

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

FALL • 2005



Take advantage of convenient passport services through the Clerk's office.
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Inaugural Bloomfield Township Classic a success despite heavy rains.
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Keep safe with these fall fire-place tips.
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www.bloomfieldtwp.org

Bring the family to our Open House

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP



Firefighters demonstrate techniques used in extinguishing structure fires during Open House 2004

Exciting demonstrations, a tour of a medical helicopter and fall refreshments like cider and donuts will all mark the annual Bloomfield Township Fire Department Open House Sunday, Oct. 9, 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The Open House activities take place within the Bloomfield Township civic complex on Telegraph south of Long Lake.

Each year the Fire, Police and Public Works departments open their doors to the public to demonstrate important safety and health measures that fami-

lies can incorporate into their home lives.

Firefighters will use the Jaws of Life to perform a mock accident victim extrication from a wrecked car as well as demonstrate effective fire extinguishing techniques on both an engulfed vehicle and a structure.

Parents can ensure their children understand proper fire and escape safety behaviors by attending "Stop, Drop and Roll" and "Stay Low and Go" demonstrations. This year the demon-

strations will illustrate the points even stronger as firefighters are able to show off the new Fire Safety and Smoke Trailer. Filled with simulated, non-toxic smoke, the trailer gives children hands-on experience escaping a smoke filled home.



The Bloomfield 1877 Township Police Department will show off impressive vehicles like the Oakland County Sheriff Command vehicle, a hovercraft and a crime scene unit from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Children will also be thrilled by the chance to take a ride in an official Township squad car. Parents can make sure their kids' car seats are securely fastened as officers will be available to inspect and instruct on proper child restraint installation. The Department of Public Works will show off its heavy equipment, provide an educational environmental display and give snowplow rides.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2005

ELECTED OFFICIALS

ADMINISTRATION

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

TRUSTEES

Sherry Stefanos
David Buckley
Neal J. Barnett
Leo C. Savoie

APPOINTED POSITIONS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Richard Mintz, Chairman
Jeff Salz, Vice Chairman
Sherry Stefanos, Secretary
Scot Goldberg
Jane Reisinger
John Swoboda
Robert Wittbold

BOARD OF APPEALS

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Jane Reisinger, Vice Chairman
James Aldrich
Dan Devine
Brian Kepes
Lisa Seneker
Robert E. Taylor, Jr.
Brian Henry, Alternate
Larry Smith, Alternate

Telegraph median improved

Phase one of the approved Township Median Landscape Master Plan is completed at Maple Road and Telegraph. The project included: Irrigation, plantings, brick pavers and lawn work on the median. Keep an eye out next summer for phase two: Woodward Avenue at Square Lake Road.



"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." - Robert Collier

Greater Bloomfield Senior Association needs volunteers

The rapid growth of the Greater Bloomfield Senior Association increases the need for volunteers. More than 640 Bloomfield Township residents have joined GBSA since April, raising membership to an historic height, nearly 1500 members. Awareness has grown following the approval of the Senior Services Millage in August 2004 and indicates that GBSA is a valuable community asset.

People from stay at home moms to retirees have found satisfying volunteer opportunities to fit their schedules. Volunteers can choose to work weekly, monthly or on an as needed basis.

GBSA needs help answering phones, taking registrations, greeting visitors to the center and performing general office tasks. Current office volunteers work 9 AM-12:30 PM or 12:30

to 4:00 PM one day per week.

The most pressing need for volunteers is with the Home Delivered Meals Program. We need to form an additional route to serve more of our homebound residents. In order to do so, 20 additional volunteer drivers are needed! Meal delivery occurs 9:00 AM -Noon, Monday through Friday. Please call Joan Patzelt, GBSA Volunteer Coordinator at 248-341-6453.

Residents getting on board with passport services



Owens Donegan was the first person to take advantage of passport services offered by the Bloomfield Township Clerk's office.

Owens Donegan doesn't have any plans to travel to Europe or Asia in the next few years but that isn't stopping the retired Bloomfield Township resident from getting a new passport.

