

Irene Bird, Mayor  
Gary Tuzinowski, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Amy Amiels  
Ray Martin  
Helen Meldrum  
Joe Nugent  
Mark Thompson

FALL 2013

# CITY OF ALGONAC

## Message from the Mayor

Greetings, this is the first issue of a city newsletter we intend to publish several times a year to keep our residents informed. The holiday season is fast approaching. Please make plans to join us at 6:30 p.m. on December 4, 2013, as Santa Clause arrives in Algonac. At that time, I have the wonderful honor of presenting the Key to the City to Santa and then assisting him while he powers up the lights to the best decorated Christmas tree around. Immediately following, Santa will be available to hear children's wishes and give out his big hugs and candy canes too! Refreshments will be served for your enjoyment. It is no surprise to me that so many of our citizens are willing to volunteer their time and to assist the city and others when needed. As your Mayor, I can't begin to tell each of you how proud I am of our community and those who become involved and help others in need. I hope you enjoy this issue and encourage you to come to one of our council meetings in the near future.

*Irene Bird, Mayor*

### WE NEED YOUR INPUT!!!!!!

Do you know a person or group of people that have given of themselves over the last year to help make Algonac a better place to live? If so, please nominate them for the Citizen of The Year. Each year, the City Council reviews the nominations submitted by residents and chooses someone to honor with this distinction at our Annual Boards and Commissions Dinner. Please submit a letter telling us why you feel this person (or group) is deserving of this award. We will also be taking nominations for the best holiday decorated homes in the City and awards for that will be presented as well. City Council will select the winners at the first meeting in January of 2014. Letters of nomination must be submitted no later than January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014. Please submit them to: City Clerk, P.O. Box 454, Algonac, MI 48001 or online at [cityclerk@algonac-mi.gov](mailto:cityclerk@algonac-mi.gov)

### FIRST YEAR OF SHERIFF'S SERVICE A SUCCESS

October 1<sup>st</sup> marked the one year anniversary of the City of Algonac contracting for police services with the St. Clair County Sheriff. Citizen feedback has been very positive and City Council members and city staff are pleased with the level of service being provided to the citizens of Algonac. Significant cost savings and an increased level of direct services have resulted from the changeover. The three year contract that runs thru September 30, 2015 is estimated to save the city approximately \$550,000 over what would have been the cost of maintaining our own police department. As residents have surely noticed over the past year, the contract requires the sheriff to operate out of a substation in city hall where the former police department was located. The assigned deputies drive "Algonac" marked vehicles that are restricted to the city unless responding to a category of emergency defined in the agreement. Residents enjoy the same 30 hours per day of scheduled road patrol as before, but because of the significant improvement in technology available to the deputies thru the sheriff department such as in car computers and voice activated reporting methods, the actual number of hours on the road patrolling has visibly increased. An increased level of training and support services that a small department like ours could not afford like a detective bureau and crime scene unit are additional benefits being provided. Residents needing emergency services continue to call 911 while non-emergency police questions can be directed to 794-9772 for response.

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### SANTA ARRIVES ON DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>!



The annual Algonac Christmas tree lighting ceremony will take place at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup> in front of city hall. Efforts are being made to enhance the event this year with the help of the Algonac Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary and other volunteers. The Santa parade will feature decorated and lighted antique tractors. After Santa arrives and the tree lighting ceremony concludes with music from the Algonac High School band, the tractors will offer hayrides in the neighborhood behind city hall. The fire hall will be cleared of equipment and everyone invited inside. Christmas music will be playing and refreshments will be served with all children having a chance to visit with Santa. Please join us on December 4<sup>th</sup>.



### LEAF PICK UP CONTINUES

Leaf pickup by DPW crews in the City of Algonac continues thru the end of the week of December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Zone 1 consists of all streets north of Smith Street while Zone 2 includes Smith Street and all streets south to the city limits.

November 18-22 Zone 2 No. Zone 1 December 2-6 Zone 2

We ask residents cooperation in raking leaves to the edge of the street and away from all street signs and mail boxes. Where there are ditches the leaves must be raked to the street edge of the ditch only and free of any other debris. All residents are responsible to ensure vehicles are not obstructing the work crews so leaves can be picked up.

### RESIDENT FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON RECREATION NEEDS!

The City of Algonac is in the process of creating a new 5 year recreation plan to address both facility and program needs. Completion of this new 5 year plan will allow the city to compete for grant programs to help finance new parks or improve existing park facilities such as the Skatepark and Lions Field. The City Council's goal is to gather community input and turn your thoughts into an action plan for improving recreational opportunities here in Algonac. To help learn residents views the City Council will be hosting a recreation needs forum on Tuesday evening November 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at the Lions Club hall at 1905 Mill Street. Residents are encouraged to attend as we work that evening to identify and prioritize needed improvements to recreation facilities and gather your thoughts on recreation programs that Algonac families might like to see created. The session should last about 60-90 minutes. We welcome your attendance and participation.

CITY OF ALGONAC  
P.O. Box 454  
Algonac, Michigan 48001

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