

## **Hello Clarkston Residents and Business Associates!**

***Following are the communication items for this week:***

### **“What’s Going on With Rudy’s?”**



One of the most frequently asked questions in the City Office is “So what’s going on with Rudy’s?”. I spoke with our Building Official today as well as owner Robert Esshaki, and can tell you that the renovations of the Rudy’s Market building and the previous *Clarkston News* office next door, as designed by renowned architect Victor Saroki, will be nothing short of amazing! Their construction drawings have now been fully approved by the Building Department as well as the Historic District Commission. The Building Permit has been issued and preliminary work has begun inside both buildings. The hard-core renovations will begin in the Rudy’s Market building – an old Ford Dealership – starting September 1<sup>st</sup>, with the goal of opening “Rudy’s Steak House” one year later in September of 2024. Work on the second restaurant in the *Clarkston News* building, tentatively a Mediterranean theme, will lag behind the Steak House opening by 6 to 12 months. A candle retailer will be renting the Clarkston News building until the heavy work is ready to begin in that space. Robert tells me that his team will be launching regular status updates on Facebook and other social media starting in September.

### **July 10<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting**

In Monday’s City Council meeting, Council tabled to the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting a request to waive the park rental fees for a free concert in Depot Park sponsored by the Clarkston Independence District Library. The council then heard status updates on (1) the Depot Road Paid Parking implementation, (2) Code Enforcement Violations in the City, (3) a proposal to reduce speeds on Depot Road, and (4) the November 2023 City election. The public is always welcome to participate in the Council meetings, either in person at City Hall or virtually using Microsoft Teams. Video recordings of the Council meetings can also be viewed after the meeting by using the View City Council Meetings link on the City website.

### **Milo Project Family Fun Event this Saturday**

The Milo Project will be holding a Family Fun Walk this Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM to raise awareness of their mission: to combat bullying and low self-esteem in school-age children. In addition to the walk, there will be a dog contest, games, hot dogs, music and more! Use this [link](#) for more information.

### **Clarkston Garden Walk on July 19th**

The Clarkston Farm & Garden Club will be holding their annual Clarkston Garden Walk on Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM, starting at the Clarkston Independence District Library. Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$15 at the Club’s website ([www.clarkstongardenclub.org](http://www.clarkstongardenclub.org)) or at Bordines, the CID Library or the Gateway. Tickets may also be purchased for \$18 the day of the event at the Ticket Tent on the library grounds. An Artisan Market will also be held on the library grounds from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM on the day of the walk.

### **Status of the Mill Pond Dam Project**

As previously reported, the City's application for a grant through Michigan's Department of Environmental, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE) for \$106K has been approved to do two things: establish a legal level for the Mill Pond and pay for the design and engineering of a replacement water level control mechanism. The first step is now underway, with workers from Fishbeck Engineering on site daily to evaluate the historic and ideal water levels. In addition to survey work, they will be using drone photography. Once they complete their analysis and establish the ideal water level, efforts will be coordinated with Oakland County to manually maintain that level until the new control mechanism – replacing the existing dam – is in place. Please note that the process of designing, funding, and constructing the replacement control mechanism could take 3-4 years or longer.

### **Children's Used Book Sale**

The Friends of the Clarkston Independence District Library will be holding a Children's Used Book Sale on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM in the CIDL parking lot. This one-day sale will offer books for toddler-through-teen age groups.

### **Please Do Not Feed the Ducks & Geese**

Visitors to the City's Mill Pond and Depot Park are politely asked to not feed the ducks and geese. Well-meaning visitors often provide bread and other human foods to the birds, which can be very harmful to their digestive system and cause other issues (see [link](#)). Additionally, we do not want to encourage their presence in the City, which has led to a significant increase in goose droppings this year.

### **Upcoming City Events**

- Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM – **Concerts in the Park** (Elvis Tribute), in Depot Park
- Saturday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM – **Milo Project Family Fun Walk**, in Depot Park
- Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM – **Friends of Depot Park Committee Meeting**, at City Hall
- Tuesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM – **Board of Review Meeting**, at City Hall
- Wednesday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM – **Clarkston Garden Walk**, starting at the CID Library (6495 Clarkston Road)
- Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 PM - **Concerts in the Park** (Local Talent), in Depot Park
- Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM – **Hazardous Waste Collection Event**, at Kensington Church in Orion Township (see above)
- Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM – **Bowties Car Club Annual Car Show**, in Depot Park
- Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM – **Kids Used Book Sale**, in the CIDL parking lot (6495 Clarkston Road)
- Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM - **Regular City Council Meeting**, at City Hall
- Tuesday, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM – **Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting**, at City Hall

Have a great weekend!

### ***Jonathan Smith***

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