



Fremont City Beat

Issue No. 44 – Spring 2016

FREMONT, MICHIGAN:

“NOW & ALWAYS – A Fine City • A Great Community”

Koffee Kuppe

think **FREMONT FIRST!**

500,000 wraps and sandwiches , 200,000 bowls of soup, and at least a half million gallons of coffee, lattes, espressos, and smoothies. In 20 years as owner of the Koffee Kuppe Cafe, Kim Deur has fed most of us, and she's certainly done her part to keep us all awake and alert. "And I've enjoyed all of it...all of my customers, all of my staff, everything about Fremont!" The support I've received over these 20 years has been overwhelming, and I'm so thankful to have had the opportunity to be a part of downtown."

It all started in 1995, while Kim and her husband were shopping at the Bay City Antiques Center in downtown Bay City. While perusing antiques in this huge, city block-sized building, they discovered a neat little addition inside the Center: a little cafe. At the time Kim owned & operated the Brass Bell Antique Mall, and next door sat an empty building formerly known as Fremont Video & Tack. They discussed the possibilities on their drive back to Fremont, and the next day Kim contacted the owner of the empty building and purchased it. They knocked out a hole between the 2 buildings, installed a doorway, and on Feb 6, 1996 the Kuppe was born. The restaurant business comes naturally to Kim, having started waiting tables at Irvings in Muskegon, then advancing to server & management positions at other Muskegon restaurants like the Hearthstone, Brownstone, and the Riverwatch restaurant in Grand Haven. When she married her husband Phil in 1992 she brought her talent & experience to Fremont.

With the proliferation of the Internet and websites like eBay, antique hunters no longer had to travel from city to city in search of elusive treasure. So Kim adapted, turning the antique mall into the Olde Towne Curiosity Shoppes. This was an incubator of sorts, allowing retail start-ups to open their own shop without the risky expense of owning their own brick & mortar. After a period of years local attorney Bob Stariha purchased the building and bought the former Brass Bell Antique Mall/Olde Towne Curiosity Shops which allowed Kim to focus solely on her café & catering business.

Kim Has employed a multitude of staff members over this past 20 years. She enjoys providing that "first job" for many students, but her expectations are high. "I know I'm demanding," she says, "but I want to see these kids develop and become good, hard-working adults." No one knows that better than her right hand manager, Nikki Bassett. Nikki has been with the Kuppe for over 13 years, and her assistance is invaluable. Gisela Cortes her morning supervisor, newly promoted to Assistant Manager is another example of a dependable, productive employee who has been with the Kuppe for over 4 years. I couldn't do it without these girls and all my loyal staff members, Kim says. They always work hard to make sure the Kuppe is clean, comfortable, while offering fresh, wholesome food & drink and always with a smile.



Public Art- "Oak Arch"

Members of the Public Art Committee recently presented its' next public art selection for approval to the Downtown Development Authority and to the Fremont City Council, both entities supporting the sculpture, "Oak Arch", by artist Joe Krajewicz. The arched canopy, partially covered by an oversized oak leaf design, will be situated in the vicinity of the Maple and Darling streets intersection. Additional information regarding the street design and final positioning of the structure will be included in future City Beat publications.



In conjunction with this project, two fundraising events are being planned: the first is a Dinner Package Raffle, with tickets on sale at the Fremont Chamber of Commerce, the Arts Place and Fremont City Hall. The second is our annual Fremont Public Art Fund Raiser Dinner, scheduled for Thursday, June 30, at the Dogwood Center for the Performing Arts. A full-course dinner by Gala Gourmet, a musical program with Bernadine Johnson and friends, plus a number of great auction items, are offered as part of the evening's festivities. Information about either of these events can be obtained by calling City Hall at 924-2101. Join us in supporting public art in your town!

TREE COUPON PROGRAM GUIDELINES:

- ◆ City homeowners only.
- ◆ One coupon per household.
- ◆ Only the owner (not a tenant) of a rental property may request one coupon per building/yard.
- ◆ Condo complexes are limited to one coupon.
- ◆ Only trees, not shrubs or bushes, may be purchased.
- ◆ Conifer trees must be 6' or higher
- ◆ Coupons must be redeemed at Mellema Nursery by 5/31.
- ◆ Trees must be planted on the property designated on the coupon at the time of pick-up. During June, the City will inventory all trees planted under the program.

