



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

Newsletter

Fall 2003

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Elected Officials

ADMINISTRATION
Dave Payne, Supervisor
Wilma S. Cotton, Clerk
Dan Devine, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

David B. Buckley
Janet M. Roncelli
Sherry Stefanos
Jerry J. Tobias

PLANNING COMMISSION

Appointed Positions

David J. Lubin
Richard D. Mintz
Jane Reisinger
Jeffrey Salz
Sherry Stefanos
John M. Swoboda
Robert L. Wittbold

BOARD OF APPEALS

Appointed Positions

Jim Aldrich - Alternate
Neal Jay Barnett
Dan Devine
Brian E. Kepes
Corinne Khederian - Alternate
Leo Savoie
Lisa Seneker
John Swoboda
Fred G. Wilkinson

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP OFFICES

4200 Telegraph Road
PO Box 489

Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303-0489

www.bloomfieldtwp.org

Inside this Issue:

PSC Consumer Forum	2
Water System (cont.)	2
B'field Historical Society	3
Road Project Updates.....	3
Do Not Call-Do Not Knock ..	3
Twp Emergency Operations	4
Ryder Cup	4
Mark Your Calendar!	5
Cable Studio	5

Safety Paths Near Completion; Additional Phase Considered








Sue Ahern and daughter Lizzie take their dog Rusty for a walk on the safety path along Lahser Road south of Lincoln Road.

While the current Safety Path program, begun in 1999, nears completion, Township administrators are assessing the need for additional paths. If there is a demand from residents this item may be put on the ballot for a millage renewal in the 2004 election. A new series of paths would be less extensive than the original project and geared toward connecting existing paths.

More than 24 miles of paths have been built along major roads within the Township, with four more miles under construction now. This project, approved in 1998, has moved ahead of schedule and is being completed under the original budget, even though it includes almost twice as many miles of paths as originally planned.

Paths to be finished this fall are:

-  Adams Rd.: Long Lake Rd to Wattles Rd
-  Lone Pine Rd.: Kingsgate Way to Franklin Rd, south side
-  Quarton Rd.: Franklin Rd to Inkster Rd, north side
-  Quarton Rd.: Telegraph Rd to Blanford Rd, south side
-  Hickory Grove Rd.: London Wall to Opdyke Rd, north side

Do you and your neighborhood association have a suggestion for the location of another safety path? If so, contact Lance Scram in the Road Department at (248) 433-7709 or e-mail road@bloomfieldtwp.org.

Capital Improvements to Water System Underway

Transmission pipe is part of \$2.3 million project that assures safe water pressures



In 1963 Bloomfield Township provided water to 3,000 households through a series of community wells. The Township Board of Trustees, knowing the well systems wouldn't be adequate

to provide the quality and quantity of water necessary for a growing community, decided to connect to the City of Detroit's Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) water supply to provide the most dependable water for the health and welfare of Township residents.

Today, there are 15,000 households served by Bloomfield Township's water supply system. The infrastructure consists of more than 290 miles of underground piping. Some of this piping has been retained from the community well systems and is as old as 75 years.

Continued on page 2

Michigan Public Service Commission to Hold Consumer Forum

*Power outages after spring ice storm prompt concern
Tuesday, September 23, 2003 at 6:00 pm - Lahser High School Auditorium*



April's ice storm may have made the scenery sparkle, but it wreaked havoc for households without power.

The Michigan Public Service Commission (PSC) will hold a consumers' forum to give residents a chance to voice their concerns about publicly owned utilities serving residents of Bloomfield Township. Of special interest are DTE Energy and the extended power outage many homeowners experienced after last spring's ice storm.

After a series of meetings with DTE Energy officials, the Township administration requested a consumer forum with the PSC. Supervisor Dave Payne said, "The benefit of a consumers' forum is that it gives Township residents an opportunity to express their

dissatisfaction with DTE Energy's response to the numerous outages that have occurred over the past several years. People will be able to speak directly to the regulatory body that has oversight of the public utility."

