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News From County Executive Tom Hickner

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**Upcoming
Board of
Commissioners
Meetings**



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

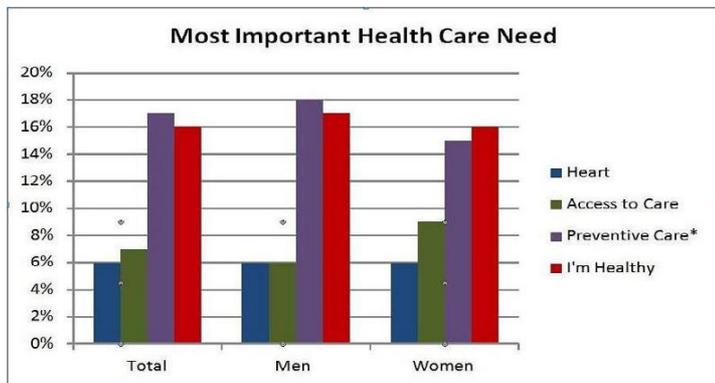
**Board of
Commissioners
Meeting**
August 14th

Health Department Assessment

The Results are in....



The Bay County Health Department partnered with McLaren Bay Region, Bay Health Plan and Bay Arenac Behavioral Health, along with funding from the Bay Area Community Foundation, to conduct the Bay County Community Health Assessment. The results of the health assessment have been analyzed and are available on the Health Department's webpage at www.baycounty-mi.gov/health. The information gathered will be used to create a Community Health Improvement Plan to address identified priority areas. As illustrated in the graph below, Preventive Care is the most important health care need identified by Bay County Residents (2012 Phone Survey, Lake Research Partners)



A taskforce will be created to begin work on the Health Improvement Plan. If you have any questions about the assessment or are interested in participating on the taskforce, please contact Tracy Metcalfe at 989-895-2027 or metcalfet@baycount.net.

Bay County Veterans Helping Veterans

Bay County is very fortunate to have a dedicated group of veterans giving back to their own. Many of our area residents are unaware of the services and benefits provided by veteran organizations to those

**Personnel Judicial
&
Human Services
Committee Meetings**

August 21

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.



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**Attention: Primary
Election August 7,
2012**

in need due to financial hardship, medical difficulties, etc.

The following is merely a summary of what is available at the Veterans Office located on the 2nd floor of the Bay County Building:



TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR MEDICAL CARE. Bay County provided an equipped van in order to provide much needed transportation to area veterans needing to keep appointments at area hospitals. Volunteer driver Tom Brady and his helpers begin their day bright and early to transport those needing a ride. Through a cooperative arrangement with others, the trip to Saginaw and/or Ann Arbor is made possible.

VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER: Stop by the office on the 2nd floor and you'll most likely see Veteran Service Officer Art Schupback at his desk, helping our service men & women and their families. Art can be reached at 989-895-4190.

VETERAN WORKERS FOR HIRE: If you are in need of someone to do odd chores around your house like yard work, painting or miscellaneous jobs, there may just be a veteran for hire. Call 989-895-4190 for more information.

SOLDIERS & SAILORS RELIEF: Bruce Douglas can help with food, utility shut-offs and gasoline. These services can be approved once every 90 days. Burial benefits for veterans meeting certain criteria are available.

MISCELLANEOUS: For additional information, go to: www.michigan.gov or call the V.A. Regional Office @ 1-800- 827-1000 or our local office: (989) 895-4190.

What's Growing On in Downtown Bay City?

**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION**

The Downtown Bay City Farmers Market is Open!
Located at the corner of Washington Avenue and



Summer is moving along very rapidly and August will be here before we know it and the Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 7th.

In addition to the candidates on the ballot, the following millage questions will be placed on the ballot for review by our voters:

Gypsy Moth
Senior Citizens
911
Various Township Millages
and Renewals

For a complete list of candidates and proposals visit:
www.baycountymi.gov/Docs/Clerk/can13.pdf

Perform your civic duty and get out and vote!

Sixth Street. Stop by and see all of the locally grown produce: and when available flowers, plants, fresh bakery items and other specialty products. They accept a variety of payment options.

Summer Market
Thursdays, June 21-August 30
10:00 am - 5:30 pm

Fall Market
Thursdays, September 1-October 25
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Downtown Farmer's Market Newsletter
downtownbaycityfarmersmarket.org

Vendor Space is still available
Contact Jan Rise, Market Master
(989) 895-4026

Chuckies Market, located at 108 Adams Street, near the old YMCA, is also open this summer.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 28-October 30
11:00 am - 5 pm

Summer Recreation Programs Keep' Em Busy

The Bay County Department of Recreation & Administrative Services began the annual Summer Recreation Program for area youth, aged 5 to 12. Enrollment for the 2012 year saw numbers of 202 youngsters running (with supervision) through the hallways and facilities at the Bay County Community Center.



The program, which is funded through the Bay County General Fund, also enables 12 Bay County high-school and college students a great summer job that provides first-hand experience in child development.

In addition to taking advantage of the beautiful swimming pool at the Community Center there will be planned activities to keep the kids busy and engaged.

What a wonderful opportunity for organized, well-chaperoned activities geared at taking advantage of the beautiful things our area has to offer in the summer months.



The program ends August 9th.

Change in Health Insurance Contributions



Bay County is self-insured for purposes of health care. That means that the rates that the County and its employees pay is based on the prior year's actual claims experience. This year, through cost containment efforts, Bay County was able to reduce the amount that it pays, in spite of near-double digit inflation in medical costs.

"Congratulations to the human resources team that worked hard to eliminate waste in the system and keep costs low for the County, its employees, and taxpayers."

Shared Services Collaboration

It is our intent to keep you informed of the progress on our efforts to share services provided to the public by Bay County, Bay City, and other local municipalities by this newsletter.



The Purchasing and Information Systems Divisions recently took advantage of an opportunity to update their computers. Brandon Short, Interim Information Systems Manager went through the process to replace PCs in Bay County facilities, as well as opening it up to other public entities within the county.

Michael Gray, Administrative Services Department congratulated Brandon Short, "for being aggressive on implementation of new hardware."

The collaboration of multiple entities will ensure high volume and guarantee the lowest possible prices from their vendors.

Personnel Announcement

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Nick Wilcox to the position of Executive Assistant Administrative and Technology with the Bay County Executive's office effective July 3.



Nick has a bachelor's degree in Political Science and History from SVSU, and came to Bay County employment from Coca Cola where he worked as a Merchandiser.

Nick lives in Bay City and enjoys golf and reading in his spare time.

He will be located on the 4th floor of the Bay County Building and you may reach him at extension 4126 or via email at: wilcoxn@baycounty.net. When you have an opportunity, please introduce yourself to Nick and wish him well in his new position.

Sincerely,

**Tom Hickner
Bay County**

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