



THE BACK FENCE

A DEARBORN COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Community Task Force's five-year recommendations reflect City's formidable challenges, outline advantages

Dearborn faces difficult decisions, but will emerge to a brighter future

Due to the City of Dearborn's financial challenges, and the difficult decisions that lie ahead for our community because of the economic outlook impacting all Michigan municipalities, Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr. determined it was very important to involve residents in identifying possible options to serve as the foundation of a five-year strategic plan. To do this, he formed a 31-member Community Task Force in January 2010. As of November 2010, the Task Force had completed a list of extensive recommendations, reflecting nine months of dedicated study.

Those recommendations are currently under consideration in conjunction with the City's budget planning process.

Tools toward progress

The recommendations are viewed as tools or menu options that can be used to address the City's challenges. It is likely some will be selected, some rejected, some modified, and others added as the City maps out its course through difficult waters ahead.

Despite good fiscal management and aggressive cost-cutting actions over the past 10 years, Dearborn is battling at least a \$20 million shortfall between revenues and expenditures for the next fiscal year.



Similar challenges follow for several years. These shortfalls are caused by a structural problem with municipal finances, and economic forces often beyond the City's control.

Recommendations seek new revenues, continued spending cuts

The Task Force recommendations had to address some tough issues. The suggestions outline consideration of new, voter-approved taxes, including a proposal that addresses funding for the City's mandatory police and fire staffing levels.

The recommendations also acknowledge that City services must be offered in a reduced or different way in light of the economic reality.

Incentives to invest

The Task Force also recognizes that to continue to move Dearborn forward, the City must be able to invest in amenities that will attract residents and businesses for the long term.

The common mission for all of the Task Force members is a commitment to maintaining Dearborn as an enviable community in which to work, visit, invest in and live.

The recommendations as they exist on November 30, 2010 can be found at www.cityofdearborn.org. Look for the Vision 2016 icon. ■

Get information directly from the City of Dearborn

Looking for timely, accurate news about the City of Dearborn?

Visit www.cityofdearborn.org.

The homepage is updated daily with fresh news items.

The Events Calendar is also updated regularly.

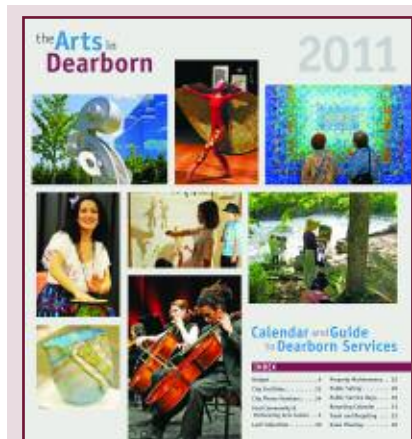
You can also sign up to receive news via email from the City's Enewsletter, which is distributed about twice a month. Sign up at www.cityofdearborn.org

Need your news in even smaller doses? Sign up for daily Twitter updates and follow the account called cityofdearborn. A link is at www.cityofdearborn.org.

Don't want the clutter of Twitter feeds? You can still read the Twitter updates posted at the city's account without any commitments.

Look for the City of Dearborn's official Facebook page later in 2011.

In addition, a replica copy of the printed 2011 City of Dearborn Calendar is available online for viewing and printing. ■



View the 2011 City of Dearborn Calendar at www.cityofdearborn.org Check the website for daily updates of news items.

WINTER 2011

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Curbside collection

Reminders about trash day rules to keep curbside program on track

Dearborn's curbside trash and recycling program using the 96-gallon, wheeled carts has been in place for seven months and has been successful in promoting increased recycling and cleaner neighborhoods.

Here are some reminders:

- Never put your carts in the street.
- Put your carts at the curb no later than 7 a.m. on the day of your pickup and no earlier than 5 p.m. the day before your pickup.
- Make sure the cart is not blocked by a car, utility pole or other object.
- Have at least 3 feet between each cart.
- Always keep your cart lid closed.
- Do not stack bags or other items on top of your carts. Remember, an automatic arm is used to pick up and empty your carts.
- Do not overfill your carts, as that will make them harder to maneuver to the curb.
- The cart handle and hinged part of the cart lid should face your house – not the street.
- Check the recycling calendar inside the lid of your green recycling cart to see if it is your week to recycle before moving the green cart to the curb.
- Call the Department of Public Works at 943-2085 if your cart is damaged.

