



the
CONNECTION

FALL/WINTER 2023-24

the

CONNECTION

FALL/WINTER 2023-24

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Contact Us.....2

Hard Work Pays Off – A Message from Mayor Kolar.....3

Connect With What Matters – A Message from the City Administrator.....4-5

News and Information from

 The Treasurer.....6

 Community Engagement.....7

 The Clerk’s Office.....8-9

 DPW.....10

 Police Department.....11

 Fire Department.....12-13

Updates from Boards and Commissions

 Milan Seniors for Healthy Living.....14

 Milan Beautification Commission.....14

 Milan Main Street.....15

 Parks and Recreation Commission.....15

Events, Happenings & Important Dates

 October.....16-17

 November.....18-19

 December.....20-21

CITY HALL

(734) 439-1501

MONDAY	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
TUESDAY	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
THURSDAY	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
FRIDAY	CLOSED

City Administrator - James Lancaster

jamesl@milanmich.org

Treasurer & Finance Director- Sarah Finch

sarahf@milanmich.org

Director of IT Services - John Koehler

johnk@milanmich.org

Community Engagement Director- Jill Tewsley

jillt@milanmich.org

Clerk - Lavonna Wenzel

lavonnaw@milanmich.org

Assessor - Dan Currie

danc@milanmich.org

Building Department

734.439.7089

MAYOR & COUNCIL

Mayor Ed Kolar

edkolar@milanmich.org

Mayor Pro Tem Mary Kerkes

maryk@milanmich.org

Dave Baldwin

daveb@milanmich.org

Josh Kofflin

joshk@milanmich.org

Jesse Nie

jessen@milanmich.org

Christian Thompson

christiant@milanmich.org

Shannon Dare Wayne

shannonw@milanmich.org

POLICE & FIRE

Milan Police Department

(734) 439-1551

Chief of Police Donald Tillery

donalddt@milanmich.org

Milan Area Fire Department

(734) 439-2843

Fire Chief Robert Stevens

rgstevens@milanareafire.com



HARD WORK PAYS OFF

Your City Council and I continue to work diligently on the financial success of the City. We are working with each department to improve services and retain employees, all while eliminating wasteful spending. We have been very successful in improving the financial strength of the city while still investing back into our assets and properties.

We are currently focused on expanding our commercial tax base. These efforts will be visible over the next several years as you see new commercial growth and expansion.

Your council and city staff have worked hard to pursue grants, securing approximately \$4,600,000 in new funding for infrastructure and pension relief. These grants relieve the burden from the taxpayers so current tax revenues can go directly to critical infrastructure needs such as undersized and dated water mains, and secondary roads that have been overlooked for too long.

Infrastructure is the next main push for Council and our planning for this is well underway. Big improvements to Milan are on the horizon.

The work we do is not glamorous, but we are committed to setting the city up for long-term financial success that will allow this administration and future ones to ensure quality of life improvements that we all deserve.

This council and staff will continue to work for additional grants to support parks and parking improvements throughout the city. Our grant efforts have been incredibly successful, and we will continue to go after more of these opportunities to bring investment to the city while not depleting our own financial resources.

Hard work does pay off!

CONNECT WITH WHAT MATTERS



As summer comes to a close, our children have gone back to school, the farmers have begun their harvest season, the pumpkin spice craze begins to fill all our minds, and we are beginning our preparation for the winter season. This summer has not gone by without a fight. We once again battled severe weather that brought trees down, torrential rain events, and more long-term power outages.

The summer season was a busy one as well for your governmental leaders within the city. We continue to work on asset management and sustainable long-term planning to address the many needs of the community while trying to remain as fiscally conservative as possible. Over the past few decades, we have struggled to keep up with our aging infrastructure needs, as well as develop new capital projects to continually grow our town. No different than you have all experienced at our local grocery stores, the increasing cost of goods and services has had a significant impact on our municipality's budget as well. Construction projects cost more than ever before, and we must try to identify additional funding sources to continue to maintain and grow. The current makeup of the city puts much of the onus on our residents to foot the bill for these rehabilitation and new construction projects. However, one of the focus points of your city council has been to identify and apply for grants to hopefully help get things accomplished with funding that is not directly from our residents.

