



Lee Crossings

www.leetwp.org



Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan

Spring/Summer

2020

“WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER TOMORROW” never rang so true as it did this spring. COVID-19 changed the world as we knew it. Spring 2020 was met with “Stay Home Stay Safe” orders with schools, churches, and businesses forced to close for months. Social distancing and face coverings became the norm. Many grieved the loss of loved ones alone as groups could not gather. Birthdays and graduations came and went without fanfare. Weddings, special events and sports all cancelled. The feeling of isolation was very real. Yet through it all, our community came together, as it always does in times of need, to support and take care of one another in so many ways, during these unprecedented times. As our world begins to reopen with caution, and daily activities, once taken for granted, are enjoyed again, take time to share stories of support with one another. Spread the good, celebrate the love that has gotten us through thus far, and continue to share kindness in these uncertain times.



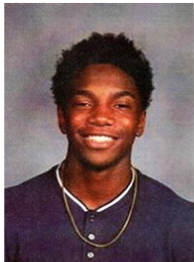
Children couldn't attend the annual egg hunt, so the Easter Bunny made home deliveries; Pastor Lopez offered prayers for all our veterans at Lee Twp. cemetery on Memorial Day as groups could not gather; several volunteers helped a resident rebuild the pool necessary for her child's therapy damaged by an early wind storm; and Intercare provided COVID-19 testing.



Prior to school closings, Kids Food Basket (KFB) sent sack suppers home each day and Hand2Hand (H2H) sent weekend meals home in backpacks each Friday with children at Pullman Elementary. Students also received a nutritious breakfast and lunch when in school. With closures, school and community agencies like the Linking Center, stepped up so no one would go hungry. Hundreds of students received food delivered right to their door step thanks to coordinated efforts and dedicated volunteers! Love, INC also offered free food pick up at their Pullman site for families in need. Many churches, including Ray of Light Church (pictured upper right) shared scriptures and hope online while churches were closed. Pullman Elementary principal Mrs Corona noted that her staff have been busy sending learning packets home for students and followed up by phone and online with students. Summer reading was sent home June 4. Check the Bloomingdale School District website later this summer for updates on plans to return to school in the Fall. The Linking Center Facebook page will have information on summer programs and camps available for area youth.

Lee Township has been committed to helping graduating seniors receive higher education for the past 18 years. Our community recognizes these young adults are our future. Normally 2 \$1000 scholarships are awarded annually. But this year, has been “unprecedented” in so many ways. We were able to financially support all 5 applicants as the committee received donations from 2 healthcare workers. Shirley, a retired nurse and her granddaughter Cassi, who is also a nurse, currently working in the emergency room at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. They both donated their COVID-19 stimulus checks to the scholarship fund as they saw the value of helping young adults make their dreams come true so they can positively impact others. Another Pullman resident committed to matching Cassi’s donation so that funds would be available for next year’s graduating class. If you would like to donate to the Scholarship fund you can mail a check to Lee Township with “Pullman Pride Scholarship Fund” in the memo section to P.O. Box 427, Pullman, MI 49450.

CONGRATULATIONS 2020 DEE WESBEY PULLMAN PRIDE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



MICHAEL ELLIS \$1200 SCHOLARSHIP I have found that being a scholar athlete in this area takes more work. We have one of the longest bus routes, so I spent years getting up at 5am. After an entire day of school, I went to practice, waited for my dad to get home from work to get a ride home, eat dinner, and then do homework for all my classes. From start to finish, the days were long and often exhausting, but I learned how to persevere. Life is not easy. Anything valuable in life is going to come with hard work and determination. Recently the Linking Center was built in Pullman and has provided kids in the community a safe place to have fun, learn and meet positive role models. I wish it would have happened years ago when I was a kid. I had to learn to stand up for myself, make my own decisions and not let peer pressure influence me when positive role models were not always around. Living in Pullman has impacted my life in many ways, but the most important way is that it has shaped me into a strong, independent, and future-driven person that I am today.

Michael plans to attend Ferris State University to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement.



GUSTAVO SILVA \$1200 SCHOLARSHIP As a person who seeks self-improvement constantly, I discovered that it is the community around me that inspires me. Living on a small farm has had much to do with the outcome of my attitude and work ethic. Applying my hard work ethic I learned at home into other aspects, such as sports and academics, has led me to relative success. Lee Township has impacted me by exposing me to many great people; for example, a woman at Love, INC who helps others, encourages success, and radiates positivity. Lee Township has also exposed me to many people of the Mexican culture, which has connected me to my Hispanic heritage more, and has led me to learn new skills, like learning to play the accordion. My overall goal of impacting my community is to lead by example and show that students from small towns can achieve academic greatness.

