

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

LEE TWP ROAD MILLAGE
PASSESS IN AUGUST ELECTION

Thank you for supporting the improve-
ments on our township roads.



Lee Crossings

www.leetwp.org



Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan

Fall/Winter

2013

THANK YOU CHIEF DEWEERD FOR
50 YEARS OF SERVICE

An Open House was held on September 21st at the new fire station to celebrate Nelvin DeWeerd’s 50 years of service to Lee Township and his retirement from the Lee Township Fire Department. “I told myself that when we got this new fire station then I would retire. That was my biggest goal.” said the Chief. Words cannot express the gratitude the township has for his exemplary service.



Eleanor and Nelvin DeWeerd

September 9, 2013-Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motions were made and approved or the following agenda items: to accept the regular meeting minutes from August 12th, and to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented; to authorize the Fire Dept. to spend \$2500 for training; to replace all the tree plaques at the cemetery at a cost of \$11 each; to renew the contract with assessor; to authorize the clerk to pay the bills as presented; to adjourn the meeting at 8:57pm. Additional information presented: announcement of the passing of Inez Mann; presentation by M. Mills from the DNR re: land purchases; 130 police calls for the month; 14 fire calls; first responders took 38 calls; certificate of appreciation presented to Chief DeWeerd; 2 mechanical, 2 plumbing and 11 electrical permits issued; \$824 collected and 91 tickets at the transfer station; Casey Trusiak new to lake Board; water billing discussed; transfer station costs reviewed.

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

Al’s Gas and Shop	Laraway & Son Movers
BaleTech	Larry’s Lube & Tire
Baylor Buddy Johns	Lora K Cafe
Bell’s Grocery	Maynard’s Customized Concrete
Bodtke Farms	Mystic View Apartments
Cemetery Monuments Sales / V. Lindsey	Northwoods Café
Cericola’s Banquet Hall Rental	Pat Knapp’s Excavating
Clemons Blueberries	Pizza Plus
Country Life Natural Foods	Preferred Market
Dave’s Tree Service	Pullman Tavern (PT109)
Dream House Development	Rawson Brothers Auto Parts
Forrest Enterprises	Shear Fantasy Beauty Shop
Frida’s Hardware	Simpсарosa Riding Stables
Gallops’s Food Mart/Gas	Studio 109- Forever Tan
H & F Electronics	T & J Trucking
Hidden Treasure Daycare	Terry’s Auto Sales
InterCare Community Health Network	VFW Post 6134
Image Designer	Walker Tire, LLC
LaCasita’s Market	Warner Camp

Synopsis of Lee Township Board Meetings Minutes

June 10, 2013-Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motions were made and approved or the following agenda items: to accept the regular meeting minutes from May 13, special meeting minutes of May 23 and May 29 and to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented; to approve the final work order for road work; to approve the tax newsletters with corrections; to authorize the clerk to publish the July board of review notice; to apply for Marathon Fleet fuel account; to pay the bills as presented; to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm. Additional information presented: 137 police calls for the month and 10 fire calls; First responders took 26 calls; transfer station took in \$778 and 67 tickets.

July 8, 2013-Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motions were made and approved or the following agenda items: to accept the regular meeting minutes from June 10th, and to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented; to purchase and replace 3 trees at the cemetery; to purchase 6 signs for the township parks designating open and closed times or a cost of \$275; to have the language drafted for the First Responders renewal millage ready for the November ballot; to authorize the clerk to pay the bills as presented; to adjourn at 9:12pm.

Additional information presented: Rep. B. Genetski gave a legislative update; 132 police calls for the month, Fire Chief reported 911 surcharge will increase to \$3.00 per phone; First Responders took 26 calls (166 to date); transfer station took in \$1096 and 64 tickets; transfer station had been broken into and items stolen; Board of Review set for July 16th.

August 12, 2013-Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Motions were made and approved or the following agenda items: to accept the Fire District Meeting minutes from July 8th, regular meeting minutes from July 8th, and to accept the Treasurer’s report as presented; to accept the addition of \$476.80 to complete refitting of new patrol car; to accept bid from Dave’s Tree Service of \$450 to clean up from storm damage at the cemetery; to authorize the clerk to pay the bills as presented; to authorize the clerk to pay the election workers in the amount of \$705; to adjourn the meeting at 9:13pm. The motion to allow the DNR to bid on properties made available through back taxes did not pass with a 3 to 2 vote.

Additional information presented: road millage passed 93 to 38; review of blight situations; 9 fire calls for the month Engine 12 repairs to pump cost \$3,038; Chief DeWeerd announced his retirement effective Sept 30; First Responders took 37 calls; 3 building permits and 2 plumbing permits issued; update on community center renovations; transfer station took in \$665 and 91 tickets.

