



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Friendship Club ADS serves Bloomfield families

The Friendship Club Adult Day Service is settled into its new home in the Bloomfield Township Senior Center and humming with activity. The program serves older adults with memory disorders, offering them a safe and stimulating environment to help maintain their highest level of ability. Services offered for family caregivers include resources and training, referral information, monthly support meetings and counseling.

"I can have confidence when I leave her that she'll be fine and enjoy her day," says Marie Grant-Lewandowski. She has been bringing her 95-year-old



mother, Bernice Stachurski (pictured above celebrating her birthday), to the Friendship Club five days a week since it began over three years ago.

"The staff is wonderful. It's like an extension of the family. I never have to worry about her." Grant-Lewandowski emphasizes that she would not be able keep her mother at home without the support of the Friendship Club. She has nothing but praise for the program and for the ADS Coordinator, social worker Julie GeBott, whom she calls "loving and caring."

ADS Coordinator Julie GeBott is pictured above

Claire Michelini is another family caregiver who is thrilled to take advantage of the services of the Friendship Club for her 92-year-old mother, Mary Oss.

"It's a wonderful program," says Michelini. "The Township residents had a lot of foresight



Clients can garden on the patio

to approve the millage for this service. It's taxpayer money well spent." Michelini's mother was one of the Friendship Club's first clients. The program offers Mrs. Oss the chance to have some activities of her own, apart from her daughter, and provides a social outlet. Michelini says her mother benefits from the activities and looks forward to her time at the Friendship Club.

The activities, including field trips, music, word games, gardening on the patio, meals and exercise, all help clients to maintain vitality. Recent outings have included a bus tour of Detroit, a visit to the Detroit River Walk, a tour of the BCTV studio to watch a show in production, and a visit to the Oakland County Farmers Market. There are regularly scheduled visits to the Birmingham Bloomfield Art

Center, and Friendship Club clients have presented an exhibition of their own art. Dedicated volunteers, working with staff, help make all the activities possible.

Both Grant-Lewandowski and Michelini praised the dedication and flexibility of the Friendship Club staff. They described staff as caring and accommodating. If a caregiver needs to drop off a family member early, staff will be there to help out. If necessary, transportation can be provided.

Staff has found that in many cases families hesitate to sign up their loved one for the Friendship Club. Many families don't feel that their loved one is ready for the club but once they are seasoned members, families wish they had joined sooner. They often say they would encourage other families



Volunteers enjoy lunch

not to wait, because they will love it. The Friendship Club greatly improves quality of life both for the persons who attend and for their caregivers.

Claire Michelini says, "It's a benefit for her and for me. I couldn't do without it."



BLOOMFIELD
TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF
TRUSTEES 2010

ELECTED OFFICIALS

ADMINISTRATION

Dave Payne, Supervisor
Janet Roncelli, Clerk
Dan Devine, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

David Buckley
Neal J. Barnett
Leo C. Savoie
Brian Kepes

APPOINTED POSITIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Scot Goldberg, Chairman
Jeff Salz, Vice Chairman
Sherry Stefanos, Secretary
Neal Barnett
Richard Mintz
Thomas Petinga
William Stark

BOARD OF APPEALS

Corinne Khederian, Chairman
Robert E. Taylor, Jr., Vice Chairman
James Aldrich
David Buckley
Brian Henry
Tracy Leone, Alternate
Carol Rosati, Alternate
Lisa Seneker
Sherry Stefanos

It's easy to keep up with what's happening in Bloomfield Township

Interested in what's going on in Bloomfield Township? You can subscribe to our news update service and receive periodic email updates from Bloomfield Township on items related to Township services and events. The e-newsletter is typically sent once every three or four weeks. Visit the website at www.bloomfieldtwp.org and click on the E-Mail List link on the upper right of the home page.



Board of Trustees

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
DATE: 2nd and 4th Monday
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

Planning Commission

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
DATE: 1st and 3rd Monday
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

Zoning Board of Appeals

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
DATE: 2nd Tuesday
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 the Bloomfield Township Clerk's Office, 4200 Telegraph Road, P.O. Box 489, Bloomfield Hills MI 48303--0489, 248-433-7702, Fax: 248-433-7714

Primary election coming up in August

The August 3, 2010 primary begins the election season for 2010. Partisan candidates for governor, congress, state, county and township offices will be on the primary ballot. Also, precinct delegates will seek partisan nominations. In the partisan section, voters must vote for candidates in one party only. In other words, a voter cannot split the ticket between parties in the partisan section. If this happens, the partisan section of the ballot will be rejected.