Mr. Donegan was one of the first people to take advantage of the passport services offered through the Bloomfield Township Clerk's Office.

"I traveled a lot when I was working but not so much now," Mr. Donegan said. "I'm just happy to be able to take care of this right here in my own township. It's convenient and everyone's so

nice."

Americans will soon be feeling the impact of federal travel laws that will eventually require passport identification for nearly all travel outside of the country.

Beginning December 31, 2006, a passport will be required for all travel to or from the Caribbean, Bermuda and Central and South America. This requirement also extends to all air and sea travel to and from Mexico and Canada by December 31, 2006.

Passports will be required for all border crossings land, air and sea on December 31, 2007.

"I do like to go to Canada from time to time so I figured I should get this taken care of as soon as possible," Mr. Donegan said.

The cost for a new passport is \$97 and \$10 for a photo. Children under 16 pay \$82 with an additional \$10 for a photo.

In some cases passports can be renewed by mail for \$67.

The passport service is open to both residents and nonresidents and is available from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Late hours of operation until 6 p.m. are available on the second and fourth Monday of each month.

All documents must be originals including birth certificates, marriage license (for name change only) and certificates of naturalization and adoption. Copies will not be accepted. Old passports must be submitted with renewal applications.

All applicants must be present. Both parents must accompany children under 14. If only one parent is present a notarized letter giving permission from the non-applying parent must be submitted. For further information, please contact the Clerk's Office at (248) 433-7702

Applications are available online at travel.state.gov.



Don't fall for snow jobs

Be suspicious of any mail solicitation from snow removal companies offering their services, asking that you sign a contract and pay in advance. Very often, these are scams.

There are many legitimate snow removal companies that offer a pay as you go plan and require no money up front.

Ask a neighbor what company they use. Ask them: How long have you used this company? Are they reliable? How much do they charge? Are your neighbors happy with this company?

'The Classic' deemed a cruising success

On-again, off-again downpours August 20 did little to dampen the spirit of the hundreds of Cruise-goers at Bloomfield Township's first ever Woodward Dream Cruise event, The Bloomfield Township Classic.

The Mercedes-Benz of Bloomfield Hills dealership at Woodward Avenue just south of 16 Mile Road made for a perfect vantage point from which to watch an estimated 40,000 classic cars rumble by as the sounds of the hit 1960s band The Woolies played on an elevated stage.

"We thought it was the per-

see **Classic** page 4



Reminder: Fireproof your home

Each of Michigan's four seasons bring different challenges regarding fire safety. Fall is no exception. Fireplace related fires represent the most immediate concern in terms of fall and winter fire safety. The following are some helpful tips to ensure safe operation of fireplaces.

- Make sure that your chimney is cleaned each year by a reputable, licensed contractor. When they clean the chimney they will also inspect the system and point out things that need to be repaired or could cause a fire.
- Keep the fires in the fireplaces small, burning only one or two logs at a time.
- Wait 24 hours before removing ashes. Put them in an empty metal can and set them outside, away from the house and the garage.

Keep flooding at bay

Fall is a good time to think about drainage. Ice back-ups happen when melting ice has no place to go. The resulting back up can cause water damage to the interior and exterior of your home.

In the spring when high water finds its way to lakes and rivers, a clogged culvert can restrict the flow of water and add pressure to a home's drainage system.

Taking steps now to correct any potential drainage problems can go far in preventing damage in the future.

A NOTE FROM

Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor



The entire nation watched the tragedy caused by Hurricane Katrina unfold in the Gulf states and we will be listening to debates about the emergency response for months – maybe years – to come. While each of us will form our own opinions after hearing discussions about the local, state and federal response efforts, we all may wonder, “What would happen if a catastrophe struck here? What is *our* level of readiness?”

Bloomfield Township's Board of Trustees and its employees are extremely serious about their responsibilities regarding emergency management. We recognize that disasters may have a wide variety of causes and we need to be able to respond quickly and effectively to any kind.

