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# News From County Executive Tom Hickner

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**Upcoming  
Board of  
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Meetings**

## Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation



The Bay County Health Department has been awarded accreditation with commendation from the Michigan Local Public Health Accreditation Commission. This designation is awarded to local health departments that fully meet the following requirements:

- Meets 95%, cumulatively, of the Essential Indicators within the Minimum Program Requirements during the on-site reviews for the Powers and Duties and seven mandated services\* sections
- Misses not more than two indicators in each of the programs cited above
- Has zero repeat missed indicators from the previous cycle in each of the included programs
- Meets 80% of the Minimum Program Requirements in the Quality Improvement Supplement within the Powers and Duties Section.

\*The seven mandated services sections include: Food Service Sanitation, Communicable Disease, Hearing, Immunization, Sexually Transmitted Disease, On-Site Sewage, and Vision.

"I offer my congratulations to the Health Department's Administration and Staff for a job well done regarding this positive accreditation evaluation. The observations and comments made by the Michigan Department of Community Health were impressive. Everyone on staff should feel proud of their excellent, cooperative efforts in accomplishing these commendable results."

- Tom Hickner

## Inaugural Veterans Benefit Golf Outing



**Ways & Means  
Committee  
Meeting**  
May 7th

**Board of  
Commissioners  
Meeting**  
May 14th

**Personnel  
Judicial  
&  
Human  
Services  
Committee  
Meetings**  
April 16th

\*\*\*\*\*

Please note: You can find Board Calendars, Agendas and Meeting results on the [Board of Commissioners webpage](#). You also can find links to view the videos of each Board meeting, filmed by Bay3TV, on our [video webpage](#).

\*All meetings are held at 4:00 PM in the Chambers on the 4th floor of the Bay County Building.



Green Hills Golf Course in Linwood will play host to the *Inaugural Veteran's Benefit Golf Outing* on Friday, June 28, 2013. The Bay County Veterans Council has endorsed this event.

All proceeds of this event will go to benefit the following organizations that help veterans and their families in the greater Bay-Saginaw Area:

- Saginaw VA Medical Center (patient needs)
- Soldier and Sailor Relief Fund of Bay County (van transportation, emergency relief)
- Area homeless veterans
- USS Edson Educational Programs of the Saginaw Valley Naval Ship Museum
- Bay County Veterans' Council Honor Guard

Registration is at 9:00 A.M. with a shot gun start at 10:00 A.M.

There are a few different ways to show your support.

- \$240/Team (\$300/Team after 6/10/13) 32 Team Limit
- Non Participant Sponsors with listings on Sign Boards
  - Red- \$150
  - White- \$100
  - Blue- \$50
  - In Honor/Memory of...- \$25
- Golf Sponsor Special-Tee/Green and Contests at each hole (18 spots available)- \$125
- Old Glory Lunch Sponsor (2 available) -\$300 each
- Stars and Stripes Dinner Sponsor (8 available)-\$250 each

**Contact Information:**

Heather Bauman- 992-9989  
Mike Jamrog-948-1225  
Mike Stodolak-450-4324  
John DeWyse- 239-7942  
Keith Markstrom- 450-5109  
Greg Purtell- (248) 921-6231

**Denim Day**

The [Bay Area Women's Center](#) is promoting the recognition of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. They are asking people to "break the dress code and the silence" on Wednesday, April 24 by wearing denim to work.

Denim Day is sponsored by the Bay Area Women's Center to enlist public support to





## Quick Links

[Bay County Website](#)

[View Bay 3 TV Videos](#)

["Like" Bay County on Facebook!](#)

[Sign up for BAY Alerts!](#)

## Mayor's Annual Clean-Up



The Mayor's Annual Clean-Up will be held on April 20, 2013 in observance of Earth Day (Monday, April 22).  
9:00 A.M-2:00 P.M.  
612 E. Fisher Street

dispel harmful attitudes about rape. Denim Day originated from a case where the Italian Supreme Court dismissed charges against a 45-year old rape suspect because his 18-year-old victim was wearing jeans at the time of the attack. The Court stated in its decision that "It is common knowledge...that jeans cannot even be partly removed without the effective help of the person wearing them...and it is impossible if the victim is struggling with all her might." The judgment sparked a worldwide outcry from those who understand coercion, threats, and violence go along with the act of rape.

