




# REPUBLIC TOWNSHIP NEWS



Volume 1, Issue 3  
December 1, 2008

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## WHERE'S THE BROADBAND? IT'S FINALLY HERE



The State of Michigan finally approved the expenditures for Pasty.net, qualifying the company for the remainder of the grant money, and they are installing services in Republic Township, starting with the waiting customers from the villages.

Quite a few of the village residents already have high-speed capability, because North Republic was within the range limit of AT&T's cable, and South Republic is being service by Cable America, LLC (Grove Cable). This will finally let a company provide service for the remainder of the township.

As part of the grant, Pasty purchased the portion of the miuplink internet system that serviced Republic Township. Most of the customers that were being serviced by miuplink have al-

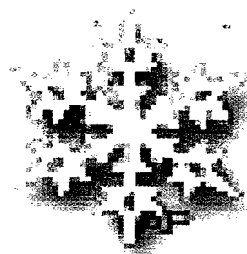
ready been notified, and are aware of the change.

New antennas are going to be installed on the Republic Tower, that will allow faster speeds, and more users to be on line at the same time, without degrading the speed. The antennas that are presently on the tower could only take approximately 30 customers on line at one time, before the signal speed started dropping.

The equipment being installed is state of the art wi-max, which is rated for a 30 mile transmission radius, and can "bend" around obstructions. The old process was good for 10, to 15 miles, line of sight. This should help eliminate many of the signal reception problems caused by homes in the "shadows"

*(Continued on page 4)*

## WATER MAIN GRANT



Engineering is well underway for the new water line that will be installed from the water tank, around the old mine property, to North Republic.

Grants like the one received are the only way communities like ourselves can afford to replace aged systems, and we were fortunate to qualify.

One of the requirements of the grant is that all users of the system have to

be metered. This allows for usage tracking, and helps monitor leakage. It also provides a fair billing method that charges based on usage. This in turn helps the system, because people are not likely to waste water, such as sprinkling lawns all day. That saves wear on the water system equipment and cuts supplies cost, lowering operating costs for all users.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## PREDATOR HUNT

The annual predator hunt will be held January 8th thru the 18th.

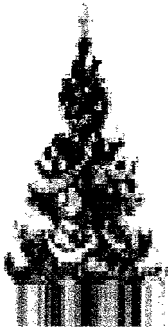
For more information contact John Crady @ 376-2320 or

## OOPS!

Someone borrowed two Fire Department photo albums, and forgot to return them.

Please do so.

The Republic Area Historical Society

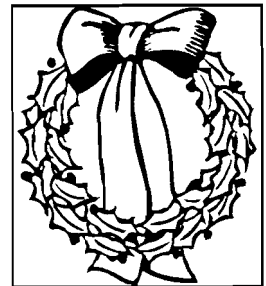


presents  
**FESTIVAL OF TREES**  
And  
**Fancy Cookie Sale**

**Saturday & Sunday**  
**December 13-14, 2008**

**1:00-4:00 P.M.**

**Republic Township Hall**  
**Cookies for Sale     Raffle**  
**Musical Groups**  
**Historical Sale Items**  
**Refreshments**



## ALLEY PLOWING BAN

Because of repeated sewer line freezing problems, the Township Board has to prohibit snow plowing in the alley in South Republic west of Hemlock St., between Evergreen and Birch Streets.

With the snow accumulation becoming less each year, the

frost is driving deeper than in past years, causing the sewer line in this area to freeze.

The Township will be looking into solutions, and will be looking for grants to cover what we expect to be, considerable costs.

## Christmas Wreath Sale!

Buy your wreath from the  
**Bethany Youth Group**  
this year.

To place your order, call  
Robin Jarvi at 376-8889.

### Republic Sign

It appears most residents approve of the upgrading of the Republic sign. I would like to thank all the people that helped me put the project together, especially Jim Brennan who installed the split shake roof and Jon Mykkanen who installed and provided the huge pine logs that are on the ends of the sign. The next phase is the installation of the lights that will be ground mounted shining up at the sign and Charley Niemi has donated his time and material to landscape around the sign. Next Spring we are planning to plant some shrubs and flowers for the completion.

Paul Polanski

## PARENTS' DAY OFF!

Saturday December 20 at 12:00 Noon

Sponsored by **B.Y.G.** 7<sup>th</sup> - 12 graders; (aka, the Bethany Youth Group)

Lunch and supervised activities from Noon-3pm will follow the Christmas program rehearsal from 10am-Noon. This gives parents a good THREE to FIVE hours to do *WHATEVER*.

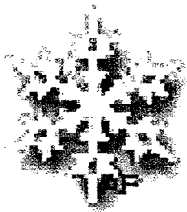
Lunch: Mac & cheese, applesauce, and carrots.

Activities: Spin O' Paint, coloring, stories, Games, and Veggie Tales Movie.

Cost: \$5 to cover lunch and supplies

All children of Sunday School age are invited to participate!

Please sign-up by calling the church office at 376-8826.



