SUMMER 2011



# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

# Supervisor Dave Payne announces retirement

At the regular meeting of the Bloomfield Township Board of Trustees on June 27, 2011, Supervisor Dave Payne announced his retirement, effective August 1, 2011.

"I have worked for Bloomfield Township since 1970 and lived here since 1985," Dave said. "It is a wonderful community to live in and raise a family. I am very fortunate to have been able to spend my career working for a place I love. The Board of Trustees, staff and community members have made my job truly rewarding. I am proud of what Bloomfield Township is today and have confidence in the people who will carry on its traditions while they provide strong leadership for its future."

Dave's term expires in November, 2012. At the time this newsletter went to press, a successor who will serve the remainder of this term had not yet been appointed by the Board of Trustees. (For up to date information, please see the website.) Dave took his first position at the Township in 1970 in what was then the Road Department. He held that job full time while he worked his way through college. In 1975 he became the head of the department. In 1990 he was appointed Administrative Assistant to



# Dave Payne announces his retirement

Supervisor Fred Korzon. In 1995 he was appointed to the office of Treasurer and elected to that position in 1996. When Korzon retired in 1999, the Board of Trustees appointed Dave to the office of Supervisor. Dave was elected to the position in November, 2000. He was re-elected in 2004 and again in 2008.

He earned both his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and his Master of Arts degree in Public Administration from Oakland University.

Dave's tenure is marked by a series of major achievements and he instilled a fresh climate of openness and professionalism. He placed a high priority on regular communication with the public. He valued the Township's need for professional management in all areas of local services and put together a strong leadership team.

In 2006 the Board of Trustees asked voters for a millage that would fund a new public services facility, a new senior center, renovations for Fire Station 2 and Central Fire Station, and

## Please see SUPERVISOR on page 2



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARDS 2011

### 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 Stefanes, 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 Stefanes

# Township earns AAA bond rating

Standard & Poor's recently raised Bloomfield Township's long-term bond rating and underlying rating from "AA+" to "AAA." This is the highest rating a municipality or even a corporation can achieve.

Township Supervisor Dave Payne said, "The AAA bond rating is the direct result of a great team effort put forth by the Board, administration and employees. We are following our Five-Year Strategic Plan and it continues to guide us through these tough times."

Standard & Poor's noted that the Township's operations are healthy and stable. The upgrade also reflected Standard & Poor's view that Bloomfield Township maintains very strong financial reserves despite the recession. The Township's overall debt burden, measured as a percentage of market value, is moderate.

Township Treasurer Dan Devine said, "Our investment strategies have yielded positive outcomes, beating all the comparable benchmarks. We are recognized as being prudent and conservative, yet effective in managing our finances."

# Woodward Dream Cruise Classic Car Show returns for 7th year

It's getting to be a fixture along Woodward Ave. on the day of the Dream Cruise – the Bloomfield Township Classic Car Show! The Classic Car Show is a great place to bring the family and enjoy the Cruise. It's free, convenient, and more easily accessible than most other locations along Woodward. There will be plenty of exceptional classic and specialty cars on display, many owned by Bloomfield Township residents, plus a few special displays.

If you would like to enter your car, go to the Bloomfield Township website for a registration form or call 248.642.7608. Last year was almost a sell-out – don't wait too long!



### 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

### When?

Saturday, August 20, 2011, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM



### What?

Fun, family-friendly car show that features classic and rare cars, a viewing area for the Woodward Dream Cruise, official merchandise sales, DJ, food, general parking and portable rest rooms. •New this year – DeLorean car clubs. •Back again – Shelby Distribution USA and Superformance will have a display of Genuine Shelby Cobras and Superformance MKIII's (Shelby licensed Cobras).

## Where?

 Main Event: Mercedes Benz of Bloomfield, 36600
 Woodward

•Car Clubs and Superformance Displays: Comerica Bank, 36440 Woodward

◆General Event Parking:
36700 Woodward
Why?

•Enjoy the world's largest one-day free automotive event in comfortable, convenient surroundings.

 Support three local charities: Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club, Bloomfield Township Fire Department Charities, Bloomfield Township Police Department Benevolent Fund *How*?

