

# **Martin Village Spring 2014 Newsletter**

## **Spring Clean Up Day - Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**

-The Village and Township will again host a cooperative clean up day on Saturday, May 17th. Collection will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Dumpsters will be located at the Township Hall parking lot by the Fire Station. Items must be delivered to that site. Items **NOT** accepted are: Appliances, tires, pipe or metal longer than 4 feet, brush, leaves, wood, garbage, rocks, concrete, dead animals, or building materials.

## **Memorial Day Activities – May 26th**

-Plans are well under way for the annual Memorial Day activities. Parade line up begins at 9:30AM in the High School Parking Lot. The parade begins at 10:00 and proceeds westward on Allegan Street to Main Street, then north to Memorial Park for observance ceremonies. If you wish to participate be at the line up. If you have ideas or questions, please call the Village Office at 672-7777 or event coordinator Gary Brinkhuis at 672-5264.

-**NOTE: NO** political floats or hand-outs are allowed to be any part of this Parade or Observance.

## **Water and Sewer System Notes**

-**NOTE:** For those of you on metered water, your sewer usage is equally metered under the theory of what comes in goes out. **However**, with summer coming, it is understandable that with lawn and garden watering, etc., your water usage may increase, but all would not be going into the sewer. We can address these situations by metering and billing for actual water use, but billing sewer, for the months of May through September, at a flat rate based on your average established during the winter months. Please submit a **written request** to the village office (by mail to PO Box 234 or in our drop box, to make this happen. Those requesting this service in past years will automatically be switched this year unless you advise not to. All fire hydrants will be flushed on April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. If water is discolored, let run until it clears.

All residents are billed, monthly, a water Ready-to-Serve flat charge of \$14.00. \$4.00 is added for every 1,000 gallons recorded. All residents are billed, monthly, a sewer Ready-to-Serve flat charge of \$12.23. \$7.00 is added for every 1,000 gallons recorded (or 6,000 gallons for those not connected to water). This is the exact amount Plainwell charges their residents for processing sewage. This will be increasing July 1<sup>st</sup> to \$7.33 per 1,000 gallons. The Ready-to-Serve flat charges for both Sewer and Water have not increased since we put the systems in. Due to our aging sewer system and long-term water tower debt, we will be raising both of those charges in the coming year. The exact amount has not yet been determined.

## **Village Permits**

-Residents contemplating the building of new structures, or making additions to existing buildings, should check their plans with Professional Code Inspections (PCI), 1575 142<sup>nd</sup> Street, Dorr, MI 49323, phone 800-628-3335, or have your builder do so before starting the project. PCI also issues electrical, mechanical, and plumbing permits for the village.

## **Garage Sales**

-A reminder to all residents. Village Ordinance No. 55 restricts the number of garage sales (or anything of that nature) to 3 sales per year of not more than 72 hours each. The Ordinance requires obtaining a permit, but all we are currently requiring is for “you” to call the Village Office prior to the sale (672-7777) and record a message with the location and dates of your sale. The complete Ordinance can be viewed on the Village website.

## **Road Repairs**

-MDOT will begin resurfacing Main Street sometime in May. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

## **Sidewalk Repairs**

-Many of our sidewalks are in need of repair. Repairs will be made this Spring or Summer. Property owners are required to pay 50% of necessary repairs to sidewalks adjacent to their property. Letters will be sent to the affected homeowners.

## **Boysen’s Building**

-Efforts are underway to raise private funds to demolish the old Boysen building. The building is not only an eyesore, but it is also potentially dangerous as the building deteriorates. If you are interested in helping in this effort and wish to donate, please contact the Ken Bleeker Agency at 269-672-5228. Ken and Bryan Bleeker are spearheading the fund raising efforts. Or contact the Village Office for more information.

## **Village Website**

-You’re encouraged to visit the Village of Martin website at “[www.martinmi.org](http://www.martinmi.org).” View recent Council Meeting minutes, area links, an event calendar, community projects, and other “stuff.” There is also a link to Village Ordinances. You can view and print from this link. Let us know if there is something you would like placed on the calendar or website.

## **Village Office**

-Normal Office open hours are: Monday through Friday, 9:00-11:00 a.m. and most Saturday mornings for a short time.

-For questions or concerns, you are welcome to stop by during these hours or, at any time, call 672-7777 and leave a message. Response will be as soon as possible.