



Lee Crossings



Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan

Winter 2008

Fourth Annual Lee Township Holiday Social and Tree Lighting

Friday December 5th

at the corner of 56th & 109th (Pizza Plus Parking Lot)

This year's events will include a Holiday Open House by local businesses from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Each of the participating businesses will be open and offering a holiday snack or beverage to welcome you. Please take time to walk to the businesses in the downtown area and get to know the owners. Have your "stamp card" stamped at each business you go to and turn it in to the drawing boxes (located at Preferred Market and Scoops) for your chance to win gift certificates from Karam's Food Mart (West Pullman Grocery), Belita's Market, Nolan's Party Store and Wal-Mart totaling \$100.00. The more businesses you visit the more money you can win (\$10.00 per each stamp on the card). Stamp cards need to be turned in by 9:00 p.m., Friday, December 5th to be included in drawing.

Here is the schedule of events:

5:30 – 8:30 p.m. Holiday Business Open House

5:45 p.m. Caroling with the Rawson Brothers

6:00 p.m. Welcome and Invocation by Pastor Kevin Scott, Seventh Day Adventist Church

Caroling with Stephanie Kilgore at the live manager scene

Pullman Elementary students trim the tree

Arrival of Santa (with a special treat for each child present)

Musical performance by the Pullman Elementary Safety Patrol

Reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by Mary Hinkle

Lighting of the Holiday Tree

HOLIDAY BUSINESS OPEN HOUSE "STAMP CARD"

(Cut and bring with you on December 5th)

Get each business you visit to stamp your card and turn it into the drawing box at Preferred Market or Scoops by 9:00 p.m., Friday, December 5th to win up to \$100 gift certificates (win \$10 for each business you visit and get stamped!)

Name: _____ Phone #: _____ Address: _____

Scoops	The Pullman Tavern	Preferred Market
Back Door Video	Pizza Plus	Cericola's Banquet Hall
Pat Knapp's Excavating & Rosewood Floral	Jillian's Country Clipn's	Studio 109 and Forever Tan

Pullman Pride Not Scared Off with a Little Rain!

OK...a lot of rain! But that didn't stop vendors and residents from coming out on July 19th to show their Pride. Congratulations to our 2008 scholarship winners Rachael Larabel and Megan Larson. Congratulations to Maureen Deitrick our 50/50 raffle winner.

There are so many individuals, churches, businesses, and Bloomingdale Public Schools to thank for coming together to put on such an event for the community. The township would also like to extend a sincere thanks to the Pullman Pride committee members Pam Rawson, Janice Curley, Shirley Kay and their families for all their time, energy and dedication.

The following people, businesses and organizations donated to Pullman Pride and through their contributions and continued support college scholarships were once again awarded to local graduates. Thanks to all of them for believing in our local community event:

IOOF Energy Lodge 509
Nelvin & Eleanor Deweerd
Larson's Hardware
Maureen Dietrick
Ed Brock
Eve Pacholski
Jessie Lowery
New Hope MB Church
VFW
Ray of Light Church
Ray of Life food booth
Allegan Co. Mental Health
Birds Eye Foods
EPIC band
Bravo Community Church
Lee Township EMS
Lee Township Fire
Lee Township COPS & ACSD
Bloomingdale Public Schools
Sarah Benson
Studio 109 & Forever Tan
Pullman Tavern
Northwood's Café
Pizza Plus
Nolan's Party Store
Walker Tire
Clementine's
Scoops
Preferred Market
Belitia's Market
American Sports Graphics
Bloomingdale Cardinal Support
Laraway House Moving
Rick & Colleen Irely
Back Door Video
Chris & Bruce Saip
Dick & Doris Palmby

Special thanks to the following groups who also participated in Pullman Pride and offered information and activities:
Lee Township EMS for balloons and blood pressure;
COPS for coloring books, stickers, and other items;
students from Bloomingdale High School fulfilling their community service commitments by helping in many areas.