Gustavo plans to attend University of Michigan to pursue a degree in engineering or physics.



DAVID P. SURANYI II \$600 SCHOLARSHIP When I was in 3rd grade, my teacher, Mr. Whipple, as well as my classmates, helped me grow out of my shyness. Mr. Whipple, Mrs. Coleman, and Mrs. Willis made my last 3 years of elementary school amazing. They and my classmates are the reason I am the person I am today. I have been volunteering at the Linking Center preparing the kindergarteners and first graders for their next school year. If someone in the community needs help, I have seen the whole community come together to help that person. I hope to help anyone in the community, from someone who just needs a friend to someone who needs food. I also hope to teach music once I graduate.

David plans to attend Grand Valley State University to pursue a bachelor’s degree in Music Education to be able to be a band director and hopes to earn a doctorate degree in Music Education to teach at a college level.



ANNEKE DYKSTRA \$600 SCHOLARSHIP I have been a resident of Lee Township all 18 years of my life. I loved that it is very country and rural and enjoyed being able to play outside. Something that has really stood out to me living in Lee Township took place in 2016. My older brother and I got in a terrible car crash. We got hit by a drunk driver on our way home from church. I have never felt more loved by our community. A man who lived nearby pulled me from the car. The Rawson family and this loving, very kind gentleman helped not just my brother and I tremendously during this time, but my parents as well. I want to stand out, like the caring people who helped my brother and me. I will try to help others in need and always keep my community looking nice and clean. Going to college for physical therapy will be very hard. I am inspired to do physical therapy because I love helping people.

Anneke plans to attend Kalamazoo Valley Community College with a future goal of earning a master’s degree in physical therapy.



NAYELI HUIPE \$600 SCHOLARSHIP This is the town where I realized that I needed to change my attitude and perspective on school and learned to care about my future. Seeing many other teenagers so talented and trying to do something with their talent moved me to work harder. Seeing how so many people in this town care about one another by being good neighbors to each other makes me proud to live in Lee Township. To feel safe in a community of different cultures, to be ourselves, and speak whatever language we want and get along with each other is something to be proud of. I will continue to make Lee Township proud and never forget where I came from. I feel like I have made a small impact on others, specifically, translating at Pullman Elementary as a volunteer since I was in 8th grade.

Nayeli will be attending Lake Michigan College for general studies with the goal of transferring to Western Michigan University for a degree in Business or Spanish.

PULLMAN PRIDE DAY IS ON FOR SATURDAY JULY 18

We are moving forward with plans for Pullman Pride Day, with social distancing in mind. Lee Township Facebook page will have updated information on the day’s events as we get closer. Most activities will be held outside Community Center/Love, INC/Linking Center area on 56th St. All are welcome!

The Fire Department will host its annual **Pancake Breakfast** from 8-11am, outdoor **Flea Market/Craft Fair** from 10am-2pm (contact Ann@loveincnwa.org to reserve your space); **Free Family Picnic** sponsored by PHP at the Linking Center from Noon-1pm (families are encouraged to bring picnic blanket). There will be outdoor activities for kids, fishing tournament, and disc golf throughout the day. This year’s **Parade** will honor our Veterans. **We invite all Lee Township graduates to walk in the parade so we can celebrate your accomplishments.** Participants are asked to line up at the Fire Station by 12:45. Parade route will be from the Fire Station west on 109th to 56th St, north to Love, INC parking lot. There will be a brief service at 1pm on the corner of 109th & 56th St. Evening activities include outdoor beer garden at The Pullman Tavern and our first (annual?) **Drive-In Movie** at 10pm in the parking lot between Northwoods Café and the old hardware store on 109th just east of the tracks. (Lot will open at 9pm; cars will park facing west). Lee Township will once again offer **Free Dump Days** as part of a community clean up effort on Saturday July 18 and Sunday July 19 at the Transfer Station from 9am-3pm. Some restrictions apply. Call the Twp. office with questions (269-236-6485) or check our Facebook page for flyer with details. If you have any questions about the day’s activities, email trusteelg@twp.org. We have so much to celebrate together!