Over the past year, we have been successful in this process as we have already received \$4,628,338 in grant funding.

- \$3,600,000 State of Michigan for the Wastewater Treatment Plant
 - This funding was secured by State Representative Reggie Miller and State Senator Jeff Irwin as part of the State of Michigan annual budget.
 - This funding will go towards improvements at the city's wastewater treatment plant and sanitary sewer collection system.
- \$983,338 State of Michigan Protecting Pensions Grants
 - The funding from this grant will go directly into our pension fund to help offset the yearly contribution the city must put into the pension fund. We are a couple of years away from a significant reduction in necessary contributions due to the tough choices that were made years ago.

- \$25,000 Greater Milan Area Community Foundation
 - The Greater Milan Area Community Foundation and the Community Foundation of Monroe County teamed up to help provide the final piece of funding needed to construct the kayak launch at Nature Park.
- \$10,000 Destination Ann Arbor's Community Tourism Action Plan
 - This grant will be used to purchase shade structures at the splash pad. Look for this addition in 2024.
- \$10,000 EGLE's Community Energy Management Grant
 - EGLE awarded the city this grant to change out all off the lighting at The Center to energy efficient LED bulbs. This will also significantly reduce electricity costs moving forward for that facility.

On top of all those grants that were already awarded, the city currently is awaiting the results of at least five other grants that were applied for over the last year. Before the end of this calendar year, we should have answers on all these grants that could potentially bring another \$2,970,000 back to the city. A couple of the larger grants that we are currently awaiting results for are:

- DNR SPARK Grant (\$1,000,000)
 - Renovations at Wilson Park to include restrooms, fitness court, pickleball, and fully accessible playscape.
- MEDC RAP Grant (\$800,000)
 - Resurface and redo the Main Street parking lot, move the utility lines under Tolan Street and relocate behind the buildings.
- State of Michigan TAP Grant (\$750,000)
 - Address ADA ramps, midblock crossing from Wabash Lot, park path resurfacing and expansion.
- US Federal Government Appropriation (\$400,000)
 - This grant is being pursued by U.S Representative Debbie Dingell for upgrades to The Center. These updates include new windows, kitchen and bathroom remodels, and the renovation of the Great Room.

Many of these grants are highly competitive and extremely specific about the type of things that qualify for this funding. We will continue to look for new grant opportunities to attempt to maintain the current momentum of maintaining our current assets as well as creating new assets to continually improve the quality of life here in the City of Milan. Our goal is to create a community where we have the amenities that not only keep our residents here but also draw from the surrounding communities to shop in our downtown and support our local businesses. Creating memory and placemaking opportunities for our residents is one of our core beliefs so we can help you connect with what matters.

news and information from

TREASURER'S OFFICE

PROPERTY TAXES

Winter tax bills will be mailed at the end of November and become payable on December 1, 2023

WASHTENAW COUNTY 2023 MILLAGE RATES

ENTITY	SUMMER MILLAGE RATE	WINTER MILLAGE RATE
Milan City	16.3496	0.0000
Milan Library	1.6637	0.0000
Milan Seniors	0.5000	0.0000
Milan Publicity - P.A. 359 of 192	0.2415	0.0000
Milan Sch Oper	8.9847	8.9847
Milan Sch Debt	4.9500	4.9500
State Ed Tax	6.0000	0.0000
Wash Comm College	3.3548	0.0000
Washtenaw ISD	5.5389	0.0000
Wash County Oper	4.3512	0.0000
County Parks	0.0000	0.4647
County Natural Areas	0.0000	0.2474
County EECs	0.0000	0.1910
County PA214 (Vets)	0.0000	0.0960
County PA283 (Roads)	0.0000	0.4950
County HCMA	0.0000	0.2070
County CMH & PS	0.0000	0.9693
County Conservation District	0.0000	0.0197
TOTAL N/H	51.9344	16.6248
(School Oper)	(8.9847)	(8.9847)
TOTAL HOMESTEAD	42.9497	7.6401
DDA	1.3305	0.0000
TOTAL HOMESTEAD w/DDA	44.2802	7.6401

