

**Brian Reed**

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**Sent:** Monday, October 29, 2007 2:32 PM  
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## City of Eaton Rapids Newsletter

October Newsletter

October 19, 2007

Greetings!

Welcome to the City of Eaton Rapids on-line newsletter.

This newsletter is intended to keep you up to date on what is happening in Eaton Rapids. Your e-mail has been added to our database as an interested community member. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please see the bottom of this newsletter for the unsubscribe link.

We are interested in your feedback on this newsletter. Over the coming weeks and months our format and content will evolve to provide the best product for you. Please let us know how we can improve this newsletter by e-mailing us at [breed@ci.eaton-rapids.mi.us](mailto:breed@ci.eaton-rapids.mi.us).

Thank you!

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE**  
**NOVEMBER 6, 2008**

### Eaton Rapids Thinking Entrepreneurily



and assistance.

The partnership is part of Eaton Rapids' Area efforts to help new start up businesses and entrepreneurs as well as existing businesses.

Both organizations are willing to meet with Eaton Rapids businesses on an appointment basis. For more information on how these groups

The City of Eaton Rapids in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, LDFA, and DDA welcomed the Service Core of Retired Executives (SCORE) and the Small Business Technology and Development Center (SBTDC) to town on October 23rd. Both organizations have pledged to help Eaton Rapids businesses by offering free counseling

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### New Parking Lot Ribbon Cutting



The City will host a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open its new parking lot on October 30th at 5:30pm. The parking lot is located behind the National City Bank.

Joining the City will be a representative from the Governor's office, a representative from Representative Mike Simpson's office, and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

The parking lot is using new technology to reduce stormwater runoff. The porous pavement allows water to pass through the concrete and move through two layers of filters. Raingardens have also been planted to help filter water and pull out sediments.

can help your business, please call or e-mail [Brian Reed](#) at 517-663-8118 ext 8178.

## **Eaton Rapids Receives Economic Development Grant**

The City of Eaton Rapids received a \$52,040 grant for public electrical upgrades needed to support the expansions of Dowding and Precision Prototype and Manufacturing.

The new upgrades will allow for a separate electrical loop that will allow electrical isolation. In the event of a power outage, generators would be able to keep these companies in production to ensure that they hit their targets and avoid penalties.



A copy of the State of Michigan's press release can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

These eco-friendly features will greatly reduce polluted runoff into the Grand River.

A Non Point Source 319 grant from the State of Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has made this project possible. In addition to the expansion of parking lot #6, informational banners, a rain garden and educational signage will be added to the area.

### **Quick Links**

[City of Eaton Rapids website](#)  
[Area Wide Master Plan](#)

[Mayor Jamie Davidson](#)  
[Mayor Pro-Tem Lisa Letarte](#)  
[Councilwoman Claudia Brown](#)  
[Councilman Roger Greenhoe](#)

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## **Eaton Rapids Recognized for its Rental Rehabilitation Program**

On October 30<sup>th</sup>, a group of housing professionals from around the state of Michigan will visit Eaton Rapids to learn about its downtown Rental Rehabilitation program. The rental rehab program is funded through a Michigan State Housing Development Authority grant. Throughout 2006 and 2007, Eaton Rapids has partnered with downtown business owners to create five new apartments and will rehabilitate five existing apartments. The grants give building owners assistance in rehabilitating upper floors of old buildings which otherwise would be very costly to rehab. The program has many benefits including utilizing currently unlivable space, giving building owners additional income to help offset business struggles, creating more activity downtown, creating additional affordable housing, and raising the value of property downtown. Eaton Rapids will showcase all its projects during this tour.

The current round of funding will be finished at the end of 2007. The City has submitted an application in hopes of receiving additional funding for this successful program for 2008 and 2009.

## **Eaton Rapids Historical Register to SHPO**

On October 22nd, a delegation from the City accompanied the Historic Preservation Program from Eastern Michigan University to present its application for the National Register of Historic Places to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The SHPO will review it before it before sending it to the National Parks Office with its recommendation.

A National Register designation will create many opportunities for the community including tax credits for improving or restoring historic buildings, grant opportunities, and the prestige of being designated as an historic downtown. The register designation will include the entire downtown. The project was sponsored by the Downtown Development Authority.

