



City Hall
255 N. Christina St.
Sarnia, ON N7T 7N2
(519) 332-0330

8:30a.m. - 5:00p.m.



"Year of the Veteran"

THE SARNIA CITIZEN

IT'S THE LAW !

BUILDING PERMITS



Thinking of renovating? Check with us first. To protect the public interest, the Ontario Building Code prohibits most construction without prior approval from the Chief Building Official. Call 332-0330, extension 301, for further information, or e-mail buildept@sarnia.ca.

NO SMOKING BY-LAW



The No Smoking By-law is administered by Lambton County. For more information, contact Community Health Services Hotline at 383-6231, extension 801, or 1-800-667-1839.

SMOKE ALARMS

In Ontario, you must have a working smoke alarm outside the sleeping area of a residence.

It is the responsibility of the tenant to make sure that the landlord is notified if the smoke alarm is not working.

The fine for not having a working smoke alarm is \$235.00.

"NO BATTERY, NO CHANCE"

YOU ASKED FOR IT!



Recently, we surveyed the public and this is the newsletter that you asked for. The intent is to communicate, at the very least on an annual basis, activities and initiatives that the City of Sarnia has been involved with or undertaken over the course of the year. The newsletter was completed by a committee of City staff.

NEW PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING

The new, pre-fab steel facility is 11,000 square feet with an additional 5,000 square foot mezzanine to house close to sixty staff, including crews, office staff, and foremen. It is hoped to have the building completed in the early spring. The original 1940s building was demolished last summer. During demolition, hints of the building's past would occasionally surface, including a large truck weighing scale (under the front lawn), old documents, photos, and antique bicycles, presumably used as transportation by staff in years gone by.



New Public Works building located at the corner of East and Devine Streets

BACK TO THE FUTURE!

- Sarnia was originally called "The Rapids". In 1836, "Port Sarnia" was adopted as the new name, and on May 7, 1914, the City was incorporated as "City of Sarnia".
- The first rail tunnel under the St. Clair River was opened in 1889.
- The current rail tunnel was opened in 1995.
- The Bluewater Bridge was opened in 1938 and twinned in 1997.
- Sarnia was first designated as a deep-water port during the 1920s.
- Polymer Corporation was established in 1942 to manufacture synthetic rubber during World War II.
- The Tricar Group of London recently started work on a \$15 million luxury condo near the waterfront in downtown Sarnia.
- Over 200 people contributed comments and ideas for the Waterfront Master Plan. As a result, a new draft plan is available for input from the Community Services Department, the Sarnia Library, and at www.sarnia.ca.

BLUEWATER POWER

The City of Sarnia has entered into a partnership arrangement with Bluewater Power in order to improve water-billing service. Billing customers every other month, rather than twice per year, will help customers budget more effectively. As well, leaks can be more quickly identified which will help reduce unexpected billings. Since Bluewater Power already provides bi-monthly billing, this is a great opportunity to share costs. Bluewater Power will use their expertise in billing to bring benefits to water users such as:

- Budget billing (monthly if requested)
- One payment, many options:
 - o Pre-authorized payments
 - o Bank (Internet or branch)
 - o Mail or drop-box
 - o One-stop shopping on move-outs for hydro and water
- A continued local presence Bluewater Power staff and City of Sarnia staff are already working hard to ensure a smooth transition on April 1, 2005. You can expect your

first joint electricity and water/sewer bill in either the month of April or May. You may be contacted by Bluewater Power in the next few months if your situation requires special attention.

For further information, contact Bluewater Power at 337-8201, or visit their website at www.bluewaterpower.ca.

MONEY SAVERS

- Check for dripping taps and replace washers if necessary.
- Check for toilets left running after flushing – one drop of dripping water per second consumes 10,000 litres per year.
- Check two items in the toilet tank:
 - o overflow pipe, and
 - o the flapper valve

Pour some cold tea into the tank before going to bed and if discoloured water is detected in the toilet bowl in the morning, an adjustment of the flapper valve is necessary to stop any leaks.



