

News from Bay County Executive Tom Hickner

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Bay County
Government
Offices Schedule
for the Holidays



Happy Holidays!

Everyone here at Bay County would like to extend our warm wishes to you and your family for a safe and happy holiday season.

Thanks for reading!



Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Update

As you may know, Bay County has been aggressively working to maintain a balanced budget during this time of decreased revenues, which we anticipate to continue through 2011. In our efforts to balance the budget, expenses have been cut from every department, but cutting expenses alone was not enough. The Board of Commissioners has eliminated health care coverage for all future commissioners, Bay County employees received no wage increases over the past two years and a few layoffs have occurred with an effective date of January 1, 2011.

Considering how much our revenue has been impacted, Bay County has been fortunate, due to the conservative fiscal responsibility shown in the past, in the amount of cuts needed to be made. Money has been put in the bank over the years in anticipation of more difficult times, such as these. Bay County has deposited more in the pension fund than required and the fund itself has shown signs of recovery from the major dip in 2009. As we go into the New Year, the key budget issues will be the incoming contributions from state and taxable values which will determine whether further budget adjustments need to be made. In the meantime, Bay County officials will continually look for ways to trim unneeded expenses as more adjustments will likely be required in 2011 and possibly beyond.

For more detailed budget information, the Fiscal Year 2011 approved budget can be found on our website or with the links below.

[FY 2011 Adopted County Budget](#)

[FY 2011 Adopted County Budget - User Fees](#)

Upcoming Events for Seniors

The Bay County Division on Aging is hosting a few events in the coming weeks that you, or someone you know, may be interested in. Please



In observance of the upcoming holidays, Bay County Government offices will be closed on December 23rd, 24th, 30th and 31st.

All 24-hour operations, such as 9-1-1 and the Sheriff's Office will remain open.

check out the links below:

[Riverside Center's Holiday Party](#) - Thursday, December 16, starting at 10:00 AM

[Holiday Luncheon](#) - Tuesday, December 21, starting at 4:00 PM

[Acrylic Landscape Painting](#) - Monday, January 3rd, starting at 9:30 AM

[Movie and Lunch Series](#) - Various dates

- January 12th - My Life in Ruins
- February 9th - When in Rome
- March 23rd - Leap Year

If you are interested in participating in any of these events, please call Division on Aging at 989-895-4100 or visit their [website](#) for more information.

PILGRIM's Toy Safety Report ~ Information from the Health Department

Now that the holiday season is underway, PILGRIM wants to ensure your kids are safe by making sure the wrong toys don't get into their hands.

The annual [Toy Report](#) highlights some of the hazardous toys that are currently still on store shelves. In addition, a toy safety web app is accessible from smartphones and home computers at [toysafety.mobi](#).

Golf Course Holiday Sale ~ Items 40% Off!

Do you have a golfer on your list? The Bay County Golf Course is having a Holiday sale starting December 13th and running through December 22nd. During this time, the clubhouse will be open from 11:00am to 6:00pm on the weekdays and 10:00am to 5:00pm on the weekends. If these times do not work for you, you may call Recreation Supervisor Brent Goik at 989-233-8210 to set up an alternative time to shop.



The Bay County Golf Course Clubhouse has many great gift ideas with prices up to 40% off from golf clubs, shirts, hats, outerwear and more. Gift certificates are also available.

[Bay County Golf Course Website](#)

Tribute to Outgoing Commissioners

Bay County Administration would like to



extend our appreciation to Commissioners Beson, Maillette and Elder for their dedicated public service to the citizens of Bay County.

In addition, we would also like to express our sincere gratitude to Commissioner Eugene Gwizdala and recognize his 34 years of honorable and exemplary public service to Bay County.

Thank you!

The last Board meeting of the year will be held on Tuesday, December 14th at 4:00 PM in the Chambers on the 4th floor of the County Building.

Sincerely,

Tom Hickner
Bay County

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