In 1986 the Board of Trustees adopted an Emergency Preparedness Ordinance and it has been regularly reviewed ever since.

Our Fire Chief serves as the Township's Emergency Management Coordinator. We have an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) furnished with appropriate equipment, maps and communications capabilities.

An EOC staff has been selected from Township personnel who have specific knowledge and expertise in functions that would likely be performed in emergency situations. The Township has developed Mutual Aid Agreements with other communities to share resources when necessary. Staff training is continual and includes personnel from the Water, Road, Assessing and Building Departments as well as from Police, Fire and EMS.

Please take time this week to review the readiness of your own household. For guidelines, visit www.bloomfieldtwp.org and click on “Emergency Readiness” from the home page. Or, obtain a copy of Bloomfield Township's “Family Preparedness Workbook.” at your nearest firestation.

Our New Look Saves Money

We were pleased to get feedback from many people who liked the new Bloomfield Township Newsletter. Our goal is to get readers' attention with more color, more photos and shorter articles.

There's a bonus to this plan: The new newsletter, even in full color, is actually *less expensive* than the old newsletter! There is a signifi-

cant cost-savings when we keep the size down to four pages. When it's necessary to add more, we will, but in many cases, four pages will do the job. Remember, for more detailed information about Township services and issues, go to www.bloomfield-twp.org or call any of our offices directly.



TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TIME: 8:00 P.M.
DATE: 2nd and 4th Monday
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

PLANNING COMMISSION

TIME: 7:00 P.M.
DATE: 1st and the 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.

PO Box 489 Bloomfield Hills,
MI 48303-0489
248.433.7702
Fax: 248.433.7714

Access important information on line at www.bloomfieldtwp.org.

- Research ordinances.
- Complete applications.
- Pay taxes, water bills. online
- Stay current on community topics such as preventing the West Nile Virus.

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fect location for an event,” said Tim Yost, director of marketing



Jacqueline Kendall of Bloomfield Township dries off her father's classic Chevy after a good soaking.

and communications for American Specialty Cars. American Specialty Cars, better known by its initials ASC, was the lead sponsor of the Classic.

ASC was joined by other sponsors The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, DuPont Automotive, Johnson Automotive & Industrial Coatings of Michigan and Staples of Bloomfield.

Together, these companies helped raise thousands of dollars for the three local charities designated to benefit from the event, The Bloomfield Township Fire Dept. Charities, Oakland Family Services and the Bloomfield Hills Optimists.

“The money raised from this

event will help us to provide needy children in Oakland County with fully stocked back-to-school backpacks,” said Ann Manix, president of volunteer services for Oakland Family Services.

Residents like Jim Kendall also helped to make the event a success by bringing their classic and special interest cars to the event. Kendall owns three very special Chevrolets, a 1957 convertible, a 1955 hardtop and a 1949 pickup. He brought all three.

“I had a great time and I thought it was a very nice event for the first year. I'll be back next year and hopefully the weather will cooperate a little more,” Mr. Kendall said.

The front cover features the children of Bloomfield Village residents Kathleen and Richard Belanger who spent one of their last summer days at Detroit Country Day School's playground. Pictured from left to right are Jake (5) Kendall (3) and Cooper (7).

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

Police/Fire/Emergency	911
Water/Sewer Emergency	433-7730
Administration	433-7700
Fax	433-7714
Accounting	433-7712
Assessor's Office	433-7710
Building Dept.	433-7715
Clerk's Office	433-7702
Community Cable	433-7790
Fax	642-7624
Fire Non-Emergency	433-7745
Fax	433-7787
Police Department	
Administration	433-7750
Non-Emergency	433-7755
Fax	433-7784
Animal Welfare	433-7757
Investigations	433-7760
Alarm Info	433-7775
Property	433-7777
Records	433-7776
Road Department	433-7709
Fax	433-7786
Treasurer's Office	433-7705
Water & Sewer	433-7731

Waste Management offers discounts on rubbish pick-up to residents on extended leave from the town-ship. Call 1800-796-9696 to make arrangements.

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

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP



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