

## Utilities Employees Receive State Award

Dave Oostindie and Aaron Vis are being recognized by the Michigan Water Environment Association.

Oostindie, environmental services supervisor, received the Industrial Waste Professional of the Year award, which is given for excellence and professionalism in the field of industrial waste management.

He oversees the environmental services workgroup, and was responsible for the development of the WyMeds program that was adopted by the county and is now called West Michigan Take Back Meds. The first program of its kind, it has been used as a model for other communities across the state.

In 2011, he spoke in front of the DEA in Washington, D.C., and has been involved in work with other Great Lakes states on program development and expansion.

"It is an honor to be the recipient of this award from such a dedicated organization as the MWEA," Oostindie said. "It would not be possible without the support and vision of our City leadership."

Vis, environmental services inspector, received the Industrial Pretreatment Program Professional of the Year award, which is given for excellence and professionalism in the industrial pretreatment program.

Vis is responsible for conducting sewer use inspections at industrial facilities and taking compliance action when necessary. He also conducts cross connection inspections at homes and businesses and manages the city's storm water program.

Vis recently became chair of the MWEA IPP Committee, which involves organizing the group's annual seminar. In an effort to improve the seminar, Vis made the decision to combine it with the MWEA biosolids seminar, and created a profitable two-day event that was held in Kalamazoo.

"It is an honor to be selected as the recipient of this award," Vis said. "I thank MWEA for this recognition and support of what our environmental services department does."

## Pathways to Prosperity Program Expanded

Residents of Wyoming can now receive the benefits of the Pathways to Prosperity program offered through Grand Rapids Community College.

Residents living within Grand Rapids, Kentwood or Wyoming city limits - and meeting Department of Labor qualifications - may qualify to train for jobs in energy-efficient building construction and retrofitting, renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable manufacturing.

"This change will allow us to serve many people who have been turned away in the past," said John VanElst, director of Pathways to Prosperity.

Career coaches provide guidance to participants, matching their skills and talents with the proper training to allow them to succeed.

"We have more than 150 participants now working in all areas of sustainability - some working on wind turbines and others in water treatment facilities, for example," said VanElst. "We work hard to train participants not only in the technical skills needed for these new jobs, but also the basic skills required - like reading or math improvement - and what we call 'employability' skills, like problem solving, critical thinking and workplace expectations."

In 2010, GRCC trained more than 8,000 people. Training areas include: alternative energy, business and entrepreneurship, health care, innovation, manufacturing, sustainable construction and more.

Those interested in participating in the Pathways to Prosperity program should call (616) 234-3400 or visit [grcc.edu/thepath](http://grcc.edu/thepath)

MAYOR'S

## Message



In February we received great news. City Manager Curtis Holt was elected president of the Michigan Local Government Management Association. This is a great honor that he has received from his peers. Curtis will bring his tremendous experience and leadership to the organization, and I congratulate him on this new role.

Dave Oostindie and Aaron Vis, members of our Utilities Department, learned that they will be recognized by the Michigan Water Environment Association for excellence in their

work. Like many of our employees, these men are determined to keep Wyoming services some of the best in the country and have both been involved as leaders in their field.

I am proud of our dedicated employees and the effort they make to improve themselves as professionals and, therefore, improve the lives of our residents through their work. Wyoming continues to thrive as a community because of the great people we employ.

Mayor Jack Poll

**LIBRARY NEWS** ADULT BOOK CLUB - We have a friendly, informal discussion on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. March's selection is "The Night Train" by Clyde Edgerton and the discussion will be held on March 20. GREAT MICHIGAN READ – Statewide reading initiative of Kevin Boyle's "Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age." Copies of the book and discussion guides are available at KDL branches. For further details on these and all of our programs, stop in the library to pick up a program guide, check out our web page at [www.kdl.org](http://www.kdl.org) or call us at (616) 784-2007! Plus, KDL is now on Twitter! Follow us at <http://twitter.com/KDLnews> for all the latest updates on programs, events and resources at your library.

**PARKS & RECREATION** The Wyoming Parks & Recreation Department is offering a 5K training class this spring on Thursday nights from 6 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. at Pinery Park beginning on March 29. The 5K training class is a fun way to start running, lose weight, feel great and improve your overall health! The class will be lead by local running expert Dave Minier, and will include a written training plan and T-shirt. Call 616-530-3164 to register by phone. SPRING SOCCER - The registration deadline has passed for preschool-6th grade, but openings still exist in some age groups. You can call the Parks and Recreation Department at, 616-530-3164, or email, [parks\\_info@wyomingmi.gov](mailto:parks_info@wyomingmi.gov), to see if space is available in your child's age group.

**CITY HALL - FACEBOOK** - Don't forget to "Like" the City of Wyoming on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/cityofwyoming](http://www.facebook.com/cityofwyoming). You can also like the WSC and Parks & Recreation's pages.

## Curtis Holt Elected MLGMA President

Wyoming City Manager Curtis Holt was recently elected president of the Michigan Local Government Management Association.

Holt was previously the 2011 president-elect for the statewide municipal managers' organization. His new responsibilities include, representing the organization at functions and working with the board on policies for members, budgets and governance issues.

"I am honored to be selected by my peers to lead an organization that stands for integrity and quality in local government management," Holt said. "We will be working to update our strategic plan over the next year and specifically working to align our strategic initiatives with current technology, and I am looking forward to the work ahead."

Holt has been involved in city management for 25 years, and has been Wyoming's city manager since 2000.

He succeeds 2011 MLGMA President Steven Brock, city manager of Farmington Hills.

## Taft Adopt a Block

Residents of the Taft area may have noticed an increase in police officers in their neighborhood.

"Our goal is to make the area unattractive to the criminal element," said Julie Waters, community services officer.

The Community Services Unit has begun providing office hours at the 2860 Taft #15 apartment to provide community support. This is the same apartment that Compassion this Way operates office hours out of. The CSU officers will be available every Tuesday and Thursday from noon until 2 p.m.

"Residents can come in and share their concerns," Waters said. "They are also welcome to stop in and just say hi and have a cup of coffee."

Kids are also welcome to stop in and meet officers. Most likely in the summer the CSU will work on engaging kids in the neighborhood specifically.

The CSU is hoping to start a neighborhood watch group as well, but are still looking for a volunteer to coordinate the program.

## Telephone Numbers

Mayor's Office .....	530-7227
City Manager.....	530-3173
City Clerk .....	530-7296
Police Department.....	530-7300
Fire Department .....	530-7250
Public Works.....	530-7260
Utilities .....	261-3550
Planning & Community Development.....	530-7258
Parks & Recreation.....	530-3164
Building Inspections.....	530-7285
Assessor .....	530-7231
District Court.....	257-9814
Treasurer .....	530-7280
Utility Billing.....	530-7389
Wyoming Senior Center.....	530-3190
Wyoming Public Library.....	647-3980

## Meetings

**City Council Meeting** | on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

**City Council Work Sessions** | on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

**Planning Commissions Meetings** | on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

**Zoning Board Of Appeals** | on the first and third Monday afternoons of the month at 1:30 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers.

**Parks & Recreation Commission** | on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall in the West Conf. room.

## Wyoming City Council

Jack Poll, Mayor

Sam Bolt, Mayor Pro tem,  
Councilmember-at-Large

Dan Burrill, Councilmember-at-Large

Kent Vanderwood, Councilmember-at-Large

Bill VerHulst, 1st Ward Councilmember

Richard K. Pastoor, 2nd Ward Councilmember

Joanne Voorhees, 3rd Ward Councilmember