MONROE COUNTY 2023 MILLAGE RATES

ENTITY	SUMMER MILLAGE RATE	WINTER MILLAGE RATE
Milan City	16.3496	0.0000
Milan Library	1.6637	0.0000
Milan Seniors	0.5000	0.0000
Milan Publicity - P.A. 359 of 1925	0.2415	0.0000
Milan Sch Oper	8.9847	8.9847
Milan Sch Debt	4.9500	4.9500
State Ed Tax	6.0000	0.0000
Monroe Comm College	2.1794	0.0000
Monroe Comm College - Maint	0.8500	0.0000
Washtenaw ISD	5.5389	0.0000
Monroe County Op	4.7952	0.0000
County Senior Citizen	0.0000	0.5430
County Fairview	0.0000	0.1250
County Veterans	0.0000	0.0060
County Museum	0.0000	0.1500
County Library	0.0000	1.0000
TOTAL N/H	52.0530	15.7587
(School Oper)	(8.9847)	(8.9847)
TOTAL HOMESTEAD	43.0683	6.7740
DDA	1.3305	0.0000
TOTAL HOMESTEAD w/DDA	44.3988	6.7740

PAYING YOUR TAXES

There are several ways to pay your property taxes:

In Person at City Hall:

- Mon. – Thurs.; 7:30 AM – 5 PM
- Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted
- Credit card payments will have a 3% convenience fee applied

Online Payment Portal:

- bsaonline.com
- Credit card payments will have a 3% convenience fee applied

Drop Box:

- During or after business hours
- Located outside front doors of Police Department (next door to City Hall)

Interactive Voice Recorded (IVR):

- Call (855) 844-7643

Automated Payment Programs (via ACH):

- No charge for the service
- Forms available at :
milanmich.org/how_do_i (select Enroll for Automatic Property Tax Payments)

By Mail:

- Postmarks are NOT accepted
- Mail to:

City of Milan
Treasurer's Office
147 Wabash Street
Milan, MI 48160

SARAH FINCH

treasurer & finance director

news and information from

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



ELLEN BELL RETIRES

Long-time Parks and Recreation Director Ellen Bell retired earlier this year. Ellen worked for the city for over three decades. During her tenure, she helped countless individuals and families make memories at events and in our parks. Her family often volunteered their time alongside Ellen, helping at dances, picnics, workshops and more. In May, a bridge in Wilson Park was named the Bell Bridge in honor of Ellen and her family.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DEPARTMENT CREATED

Jill Tewsley, who served as the Executive Director of Milan Main Street since 2016, was appointed to the newly created position of Community Engagement Director. In this position, Jill will continue to oversee many of the programs she was responsible for as the Main Street Director while also taking on the oversight of the Parks and Recreation Department as well as the management of social media and communications for the City.

CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITY

There are several ways to stay informed and updated with news and information from the City and its various boards, commissions, and entities. A few of which are listed below.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Follow us on Facebook at:

- City of Milan
- Milan Beautification Commission
- Milan Area Firefighters
- Milan Parks and Recreation
- Milan Police Department
- Milan Seniors for Healthy Living
- Milan Main Street
- Milan Public Library
- Milan Public Library

WEBSITE: milanmich.org

We are in the process of updating our website to make it easier to find information and to use. We hope to unveil the new website shortly after the start of the new year.

PUBLIC MEETINGS:

City Council meets the first and third Tuesday* of every month at 7 PM at City Hall. Dates for upcoming meetings are listed on the calendar pages at the rear of this publication and are posted on our website and at City Hall. You can also find dates and times for meetings of the various boards and commissions on our website.

*Dates sometimes change due to holidays and elections.

