

CITY OF LOCKPORT

Mayor
Dev Trivedi

City Clerk
Alice Matteucci

Administrator
Tim Schloneger



“WE CARE”
www.lockport.org

Alderman
Pete Colarelli - 1st Ward
Dick Van Dyke - 1st Ward
Joe Fracaro - 2nd Ward
Brian Smith - 2nd Ward
Tom Kelly - 3rd Ward
Bob Morris - 3rd Ward
John Robert Krzos - 4th Ward
Robert Perretta - 4th Ward

CITIZEN UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2010

This E-Newsletter is being sent by the City of Lockport to update you on current and future issues, projects, events, and successes involving the city. This is our sincere way of showing our residents and businesses that “We Care”.

Vehicle Stickers Available for Purchase NOW!

REMEMBER TO PURCHASE YOUR VEHICLE STICKERS BEFORE DECEMBER 31ST TO RECEIVE A DISCOUNTED PRICE! Vehicle stickers for City of Lockport residents are currently available at a discounted price of \$18.00 from now until December 31, 2010. Stickers bought from January 1, 2011 through January 31, 2011 will cost \$20.00. These prices are valid for passenger vehicles, motorcycles and pickup trucks (B plates). Stickers for trucks with D plates (and over) are \$73.00 up to December 31, 2010, or \$75.00 if purchased after January 1, 2011; and stickers for Dealer plates are \$15.00. Senior Citizens can receive an additional 50% savings per sticker for up to 2 vehicles. All cars (owned OR leased) registered to the City of Lockport **MUST** have valid stickers, even if they are not housed here. Also, according to Ordinance 73.011, all new residents must purchase a vehicle sticker within thirty days of establishing residency. Stickers can be purchased at the City’s Water Department located at 222 E. 9th Street, Floor 2, or at the Police Department at 1212 Farrell Road, which for your convenience, the Police Department will be open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. until noon, from November 1st thru January 31st. You can also purchase stickers at Corwin’s Pharmacy at 944 E. 9th Street (Mon.-Thurs. 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.; Fri. 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Sat. 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.; Sun. 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.). Please note, if you do not purchase a vehicle sticker before the deadline of January 31, 2011, the City will impose a penalty of \$20.00 per sticker, which will increase the price per sticker to \$40.00.

Leaf Pick-up Program Ends Friday, December 3rd (weather permitting)

The Public Works Leaf Program will be wrapping up this next week and end on December 3rd (weather permitting). **Please be patient** as it is extremely difficult to determine when we will be in your area. Leaves that are placed along the parkway will be picked up as quickly as possible. Please **DO NOT** put leaves in the street or in the curb/gutter as it will create drainage problems for you and your neighbors. The truck will follow a specific route for safety purposes as well as efficiency so we cannot make special trips to any specific address. Please note, the machine can only pick up leaves, so if a pile of leaves is mixed with branches it will not be picked up. Waste Management will also pick up your leaves, at NO additional charge, if they are placed in kraft bags and set out on your garbage day. NO sticker is needed provided just leaves are in the bags.

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Speaking of Waste Management....

The city's contract with Waste Management is coming due. Therefore, the Lockport City Council will be holding a Special Meeting on January 12th @ 7:00 PM, at Central Square to receive public input on the expiring garbage contract. Please consider taking advantage of this opportunity to provide your thoughts on garbage pickup, yard-waste pickup and recycling.

City Clerk Seeking Classic Classroom Pictures

As many of you know, the current Central Square building was formerly a school (back in the day). The City Clerk thought it would be nice to showcase this fact by displaying old classroom pictures. We plan on framing them and hanging them in the second floor hallway for everyone to see. We already have five pictures and are seeking more. If you have a classroom picture from Central Square School and would like to donate a copy, please bring it to the Clerk's office at 222 E. 9th Street, 2nd Floor. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Tadey at (815) 838-0549 x 2121. Thanks to those who have already donated!