JOIN THE FUN



- **Easter in the Park:** Canatara Park, March 26th
- **City Summer Program Registration:** June 4th at City Hall
- **Kidsfest:** June 11th at Centennial Park
- **Bright's Grove Canada Day:** June 25th
- **Canada Day:** June 30th and July 1st at Centennial and Canatara Parks
- **Canada Day Parade:** July 1st at 11:00 a.m. beginning at Lakeshore and Indian Roads and ending at Canatara Park - "YEAR OF THE VETERAN"
- **Fireworks:** July 1st at 10:00 p.m. at Centennial Park

DOG LICENSING

Effective April 1, 2005 Dog Licence fees will be:

- Female or Male: \$60.00
 - Neutered Female or Male: \$28.00
- A "Dangerous Dog Licence" remains the same at \$115.00.

Only two dogs per household are permitted.

Tags may be purchased at:

- City Hall
- Bright's Grove Animal Hospital
- Humane Society
- Sarnia Animal Hospital
- Blue Cross Veterinary Service
- Confederation Animal Hospital
- South Sarnia Veterinary Service

You must have proof of rabies vaccination and proof of neutering, if applicable when applying for a dog tag.



MARRIAGE LICENCES

Marriage licences are available from the Clerk's Dept. at City Hall. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Licence fee is \$105.00. CASH ONLY. For more information, you can visit the City's website at www.sarnia.ca or call 332-0330, extension 350.



If you would like to advertise in this space and help contribute to the cost of the newsletter, please contact Marlene Haney at 332-0330, extension 290.

BAYFEST
2005
July 14, 15, 16, 17
See You There!

3rd Weekend in August
Centennial Park
Sarnia, Ontario
519-336-5054
Fax 519-336-5564
Toll Free 888-772-8170
sarniahighlandgames.com
highland@rivernet.net

RIBFEST
It's all about the RIBS

Kinsmen Club of Sarnia
Sarnia Ribfest
July 7-10, 2005
Centennial Park
Fun Family Food Music

PEOPLE'S COURT

- Sarnia has a Community Mediation Centre, the purpose of which is to provide a way for citizens to help resolve neighbourhood differences or potential conflicts.
- Some issues appropriate for mediation are excessive noise, property damage and maintenance, care and control of pets, etc.
- To contact the Centre, call 336-5950.



DID YOU KNOW?

- Applications for student employment are being accepted at the City until the end of March.
- Sarnia has one of the lower tax burdens in the Province in a recent comparison of 66 cities ranging in population from 6,500 to 2.6 million.
- Our population has increased 4.3% since 2001.
- Bluewater Trails has a growing network of pathways throughout Sarnia and Point Edward. You can cycle, walk and hike the trails regularly. For more information, contact 332-0330, extension 202.
- Birth Certificate applications can be picked up in the Clerk's Department at City Hall.
- The Province is currently taking up to 6 months to process Birth Certificates for new births.
- Chris Hadfield will be inducted into the Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame on June 4, 2005.
- Sarnia maintains over 100 parks. The acreage of grass cut is equivalent to 10,000 residential lots.
- Check out planned road closures at www.sarnia.ca.
- Handicapped **signs** for parking lots can be purchased from the Engineering Department at City Hall.
- Handicapped **permit** applications can be picked up at the Ministry of Transportation Office, 556 Christina St. N.
- The City of Sarnia offers the convenience of telephone or

internet banking, or pre-authorized monthly payment for taxes. Forms are available at the Tax Department and information is also available on the city website.

- For residents who own a TTY machine, the City of Sarnia now has two machines to serve you better. For Care-A-Van bookings call 336-5145. For other municipal inquires, call 332-2664.
- The City repairs approximately 2100 metres of sidewalks and 600 metres of curb and gutters a year.
- You, the taxpayer, own two prestigious Business Parks which are keys to the local economy, future job creation and future assessment.

RIDE WITH US !!

SARNIA TRANSIT SUNDAY SERVICE

- Started Sunday, February 27th, 2005.
- 8:30 a.m. to 6:15 p.m.
- Service once an hour on Routes 1/2, 4/3, 5/7, 9, 14 and four daily trips to Bright's Grove.
- Special introductory offer price of \$1 per ride until March 27th.

ROUTE 9 EXTENSION TO UWO RESEARCH PARK AND HERITAGE PARK

- Begins Monday, March 14th, 2005.
- Service extends from Zehrs and Lambton College to provide service all day to the University of Western Ontario Research Park with improved service in the evenings, Saturdays and Sundays.
- Service will also extend to provide hourly service to Heritage Park on weekdays and on Saturdays.

All information is available at Sarnia Transit ticket outlets and on the web site at www.sarnia.ca. Look under "Sarnia Transit Service Changes" in the Information Section or call Sarnia Transit at 336-3271.

These new services are on a trial basis until December 31st, 2005.



TRASH TALK



- Starting in July, **all recyclables will be collected every other week** rather than the current practice of putting out papers etc. one week and bottles, cans, etc., the alternate week. Watch for your copy of the new Waste Calendar that will be delivered to all households by the end of June.
- Hazardous Waste depot days are the last Saturday in the months of March, April, May, June, September and October. For more information call Lambton County at 845-0801.
- Any individuals found to have dumped material outside the gates at the St. Andrew Street Compost Site will be fined under City of Sarnia By-law No. 145 of 1991.

BRUSH CUTS & OTHER TRIMMINGS...



- Boulevard trees are maintained by the City. Contact Community Services at 332-0330, extension 217, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., should you have any problems or questions.
- Trees conserve energy by reducing cooling and heating costs by up to 50%.
- Trees remove air pollution from the air we breathe by absorbing carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide, ozone and other pollutants.
- Brush in plastic bags is **not** collected.
- Grass or leaves in dark bags are **not** collected.

YOUR VOICE - CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR:

Mike Bradley
Home 336-8092
Work 332-0330 extension 312
E-mail mayor@city.sarnia.on.ca

CITY / COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

David Boushy
Home 542-3109
E-mail d.boushy@cogeco.ca

Joe Murray
Home 542-0160
Work 331-4445
E-mail j.murray@sympatico.ca

Jim Foubister

Home 869-4701
E-mail jimfoubister@city.sarnia.on.ca

Bev MacDougall
Home 344-0768
Work 344-5543
E-mail bevmacdougall@city.sarnia.on.ca

CITY COUNCILLORS:

Andy Bruziewicz
Work 332-2639
E-mail andybruziewicz@hotmail.com

Anne Marie Gillis

Home 542-9728
Work 542-0554
E-mail annemariegillis@city.sarnia.on.ca

Mike Kelch

Home 542-5682
Work 339-4003
E-mail mike@mikekelch.com

John Vollmar

Home 869-4395
E-mail jvollmar@cogeco.ca

PARK PERMITS



A permit for large gatherings for family reunions, business, weddings or social gatherings may be obtained to use:

- Canatara Park
- Wildwood Park (Hamilton Road, Bright's Grove)
- Mike Weir Park (formerly Huronview Park)

Contact Community Services at 332-0330, extension 214, for reservations.

COUNCIL MEETING DATES

March.....21st
April.....4th & 25th
May.....9th & 30th
June.....13th
July.....11th
August.....8th
September.....12th
October.....3rd & 24th
November.....14th
December.....5th

- Agendas for regular meetings are available on the Friday prior to the Meeting in the Clerk's Department, 2nd Floor, City Hall, and on the web site.
- Meetings generally start at 4:00 p.m.
- Meetings are televised on Cogeco live at 4:00 p.m. on Council days, as well as at times advertised on Cogeco.

We're on the Web
www.sarnia.ca

COMMENTS? SUGGESTIONS? QUESTIONS?

We are interested in hearing your thoughts about this publication. Please send your suggestions and comments by mail to Marlene Haney, Communications Co-ordinator, 255 Christina Street North, Sarnia, ON N7T 7N2, or by e-mail to mhaney@city.sarnia.on.ca or call 332-0330, extension 290.

Fax: 519-332-0776

If you would like to advertise in this space and help contribute to the cost of the newsletter, please contact Marlene Haney at 332-0330, extension 290.

Gospel By the Bay
featuring the one and only
John Starnes
July 22, 23, 24, Dow People Place, Sarnia, ON

403 (SARNIA) WING
(Sarnia Airmen's Club)
Box 222
Sarnia, On N7T 7H9
102 1/2 S Christina St.
519-344-8050
Fax 519-336-5564
sarnia403wing@hotmail.com
www.sarnia403wing.com

Hall Rentals for:
Weddings* Dances
Caterer - Bar - DJ

GREAT CANADIAN FLY-IN
JUNE 17, 18 & 19, 2005
SARNIA CHRIS HADFIELD AIRPORT
FOR INFORMATION CALL: 542-6599