Join us for the Bethany Children's Christmas Program

## *"Santa Gives Back Christmas"*

*A light hearted comedy with an important lesson.*

Sunday December 21 at 7:00pm

Cookies and refreshments to follow

in the fellowship hall.

Come and join us!

(Continued from page 1) IT'S FINALLY HERE

of hills, etc. that prevented direct signals.

Pasty has also been having trouble with their suppliers not delivering ordered equipment as scheduled. For example, the new antennas for the top of the tower are on back-order, and won't be received for at least two more weeks. Without those antennas, wi-max only functions as wi-fi, which is line of sight.

Excerpt from an e-mail from the owner of Pasty.net in Italics:

(For the rural residents,) *in the tri-fold brochure (which is the last page in the newsletter) the heading for Spring 2009 mentions about connecting seasonal users and "complete neighborhood*

*access points in more remote neighborhoods". I would assume our busiest time will be in April and May. We won't know the exact locations or where we will need them until we see the reach of the WiMax base unit. And then we'll be looking for Spring weather to do that work.*

*In the meantime, we are going to be re-contacting everyone on our waiting list to help us plan in advance everywhere that needs to be covered. If anyone asks you for an update, just ask them if they are on our waiting list. We will follow up any contact, just let me know.*

(editor's inserts)

For those living in South Republic, also remember that Cable America, formerly Grove Cable, has internet service available, if that service is your preference.

### OPENING ON BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Republic Township Board is accepting applications for the following openings:

Planning Commission 2 members, 3 year terms

Board of Review, 3 members 2 year terms

Zoning Board of Appeals, 1 member, 3 year term

Written applications must be received by Dec. 18th, at 5:00 P.M.

(Continued from page 1) WATER MAIN GRANT

Winter keep runs will be calculated into the overall rate schedule. The Township is aware which customers need a keep-run, and will notify those customers when to turn on their keep-runs. From that time until the customer is notified that keep-runs are no longer needed for the season, their water meter rates will not apply. While the method of calculation has not been formally set as of yet, a monthly rate will be charged, quite probably set by the average of what that customer has used in the past.

It is expected that the first year the water meters are installed, they will not be used to set billing. Reading the meters will allow the Water Department to track actual usage, vs. leaks, and allow the tracking of total expected volumes. Some form of the present rate sys-

tem will be used while this study is going on. Then that study can be used to fairly set the per-gallon rate to be charged.

All accumulated data is expected to be in the engineer's hands by January 4th, for compilation and submission for approval by the grant agency.

U.P. Engineers expects the bids for construction to be let sometime around April, or shortly after. Construction is expected to start very quickly afterwards.

The only downside to this grant is, the grant agency will not allow the paving of an entire street, only the lane that the new main is under.

We will keep you informed as things progress.

**Bethany Lutheran****Christmas Eve Worship**

A Candlelight Service with

Holy Communion

5:00pm and 7:00pm

**Saint Augustine Catholic**

Christmas Eve Masses

St. Augustine's, 5:30 P.M.

Champion, Sacred Heart, 7:30 P.M.

**United Methodist****Christmas Eve Service**

4 P.M.

**Witch Lake Baptist****Christmas Eve Services**

7:00 P.M.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

ECUMENICAL PRAYER BREAKFAST, ST. AUGUSTINES CHURCH JANUARY 19, 2009

**Next pasty sale, January 10, 2009**

The members of St. Augustine's church give our heartfelt thanks for the tremendous community support for our record breaking 1,501 pasty sale. The project could never have been done without the volunteers from the other congregations who selflessly donated many hard hours helping us. And thank you to the community, for your continuing support for these sales.

**Community Epiphany Bonfire!**

Saturday January 10th, 4:00pm

At the BIG sledding hill

Come say good-bye to the Christmas season with snowshoe baseball, the biggest snowball contest,

hot chocolate, goodies and of course a rip-snorting bonfire!

Leftover Christmas cookies welcome ☺!

**Fun for all ages!**

August 15, 2009, is the date set for the REPUBLIC OPEN PIT REUNION for workers at the former open pit mine. Sponsored by the Republic Area Historical Society, will take place at the Republic-Mich. School.

## Heritage Garden

The snow has fallen on three-year-old Heritage Garden. All colorful beauty has vanished, but hundreds of bulbs lie in wait under the soil, ready to pop out when the snow is gone. Even the kids' boxes will be full of the purples, yellows, pinks and whites of narcissus, crocus and hyacinth.

Each year brings change and improvement in the garden. This year we added a birdhouse and other garden ornaments, stepping stones, rock garden and further expansion of planted area. Three tall junipers provide wind protection on the west side, three euonymus form the beginning of a border on the north side. The most notable addition: a split-rail fence provided by the Snowmobile Club. It not only protects the garden, it defines beautifully the entire garden area. We can't thank them enough!