There are two other sections of the ballot. The nonpartisan section includes judicial candidates for the probate court. In the proposal section, requests for millage renewals include the following: Oakland County Parks and Recreation, Oakland County Public Transportation, and Oakland Community College. Voters in the Avondale School District will consider a school millage proposal. Sample ballots and

polling locations can be viewed online at

<http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/Clerk/Voting.htm>.



The last day to register to vote for the August primary is Tuesday, July 6, 2010.

Absentee ballots are sent upon receipt of an absentee ballot application or a request to be placed on the permanent absentee voter application list. The application requires the voter to select one of six reasons listed in order to receive a ballot. Absentee ballots are not automatically sent to a voter unless a completed application is submitted first. Stop in and complete the application or call the Clerk's Office at 248.433.7702 and an

application will be mailed to you. For further information regarding absentee voting or an online application, see our website:

<http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/Clerk/Voting.htm>.

Bloomfield Township will be using new equipment provided by the Michigan Bureau of Elections in all precincts. The introduction of the Electronic Poll Book (EPB) provides a laptop computer, scanner and custom software to replace the paper poll book and precinct list. Bloomfield Township participated in the pilot program in 2008. With funds from the Help America Vote Act, the Michigan Bureau of Elections secured the equipment and provided the training for communities interested in using the program permanently.

Whether you vote at the polls or by absentee ballot, the Clerk's Office encourages all eligible voters to cast a ballot.

Newly adopted ordinances protect Township's natural resources

In order to protect the Township's woodland areas, as well as the quality and character of the neighborhoods within our community, the Township Board adopted a Tree Preservation & Protection Ordinance on March 9, 2009. The ordinance regulates properties where new construction or redevelopment is planned or any clear-cutting activity is proposed. During the first year this ordinance has been in effect, over 370 replacement trees have been planted and countless others have been saved due to site plan modifications that avoided tree removal.

To help preserve our lakes and streams, the Township Board adopted a Fertilizer Ordinance on March 28, 2010, which replaces a Resolution that had been in place since 2001. The ordinance regulates the application of fertilizers within the Township by requiring the registration of commercial applicators and by providing guidelines for fertilizer application rates. So far in 2010, twenty-three companies have registered to apply fertilizer in the Township. Each registered vehicle operating in the Township is required to have a registration sticker displayed on the driver's side back bumper. In addition, the com-

pany name will appear on the Township's website. Recent studies have shown that this type of regulation can result in as much as a twenty percent



decrease in excess phosphorus in regulated water bodies. For copies of each ordinance, guidance materials and additional information, please visit the Township website at www.bloomfieldtwp.org.



A NOTE FROM

Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

Cross-training employees saves money

When the Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees asked voters to approve a new millage last February, we pledged we would continue to implement every reasonable cost-cutting strategy that helped the bottom line and didn't hurt the quality of public services. One of the more successful strategies has been cross-training selected employees and assigning them to additional divisions or departments for a part of their work week.

This practice pays off in several ways. The most obvious, of course, is that it allows us to reduce our workforce. When a department loses a person for any reason, we look to other departments to share one of their employees and avoid hir-

ing a new fulltime worker. Partly because of this, we have lowered the total number of employees by 18 over the past few years.

Not only has sharing employees helped the bottom line, it has increased efficiencies. For example, when our Environmental Specialist and Fire Marshal became sworn ordinance officers, they could directly enforce ordinances regarding their professional specialties as they moved about the community rather than ask a full-time ordinance officer to drive out to the location and assist.

In another example, a television production specialist from the Cable Department completed a law enforcement training (paid for by federal funds)

that certified him in technical video analysis. He can now get the best possible video evidence from cell phones and other electronic devices that may be needed in the investigation of a crime. Previously, our police detectives had to send some electronic devices to the Michigan State Police and wait for results, but now they can proceed with their investigations quickly and prepare their cases for court in a timely way.

Additionally, we have found that when employees cross division and departmental lines, they broaden the focus of their work and bring greater knowledge to the task at hand. In one such instance, a person from the Treasurer's Office spends time each week in the administrative office of the

Department of Public Works. Because both offices have a role in the water billing process, this employee has a more comprehensive understanding of the process and can facilitate the work easily.

In other cases, cross-training is simply a matter of providing necessary manpower during emergencies. The Department of Public Works uses its building and grounds crew, motor pool and water workers to plow snow during heavy snowstorms, for example. Or, any of them may be pulled in to pump out a damaged sewer line or repair a broken water main.

These are just a few examples of how we are managing to maximize our staff resources and lower our expenses as revenue continues to drop. The Township's Strategic Plan, adopted in March 2009, details many other practices we have implemented. You can review it online at www.bloomfield-twp.org.

BTSS offers home repair program to seniors

"I don't have words to explain how truly happy and appreciative I am," says one resident who participated in the home repair program administered by Bloomfield Township Senior Services. BTSS is using funds received from HUD's Community Block Grant program to offer minor home repairs to qualifying seniors. These funds may be used for repairs to furnaces, water heaters, sidewalks, roofs, windows, gutters or chimneys, or for replacement of disposals, toilets, stairs, handrails, and other minor repair and replacement projects. The goal of the program is to keep low-income seniors safe in their homes, and to maintain the quality of Township neighborhoods. The program began in 2009 and has so far served 12 households.

A further benefit of participation in the HUD program is that Township residents become eligible for the county's Home Improvement Loan Program. Qualified homeowners are able to obtain a low or no interest loan for home improvements with payment deferred until the property changes ownership.

Residents may call 248-723-3500 to request an application and eligibility guidelines.



Road reconstruction coming to Township campus

This summer Exeter and Andover Roads will be repaved. They will remain open during construction for access to the Township campus, including the Senior Center. Call 248.594.2800 for more information.

Township receives energy efficiency grant

Bloomfield Township is working to decrease our energy usage by 15 percent by 2012. As part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) of 2009, we applied for and received \$169,500 from the Department of Energy to perform an Energy Efficiency Audit and Retrofit Program. The program enables us to conduct comprehensive energy audits for all Township-owned facilities. The results will be used to identify and prioritize recommended energy efficiency retrofits for the buildings.

With funds remaining after the audits, we will implement as many of the recommended retrofits as possible. Implementing these energy conservation measures will move us towards our goal of a 15 percent energy usage decrease by 2012.



From the Police Department

Crime doesn't take a summer vacation

Consider the following safety tips:

- When working in your yard, keep the doors to your home closed and locked unless you can physically observe them at all times.

- Keep your cars in a closed and locked garage. Just this simple act can prevent a number of crimes.

- Summer is a great time to trim the landscaping around the home. As a rule of thumb, bushes near windows should be 36" high or windowsill height, whichever is lower. Trees

near windows should be trimmed up to at least 6' from the ground.

- An open garage door is an invitation to burglars! Keep it closed whenever possible. It takes just a few seconds for someone to walk up the driveway and steal something

from the garage. Further, many burglars know that if the garage door is open, so too is the pedestrian door that leads



from the garage into the house.

- Arm your alarm system whenever you leave the house, even for those quick trips to the grocery store! Burglaries can take only a minute to commit.

- Did you know many burglars break into homes simply by kicking in a door? This criminal technique is easily countered by installing a deadbolt and security strike

plates in your doorjamb. Further, lengthening the screws in the security strikes will greatly increase the security of that door. As a rule, the screws should be 2 1/2" to 3" in length.

Get a free home security survey and suggestions on choosing the right alarm system for your home. Call Ofc. Matejick at 248-433-7724 for an appointment.

Noxious Weed Ordinance helps keep Township looking good

The Ordinance Division is gearing up for another busy summer by making every effort to find properties with overgrown grass before they become blight to your neighborhood. Per the Township Noxious Weed Ordinance, in March of each year a notice is published in the Birmingham Eccentric warning residents that if the grass on any property reaches a height of eight inches, the Ordinance Division may have the grass cut without further warning. All fees for this action will be placed against the property tax roll. Residents can assist the Ordinance Division by alerting them to homes that may need attention. Call 248-594-2845.

Residents coexist with Township wildlife

One of the beautiful aspects of Bloomfield Township is that it has kept its rural feel. We have always valued trees above light poles and preferred grass to concrete. Within the Township there are lakes, wetlands, meadows, and wooded areas – and the wildlife that lives within them.



The spectrum of wildlife found in Bloomfield Township is amazing. There are owls, hawks, cranes, rabbits, ground-hogs, coyotes, snakes, and deer. These animals are treasures that people in many communities will never see, save for the occasional trip to a park or nature center. All these animals interact with each other,

maintaining a careful balance in the local ecology. No one animal could be removed from an ecosystem without affecting the others.

At times there has been concern over the presence of coyotes in the Township. There was a call for the Township to begin hunting and trapping them. However, not only would this prove difficult (if not impossible), the cost would be prohibitive. Hunting operations would be hampered by the fact that Township residents would probably object to firearms being discharged around their homes and schools. Ultimately, even if all coyotes could be eradicated from the Township, coyotes from other communities would back-fill that vacuum. The coyote is a valuable

part of the ecosystem in Bloomfield Township and helps maintain the natural balance of wildlife.

A number of residents have expressed concern about deer destroying the vegetation in their yards and asked the Township to eliminate the deer. However, there is no way to remove deer from Bloomfield Township. The same conditions that would prevent coyotes being eradicated from the Township hold true for the deer population. Other municipalities have attempted hunting programs to eliminate their deer populations and found that they do not work. Nature regulates animal populations through a variety of mechanisms: disease, accident, starvation, and predation. This is a very delicate balance, but

one that nature mastered millions of years ago.

Where does this leave the suburban gardener? There are numerous passive countermeasures homeowners can take. An Internet search for 'dealing with deer' will yield many tips on various products that can be used to deter deer from eating vegetation. Learning to coexist with wildlife presents challenges, but the pleasure of living in harmony with these beautiful creatures is worth the effort.





From the Fire Department

Keep safety in mind while enjoying the summer

Keep the following safety tips in mind this summer:

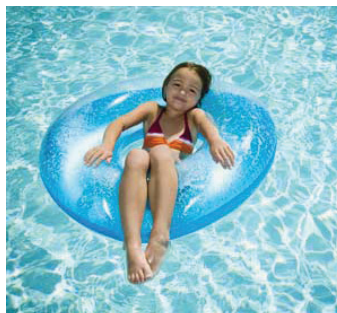
General grilling safety:

- Section 308 of the International Fire Code prohibits barbecue devices on combustible decks or within 10 feet of combustible construction.
- Position your grill well away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and/or overhead combustibles such as tree branches.
- Propane and charcoal grills must only be used outdoors. If used indoors or in enclosed spaces such as tents, grills not only cause a fire hazard but

also create toxic gases such as carbon monoxide that can cause death.

- Position your grill away from yard games, travel paths and play areas.
 - Keep children and pets away from the grilling area.
 - Use long handled cooking tools when grilling to keep you away from the heat and flames.
 - Clean grease reservoirs and trays regularly to avoid an ignitable build-up.
- ### Swimming pool safety:
- Use layers of protection to prevent a swimming pool tragedy.

- Place fencing completely around your pool to prevent access.
- Use door and pool alarms to alert you when children are in the pool area.
- Closely supervise children and be prepared in case of an emergency.
- Never leave children alone



near water, not even for a second.

Helmets:

■ When biking, in-line skating, skateboarding, and when riding scooters, all-terrain vehicles, and horses the best way to protect your head is to wear a helmet. It has been proven that wearing helmets greatly reduces the risk of head injuries.

If you have any questions about summer safety or any other safety related matter, please call 248.433.7745 Monday through Thursday, 7:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

Take advantage of Building Division expertise

If you are considering building a new home, installing an addition or making renovations, the Bloomfield Township Building Division's experienced staff can help answer your construction questions. Also, our state registered inspectors can answer any questions you may have pertaining to plumb-

ing, heating or electrical issues.

