



City of Leslie best in state for Fiscal Management

Leslie shares top honor with eight other cities for 2006-2008 Fiscal years

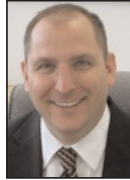
The City of Leslie received the highest score on the Michigan Department of Treasury's Fiscal Indicator test. The Treasury Department reviews indicators of fiscal stress for all of Michigan's 1,858 local units of government. Leslie was the only City in the region to receive the highest cumulative score for the years 2006 through 2008.

According to the Treasury's website, (http://www.michigan.gov/treasury/0,1607,7-121-1751_47023-171423--,00.html) the fiscal indicator

scores are intended to provide State officials, local officials, and the general public with objective, measurable, and straightforward information concerning the degree of, or absence of, fiscal health in units of local government.

This information provides the public with information that may not be publicly displayed from their local officials.

The fiscal indicator scores are similar to the school district report cards available for Michigan School Districts.



Reed



Neu

The study indicates that local units that score in this category are deemed to be managing its financial circumstances appropriately. "We are thrilled that we scored this high," stated Leslie Finance Director Cheri Neu, "as a small mu-

nicipality we have plenty of challenges, and we certainly have felt the impacts of the economic downturn.

We do our best to provide our residents with services today while planning for the future."

City Manager Brian Reed added "For cities, it is getting extremely difficult to manage financially. We have made cuts and tough decisions daily. In the end, you have to figure out ways to pave roads, fix your water and sewer systems, and provide public safety in this era of rising costs and shrinking

revenue. We work hard to be accountable to our taxpayers."

Leslie shared the top honor with 8 other Cities including Chelsea, Harrisville, Hartford, Ludington, Marquette, New Buffalo, Utica, and Zeeland. It marks the second consecutive year that Leslie received the highest score. The City of Leslie has an annual operating budget of approximately \$3 million. General Fund of approximately \$1.2 million. The City has 11 full-time staff.

From the City of Leslie.



Courtesy Photo

Dreams come true for two LHS grads

What boy hasn't dreamed about playing football in high school, taking the team to the state finals, and going on to play in college football? Well these young men aren't only dreaming it, but living it. Devyn Twombly and Jared Mentink took the Leslie Blackhawks to the state finals last fall and are now playing college football. Devyn # 42 and Jared #78 are going to two different schools, but got the chance to play against each other. Twombly plays for Trine University in Indiana, and Mentink for Defiance College in Ohio. One plays defense and the other plays offense. They never got on the field at the same time, but they did have a lot of fun. College football is a big step up from high school, so a huge congratulations for living your dream!

School board prepares for per-pupil funding reductions

By Jennifer Shuster
Publisher

The Leslie Board of Education held its regular meeting last night.

During the public comment portion at the beginning of the meeting, Board Treasurer Mary Crowl spoke to the audience regarding the school board recall effort.

"Vote 'No' for the recall of Bill Myers and Pat Fogg," Crowl said.

She went on to read from a prepared statement, accusing *The Leslie Weekly Guardian* of publishing an inaccuracy in regards to the amount of school days required by the state of Michigan as compared to the

supposed hours required in the teachers' contract.

Crowl vocally urged the audience members not to vote yes for the recall based on this alleged inaccuracy.

"This board does not work in a dysfunctional manner," Crowl said.

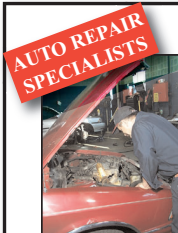
In other meeting news, Superintendent Corey Netzley discussed the potential impact of the \$165 per-pupil reduction by the state if Governor Jennifer Granholm passes the related Bill.

According to Netzley, the reduction would reduce the district's budget by \$219,615, which is based on an enrollment of 1,331 students.

Continued on Page 3.

Onondaga Town Hall Meeting

Regarding the closing of the
Onondaga Post Office
Thursday, October 15 at 6 p.m.
Onondaga Township Hall on Baldwin Street



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