The City Encourages Celebration of "Earth Week" (April 20-25th) & "National Arbor Day"

In celebration of **National Arbor Day** on Friday, April 24th, the City will again offer tree-purchase coupons. **The City coupons will remain at \$30** this year and they will go to the first 100 City homeowners that request them, in person, at the City Offices. Coupons will be available starting April 14th till gone and must be redeemed by May 31, 2015. Through the City's coupon program over the last 17 years, residents have planted over 696 trees in the community. During the same time, the

City planted an additional 500 trees throughout our parks, along our streets and in our cemeteries.

We'll be coordinating miscellaneous green activities that will promote sustainability, such as the City's tree planting program. We're looking for other organizations and volunteers willing to help plant trees and participate in additional green activities during that week throughout the community.

Based on "best forestry management practices," it is advisable to diversify our urban forests, which helps ensure not only a variety of tree species, but also lessens the negative effects or spread of diseases, such as happened with Dutch Elm Disease and the Emerald Ash Borer. Therefore, the Tree Coupon may not be used to purchase any species of Elm or Ash trees. The coupon program and other various City tree plantings and maintenance efforts have also contributed to the City's 22-year designation as a "Tree City, USA."

Having a young tree planted to honor a special person can also be a unique way to show you care in a special and creative way. It's a living gift that gives lasting recognition to the person and involves them in a partnership of renewing the forests in their State.

"HE WHO PLANTS A TREE, PLANTS HOPE!" - Lucy Larcon. ☆

CURBSIDE REFUSE SERVICE

Each residential dwelling may choose to use a 65- or 95-gallon rollout cart (garbage container with wheels- see picture) or buy special bags with the Allied Waste logos. Cart lids must be within 15" of being closed, otherwise no overloaded carts will be emptied. Any additional garbage that will not fit into the 65/95-gallon cart must be placed in the specially purchased **Mixed-Refuse Bags** and placed beside the cart. Empty carts and recycling bins must be removed from the curbside and placed in garages or side yards by 12:00 PM (noon) of the day after the scheduled pickup.



The City does not permit residents to stop and start their refuse/recycling services. However, during the first two weeks of January and July each year, the property owner of the collection address may elect to change service from a rollout cart to mixed-refuse bags or vice-versa by notifying the City Offices.

Changes are only allowed during these two-week periods.

BRUSH PICKUP

As a reminder, City crews resumed the monthly curbside brush pickup on April 1. The program will run on the 1st Monday of each month, April - October. Brush is not to be placed at the curbside any earlier than the Friday before the 1st Monday of the month. If you have questions regarding refuse services, please call the City Offices @ 924-2101, Monday-Friday, between 8 AM & 5 PM.

PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The City sends out property tax bills semi-annually. Summer taxes are mailed July 1st and are due by August 10th. A 4% late penalty is added to any unpaid taxes on August 11th. Summer taxes include millages for the Fremont Public Schools (both operating & debt levies), State Education Tax, the City tax and the County Operating tax.

Winter taxes are mailed on December 1st and are due by February 14th. A 4% late penalty is added to any unpaid taxes on February 15th. Winter taxes include millages for Newaygo County, the Intermediated School District and the Fremont Area District Library.

For the convenience of our taxpayers, payments (check only no cash please) may be placed in the drop box at the northwest exit of the City Hall parking lot at any time. The City accepts tax payments until February 28th; thereafter, all payments must be made at the County Treasurer's Office, P.O. Box 885, White Cloud, MI 49349.

IRRIGATION METERS/OUTSIDE WATERING

Looking toward spring, the City wanted to take this opportunity to remind residents who water their lawn, sprinkle flowers, etc. that they can purchase a second meter from the City that would be used strictly for outside watering.

The resident would then receive a second bill for water only, but would only receive this bill if the meter had usage during the City's quarterly billing cycle.

Having a separate meter would require separation of water lines between the domestic meter and irrigation meter that service the home. This separation would be done by either the homeowner or a certified plumber; the City Water Department Supervisor would inspect the separation upon completion.

Even though there will be costs involved for purchasing the meter and installation by a plumber, having a second meter could greatly reduce your utility billings during the watering season; residents would realize the savings in a very short time.



