



BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Paths provide a safe alternative

For John Loussia, it isn't safety that makes the Township's Safety Path system special – it's the view.

"The scenery is nice," he said, jogging down Franklin Road near the E.L. Johnson Nature Center. "And it's nice not having to hear the roar of cars."

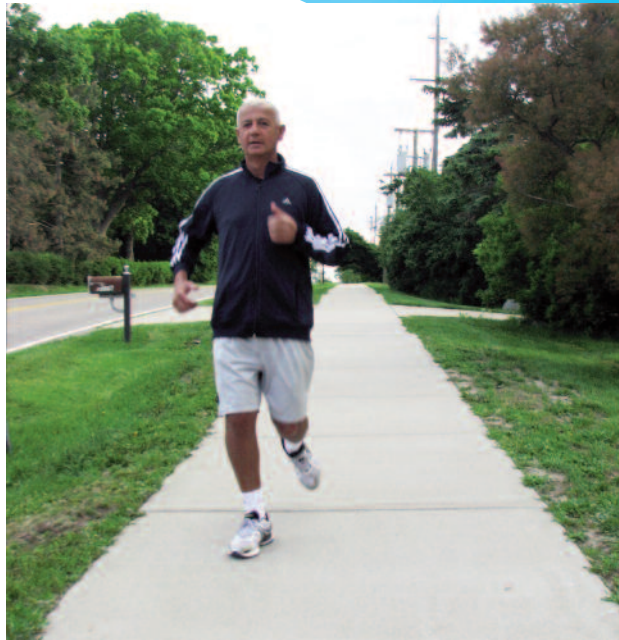
John is one of the many people – local residents and folks from adjoining towns alike – who make use of the Township's expanding network of Safety Paths, which now spans 67 miles. Runners, walkers and bike riders can maneuver across the entire Township on the path system.

While John appreciates the scenery he doesn't discount the path system's primary goal, which is to provide a safe alter-

native to trying to share space on the roads with cars roaring past just inches away.

"I am able to come out and not worry about my safety," John said.

The Safety Path program dates to 1998 with the approval of a millage to begin the program. The Bloomfield Township Safety Path Master Plan was adopted in 1999, and since then paths have



been placed along almost all of the major roads, although there are still gaps in some sections.

Please see Safety Paths on page 4

DTE trims power outages

Power outages have been a persistent problem in the Bloomfield Township area, but DTE Energy is working to minimize it.



That's according to Mike Palchesko, DTE Regional Manager, who met with

Township officials recently to update them on action being taken to reduce power losses.

Palchesko said DTE maintains a map showing the places where outages have occurred and focuses on them. Lines are cleared of tree branches and new equipment has been added to limit the number of homes affected in any particular area. The average duration of an outage in Bloomfield Township has been reduced from almost 11 hours in 2012 to 3.5 hours in 2013.

Palchesko said DTE has

become more proactive in communicating with persons in outage areas. A Smart phone app is now available that allows users to report power outages, get regular updates on outages and see a map of where the outages have occurred.

According to DTE, the Bloomfield Township and Bloomfield Hills area has more trees than any other local area. Trees and tree limbs downed by storms are the leading causes of power outages in this area. To report an outage, call 800-477-4747.



**BLOOMFIELD
TOWNSHIP
BOARD
2013**

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

Scot Goldberg, Chairman
Jeff Salz, Vice Chairman
Neal Barnett
Tad Krear
Richard Mintz
Thomas Petinga
Lisa Seneker

BOARD OF APPEALS

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

Save the date...

August 16

Woodward Dream
Cruise Dream Drive

August 17

Woodward Dream
Cruise Classic Car Show

October 5

Household Hazardous
Waste Drop-Off Day

October 13

Township Open House

Township follows best hiring practices

Change is the normal order of things, whether it's the weather or the staffing at Bloomfield Township Hall.

Unlike the weather, however, the changes inside Town Hall tend to occur with much less frequency. But lately, there have been several staff moves brought about by typical business changes. Though the township has welcomed some new staff members, it's important to note that the total number of employees has not increased. Rather, people who have left are being replaced.

In that sense, the Clerk's Office is typical. Deputy Clerk Tina Barton has left for another position and has been replaced by Deana Mondock. Deana isn't really a "new"

employee. She had served as administrative assistant since 2005, so she has been groomed for her new position through her years of experience in the Clerk's Office. In that time she has also worked at enhancing her professional skills, including having attended the Clerk's Institute at Central Michigan University.

Rising through the ranks from within an office is one way of attaining a position, but often the township goes outside its borders to seek qualified persons. That's the case with Eveonne Roberts, the Clerk's Office administrative assistant, who has replaced Deana in that position. In order to find a person with the right qualifications, espe-

cially municipal experience and exceptional organizational skills, the Office advertised with the Michigan Municipal League, on the Township website, with the Oakland County Clerk's Association website and through other means.

