



PARCHMENT PROGRESS

August 1, 2009

City of Parchment

Thousands Visit Parchment for 2009 Kindleberger Summer Festival Events



Children visiting the kids area in Kindleberger Park receive balloon animals.

Another Kindleberger Festival is in the books and the reviews could not have been better! Organizers estimate more than 10,000 visitors attended the musical and youth play productions, rocked out the Friday night youth concert, cheered on the Saturday morning parade, breezed through the streets of Parchment in the 5K run, browsed the many arts & craft booths, took in the nostalgic flavor of the car show, cut a “rug” at the Street Dance and enjoyed the fun of the kids area activities. The musical “State Fair” and youth play “The Secret Garden” were wonderfully performed for five evenings filling the park with music and laughter.

The events were planned by a number of hard working and dedicated volunteers, and supported by grants and donations from around the community. Planning has already started for next year so mark it on your calendar to be a part of this great community event!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Open House Event Planned for October 5 to learn more about how you can become a Kindleberger Festival Volunteer in 2010.

Have you been interested in serving as a Kindleberger Festival volunteer? The Kindleberger Festival is heavily dependent upon volunteers for its success. Your participation is crucial and opportunities at all levels of interest and time commitment are available. If you are interested but don't know where to begin, join us on October 5th at 6 p.m. to learn how you can give to the Parchment community!

INSIDE:

- **Message from the Mayor**
- **What is a LOOKBACK Charge?**
- **River Reach Project on Schedule**
- **Brush Pickup Schedule Reminders**
- **Leaf Pickup Planned for Fall**

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

What a great summer we've had! As the 2009 Kindleberger Festival of the Performing Arts fades into memory, we need to take time to thank the dozens of volunteers who helped stage this year's events. Hours of planning, preparation and hard work resulted in one of the best Festivals ever. The Kindleberger Arts Commission was fortunate to have volunteer leadership help from Kris Jordan (Publicity), Dennis Durham (Festival Co-Chair, Finance and Car Show), Karen Heasley (Co-Chair and Arts & Crafts Show), Chris Crowell (5K Run), Dawn McAfee (Food Vendors), Tracy Ican (Children's Activities), Abby Elkins (Parade), Dan DeGraw (Youth Alliance) and Terese Banner (Performing Arts). They, and all of our volunteers have my sincere thanks! And the Summer Concert Series rolls on. Our park has been packed with those attending performances from the Crossroads Blues Band, Blue Dahlia and SHOUT—A Beatles Tribute. Come spend a Sunday evening. And, there are plenty of opportunities for you to join the Festival volunteer corps in 2010. Please consider helping us out next year, you'll find it a fun and rewarding experience.

Rob Heasley
Mayor

WATER BILL INFORMATION

What is the LOOKBACK charge on my bill?

Parchment sends all wastewater to the City of Kalamazoo to be treated. Kalamazoo charges Parchment a fee for this service. As a result of a lawsuit settlement between the cities of Kalamazoo and Portage back in 1998, the City of Kalamazoo now does a "lookback" study every two years to ensure that the proper rates were charged outlying municipalities. The "lookback" is intended to match up actual costs for treatment with the fees charged by the City of Kalamazoo.

When the lookback study is completed, the City of Kalamazoo imposes the charges to municipalities. This practice has helped minimize disputes about rates and better aligns the actual cost for service with the fees charged wastewater customers. Customers with questions should call 349-3785.

RIVER REACH PROJECT ON SCHEDULE

River Reach Partners LLC has made considerable progress in the past few months. The City's project to demolish the former Crown Vantage site and convert the property into a mixed-use commercial/retail and residential development is moving along according to schedule. In June and July, environmental consultants based in Holland, Michigan have performed environmental assessments, completed work plans for submission to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) and developed bid specifications for upcoming demolition work. This work is supported by a \$1 million Brownfield grant awarded to the City by MDEQ.

River Reach LLC has also hired the expert real estate brokerage firm Signature Associates to market available properties to individual developers for the commercial/retail and residential elements of the project expected to begin in early 2011.

BRUSH PICKUP SCHEDULE REMINDERS

The City of Parchment provides monthly brush pickup to residents from April to November. Brush is picked up by city crews the first Monday of the month. Property owners that want to dispose of brush are asked to cut branches and tree limbs down to four feet lengths and must be less than six inches in diameter. Guidelines for brush pickup are:

- Brush must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on pickup day.
- Brush must be placed at the curb, but not blocking sidewalks.
- Branches must be smaller than six inches in diameter and cut to four feet lengths.
- Property owners should not place brush at the curb for pickup more than 1 week before the actual pickup day.
- Brush pickup is not intended for yard waste such as grass clippings or leaves. Yard waste bags or containers can be purchased at City Hall.
- Brush to be placed at the curb for pickup must be a result of normal yard maintenance. Brush that results from major landscaping projects or tree removal will not be picked up.



LEAF PICKUP PLANNED FOR FALL

The City's annual leaf pickup program will kickoff on Monday, October 26 and will follow a schedule of specific pickup days. In the past, city crews have worked continuously from October 1 to November 30 as property owners place leaves at the curb. This has proven very time-consuming and leaves little time for crews to attend to other public works duties. Under the new plan, crews will conduct three pickups during October and November:

Pickup 1—October 26-27

Pickup 2—November 9-10

Pickup 3—November 30-December 1

Property owners should not place leaves at the curb more than one week prior to these pickup dates. This schedule is weather dependent as snow or heavy rains may delay pickups. Please call City Hall at 349-3785 if you have additional questions.

*******SPRING LEAF PICKUP*******

The City of Parchment will conduct a spring leaf pickup during the last week of April (4/26-4/30, 2010).

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PARCHMENT CITY COMMISSION



Robert B. Heasley
Mayor

Robert D. Britigan III
Vice Mayor

Donald Banner
Commissioner

Wendy Fleckenstein
Commissioner

Terry L. Hageman
Commissioner

Brian Sell
Commissioner

Ben Tanis
Commissioner

The Parchment City Commission meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at 7 p.m. in the Commission Chambers at Parchment City Hall.

CITY STAFF CONTACTS

Dennis Durham, City Manager
Curt Flowers, City Clerk
John Frakes, City Treasurer
Bill Bongers, Police Chief
Tim Bourgeois, Fire Chief
Joe Bonhomme, Public Works Supt.

City Hall
650 South Riverview Dr.
Parchment, MI 49004
(269) 349-3785

CITY ELECTION COMING UP

Four seats on the City Commission of the City of Parchment will be up for election Tuesday, November 3, 2009. The term of office for each seat is four years, expiring in November 2013. If you are interested in serving on the City Commission, nominating petition forms may be picked up at Parchment City Hall. Forms must be turned in to the City Clerk's office no later than 4:00 p.m. Tuesday September 15, 2009.

Check us out online at: www.parchment.org