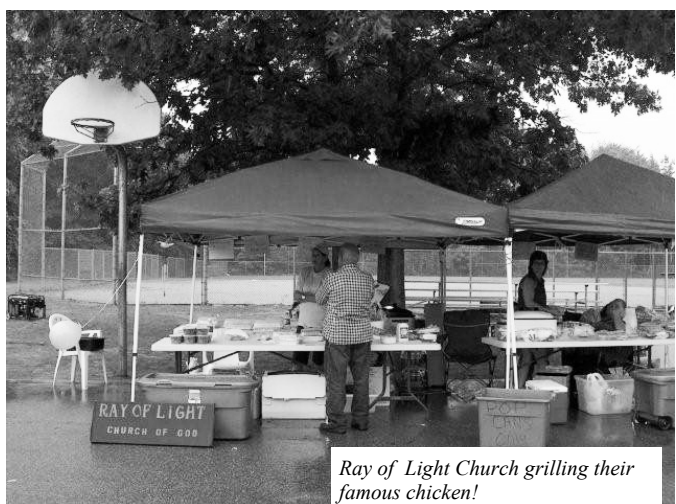
We look forward to seeing everyone out there next year Saturday July 18th RAIN OR SHINE!



Silent Auction and Craft Fair held at Pullman Elementary



The Band Epic performing



Ray of Light Church grilling their famous chicken!

**Dedication & Grand Opening
Pullman Elementary Playground & Park
August 27, 2008**

The ceremony held in front of Pullman Elementary School was attended by a large crowd including a number of excited children. The program included remarks from Dr. Brett Geier, School Superintendent, Tom Bodtke, V.P. Board of Education, State Rep. Fulton Sheen, State Senator Patricia Birkholz, Dr. Patrick Creagan, Principal and construction representatives.

Tom Bodtke emphasized that the school board wants all its facilities to be open and used by the public. This playground open to the public is an example of that desire. Brett Geier thanked Todd Odell, Lou Ann Bristol, Pam Rawson, Terry Fisher, Sandy Anderson, Janie Rawson and Hope Curley for all of their time and effort in having worked on this project. Finally, Brett thanked the children for being so patient during the program and announced the playground was open. What a stampede! The children certainly showed what the playground equipment was there for! Final touches on the soccer field and picnic area are forthcoming. Job well done!



Flood Damage on Township Roads

In mid September Lee Township received more than 8 inches of rain. The Brushy Creek culvert on 102nd Avenue between 48th and 49th Streets was washed out. According to the Allegan County Road Commission, the road will most likely be closed until mid 2009 as the plans are being designed for a concrete box culvert. There also was another section of road damaged by this same storm. Other damage from the storm included a section of 49th Street between 104th and 105th Avenue. Plans are underway to repair the road.

In the last several years repairs have been made on three water crossings: Barber Creek crossing on 104th Avenue between 55th and 56th Streets, Scott Lake Creek crossing on 109th Avenue between 57th and 58th Streets, and a water crossing on Baseline Road between 59th and 60th Streets. The 109th Avenue crossing was paid for with a grant. The Barber Creek and Baseline repairs as well as the Brushy Creek will be the responsibility of the township as is the maintenance of all secondary roads.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Bloomington School

Nov 27 – 28: Thanksgiving Recess – No school
 Dec 22-Jan 2: Christmas Holiday Recess- No school
 Jan 5: School Resumes
 Jan 16: End of First Semester
 Jan 19: Professional Development Day – MLK Day
 Feb 23: Teacher Professional Development Day - No School
 Mar 5: ½ Student/ ½ Records – BHS –End of Trimester

Fennville School

November 26-28: Thanksgiving Recess – No School
 December 22 –Jan 4: Holiday Break – No School
 Jan 5: School Resumes
 Jan 15: Students Dismissed at 12:50 pm
 Jan 21: High School Parent/Teacher Conferences
 Feb 12: Students Dismissed at 12:50 pm
 Feb 13: Mid-Winter Break – No School
 Mar 6: End of Trimester

Services Available

Maternal & Infant Health Program-

This program offers medical, nutritional and mental health services for pregnant women or caretakers of infants younger than 1 year. For information contact Allegan County Health Department at 269-673-5411.