In response, the Office received 76 applications, which were reviewed by a special committee. From that, six persons were brought in for interviews. The candidates were outstanding. They included several attorneys and some applicants were already public service employees.

It's a positive to have people on the inside who know the position, but going outside can be productive as well.

Change can be a good thing.

New, familiar faces among Township staffing changes

Several staffing changes have been made in Town Hall. There are three new hires and two persons who have been promoted from within.

Geof Gaudard has been named the new police chief by the Township Board. Gaudard, who has most recently served as Deputy Chief, replaces Chief Kirt Bowden who has retired. Gaudard was hired by the Bloomfield Township Police Department in 1987. He rose through the ranks and served in a variety of positions before being named chief.



Greg Kowalski has taken over as Director of Community Relations and General Manager of Bloomfield Community TV from Leslie Helwig, who has retired. A longtime journalist, Kowalski spent many



years as the editor of the Birmingham Eccentric newspaper. He has experience in corporate communications and community relations.

Deana Mondock has been named Deputy Clerk. She



had served as Administrative Assistant in the Clerk's Office since 2005. In her years with the township she has learned the operations of the Clerk's Office and will be principally in charge of all Freedom of Information requests, processing liquor license applications in the township and have signature authority to sign official documents.



Teresa McWilliams was named new Deputy Treasurer. She comes to Bloomfield Township after serving for 13 years as the Deputy Treasurer for Royal Oak. She is primarily responsible for issuing tax and water statements as well as other operations in the Treasurer's Office.

Eveonne Roberts has assumed the role of Administrative Assistant in the Clerk's Office. Roberts was selected after an extensive search. She came to the township from Mt. Clemens where she was involved with planning and zoning issues. She has a degree in public policy and administration from Oakland University.



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



A NOTE FROM

Leo Savoie, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

We're prepared for any disaster

As I wrote this the news of the tornado in Moore, Okla., was dominating the headlines. I then thought of other tragedies that have occurred over the past year. Could these events happen in Bloomfield Township? If they did, are we prepared to handle them? The answer is yes.

All the different township departments train and prepare on a daily basis. There are redundancies in place to ensure that if something fails there is a backup plan.

The Bloomfield Township's Police Department has numerous multijurisdictional relationships with other municipalities and departments for resources to protect the community. We have officers in the Narcotics Enforcement Team, the Violent Gang Task Force and the Surveillance Team. This allows us to be proactive against crime threatening the community. We are also involved in the Accident Investigation Group to determine who or what caused accidents and try to prevent them in the future. We have just joined OAK-TAC, which is a conglomerate of communities that has the resources to handle large events.

Over and above that the officers train and certify regularly. All officers are required to qualify annually on the range. Bloomfield Township has a number of police officers who are certified instructors to handle the qualifications. Each officer is required to go through eight hours of

physical hand-to-hand training. I always know when this has occurred because for several days after training I see the older command officers near my office hobbling around.

The fire department is just as prepared. All but two fire-fighters are paramedics who are trained to handle any incident that could occur. In addition to all of the EMS vehicles, every fire truck has Advanced Life Support equipment. Recently one of our fire trucks came upon a heart attack victim prior to the arrival of EMS. All of the equipment was available to start the rescue procedures without waiting for an EMS vehicle to arrive. I have a number of letters that were sent thanking our department for giving someone a "second chance."

We all take for granted our water supply and our sewer facilities. Bloomfield Township owns all of the water and sewer lines. Over the past year we have upgraded a number of the underground pumping facilities that were antiquated and outdated. There have been a number of water main breaks. When these happen they need to be fixed immediately. These breaks don't always happen during normal business hours. They typically happen at night and usually in the winter. There have been a number of times when the water department has been on the scene for up to 24 hours repairing the damaged lines to mitigate the disruption. The



The Township's Emergency Operations Center brings together a wide array of Township department personnel who are ready to handle any disaster.

Engineering Department makes sure we have redundancies in place so that if a part of the system fails we can still deliver water to the impacted area from another source.

The Building Division is equally as important. Along with handling the inspections for new construction the department conducts all of the inspections for special events. Several years ago high winds came through during the Woodward Dream Cruise. I can tell you, to my knowledge, there was not a single instance of large tents or structures collapsing in the township. How many times over the years have we read about bleachers collapsing at major events causing injury and deaths? We make sure anything constructed is done to the appropriate standards to protect all of us. When these special events are going through the planning process all of the different depart-

ments including the police, fire and engineering weigh in to ensure they can happen safely.

