



WALKER

City News

Summer 2009

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Walker FESTIVAL

**You won't believe all the new fun and exciting things to do this year!
Here are just a few of the new attractions...**

- 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament Saturday June 20th
- NASCAR Training Simulator – Jeff Gordon #24
- Cinemation – 3D Full Motion Simulator
- Bumper Car Bash
- Amazing Photo Globes
- Take a ride on the Giant Titanic Slide – *sponsored by Option 1 Credit Union*
- Climb up the Rock Climbing Wall – *sponsored by Chemical Bank*
- Get an Air Brushed Tattoo
- Use the Dunk Tank to Dunk Walker's Elite!
- Take the Iceberg Obstacle Challenge
- Decorate your Bicycle for the Bicycle Parade!
(Prizes and Goodie Bag to first 100 participants)
- Participate in the "Walker Walk for a Cause"
(Door Prizes and Goodie Bags for first 100 participants)
- Walk in Outer Space in the Moon Walk
- Fireworks on Saturday at dusk - *Sponsored by Meijer*

For more details visit our website: www.ci.walker.mi.us "Click View Attractions".
Or, stop by City Hall to pick up your Walker Festival 2009 Booklet!

Get there early to enjoy all the fun!

2009 Walker Summer Festival

Friday, June 19th 5:00pm – 11:00pm

Saturday, June 20th 10:00am – 11:00pm

FAMILY FUN, FOOD BOOTHS, and ENTERTAINMENT

Location: City Central Park – Behind City Hall on Remembrance Rd

ADMISSION - \$2.00 (Children under 2 – Free)



Dear Citizens of Walker,

As you know, the difficult economic climate continues. On May 5, Governor Granholm issued an Executive Order cutting \$304 million from Michigan's current year budget. The state budget is in deficit by approximately \$1.3 billion. The balance of the deficit (approximately \$1 billion) will be made up with federal economic stimulus dollars.

These are alarming statistics with a direct impact to the City of Walker. The Executive Order reduced state shared revenues to Walker. These funds are critical to our ability to provide police, fire, and other essential services.

The state shared revenues reduction will take place during the current Walker fiscal year (July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009). Even though we adopted a budget and incurred expenditures relying on the commitment of state shared revenues we must now amend our budget in the last quarter of the fiscal year.

At the same time, we are working on the fiscal 2009 budget (July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010). The condition of the State's budget combined with the uncertainty of income tax revenues makes it incredibly difficult for us to determine what level of services we can provide.

I share these matters because it is important for you to know that like many of our residents, the City is also experiencing great difficulty. We are doing everything we can to maintain essential service levels but need your understanding and assistance.

Every resident can help us maintain our community. Please keep your yard and building maintenance up. We are required to spend limited City resources to respond to a variety of complaints regarding yard and premises maintenance, abandoned cars, and the like.

Please comply with our burning ordinance. This is a public health concern and also a drain on resources when violations occur.

Please accept the elimination of spring clean up days this year... a wonderful program we would like to restore in the future. (We are continuing the leaf recycling program from October 24 through November 21).

Please assist our City employees in any way you can. They are being asked to do more with fewer resources.

I have great confidence that the People of Walker will do whatever is necessary to maintain the wonderful community that we enjoy. This effort is much easier if we all work together in these difficult times. The City of Walker is prepared to do its part but we ask for your support and assistance as we work through these trying days.

On a more positive note, I hope you had the opportunity to attend the Memorial Day parade and I encourage you to attend the Walker Festival on June 19 and 20. Our thanks go to the Festival Committee and the many donors who have made the Festival possible. We are also grateful to Keller Ford and the Downtown Development Authority who have contributed funds to allow us to continue the parade. Due to the willingness of our business community and volunteers we are able to continue these events which add so much to the quality of life we enjoy in Walker.

On behalf of the City Commission, I invite you to contact us at any time with your suggestions, thoughts, and concerns.