If you feel your summertime billings are high due to watering, you can contact Joyce Winchel at 231-924-2101 to have an estimate done to see if a 2nd meter would be beneficial for your home before the watering season begins.

OFFICER AWARD CEREMONY

On February 1, 2016, at the City of Fremont Council Meeting some City of Fremont Police Department Officers were recognized and awarded.



Years of Service

Officer Darrin Roesler – 20 years

Officer Curtis Franks – 5 years



Chiefs Award of Excellence

Officer Matt Hendrie



Meritorious Service Medal

Officer Dean Johnson

“SHOP WITH A COP” 2015

On December 10, 2015, the Fremont Police Department hosted the 3rd Annual Shop With A Cop Program, a countywide program to provide holiday assistance to low income families in Newaygo County. We were able to partner 95 of the county's less fortunate children with participating officers from the Fremont City Police, Grant City Police, Newaygo City Police, White Cloud City Police, Hesperia Police Department, Newaygo County Sheriff, Michigan State Police – Hart Post. Also joining the forces this year were officers from Spectrum Gerber Memorial Hospital security, Newaygo County Jail, DNR and the U.S. Forest Service.

Each child was given a \$125 gift card and went on a Christmas shopping trip through Walmart partnered with one or two uniformed officers. Hosting “Shop With A Cop” is an awesome experience! Seeing the children shop for Christmas and seeing how excited they are is an experience that cannot be duplicated. It is a heartwarming day that brings many smiles to everyone's faces. Many of the parents also expressed their gratitude for giving their child this opportunity.

We would like to thank all the sponsors who make this day possible for the last 3 years. Without the generous support from businesses and individuals, this program would not be possible. It's great to see how much a community can come together to make a program like this happen and be such a big success!!



Downtown Façade Program

The Fremont Downtown Development Authority (DDA) reminds downtown businesses and property owners of the Downtown Fremont Façade Improvement Program available to them. The Program is administered by the Fremont DDA's Façade/Historic Preservation Subcommittee. The City provides grant funding to downtown property owners to make exterior building façade improvements. The City provides a 50/50 match up to \$8,500.00 per façade on buildings located in downtown Fremont. The Program is meant to assist property owners so as to create an attractive downtown; to increase property values; to improve the marketability of space within the buildings and to attract businesses and residents to the area.

The Program has made some significant improvements to many of the buildings in the downtown over the past several years. The DDA strongly encourages downtown property owners to take advantage of the funding allocated for the Program. For those with questions or interest in the Façade Program, please contact Andy Harrington, Fremont's Community Development & Planning/Zoning Administrator, at 231-924-2101.



Garage Sales: A Fun and Thrifty Summer Pastime

The City will be enforcing its' regulations on garage sales again this past summer. While many are thankful the City is doing so; others do not appreciate the effort. The regulations are being enforced because 1) the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) does not allow signs in their right-of-way, and many of the signs are placed along Main Street and Stewart Avenue in the MDOT right-of-way; 2) for safety reasons, signs should not be attached to utility poles; and 3) the signs are unattractive and often the signs are not taken down

after the sale. Everyone has worked hard to have Fremont looking neat, clean and beautiful for all to enjoy, so ridding the City of unnecessary signs is part of that effort.

Understanding that garage sales are important to many people, the City organizes a community garage sale twice a year, one in May and one in August. The more people that participate in the community garage sale, the more energy the event will create, thus increasing the success of the program and turnout. The community garage sales could have a positive economic impact not only for the individual home owner but for the community at-large.

FREMONT'S ANNUAL COMMUNITY YARD SALE

It's time to get ready for Fremont's Annual Community Yard Sale. The dates for this event are:

May 12th – 14th, 2016
and

August 11th – 13th, 2016

To participate, all you have to do is call or come into the Fremont City Office, give us your name, address and phone number, and you're on the list! You can sign up for all 3 days, or just 1 day. The offices are open Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please feel free to call us at 924-2101.

FLUSHING OF FIRE HYDRANTS

The City Water Department will be conducting the semi-annual **Watermain Flushing Program** on Friday evening, **April 29th** and continue through the evening until finished. Some discoloration of water may occur throughout Saturday, so let your water run for a short period until clear. While the water will continue to be safe to drink, residents are urged not to do any laundry during this time.



For Those of You Who do Online Banking through your banking institution.....

When paying your utility bill, tax bill or special assessment, please be sure to write your Location ID or Parcel Number and/or a note in the memo line to ensure payment is credited to the proper account.



ELECTRONIC MAILING AUTHORIZATION FOR "QUARTERLY" UTILITY BILLINGS

Go green! Go Paperless! City of Fremont residents have the *option* of receiving their utility bills electronically. Electronic bills will be emailed from the "City of Fremont (jwinchel@Cityoffremont.net)" email account. If you do not receive the electronic bill, please check your SPAM/JUNK folder or contact City Hall at (231) 924-2101 or jwinchel@cityoffremont.net. Bills will be emailed around the 15th of the following months: January, April, July and October. Contact City Hall or visit our website under Permits & Forms/Utilities Electronic Authorization Form.

Community Development Activities



1. **Emergency and Homeowner Rehab Program Grants:** If you are in need of rehab work on your home, there may be grant funding available through Newaygo County to assist with the project. Examples of appropriate projects include: electrical work, plumbing, sewer work, heating and specific roof repairs. Program details may be found on the County's website at www.countyofnewaygo.com. Please contact Amanda Auw, Housing Coordinator, Community Development Department, at the Newaygo County Office at 231-689-7091 or at aauw@co.newaygo.mi.us for more information.



2. **Deadhead Volunteers Needed:** During past flower seasons, you may have seen people hard at work dead-heading flowers, pulling weeds, and picking up cigarette butts in downtown Fremont. The Dead Head Committee provides this service because they care about their community. All they ask in return is for the cooperation of the community. Please do not throw your cigarette butts on the ground, properly dispose of them.

If you see a Dead Head hard at work during the 2016 flower season, which is from June to September, please thank them for their community service. More Dead Heads members are needed; we would encourage students to consider joining the Dead Head Committee. Volunteer hours are determined based on your schedule. Please contact the City Office at 231-924-2101 if you have the time and motivation to serve as a Dead Head.

Dead Head Committee includes: Jim Breinling (Chair), Toni Way, Norma Fikse, Marcia Eib, Jim Rynberg, Ferris Ann Mangan and Joan Vliem.

2016 FREMONT FARMERS' MARKET SCHEDULE



Dates and Times

Tuesdays: 3:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Starting: June 25, 2016
Ending: October 8, 2016

Location: The Fremont Farmers' Market is located downtown Fremont in the northeast public parking lot north of Main Street between Merchant Avenue and Division.

Community Information Booth: At the Farmers' Market in the middle of the pavilion, there will be an information center/promotion area for businesses located in the City. A different retail establishment each market day will promote its business at the booth by displaying its goods. Any Fremont retail establishment will be able to display promotional information at this booth throughout the season. Tote bags with the Fremont Farmers' Market logo will be available for purchase at the Community Information Booth for \$2.50. Bridge Cards will be accepted this year – double up food bucks program.



For more information on the Fremont Farmers' Market, please contact the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce at 924-0770.

CREDIT CARDS ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Payments for Taxes and Utilities can now be made online from the City of Fremont website. Property owners must create an account through our contracted service provider Point and Pay, by logging in and setting up an account. From the City of Fremont website www.cityoffremont.net you can login by clicking



the symbol under the "Services" tab. The symbol is a link to the following site: accessmygov.com where you can "Register" your account to make payments online. Following are the fees that are collected directly by Point and Pay for this service:



anywhere, anytime



FEE SCHEDULE:

Credit Cards:

3%, minimum \$2.00

E-checks:

Flat fee of \$3.00, up to \$10,000

Flat fee of \$10, anything over 10,000

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

NCCA - Artsplace

Spring Break Sewing – Pajama Pants

With Laurie Breza

Tuesday, April 5, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

\$35 - \$40

NCCA – Artsplace

Spring vacation classes for kids – Wood Scrap Animals

Tuesday, April 5, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

\$5

NCCA - Artsplace

Spring vacation classes for kids – Creative Printmaking

Wednesday, April 6, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

\$5

NCCA – Artsplace

Spring vacation classes for kids – Painting

Thursday, April 7, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

\$5

NCCA – Artsplace

Saturday drop-in-art for children

Spring Mini Canvas Painting

Saturday, April 16, 2016

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

\$3

Grand Rapids Ballet presents “Snow White”

Dogwood Center – Main Stage

Friday, April 15, 2016

7:30 p.m.

Tickets: Adults \$17.50/Kids 18 and under \$10

Ballet Folklorico “Quetzalli”

Dogwood Center – Main Stage

Sunday, April 17, 2016

7:30 p.m.

Tickets: Adults \$17.50/Kids 18 and under \$10

An Dro & SRNB Irish Dancers

Dogwood Center – Main Stage

Saturday, April 23, 2016

7:30 p.m.

Tickets: Adults \$12.50/ Kids 18 and under \$5

Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce

Chicken BBQ @ Veteran’s Memorial Park

June 10th – 11:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (subject to sell out)

Rain Date – June 15th

Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce

Summer Concert Series

June 9th, June 16th, June 23rd, June 30th, July 7th, July 14th and July 28th

FREE Concerts in Veterans Memorial Park

Concerts start at 7:00 p.m.

Food sold by local non-profits

FREMONT AIRPORT 2016 FLY-IN AND PANCAKE BREAKFAST

WHEN: Saturday, May 28, 2016 (8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.)

WHERE: FREMONT AIRPORT (231) 924-7080

CONTACT: DAN BOOKER (231) 245-7798

WHAT: ALL YOU CAN EAT PANCAKES WITH SAUSAGE, COFFEE, ORANGE JUICE AND EGGS! (served 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)

ADULTS \$7.00 (KIDS UNDER 4 EAT FREE)

AIRPLANE AND HELICOPTER RIDES!!!

STARTING AT \$35 – ADULTS AND \$25 KIDS

Great family fun with classic cars, Tractors, aircraft displays, RC flying with candy drop, warbirds, door prizes, flag raising ceremony at 9:00 a.m., and more!

Sponsored by the City of Fremont and Local EAA Chapter 578





Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Held @ the Newaygo County Road Commission M-20 just west of M-37

June 4, 2016

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



**If you question dumping it on the ground or down your drain, we take it!
Hazardous items accepted at No Charge for Newaygo County Residents, though donations are greatly appreciated!**

We will be accepting tires again!

If you have questions call the Newaygo County Board of Public Works at 689-7225

101 E. Main Street
Fremont, MI 49412

Fremont City Beat

PRE-SORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
FREMONT, MI
Permit No. 12

RESIDENT
FREMONT, MI 49412

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about the *Fremont City Beat*, please contact the City Offices at 231-924-2101 or stop by to see us at 101 East Main St., Fremont, MI 49412.



“FRIEND” US ON



REMAIN SECURITY CONSCIOUS

In these economic times, it is important to remain security conscious and to be aware of your surroundings. Keep your homes and garages locked when you are away, and be sure to remove your keys from the ignition, and lock your vehicles whether your car is in your driveway at home, in store parking lots, or at school. Leave only those items in your yard that you can afford to lose, especially overnight. Finally, be respectful of your neighbors, watch out for each other and each other's property. If you have elderly neighbors, please check on them occasionally. Working together will keep the City of Fremont a great place to live, work and play.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

City of Fremont – Administration	(231) 924-2101
– Police Department	(231) 924-2100
– Fire Department	(231) 924-2103
– Cemetery	(231) 924-2330
– Municipal Airport	(231) 924-7080
Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce	(231) 924-0770
Fremont Area District Library	(231) 924-3480
Gerber Memorial Hospital	(231) 924-3300
Fremont Public Schools	(231) 924-2350
Dogwood Center for Performing Arts	(231) 924-8883
Newaygo County Sheriff Department	(231) 689-7303
Fremont Community Recreation Center	(231) 924-3750
<i>Emergency - Fire - Police - Ambulance 911</i>	

Refuse & Recycling Pick-up – Place curbside every Tuesday by 7:00 AM

Leaf Pick-up – Begins 3rd Monday in October; continues for four weeks, weather permitting

Brush Pick-up – Place curbside by 7:30 AM on the 1st Monday of each month, April – Oct.

Watermain Flushing – April and October

Winter Street Parking Ban (2:00 AM to 6:00 AM) – From December 1st – April 1st