PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is just around the corner, and we are working hard to deliver some very important public works/infrastructure projects in our Village.

The most visible is the work being done on Banker Street. This project has a total cost of over 1.2 Million dollars, with 90% being funded through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation by your Federal Government. Through a grant award to the Village we are installing new storm sewer and a block of water main, from Washington to Jefferson Streets. The project also includes curb and gutter, new pavement and new sidewalk. We had to remove some mature trees that would have had fatal root damage, but we will be replanting new trees at the end of the project, which is expected to be completed before the end of October.

Banker Street carries a lot of the traffic between the school campus areas and quite a bit of other East/West traffic within our community. The improvements will make this process more efficient. There will also be parallel parking created on both sides of the project area.

Our next project will be starting in October. We will be doing reconstruction of Mill Street from Monroe to Lincoln. The road surface will be pulverized, grade reestablished and all new asphalt installed. Most of Mill Street has already had this work but this section Really needs it. This work should take about two weeks to complete.

On behalf of your Village Council, I would like to thank you for your patience as we work through these projects. Although it may be an inconvenience at times, we are confident the long term benefits will be enjoyed by everyone. We’re committed to staying on top of our critical infrastructure, by using best practices to identify maintenance and repair needs of our sewer, water, streets and sidewalks! These assets belong to the residents of our community and we are determined to provide good stewardship of your property. Should you have any questions, issues or concerns, please let us know!

Kelly Martin, Village President

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Village Office Hours:
Monday thru Thursday 9am-5pm
Office Closed:
November 11, 2019 Veterans Day
November 28, 2019 Thanksgiving Day
LEAF BURNING & RECREATIONAL FIRES

LEAF BURNING RULES:

1. The burning of leaves, grass or twigs shall only be permitted during days and times specified in a motion adopted by the Village Council.

2. No burning on streets or sidewalks within the Village.

3. Water source, such as a garden hose available at the fire site at all times.

4. Burning shall be under the immediate supervision of a responsible person at least 18 years of age.

5. No burning within 20 feet of any building, within 5 feet of any lot line or near any combustible material.

6. No burning at anytime or place when wind conditions will create or be apt to create a nuisance or a danger to any person or property.

7. No burning on October 30th or the 31st.

LEAF BURNING HOURS: TUESDAY & WEDNESDAYS - 4:30 TO 6:30 PM AND SATURDAYS FROM 3:30-7:30

Composting materials like leaves, grass clippings, vegetable and garden debris, shrubbery clippings, vines, wood chips, flowers, pine cones and small twigs are picked up by our Department of Public Works (DPW) on Thursday mornings. Brown paper bags are preferred over plastic ones. Thirty-three (33) gallon or smaller cans, can be used and placed at the curb. Please mark the cans as “Yard Waste” to keep separate from the garbage material. If any garbage is placed in the bags or cans, they will not be picked up.

Recreational Fires shall be an outdoor fire located in an outdoor grill or container commercially constructed for use as a fire pit and/or burner that is designed to adequately contain ashes and cinders. Such fires shall be limited to a container no larger than thirty-six (36”) inches in diameter and must be conducted no closer than 10 feet to the property lines or 20 feet from any building or structure. Burning is allowed only in rear yard.

Here is some other solutions for Leaf Disposal:

1. Compost your leaves. Mix leaves with grass clippings and soil to create your compost pile. Compost can be added to your garden to enrich the soil and suppress plant diseases and parasites.

2. Chop or shred leaves with your mower and use them as mulch around ornamental plants, bushes and trees. Mulch reduces the need for watering and weeding.

3. Let leaves lie where they fall and mow them into the lawn. Leaves eventually decompose and can improve soil. Shredded leaves carry up to 80% of the nutrients a tree extracts from the soil and air.

BASIC UTILITY BILLING INFO

A bill, is a bill, is a bill—not exactly. The so-called “water” bills from the Village actually include water, water improvement, sewer, and trash collection. The flat rate charge for residents is 47.27 for water, 26.90 for water improvement, 53.48 for sewer and 32.85 for garbage. These rates are per quarter. The next quarter bill that you will receive is October 1, 2019 which will be for the months of July, August and September.
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT + COMMUNITY MARKETING STRATEGY

The Village has contracted with Place+Main Advisors, LLC to develop a Economic Development + Community Marketing Strategy. This strategy will contain background data, potential projects and an implementation Plan, outlining next steps, timelines and responsible parties. The process is where you as residents come in. We are setting up a FOCUS GROUP, to help us recognize our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats. To set Goals and identify key development/Redevelopment Sites.

