

BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



New partnership helps Police handle mental health issues

"I'm here to help. My main goal is to give township residents access to resources they wouldn't otherwise have," says Co-Responder Clinician Hillary Nusbaum. Those resources are primarily related to mental health and Nusbaum has training the average police officer doesn't receive to walk into a crisis and de-escalate a situation. The Berkley native is an employee of the Oakland Community Health Network and came to the Bloomfield Township Police Department through a partnership with the Auburn Hills and Birmingham Police Departments.

"Our officers are often called into a situation that is not a crime in progress, but a mental health event that we've not been properly trained to tackle psychologically," said Bloomfield Township Police Chief Philip Langmeyer. "These calls can absorb a number of officers and resources for far too long. Auburn Hills Police Chief Jeff Baker, Birmingham Police Chief Mark Clemence and I collaborated to research programs around the country to see how our departments could better understand and deal with mental health issues when we're called to the scene. Hillary has been a godsend for us all."

Nusbaum graduated from

Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids with a double major in Psychology and Family Studies before receiving her Masters Degree in Social Work at Wayne State University. While she did not have to complete standard police training, she is trained as a Certified First Responder Counselor. "I'm a liaison between the police and mental health resources in Oakland County,"



Police Chief Phil Langmeyer and Captain James Gallagher welcome Co-Responder Clinician Hillary Nusbaum.

says Nusbaum, reiterating, "I'm here to help, I want the community to know that."

When officers respond to a call and see behavior better suited for Nusbaum's skills, they call her to the scene or write a referral. Splitting her time between all three municipalities is a perk of the job in her eyes as it makes her more versatile

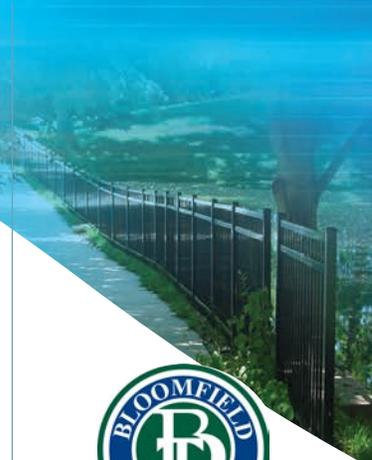
while adding the variety of every day being different. On days she is in the township, you may see Nusbaum riding along with officers. And she hopes you see her. "I want to be a face the community recognizes and knows is there to help when they see me coming."

"I've wanted a partnership like this for a long time and it's been a huge success since it began earlier this year," says

Chief Langmeyer. "Other police departments are trying to replicate this now and more will want to when they see its success." Nusbaum is at the Bloomfield Township Police Department one day a week, but travels where and when she is needed in the communities she serves. Her presence aims to help those in need, end repeated visits by officers to those with known behavioral issues and free officers for other calls who may have normally been responding to a call for an extended length of time.

Nusbaum wants to help bridge the gap between multiple police encounters and receiving appropriate mental health services.

If you believe you or someone you know is experiencing a mental health crisis, please contact the Common Ground Crisis Center at 1-800-231-1127.



BLOOMFIELD
TOWNSHIP
BOARD
2021

ELECTED OFFICIALS

ADMINISTRATION

Dani Walsh, Supervisor
Martin C. Brook, Clerk
Brian Kepes, Treasurer

TRUSTEES

Neal J. Barnett
Michael Schostak
Stephanie Fakih
Valerie Murray

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PLANNING COMMISSION

Thomas Petinga, Chairman
Jeff Salz, Vice Chairman
Neal Barnett
Richard Atto
Bruce Selik
Andrea B. O'Donnell
John Kelly

BOARD OF APPEALS

Brian Henry, Vice Chairman
Robert Taylor, Jr.
Jocelyn Giangrande
Andrea O'Donnell
Stephanie Fakih
Jeffrey Drake, Alternate
Glenda Meads, Alternate

Save the Date...