Each day of trash pickup, 7,000 households are served.

Bulk items

Remember the City still collects bulk items that do not fit in your cart, if they are placed at the curb. Restrictions apply. Call 943-2085.

A separate truck will pick up your bulk items by the end of your trash day. ■



Yard waste pickup

Season for curbside yard waste collection expanded from March 14 - December 16

Curbside collection of yard waste will begin again the week of March 14. Weather permitting, the season will last until December 16.

The collection was expanded in 2010 as part of the City's overall curbside pickup contract, and the extra weeks at the beginning and end of the season will continue for 2011.

Residents are reminded to use properly marked 20-32 gallon containers or paper yard waste bags. Do not use plastic bags or cardboard boxes. They will not be picked up.

Also, never use your trash or recycling carts for yard waste.

Brush and branches must be properly bundled. Visit www.cityofdearborn.org or check the 2011 City of Dearborn calendar for details. ■

Green and convenient

Residential recycling efforts doubled with use of more convenient, larger carts

In all of southeast Michigan, Dearborn has one of the most comprehensive lists of items that can be recycled. And, Dearborn's new curbside collection system using convenient 96-gallon carts with wheels has increased household recycling efforts.

"The overwhelming majority of individuals appreciate our new recycling containers. Tonnage, volume and participation have doubled. This reduces the City of Dearborn's landfill costs," said Bruce Yinger, Superintendent of Sanitation and Neighborhood Services.

Residents are reminded that curbside recycling is mandatory in Dearborn.

A list of acceptable recycle materials is available online at:

<http://www.cityofdearborn.org/government/city-services/public-works>. A comprehensive list is also available in the 2011 City of Dearborn calendar.

Items that cannot be put into the recycle carts include: oils, paints, hazardous waste, wax coated paper milk or juice cartons, Styrofoam containers/packing, garbage, compost, food waste, electrical cords and tires.

One wrong item in a recycle cart can contaminate and jeopardize the whole truck load. ■

Extra carts

Additional trash, recycling carts available for Dearborn residents

Dearborn residents can lease an additional 96-gallon trash or recycling cart from the City for a one-time \$55 fee. To lease an additional cart, complete and sign a request form. It is available at www.cityofdearborn.org on the Department of Public Works page, or by calling the Department of Public Works at 943-2085. Residents will be billed the \$55 per additional cart when they return their completed and signed request form to DPW, 2951 Greenfield, Dearborn, MI 48120.

Carts will be delivered within two weeks from when the order is received. The cart remains the property of the City of Dearborn.

The one-time \$55 fee covers leasing, delivery, and use of each additional cart. ■

Business district boosted

City celebrates Midwest Medical Center opening in new Dearborn Town Center in the east downtown

Just 20 months after breaking ground, officials from the City of Dearborn, Oakwood, Midwest and REDICO Development Company celebrated the grand opening of the Midwest Medical Center at 4700 Schaefer Road in Dearborn's east downtown in December.

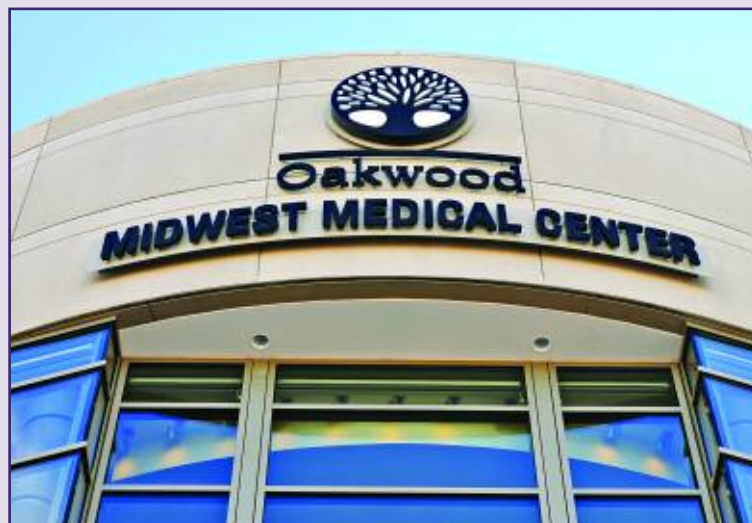
The facility officially opened for patient service on Jan. 3.

Located within the new landmark Dearborn Town Center development, the Midwest Medical Center will provide citizens of Dearborn and southeast Michigan with comprehensive healthcare services.

The City of Dearborn set the stage for the development of the Dearborn Town Center by purchasing the former Wards store, selecting a developer to build a project that would anchor the east downtown, and advocating for funding for the project from the county, state and federal government.

The five-level 530-space public parking deck adjacent to the Midwest Medical Center is owned by the City of Dearborn and provides free parking for the business district. The parking garage includes green technology, including 8, Level 2 electric car charging stations.

Midwest Medical Center will offer 24-hour urgent care, primary and multi-specialty medical care, state-of-the-art



The Dearborn Town Center opened in the former Wards site in downtown east Dearborn. The primary tenant is Oakwood's Midwest Medical Center.

imaging technologies, on-site laboratory and pharmacy, operating rooms for ambulatory surgery, and enhanced corporate health and occupational medicine programs.

Future phases of the Dearborn Town Center project include an assisted living facility for seniors and a building for retail and office space. ■

Encouraging home ownership

Neighborhood stabilization efforts continuing with rehabbed homes

In 2010, the City of Dearborn successfully transformed four formerly vacant and foreclosed houses.

These homes are now being made available to lower-income qualified first-time homebuyers.

It took the combined efforts of many people and months of work but renovations are complete on these first of nine houses, which were purchased by the City through its Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

Pinehurst example

One example of this initiative is at 7933 Pinehurst, which the City purchased from HUD under its \$1 Homes Sale Program. What was a two-family home was converted to a single-family residence. A first-floor laundry was added. Other work included a new roof, furnace, closets, entry way and flooring.

The home now meets all HUD and City of Dearborn regulations and codes. Prior to the City purchase, the property was vacant and previously on the market for a long time. The renovations and new committed homeowners help build strong neighborhoods.

This home on Pinehurst was transformed from a troubled two-family flat into a single-family home and updated with more modern amenities and brought up to building codes. It is intended for an income qualified first-time home buyer.



Homes reserved for occupants, not investors

Purchase of the houses must be made by someone who intends to live in the home – investors are not eligible. Special considerations are available for full-time Dearborn police officers, firefighters and emergency medical technicians, Dearborn teachers, full-time or non-seasonal part-time City of Dearborn employees and U.S. veterans.

More than 300 people have applied since the First-Time Homebuyer Home Sales Assistance Program was announced in January 2010. To give prospective lower-income qualified new owners the best chance at success, they must complete an 8-hour HUD approved counseling class and be pre-approved for a mortgage.

Details of the program

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Stabilization Program (HUD-NSP) was authorized by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (HERA) to assist states and local governments in addressing the effects of abandoned and foreclosed properties in the nation's communities.

The City of Dearborn's HUD-NSP Substantial Amendment includes authorization for the acquisition and rehabilitation of target area foreclosed residential properties intended for the benefit of and resale to income-qualified homebuyers.

For more information, call the Dearborn Economic and Community Development Department at 943-2421 or TTY at 943-2074. ■

Supporting the community

Dearborn Community Fund invests in positive programs, student art initiative

The Dearborn Community Fund (DCF), established in 2000 as a non-profit organization, provides and promotes financial and volunteer resources in support of cultural and recreational programs that directly impact Dearborn citizens.



Members of the Student Design Team working on the POP program study artistic options.

The DCF is committed to providing enrichment opportunities to enhance the quality of life for Dearborn citizens. It gives back to the community through grants, school field trip support, recreation support, the "Art in Public Places" initiative and sponsorships.

The DCF's latest, and most ambitious, initiative is titled: "Pockets of Perception (POP) – We Are One Community."

POP was launched in October 2010. It is a yearlong project, focusing on young people from Dearborn schools, cultivating their creativity while encouraging multi-cultural understanding and their investment in the community through the creation of public art.

A 16-member Student Design Team, selected through an application process, meets on Saturdays at the POP design studio/gallery located in the Nichols Ski and Snowboard Building, 21938 Michigan Ave. The public is invited to visit, observe and interact with the Student Design Team.

Additional information on the DCF is available by calling 313-943-5478 or by e-mail to: communityfund@ci.dearborn.mi.us. ■

Parking innovation

Pay parking fees by cell phone in downtown west Dearborn lot

In cooperation with the City of Dearborn, Parkmobile USA, Inc. is offering a convenient service that allows drivers to use their mobile phone to pay for parking in the west downtown.



Phase one of the program has begun in metered Lot H, on West Village Drive between Mason and Monroe, south of Michigan Avenue.

It is hoped that more parking meters will be under the Parkmobile system by the end of March, with coverage in the entire west Dearborn parking system by the end of the year.

To use the new Parkmobile system, customers register for free at www.parkmobile.com.

Once registered, motorists can use a mobile app, the internet, or a toll free phone call, 800-280-4146 or 1-800-280-4146, to pay for parking.

Motorists can also select the option to receive text message alerts and reminders 15 minutes before their time expires.

"We're pleased to offer this innovation to be make it even more convenient for people to visit the stores, night spots and restaurants in our west downtown," said Mayor John B. O'Reilly, Jr. "We want to deliver services for the way people live their lives now, and phone applications are a big part of that."

Parking Lot H is 50 cents an hour. There is a small transaction fee of 35 cents for using the convenience of the pay by phone system. The transaction fee is paid to Parkmobile.

Customers can also choose to pay a flat rate of \$3 (transaction fee included) to park from 5 p.m. to closing. ■

Explaining cable issue

Why AT&T's U-Verse cable TV service doesn't carry Dearborn's access channels

Residents sometimes ask why the City of Dearborn's government information channel and other access channels are not carried on the AT&T cable system.

They are carried on Comcast and on WOW.

In the past, cable companies were required to carry the local access channels on their systems.

The local franchise agreements with both Comcast and WOW specify that the channels be provided and Comcast and WOW voluntarily paid the costs of connecting the access channels to their systems.

AT&T has chosen not to pay the cost of carrying the channels.

City would need to pay

If a municipality or school district wants their channels to be carried on AT&T's system, called U-verse, it must be done at the expense of the city or school district.

Each channel requires its own T-1 connection, at a cost of \$400 to \$500 per month per channel. In addition to the monthly fees, special hardware is required that would be a significant investment for the city.

Picture quality is poor

AT&T has also refused to carry access channels in the manner that other cable companies do, where each channel gets its own channel number.

Instead, AT&T forces all access channels across southeast Michigan onto channel 99, and AT&T uses an internet application that results in a lower quality picture than the broadcast channels.

In fact, the picture has only half the pixels of broadcast television channels.

This means that when the partial screen picture that AT&T offers to access channels is enlarged to full screen, there is a significant loss of picture quality.

Future possibilities

The City of Dearborn hopes in the future to be able to offer CDTV on AT&T's U-verse. This will likely require action by the

Federal Communications Commission or Congress, because AT&T's treatment of access channels is a national problem.

Internet viewing is option 24/7

Until that happens, Comcast and WOW are the only options for viewing CDTV and the Dearborn schools channel on your television.

However, if you are an AT&T subscriber or you do not have cable service, or you just like convenience, all of CDTV's programs can be seen on the internet at <http://cdtv.pegcentral.com>. It can also be accessed through www.cityofdearborn.org. ■

Events prompt spending

Recreation Department activities helping to fuel the local economy

The City of Dearborn and the Dearborn Recreation Department continue to host special events that have a positive effect on the local economy.

In September 2010, the Dearborn Ice Skating Center hosted three hockey tournaments, each of which drew teams from as far away as St. Louis and New York.

The largest of the three, the Belle Tire Back-to-School Classic, attracted 96 teams, most of which stayed at local hotels, including the Hyatt Regency.

"This tournament booked 300 rooms for two nights at our local hotels," said DISC Manager Kirk Young.

"When you factor into that the number of players, parents, family members and friends who are eating in our restaurants and frequenting our shops and businesses, that's a lot of money flowing into the local economy."

Big hockey events in spring 2011

In March, the DISC will host the Michigan Amateur Hockey Association's State Peewee Tournaments, which will draw teams from throughout Michigan.

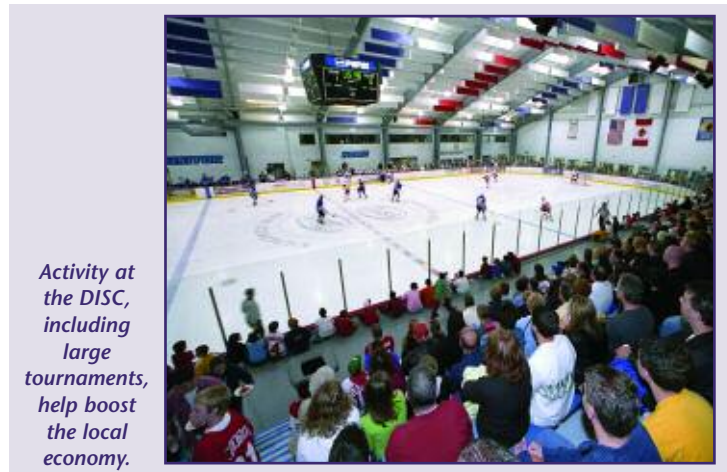
"We're expecting those tournaments to have much the same kind of economic impact on local businesses," said Young.

In May, the North American Rink Conference & Expo will be held at the Hyatt, and several demonstrations and workshops will be conducted at the DISC.

Movie-making in 2010

In spring 2010, Dearborn was the main staging area for Mandalay Productions' soon-to-be-released film, "Salvation Boulevard," starring Pierce Brosnan, Ed Harris and Greg Kinnear.

Scenes were filmed in and around the Ford Community & Performing Arts Center.



Activity at the DISC, including large tournaments, help boost the local economy.

For the better part of two months, Dearborn hotels, along with selected condos in the community, served as temporary homes for the cast and crew members.

Impact on local businesses

Local caterers provided three meals a day for about 150 cast and crew members and also served up to 200 extras on certain days. Local businesses benefited from the production when they were called upon to provide generators, port-a-potties, forklifts, rental vehicles, security services, signs and more.

After each day's shooting wrapped up, cast and crew members frequently patronized local restaurants and retail establishments, contributing to the Dearborn-area economy.

"When you take into consideration all the economic aspects of this production, it easily pumped \$200,000 into the local economy," said Recreation Department Cultural Arts Supervisor Martin Zbosnik.

Other City of Dearborn events supported by the Recreation Department also bring money into the community, including shows in the Michael A. Guido Theater, Dearborn Homecoming and the Dearborn Soccer Club's Annual Tournament. ■

Updating Camp Dearborn

Camp Dearborn entrance sign reflects outdoor site's renovation

Those who visited Camp Dearborn in 2010 were greeted by a new entrance sign.

The sign, framed in large pine logs and attractively rustic, stands tall enough to draw attention from vehicles traveling in either direction on General Motors Road.



The new Camp Dearborn sign reflects updates in progress or planned for the Milford facility.

The new sign is the first glimpse of updates taking place at the campground. The complete sign project will place 26 log signs throughout the camp to provide direction and information for visitors.

Totem pole project

Another project visitors could not miss is the landscaping of the totem pole, just inside the Camp. The refurbished totem pole, considered a historic treasure of Camp Dearborn, stands tall where the road separates campers from day visitors.

The landscape project was developed through a partnership of the Dearborn Recreation Department and The Friends of Camp Dearborn (FOCD), headed by president, Joanne Murphy.

Lake 5 shoreline

Plans are underway for renovation of both the entrance booths and the shoreline of Lake 5, commonly known as the camper's swimming lake in Tent Village.

The Dearborn Recreation Administration has attained its goal of operating the Camp without an operating budget subsidy for four consecutive years.

The Camp Dearborn Office had to maintain a waiting list for tents and cabins for the 2010 entire season.

The Camp Office is accepting reservations for 2011.

The official camping season begins June 18 and runs through Labor Day weekend. Camping with limited activity is available May 1 and continues through October.

More information about Camp Dearborn can be found at www.campdearborn.com, or by calling the Recreation Department at 943-2350. ■

Making connections

Learning a new language is effective and fun with Mango software at the Dearborn Library

The Dearborn Public Library now offers the Mango Languages online language-learning system.

Mango is free for all library cardholders and offers a fast and convenient solution for the community's increasing language-learning needs.