Generously sponsored by • Superformance, LLC.

- •Daniel Krug & Associates
- •Mercedes Benz of Bloomfield
- •Comerica Bank

### How much?

Main Event, Car Clubs and Superformance display: FREE!
General Parking: \$5
Registration to show cars at main event: \$75/\$50



### Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals Go Green!

Following the lead of the Township Board, the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals have gone paperless by receiving their meeting agendas and packets via the internet prior to the meetings.

The agenda documents are now online on the Township website at <u>www.bloomfieldtwp.org</u> in the Quick Links column under Public Meetings.

## SUPERVISOR from page I

improvements to the civic campus as well. The millage passed and today, the Bloomfield Township campus has modern, efficient buildings that protect the Township's fleet and equipment and enable the staff to carry out their responsibilities more safely and effectively than they could in the outdated buildings. Additionally, the new Senior Center is thriving and growing, housing services and activities that were not possible in the old building.

In 2008 the Board foresaw the coming economic crisis and charged the administration with developing a plan that would enable the Township to continue to deliver top-quality services in the face of drastically falling revenues. Dave led his administration in the development of a five-year strategic plan which has resulted in some restoration of Township revenue plus major cuts in health care, legacy costs and other employee-related expenses. (The Strategic Plan is detailed on the Township's website and reviewed and updated quarterly.)

In spite of the economic difficulties the entire state is experiencing, the Township's sound financial status has remained stable. In April, 2011, Standard & Poor's upgraded the Township's bond rating to AAA, the highest rating a municipality – or even a private corporation – can achieve. Bloomfield Township is one of just five municipalities in the State of Michigan to have achieved this rating.

Dave has long pushed for the consolidation of services between Bloomfield Township and several neighboring communities. At this time, the most viable option is the consolidation of dispatch services with the City of Birmingham. Serious talks are underway.

Dave is 60 years old and has been married to his wife Debbie for 40 years. They have two children and three grandchildren. Their daughter, Michelle, is a teacher in the Detroit Public Schools and is married to Greg Bushey. They have two sons and a daughter. Dave and Debbie's son, Jeff, is in the hospitality business in Georgia.

### Page 3

# A NOTE FROM Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor Rewarding career comes to an end

When I was 19 years old, I took a job in the Bloomfield Township Road Department so I could pay my college tuition. Wow! Little did I know then that I would spend the next 41 years here, working my way up the ladder as my part-time job turned into a challenging and rewarding career. As I prepare for my retirement and reflect on those 40+ years of experience, I appreciate more than ever the people who have made Bloomfield Township such an outstanding place to live and work.

I will always be grateful to former Township Supervisors Homer Case and Fred Korzon. They mentored me and provided opportunities for me to broaden my horizons.

Bloomfield Township has always hired highly qualified individuals and then invested in them to make sure they are well trained and capable of doing their jobs to the top standards of their profession. But even more than that, they're simply good people. They're generous and honest. They are driven to deliver excellent public services and willing to make personal sacrifices for the greater good. It has been a pleasure to come to the office every day and work with them.

The men and women who, over the years, have been appointed to the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals have been excellent public servants. They have cared about the Township to an extraordinary degree and fulfilled their duties expertly.

Because I served on the Board of Trustees for the past 14 1/2 years, I have a special place in my heart for my fellow Board members, both past and present. They have demonstrated exceptional foresight and leadership. Our Board members have always come to Board meetings well prepared and knowledgeable about the issues under consideration. They have been committed to the betterment of this community and served for that purpose alone, rather than for political gain. That has led to the stability that sets Bloomfield Township apart from most other communities.

Finally, I'm grateful to you, the Bloomfield Township resident. You set high standards and expect the best. I am particularly grateful that you recognize the good services you receive and express your appreciation. You have rewarded me time and again with kind words about our staff. I have had the pleasure of getting to know many of you and forming personal, long-lasting friendships. As voters, you have put your trust in me and I have considered that the highest honor of my professional life.