Best Wishes,

Rob VerHeulen, Mayor

City of Walker

City Commission

CITY HALL

453-6311

MAYOR

Rob VerHeulen - 791-6860 Office; 453-2201 Home
rverheul@ci.walker.mi.us

FIRST WARD COMMISSIONERS:

Al Parent - 262-1204; aparent@ci.walker.mi.us
Dan Kent - 784-5591; dkent@ci.walker.mi.us

SECOND WARD COMMISSIONERS:

Barbara Holt - 551-0935; bholt@ci.walker.mi.us
Chuck Deschaine - 453-4032; cdeschai@ci.walker.mi.us

THIRD WARD COMMISSIONERS:

Cynthia Stek - 791-9381; cstek@ci.walker.mi.us
Steven Versluis - 791-9247; sverslui@ci.walker.mi.us

City Services

CLERK'S OFFICE

Hours: M-F -- 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sarah Bydalek, Clerk
Phone: 791-6865 -- sbydalek@ci.walker.mi.us

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Dan DeVries, Treasurer
Phone: 791-6861 -- ddvries@ci.walker.mi.us

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Kelly Smith, Assessor
Phone: 791-6862 -- ksmith@ci.walker.mi.us

BUILDING/ZONING DEPARTMENT

Jeff Nelson, Building Official
Phone: 791-6858 -- jnelson@ci.walker.mi.us

CITY MANAGER

Cathy VanderMeulen
Phone: 791-6859 -- cvanderm@ci.walker.mi.us

DISTRICT COURT - 59TH

Hours: M-F -- 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Judge Peter P. Versluis -- Phone: 453-5765

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Scott C. Conners, P.E., City Engineer
Phone: 791-6792 -- sconners@ci.walker.mi.us

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Cindy Mielke, Finance Manager
Phone: 791-6799 -- cmielke@ci.walker.mi.us

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief: William Schmidt
Phone: 791-6840 -- bschmidt@ci.walker.mi.us

INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT

Julie Blok, Income Tax Director
Phone: 791-6866 -- jblok@ci.walker.mi.us

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Marcy Kneibel, Recreation Director
Phone: 791-6890 -- mkneibel@ci.walker.mi.us

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Frank Wash, Planning Director
Phone: 791-6787 -- fwash@ci.walker.mi.us

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Catherine Garcia-Lindstrom, Police Chief
Phone: 453-5441

PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE

Mark Koning, DPW Director
Phone: 791-6854 -- mkoning@ci.walker.mi.us: or
tmuilenb@ci.walker.mi.us

City of Walker Police Department

JON PAASCH- 2009 OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Walker Police Officer Jon Paasch for being named “Officer of the Year”! Officer Paasch has been in law enforcement for the past eight years. He worked four years for the Wyoming Police Department prior to coming to the City of Walker. For the past four years he has served as a Walker Police Officer where he has continued to shine as one of the most outstanding officers in the area.

Officer Paasch earned an associate’s degree in Criminal Justice from GRCC and has a third year of college coursework under his belt towards a bachelor’s degree.

During his law enforcement career Officer Paasch has worked as a patrol officer, school liaison officer, and detective. He is also a member of the Walker Police Department Special Response Team, a hostage negotiator, and an honor guard representative for our agency.

A highlight of Officer Paasch’s outstanding career occurred when he and another officer caught four (4) armed robbers who had terrorized businesses over several weeks along the Alpine corridor. His quick attention to detail played a key role in taking these dangerous criminals off the street and earned him a Departmental Citation.

Congratulations to Officer Paasch on his great accomplishment! We thank all of our Walker Police Officers for their excellent work!

PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

Personal safety is just that, a personal responsibility to take the necessary steps to ensure your well-being, either in the privacy of your home or in the public. The following are a few ideas on taking the necessary steps to promote your own personal safety:

Protecting yourself at your home

- Leave at least one light on both inside and outside when at home and not at home.
- Use timers for your lights when gone for an extended period of time. Vary the times that individual lights are on and off.
- When receiving unwanted phone calls, do not give out personal information such as your name or address.
- Use an answer machine to screen unknown callers.
- Buy high-quality locks and deadbolts and use them regularly.
- Be prepared to open any door or window quickly in the event of an emergency inside the home (fire).
- Install peepholes on exterior doors allowing a visual scan of visitors verses opening a door
- Keep in touch with neighbors, watch over each other

Protecting yourself while in public

- Walk with someone while in an unfamiliar location.
- Stay alert to those around you and the surroundings.
- Protect your valuables; carry your purse closely to your body.
- If you feel you are being followed, go into a store or public building for assistance in calling the police.

These suggestions are just a few that can be implemented in establishing a process to address your personal safety considerations. As these suggestions are not all inclusive, they can provide you with a foundation to build a personal safety checklist to take care of yourself in a number of situations that you may be faced with.