Now that summer is here we may begin to see air conditioning units fail and need to be replaced. Be sure to secure the necessary required permits for both replacement and new units. We will assist you by inspecting your unit and checking for code and

ordinance compliance. Township ordinance requires that ground mounted mechanical devices be screened from view in certain locations. Before installing or replacing an air conditioning unit or other ground mounted device, please refer to the Bloomfield Township website, www.bloomfieldtpw.org

Some projects may be eligible for Federal Tax Credits for Consumer Energy Efficiency. As of now, these are scheduled to expire 12/31/2010. For specific information and details visit the U.S. Department of Energy website http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=tax_credits.tx_index

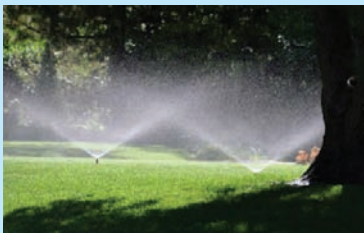
Help control water rates!

Homeowners with even numbered addresses should limit their outdoor water usage, such as filling pools and watering lawns, to even numbered days of the week; those with odd numbered addresses should limit usage to odd numbered days. Avoid watering during peak hours from 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Why is my bill so high?

A primary culprit can be leaking faucets and toilets. Check toilets periodically for leaks since they can waste up to 200 gallons each day. A leak as little as 1/16th of an inch

can waste over 800 gallons of water per day. An unattended water hose left on overnight wastes gallons of water. Make every drop count!



Secondary meters are available for irrigation systems. Check out the website www.bloomfieldtpw.org for more information.

Township regulates invisible fences

Bloomfield Township regulates the installation and location of invisible fences. Township Ordinance, Section 8-27 requires that:

- A fence permit must first be obtained from the Township Building Division.
- The invisible fence may only be installed within a rear yard, set back 25 feet from the rear yard line and 16 feet from the side yard lines.
- In an effort to ensure that the fence functions properly, it may be placed within the side and front yards at a distance of no more than five feet from

the residence.

In an effort to encourage compliance, the Ordinance Division recently gave this information to more than a dozen businesses that install invisible fences in Bloomfield Township. Complete information on animal containment may be found under Chapter 8 in the Code of Ordinances on our website, <http://www.bloomfieldtpw.org/Services/Clerk/Ordinances/OverviewOrdinances.htm> Call the Ordinance Division at 248-594-2845.



Bloomfield Township's

Classic Car Show

FREE EVENT!

248.642.7608 or www.bloomfieldtwp.org

Cool Cars!

Classic and specialty cars
Student displays
Car clubs

Refreshments!

Coldstone Creamery
Marian H. S. Dads' Club

Entertainment!

A DJ playing 50s and 60s music

Where: Mercedes Benz of Bloomfield, 36600 Woodward and Comerica Bank, 36440 Woodward

When: Saturday, August 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bleacher Seating!
Enjoy the Dream Cruise in comfort

\$5 Public Parking!
Easy in and out all day

Portajohns!
For your convenience



Lawrence Tech student display



This year a key supporter of the Classic will be Superformance LLC, from Irvine, California. Superformance is the largest and oldest distributor of hand built reproductions of legendary cars of the 1960s, such as the Shelby Cobra. Superformance will display some of its classic reproductions at the Comerica Bank building.

It's a car show, party and charity event rolled into one. All proceeds benefit the Bloomfield Twp. Fire Department Charities, Bloomfield Twp. Police Department Benevolent Fund and the Bloomfield Optimists. Call 248.642.7608 to register your classic car or for more information.

433-7700	Administration
433-7712	Accounting
433-7710	Assessor's Office
433-7715	Building Dept.
433-7702	Clerks Office
433-7790	Community Cable
594-2800	Engineering & Env.
433-7745	Fire Non-Emergency
433-7795	Planning Dept
433-7750	Police Department
433-7750	Administration
433-7755	Non-Emergency
433-7757	Animal Welfare
433-7760	Investigations
433-7775	Alarm Info
433-7777	Property
433-7776	Records
594-2800	Road Division
594-2800	Water & Sewer
723-3500	Senior Services
335-2813	Adult Day Service
433-7705	Treasurer's Office

433-7730
Water/Sewer Emergency

TOWNSHIP
DIRECTORY

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

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP



PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ROYAL OAK, MI
PERMIT #759