I will be forever grateful to Bloomfield Township employees, Board of Trustees and residents. You have enriched my life, both professionally and personally. Even in retirement, I will remain dedicated to Bloomfield Township and ready to support the community in any way I can.

# Safety paths add to quality of life in Township

More than 50 miles of safety paths have been constructed along main roads in Bloomfield Township since passage of the original millage in 1998. Renewals by voters in 2004 and 2008 have allowed the network of paths to give more residents easier access to schools, places of worship and shopping areas.

More than three miles of safety paths were completed on Square Lake Road, Telegraph Road, Franklin Road and Woodward Avenue in 2010. This work included replacement of the old asphalt path on Long Lake Road from Franklin Road to Golf Ridge Drive. Three miles of safety paths will be constructed in 2011, along 14 Mile Road, Covington Road, Square Lake Road and Telegraph Road. In addition, the Michigan Department of Transportation has been working to complete construction of nearly 2.5 miles of paths along Telegraph Road that are included in the Township's Master Plan. These sections are being built using federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money.

Safety paths contribute to the excellent quality of life in Bloomfield Township, allowing greater mobility and the opportunity to exercise safely. Please remember as you enjoy the paths to be mindful of your neighbors. Be sure to pick up after your pets and to properly dispose of any trash. Be aware that private driveways intersect the safety paths, so use caution and watch for cars that may be backing down the driveways.



# Checking for water leaks can save you money

Want to cut your water bills? Monitor your water consumption regularly to catch any unexpected leaks. Culprits can be leaking faucets, toilets and outside irrigation systems. Leaking toilets can waste up to hundreds of gallons each day. They can be easily checked by placing a few drops of food coloring in the toilet tank. After letting it sit for an hour, check the toilet bowl. Colored water in the bowl indicates a leak. An unattended water hose left on overnight or a defective sprinkler head wastes hundreds to thousands of gallons of water. A leak as small as one-sixteenth of an inch can waste over 800 gallons of water each day.

Residential meters are only read quarterly for billing, so even a small leak can result in a very high water bill over this period of time. If you suspect you have a leak, check your water meter. A leak detection device is incorporated in the meter. If the triangular indicator is moving when you are not using water, this is evidence of a leak that needs attention.



From the Police Department

# Four tips to avoid theft and break-ins

Four ways to avoid becoming a victim this summer:

I. Park your car in a closed and locked garage. The police department sees more car break-ins in the spring and summer than any other time of the year. Does 'stuff' take up so much room in your garage that you can't get your cars in? This is a great time of year to clean out the garage. Many charities will make it easy for you by picking up your discarded items.

2. If you have a garage sale, keep every exterior door of

**your home closed and locked.** While you are distracted running the garage sale, a burglar could slip into your home, steal any small valuables he sees, then leave through a different door.

3. While working in your yard, keep all doors that you cannot physically observe closed and locked. There are burglars that actually look for homeowners working outside. They make the assumption that there is at least one unlocked exterior door, and they're usually correct.

4. Be cautious when opening your door to strangers. To protect our residents, the Township requires salespeople going door-to-door to have a permit issued by the Clerk's office. However, more often than not, solicitors do not have permits and some of these people have criminal records. If you observe solicitors in your neighborhood, do not confront them. Call the **Bloomfield Township Police** Department. Please note, religious organizations or people conducting political campaign-

ing are not required to have permits. When in doubt, call



the police.

To report a crime, make a report, or report a parking problem, call the police department at 248-433-7755. Of course, all emergencies should be reported by dialing 9-1-1.

# Township ordinances help prevent neighborhood blight

The Ordinance Division is gearing up for another busy summer by making every effort to find properties with overgrown grass before they become a blight to your neighborhood. Per the

Township Noxious Weed Ordinance, Chapter I4, Article IV, in March of each year

a Notice is published in our local newspaper warning residents that if the grass on any property reaches a height of eight inches, the Ordinance Division may authorize the grass to be cut without further warning. All related fees for this action will be placed against the property tax roll. Residents can assist the Ordinance Division by alerting them of homes that may need attention by calling 248-594-2845.



other outdoor chores, take a look around your property. Remove unsightly clutter and items that are no longer in use, such as salt buckets, snow shovels, and empty plant pots. Township

While mowing and doing

ordinance prohibits the storage of anything not usually found in a driveway or rear yard, such as

campers, trailers, RVs, and recreational sports equipment. An operable, licensed, private passenger car, patio furniture, a grill, and stacked firewood are common and acceptable outdoor stored items.