Mark Smith, Senior Analyst for the PSC, explained that the three-member agency regularly holds "town hall" meetings in communities across the state. "The Commission is acutely aware of the service problems that occurred in the spring. We take all comments very seriously and will address people's concerns." After introductory statements and a brief slide presentation, the Commission will open the microphones to people in the audience for a question and answer period. They will bring along PSC staff members to talk to residents on a one-to-one basis about specific problems.

**Consumer Forum Presented by the
Public Service Commission of Michigan
Tuesday, September 23, 2003 at 6:00 PM at
Lahser High School Auditorium
2456 Lahser Road, Bloomfield Hills**



Mature Minglers
Announces
its new name. . .

Greater Bloomfield Senior Association (GBSA)

A note from:
*Christine Tvaroha
GBSA Supervisor*

The primary goal of this change is to recognize the communities we serve, and clearly define "who we are" and "what we do." We are the community's senior center offering a broad range of enrichment programs and supportive services. Also, we are an excellent resource and advocate for senior issues and needs.

There will always be affection for the name that served us for 30 years, but growth of the program and changes in the community, recently studied in our Strategic Planning process, indicate that this strong, professional and inclusive new name will serve us well into the next 30 years.

*Greater B'field Senior Association
7273 Wing Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-3772
248.341.6450*

Capital Improvements to Water System Underway (continued from pg. 1)

Over the last four decades Bloomfield Township has continually improved the infrastructure by building new connections to the DWSD system, completing piping loops and constructing new and rehabilitated pressure regulating valve chambers.

Last year, in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Township had its

consulting engineers assess the reliability of the water system during periods of peak demand simultaneous with periods of demand by fire fighting requirements. The study found areas in the Township that lacked the necessary pressures. As a result the engineers identified and prioritized system



improvements that must be constructed over the next three years at an estimated cost of \$2.3 million.

The first phase of the improvements is underway now. A

new 16" diameter transmission pipe is being built along Quarton Road from Franklin to Inkster and along Inkster Road

from Quarton Road to Walnut Lake Road. It is being constructed in conjunction with the new safety path along the same route on Quarton Road. This will provide sufficient water pressure for fire flows during peak demands. It should be completed by the end of this year and comprise more than half of the total project. Following phases will not be as comprehensive and will take place in 2004 & 2005.

Bloomfield Historical Society Established Become a Charter Member



The Orphan Train of Michigan

Attention Bloomfield Township residents, you are cordially invited to be a charter member of the newly founded Bloomfield Historical Society.

An organizational meeting was held at the Bloomfield Township Library on May 18, 2003 at which time a unanimous vote supported the name "Bloomfield Historical Society". The foremost purpose of the historical society will be to assemble and preserve the history of Bloomfield Township and the City of Bloomfield Hills and to make it accessible to those interested in the founding fathers, historical homes and important community landmarks. The Bloomfield Historical will also be a means to preserving individual stories important to our heritage.

The first official meeting of the Bloomfield Historical Society will be held on Sunday, September 14, 2003, at the Bloomfield Township Library, immediately following a 3:00 p.m. presentation of "The Orphan Train in Michigan" by brothers Al and Dave Eicher. They researched this saga and created a 38 minute video about the 12,500 children brought to Michigan towns from the northeastern United States for adoption between 1854 and 1927. Library Director, Karen Kotulis-Carter will then convene the BHS meeting and talk about the bylaws, grants and non-profit status and Township Clerk, Wilma Cotton will talk about her progress in getting the 1827 Township Board minutes and other documents microfilmed and digitized for posting on a website. Don't forget to mark your calendar for Sunday, September 14 at 3:00 p.m.

*Sunday, September 14, 3:00 pm
Bloomfield Township Public Library
1099 Lone Pine Road
No reservations necessary
www.btpl.org*

Do Not Call - Do Not Knock!

You may have already registered with the new national "Do Not Call" registry that will make your phone off-limits to telemarketers but if you haven't, you may call:

888.382.1222

or go online at:

www.donotcall.gov

When calling the registry you must make the call from the telephone number that you want excluded.