Allegan County Transportation (ACT) –

Need a ride, call 269-673-4229. Last year ACT provided over 56,000 rides mostly for employment and medical

House of Mercy Food Pantry serves families south of Fennville to Grand Junction in the Allegan County area. It is open every Wednesday from 12:30-3:00pm located at 5587 113th Ave. Please bring proof of income, address, and social security numbers.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS:

Country Life Cooking Class

Sunday, November 16th from 4 – 6 p.m. “New Traditions” Surprise your family with healthy new versions of holiday favorites.

Location: Faith Hall, 686 52nd Street, Pullman
No Charge for classes; donations are welcome



Country Life Natural Foods is sponsoring a delicious Community Thanksgiving Dinner free of charge at the Pullman Area Family Community Center, 883 55th Street, the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 29th at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is invited! There are limited seats, so please call 236-8326 to reserve a spot for you and your family.

Pullman Elementary PTO's Holiday Shop will take place December 1-5 where everything is \$1.00.

Pullman Elementary will host a **Seniors Luncheon** on December 5th at 1:15pm. Call the school at 236-5235.

Rosewood Floral and Gifts will be selling live evergreen wreaths on Friday Dec. 5th during the Business Open House 5:30-8:30pm at Pat Knapp's excavating building.



The Local VFW will once again be sponsoring an afternoon with Santa on Saturday, December 6th from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. at the VFW on 109th. All are welcome to come see Santa and receive an early Christmas gift.

Featured Church

Mt Calvary Missionary Baptist Church located at 5424 – 105th Avenue, is open for whosoever will, praising God for all things. The church was built and organized in 1958 by the late Rev. William Bronson, Sr. The church has served the spiritual and social needs of this community since its organization and continues to stand welcoming all.

The newly installed Pastor Rev Alfred Gene Bailey was elected to serve as Pastor June 15, 2008. Rev Bailey has served as Choir Director, Church Musician, Gospel Singer and Sunday School teacher for many years in this vicinity. “To God be the glory for the things He has done”.

CHURCH NEWS

Bravo Community Church - 1317 56th St, Fennville, Pastor Don Jabaay, 236-5500. Service Times: Sunday 9:50 am; House of Mercy (emergency food and clothing) Wednesday 12:30 -3 pm; Family Night Worship/free dinner Wednesday 5:30 pm; Celebrate Recovery Thursday 6:30pm.

Church in Pullman - 861 56th St., Pastor Gary Melson, 269-277-8483. Service Times: Sunday 10 am and Thursday at 7:30 pm.

Mt Calvary M B Church-5424 – 150th Avenue, Pullman MI. Pastor: Rev A G Bailey. Sunday School 9:30 am, Morning Worship 11:00 am, afternoon programs 3:30 pm.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church - 558 58th St., Pastor Steppney Black, 236-5693 or 5722. Service Times: Sunday School 9:30 am; Morning Worship 11 am; Bible Class and prayer Service Tuesday 6 pm.

Pullman Bible Church- 5508 109th, Pastor Jeff Stephens, 236-0409. Service Times: Sunday School 10 am; Worship Service 11 am; Prayer Meeting Wednesday 7:30 pm.

Pullman Country Chapel - 5769 106th Ave, Service Times: Sunday School 10 am and Worship Sunday at 11 am - 6 pm and Wednesday at 7 pm; ladies prayer meeting every other Friday at 7 pm; children's program the 2nd Saturday of each month from Noon - 2 pm.

Ray of Light Church - 886 60th St., Pastor Mary Hoots, 236-6966. Service Times: Sunday Worship 10 am - Noon and 6 - 8 pm; Family Training Wednesday 6:30 pm.

Seventh Day Adventist Church, 671 52nd St. Pastor Kevin Scott, 269-236-8343. Service Times: Saturday Bible Study 9:30 am and Worship at 11 am.

Did you know...

Sonshine Thrift Store is now open Tuesday-Saturday 10-4 and Wednesday 12-6. It is located at 56th & 113th Ave in Bravo. All of the money received from the thrift store will be used to continue the work of caring for the poor and for telling others in the greater Bravo Pullman area about Jesus Christ and his love for sinners.

NEWS & NOTES

- Lee Township Board meetings take place the second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Township Hall and are open to the public.
- Be sure to check out the official Lee Township Website for additional information at: www.leetwp.org
- Anyone with information for the newsletter can call the Township office at 236-6485 or email to leetwp@i2k.com or send to P.O. Box 427 Pullman, MI 49450.
- Transfer Station hours (year round) are 9 am - 3 pm Saturday and Sunday only (no Wednesday hours).
- Pullman Branch Library is open Tuesday & Thursday from 2 - 6 pm and Saturday from 10 am - Noon.

Local Election Results

Lee Township Supervisor -	Steve Miller	552
	Sally Lacy	342
	John Walker	113
	Melvin Lewis	43
Lee Township Clerk -	Jacquelyn King	694
	Ruth Maquilon	272
Lee Township Treasurer-	Jessie Lowery	805
	Janice Lehto	69
Lee Township Trustee-	Steffney Black	594
	William Ferguson	567
	Victor Rawson	409
	Nancy Endres	66
Lee Twp First Responders -Millage Renewal	Yes	483
	No	535

General Township Information

Lee Township borders are 60th Street, 48th Street, Baseline Road and 112th Avenue, encompassing 23,040 acres and 2000 reported population 4,114. Lee Township is home to Pullman Elementary school; Lower Scott Lake (township park and beach, public boat access), Upper Scott Lake (public board access), Osterhout Lake (public beach and boat access), Lester Lake Clear Lake and Springbrook Lake, as well as Middle Branch of the Black River. Lee Township Cemetery is located at 53rd and 105th Avenue.

Township Board Members &

Department Staff

Township Office 236-6485

John Schlack, Supervisor 236-0987
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk 236-6446
Jessie Lowery, Treasurer 434-6614
Steffney (Steve) Black, Trustee 236-5693
Donna Christensen, Trustee 236-5734
Doug Brousseau, Assessor 699-7619
Paul Shamblin, Building Inspector 628-5255
Nelvin DeWeerd, Fire Chief 236-5392
Ted Chamberlain, Asst. Fire Chief 236-5988
Albert Rawson, First Responders 434-6477
Mark Lytle and Bill Greene, Twp Deputies 673-0500
Lee Township Transfer Station 236-6485

Township Ordinance (hard copies are available at the township office or the official Lee Township website)

#2003 Disorderly Conduct
#2009 Motor Vehicle Code
#2011 Animal Control
#2012 Anti-noise & Public Nuisance
#2013 Trash & Leaf Burning
#2016 Curfew
#2017 Plumbing Code
#2020 Cemetery
#2021 Dangerous Building
#2022 Litter
#2023 Vehicle Storage & Repair
#2024 Salvage Yard
#2025 Blight Elimination
#2026 Single Family Residences
#2027 Motor Vehicle
#2028 State Construction Code

2008 Winter Tax

Tax bills will be mailed by December 1st. The Treasurer will collect tax at the **Township Office** on **Tuesday's (9am – 12pm and Friday's, (9am- 5pm)** the months of December, January, and February. A 3% penalty will be added to winter tax paid after February

****Unpaid Summer 2008 tax must be paid at the Township (interest added 1% per month beginning September 2008.**

Beginning March 1, 2009 unpaid taxes (Summer & Winter) become delinquent and must be paid to the **ALLEGAN COUNTY TREASURER**, with an additional 4% administrative fee and 1.5% interest per month. Calling the County Treasurers Office 673-0260 or www.allegancounty.org can verify the correct amount to be paid.

Defer: penalty and interest

Qualifying Senior Citizens or Permanently Disabled Persons may defer penalty and interest on tax payments until April 30th on **Homeowner's Principal Residence only**. Notify the Township Treasurer to apply for a **Deferment Application** when you receive your tax bill.

Carefully review your tax bill for errors on P.R.E. or MTB. All errors should be reported to the Assessor (269-699-7619).

The December Board of Review will meet Monday December 8, 2008 at 5:00pm to correct any mutual mistake of fact or clerical errors on tax bill.

CLEAN TEAM WRAPS UP ITS 2ND YEAR

The Lee Township Clean Team has had a successful summer and fall helping to keep our local roads tidy and clean. Thanks to those regulars (few but committed) who have helped to clean on the monthly work dates as well as all the residents that do their part in not throwing trash out along our roadsides. The team has seen a great improvement in the past two years.