Each lesson combines real life situations and audio from native speakers with simple, clear instructions. The courses are presented with an appreciation for cultural nuance and real-world application that integrates components of vocabulary, pronunciation, grammar and culture.

Users learn actual conversation. And the program allows the user to draw important connections between pieces of information they have already learned.

Mango is available in two versions. One is Mango Complete, a 100-lesson course that is designed to provide a deep understanding of a language and its culture. It is available in nine foreign language and three English as a Second Language (ESL) courses.

The second is Mango Basic, which teaches everyday greetings and helpful phrases in a short period of time and is designed to appeal to a beginner in a new language.

The courses, which require only two to five hours of time to complete, are currently available in 22 foreign languages and 15 ESL courses.

"Learning a new language should be fun. With Mango, it definitely is," said Library Director Maryanne Bartles.

To get a preview of what the program has to offer, stop by the library for an introduction. You can access Mango via www.dearbornlibrary.org. If you have your library card, you can access the actual courses remotely from anywhere!

For information, contact the Dearborn Public Library at (313) 943-2330. ■

City rentals

Plenty of rental opportunities at City sites for parties, business meetings, special events

Planning a wedding, baby shower, family reunion, club meeting, or a children's birthday party? The City of Dearborn has plenty of facilities to rent for a good value.

Camp Dearborn

Shelters, grounds, golf course, tent, cabin and camp sites available. Perfect for reunions, weddings and more. Call (248) 684-6000 or (313) 943-2350 or visit www.campdearborn.com.

Dearborn City parks and picnic areas

Ford Field, Hemlock and Lapeer covered shelters, picnic areas, Hemlock Cabin. Call 313-943-2350 or visit www.cityofdearborn.org/play/local-media/230-things-to-do-parks-page.

Dearborn Hills Golf Course

Banquet room accommodating 15 to 200. Call (313) 563-4653 or (313) 563-5985 or visit www.dearbornhills.com.

Ford Community & Performing Arts Center

Ballroom, board room, theater, party rooms, classrooms, gym, pool, and climbing wall. Event packages can include balloons, signage on the Center marquee, ceiling décor, tables, microphones and more. Theater rental: 313-943-4467. Event packages: 313-943-2381. Price guides and additional information available at: www.dearbornfordcenter.com/rentals and www.dearborntheater.com.



Henry Ford Centennial Library

Auditorium and Rotunda: 943-2350. Visit www.dearbornlibrary.org.

Historical Museums

McFadden Ross House or Commandant's Quarters. McFadden Ross House includes a kitchen, picnic tables and gathering rooms. Call 565-3000 or visit www.cityofdearborn.org/government/city-services/historical-museum. ■

Animal control

City addresses dogs' threatening actions by focusing on responsibility of owners

Responding to concerns about potentially dangerous dogs, the City of Dearborn is tackling the issue with a progressive approach, avoiding breed-specific restrictions and focusing on responsible dog ownership.

As of press time for the Back Fence, a draft ordinance developed by the City administration was under consideration by the City Council. The Council was expected to approve the ordinance in January.

The administration researched options and followed a logical

approach to updating the current vicious dog ordinance, following several recent incidents in which dogs seriously injured people in southeast Michigan.

Owners are the focus

The ordinance as proposed gives the City tools to definitively address concerns about dangerous and vicious dogs, primarily by focusing on owners' responsibility for their dogs' behavior.

Officials met with the public in December to discuss updating the City's existing vicious dog ordinance.

What came out of the discussion is a two-tier ordinance that is not breed-specific.

Two-tiered approach

The two tiers focus on dangerous dogs and vicious dogs, each of which is defined individually. Violations of the ordinance provisions require specific steps to take place.

For instance, if a dog is deemed dangerous, mandatory evaluations of the animal and mandatory dog training for the owner are imposed. There are penalties for non-compliance.

Dogs deemed vicious have few options and owners are subjected to penalties.

The City Council had discussed updating the vicious dog ordinance to specify a ban on pit bulls, similar to what other cities have done.

However, the Friends for the Dearborn Animal Shelter stressed that the dogs causing problems could be any breed, and behavior and owners' responsibility should be the focus. ■

Improving patient care

Fire Department, Oakwood Healthcare set standard in heart attack treatment

When treating a heart attack patient, all doctors have a common expression: "Time is muscle."

The faster cardiac patients can receive treatment, the better their odds of making a full recovery—without long-term damage to the most important muscle in the human body.

That's good news for the residents in Dearborn, where the Dearborn Fire Department and the Oakwood Healthcare System are using the latest technology to treat cardiac patients in as little as 40 minutes—less than half the national standard time.

Information transmitted

Using Bluetooth technology, paramedic crews can transmit data directly to the cell phones of hospital physicians, who can analyze it wherever they are and respond accordingly. The information can be transmitted in as little as zero point-three (0.3) seconds, said Jeff Beutner, Dearborn Fire Department Battalion Chief, Emergency Medical Services.

"The hospital is looking at the same thing our paramedics are looking at," he said. "In essence, we've not only brought the emergency room to the patient, we've also brought cardiology into the fold, too."

Whether EMS is evaluating patients in their living room or in the ambulance, Beutner said, it's like "we've got the emergency room physician and the cardiologist standing right behind us. It's really having a huge impact on patient care."

Cardiac prep begins earlier

Sending timely information to the physicians allows the hospital to activate the Cardiac Catherization Lab earlier as patients are arriving, which results in Oakwood having one of the fastest procedure times in southeast Michigan.

"In the end, the patient benefits from the teamwork between EMS and Oakwood Hospital, and it is this teamwork that is saving lives across southeast Michigan," said Beutner. ■

Lifesaving training

Dearborn firefighters demonstrate powerful "Jaws of Life" equipment

The Dearborn Fire Department in December demonstrated its powerful new "Jaws of Life" style equipment that can cut through the heavy steel of current-model vehicles to rescue accident victims.

The new equipment, made by Res Q Tec, was purchased through a \$97,000 "Assistance to Firefighters" grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).



Dearborn firefighters use powerful new Jaws of Life style rescue equipment to dismantle a vehicle during a training exercise on Dec. 9.

With nearly twice the strength of older Jaws of Life, the Res Q Tec is more effective in cutting through the stronger steel used in current model vehicles.

Ford Motor Company donated 12 late-model cars and trucks to the Fire Department so that all 120 Dearborn firefighters could train using the new equipment.

During the demonstration, Mayor O'Reilly said, "We're grateful to have pursued and received the FEMA grant to purchase this life-saving equipment. Dearborn is known for our high level of public safety, and one of the reasons is that we continually invest in training and updated technology."

Ford Motor Co. assists

He thanked Ford Motor Company for its donation. "We're pleased to continue our great partnership with Ford. It's in both of our best interests to work together to have our firefighters train on 'real world' vehicles."

Responding to nearly 1,000 vehicle accidents every year, the Dearborn Fire Department has a "Best in Class" distinction for its average of four-minute response times.

The addition of the Res Q Tec is just one example of how the City is constantly investing in public safety by acquiring life-saving equipment, engaging in relevant training, and capitalizing on partnership opportunities like the one with Ford. ■

Avoid tickets

Move parked vehicles from streets when heavy snowfall is predicted

Dearborn residents can help get the roads plowed faster and more effectively this winter by moving parked vehicles off of the street whenever three inches or more of snow is predicted to fall.

Keeping parked vehicles off of the street allows snow plows to go curb-to-curb instead of working around vehicles parked on the street.

Remember that when the City of Dearborn declares a snow emergency, you must remove your parked vehicles from the street or you could be ticketed and your vehicles could be towed. Police do not issue warnings.

Generally, you may park vehicles back on the street once the street has been plowed and no further heavy snowfall is expected. Driveway aprons may become blocked during snowplowing.

You can check to see if a snow emergency has been declared via any of the following methods:

- www.cityofdearborn.org
- CDTV. (Note that AT&T cable does not broadcast CDTV).
- Snow emergency hotline at 943-2444.
- TV and radio stations.
- You may also hear the City's emergency warning sirens go off.
- Twitter.com messages via the "cityofdearborn" account.
- Text or email messages from the public safety information system known as Nixle. Sign up for alerts at Nixle.com. ■



Mayor
John B. O'Reilly, Jr.

City Council
Thomas P. Tafelski, Council President
Suzanne Sareini, Council President Pro Tem
Mark Shooshanian
Robert A. Abraham
Brian C. O'Donnell
Nancy A. Hubbard
David W. Bazy

City Clerk
Kathleen Buda

Department of Public Information
Mary Laundroche, Director



City of Dearborn
Department of Public Information
13615 Michigan Avenue
Dearborn, MI 48126

PRE-SORTED
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ECRWSS
To: Residential Customer

Public safety

Dearborn Police Department taps into Nixle.com to effectively distribute information to residents

In an effort to increase the speed and effectiveness of its communication with residents, the Dearborn Police Department has created an account with the community information provider called Nixle.com.

Through Nixle.com, Dearborn residents will be able to receive important and timely information through e-mail, online or in a text message (fees may apply to text messages).



Anyone can go to www.nixle.com and type Dearborn, Michigan into the search to see the latest post for free, but an account must be set up with Nixle in order to receive messages.

"The City of Dearborn and its Police Department are pleased to provide this service to its residents

as it offers a reliable and secure way for us to quickly get important information out to our residents," said Police Chief Ronald Haddad. ■

Delivering services

Public Service Days begin again on April 4

Public Service Days will begin again the week of April 4 and last through Dec. 2 so the City can more efficiently clean and maintain neighborhoods.

During Public Service Days in their neighborhoods, vehicle owners must keep their parked cars off of the street from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tickets will be issued to owners of parked vehicles left on the street.

Public Service Days are the same day as trash collection days.

Remember that Public Service Days are scheduled differently in neighborhoods throughout the City, depending on the neighborhood's trash day.

Check www.cityofdearborn.org or call 943-2886 for general information on Public Service Days.

For parking issues related to Public Service Days, call 943-2276. ■

Disposal options

Monthly drop-off days offered at the DPW Yard

The Department of Public Works Yard, 2951 Greenfield, is open 8 a.m.-1 p.m. the third Saturday of each month for disposal of items not picked up at the curb.

You must be able to move the objects from your vehicle to the disposal site. There is no assistance to lift or move objects at the DPW Yard. Residents are responsible for unloading their own vehicles.

Items accepted at the DPW yard are: furniture and other non-hazardous household materials from large move-outs, dirt, sod, sand, concrete and bricks, firewood, logs and stumps, bathtubs, laundry tubs, sinks and toilets.

A partial list of materials not accepted at the DPW yard includes: fuel, tires, ammunition or refrigerators, microwaves or other appliances. To check if your materials are acceptable, call DPW at 943-2085.

Remember, hazardous materials are not acceptable for either curbside disposal or for disposal at the DPW Yard. ■

The Center's season

Theater presents shows for a variety of tastes

Dearborn's state-of-the-art Michael A. Guido Theater inside of the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center is always an enjoyable place to see a show.

No matter what type of event you see, audiences always enjoy top-notch acoustics, comfortable seating, and a classy atmosphere; there isn't a bad seat in the house.

Motown Magic Tribute, February 18. Motown Magic is an evening full of your favorite hits from the soulful 60's and 70's. Tickets range from \$35-\$49

Simply Sinatra, March 12. You'll swear you've been transported to a Vegas lounge to be crooned by the legend himself. \$29-\$49

Star Trek Live, March 14. Boldly go where no audience has gone before: directly into the Star Trek universe! It is an action-packed, interactive experience. \$6

Live & Let Die, March 25. Tony Kishman, veteran of Broadway's Beatlemania, performs the best of the Beatles, as well as Paul McCartney's solo work. \$25-\$49

Jim Brickman - Beautiful World, April 2. Playing his hits like "Valentine," and "The Gift," two-time, Grammy-nominated composer and pianist Jim Brickman brings his thoughtful, musical celebration, "Beautiful World" to Dearborn. \$29-\$49

Most Happy Fella, April 29, 30. A play about love and what it means to be happy with who you've chosen. *The Most Happy Fella* will take the audience on a journey full of comedy, fun, and romance. \$12-\$25

Whose Live Anyway? May 5. Four legends of improvisation from the hit show *Whose Line is it Anyway* will have everyone in the house in stitches with their hilarious comedy skills. \$35-\$49

You can purchase tickets for any of these shows by visiting the box office, calling (313) 943-2354, or visiting www.dearborntheater.com. ■