

# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



## You should know...

For many people, it's just a group of buildings on Telegraph, south of Long Lake Road. Folks pass by them all the time without giving it much thought.

Sometimes someone has to stop there to drop off a water bill payment, or pick up a document. Even then, they just see the façade and a little bit behind it.

But there are many stories housed in the buildings that make up the Township Civic Center, or campus, or Town Hall, whatever you choose to call it.

The buildings house the various departments that make the community function efficiently.

Typically, residents aren't too concerned about how the Township operates so long as it operates well. But there are

things that residents should know that many, if not most, don't. These are the things that can make life easier for the residents or at least can explain why some things are the way they are.

Consider this from the Department of Public Works:

- If you water your lawn in the summertime, you can save money on sewer charges by installing a secondary meter.
- Sprinkler systems are the most common culprit when

there is a high water bill due to a leak.

- If you are a snowbird, you can save money on your bill by calling Rizzo, the trash hauler, and suspending your account for up to three months a year.

- Get angry when the snowplow knocks over your mailbox? It really isn't the snowplow; it's the wet, heavy snow



DPW employees Kelly Lagarde (left) and Kim Sasser look for ways to help residents.

flying off the front of the blade that does it. In any case, the Township will replace the mailbox.

- Finally, be realistic. In a snow storm the Township plows the roads systematically and efficiently. But remember, no matter how we do it, someone has to be at the end of the list.

From Senior Services:

- Bloomfield Township Senior Services has programs for persons from age 50 on up, and it's not just fitness. There are trips

and other events offered regularly as well as Meals-On-Wheels, Friendship Club, enrichment programs and more.

- Looking for a good workout? You'll get it at the Senior Center. Even the "50 somethings" can be surprised at the scope of the workout – and how well they can keep up.

- Friendships are formed at the Senior Center between and among staff and fellow visitors.

From the Clerk's Office:

- Need a passport? Get it here. Want to register to vote? This is the place. And you will be made to feel welcome.

From the Fire Department:

- It's simple: Listen to the slogan: "When in doubt, call us out." And it doesn't just have to be because you smell smoke. Call for any medical emergency or whatever you need help with. That's why we're here.

From the Police Department:

- Please lock your car and don't leave that laptop on the front seat. Bloomfield Township is a very safe community. Unfortunately, the thieves who regularly break into cars here don't know that.

**Please see You Should Know on page 5**



## BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD & 2016

### ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### ADMINISTRATION

Leo Savoie, Supervisor  
Janet Roncelli, Clerk  
Dan Devine, Treasurer

#### TRUSTEES

David Buckley  
Neal J. Barnett  
Brian Kepes  
Corinne Khederian

#### APPOINTED POSITIONS

##### PLANNING COMMISSION

Thomas Petinga, Chairman  
Jeff Salz, Vice Chairman  
Lisa Seneker  
Richard Mintz  
Neal Barnett  
Richard Atto  
Bruce Selik

##### BOARD OF APPEALS

Carol Rosati, Chairman  
Tracy Leone, Vice Chairman  
David Buckley  
Brian Henry  
Lisa Seneker  
Robert Taylor, Jr.  
James Aldrich  
Justin Winkelman, Alternate  
Pam Williams, Alternate

## Save the date...

### October 1

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day

### October 9

Township Open House

### November 8

General Election

### December 16

Last day for yard waste pickup



#### 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

# Township voters anticipate November General Election

Since May, 2016, Bloomfield Township residents have filed absentee ballot applications for the Nov. 8, 2016, General Election. This monumental event will shape the future of the United States. If you are not a registered voter in Bloomfield Township, please note that the last day to register for this election is Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2016.

If you want to avoid the long lines at the polls, request an absentee ballot. The application is available online at <http://www.bloomfieldtpw.org/forms/PDFForms/AVAppAug&Nov2016Elections.pdf> or by calling the Clerk's Office. To qualify for an absentee ballot, the voter must meet one of the following reasons: 1) 60 years of age or older; 2) anticipated absence from the community in which the voter is registered for the entire time the polls are open on election day; 3) physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another; 4) unable to attend the polls because of religious beliefs; 5) appointed as an election inspector in a precinct other than the precinct where the voter resides; and 6) unable to attend the polls because the voter is confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

The last day to request an absentee ballot by mail is Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016. Over-

the-counter requests continue until 4 p.m., Monday, Nov. 7, 2016. Don't wait until the last minute.

A person who registers to vote by mail must vote in person in the first election in which he or she participates. The restriction does not apply to overseas voters, voters who are disabled or voters who are 60 years of age or older. First-time voters who register to vote by mail may identify themselves at the Township clerk's office or any Michigan Secretary of State's Office.