NEWS & NOTES

- Lee Township Board meetings take place the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Township Hall located at 877 56th Street, Pullman and are open to the public. Masks are required and seating is limited.
- Additional information @ www.leetwp.org or our Facebook page @ Lee Township Allegan County MI.
- Pullman Branch Library is open based on volunteer help. Hours posted on their window. Fennville District Library offers free library cards to Lee Twp. residents.
- Transfer Station hours SAT & SUN 9 am - 3 pm .
- The Lee Township newsletter can be viewed in Spanish on the Township website @ www.leetwp.org.

Cemetery

Grave sites must be kept within the rules that are posted in the cemetery and are available in print at the Township office. All decorations placed upon lots that become unsightly, will be removed without notice. All artificial decorations will be removed during spring and fall clean up.

Township Board Members & Department Staff

Township Office 236-6485

Scott Owen, Supervisor 236-6485
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk 236-5129
Jessie Lowery, Treasurer 434-6614
Steppney (Steve) Black, Trustee 236-5693
Lisa Galdikas, Trustee 236-6119
Kyle Harris, Assessor 574-596-6566
Dan Poll, Building Inspector 673-3239
Ted Chamberlain, Fire Chief 236-5988
Albert Rawson, First Responders 434-6477
Dekota Tatrow, Twp Deputy 673-0500
Lee Township Transfer Station 236-6485

Township Ordinances are available at the Township office or can be viewed on the Lee Township website @www.leetwp.org.

Township Board Meeting Minutes can be viewed on the Lee Township website.

Volunteer Fire Dept. If you would like to learn more about serving as a fire fighter contact Chief Ted Chamberlain at 269-236-5988.

Community Center is available for rent. Call the Twp. office for details. Program suggestions welcomed.

CHURCH NEWS

Check with Churches for updates on service times.

Bravo Christian Reform - 5587 113th Ave. (113th & 56th St.), Fennville, Pastor Mark Douglas. 269-236-5037

Horseshoe Community Bible Church—4950 104th Ave., Grand Junction, Pastor Don Miller 269-521-4580

Mt. Calvary MB Church - 5424 105th, PO Box 36, Pullman, Pastor Knox, 269-236-5225.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church - 558 58th St. Pullman, Pastor Steppney Black, 236-5693 or 5722.

Pullman Bible Church - 5508 109th, Pullman, Pastor Jeff Stephens, 236-0409.

Pullman Church —915 North Ave. , Pullman, Mike Jones. 616-350-0711.

Ray of Light Church - 886 60th St., Pastor Mary Hoots, 236-6966.

Seventh Day Adventist Church - 671 52nd St., 236-5011, Pastor William Richardson 616-644-4153.

2020 SUMMER TAX INFORMATION ***PLEASE NOTE CHANGES TO TAX COLLECTION***

Due to the coronavirus, the following precautions are in place at the Township office for everyone's health and safety. We encourage mailing in your tax payment or putting check/money order payment in an envelope with your name and address in the drop slot at the Township office door. Receipts will be mailed if requested (write "mail receipt" on envelope). If paying by cash, the Treasurer will be in the office on Tuesdays and Fridays to accept cash payments. No change can be made so exact payment is required. Anyone entering the Township office must wear a mask. Arrangements for credit card payments can be made by calling the Treasurer and providing an email address. Additional charges apply.

The Treasurer will collect tax at the Township Office **Fridays (9 am-12 pm & 1-5 pm)** the months of July, August and September. Interest will be added to taxes paid after **September 14th. POSTMARKS NOT HONORED. Summer Tax 2020 must be paid to Lee Twp. Treasurer until March 1, 2021.**

Summer deferment Form may be filed to defer payment of interest on principal residence of persons 62 years of age or older or property that is classified or used as agricultural property until the time that winter taxes are due. Forms are available at the Township office, www.leetwp.org, and www.allegancounty.org. The form must be filed with the Township Treasurer by September 14, 2020.

For Disabled Veterans Exemption call the Township office or get the form from our website @ www.leetwp.org.

The Assessor has authorized the Board of Review to convene on **July 21st at 2:00pm.** July BOR is to correct any mutual mistake of fact or clerical errors on tax notice. **Notify the Treasurer or Assessor of any necessary corrections upon receipt of tax bill.**

Fire District Hearing is scheduled for July 13 at 7:00pm at the Township Hall.

Special Meeting to review Lee Township Master Plan is scheduled for Monday September 21, 6:30-8pm at the Township Hall.

Life EMS will provide Lee Twp. ambulances service as of August 1. Residents can sign up for annual Lifecare+ membership online at www.lifeems.com, click "Explore Memberships" at the bottom of the page. Annual cost per family is \$49 with supplemental insurance, or \$79 without insurance (current AMR membership will be honored until April 1).