## **MSHDA and Brownfield Tax Credits to Result in Senior Housing Project**

A mix of tax credits and a MSHDA PILOT program will result in nearly \$4.3 million in investment and 40 units of senior housing apartments in Eaton Rapids. The project will be located on the old bus garage located on King Street.

The senior housing, identified as a need during the Area Wide planning process will include health screening facilities, dining and fitness areas as well as gathering spaces.

The tax credits will allow for affordable housing as well as site cleanup of contamination. A copy of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's press release can be viewed by [clicking here](#).

## **Eaton Rapids Utilizes Brownfield Tax Credits to Assist Developers**

The Eaton Rapids City Council passed a Brownfield Redevelopment Plan for the old King Street School and the school property. Skyline Development, LLC will use the tax credits to mitigate contamination caused by coal heating and storage.

Skyline Development, LLC is planning to redevelop the old school building into a 39 unit apartment complex. In addition, the development will include approximately 20 units of condos along the river.

The Brownfield Redevelopment Plan allows the developer to recover its costs for cleaning up the contamination that exists on the property. The project is expected to generate approximately \$5.1 million in investment.

## **Eaton Rapids a Part of the Regional Economic Team**

The Tri-County Region of Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham Counties have a new economic development organization that will guide economic development in the area. The LEAP Organization is a staffed organization that is organized by the private sector but is a partnership with the public sector. LEAP aims to take a regional approach selling the region, maintaining information on all economic development activities in the area, maintaining an inventory of available industrial space, and assisting localities in retaining their current businesses. The theory is that a strong region benefits all municipalities. Eaton Rapids has signed a letter of agreement to be a part of LEAP. More information can be found on [LEAP's website](#).

## **City Council Meetings**

The following are the City Council meeting times for November. All meetings are on the 2nd floor of City Hall. The general public is welcome and encouraged to attend.

- Council Worksession - Monday November 12, 2007 - 5pm
- Council Meeting - Monday November 12, 2007 - 7pm
- Council Worksession - Monday November 26, 2007 - 5pm
- Council Meeting - Monday November 26, 2007 - 7pm

## **Area Wide Plan Completed**

An update to the 1996 Comprehensive Areawide plan developed by the City of Eaton Rapids along with Eaton Rapids and Hamlin Townships was completed in October and each municipality will pass resolutions endorsing the plan.

For more information, visit

[www.partnershipsforchange.cc/eatonrapids](http://www.partnershipsforchange.cc/eatonrapids) or call:

Brian Reed, City of Eaton Rapids - 663-8118, Dave Ballard, Hamlin Township - 663-7777, or Dave Wilson, Eaton Rapids Township - 663-7404.

## **Eaton Rapids Contributions to the Civil War**

The Eaton Rapids Historical Society will welcome a presentation by Bob Hoffman about the contributions of Eaton Rapids to the Civil War on November 1st. The presentation will take place at the Miller property in the community room at the Ice Cream Factory at 7pm.

## **Reminder on Raking Leaves**

Residents are reminded to bring your raked leaves to the DPW complex. Please do not rake your leaves directly into the street as they will not be picked up.

## **MDOT Will Redo Main Street in 2009**

MDOT is scheduled to do a complete redo of Main Street in 2009. The work on M50 will remove the existing road, replace the existing base and repave with new asphalt. It will start near Northwestern School and extend to Elizabeth Street. Eaton Rapids will be applying for additional funds to provide additional streetscape and enhancements to the downtown.

## **Snow Ordinance - Sidewalks**

Residents are reminded that for the safety of our community, your sidewalks must be clear of snow and ice. The sidewalk ordinance will be enforced throughout the winter. [Click here](#) to read the snow ordinance. The City would like to thank everyone for their cooperation. If you have any questions, please call Brian Reed at 517-663-8118 ext 8178.

## **Waste Water Treatment Plant Completed**

The Waste Water Treatment upgrades have been completed. The upgrades are part of a special millage passed in 2004. A complete story detailing the new upgrades is featured in a special City Newsletter available by [clicking here](#).

## **Industrial Property Available**

The City of Eaton Rapids has industrial property available in both industrial parks (North and South of town). The locations are strategic and the Local Development Finance Authority captures tax increments for industrial park improvements. Both parks feature public water/sewer systems, fiber optic/cable connectivity and quick highway access.

If you would like more information on the Industrial Parks in Eaton Rapids please contact [Brian Reed](#) at 517-663-8118.

Visit the the City of Eaton Rapids website at:  
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