On Election Day, the polls



Deana Mondock and Carol Miller work to make elections run smoothly.

will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Information regarding polling locations, sample ballots, and absentee voting can be found on our website at <http://www.bloomfieldtpw.org/Services/Clerk/Elections.asp>.

The ballot will contain the following information:  
**PARTISAN SECTION**  
President/Vice President  
U.S. Representative in

Congress  
Representative in State Legislature  
State Board of Education Members  
University of Michigan Regents  
Michigan State University Trustees  
Wayne State University Governors  
County Offices  
Township Offices

### NONPARTISAN SECTION

Justice of Supreme Court  
Judge of Court of Appeals, 2<sup>nd</sup> District  
Judge of Circuit Court, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Judge of Probate Court  
Judge of District Court, 48<sup>th</sup> District  
Township Library Board Directors  
Local School District Board Members  
Community College Board of Trustees Member, Oakland Community College  
Ballot Proposals

For your convenience, the Clerk's Office will be open on Friday, Oct. 14 and 28, 2016, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 5, 2016, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., for the purpose of processing Absent Voter Ballot Requests.

If you have any questions regarding the Nov. 8, 2016 election, contact the Clerk's Office at (248) 433-7702. We welcome your interest and feedback.

## What's going on around town?

You can find out every week through the Bloomfield Township eNewsletter. The eNewsletter is sent out every Thursday to subscribers. It contains items on what's happening in the area as well as timely announcements, such as snow emergencies and other weather alerts, changes of office hours and news bulletins. ENewsletters are also sent whenever there is an immediate need to relay a message to the public.

You can subscribe to the eNewsletter by going to the Township website, [www.bloomfieldtpw.org](http://www.bloomfieldtpw.org), and clicking on the box at the upper left of the page. You may also send your email address to [gkowalski@bloomfieldtpw.org](mailto:gkowalski@bloomfieldtpw.org) and it will be added to the subscription list. Local non-profit organizations may submit items for inclusion to [gkowalski@bloomfieldtpw.org](mailto:gkowalski@bloomfieldtpw.org).



## A NOTE FROM

Leo Savoie, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

# Where customer service is job No. 1

How do you measure success?

There are different ways depending on the circumstances. But one sure-fire method is also one of the simplest. You know you're doing something right when you get that phone call, note or email thanking you for something you have done.

The fact that someone takes the time and makes the effort to pause in their busy life to say "thank you" actually says much more than that. It says that they recognize that you really care about them.

I'm pleased that we often get such notes from residents. Usually it's in regard to some road repair we made; or the super-fast, efficient service delivered by the police or fire department; or the way a Township employee went out of his or her way to help a resident in need.

These kinds of responses carry a lot of weight around here for they reinforce one of the guiding principles of the Township: For us, customer service is No. 1. Sounds like something you hear in an ad for a store, but it applies to the Township as well.

We understand the importance of delivering the kind of service that the residents of

the Township expect. Responding quickly, often literally within minutes of when a request is made, is common around here, and not just in cases of emergencies. We routinely get requests for information about taxes, water bills and various other

concerns, like building permits. Sometimes they are emailed to the appropriate department and sometimes they come directly to me. I refer them to the department and it usually takes only minutes for me to get a response from the department saying

that they have contacted the person who sent in the request. Of course, that doesn't work 100 percent of the time, especially when a call comes in at night or on a weekend. And we can't always satisfy everyone all the time.

residents want, including the popular Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off and Electronic Recycling, Medication Disposal & Paper Shredding event. We have even designated the police station parking lot as a safe place for people to meet if they are doing business transactions arranged on the Internet. But, perhaps most importantly, we have to adhere to the business truism that the customer comes first.

These efforts have paid off in a number of ways. The quality of life in the Township is top-notch. That's been recognized by a number of organizations that have cited the Township as one of the safest communities in the nation, as well as one of the nicest places to live. It seems evident we are doing a lot of things right.

Everyone who works here, whether elected official or hired Township employee, knows Bloomfield Township is a special place and we recognize the obligation we have to the residents to keep it that way.

That's our job.



Fire Dept. service includes not only fighting fires and offering emergency medical help, but also joining in events like neighborhood block parties.

But we try. In some ways, running the Township is indeed like running a business. Sound fiscal policies have to be employed and we have to keep a watchful eye on the budget. The Township also goes out of its way to offer things that the

residents want, including the popular Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off and Electronic Recycling, Medication Disposal & Paper Shredding event. We have even designated the police station parking lot as a safe place for people to meet if they are doing business transactions arranged on the Internet. But, perhaps most importantly, we have to adhere to the business truism that the customer comes first.