December 17

Last day for yard waste pick-up

December 25

BTSS Curbside Meal fundraiser

February 14

Last day to pay winter tax without penalty



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

Clerk's Office honors election workers

"As the new Township Clerk, I quickly learned how important the nearly 400 people that volunteer to work elections are," said Township Clerk Martin Brook. Clerk Brook gathered the election workers for the celebration just prior to the Board of Trustees meeting on October 11, where a proclamation honored those who have served their community over the decades.

Also in attendance were Wilma Cotton, Township Clerk from 1987-2004, and Jan Roncelli, Township Clerk from 2004-2020. "As we know from the past year, election workers are wonderful people! They take a lot of grief and work a lot of hours," said Cotton. "I can't say enough about the quality of the workers in the Township. Finding good ones is essential and

as familiar faces filed in and received a certificate for their service. If you're interested in becoming an election worker, visit the Township website and click the Elections tab on the homepage. The next scheduled election in Bloomfield Township is August 2, 2022.



Clerk Martin Brook is joined by former Clerk Jan Roncelli, election workers Barbara and Eugene Johns, and former Clerk Wilma Cotton.



Clerk Brook and former Clerks Roncelli and Cotton pose with election worker Sally Verghese.

keeping them is even more essential," said Roncelli. "They're worth their weight in gold!" Smiles and laughter filled the room



Check the Dashboard

How does Bloomfield Township stand financially compared to other communities?

You can find out at a glance by looking at the dashboard. It can be found on the home page of the Township website, www.bloomfieldtwp.org. Just look for Citizen's Guide and Dashboard under Quick Links at the right of the home page. A wide array of financial information about the Township – and data about communities across Michigan - is available on the site.



Scan to follow us on social media or to sign up for the eNewsletter. Get all the latest information!



A NOTE FROM

Dani Walsh, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

Looking back and looking ahead as 2021 winds down

As I sit here on the eve of the one-year anniversary of being sworn in as Township Supervisor on November 20, 2020, I'm happy and proud that Bloomfield Township has accomplished so much in the last year in the face of a pandemic, and I look ahead to a productive 2022. As we find ourselves approaching the holiday season, I am so thankful for my fellow Board of Trustees members, the employees and community leaders throughout Oakland County and the State of Michigan that collaborated to make things better for Bloomfield Township and the region. To truly thrive, you need to work together for the common good.

When this Board of Trustees sat down for our first meeting last year, I was pleased to see everyone working towards common goals and that disagreements were met with discussions and civility. I wondered if we were just in the "honeymoon phase," especially with seven type A personalities. However, this board has continued to grow and work together and find ways to make our Township government more efficient and transparent, while remaining respectful to each other and to the community to make sure Bloomfield Township remains a great place to live.

In 2021, the administration focused on the big picture items. Here are some highlights:

1. Changed our budget to a

multiyear planning process instead of one year, which allows us to plan for capital expenditures and avoid cutting valuable services;

2. Hired consultants to do a deep dive into modifying water and sewer rates;



Dani Walsh's mother and husband were on hand to see her sworn in as Supervisor a year ago.

3. Redesigned the website to make services easier to access and added a new finance page that makes all financial information available without needing to FOIA;

4. Worked with Birmingham, West Bloomfield, Sylvan Lake, Orchard Lake, Bloomfield Hills, and Keego Harbor to solidify a funding agreement for the 48th District Court;

5. Police highlights include an Oakland County mental health pilot program with Birmingham and Auburn Hills for a shared social worker, the addition of our therapy dog Maggie, and transparency improved with new body cams and putting our statistics online;

6. Balanced a budget amidst a global pandemic with reduced revenues due to Covid;

7. Created written policies for budgeting, purchasing, debt management, and investments;

8. Received glowing results on our annual audit and single audit showing that we are on the right path for Township sustainability;

9. Worked with MDOT and the communities along the Woodward Corridor to prevent digital message boards and 85 foot poles from coming to our National Scenic Byway of Woodward Avenue;

10. Worked with Oakland County to bring the fight against gypsy moth to a county level at a reduced cost to the Township and a bigger reach through the county.

The collaboration amongst communities and government entities has delighted me in multiple ways in the last year. From our neighbors in West Bloomfield, Birmingham, Pontiac, Auburn Hills, Sylvan Lake, Bloomfield Hills, and more, onto representatives at Oakland County, MDOT, RCOC, SEMCOG, MTA, and beyond, we have worked together to find solutions to problems in a collaborative setting. Sitting down with fellow Township Supervisors monthly has raised awareness of the common issues we face and helps us work together. One thing that we have seen from the local, county, and state level, is when we work together we can move mountains.

In addition to collaboration, cohesion, efficiency, and good services are key. I want the technology used at the town-

ship to reflect that as well to provide the best services efficiently. Every department has worked to make township business as easy as possible for residents during the pandemic. As we look for continual improvement in 2022, we continue to add technology that improves the processes and services going forward. In our Planning, Building & Ordinance Dept, you can finally pay easily with a credit card, and we will be able to take applications online. These enhancements from a paper-based department to one with technology not only allow you to access our services from anywhere, but also will speed up the time it takes to process permits. In Assessing, we are also adding technology which will allow us to complete assessments with software that will speed up the process and get you information more quickly. The Fire Department worked with MDOT and a vendor to add technology to traffic lights that will cycle through to a red light when they approach with sirens to increase safety to residents and fire fighters when crossing through busy intersections on Telegraph and Woodward. If this pilot is successful, we can do the same with police vehicles to increase safety as well.

As 2021 winds to a close, I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season! I hope 2022 brings you and your family the success and productivity in your life that I envision for Bloomfield Township.

DTE working with Bloomfield Township to improve service for residents

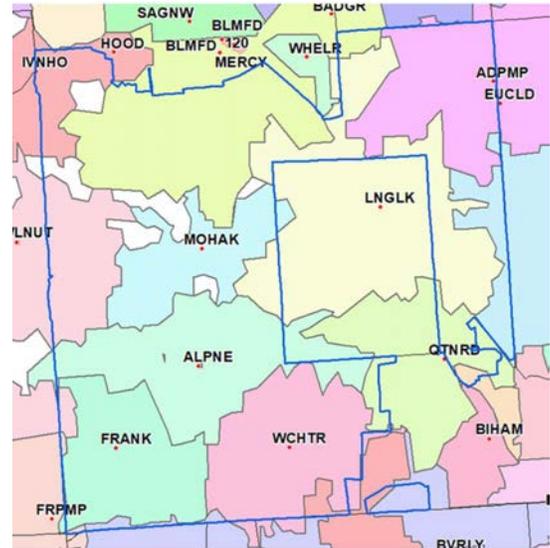
Beginning in late summer, DTE began work in Bloomfield Township to address the reliability of its grid. Multiple storms this year have caused long power outages throughout portions of the Township and frustrated residents have called upon DTE for change. “We are committed to improving the reliability of your electric service in Bloomfield Township and we will keep community leaders and residents informed of our progress,” said DTE Vice Chairman and Chief Administrative Officer David Meador. The Circuit Map details when tree trimming or equipment upgrades began in your area. Most projects are planned to wrap by the end of 2021.

In the wake of the pandemic, access to electricity to power the many smart devices in homes has become an essentially utility. Power loss can be more catastrophic than ever to our lives as DTE notes in a press release from DTE Presidents Jerry Norcia and Trevor Lauer. “As we look to the future, we expect our customers’ dependence on these devices and the information they provide, as well as the move to electric vehicles, to grow exponentially, which means we’ll need more grid technology and integration to ensure the reliability our customers require. We must deliver the safe, clean, reliable and affordable

electricity our customers deserve, so we’re reexamining the grid infrastructure that is core to supporting these changes.”

Prior to the worst of the summer storms, Township staff had been working with DTE and their strategic planning group to improve the reliability of the infrastructure. While the provider can’t predict a catastrophic storm, these updates aim to improve reliability on a typical day and will cut down on brownouts. “DTE can and is addressing the issues of the grid and infrastructure such as poles, cross arms and other equipment,” said Township Supervisor Dani Walsh. “Regarding storm event related power outages, they will also be improving their messaging system to give more accurate expectations on recovery time of service. Some residents have well water and septic, so power outages mean no running water. This new system with accurate times will help evaluate if a resident needs to wait an hour or hours stretching into days that require a hotel or assistance from family.”

The Township is thankful DTE has listened to our pleas for increased reliability and are now working on changes to improve. If you have questions on the work in your area, contact DTE’s customer service line at 800-477-4747.



Project timeline

Circuit	Planned Start	Planned End
LNGLK8169	8/25/2021	12/31/2021
LNGLK8956	8/25/2021	12/31/2021
LNGLK9004	8/25/2021	12/31/2021
ALPNE8921	9/1/2021	10/18/2021
ALPNE8916	9/2/2021	12/31/2021
EUCLD9058	9/2/2021	12/31/2021
MOHAK1915	9/2/2021	12/31/2021
FRANK1736	9/13/2021	11/12/2021
FRANK1749	9/13/2021	11/12/2021
FRANK1764	9/13/2021	11/12/2021
ALPNE8919	11/1/2021	12/31/2021
MOHAK1933	11/1/2021	12/31/2021
QTNRD0323	11/1/2021	12/31/2021
ALPNE9724	TBD	TBD

Maintenance Tree Trim Equipment Upgrades

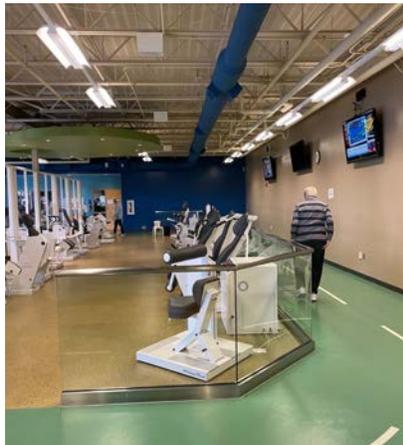
We want to hear from you! Let us know how you prefer to get your Township news and updates on the latest happenings here. Some of the ways we get information out to residents include this quarterly print newsletter, weekly or bi-weekly eNewsletters direct to your inbox, and our social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Email your feedback to cable_dept@bloomfieldtwp.org or call 248-433-7790. We’d like to be sure we are reaching you in the way you prefer with the information you want and need.

BTSS partnership with United Healthcare benefits Township residents

Bloomfield Township Senior Services has established a new partnership with United Healthcare to increase access to fitness opportunities for enrollees at no charge. Township residents 65 and up with specific United Healthcare Medicare supplemental policies may be eligible for complimentary Fitness Open Hours and Walking Track use. Advance enrollment is required to take advantage of this opportunity.

If you are enrolled in a United Healthcare supplemental Medicare plan, you must first secure your unique Confirmation Code from

Healthy Contributions and present it for registration. UHC insured members generate their code with the UHC



Members take advantage of the fitness opportunities at BTSS.

Renew Active link https://www.uhcrenewactive.com/home?WT.mc_id=8013085 or may call the customer service number on the back of their insurance card. Once you have your code, bring it along with your driver's license and UHS card to set up a BTSS profile if you have not done so previously. BTSS staff will register you for an orientation and one month of Open Hours and Track use. You must re-register monthly.

Once you have completed your safety orientation you may begin attending. It is essential that you scan in with your BTSS ID card each time you visit. Visits are

unlimited within Center hours of operation. This partnership includes complimentary use of fitness equipment and track only; fitness classes require additional registration and payments.