As fall approaches, there is a temptation to burn leaves in the yard and garbage in the burn barrel. The Clean Team reminds us that burning of leaves and trash releases highly toxic gasses and causes air pollution. Burning garbage contaminates the air we breathe and the dioxins that are released are harmful to children, pregnant women and can cause cancer and other many other health issues.

Instead, the team asks residents to "compost" their leaves in a compost pile, use them on woods paths or locate a gardener who might like to use them to build their soil fertility. Leaves make a wonderful, loamy compost material for flowers, shrubs and vegetable gardens!

We still need volunteers to assistance in the clean up process for next year. This would be the perfect opportunity for a scout group, school or church group looking for community service hours. We will begin our monthly work dates again in May 2009.

Call Donna Allgaier-Lamberti at 236-5121 to volunteer.

Lee Township Regular Board Meeting Synopsis of Minutes

July 14, 2008 Regular Board Meeting-

- Motion was made to approve the minutes of June 9th Regular Board Meeting.
- Motion was made to receive the Treasurer's Report as presented.
- Motion was made to purchase a fax machine and designated line for the Fire Department not to exceed \$150.00.
- Motion was made to purchase a chainsaw not to exceed \$300.00 for the Fire Department.

-Motion was made to authorize the Fire Chief to have a fuel allowance of no more than \$150.00 per month.

-Motion was made to accept the renewal of the Assessor's contract with the addition of adding office hours.

-Motion was made to authorize the clerk to pay the bills.

-Motion was made to authorize the clerk to publish the notice for July's Board of Review.

August 11, 2008 Regular Board Meeting-

-Motion was made to approve the minutes for the Fire District Meeting.

-Motion was made to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes from July 14, 2008.

-Motion was made to receive the Treasurer's Report as presented.

-Motion was made to authorize the clerk to publish a notice for accepting bids for the repair of the office door to be opened at a Special Meeting August 26th at 6:30 p.m.

-Motion was made to pay the township's portion of the weed control for public property on Osterhout Lake.

-Motion was made to have the First Responder's millage added to the November ballot.

-Motion was made to table the property purchase for further consideration.

-Motion was made to pay the bills as presented.

-Motion was made to pay the election inspectors for the August 5th Primary election.

August 26, 2008 Special Meeting

-Motion was made to accept the bid from J.C. Builders in the amount of \$2,400.00 for the replacement of a solid steel commercial door with mail slot and security glass.

September 8, 2008 Regular Board Meeting

-Motion was made to appoint Trustee Christensen to chair the meeting.

-Motion was made to approve the minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of August 11, 2008.

-Motion was made to approve the minutes from the Special Meeting of August 26, 2008.

-Motion was made to receive the Treasurer's report as presented.

-Motion was made to authorize the Fire Chief to purchase the recommended fire hose.

-Motion was made to authorize the clerk to purchase tables for the township hall.

-Motions were made to approve land splits for O'Connell, Bennish, Stoike and Alexander.

-Motion was made to authorize the Clerk to pay the bills as presented.

A complete copy of the minutes can be obtained on www.leetwp.org or at the township office.

A Little Bit of Lee Township History.....



THE PAST IS PROLOGUE

By: Debbie Laraway

Charles Laraway, who lived in Joliet, Ill and Lee Township, built a home and farmed on a parcel of land stretching from 109th Avenue to 108th Avenue north to south and from 58th Street to 60th Street east to west. At present, we are unaware of Charles' wife's name but we do know he had a brother named William who also owned property in Lee Township. The exact year that the farmhouse was built is unknown but it was a type common to the 1870's through 1890's. The house was Victorian in style with two bedrooms and a large hallway upstairs, a parlor, butler's pantry, large kitchen, summer kitchen and two bedrooms downstairs. There was an outdoor privy.