The Road Division's primary responsibility is snow and ice removal in the winter and road patching in the summer. Last summer we had a wind storm that downed numerous trees and power lines. The Road Division personnel were out at 4 a.m. and ready to go at daybreak to clear the roads of fallen trees. This clean up took several days and went into the weekend.

The primary responsibility of government is protection. This protection is more than police and fire. Let's hope all of our disasters are minor in relation to some recent events that have occurred. Are we prepared?

The answer to that is yes. I feel we are very prepared. I hope we never need it.

As always, if you have any comments, questions or concerns feel free to contact me.



From the Police Department

Citizens' Academy returns

The Bloomfield Township Police Department will host another Citizens' Academy starting in September. The class will meet every Tuesday from 6 p.m. to approximately 9 p.m., beginning Sept. 3 and running to Oct. 22. This popular program includes information on different aspects of law enforcement, including training of police officers, use of the Taser, radio communications, and much more.



The Academy is open to any Bloomfield Township resident over the age of 18. A brief criminal history check will be run on each applicant, but most minor offenses will not preclude participation.

For more information or to register for the upcoming Academy contact Officer Pete Matejick at pmatejick@bloomfieldtwp.org.

Bloomfield Township surpasses water quality standards

In 2012 Bloomfield Township again surpassed the water quality standards required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

Please go to www.bloomfieldtwp.org/WaterReport to view your 2012 Annual Water Quality Report and learn more about your drinking water. If you would like a paper copy of the report, call the Department of Public Works at 248-594-2800.

SAFETY PATHS from page 1

Last year, paths were added along Telegraph, Maple and Adams roads. The 2013 construction program calls for paths along the south side of Maple from Westbourne Drive to West Bradford Drive, a span of .3 miles, and along the north side of Bloomfield Crossing to Opdyke Road, a span of .4 miles.

Lance Scram, project coordinator, said that the township's system is "pretty extensive," and has been created with a lot of community input. "We tend to involve the homeowners a lot more," said Scram.

The system is being funded by a .4829 millage approved by voters in 2008. The original millage for the path system approved in 1998 was renewed in 2004 and 2008. The current millage will expire in August 2014.

The Bloomfield Township system links to the West Bloomfield Township Safety Path network at Long Lake, Walnut Lake and Maple roads. Gauging by the support the millages have received, most Township residents approve of the path program

Improving the underground water supply system takes teamwork

It wasn't the most glamorous job, but it was essential.

And it required going underground in winter by a battery of workers, after many months of advance planning.

And almost nobody noticed.

Earlier this year the Township completed the installation of new valves at three of the four points where the Township's water system connects to Detroit pipes. The old valves, contained in a set of underground vaults, were decades old and in bad shape. They needed to be replaced. So the Township turned to the Hubbell, Roth and Clark, Inc. engineering firm and Kennedy Industries to provide the custom-made valves.

Township Engineer Olivia Olsztyn-Budry coordinated the Township's efforts with Nicole Selais of HRC, who designed the valve layout and worked with Jennifer Zelski of Kennedy Industries to provide properly engineered valves. Township

Water Foreman Ken Brown oversaw the construction, which was more challenging than it might seem.



In order to replace the valves, the water had to be turned off, resulting in reduced water pressure in sections of the Township. This meant it had to be done when water demand was lowest, which is why the work took place in winter. And accommodations had to be made so that when the valves were removed and replaced, neighborhood fire protection would not be affected.

"We worked with the Fire Department," Olivia said. She added that the Township did not receive any water pressure complaints while the work was going on.

"We worked with the Fire Department," Olivia said. She added that the Township did not receive any water pressure complaints while the work was going on.

Ken gave a lot of credit to his staff for the smooth operation. "I was very proud of how the project worked out," he said.

Wayne Domine, Engineering and Environmental Department Director, also had praise for those involved, saying they were dedicated to the job that "didn't stop at 5:30 p.m."



From the Fire Department

Make summer safety a priority

The Bloomfield Township Fire Department offers tips to help keep you and your family safe this summer.

- ◆ Township ordinance prohibits open burning except for small recreational fires at one-family or two-family dwellings. To view the ordinance go to <http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/Clerk/Ordinances/OverviewOrdinances.htm>, and see chapter 16, section 27 of the Code of Ordinances.

- ◆ Only use propane or charcoal grills outdoors. If used indoors they are a fire and/or asphyxiation hazard.



- ◆ Place the grill well away from siding, deck railings and overhead combustibles such as eaves or tree branches, and out of the way of travel paths and play areas.

- ◆ Keep children and pets away from the grilling area.
- ◆ Use long-handled cooking tools to protect yourself from heat and flames.

- ◆ Clean grease reservoirs and trays regularly to prevent an ignitable build-up.

- ◆ Residents in multiple-family residential buildings are prohibited from using barbecue devices on combustible decks or within 10 feet of combustible construction. The Township Fire Department recommends grills in common areas away from buildings.