THE CONNECTION:

We are currently exploring communication tools to implement that will make it easier for you to stay connected. One of which is a quarterly publication we are calling **THE CONNECTION**. It's what you are currently looking at! We know that not everyone likes to get their news and information online which is why we are introducing this printed vehicle to help keep you informed. We hope to introduce other communication tools to you in the coming months.

JILL TEWSLEY
community engagement director

news and information from

THE CLERK'S OFFICE

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

The City of Milan is supported by a variety of boards and commissions made up of residents and business owners.

Boards and Commissions include:

- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Beautification Commission
- Milan Main Street / DDA
- Planning Commission
- Board of Review
- Historic District Study Committee
- Corridor Improvement Authority
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Brownfield Redevelopment
- Building Authority
- Fire Board
- Milan Seniors for Healthy Living Board

Anyone interested in serving on a board or commission is encouraged to complete an application. Once submitted, applications will be given to the mayor for consideration of appointment.

PASSPORTS

The City of Milan is now accepting passport applications on behalf of the U.S. Department of State. U.S. citizens planning international travel may apply for their passports **by appointment only**.

To schedule an appointment, call

Lavonna Wenzel (City Clerk)

734.439.1501 x1007

or

Grace Swaney (Executive Assistant)

734.439.1501 x1004

For application forms, information on documentation, required, fees, and a wealth of other passport and international travel information, visit the only official website for passport information. - travel.state.gov

NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION

Polls are open **7 AM - 8 PM** on **Tuesday, November 7, 2023** at The Riverbank Center (45 Neckel Court).

- November 3, 2023: Last day the Clerk can "mail" an absentee ballot.
- All absentee ballots must be returned to the Clerk's office by 8 PM on Election Day.
- The Clerks' office will be open Saturday, November 4, from 7 AM - 3 PM to register voters or/and issue in-person absentee ballot requests. This is the last day absentee ballots can leave City Hall.
- Starting Monday, November 6, 2023, absentee ballots are available for in-person voting at City Hall. Absentee ballots are not permitted to leave City Hall this day.

NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION SAMPLE BALLOT

Official Ballot	
Tuesday, November 7, 2023 Election	
Washtenaw County, Michigan City of Milan, Precincts 1 & 1W	
Page 1 of 1	
City General Election Nonpartisan Section City Mayor Vote for not more than 1	City Library Board Director Partial Term Ending 12/31/2027 Vote for not more than 1
<input type="checkbox"/> Edward J. Kolar III	<input type="checkbox"/> Robert Chidester
<input type="checkbox"/> Danette Talbot	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	
Council Member Vote for not more than 3	Proposal Section City Library Renewal Millage Proposal
<input type="checkbox"/> Cliff Franklin	Shall the previously authorized increase in tax limitation on all taxable property in the City of Milan, Counties of Washtenaw and Monroe, that expires in 2023 be renewed and the City be authorized to levy annually an amount not to exceed 0.2309 mill (\$0.2309 on each \$1,000 of taxable value) against all taxable property for a period of seven (7) years, 2024 to 2030, inclusive, for the purpose of operating, maintaining, and equipping the Milan Public Library or any other purpose authorized by law for library service? The estimate of the revenue the City will collect in the first year (2024) if the millage is approved and levied by the City is approximately \$49,000. By law, revenue from this millage will be disbursed to the Milan Public Library.
<input type="checkbox"/> Mary C. Kerkes	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<input type="checkbox"/> Laura Russeau	<input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/> David Snyder	
<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew Stafford	
<input type="checkbox"/> Matthew J. Tomecek	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
Library Board Director 6 Year Term Vote for not more than 2	
<input type="checkbox"/> Matt Barbour-Keir	
<input type="checkbox"/> Laurence Biederman	
<input type="checkbox"/> Vicki A. Zilke	
<input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	

LAVONNA WENZEL
clerk

news and information from

DPW

Department of Public Works

THE SNOW HAWK

Thanks to one of our young residents, Emmet L., the SNOWHAWK will be hitting the streets this winter alongside the Blizzard Boss; named last year by Natalie. This is the second year that our DPW crew asked our young residents to name a member of the fleet!