Charles' son John, who was born in 1864, married Margaret Kakabaker, born in 1867, from Kalamazoo. John and Margaret moved to the house in Lee Township and started their married life in their new home with all its modern conveniences (!). They raised milk cows, horses, chickens, asparagus, pickles, cauliflower, rhubarb, and other necessities for rural life in the early part of the last century. This, we understand, was a typical diversified farming operation for the time. There was a large barn with a windmill in front of it that existed into the 1950's. John and Margaret adopted their only child Royal "Barney" Laraway when he was five in 1912. When Barney and Helen Daliedan were married, they lived in the house with his parents at different times in their married life. Margaret Laraway passed away in 1951 and John followed in 1955. Barney and Helen's three children, Doris, Buster and Babe, have many fond memories of the old homestead and life on the farm. They lived in various places in Lee Township after permanently moving from the old home place. The farm passed from the Laraway family in the 1940's through a succession of families until it burned in the 1980's, possibly around 1985.

Memories of the farm, the warmth of family life and the neighborliness of folks who lived in Lee Township prompted Babe to recreate the old homestead. The "new" Victorian house was moved to a portion of the old farmstead in 2008 from the Fennville area. It had been slated to be used as a practice burn for the Ganges Fire Department. Fortunately for the charming old house it was rescued at the eleventh hour and find's it's new home somewhat similar to it's old home on the Hunsberger farm in Ganges. There are blueberry fields to the east, wooded

areas and other rescued and recycled homes in the neighborhood. In fact, most of the neighborhood consists of homes moved from other areas. There's another story for another time!

This house had all its windows removed in preparation for the burn and the downstairs, which consists of two bedrooms, a parlor, large kitchen, bathroom and dining area modernized in the 1960's with glamorous wood paneling, plywood kitchen cabinets, dropped ceilings, vinyl floor tiles and shag carpeting. Enough time has passed that almost all of those elements are back in style! Fortunately, the three upstairs bedrooms and attic space retain all their original charm with beautiful woodwork, original old wallpapers and some faux wood graining from the turn of the last century. It is Babe's plan to update and modernize all the necessities and to antique all the modernization done in the 1960's. This has been a real family project with Babe's sons, Tom and Tim, and grandson, Royal, all working to move the house, Babe doing all the grading and filling and trotting out some of his old carpentry skills. I'm reserving all the decorating and painting for myself. Sorry Mom, I know how much you love painting! Its future is as a family home for a family member.

AT THE PULLMAN CROSSROADS LOOKING WEST...

By Lester Rawson

Some time in the early 1940's, we moved here from the South Haven area. Within a couple years of our move here, a severe winter blizzard hit the area. I think it lasted about a week. I must have been about 10 or 12 years old at the time. After what seemed like forever, the storm finally blew itself out and left us snowbound. We were living in an old house on the west side of the road on 54th Street about ¼ mile from the corner of 102nd and 54th Street.

After several days of the snow plows not showing up, my father decided it was time for the Rawson males to shovel our way out and so it was. The snow had crusted over so we had to cut it into blocks and shovel it away. We shoveled for the better part of a week to dig our way out. As I remember, the drifted snow was about 4 to 6 feet deep on the left side of the road facing north.

After digging our way to the main road, I road with my father to Pullman for food supplies. There was a two story grocery on the north side of the street mid-way between 56th Street and the railroad tracks. I believe it was called Mac's Grocery. We bought our food supplies, which included hamburger . I still remember the hamburgers that were made after the trip to that store. To this day, I can tell you those hamburgers tasted like the finest steak anyone could ever hope for!

Some say a warming trend is a bad thing, they may have never experienced the Michigan winters we endured back in the 1940's. I hope they don't have to.

Lee Township Newsletter
877- 56th Street
P. O. Box 427
Pullman, Mi 49056

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SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESS

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Cericola's Banquet and Hall Rental
Clemons Blueberries
County Life Natural Foods & Store
Dream House Development
H & F Electronics
InterCare Community Health Network
Jillian Country Clipn's
Karams Food Mart
LaTienda Store
Laraway & Son Movers
Maynard's Customized Concrete
Mrs. Earl's Greenhouse
Nolan's Party Store

Northwoods Café
Pat Knapp's Excavating
Pizza Plus
Preferred Market
Pullman Tavern (PT109)
Rawson's Brothers Auto Parts
Rosewood Floral & Gift Shop
Scoops
Shear Fantasy Beauty Shop
Simpсарosa Riding Stables
Studio 109- Forever Tan
T & J Trucking
Terry's Auto Sales
Thin-Spin Productions
Walkers Tire & Lube
Warner Camp