FREE Office Space in Lockport

The City of Lockport is implementing an Incubator Program to encourage new or early stage business that will complement the community's business mix and create jobs, grow the local economy and locate in Lockport. The City will be reaching out and advertising the program to local papers, MBA Programs, the venture capital/private equity community and business publications about the competitive application process. The City will determine the application deadlines. Once all applications are submitted, a committee will review and make a recommendation to the City Council. The goal of this program is to provide a physical location for start-up companies that will reduce the company's overhead and operational costs. Space is offered at no charge initially, than at below-market rates. Over time, the rent will be increased based on the square footage of the space utilized. When the business "graduates" from the program, as determined by periodic reviews, the company must move elsewhere within the City. In this way, the City will create a strong cycle of innovation and business creation. The end result is the City will support healthy firms that create jobs and wealth, strengthen the economy, commercialize new technologies and revitalize the community. For more detailed information, please go to <http://lockportworks.com/content/business-incubator-program>.

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Other City News...

Downtown Fire. As you are aware, a devastating fire occurred in the downtown earlier this month and it destroyed several businesses on the 900 block of State Street. The Mayor and city staff have been working diligently with the business owners to look at temporary and permanent solutions for placement in the downtown.

Sales Tax Referendum Passed. As you are aware, the Sales Tax Referendum passed on November 2nd. This means that the sales tax within Lockport will increase by 1%. This increase will become effective July 1, 2011.

All new revenue created through the sales tax will be placed in a restricted fund, which will only be used to fund “Local Capital Improvement Projects”. A “Local Capital Improvement Project” means an expenditure for any of the following purposes, or financing thereof: (A) Road construction, renovation, repair or resurfacing, (B) sidewalk, bike path and pavement improvements, (C) construction, renovation, enlargement or repair of dams, weirs, bridges, flood control projects and creek maintenance (D) the preparation and revision of capital improvement plans, designs, engineering, and project oversight (E) floodplain management and hazard mitigation activities, (F) right-of-way acquisition, (G) roadway equipment purchase or rental, (H) bridge repair, maintenance and replacement. Local capital improvement projects may be completed by consultants, contractors and/or in-house engineering and public works employees.

Water/Sewer Rate Increase. As you are aware, the Lockport City Council has approved an increase in water/sewer rates. This increase will be effective December 15, 2010.

Holiday Information and Events. Please read the next few pages for holiday events and information.



HOLIDAY EVENTS AND INFORMATION

Christmas In The Square Event

Saturday, November 27, 2010, 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Central Square, 222 E. 9th Street

This is the sixth year for the event, with a growing attendance every year due to the fun holiday activities offered to all ages. Sponsored by the City of Lockport, the Lockport Township Park District, Lockport Township Government, and the Lockport Chamber of Commerce, this *free* event will definitely put you in the Christmas spirit! There will be live reindeer, pictures with Santa, festive entertainment, carriage rides, train rides, holiday games, crafts, and much more. Also, you can visit the Gladys Fox Museum to vote for the best decorated Christmas tree at the Festival of Trees, sponsored by Advocate Christ Outpatient Center. Please come out for this day of holiday fun, and be sure to stay for the “grand finale” where we will light our 20’ Christmas tree. The elected officials from the park, city, and township will “light up Lockport” to officially kick off the holiday season.



HOLIDAY EVENTS AND INFORMATION

For more holiday events, sponsored by the Lockport Township Park District, please visit www.lockportpark.org

CITY OF LOCKPORT HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

The city observes the following upcoming holidays:

Thanksgiving Holiday –
Thursday, November 25, 2010
Friday, November 26, 2010
City Offices Closed

Christmas Holiday –
Friday, December 24th – Offices Close at Noon
Monday, December 27th – City Offices Closed

New Year's Holiday –
Friday, December 31st – Offices Close at Noon
Monday, January 3rd – City Offices Closed

Martin Luther King, Jr., Day –
Monday, January 17, 2011 – City Offices Closed

WASTE MANAGEMENT HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

To avoid confusion about garbage/recycling pick-up around the upcoming holiday season, you should know that Waste Management observes only 6 holidays throughout the year:

- ❖ Thanksgiving Day
- ❖ Christmas Day
- ❖ New Year's Day
- ❖ Memorial Day
- ❖ Independence Day
- ❖ Labor Day

When the holiday falls during the week, pick up days are delayed one day. For Example, if your regular pick up day is Friday, but the holiday falls on Thursday of that week (such as Thanksgiving), then your pick up day would be delayed until Saturday of that week. However, if the holiday is on the weekend (such as Christmas Day and New Year's Day), then your pick-up remains on your regularly scheduled day.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

The City of Lockport elected officials, staff, and office personnel would like to wish everybody a safe and joyous holiday season.