Even in this tough economy, Bloomfield Township continues to be a highly valued community in which to live. Your compliance with Township ordinances will help to maintain that standard.

# Energy audit saves Township money

The Township has completed the retrofit of Township Hall lighting, the purchase of natural gas from a third-party supplier, and real-time tracking of energy usage, among others. As part of the American **Recovery and Reinvestment** Act (ARRA) of 2009, Bloomfield Township was awarded funding from the Department of Energy to perform an Energy Efficiency Audit and Retrofit Program. The program involved conducting comprehensive energy audits for all Township-owned facilities. The Technical Energy

Audit (TEA) report was then used to determine and prioritize all recommended energy efficiency retrofits for the buildings. By implementing the recommended energy conservation measures, we will be able to work towards our goal of a 15% energy usage decrease Township-wide by 2012.

For more information regarding the Township's Energy Audit and retrofit Program please visit <u>http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/</u> <u>Services/EES/Environment/Ene</u> rgyEfficiencyConservation.htm

# Mosquito DUNKS offered

Bloomfield Township, through an Oakland County Health Division Program, is offering Mosquito DUNKS for the biological control of mosquito populations which may transmit West Nile Virus. Each DUNK treats up to



100 square feet of standing water for a period of 30 days. You can pick up a Mosquito DUNK at the Township Clerk's office or the Public Services Building. Call 248-594-2800 for more information.



From the Fire Department

# Keep cool this summer with tips from the Fire Department **Heat Related Illness**

As the temperature rises this summer, the body's ability to remain cool may be affected. It is important to guard against heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat exhaustion can be a precursor of heat stroke. Heat stroke is a lifethreatening condition that should be treated by a physician. Symptoms of heat exhaustion include: Nausea, headache and fatigue

- Dizziness or lightheadedness
- Actively sweating
- Cool and pale skin
- Core body temperature over 102 degrees

To treat heat exhaustion move the person to a shady place or air conditioned room; keep the person cool and increase intake of fluids such as water or Gatorade; apply cold wet towels. Call EMS, Symptoms of heat stroke include:

- Headache
- Flushed, warm and dry skin
- Rapid pulse
- Confusion, disorientation, and incoherent speech
- Possible aggression
- Unconsciousness
- Core body temperature over 105 degrees

In case of heat stroke, call 911 immediately. Place the patient in air conditioning or shade. Remove most of the clothes and apply cool, wet

towels. Fan the person.

If you have any questions about these or other safety related matters, please contact us at 248-433-7745.



# **BTSS** welcomes Fitness Coordinator

**Bloomfield Township Senior** Services recently welcomed a new Fitness Coordinator, Maggie Barclay. Maggie has 26 years of experience teaching group fitness and 18 years of managing fitness instructors, including program development and coordination. She came to BTSS from a position as the wellness director for a senior living community.

Maggie is passionate about fitness for all levels of ability, and is planning to add more classes to the already extensive offerings at the Bloomfield Township Senior Center. Ideas under consideration include personal training and zumba toning. Coming up this fall will

be a Fitness Week at the Senior Center, when residents will have the opportunity to try different fitness classes.

"I'm excited," says Maggie."I



love what I do! I am looking forward to expanding the offerings here and appealing to even more residents. This is a great facility and I want people to take advantage of it."

# Save the date....

Upcoming BTSS events



### **Keys to Senior Transportation**

Saturday, September 10, 2011, 10 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Bloomfield Township Senior Center, 4315 Andover Road. A resource fair featuring CarFit by AAA Michigan. A team of trained technicians and health professionals work with each participant to ensure they fit their vehicle properly for maximum comfort and safety. The event will include speakers, exhibitors and refreshments. Everyone is welcome! This event is for seniors and family members who want to assist their senior relatives. Register by calling 248-723-3500.