The Heritage Garden Elves project, funded by the Marquette Community Youth Fund for Greater Ishpeming Area completed their first year of gardening. We're grateful for funding that made this project possible. Despite weather and scheduling problems, the kids planted their boxes with herbs and annuals and tended them throughout the summer. We hope to have our seven Garden Elves (Emily and Jon Tapio, Breanna Houg, Nikki Wertanen, Gayle Venn, Karsyn and Tabor Cook) at the ready in the spring to do what we couldn't manage to do this year, especially seed planting. We appreciate the cooperation from the staff at the Methodist Church who accepted this project so willingly into their schedule: Elaine Niemi, Kaye Mitchell, Gayle Ritolta and Maria Hult. We thank the parents for their support in their children's efforts and Rachel Mattila for hours of behind-the-scenes work.

The Heritage Gardeners have one more project to complete before year's end. They've cut boughs and this week will construct and hang fifteen swags for the street signs in north Republic.

Our thanks to all who have contributed plants, money, or time to Heritage Garden. We appreciate all gestures of support and encouragement and are especially grateful to be part of the Republic Area Historical Society.

Olga Williams for Heritage Garden

### ST VINCENT DEPAUL

#### CHRISTMAS BASKET SCHEDULE

December 17th, 1:00 P.M. move basket supplies from St. Vincent store, to Township Hall.

December 18th, 1:00 P.M., assemble Christmas baskets.

December 19th, qualified basket recipients will be told what time to pick up the baskets.

VOLUNTEER HELP WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED. BOTH FOR THIS ACTIVITY, AND FOR NORMAL OPERATION OF THE ST. VINCENT DEPAUL STORE.

A heartfelt thank you to all our volunteers who faithfully volunteer regularly.

#### REPUBLIC COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### ANNUAL CHILDRENS PARTY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 14TH

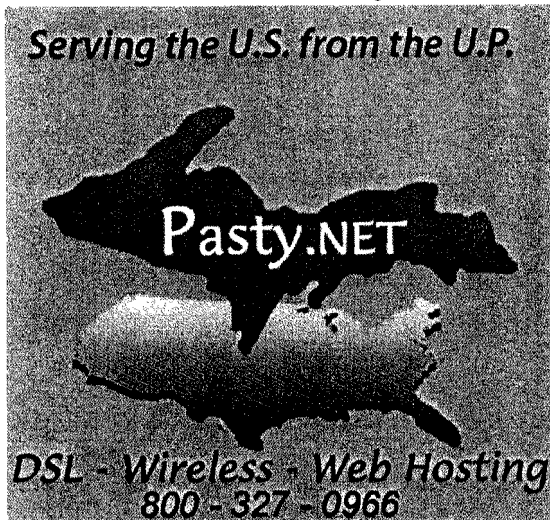
1:00 TO 3:00 P.M.

#### REPUBLIC MICHIGAMME SCHOOL

SANTA & MRS. CLAUS, GAMES PRIZES,  
SNACKS, MUSIC, CAKE WALK.

GAMES AND PRIZES FOR AGES 12 AND UNDER.

# The Pasty.NET - Marquette County Wireless Project



## Who?

Pasty.NET - a local Internet Service Provider (ISP), and the citizens, businesses and governments of the townships of Ewing, Wells, West Branch, Republic and Michigamme in Marquette County.

## What?

The Digital Divide Investment Program is a state and federal grant project that makes affordable high speed Internet service (broadband) available to these townships by covering cost of installation and equipment.

## When?

Fall of 2008: Access points are established and certified in much of the project area, initial users signed-up.

Winter of 2009: Continuing to establish access points throughout the entire five township area, connect year-round users.

Spring 2009: Connect seasonal users and complete neighborhood access points in more remote neighborhoods.

Summer 2009: Completion of user hookups and end of the grant program.

2009-2011: Monthly charges for service held steady for initial three year period

Other users may continue to join the network but may be required to pay an installation fee after June 30, 2009.

## Where?

The townships of Ewing, Wells, West Branch, Republic and Michigamme in Marquette County Michigan.

## Why?

Access to affordable broadband service makes available the educational, political, economic and informational resources of the Internet to rural areas with a high proportion of low to moderate income households. This project seeks to narrow the "Digital Divide" for rural parts of Marquette County.

**For information phone 800-327-0966  
or sign up at [www.pasty.net](http://www.pasty.net)**

## Price Schedule

For all users in the 5-township service area who sign up before June 30, 2009, there is no cost for the use of the equipment or the installation. The only initial cost is the first and last month payment, to activate account (service is payable monthly in advance).

### Monthly Service Levels:

128k . . . .	\$ 15
256k . . . .	\$ 25
384k . . . .	\$ 35
512k . . . .	\$ 45

Monthly membership includes bandwidth, access to nationwide network, toll-free support, and 7 GB of email storage with either email address:

@pasty.net  
or  
@northpines.net

These email resources come with the most advanced spam filters and virus protection available anywhere.

## What do I need to do?

Contact Pasty.NET and register today. Users are connected as neighborhood access points come online, with the initial deposit of first and last month's service. Use the sign-up form at [www.pasty.net](http://www.pasty.net) or call 800-327-0966