

MARATHON TOWNSHIP

Newsletter

JULY 2011

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FRED MOORHOUSE, SUPERVISOR * DAWN JOHNSON, CLERK * SANDI GLESENKAMP, TREASURER
KATHY RACOSTA, TRUSTEE * JIM CHAFFER, TRUSTEE

From the Supervisor

We have received a number of inquiries about dust control. The Road Commission got somewhat of a late start because of the amount of rain we had this spring. Thank you for your patience. The roads are brined three times per year at a cost of \$30,000.

Also, we have several road projects scheduled for this year. Because tiling the roads has proven successful in preventing the frost from heaving our roads in the spring, we will be removing trees, ditching, graveling, and tiling approximately 1/16 of a mile of Barnes Lake Rd just west of Lonsberry. Tiling projects are also planned for portions of Catlin and Pyles Roads. We will also gravel approximately 1/2 mile of Barnes Lake Road just west of Klam Road, improve the intersection of Klam and LeValley, and if there is any gravel left, we will use it for bad spots on our gravel roads. The total cost for these projects is approximately \$70,000. This includes 7,000 tons of 22A gravel. Generally, the Road Commission applies 3,500 tons of gravel per mile.

Also, the Township Planning Commission has been working on a recreational vehicle ordinance amendment which could regulate the use of campers, trailers, and tents on vacant and improved parcels in the Township.

If you have any questions or comments on any issues, feel free to contact me at the Township Hall.

Fred Moorhouse

A message from the Village of Columbiaville

There have been a number of people using the south end of Sports Park (soccer fields) for dumping yard clippings and debris. If you see anyone doing this other than Village Employees, please contact the Village office at 810 793-4411. You will remain anonymous. Thank you for your help.

Denise Dupack,
Columbiaville Village Clerk

Board Meetings Reminder

Just a reminder that Marathon Township Board meets on the Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Marathon Township Hall and also a work session/board meeting at 8:00 a.m. twelve days prior to the regular meeting. The public is invited to attend. Planning Commission meets quarterly and the public is always welcome.

From the Clerk

On May 29th, the Woodlawn Cemetery was once again, the scene of a Civil War Veterans memorial service.

Approximately 25 people gathered to watch Ric and Doris Julian, township residents and Civil War re-enactors from the 2nd Michigan Volunteer Regiment Hudson Artillery, lead a dedication for five Civil War Veterans buried in the cemetery. The graves of the five soldiers were dedicated with a GAR (Grand Army of the Republic) marker and American flags. A six pounder field gun Civil War cannon was discharged.

Previously, during last year's Memorial Day weekend, five other Civil War Veterans received the GAR and flags at their gravesite. However, there are still a number of Civil War Veterans buried in Woodlawn, and it is the Julian's intention to hold a dedication service each Memorial Day until all the graves have been marked. Thanks, once again, to Ric and Doris for honoring our Civil War Veterans with a wonderful historical perspective.

Dawn Johnson

From the Treasurer's Office

Just a reminder, that there is a drop box located to the left of the front door if you are not able to make office hours 9:00 to 4:00.

Marathon Township is now accepting credit/debit card payments for Property Taxes. There will be a convenience fee in the amount of 2.5% of the payment (bank charges).

Sandi Glesenkamp

Help Michigan State Parks Earn Free Trees

A simple click of the mouse can help plant trees in Michigan! The Odwalla juice company's **Plant a Tree program**, in its fourth year, will contribute \$1 per vote towards free trees in Michigan state parks. In 2010, Michigan voters pushed the state into the top spot for the second consecutive year—capturing more than \$45,000 worth of free trees that will help repopulate areas of state parks that were hardest hit by invasive species. Spread the word and help protect the health and sustainability of Michigan's natural resources.

Click on <http://www.odwalla.com/plantatree>

The Spring Clean-up was a huge success. There were over 650 tires collected and the need for 3 garbage trucks. A big thanks to all who participated and took advantage of a chance to clean up.

United States Census 2010: You can make the difference

It is the goal of the U.S. Census Bureau that every community receives an accurate count from the 2010 Decennial Census. The count will affect long and short term planning for Infrastructure and services for the next 10 years. The U.S. Constitution requires a national census once every 10 years. The census will show state population counts and determine representation in the U.S. House of Representatives. Census questionnaires will be delivered or mailed to households via U.S. mail in March 2010; many households will receive a replacement questionnaire in early April. Census workers also will visit households that do not return questionnaires. Every year the federal government can allocate more than \$300 billion to states and communities based, in part, on census data. Census data guide local decision-makers on where to build new roads, hospitals, child-care and senior citizen centers, schools and more. Census data determine how many seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives. With only 10 questions, the 2010 Census questionnaire is one of the shortest questionnaires in history and takes just 10 minutes to complete. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share an individual's census questionnaire responses with anyone, including other federal agencies and law enforcement entities. You can make a difference in the community.

For more information visit www.marathonwp.com

Rails to Trails Please Support

By now most of you have visited the railway between Columbiaville and Otter Lake and know what a gift this has been to the community. It's a lovely way to spend time walking the dog or getting out there for a little exercise and fresh air. You are bound to meet several people along the way and if you notice, most will have smiles and offer a friendly hi. People from other communities who have visited the railway have nothing but rave reviews. Please support the railway by supporting the fund raisers and perhaps joining the Friends Group. Please call Ray Bensen for more information at 793-8900. The construction of the trail from Otter Lake to Millington will begin this summer.

Loving Hands Clinic Non-emergency medical care

The Loving Hands Clinic is a non-emergency medical care for pre-qualified uninsured adults in the Greater Lapeer area. The clinic uses volunteer, professional staff to help those who are making a sincere effort to help themselves by providing diagnosis and treatment of diseases, follow-up care for chronic illnesses, limited lab work, health education, spiritual guidance and dental screening. The targeted population is unemployed or underemployed adults with no health insurance who live in Lapeer County and have income at 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines. Loving Hands Clinic occupies a professional space offered by Maple Grove Church at 148 Maple Grove Road, Lapeer. **Patients are seen by appointment only.** To make an appointment, contact the clinic at 810-667-8933.

Road Projects Proposed for 2009

Future road improvements: *Briggs Rd*:). Install 8" drainage tube from the pond at 4300 Briggs east to County drain (\$9800) *Marathon Rd*: Install two crosstubes and bring in processed gravel to finish the Marathon Road project between Howell and Barnes Lake Rd (\$42,000) *Williams & Klam*: Remove trees and continue ditching project began in 2008 westward to the corner of Williams & Klam Rd. (\$5,500). *Klam Road*: Install crosstube on Klam Rd between Columbiaville and LeValley Rds (\$2,000.). Ditching projects on Klam Rd between Lake & Briggs Rds. *Catlin Rd*: Ditching between Columbiaville & Pyles Rds. Also being considered is a joint project with Forest Township on Washburn Rd between Dodge and Pyles by bringing in 12" of crushed limestone and install crosstube (our cost \$18,900.)