Keep an eye out next summer for the Milan Public Library's Touch-A-Truck event. You'll find our DPW crew there with a City vehicle and your chance to name the next truck in the fleet.



SEASONAL REMINDERS



CHIPPING: The last day of branch chipping will be 10/04/23. After this date, branches will no longer be picked up.



LEAVES: DPW will start loose leaf pick up on 10/23/23 and continue through November. The end date is TBD (weather permitting).

- *Leaves must be placed on the greenbelt, not in the street or on the sidewalk.*
- *Please DO NOT place branches on/in leaf piles.*



YARD WASTE: All yard waste picked up by Steven's (bagged or in cans) will end on 11/28/23.



BASKETBALL HOOPS: All hoops must be removed from greenbelts to prevent damage to city trucks, as well as damage to the basketball hoops.



SNOW AND ICE: Snow and ice **MUST** be removed from all sidewalks within 48 hours of a weather event. (Ordinance 18-6)

- *Do not plow/shovel snow onto any street / sidewalk. (MCL 257.677a)*
- *Please follow snow emergency procedures when declared. (Section 21, Article 4)*

news and information from

POLICE DEPARTMENT

HANDS-FREE. IT'S THE LAW.

It is now illegal to manually use a cell phone or other mobile electronic device while operating a vehicle on Michigan roads. Under the law, a driver cannot hold or support a phone or other device with any part of their hands, arms, or shoulders.

Even if a cell phone or other device is mounted on your dashboard or connected to your vehicle's built-in system, you cannot use your hands to operate it beyond a single touch.

As a result, you cannot manually do any of the following on a cell phone or other electronic device while driving:



Make or answer a telephone or video call



Send or read a text or email message



Watch, record, or send a video



Access, read, or post to social media



Browse or use the Internet



Enter information into a GPS or navigation system

The law makes holding or manually using a cell phone or other mobile electronic device while operating a vehicle a primary offense --which means an officer can stop and ticket drivers for this violation.

PENALTIES

1st Violation: \$100 fine and/or 16 hours of community service.

2nd or subsequent violation: \$250 fine and/or 24 hours of community service.

3 violations within a 3-year period: Complete a driving improvement course.

FINES DOUBLED if a traffic crash occurs and the at-fault driver was holding or manually using a mobile device while operating the vehicle, any civil fines will be doubled.

DONALD TILLERY
chief of police

FIRE DEPARTMENT



STAFFING

Since December 1, 2022, the MAFD is staffed on weekdays with two firefighters. Effective July 1, 2023, we added weekends and are now staffed daily from 7a-5p with two firefighters on duty.

Having personnel at the station greatly reduces our response time and makes it possible to respond quickly and efficiently when manpower is low.

Pictured are Firefighter David Tilley and Firefighter Sam Hill who worked our first weekend shift.

TRAINING

Your Milan Area Firefighters train on important skills needed during structure fires. They are fortunate to have access to a structure within the city to use for their training purposes. Recently, they used a smoke machine in that structure that created realistic scenarios of zero visibility, training on the following:

- **Bailout** - Sometimes when conditions change inside a fire, the only option may be to bail out a window. All of our firefighters carry a bailout kit that allows them to escape out a window and descend to the ground.
- **RIT** - A Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) is a designated crew that will stand by and be available for the immediate search and rescue of any missing, trapped, or injured firefighters. We simulated trapped firefighters and crews entered the house to perform a rescue.
- **Mayday/Self Rescue** - Mayday is a term utilized to report a firefighter who is lost, trapped, or in imminent danger. Each firefighter was placed in the house and called a Mayday, then escaped the house using various self-rescue techniques.

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK & OPEN HOUSE

National Fire Prevention Week is happening October 8-14 with an Open House at the station on October 10. See October Events and Happenings (pages 16 & 17) for details.



news and information from

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

THE SECRET IS OUT

MILAN SENIORS FOR HEALTHY LIVING

Milan Seniors for Healthy Living is Milan's Best Kept Secret! We are a vibrant, active group of 50+ folks who love to have fun. The Riverbank Center (45 Neckel Court) is open Monday - Thursday from 8am - 3pm. During this time, we offer a wide variety of activities such as exercise classes, painting, euchre tournaments, meditation, tech talks, acupuncture, coffee with the mayor, cardio drumming, café dining, and so much more.

