticketed.* Homeowners are encouraged to help keep their sidewalks clear of snow for pedestrians and mail delivery; and can help the Fire Department by keeping nearby fire hydrants shoveled out.

The Montague Police Department will be enforcing all State laws pertaining to the operation of snowmobiles. To allow snowmobiles access to the most direct route to and from designated snowmobile trails, the City of Montague does permit the operation of snowmobiles on the shoulder of City streets. Snowmobile operators must obey all traffic laws of the roadway with the biggest area of concerns being speed, noise and personal property damage.



Christmas Parade

The Annual Christmas Parade will take place on Saturday, December 6 at 2:00 PM.

Santa will be at his Santa House near the Police Department at Montague City Hall:

**Following the
Christmas Parade**

Fridays, December 12 & 19
from
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Saturdays, December 13 & 20
from
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Bring your kids and take their picture sitting on Santa's lap.
Have a safe and happy holiday season.