Unfortunately, Bloomfield Township cannot prohibit door-to-door solicitation, but we can and do attempt to regulate it. The Township's Solicitation Ordinance, previously upheld in federal court, requires a permit from the Township Clerk, which the solicitor must carry. The Ordinance restricts solicitation hours from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm (DST) and 11:00 am to 5:00 pm (EST). If you do not want solicitors knocking you may post a sticker or notice on your door stating "**Private Property - NO SOLICITORS.**" Stickers are available at most hardware stores.

Wilma Cotton,
Township Clerk



Road Project Updates



I-75 / Squirrel Road Sound Wall

The Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is working on sound walls on I-75 between Squirrel Road and the Square Lake Road interchange. Construction is scheduled to wrap up by mid-October. MDOT is funding the project.

Opdyke / Kensington/ Hickory Grove Road Improvements

If you drive on Opdyke Road from Square Lake Road to Hickory Grove Road, you know the frustration of trying to navigate during peak times. Add to the mix school letting out or a train crossing the road and you've got the recipe for a headache. Bloomfield Township, in conjunction with the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) and the County Board of Commissioners, has come up with a plan to alleviate the congestion. Turn lanes will be built and signals for timing traffic and train crossings will be added. The project is scheduled to finish by the end of this construction season.

Kirkway Bridge Replacement

After 16 years of debate, design changes and delays, the Kirkway bridge is being replaced. The bridge has long been a safety hazard because it is so narrow and has a hump that severely limits the sightline for traffic. The new bridge will be widened ten feet to a total width of 26 feet. The approaches will also be extended to flatten the profile allowing for full vision of oncoming traffic. The facing of the bridge will match the entry pillars on Kirkway Road at Long Lake Road. MDOT is funding 90% of the project from its critical bridge fund. The remaining 10% will be shared between the RCOC and Bloomfield Township. Completion of the project is scheduled for mid-October.

Township Emergency Operations Center Called Into Action

The lights are back on and the water is flowing. You can now use your air-conditioner, water sprinklers, televisions and all the other conveniences and appliances that formerly were taken for granted. The great blackout of 2003 is over.

Yet the work of assessing its impact has just begun. Bloomfield Township, like the county and state government, is reviewing its response to the emergency and tallying the toll.

Total costs to the Township are estimated to be \$30,000. This is primarily from overtime but includes expenses for special supplies and equipment. We will be seeking partial reimbursement from the State.

There is good news in spite of the costs. The Township's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) personnel pulled together, quickly gathered and shared information, moved into action and followed the Emergency Operations Plan that had been prepared for this type of emergency or any other kind of disaster. "I was very proud of our staff," said

Bloomfield Township Supervisor Dave Payne. "Everyone knew the job they had to do and they stuck with it until the emergency was over. Everybody purposefully enacted their part of the Plan and followed procedures well. There were very few difficulties that couldn't be handled, given the extent of the problem."

Most Township staff were ending their workday when the power failed. Instead of going home, however, many went back to their jobs to begin immediate assessment of the impact. By 9:00 PM Supervisor Payne formally activated the Township's Emergency Operation Center, which included the Fire Chief (who is also the Emergency Management Coordinator), Clerk Wilma Cotton, Treasurer Dan Devine, Police Chief, Water and Road Superintendents, Communications and Information Technology personnel and Cable television staff. A representative from Bloomfield Hills Schools was also involved.

While the power outage itself was well beyond the control of local government, Township public safety workers were charged with minimizing risk to its citizens.

Police had to re-route traffic through dangerous intersections. Firefighters had to remain ready for medical runs and firefighting in the face of snarled traffic and diminished water supply. Water workers had to secure the water system to prevent potential damage upon the return of the water pressure.

True cross-departmental efforts made all this happen. Road crew members assisted police in putting up barricades at dangerous intersections. Firefighters prepared meals for workers so they could continue functioning into the wee hours. Both Road and Fire employees assisted Water personnel in monitoring pressure gauges at pump stations all night long. Facilities and maintenance supervisors took extraordinary measures to keep Township buildings operational.

The number of workers on duty that night more than doubled the usual number required for a normal night shift. But the efforts during the entire 25-hour period in which the EOC was activated showed that Bloomfield Township's Emergency Management Team has a viable emergency plan and are prepared to follow it.