Many business owners have suffered significant loss due to COVID-19. PLEASE SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES!

BaleTech
Baylor Buddy Johns
Bodtke Farms
Cemetery Monuments Sales
Clemons Blueberries
Country Life Natural Foods
Dave's Tree Service
Dollar General
Dream House Development
El Arcoiris Del Sabor
Express Event Center
Garcia's Supermercado
InterCare Community Health
JMJ Cleaning Service
Laraway & Son Movers

Maynard's Custom Concrete
Mobile Gas Station
Mystic View Apartment
North Street Storage
Northwoods Café
Once Upon a Time
Pizza Plus
Preferred Market
Pullman Tavern (PT109)
Richwood Contracting
Shear Fantasy Beauty Shop
Shek Law Office
Simparsosa Riding Stables
Supermarket El Arcoiris (NEW!)
VFW Post 6134
Warner Camp

Lee Township Newsletter
877 56th Street
P.O. Box 427
Pullman, MI 49450

ELECTION INFORMATION

August 4th is the Primary Election. Your polling place is Lee Township Hall at 877 56th St. Polls will be open 7am-8pm. The state is currently doing a mass mailing of Absentee Voter (AV) applications to all registered voters for August 4th election. Anyone needing an application can contact Clerk King by phone 269 236 5129 or by email clerk@leetwp.org. Deadline for AV ballots to be received is August 4th by 8 pm. As of today's date we will be holding the election at the Township Hall and will take precautions to make sure voters are safe. We are waiting for the State to notify us as to what will be required. Any election questions should be directed to Clerk King.

Those running unopposed for Township office include incumbents Scott Owen for Supervisor, and Jessie Lowery, Treasurer. **There are 3 candidates running for the Clerk position.** Here is a little information (in their own words) about each candidate.

Pam Booth-I've lived in Lee Township since 1993, and a volunteer in the Pullman Library for over 5 years. I'm active in the Pullman VFW. As a poll worker for 6 years and deputy clerk for 3 years, I've had the privilege of serving the citizens of Pullman and would like the opportunity to serve as Lee Township Clerk.

Heather Freil-I was born and raised in Pullman and am a multi-generational Pullman resident. My husband and I moved back to Pullman to raise our children in the same place I grew up. In deciding that, we agreed to do our part in the community, and get involved. My husband and I own a business locally, and I am an office manager at a local pest control company. I have extensive experience in managing clerical duties, which will help me be successful as Lee Township Clerk. I hope I can count on your support, to give back to our great community.

Josephine T. Hardester-I would like to take a moment and introduce myself. I am running for Lee Township Clerk. I have lived in Lee Township for 22 years with my husband Frank Hardester. Together we have four boys. I have obtained my Elementary Education Master Degree from Grand Valley State University. I currently teach 1st grade at South Walnut Elementary for Bangor Public Schools. My goal as Township Clerk is perform the functions of the office in the most efficient and effective way while ensuring accountability and accessibility to the citizens of our community.

There are also 3 candidates running for 2 Trustee positions.

Sam Bale-I'm a 5th generation resident of Lee Township. I graduated from Davenport University with a degree in Computer Network Security in 2010 and have since gained experience in both the public and private sectors. I have a great invested interest in seeing the Township develop. I believe that with my experience and my skill set that I can help administrate logical courses of action to maintain a thriving community within a proper budget.

Lisa Galdikas- I have dedicated the last 8 years to serving the residents of Lee Township as Trustee, and hope to continue working together to better our tomorrow. I value our community's history, while recognizing the hard work needed to assure a prosperous future for Lee Township. I support local businesses, churches, and our community agencies whose loving care provides needed resources and assistance to our most vulnerable residents. I am invested in our area youth and committed to helping them realize their dreams through raising funds for college scholarships. Community pride is at my core.

Ann Hatfield- Ann has a passion for making a tangible difference in our community. Resolving problems; connecting people to resources – facilitating change. Ann, and her husband Dave, have resided in Lee Township for 16 years. Ann serves as the Clearinghouse Coordinator at Love INC – Pullman; an organization that she was instrumental in bringing to the Pullman community. Ann has continued to develop her leadership skills and spearheaded the Lee Township “Clean Team” for 3 years. Ann has served with the Allegan COC, Pullman Pride, Allegan Food Pantry Collaborative. She will be a leader who listens.