### Fitness Week September 6 – 9

Complimentary classes for residents 50 and over. Check out exciting, invigorating fitness classes and try something new! Registration for any or all classes begins mid-August. For more information call 248-723-3500.

# Oakland County launches feral cat control program

Oakland County has launched a new program, Oakcats, to deal with feral cats. Free roaming, homeless cats have been abandoned and left to fend for themselves. The Oakcats Trap-Neuter-Return program will stabilize these feral cat colonies and reduce their numbers.

The goal of the new pro-

gram is to maximize the quality of life for Oakland County's free roaming cats, to extinguish existing colonies over time through attrition, and to reduce the demands on Animal Control and shelters throughout Oakland County. Oakcats is a collaborative effort led by the Oakland Pet Adoption Center, with the

Michigan Pet Fund Alliance and All About Animals Clinic, and support from PetSmart Charities.

If you would like to participate in the program you must make a commitment to manage the colony while it exists, track it for a minimum of two years and enter information into the Oakcats database.

Participants will receive training and technical assistance, access to trapping equipment, spaying or neutering for \$10 per cat, rabies vaccinations and ear tipping, and euthanasia of cats whose suffering cannot be alleviated. For more information call 586-435-6930 and reference Oakcats, or go to www.oakcats.com.

# Lake boards help preserve natural beauty of the Township

Some of Bloomfield Township's finest natural features are its scenic lakes. To protect the water quality of the lakes, and subsequently, the property values of our lakefront and lake access homes in the Township, lake improvement boards have been established for eight of the Township's 19 private lakes: Forest Lake (1986), Gilbert Lake (2007), Island Lake (1983), Lower Long Lake (1985), Meadow Lake (1986), Orange Lake (2003), Upper Long Lake (1984) and Wabeek Lake (1989).

A lake board is a Michigan statutory public agency regulated by P.A. 451, which establishes the process for forming the board and how its members are chosen. These members oversee all lake board projects, annual budgets and assessments.

Lake boards carry out lake improvements such as aquatic weed control programs, nui-



Lake boards oversee improvements such as weed harvesting

sance control, water quality improvements, educational activities and the collection of yearly special assessments. Before implementing a project, the board must conduct an engineering feasibility study to determine the methods, estimate the cost, and outline the boundaries of the special assessment district. A Public Hearing of Practicability is held to approve the project and a Public Hearing of Assessment follows to approve the assessment roll, which funds the project.

The Lake Improvement Board webpage provides information useful to riparian property owners and other interested parties. The website links to a separate page for each of the eight lake boards that exist in the Township. Please see www.bloomfieldtwp.org/enviro nmental/lakeboards or contact the Clerk's Office at 248.433.7702 for more information. To our regret, due to an unusually late delivery by the post office some residents did not receive the spring newsletter before the date of the E-waste and medications disposal event which was featured on the front page.

Here's what we can do: Even though we mail our newsletter well ahead of featured events, we will back our schedule up even more to reduce the risk of late deliveries.

Here's what you can do: Subscribe to our e-newsletter to receive updates on the latest Township news and events. Go to http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/E

<u>http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/E</u> <u>mailList/MailingList.asp</u> to sign up.

433-7705	Treasurer's Office
723-3530	Adult Day Service
723-3500	Senior Services
294-2800	Water & Sewer
294-2800	Road Division
	Public Works
9222-827	Records
433-7777	Property
433-7775	Alarm Info
433-1760	Investigations
433-7757	Animal Welfare
433-7755	Non-Emergency
433-7750	Administration
	Police Department
433-7795	noisivi Qainna Q
294-2845	Ordinance Division
433-7745	Fire Non-Emergency
264-2800	Engineering & Env.
433-7790	Community Cable
433-7702	Clerk's Office
5122-525	
433-7716	Assessor's Office
433-7712	Accounting
	Administration
433-7700	
433-7730 Water/Sewer Emergency	
DIDECTODY	

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

# BLOOMFILLD TOWNSHIP



**PAID** 807AL OAK, MI 9274 8759

PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE