



NEWSLETTER

CITY OF CRYSTAL FALLS

ELECTRIC RATES TO BE REDUCED!

Crystal Falls City electric customers will see a reduction in the cost of electricity. The Crystal Falls City Council took action at a special meeting held on June 2, 2008, to reduce the rates for electricity and to keep those rates below those charged by WE Energies.

This reduction is possible because of a rebate from WE Energies that came about as the result of their sale of a power plant. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commis-

sion (FERC) has declared that WE Energies must share the profits from this sale with its customers. WE Energy customers began seeing a credit on their electric bills a couple of months ago, however, *the City of Crystal Falls is still waiting for the \$369,000 rebate to be credited to their account. Once that rebate is received, the City will reduce the electric rates and use the credit to offset the revenue that is lost due to the*

reduced rates and any true up charges that may be assessed by WE Energies. It is expected that the credit will be used up over the course of the next year or so, however, for now its *GOOD NEWS* for the consumer.

In addition, the City Council has taken action to keep the City's rates below those charged by WE Energies. This will be a challenge to the City, and the rates will need to be re-evaluated on a quarterly basis.

Inside this issue:

BILLING FOR WATER	2
IS OUR WATER SAFE?	2
LINCOLN PARK	2
SPRING CLEAN UP REPORT	3
SCOUTS REPAIR EROSION	3
BLUE-GREEN ALGAE	3
SPORTS COMPLEX BOOSTER CLINGS	3
CALENDAR	4
LIST OF CITY OFFICIALS	4
NOMINATING PETITIONS FILED	4
TARA'S FAVORITES	4



MARK SIMEONI RETIRES!



Mark began his career with the City of Crystal Falls in 1994 as the Utility Billing Clerk and was later promoted to the Deputy Clerk/Treasurer position. After 14 1/2 years, Mark decided to "Retire Young Enough to Enjoy Retirement". His last day on the job was July 2nd.

Mark was instrumental in the implementation of the software that is used today to process the utility billings for the City. He also spent a

great deal of his last months on the job updating accounts with the new water meter information in addition to training his replacement, Tara Peltoma.

Mark's retirement plans include spending more time with his two grandson's Nicholas (2 1/2 years old) and Jacob (8 months old) and of course, catching up on Susie's "To Do" list.

Congratulations Mark and Good Luck Susie!



BILLING FOR WATER

The City will begin using the meter readings from the newly installed water meters for billing effective with the utility bills that customers will receive on October 1, 2008.

This means that the usage from the first week of August to the first week of September is the period that those billings will be based on. So get those leaks fixed NOW!

IS THE CITY WATER SUPPLY SAFE TO DRINK??

Last month the City mailed a letter to residents because two (2) of the City's monthly water samples failed to pass the testing done by the State of Michigan.

THE WATER SAMPLES WERE REDONE AND PASSED THE TEST AND THE WATER IS GOOD.

The letters were sent because the State of Michigan requires that it be sent whenever 2 or more samples fail the testing. Failing the testing indicates that the sample,

not the water supply, became contaminated. This could have happened simply by someone touching the sample prior to the testing or perhaps a contaminated sample bottle.

The City's water system is tested monthly and rest assured, that had there been any danger, measures would have been taken to inform the public immediately and a boil water order would have been in effect. This was not the case with the contaminated samples and the water is safe to drink so ***BOTTOMS UP!***

LINCOLN PARK PLAYGROUND FUND RAISING DRIVE

The Lincoln Park Playground Committee is moving ahead with efforts to raise funds to purchase some new playground equipment.

Where is Lincoln Park? It is the grassy area at the top the Paint River Walkway—also often referred to as the Western Park.

To date the funds amount to a

meager \$1,661.98. The committee would like to raise enough money (\$10,000 or so) to buy a few modest pieces of equipment. The cost of a 6' slide alone is about \$3,000.

Some of the funds will be raised through the sale of sport bottles. The red and black bottles will carry the logo "Help Support Lincoln Park" and contain

some sticks of Splenda lemon and raspberry flavor accents. The flavor accents were graciously donated by McNeil Nutritionals, LLC who have recognized the fund raising as a worthwhile project. *Thank you McNeil Nutritionals!*

The bottles will be available soon at City Hall and from committee members—be sure to get one for yourself and all your friends!



AN EXAMPLE FOR ALL TO FOLLOW!

The best thing happened at the Bass Festival when 5 year old Madison Beaudoin was handed a \$5 bill by the winner of a 50/50 raffle for picking his ticket as the winner. Madison marched off the dance floor and directly to Dorothea Olson and handed her the \$5. Dorothea told her to give the money to her father to hold for her and Madison said:

"NO! THAT'S FOR THE PLAYGROUND"

HOW COOL IS THAT!

Pictured at the left is Madison Beaudoin, Pacey Olson, and Dorothea Olson



SPRING CLEAN-UP REPORT

In early June the City conducted it's annual Spring Clean Up event. This allowed the residents of the City to dispose of junk (not household garbage) at no cost. Well, it cost the City plenty—\$2,375.49 to be exact!

