

New from Bay County Executive Tom Hickner

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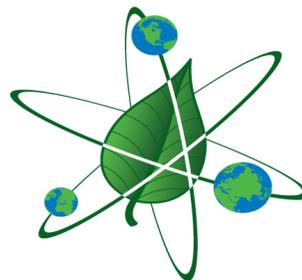
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**Board of
Commissioners
Information and
Upcoming
Meetings**

Great Lakes Bay Regional Energy Efficiency, Conservation and Renewable Energy Strategy Public Input Meeting

Bay, Saginaw, and Midland Counties are collaborating on the development and implementation of a Great Lakes Bay Regional Energy Efficiency, Conservation and Renewable Energy Strategy to conserve and reduce overall energy use, improve the energy efficiency of our buildings and transportation infrastructure.



The public input meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 20, 2011** at Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU), Curtis Hall, Emeriti Room from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For a copy of the (Draft) Great Lakes Bay Regional Energy Efficiency, Conservation and Renewable Energy Strategy or the event flyer, please see the [Environmental Affairs & Community Development](#) webpage.

Your ideas are important; please join us at the public input meeting!

Free Tax Filing Program from The United Way of Bay County

The United Way of Bay County will again offer free tax assistance for low-income individuals, families, senior citizens and persons with disabilities through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA). This program returned over 2.2 million in tax refunds / credits to Bay County residents in 2010.



This important program provides financial benefits to local residents and local business. It is probable the residents who receive these tax refunds or credits will be spending the dollars in our community with our local businesses.

Appointments will be made, beginning January 17th, by calling United Way at 989-893-7508 x 19.

Please see the [VITA flyer](#) which includes a material check-list of items to bring to your appointment.



The 2011 Bay County Board of Commissioners held their annual organizational meeting on January 3rd. Commissioner Don Tilley was elected Chairperson, Kim Coonan will serve as Vice Chair and Brandon Krause is the Sergeant at Arms.

A full list of board and committee assignments can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Board Meetings:

January 18th:
Personnel Judicial & Human Services Committee Meetings & Special Board Meeting (If required)

February 1st
Ways & Means Committee Meeting

February 8th
Board of Commissioner's Meeting

February 15th
Personnel Judicial & Human Services Committee Meetings

*All meetings are held at 4:00 PM in

Bay County Animal Control Receives Generous Donation in Memory of Paula DeMara

In late 2010, Bay County Animal Control received a generous donation from Richard DeMara to purchase a new truck in memory of his wife, Paula, who was an avid friend of all animals. The new 2011 Chevy Silverado will bear a plaque honoring the memory of Mrs. DeMara.

Bay County would like to extend our deep appreciation for such a generous and thoughtful donation.

For more information on adopting a pet from Animal Control, please visit their [website](#), call 989-894-0679 or stop in to see the animals available for adoption at 800 Livingston Avenue, Bay City, Michigan.

Civic Arena Dry Floor Events and Speedskating Class Information

The Bay County Civic Arena is hosting two upcoming events on the Dry Floor at the Bay County Civic Arena.

- The Bay County Home Builders Association [2011 Home, Garden & Lifestyle Show](#), February 25th - 27th. For more information, please call the HBA office at 989-684-3560.



- [Shipshewana on the Road](#), April 16th - 17th.

Have you ever wanted to learn to speedskate? Speedskating 101 classes are now available at the Civic Arena! The cost is \$50.00 for 10 sessions. Due to the limited availability of equipment (that can be provided if needed), it will be dispersed on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information, please call Dave at 989-671-1000 x 106.

Bay County Division on Aging Introduction to Computer Classes and other Senior Events

In 2011, the Bay County Division on Aging will be hosting a series of [Introduction to Computer Classes](#) each month. These classes will be held in the computer lab at the Riverside Friendship Center, 800 J. F. Kennedy Drive, Bay City.



Classes are three weeks long and held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon with lunch to follow. Class fee is \$28.00 and includes instruction, materials and lunch. Class is a non-threatening, simple, one-on-one opportunity. Come, learn and sharpen your skills.

the chambers on
the 4th floor of
the Bay County
Building

Bay County Government Offices Closed

Bay County
Government
Offices will be
closed on Monday,
January 17th in
observation of
Martin Luther
King, Jr. Day.

The 24-hour
operations, such
as 9-1-1, will
remain open.

Other Events:

- Don't forget about the other [Special Events](#) the Division on Aging is hosting, such as Acrylic Painting and the Movie & Lunch Series

Please share this information with parents, family members and others who would benefit from these classes and events. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Tom Hickner
Bay County

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Bay County | 515 Center Avenue | Bay City | MI | 48708