The FOCUS GROUP will meet on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at the Village Hall. We have setup three different times so we can get all of your input. The times are 2pm, 3pm, and 4pm. Please mark your calendars so you can help us with these very important decisions that effect us all.

Don’t forget to set your clocks back one hour on November 3rd. Make sure you check the batteries in your smoke alarms/carbon monoxide detectors.

TRASH

Trash pickup is on Thursday mornings unless a HOLIDAY falls on that week, then the trash is picked up the following day. Have your trash to the curb by 7am. Prohibited items include: Tires, roofing materials and hazardous waste materials. Should you have any questions or complaints about the trash pickup, call Local Waste Services at 810.796.4600.

US STATES CENSUS

The U.S. Census Bureau is recruiting thousands of people across the country to assist with the 2020 Census count. The 2020 Census will be easier than ever to complete because people will be able to respond online. There is an option to receive a paper form or to call the Census Bureau and be counted over the phone.

Remember, every person Counts!

Apply Online!
2020 Census Jobs
Recruiting Assistants
Be A Part of History!
Halloween will be celebrated in the Village on Thursday October 31st. From 6pm-8pm. Please leave your porch light on during this time if you are passing out treats. Trick-or-Treaters should wear light, reflective material or carry a flashlight or glow stick. Be sure kids have a clear field of vision and can hear properly. A responsible adult should accompany them.

The Village uses an email blast system to inform residents of important news, like when the village might spray for mosquitoes. Send your email address to: notices@northbranchvillage.org

The Village and NBAS are working with the federal program, Safe Routes to School (SRTS), to make it safe, convenient and fun for children to bicycle and walk to school. On September 16th, the North Branch Safe Routes to School Team had a great Review of walking routes on our streets and Kick-off meeting. Parents, students and staff shared support for and cited need for safer crossings across M90 and Jefferson Rd, possibly in multiple locations. Father was there from the catholic church and was open to possibilities of connecting their parking lot to the middle school with a bike/walking path and possible remote drop off site. MSU students and professors gathered all our concerns and visited with us, so that they can bring back detailed recommendations, drawings, and estimates to us in the next public meeting before Christmas break.

Watch for more information on this upcoming meeting. That meeting will be very important as it will be your opportunity to give feedback and support for possible improvements. The infrastructure improvements and programming elements with the most support will be put into the grant application for up to $400,000.00 of infrastructure money by the Safe Routes to School Core Team. Please be a part of this process to make North Branch a safer place to walk for our students and for all of us. If you haven't filled out a survey yet the Elementary and Middle school parent survey links are still available in a post on NBbroncos.net and contact Rob or Betty if you are interested in being on the Core Team.

For more information follow us on Facebook, @NBSRTS, or contact Rob Hoell, Team Coordinator at 810.882.1774 - Robhoell@gmail.com
AROUND THE COMMUNITY

NORTH BRANCH TOWNSHIP LIBRARY EVENTS:

OCTOBER 12TH

A Fraud Prevention Presentation will take place on October 12, 2019 at the North Branch Township Library from 5-6pm. Crooks and Scammers come up with new scams every year to scam millions of people. Trooper Mark Swales of the Michigan State Police will be teaching us how to avoid being a victim of those scams.

OCTOBER 16TH

Craftsmoon 4:30-6:30. Tee light full designs. Make old t-shirts beautiful again with these techniques for fun, simple, no sew crafts. Great for tweens to adults.

OCTOBER 26TH

Frankenmuth Animals.
10:30-13:30. We will be taking old stuffed animals apart and putting them back together into fun quirky new animals. Perfect for all ages. A fun Halloween craft.

Story time with Miss Arleen. Every other Thursday. 10:30 -11:30. Songs, crafts, stories and games for preschoolers.

NOVEMBER 9TH

At 11:00am Michelle Bommerito. Italian cooking. Michelle had cooked on the Food channel and will at the NBTL to teach an Italian cooking class. Call the library for information or to sign up for this free class.

Call the library for information on any of these programs. 810.688.2282

NORTH BRANCH AREA SCHOOLS:

September 30: All Star Reading Night 6-8pm
October 11th—HOMECOMING, Parade at 1:25 pm

Council President:
M. Kelly Martin

Council Members:
Nichole Guerra, Pres Pro-Tem
Leonard Cowles
Matt Hohman
Richard Evans

Council meets the 1st Thursday of the Month at 7pm.

FROM THE VILLAGE OF NORTH BRANCH
COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATION