

# Village of Paw Paw

Larry Nielsen, Village Manager  
111 East Michigan Avenue, PO Box 179; Paw Paw, MI 49079  
Phone: 269-657-3148 // Fax: 269-657-7544  
Website: <http://www.pawpaw.net> // Email: [l.nielsen@pawpaw.net](mailto:l.nielsen@pawpaw.net)

## “Notes From Larry”

**FROM: Larry Nielsen, Village Manager**

**Date: July 8, 2009**

---

**Kudos to the Paw Paw Community Fire Department.** Hats off to the members of the all volunteer Paw Paw Community Fire Department for their hard work hosting the 134<sup>th</sup> Annual firefighters association conference in Paw Paw. They had help from the Lawton Fire Department as well. I think this was the first time the conference had ever been this far west in Michigan. Workshops, training, demonstrations and displays were all part of the weekend events. Great job fire fighters and thanks for showcasing the greater Paw Paw community.

**Uncork Paw Paw!** What a great community. The “Picnic in the Park” program offers a variety of programs on Wednesday lunch time. It is a good time to bring the kids, grab a lunch from a local restaurant and be a part of the event. These are at the County Park downtown Paw Paw. The “Concerts on the Lake” got off to a great start last Sunday early evening/late afternoon with over 200 people attending. You and your family may want to catch these Sunday free concerts. Both are provided by the Paw Paw Downtown Development Authority as a way to attract people to the downtown which will lead people to discover and support all the great businesses in the DDA.

**Do Business Local – Help Recycle Our Local Economy.** According to the Andersonville Study and others by the Civic Economics Group, for every \$100 a consumer spends...local independent business give back \$68 while non-local chain stores give back only \$43. So, thank you for doing business with our locally owned businesses. Here’s what you just did: 1. You kept dollars in the local economy. 2. You embraced what makes us unique. 3. You created local jobs. 4. You nurtured your community. 5. You guaranteed they will give back even more to the community.

**Master Plan Makes Progress:** The final draft of the Village’s next 10-year Master Plan is now before the Planning Commission. It will be sent to the Village Council in August for their consideration. But, that would not be the final action. The Council members will decide to release the plan or not for its official 63-day comment period. Following this time period a public hearing will be held. Anyone and everyone will get a chance to comment during the 63-day comment period and at the public hearing. Only after these opportunities will the Planning Commission send its final version to the Village Council for adoption. When it is released for public comment, the draft will be posted on the Village’s website.

**Village Website!** I am still surprised to meet people who had no idea the Village has a website. [www.pawpaw.net](http://www.pawpaw.net) has lots of information from the Village's budget, code of ordinances, meeting minutes, forms, and all sorts of other valuable information. Check it out.

**Maple Lake News.** Ahhhh, Summer and sound of the weed boat at work. The Maple Lake Association and the Village are working together to run the weed harvesting boat 6-8 hours 4 days a week. In an average days, the workers can get 8-9 loads of weeds. The Maple Lake Association has a new weed control agent they are using this year to kill weeds. The Village has also undertaken two studies that will eventually lead to an overall management plan for the lake. One study looks at sediment and another looks at nutrient loading. Shoreline property owners can help by following simple procedures. Many of these suggestions are on the Village's website (see above) under the button (left hand column) titled Lake & River Info.

Until Next time, I'm Larry Nielsen.