The Ryder Cup Comes to Town!

You've no doubt already heard – the most prestigious event in golf, the Ryder Cup Matches, will be held in Bloomfield Township at Oakland Hills Country Club September 14 – 19, 2004.

Of course this means the excitement of sightings of the world's best golfers and other celebrities and booming business for restaurants and other retailers. On the other hand, Township officials are already hard at work to make sure it doesn't also mean unmanageable traffic snarls and unsafe conditions for residents and guests.

Planning for the event is well underway. Public safety and planning personnel have been working with PGA, Ryder Cup



and Oakland Hills representatives to discuss the event's impact on public services. The Fire Marshal will be inspecting the safety of tents and temporary structures set up

throughout the grounds as well as planning for fire code enforcement. Police officers are considering various traffic and security measures. The Planning and Code Enforcement department is studying the application of Township ordinances, especially concerning signage, parking and noise.

It will be an exciting time to be in Bloomfield Township, and we working to make sure it will be a safe and enjoyable event for everyone.

<http://www.rydercup.com>



West Nile Virus Update



Mosquito activity appears to be light right now in Bloomfield Township, partially as the result of treatment of public lands with a natural insecticide. It is still a good idea to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites. There are many ways to reduce the risk of becoming infected. They include:

- ✓ Apply insect repellent that contains the active ingredient DEET to exposed skin. Follow the manufacturer's directions for use on the label.
- ✓ Spray clothing with repellents containing permethrin or DEET because mosquitoes may bite through thin clothing. Follow the manufacturer's directions for use on the label.
- ✓ Avoid applying repellent to children under 2 years of age, and to the hands of older children because repellents may irritate the eyes & mouth.
- ✓ Maintain window and door screening to keep mosquitoes out of buildings.
- ✓ Drain standing water in the yard, where mosquitoes can lay eggs.
- ✓ Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors.
- ✓ Report dead birds using the Bloomfield Twp. West Nile Hotline Number: 248-642-7645



Solid Waste Increase

A two-percent increase in cost for all residential solid waste services took effect starting with the third quarter billing period, July through September. The change follows the contract provisions set forth between Bloomfield Township & Waste Management.

The change in cost is the first since the single-hauler system was adopted in 1991. Scheduled increases of two-percent will follow in each of the next three years. The contract runs through June 2007.

Forestry Unit to Keep Roads Clear

The Bloomfield Township Road Department now has a forestry crew of two industry-trained professionals who will supplement services provided by the Road Commission of Oakland County. The crew's primary duties are to trim along intersections to assure unobstructed vision, trim branches along the road for clearance of emergency vehicles and remove smaller dead trees in the public right of way that pose a hazard. Larger trees and limbs beyond the scope of our equipment will be referred to Oakland County.

Police & Fire Open House Scheduled for Sunday October 12 Noon - 4:00 pm

Every year during National Fire Prevention Week, the second week in October, Bloomfield Township hosts the Police & Fire Open House. Be sure to join this informative and fun day for the whole family.

Yard Waste Collection Season Ends - December 8 - 12

The compost station closes each winter season and reopens in 2004 on April 1. During this shutdown Waste Management has no place to store or deliver your yard waste, so it will not be picked up. The only exception is the collection of Christmas trees.



Cable Studio Gets More Space, New Look!



BCTV's new garage has plenty of space for the production van with room left over for working on technical equipment.

Fees paid to the Township by the cable operator, Comcast, funded the construction project. These fees are required by the cable franchise for Comcast's use of the public right of way and for community access channels.

BCTV airs almost 500 programs a year, all produced by community members, which highlight the people, places and events that make Bloomfield Township and neighboring communities unique. Program subjects range from concerts to water conservation, religion to restaurants - all with a local theme.

Volunteers are an important part of most television productions. There are plenty of opportunities- day or evening, weekday or weekend - for a volunteer to become involved. If learning camera operations sounds interesting, attend the next Volunteer Workshop. Two are scheduled for September 23; one at 10 am and another at 7 pm. They cover the same material - choose the one that is most convenient for you. Call 248.433.7790.