In addition to our Activity Center, we also provide Transportation, Meals on wheels, and Resource Advocacy. To learn more about us please stop by The Center or visit us at www.MilanSeniors.org. You can also keep in touch by requesting to join our email list.

We have special events that are for all ages and open to the public, these are detailed more on the calendar pages at the rear of this publication. Our Holiday Market and New Year's Eve Party are two such events. We would love to have you join us for these holiday festivities.

Please reach out with any thoughts or questions: MaryAnnO@MilanSeniors.org

LOOKING GOOD

MILAN BEAUTIFICATION COMMISSION

The Milan Beautification Commission is dedicated to keeping things looking beautiful around our town including all of the planters in the downtown area and at all of the entranceways. At the end of September, commission members and community volunteers gathered together to plant gorgeous yellow mums in preparation of autumn.



In the spring, the Beautification Commission filled planters with the gorgeous flowers you saw in bloom all spring and summer.

This past spring, the commission also planted three crooked trees. The project, inspired by commission member Rod Hiill, was thirteen years in the making. Saplings were purchased in 2011. Commission member and bonsai expert Jay Sinclair applied his skills to bend the trees to the shape of the original Crooked Tree that was part of Milan's landscape until 1960. The three new crooked trees can be found at The Hack House, Aid in Milan, and at City Hall.

This spring and summer, the Beautification Commission awarded 20 Beautification Awards to home and business owners in the city limits and are looking forward to presenting Boo-tification Awards this October.

DOWN ON MAIN STREET

MILAN MAIN STREET

Milan Main Street recently hired a new part-time executive director, Jessica Meingasner. Jessica previously served on the Main Street Board of directors, having been president for two of her four years of service. Meingasner replaces Jill Tewsley who was recently appointed as Community Engagement director for the City of Milan.

NEW BUSINESSES ON MAIN STREET

TEXTILES FABRIC SHOP: While not a new business, Textiles opened in a new location on the northside of E. Main Street earlier this summer.

CABALLERO FINANCIAL ADVISORY: Located in the former Ray's Barbershop building at 103 E. Main Street.

HUNTER AND ELLIE'S: A vendor-based retail shop featuring items made by local artists. They are located at 31 E. Main Street.

PINK SHAMROCKS ANTIQUES & FINDS: Located at 28 E. Main Street (the former Textiles location), Pink Shamrocks features upcycled and hand-crafted furniture, paints and stencils, antiques, and locally sourced hot sauce and Bloody Mary mix.

THE PLAY STATION: Just opened! The Play Station, located at 9 Wabash Street (the former Chase Bank building) features an indoor play structure, gymnastics area, a party room, and more.

MAKING A SPLASH

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

The Splash Pad in Wilson Park closed for the season shortly after Labor Day. It will remain closed until Memorial Day of 2024. The water feature, that includes a fun elephant that sprays water, kept kids cool in hot weather and having fun all summer long.

While the Splash Pad may be closed, there are plenty of fun things to do in the parks during the fall and winter.

On Friday the 13th, we will host a Drive-in Movie in Wilson Park featuring the family-friendly film *Frankenweenie* (PG).

The Pumpkin Launcher returns to Wilson Park on Saturday, November 4. It's a fun way to dispose of your pumpkins at the end of the season.

A major construction project at Nature Park this summer will result in a kayak launch, adjacent parking and a walking path.

Play structures in both Wilson Park and Nature Park underwent their annual inspections. Both structures will be getting some minor repairs and upgrades before Spring of 2024, including the addition of an accessible toddler swing in Wilson Park.

ActiveNet, the online reservation and registration system that we have used since 2005, will also undergo a major overhaul and upgrade this winter. Once completed, it will be much easier to check availability of facilities in our parks and reserve them online.