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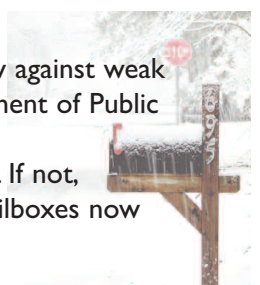
That's our job.

## It's time to "Shake Your Mailbox"

Every year some Township residents see their mailboxes topple over as a result of snowplows piling snow against weak posts or hardware. In an effort to reduce the likelihood of this happening, the Bloomfield Township Department of Public Works is encouraging residents to "Shake Your Mailbox."

This will tell you whether your mailbox posts are sturdy and the hardware holding them is in good shape. If not, you will be able to correct any problems before damage from snowplows occurs. Repairing or replacing mailboxes now could also prevent delays in mail delivery.

Call the Public Services office, 248.594.2800, with any questions.



# Open House expands its scope

One of the most popular events held by the Township is the annual Open House. This year it will be bigger than ever.

For the first time, the Open House will be done in conjunction with the new Bloomfield Hills High School, which is next to the Township campus on Telegraph just south of Long Lake Road.

This year's Open House will be held from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 9. It will feature a variety of presentations and demonstrations put on by the various Township departments. Although the Open House offers something for all ages, the kids especially like the rides in police cars, the

fire hose demonstrations and the big DPW trucks they can sit in. Adults will find useful information about Township

services, including building codes, registering to vote and applying for a passport.

The high school will be

open for people to tour throughout the day. It's a state-of-the art facility with the most modern features that is just going into its second year of operation. The Bloomfield Township Public Library also will have a presence.

This year's Open House promises to be another fun-filled event for kids and adults.

Open House is held in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 9-15. The theme of this year's Fire Prevention Week is "Don't Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years."



There's plenty of family fun in store at the Township's Open House.

## The recipe for independent living

The Senior Services Meals on Wheels program supports the nutritional needs of seniors, 62 years of age and older within Bloomfield Township via two essential programs: Meals on Wheels and Liquid Nutritional Supplements.

For additional information and/or application materials on either program visit the Township website at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) or contact Donna DeWitte, RN, nutrition coordinator, at (248) 723-3500.

Meals are delivered Monday-Friday by trained, screened volunteers from Bloomfield Township - and it's more than a hot meal. We deliver peace of mind for seniors and their families by the safety check

and smiling face included with each delivery.

Interested in becoming a Meals on Wheels driver? Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age and Bloomfield Township residents. The volunteer program is perfect for people willing to make an ongoing commitment. For more information visit the Township website or contact Joan Patzelt, deputy director, at (248) 723-3500.



Mike Dunigan prepares to make a Meals on Wheels delivery.

## It's cleaning season

Seems like everyone thinks of spring as the time to clean, but when it comes to the outdoors, fall is the season to tackle the trash.

As we head toward the cooler months, the leaves will start to fall and the garden plants will die. This is a time to clean the yard, pull the weeds, clean the gutters on the house and bag the fallen leaves – but don't burn them. That's prohibited in Bloomfield Township. Also, remove unused and unwanted items from the yard.

Remember, Township ordinance prohibits the storage of anything other than an operable licensed passenger car on your property. Boats, trailers, campers and other items are not permitted.

All of this affects property values, so keeping your home tidy is not only a neat thing to do, it keeps up the value of your property and neighborhood. Contact the Ordinance Division at (248) 594-2845 with any property maintenance questions.



Soon the leaves will start to fall.



From the Fire Department

## Taking on the opioid threat

There's been a lot of news about it in recent months: It's called opioid overdose and it's occurring at an alarming rate. In fact, U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy called it "one of our greatest public health threats."

Opioid overdose has officially become the leading cause of accidental death in the United States. Americans are more likely to die from an opioid overdose than a motor vehicle accident. The fatality rate from this epidemic continues to rise as nearly 29,000 Americans died due to opioid overdose in 2014 alone. As a nation, the United States is the largest consumer of prescription opioids in the entire world. In fact, nearly 260 million prescriptions are filled legally. This massive quantity of legal opioids, coupled with illegal opioids such as heroin, has led to the epidemic we are facing today.

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department is working hard to prevent opioid overdose deaths. When an opioid

overdose occurs, the clock is ticking to administer naloxone before it's too late. Armed with the medication naloxone, township firefighters are able to reverse the fatal effects of an opioid over-



**Bloomfield Township Firefighters/Paramedics act fast to save a victim of opioid overdose.**

dose and give would-be victims a second chance.