Bloomfield Community Television (BCTV) recently added a garage, a storage room and a "green room" onto its 18 year-old facility. This addition allows the production van to be parked on-site rather than to continue to use space needed by the Fire Department. Community television producers can now have their TV sets and props stored safely instead of being stacked against the walls of the studio. The "green room" provides a place for program hosts and guests to meet and plan their show before the cameras roll. The office area was updated with new workstations, carpeting and wall covering.

For program schedule information, pick up a print program at Township Hall, Bloomfield Township Library, or the Greater Bloomfield Senior Association. Or, logon to www.bloomfieldtwp.org; go to Services; go to Cable.

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Time: 8:00 pm
Days: 2nd and 4th
Monday of each month
Location: Township Auditorium

PLANNING COMMISSION

Time: 7:00 pm
Days: 1st and 3rd
Monday of each month
Location: Township Auditorium

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Time: 7:30 pm
Days: 2nd Tuesday of each month
Location: Township Auditorium

Note: The Charter Township of Bloomfield will provide necessary, reasonable auxiliary aids and services at all meetings to individuals with disabilities. All such requests must be made at least five days prior to said meeting. Please contact Bloomfield Township's Clerk's Office.

Clerk's Office
PO Box 489
Bloomfield Hills, MI
48303-0489
Telephone: 248.433.7702
Fax: 248.433.7714
email: clerk@bloomfieldtwp.org
www.bloomfieldtwp.org



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Public Service Commission
(P&C) Consumer Forum
Tuesday, September 23, 6:00 pm
Lahser High School Auditorium
See page 2 for details.

Bloomfield Historical Society
Sunday, September 14, 3:00 pm
See page 3 for details.

Household Hazardous Waste
Drop-Off Day
Saturday, October 4, 2003
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. sharp. Stream-
lined, drive-thru service. See
www.bloomfieldtpw.org for
materials that can be dropped off.

Police & Fire Open House
Sunday, October 12
Noon - 4:00 pm
For details see
www.bloomfieldtpw.org

Yard Waste Collection Season Ends
December 8 - 12
Christmas trees will be treated
and collected as rubbish during
the three weeks after Christmas.
Michigan law prohibits the mix-
ing of yard waste with solid waste.

Bloomfield Community TV
Volunteer Workshop
September 23rd, 10 am or 7pm.
To register, phone 248.433.7790.

Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees



Front Row (L - R) Wilma Cotton - Clerk; Dave Payne - Supervisor; Dan Devine - Treasurer
Back Row (L - R) Trustees - David Buckley; Janet Roncelli; Sherry Stefanos; Jerry Tobias

Wilma S. Cotton Clerk
Dave Payne Supervisor
Dan Devine Treasurer

TRUSTEES

David B. Buckley **Sherry Stefanos**
Janet M. Roncelli **Jerry J. Tobias**

For up-to-date Township information, join
the Township's email list!
www.bloomfieldtpw.org

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

- Police / Fire / Emergency
911
- Water / Sewer Emergency
433.7730
- Administration 433.7700
Fax 433.7714
- Accounting 433.7712
- Assessor's Office 433.7710
- Building Dept. 433.7715
- Clerk's Office 433.7702
- Community Cable 433.7790
Fax 642.7624
- Fire Department
Non-Emergency ... 433.7745
Fax 433.7787
- Planning 433.7795
Fax 433.7729
- Police Department
Administration 433.7750
Non-Emergency ... 433.7755
Fax 433.7784
- Animal Welfare 433.7757
- Investigations 433.7760
- Alarm Info 433.7775
- Property 433.7777
- Records 433.7776
- Road Department 433.7709
Fax 433.7786
- Township Library 642.5800
- Treasurer's Office 433.7705
- Water & Sewer 433.7731



A Special Thanks To:
Costco
K-Mart
Krogers at Long Lake & Telegraph
for supplying food & water to the
Emergency Management Team
THANK YOU!

US POSTAGE
PAID
PRSR STD
BLOOMFIELD TWP
PERMIT NO 40

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP
4200 TELEGRAPH ROAD
PO BOX 489
BLOOMFIELD HILLS MI 48303-0489