OCTOBER

EVENTS, HAPPENINGS & IMPORTANT DATES

2-8 **NATIONAL WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING**

Elected and public officials in Milan are joining others across the nation in the **National Week Without Driving** to better understand the barriers and challenges that non-drivers face when trying to move safely in their communities and to work with non-drivers to create better communities for all.

3 **HEALTH FAIR (10 AM - 1 PM)**

Presented by Milan Seniors for Healthy Living at the Center (45 Neckel Court)

3 **CITY COUNCIL MEETING (7 PM)**

Meeting held in council chambers at City Hall (147 Wabash Street)

3 **LAST DAY FOR BRANCH CHIPPING**

7 **FRIGHT NIGHT (7 - 10 PM)**

MAHS presents a spooky night at **The Hack House** with a screening of SCREAM!, tarot card readings, concessions and a bonfire. FREE.

12 **CANDIDATE FORUM (7 PM)**

A forum with mayoral and city council candidates prior to the general election hosted by the Milan Chamber at **City Hall**.

8-14 **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed October 9th the first Fire Prevention Day, calling on the public to learn more about the risks of deadly fires and commemorating those who lost their lives. More than a century later, our Nation observes Fire Prevention Week by renewing our commitment to fire safety and preparedness and taking steps to prevent fires in our homes, schools, workplaces, and the great outdoors.

- 9 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY (CITY HALL CLOSED)**
- 10 WEEK WITHOUT DRIVING WRAP-UP CONVERSATION (11 AM)**
Join us for a wrap-up conversation at **The Center** (45 Neckel Court) with the participants in the Week Without Driving Challenge. We will discuss our experiences and learnings and talk about how we can apply what we learned to build a better community and improve quality of life for all residents.
- 10 FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE (6 - 8 PM)**
Visit the **Milan Area Fire Department** at their annual Open House during Fire Prevention Week.
- 13 DRIVE-IN MOVIE: FRANKENWEEINIE (Gates open at 6 PM, movie at 7 PM)**
Milan Parks and Recreation is pleased to present a drive-in movie featuring a PG film fitting of the season, Frankenweenie. Drive into a **Wilson Park** and enjoy watching a movie the old-fashioned way. Admission is free. Concessions available.
- 15 SPOOKTACULAR (1-4 PM)**
A free event for the entire family at the **Hack House**. Enjoy museum tours, yard games, pumpkin painting, train rides, and donuts & cider. Presented by Milan Area Historical Society.
- 17 CITY COUNCIL MEETING (7 PM)**
Meeting held in council chambers at City Hall (147 Wabash Street)
- 19 VENDOR FAIR (5 - 8 PM)**
Live music and treats and vendors at **The Center**. Presented by MSHL.
- 23 LOOSE LEAF PICK-UP BEGINS**
DPW will begin picking up leaves on 10/23 and continue through November. End date TBD (weather permitting)/ LEAVES MUST BE PLACED ON GREENBELT, NOT IN THE STREET OR ON THE SIDEWALK.
- 27 DOWNTOWN TRICK OR TREAT (5:30 - 7 PM)**
Kids of all ages are invited to trick-or-treat throughout the downtown.
- 28 MOVING MILAN FORWARD HALLOWEEN CIRCUS PARTY (4 PM)**
Aerial acts, live music, food trucks, and more. Ticketed event (\$5 - \$40) at The Owl and in Tolan Square).
- 31 CITY-WIDE TRICK OR TREAT (5 - 8 PM)**

NOVEMBER

EVENTS, HAPPENINGS & IMPORTANT DATES

4 **THE GREAT PUMPKIN LAUNCH (11 AM)**

Halloween is over and those carved pumpkins are looking a little sad and tired. Instead of throwing them away, bring them to Wilson Park and send them flying across the park using our Pumpkin Launcher. Prizes for the pumpkins that travel the farthest.

7 **ELECTION DAY (7 AM - 8 PM)**

City of Milan residents (Monroe and Washtenaw County) vote at The Riverbank Center located at 45 Neckel Court.

3 **HOLIDAY CHAMBER MIXER (5:30 PM)**

Open to chamber members and non-members. Mix and mingle with fellow business owners and community members at JR's Hometown Grill & Pub. Presented by Milan Area Chamber.

9 **VETERANS DAY OBSERVED - CITY HALL CLOSED**

9 **VETERANS DAY**

11 **VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION (10 AM)**

Join us at the Veterans Wall on Wabash Street as we honor our veterans. We will read the names of the veterans added to the wall in 2022 and 2023.

13 **CITY COUNCIL MEETING (7 PM)**

Meeting held in council chambers at City Hall (147 Wabash Street). Because of a conflict with election day, this meeting was moved from its regularly scheduled time to the following Monday.

21 **CITY COUNCIL MEETING (7 PM)**

Meeting held in council chambers at City Hall (147 Wabash Street)

23 **THANKSGIVING - CITY HALL CLOSED**

24**WIN THE WINDOW BEGINS**

Shop local and win big! Earn a stamp for every \$5 spent at participating retailers. Fill a card with \$50 in stamps and enter that card into a random drawing to win the entire window filled with prizes. Presented by Milan Main Street and Milan Area Chamber.

25**POP ON MAIN STREET**

Pop on Main Street is Milan's Small Business Saturday extravaganza presented by Milan Main Street. Get caught shopping at local businesses and you could win a prize. Take advantage of special offers and promotions while supporting local businesses.

28**FINAL DATE FOR YARD WASTE PICK UP**

All yard waste pick-up by Steven's (bagged or in cans) ends.

END OF MONTH**TAX BILLS MAILED**

DECEMBER

EVENTS, HAPPENINGS & IMPORTANT DATES

2

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES & PARADE (5:30 Festivities; 7 PM Parade)

Santa Claus is coming to town during the annual Christmas Parade presented by Milan Area Chamber of Commerce. This year, join in the pre-parade festivities featuring live music and more.

1 - 15

SANTA'S MAILBOX

Find Santa's Mailbox on Main Street near Tolan Square. His elves will pick up letters and deliver them to Santa. Be sure to include a return address if you want Santa to write back.

5

CITY COUNCIL MEETING (7 PM)

Meeting held in council chambers at City Hall (147 Wabash Street)

8

COMMUNITY BINGO (doors: 5:30 PM; bingo: 6:30 PM)

Presented by Milan Seniors for Healthy Living at The Riverbank Center (45 Neckel Court)

9

MOONLIGHT MADNESS (8 - 11 PM)

Shop downtown Milan under the moonlight. Take advantage of special offers and promotions while supporting hometown businesses. Presented by Milan Main Street.

17

WIN THE WINDOW ENDS (1 PM)

It's the final day to earn Win the Window stamps. Turn your completed cards in by 1 PM.

18

SALINE FIDDLERS (6 PM)

A live music event for the entire community that will put you in the holiday spirit. Presented by Milan Seniors for Healthy Living at The Riverbank Center (45 Neckel Court)

19**WIN THE WINDOW DRAWING**

Follow the Milan Area Chamber and Milan Main Street on Facebook to watch the drawing live (time of drawing to be announced).

19**CITY COUNCIL MEETING (7 PM)**

Meeting held in council chambers at City Hall (147 Wabash Street)

24**CHRISTMAS EVE****25****CHRISTMAS DAY - CITY HALL CLOSED****25 - 31****CITY HALL CLOSED****31****NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY (8 PM - 12 AM)**

Presented by MSHL at The Riverbank Center (45 Neckel Court). Ticketed event: \$50/person

31**NEW YEAR'S EVE - CITY HALL CLOSED****JAN 1****NEW YEAR'S DAY - CITY HALL CLOSED****JAN 2****NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS RESUME AT CITY HALL**

MONDAY	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
TUESDAY	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
WEDNESDAY	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
THURSDAY	7:30 AM - 5:00 PM
FRIDAY	CLOSED

the
CONNECTION

FALL/WINTER 2023-24