- ◆ Use layers of protection to prevent swimming pool accidents: Fence pool area completely; use door and pool alarms; closely supervise children at all times; learn CPR and first aid.

- ◆ When biking, in-line skating, skateboarding or riding scooters, all-terrain vehicles or horses, wear a helmet to prevent head injuries.

- ◆ Wear properly fitting life jackets when boating or using personal watercraft.

- ◆ Always use seatbelts, and never text when driving.

If you have any questions on these or other safety-related matters, call the Fire Department at 248-433-7745 Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Read all about it

Do you like knowing what's happening in Bloomfield Township? Our e-newsletter brings the latest news to your inbox. Approximately every two weeks you can look forward to news about the Township and updates on local events. Sign up on the website:

<http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/EmailList/MailingList.asp>

Know the signs of stroke

Strokes affect nearly 780,000 Americans every year. On average, someone in the United States suffers a stroke every 40 seconds. The American Stroke Association advises everyone to learn to recognize these signs of stroke:

- ◆ Sudden numbness or weakness of the face, arm or leg, especially on one side of the body
- ◆ Sudden confusion, trouble speaking or understanding
- ◆ Sudden trouble seeing in one or both eyes
- ◆ Sudden trouble walking, dizziness, loss of balance or coordination
- ◆ Sudden, severe headache with no known cause

If you have any of these symptoms, it is important that you call 9-1-1 immediately. Bloomfield Township Fire Department Paramedics train constantly on the signs and symptoms and current treatments for stroke. When we arrive on scene the medics will assess and immediately transport the patient to the closest stroke center. The sooner the patient arrives at the hospital, the better the chances of reversing the effects of stroke.

Bloomfield Township residents are fortunate to be close to four hospitals with primary stroke center certification. Those hospitals are St. Joseph Mercy, McLaren Oakland, William Beaumont Royal Oak, and Henry Ford West Bloomfield. If you have any questions on stroke or any other EMS related issue, please contact Bloomfield Township Fire Department at 248-433-7747.

Accessory structures require Zoning Board approval

The pace of home improvements picks up in the spring and summer. Homeowners should be aware that pergolas, sheds, piers and pillars, and outdoor kitchens are considered accessory structures and are regulated by the Township's Clearzoning Ordinance.

Approval from the Zoning Board of Appeals is required for accessory structures. The ZBA addresses the placement, height, screening and other aspects of an individual request. In addition to Township ordinances, there may be deed restrictions governed by a homeowners association. Homeowners are encouraged to contact their association before making an application to the ZBA.

Visit the Bloomfield Township website, <http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/PlanningBuildingOrdinance/OverviewPlanningBuilding.htm> to obtain the ZBA application and review guidelines. A permit from the Building Division may be required if the Zoning Board approves the proposed structure. Questions about a project? Contact the Planning Division at 248-433-7795.



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

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The Classic Car Show revs up again

Bloomfield Township residents may once again enjoy the Woodward Dream Cruise from the comfort and convenience of their own hometown event. The Classic Car Show, held at Mercedes Benz of Bloomfield Hills on Woodward south of Big Beaver, offers food, music, bleacher seating, official merchandise and portable restroom facilities. That's in addition to it being a great vantage point from which to watch the Cruise and enjoy a spectacular show of classic and specialty cars!

Next door at Comerica Bank you will find a huge display of Cobras, Thunderbirds and Mustangs. This is the Bill Wells Car Club



Classic, named for the Township resident who volunteered year after year to develop the event.

The event is free. General event parking at the office building immediately to the north of Mercedes is \$5. All proceeds benefit the Bloomfield Hills Optimist Club, the Bloomfield Fire Department Charities, and the Bloomfield Township Police Department Benevolent Fund.

If you have a classic or specialty car you would like to enter, please go to the website or call 248-433-7608 to get a registration form. Spaces came close to selling out last year – don't wait too long!

Take a Dream Drive on Friday night!

Have you ever wanted to ride in an exquisitely built, high performance vehicle? Buy a ticket to the Dream Drive and experience the thrill of riding in a Superformance Cobra, a GT40 or a Daytona Coupe. Rides begin and end at Comerica Bank. All proceeds go to the same charities as for the Classic Car Show and the price is tax deductible.

Gear up for fun!

Dream Drive

Friday, August 16, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Comerica Bank, 36440 Woodward
\$20 until July 31; \$25 after July 31
until event sells out.

Classic Car Show and the Bill Wells Car Club Classic

Saturday, August 17, 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Mercedes Benz of Bloomfield Hills, 36600 Woodward
Comerica Bank, 36440 Woodward
FREE

General Event Parking

36700 Woodward
\$5

Generously sponsored by
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