30.02 TONS of junk was hauled away by the disposal company, and that does not include the metal that was recycled by Mr. Faccin.

Thank you City Council for continuing to allow funding for this community clean up!



ABOVE: Looking down the newly installed steps to the fishing pier at Runkle Lake.

RIGHT: At the top of the steps rocks and timbers along with newly planted grass and flowers will help keep the hillside from eroding away.



Scouts Repair Erosion Damage at Park

Boy Scout Troop 508 and Cub Scout Pack 508 together with the receipt of a grant from Wildlife Unlimited, Inc. of Iron County, repaired erosion

damage to the hillside leading down to the fishing pier at Runkle Lake Park in June. Scout leaders Donald Peterson and Mary Dalpra approached the City Council with the idea at the May City Council meeting. The Council unanimously approved and support the project.

Rumor has it that the project proved to be a little more of a task than originally anticipated, however, the end results are great as shown in the pictures above.

Remember to thank the Scouts when you see them for a much needed job well done!



BE SURE TO GET YOUR "2008 RUNKLE LAKE SPORTS COMPLEX BOOSTER" CLING. The clings sell for \$10 each and are available at the City Hall, Runkle Lake Park, and the Golf Course, The proceeds will be used to fund the ongoing up-keep of the recreation facilities at the park including the new Soccer Field, Baseball fields, and tennis and basketball courts.

BLUE-GREEN ALGAE

Recently a scum of blue-green algae was found to be floating on the water surface near the shore at Runkle Lake. There was some concern as to what it was and what effect it may on people and pets swimming in the water.

Apparently this "scum" occurs when the blue-green algae, which are naturally present in lakes and streams, become very abundant in warm, shallow, undisturbed water that receives a lot of sunlight during the hottest periods of the summer months. The surface water is often so strongly colored that it develops a paint-like appearance.

Direct contact or breathing airbourne droplets of water containing high levels of these algae toxins can cause irritation of the skin, eyes, nose and throat and inflammation in the respiratory tract. Consuming high levels of these toxins has been associated with effects on the liver and on the nervous system in lab animals, pets, livestock and people.

In any case, the algae bloom has come and gone on Runkle Lake—for now. In the event that you should observe this naturally occurring event contact with the water should be avoided.

More information on the Blue-Green Algae can be obtained at City Hall.



CITY OF CRYSTAL FALLS

401 SUPERIOR AVENUE
CRYSTAL FALLS, MI 49920

Phone: 906-875-3212
Fax: 906-875-3767
E-mail: CFCLERK@UP.NET



CRYSTAL FALLS CITY OFFICIALS

Janet Hendrickson, Mayor	875-3291
Edna Heikkinen, Councilor	875-6590
Michael Smokevitch, Councilor	875-6350
Mark Valesano, Councilor	875-6043
Jack Bicigo, Councilor	875-6588
Charles Nordeman, Manager	875-6647
Dorothea Olson, Clerk/Treas.	875-3212
Robert Sherwin, Police Chief	875-3012
John Ahola, Fire Chief	875-6614

City Council meets the 2nd Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

AUGUST 5	PRIMARY ELECTION
AUGUST 7,8,9,10	FUNGUS FESTIVAL
AUGUST 11 (4 PM)	ANNUAL BUDGET HEARING
AUGUST 11 (5 PM)	CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 26	RECYCLING DAY

FOUR FILE NOMINATING PETITIONS FOR TWO CITY COUNCIL SEATS

At the close of nominations on July 29, 2008, four (4) nominating petitions have been filed for the two (2) available seats on the City Council. The nominees are: Jim Burke; Jeff Hagglund; Mary Lahna; and Scott Thrasher. These candidates will appear on the November 4, 2008 Presidential Election Ballot. An interview with each of the candidates will appear in an upcoming newsletter.

TARA'S FAVORITES!

Blueberry Swirl Cheesecake

1 pkg (12 oz) frozen Blueberries, thawed

1 T. sugar

1 T. water

1 ½ t corn starch

Blend in food processor or blender. Bring to boil in saucepan. Reduce heat for 2 min. or until thickened. Set aside 6 T. for filling. Refrigerate rest of the sauce for topping.

Crust:

1 ¼ C graham cracker crumbs

¼ C sugar

1/3 C butter, melted

Filling:

3 pkg (8 oz) cream cheese

1 can (14 oz) sweetened condensed milk

3 eggs

¼ C lemon juice

Combine crust and press in greased 9 in. spring foam pan.

In mixing bowl beat cream cheese and milk until smooth. Add eggs; beat

on low just until blended. Add lemon juice; beat until blended, pour ½ mixture and 3 T. of fruit, then repeat with other half of mixture. Place pan on baking sheet and bake at 325° for

40-45 minutes. When done, cool on wire rack for 10 min. Cut around edges and cool 1hr. longer. Refrigerate overnight. Remove sides of pan and serve with chilled blueberry sauce. Enjoy!