"We are thrilled to offer complimentary use of our fitness equipment to residents with this type of insurance," Senior Services Director Christine Tvaroha said. "We are reimbursed by UHC for each visit they make to the center up to \$24 monthly. The residents taking advantage of this offer are investing in their health and the financial health of BTSS!"

MICMA tours BCTV

Earlier this year, Michigan NATOA and the Michigan Alliance for Community Media joined to form MICMA, the Michigan Community Media Association. The Group held its first round of studio tours this fall and BCTV was the final stop To learn more about how to get involved in local media or how to produce your own program at BCTV, visit our website

<https://www.bloomfieldtwp.org/Services/Cable-and-Community-Relations.aspx>

"It was an honor to showcase our studio and the work we do for the communities of Bloomfield Township, Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Beverly Hills, Franklin and Bingham Farms," said Operations Manager Greg Black.



MICMA members toured the BCTV studio.

Township ordinance requires dogs to be leashed

Bloomfield Township is home to many pet dogs – and their owners. We love our dogs, but it's important for dog owners to be aware of local animal ordinances. Chapter 8, Article II of the Township's Code of Ordinances requires that dogs must be kept under reasonable control when leaving their property. The Ordinance defines reasonable control as being on a leash. Unleashed dogs are not permitted. By keeping your dog on a leash, you're ensuring everyone is kept safe, including your dog! To report dogs running loose, call the Bloomfield Township Police Dept at 248-433-7755.



All dogs must be leashed and licensed.

In addition, the ordinance requires that owners clean up after their dogs: "It shall be unlawful for any person to permit any dog owned, possessed or

harbored by him to deposit fecal matter any place other than the premises where the dog is harbored or kept, unless such fecal matter is immediately collected and removed to the premises where the dog is harbored or kept." Help keep our neighborhoods and safety paths sanitary for the use of everyone by picking up after your dog.

Finally, by law all dogs must be licensed. Dog licenses can be purchased at the Bloomfield Township Police Department, through the mail, at a participating Oakland County dog licensing vendor, or online. Dog licenses are valid for one calendar year (January 1 - December 31). To purchase a license, a current certificate of rabies vaccination must be presented. You can find detailed information online at <https://www.oakgov.com/petadoption/Pages/Dog-License.aspx>

The Township's Animal Welfare Division can answer questions regarding the Township's pet ordinances. The Animal Shelter can be reached directly Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.



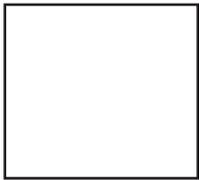
BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP

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



K-9 Mika joins the Township Police Department

The Police Department has welcomed their newest K-9, Mika. Mika is an 18-month-old Belgian Malinois from Czechoslovakia. Mika is freshly out of the K-9 training academy and is certified in tracking and narcotic detection. With her handler, Mika will search buildings, track suspects and respond to narcotics calls.

Her handler, Jason Follman, has been a K-9 handler for six years and this is his second department working dog. He is enjoying working with Mika, who is lovable and very energetic. In fact, she is such a ball of energy it's hard to get a good photo of her!

Mika joins Oakland County's longest standing K-9

unit here at the Bloomfield Township Police Department. The unit was formed in the



Officer Follman introduces Mika to the Township Board of Trustees.

mid-1960s when Bloomfield Township was more rural than suburban, and reached its heyday in the 70s. At that time, Bloomfield Township Police Department boasted a premier K-9 Unit composed of seven dog-handlers and seven dogs, which responded to police dog service requests from all over the County and throughout Metro Detroit. Over the course of the years, the Unit was down-sized when other police departments, recognizing the value of a

well-trained police dog, established their own units.

Officer Follman and Mika, as well as Officer Angela Carlson and her K-9 Vince, are available for demonstrations for special events and Girl and Boy Scout activities in the community. To arrange for a K-9 demonstration, call Sgt. Pete Matejcik at 248-433-7769.