When opioids are administered at prescribed dosages for pain management, they create desirable effects. The use of opiates for pain management has taken place for many years. Whether the pain

is from a terminal illness or the result of an injury, opioids are likely to be the drug of choice for doctors managing severe pain. When used as prescribed, these medications can be highly effective and

relieve unnecessary suffering.

But in addition to altering the perception of pain, opioids also impact the respiratory drive. When taken in higher doses, opioids can cause breathing to slow

and even cease. This side effect is known as respiratory depression or arrest, which can be fatal.

As a class of medication, opioids can lead to addiction and physical dependence when abused or used for an extended period of time.

Physical dependence and addiction can cause opioid users to accidentally overdose. The risk of opioid overdose does not single out any particular demographic and opioid overdose deaths occur in all walks of life.

Opioid overdose is a true emergency that demands immediate activation of the 9-1-1 system. Someone who has overdosed on an opioid will not be alert and may even be unresponsive. Their breathing may be slow and shallow or even absent. To reverse this life-threatening condition, the Bloomfield Township Fire Department will administer naloxone, a medication that reverses the effects of an opioid overdose. The naloxone will allow the person to resume normal breathing.

If you suspect an opioid overdose has occurred, call 9-1-1 immediately. Victims are not able to help themselves. By calling 9-1-1 you can help the Bloomfield Township Fire Department save a life.

## You Should Know from Page 1

- An interesting note: Officers don't just go on patrol. They can be assigned to investigations, the narcotics task force, gang task force, special investigations unit, as crime scene technicians, K9, traffic investigations unit, motorcycle or bicycle unit.
- An odd note: An officer's duty belt with gun, ammo, radio, etc., weighs about 30 pounds. It doesn't seem to bother them. Compliments about officers outweigh com-

plaints by 10-1.

From Engineering and Environmental:

- This is an environmentally rich area with many lakes and streams. But we need to keep the watershed healthy. If you live on a lakefront, plant trees, tall grass and wildflowers between the shore and upland to minimize pollutants entering the water.
- Use slow release phosphorus-free fertilizer and don't fertilize before it rains.

- Keep storm drains clear of debris.

- Maintain your septic systems by having it inspected every three years.

- If you're a boater, dispose of waste properly. On shore, if you have a dog, the same goes about waste.

- Restrict use of your shower, washing machine or dishwasher during times of heavy rain because they stress the sewer system.

From Bloomfield

Community TV:

- We produce about 600 programs a year. There are a lot of good shows to watch.

- Residents can produce shows and are invited to volunteer at BCTV.

And finally, got a question about anything related to the Township? Your first step for an answer is to check out the Township website, [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org). It is a goldmine of information.



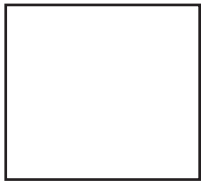
# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

4200 TELEGRAPH ROAD  
PO BOX 489  
BLOOMFIELD MI 48303-0489

## TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Water/Sewer Emergency  
433-7730

Administration	433-7700
Accounting	433-7712
Assessor's Office	433-7710
Building Division	433-7715
Clerk's Office	433-7702
Community Cable	433-7790
Engineering & Env.	594-2800
Fire Non-Emergency	433-7745
Ordinance Division	594-2845
Planning Division	433-7795
Police Department	
Administration	433-7750
Non-Emergency	433-7755
Animal Welfare	433-7757
Investigations	433-7760
Alarm Info	433-7775
Property	433-7777
Records	433-7776
Public Works	
Road Division	594-2800
Water & Sewer	594-2800
Senior Services	723-3500
Adult Day Service	723-3530
Treasurer's Office	433-7705



## Dream Cruise draws a huge crowd

With a roar they came, rolling down Woodward Avenue.

The latest installment of the Woodward Avenue Dream Cruise was another success, despite the threatening weather that persisted throughout the day.

Thousands of classic car owners showed off their cherished wheels on Saturday, Aug. 20, for the 22nd edition of the world's most popular street rally. An estimated 50,000 cars cruised Woodward as some 1 million spectators watched.

Bloomfield Township played a role in the Dream Cruise as well with the annual Township



Great Lakes Cobra Club had a large presence at the Township Car Club Classic.

Classic Car Show and Bill Wells Car Club Classic held at the Mercedes-Benz of Bloomfield Hills dealership and neighboring Comerica Bank on Woodward South of Quarton. Both sites were

sold out this year, although the threat of rain kept some participants home. Even so, there were plenty of cars, good food, music and more at the events.

Plans are already well underway for

the next Dream Cruise, set for Aug. 19, 2017.

See you there.



Classic cars of all types were on display.