It is everyone’s responsibility to take the appropriate steps to enhance their own safety and hopefully you will find these suggestions valuable in establishing that process.

City of Walker Police Department *Continued...*

PATROL NEWS

With the onset of summer the Police Department usually sees an increase in activity related to the warmer weather. During this time of year, we traditionally see an increase in crimes that are a result of an opportunity presented because of an open door or window. We also experience a substantial increase in general nuisance complaints like loud music, barking dogs, and disorderly persons. Therefore, we ask citizens to help us by taking away the easy opportunities that criminals capitalize on, and we ask that residents be conscious of their behavior and how it may affect their neighbors.

Citizens will be seeing an increase in traffic enforcement patrols. Warmer weather means that the Department's speed board will be deployed more often. The speed board is meant to educate drivers as to their speed and thus slow down those that are speeding. Speed board placement is often followed up with enforcement measures, so be forewarned and slow down. In addition, remember to buckle up and drive safely!

City of Walker Fire Department

KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE THIS SUMMER

With the summer season arriving soon, it is important to be prepared for severe weather. Here are some suggestions to help keep your family safe:

- Meet with family members to explain the dangers and potential threats to children.
- Choose an "Out of Town" contact. Family members should contact this person to "check in" with to let them know they are all right following a weather event.
- Decide where to meet if the family suddenly becomes separated during an emergency.
- Each person should have emergency contact phone numbers to reach each other, as well as local emergency numbers.
- Be sure to identify escape routes from the home or safe places within the home.
- Don't forget about your pets! Pets are not normally permitted in emergency shelters. Try to make prior arrangements with friends or a local animal shelter to house them should the need arise.
- Create an action check list. (i.e. fire extinguisher, first aid kit, etc.)

Regardless of the emergency, it is very important to prepare an emergency kit and ensure that each family member knows where it is located. Some of the items the kit should include are:

- Battery operated radio with extra batteries.
- Water and non-perishable food items (enough for 3 days)
- Diapers and formula for a baby
- Extra batteries (for hearing aids, flashlights)
- Fire extinguisher
- Documentation such as pictures of your children, parents, grand-parents
- Paper products, hand soap and sanitizing wipes
- Pet food
- Blankets, pillows and toys for children

In an emergency there are numerous items to think about, but being prepared ahead of time and educating family members will help to keep you, your family members and pets safe.

For more information and a complete list of emergency kit items, please go to the City of Walker website at www.ci.walker.mi.us and follow the link to the Walker Fire Department.

City of Walker Recreation Department

2009 CO-ED FALL YOUTH SOCCER PROGRAM

The Walker Recreation Department will be offering a Co-Ed Fall Soccer Program for boys and girls 7 through 12 years of age. Cost is \$30.00 for City of Walker residents and \$40.00 for non-residents of the City of Walker. Practices will begin the week of September 7 and games will begin on Saturday, September 26, 2009. Registration forms will be sent home with the students at area schools and will also be available at the Recreation Department. Registration will be at the Recreation Department, located at 4243 Remembrance Rd., N.W. during the following dates and times:

Tuesday, July 14	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Wednesday, July 15	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 16	1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Tuesday, July 21	2:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Thursday, July 23	2:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	For further information, please call 791-6890.	

City of Walker Engineering Department

THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT - STIMULUS

Over the past few months the stimulus talk has been a favorite water cooler discussion topic throughout our country. Unfortunately, all the talk about infrastructure spending turned out to be bit over rated. When it comes right down to it, our ability to improve our roads and stimulate the local economy is going to be limited.

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), also known as the “Stimulus” totaled \$787 billion. Of that total only \$27.5 billion, or less than 4%, was dedicated towards transportation and specifically road work. Michigan was fortunate to receive \$853 million for transportation improvements. Our west Michigan region has \$92 million available for all forms of transportation including transit, non-motorized, highways and local roads. After breaking out the non road related dollars, that figure is subject to a split between state and local that is consistent with Michigan’s gas tax formula. The local governments essentially get 22% of the funds and the Michigan Department of Transportation gets the remainder or approximately 78%. That leaves \$12.4 million for the local units of government in our Grand Valley region. These funds have been split up between the Kent County Road Commission, Ottawa County Road Commission and all the cities that lie within our region varying in size from Grand Rapids to Rockford. In the end, we were successful in securing \$402,184 for use on Walker roads.

These funds are riddled with conditions regarding surface rating, classification, and construction readiness. The bill also specifies that stimulus funds cannot supplant existing funds or other state grants. Essentially, they did not want these funds to pay for projects that were already going to happen. They intended the funds to be used on new projects that would add to the current levels of construction activity. Because most Walker projects already have some type of grants associated with them, our ability to select projects from our most important anticipated improvements was limited. Nevertheless, we started out with a list of \$15 million in new road work and \$7.3 million in sewer and water system enhancements. After working through all the conditions that must be met we fine tuned our list down to 5 eligible projects. After applying the “fair share” method of dividing the available funds with our neighbor communities we were successful in securing funding for 2 projects:

Three Mile Road Concrete Repair – I-96 eastbound to Alpine	\$280,000
Veterans Memorial Drive Resurfacing – Maynard to Riverbend	\$122,184

While these projects were not our first choices, they do meet all the qualifications and they were ready for immediate bidding. Both projects are currently out for bid through MDOT and they will be constructed this summer.

You may ask “what is the fair share method?” The Grand Valley Metro Council project selection committee, known as the Transportation Programming Study Group, concluded that we must take into consideration the local agencies population and total miles of roads in order to fairly distribute this one time funding source. Larger communities got more and smaller communities got less. After several months of deliberation all agencies left the table wishing they had more money but satisfied that the process was fair. To view an entire list of Stimulus projects for the Grand Valley region, including MDOT work, you may visit: <http://www.gvmc.org/transportation/documents/ARRA.pdf>.

It does not appear that much “Stimulus” money will be heading to west Michigan for sewer and water improvements. The way the bill was written a project must already be on the states list of deficient utilities. Even then, most of the money is going to be administered as low interest loans and not actual grants. Communities with failing systems seem to have the most to gain with the current scenario. We have a very healthy utility system with our partner Grand Rapids so the stimulus impact does not appear to be overly beneficial in the current loan form. Nevertheless, we have worked closely with Grand Rapids to submit a list of potential system improvements that could be ready if funds were to become available in grant form.

Contact City Engineer, Scott Conners at 791-6792 or sconners@ci.walker.mi.us with any questions you have regarding our stimulus projects.

City of Walker Building & Zoning Department

The Building and zoning Department would like to remind you of some of the zoning issues to be aware of for the summer season. For a complete copy of these ordinances please visit our website at www.ci.walker.mi.us.

TALL GRASS/WEEDS

The growth of grasses, weeds, brush, underbrush or other vegetation shall not exceed to the height of more than 12 inches (Section 94-337)

INOPERABLE VEHICLES

Inoperable vehicles need to be removed from the property or stored within a completely enclosed building. An inoperable motor vehicle is a vehicle which does not have a valid registration by the state vehicle code or is incapable of being propelled under their own power, or are unsafe for operation on the streets and highways of this state, because of inability to comply with the state vehicle code. (Section 82-91 and 82-93).

GARBAGE/LITTER/REFUSE/RUBBISH

The City Commission has adopted a Public Nuisance Ordinance to control the accumulation of garbage, litter, refuse and rubbish located on parcels in the City. Timely removal of these items from your property will enhance the appearance of all homes in your neighborhood. (Section 08-562)

Walker Ice & Fitness Center

SUMMER PROGRAMS

Summer Kids Camp

Walker Ice & Fitness Center will be holding a kids camp activity program this summer for kid's ages 5-11 years old. Groups will be split into 5-7 year olds and 8-11 year olds. These camps will be week long sessions designed around specific sports. We will focus on instructional drills, activities and games associated with that sport. The program will be Monday- Friday 9:00-11:00 AM.

Tae Kwon Do Classes

Classes will be offered to both children and adults starting Tuesday June 2nd. Students will be exposed to all aspects of Tae Kwon Do while learning self-defense, achieving physical and mental fitness and developing self-confidence. Classes are taught by 4th Degree Black Belt Master Brian Sawinski. Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Fire Station 3 located on 3 Mile Rd. Classes are for beginners, intermediate and advance students.

Boot Camp

This Boot Camp class is a four week outdoor fitness program that offers motivational training designed to help you reach your fitness goals. Classes will be challenging, fun and packed with unique calorie burning exercises using the environment.

Please contact Megan Bozek at 735-6286 x16 for more information regarding these programs. More detailed information can also be found on our website at www.walkericeandfitness.com. Registration is required for all programs.

City of Walker Community Development Department

The City of Walker announces the consolidation of its Building, Zoning Administration & Enforcement, and Community Planning Services into a Community Development Department.

The new CDD will:

1. Process applications and issue permits for construction related activities.
2. Serve as staff support for the Zoning Board of Appeals and the Planning Commission.
3. Serve to process and resolve zoning complaints.
4. Assist in the development of new ordinances and amendments to existing ordinances.
5. Act as the staff arm of community planning, master planning and future land use mapping for the City of Walker.

The Walker Community Development Department (CDD) includes the following current staff members:

- Jeff Nelson – Building Official and Zoning Administrator
- Frank Wash, AICP, PCP – Planning Director
- John Smith – Plumbing and Mechanical Inspector
- Tammy Freedman – Community Development Coordinator
- Bonnie Antcliff – Community Development Department Assistant / Zoning
- Pat Dlouhy – Community Development Department Assistant / Planning.

No new staff members will be added at this time. Personnel in the affected departments have been reduced by two full-time inspectors over the past 24 months.

The Walker Community Development Department (CDD) office will be located within the current Building and Zoning Department office. Current Planning Department staff members have been relocated. Those seeking the services of the CDD should enter at the southwest doors in City Hall, directly across from the Ace Hardware.

The Walker Community Development Department (CDD) will become official on July 1st, 2009.

The Walker City Commission and City Managers continue to seek ways to reduce costs while improving service delivery and efficiency. The functions of building, planning and zoning are intertwined and often codependent. Placing these functions “under one roof” makes sense from a practical standpoint. In addition, combining these functions into one Community Development Department will improve communication between staff members, citizens and those seeking permits. This improved communication will increase efficiency while enhancing service delivery.

Cross-training a smaller staff will also reduce costs to the City as existing staff members take on new tasks while providing consistent front counter coverage.

The official City of Walker Mission Statement reads as follows: “Come home to Walker: A great place to live, work and grow.” The Walker Community Development Department will implement this mission by supporting the “values” of the Walker community, which are identified as:

Public health, safety and security ~ Open communication and transparency ~ Fiscal responsibility
Efficiency and productivity ~ Active listening ~ Dedication and honesty ~ Quality performance

Senior Center

SENIOR CENTER OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

The Walker Firehouse Café/Senior Neighbors Center was officially opened to the public on February 20, 2008. Walker City Commissioner Cyndy Stek, Kent County Commissioner Art Tanis, as well as representatives from Senior Neighbors and Senior Meals welcomed over 150 seniors to the event. Since then we have had many visitors and would love to see many more!

The Walker Firehouse Café offers a coffee shop, hot lunches (60 yrs. or over, \$2.00 donation, under 60 yrs. \$4.50 donation) and various programs and services every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Programs also include guest speakers every Monday morning and live music every Wednesday morning. The program is located in the AJ Stehouwer Community Room, in the upper level (handicap accessible) of Standale Fire Station #2, 4101 Lake Michigan Drive. If you would like more information about any of the programs, please contact Sherri Meines at 735-3240 Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00AM until 3:00PM, or email her at smeines@seniorneighbors.org

Come and meet some of the Firehouse Café Seniors at this year's Walker Festival. The Senior Neighbors will be holding a craft sale and raffling off an afghan. You can even dance and sing along to their very own rhythm band!

Come and join the fun!

Income Tax Department

2008 INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURNS WERE DUE APRIL 30, 2009

Even if you filed your Federal and/or state of Michigan return electronically, you must mail a paper return to the City of Walker. We are not able to accept e-filed returns at this time.

Request for Information/Notices of Assessment and Correction

After we receive your return, it is reviewed for accuracy. If there is an error on your return, we may send you a notice of correction or assessment. We may also need to contact you regarding missing information. If you have questions about correspondence from the Income Tax Department and used the services of a paid preparer, you may prefer that we speak directly with them. In order for us to discuss your return with your preparer, we must have your permission. If your return was computer-generated using the Michigan local common form (Walker CF-1040), there is a check box on page two where you can indicate your permission for us to discuss your return with your preparer. If your return was prepared on the standard Walker form (W-1040), you will need to complete a Power of Attorney Authorization. This form can be found on our website at www.ci.walker.mi.us/incometaxforms.