The Bay County Executive, Tom Hickner, has endorsed this event within the [Act 139](#) Departments under his purview.

If you would like more information about this event or would like to join the Denim Day Campaign please call Tracy at 989-686-4551

## MI Humane Society Visits Animal Control

On March 11, 2013, Linda Reider, Director of Statewide Initiatives for the Michigan Humane Society, visited the Bay County Animal Control Shelter.

The purpose of the visit was to review the manner in which the Animal Shelter dealt with the Upper Respiratory Infection(s) experienced by the cat population. She stated that the close proximity of the cats to one another contributed to the stress suffered by the cats, lowering their resistance to Upper Respiratory Infection (s). An additional stress factor noted was the cats close proximity to the barking dog population. The crowded conditions and close proximity to the dogs, it was agreed, resulted from the large population of cats in our limited housing as well as the building design placing the cat housing next to the housing of dogs.



Mrs. Reider made recommendations aimed at improving

-or-  
 Madison Avenue  
 Parking Lot  
 Between 4th and 5  
 Streets  
 For more  
 information on  
 what is accepted-  
[Click Here](#)

## Mosquito Control



Bay County Mosquito Control is currently finalizing for the 2013 aerial treatment program. This program plans to treat of 40,000 acres of seasonally flooded woodlots in Bay County, which will tentatively take place on April 10th-30th. This year all townships will be treated using a fixed-wing applicator.

Summer control of mosquito larvae as well as spraying for adult mosquitos will occur from mid-May through September. Residents who

the conditions contributing to the reduction of the URI of cats housed at the Shelter. Additionally, she suggested the use of a vaccine not previously used by Animal Control in countering the problem. Animal Control appreciated her having taken the time to visit the Shelter and found her advice to be of great value.

## Health Care Reimbursement

In 2012, the County switched providers of prescription medication and adjusted the co-pay structure. Pharmacy costs were projected to increase by about 15% in 2012 under our previous rate structure and provider. During negotiations in 2011, the parties agreed on new co-pay structures and that should the new provider's overall cost increase 7.5% or less in 2012 over 2011 actual costs, 100% of those savings under 7.5% would be passed on to employees enrolled in health care through the County on January 1, 2013. Non-represented employees will also be eligible for the payout. After closing the books for 2012, it was a pleasant surprise that 2012 costs were actually lower than 2011.



The first year savings have been impressive, thanks in part to new copay structures, education on and higher usage of generic prescriptions, and lower costs of prescriptions by EHIM, the new provider.

The Bay County Board of Commissioners and Bay County Executive Tom Hickner have approved these provisions and a payout will be given to all eligible employees.

From 2003 through 2012, the County's cost of providing health care (medical and prescription) has increased from about \$2.0 million a year to \$5.8 million last year, while revenues have reduced slightly. In other words, the cost has almost tripled in less than 10 years, an unsustainable trend. However, this payout is an excellent example of how everyone working together can lower health care costs.

## Elder Abuse Training for Bay County Law Enforcement

On March 13th and 20th Bay County Law Enforcement Officers attended the Elder Abuse Training for Law Enforcement at the Region VII Area on Aging Office to enhance their ability to recognize elder abuse and hold offenders accountable. The Bay County Division on Aging was able to provide the training as a result of An Elder Program Grant awarded from the Department of Justice through the Enhanced Training and Services to End Violence Against Women in Later Life.



wish NOT to participate may call (989) 894-4555.

For any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Tom Putt at (989) 894-4555.

[Visit Bay County Mosquito Controls Webpage Here](#)

A total of 35 police officers and 30 Delta College police recruits received training on elder abuse dynamics, statutes and legal remedies, response and investigation, domestic violence, sexual abuse, neglect, and financial exploitation in later life. Participants also received a new reference guide entitled, "Bay County Elder Abuse Victim Services On-scene Legal Resource Guide." This was a collaborative effort among the Bay County Prosecutor, Bay County Sheriff's Offices, the Department of Human Services, Bay, Arenac, and Gladwin Counties and Region VII Area Agency on Aging.

Partners in this grant include: the Bay Area Women's Center, Bay County: Executive, Sheriff, and Prosecutor's Offices, Michigan Department of Human Services, Bay, Arenac, Gladwin Counties, and Region VII Area Agency on Aging.

For more information please contact Tammy Roehrs at (989)-895-4100 or [roehrst@baycounty.net](mailto:roehrst@baycounty.net)

### Household Hazardous Material Disposal Program



The next collection date will be on Saturday, April 27, 2013 at Bangor Township Hall parking lot from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. located at 180 State Park Drive, Bay City, Michigan. This event is by appointment only. You must contact the Bay County Environmental Health Division at

### Michigan Saves Information

Michigan Saves is a non-profit organization with a mission of making financing energy improvements easy and affordable. They offer low cost financing for energy efficiency upgrades to homes and businesses throughout the state.



#### New 1.99% Financing for Businesses in the Food Sector

Michigan Saves has announced 1.99% financing for businesses in the food sector on lease applications of \$50,000 or less.

This is a promotional rate and is first-come, first-served and while funds last, and only applies to lease applications received in the month of April. If you qualify or are interested please contact Todd O'Grady at [togrady@michigansaves.org](mailto:togrady@michigansaves.org)

**Michigan Saves is sponsoring with Consumers Energy In May**  
This FREE event will provide contractors and business owners a complete overview of the financing opportunities and incentives available from Michigan Saves and the Consumers Energy Business Solutions to utility customers throughout the state.

Where: Apple Mountain Conference Center  
When: May 22, from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

<http://michigansaves.org/>

### Pinconning Park

989-895-4006 to schedule an appointment to drop off items. You will need to have a complete list of items and amounts at the time you call to schedule your appointment.

For More Information-[Click Here](#)

If you plan on camping at the Pinconning Park or will be in the area, a new attraction has made its home in the park office. Dan Tomczak, senior park ranger, and Jeff Switala, Bay County head carpenter, have put together a museum of some interesting things at the park.

Jeff Switala is also a taxidermist and has provided the park with some realistically positioned and mounted forest animals.



Dan Tomczak has also added his own hobbies and flare to the museum, with a variety of old cameras and restored lanterns. Other items on display are artifacts that have been found in the park and park harbor.



To learn more about the Pinconning Park, to make reservations, or to buy your seasonal pass--[Click Here](#).

### Students Visit Animal Control

On March 28th, Teacher Jennifer Gradowski brought 40 sixth grade students from Christa McAuliffe Middle School and 25 parents



and/or grandparents to visit the Bay County Animal Shelter.

Their visit provided the Shelter with cat and dog food, treats and toys for the animals housed there. Additionally, Students and two Girl Scouts provided the Shelter with an \$82.00 donation. Those monies will be used to contribute to the health of the animals housed here when a Veterinarian visit becomes necessary. The students were provided with an overview of the function(s) of the Shelter and the enforcement of laws governing its operation. Students were then provided a tour of the Shelter and encouraged to interact with the cats and/or dogs housed here.

Ms. Gradowski and her students have been long-time supporters of the Animal Shelter and their efforts have been much appreciated.

## Green Schools

Congratulations to the four Bay County schools that are now official Michigan Green Schools. They are the Auburn Area Catholic School, Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center and St James Catholic School, who submitted 20+ points that meet the requirements of this environmental Stewardship initiative and have earned the highest recognition of Evergreen level MI Green Schools Designation. The fourth school, John Glenn High School submitted ten points that qualify it as a MI Green School. Certificates of recognition have been provided by the State of Michigan. Alicia Wallace, the Bay County Program Coordinator said:



"Congratulations to these four schools for their environmental stewardship and hard work to make Bay County, and Michigan, a healthier and greener place to live. I'm so proud of your environmental efforts and hope you will continue your work as a Michigan Green School. Thank you for participating in the Michigan Green Schools Initiative for 2012-2013."

If you would like more information about the Michigan Green School Program, please contact Alicia at 989-895-4195 or check out our website at: <http://www.baycounty-mi.gov/GypsyMoth/Michigan-Green-Schools.aspx>.

**Sincerely,**

**Tom Hickner  
Bay County**

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