Estimated Payments

SECOND QUARTER ESTIMATED PAYMENTS FOR 2009 WALKER INCOME TAX ARE DUE JUNE 30, 2009

Tax Year 2008: If you owed more than \$100 with your 2008 return due April 30, 2009 and you did not pay in at least 70% of your current or prior year liability through estimates, credits or withholding, you will be receiving a bill for penalty and interest.

Tax Year 2009: If your employer does not withhold Walker Income Tax or you have non-wage income (rental income, capital gains, premature pension distributions, etc.) that is subject to tax and you think you may owe more than \$100 with your 2009 return, you must make quarterly estimated payments. The 2009 Quarterly Estimated payment vouchers with instructions can be found:

- In the 2008 Resident Forms and Instructions booklet
- On our web site at www.ci.walker.mi.us/incometaxforms
- By mail--call us at 616-791-6880

EMPLOYER WITHHOLDING

A company is required to withhold Walker income tax from an employee's pay if the company has a location in the City of Walker. A company must also withhold Walker tax if they are doing business in the City of Walker even though the company has no permanent location in the city. Employees working in the City of Walker on behalf of a company would be considered to be "doing business." Companies outside of the City of Walker are not required to withhold Walker tax but may voluntarily do so as a convenience to their employees. Call Nancy at 791-6869 or visit the following link on the Walker website to request a New Employer Package.

For a new employer package check online at <http://www.ci.walker.mi.us/Departments/IncomeTax/NewEmployerPackage.htm>

CITY OF WALKER
4243 Remembrance Road NW
Walker, MI 49534

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GRAND RAPIDS, MI
PERMIT #1



Awards Banquet

On May 18, 2009 the City of Walker Spring Awards Banquet was held in City Commission Chambers. This annual event recognizes Walker businesses, volunteers and educators for their contributions to service and improving all aspects of everyday life in Walker.

This year the City of Walker is proud to recognize the following honorees for their contributions:

“Business of the Year”	Irwin Seating Co.
“Special Recognition”	Sparta Sheet Metal Inc.
“Educational Excellence”	Walker Station Elementary
“Best Community Program”	Kenowa Hills Education Foundation
“Best Community Program”	Meijer, Inc.
“Community Volunteer Service Award”	Fr. Bill Zink, Pastor Tom Bradley, Rev. Steve Simon, & Rev. Ron Baker

The Walker Community Relations Committee is now taking nominations for next spring. If you are aware of a person, group or business within Walker that you feel deserves special recognition, please submit the information in writing and mail to: Walker Community Relations Committee, City of Walker, 4243 Remembrance Road, Walker, MI 49534

Walker Library

Keep your kids reading this summer! And have fun while doing it...yes that's right! Join the Summer Reading Club at the Walker Branch of Kent District Library. Enjoy lots of fun programs including a community drumming event, a ballet performance by Dance Network, art activities and animal exhibits. This year we have extended SRC from 8 weeks to 10. Our kickoff carnival is Monday, June 8 at 2 pm. And for a finale, we will also celebrate on Friday, August 14 at 1pm. Both parties are free and no registration is required. We will have a clown, balloons, crafts, prizes and face painting. Program guides will be available at the library mid-May. Have questions? Call us at 647-3970. Library hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, & Saturday 9:30 am - 8 pm. Thursday 9:30 am - 8pm. Sunday Closed.

City of Walker Board Appointments

The City of Walker is looking for citizens interested in volunteering their time by serving on various boards and commissions. Most groups meet only once per month in the evening. If you would like to be considered for an appointed position on one of the boards, please stop by the City Clerk's office to fill out an application or you may find an application on our web site, www.ci.walker.mi.us.

Newsletter Comments

Direct comments, questions, or suggestions regarding this newsletter to: Attn: Newsletter, City of Walker, 4243 Remembrance Road N.W., Walker, MI 49534.

Phone: 616-791-6860 E-mail: jkozmins@ci.walker.mi.us

www.ci.walker.mi.us

Meeting Dates & Times

City Commission Meetings:

8:00 p.m. - 2nd and 4th Monday of each month.

Walker City Hall/Commission Chambers

Board of Zoning Appeals

7:00 p.m. - 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month to hear appeals on the City's zoning regulations.

Walker City Hall/Commission Chambers

Planning Commission

7:00 p.m. - 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month to make recommendations regarding land use planning and zoning concerns.

Walker City Hall/Commission Chambers

Phone 791-6865 for more information on the following committees: Traffic, Historical, Community Relations / Volunteer, International Relations, Festival, & Mineral Mining Review Board