**PULLMAN PRIDE DAY RAISES FUNDS FOR
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS**

For 11 years in a row, Lee Township residents have come out to celebrate Pullman Pride, and this year was no different. On Saturday July 20th there was music and dancing in the streets, good food, games, face painting, crafters, shelter animals, tours of the “old gas station,” our first fishing tournament, and a dunk tank with a lot of familiar faces in it! Huge thanks go out to all those willing to “take the plunge” for a good cause and to the Lee Twp. fire department for manning the tank all day. It was truly a great day with many local businesses working together to make it a success—special thanks to all those at Northwoods Restaurant, Pizza Plus, Preferred Market, The Pullman Tavern and Gallops Marathon, as well as Pepsi and Prairie Farms. Thanks to Mike Rawson and Tom Rusin who provided fabulous musical entertainment throughout the day. Through generous donations and raffle tickets \$500 was raised in one day with an additional \$240 raised from donations received since from: the DeWeerds, C. Pugh, Lower Scott Lake Assoc., VFW, and the Brooks. Thank you to everyone who contributed to another successful Pullman Pride Day. Donations are still being accepted through the Twp office. Mark your calendar for Saturday July 19, 2014!



Albert Rawson in dunk tank (above)

Flash Mob Dance (below)



WINTER SAFETY TIPS

- Be prepared for the winter heating season by
- testing your smoke alarms & carbon dioxide detectors
 - having your chimney cleaned if you burn wood
 - having a family evacuation plan with an outside meeting place in case of a fire
 - not leaving electric heaters unattended
 - cleaning out your dryer filters
 - changing your furnace filter. This is not only a safety tip, but it can help you save on your heating bill.

Note: Heating assistance is available for qualified families through the Allegan County Department of Human Service at 673-7700 (as well as Love, INC).

LEE TWP CEMETERY RULES- a reminder to all

Below is a quick summary of the Ordinance for Lee Township Cemetery. The complete ordinance can be found on the township website. *Section 8: Ground Maintenance-*

In order that a landscaping scheme may be maintained the following rules apply to the cemetery:

- No enclosure of any nature such as fences, hedges or ditches shall be constructed around any lots;
- No toys or objects of similar description shall be placed on any gravesite;
- No trees, shrubs or plants shall be planted, pruned or removed without the consent of the cemetery township board;
- No graves or lots shall be raised or lowered above or below the established grade;
- No crushed stone, bark or gravel is to be placed on any lot;
- Rock, cement, wood or iron in any form are not permitted to be used as a stone marker;
- All flowers will be in approved containers (no glass) and must be placed in the headstone row;
- All decoration (artificial flower, plastic baskets, etc.) placed upon lots that become unsightly, will be removed without notice. All artificial decorations will be removed during spring and fall clean up.

LOVE, INC PULLMAN NETWORK

The Pullman Love, INC office is open Wednesdays and Fridays Noon to 3:30pm to serve families in need. Donations are needed for the food and personal needs pantries. Items most needed are: canned soups, fruits, vegetables and cereal. Sponsor-a-Family is an annual ministry that coordinates families in need and those who can help meet their needs at Christmas time. If you are interested in helping contact Ann at 269-236-6295. Families needing heat or electric assistance this winter season can contact Love, INC at 269-236-6295 or stop by the office at 943 56th St.

Love In the Name of Christ of Pullman was blessed with \$5050.00 to purchase winter coats and Douglas Christian Neighbors was awarded \$5000.00 to purchase diapers.

Women Who Care of Allegan County believes smaller donations can be powerful. At each quarterly meeting, three members of the group will present a five minute explanation of a 501(c) (3) non-profit, local organization or agency. A vote is taken and a winner is announced. Each woman writes a check to the winning group for \$100.00. Membership is opened to any woman who is willing to make a commitment of \$400.00 per year. For more information please call Diane Christensen at 616-335-8215.

NEW FACES AT PULLMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Lee Township welcomes Jonathan Swegels, new principal, Maria Sanchez, school secretary and Amy Lambrix, 3rd grade teacher to Pullman Elementary School.

Mr. Swegles comes to us from Bangor where he taught social studies at the Middle School and 3rd grade at Linden Elementary School. He also served as the district Curriculum Coord., K-12 social studies Dept. Chair and was a member of the building School Improvement Team. He has also coached softball, basketball and cross-country. He is a graduate of MSU and GVSU.

Due to increased enrollment Mrs. Amy Lambrix has been hired to teach an additional 3rd grade class and is a graduate of Western Governors University where she earned her Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education. Amy had been an instructional paraprofessional at Moorsbridge Elementary School in Portage.

Upcoming School Dates to Remember:

- November 15— 1:00 p.m. Senior Citizens Luncheon
- November 28-29— Thanksgiving Recess – No School
- December 2-6—Santa’s Secret Shop
- December 12—Winter Music Program
- December 23-Jan 3— Christmas Break
- January 30 —1½ Day for Students – a.m.; Parent/Teacher conferences – p.m.

SMOKE DETECTORS SAVE LIVES

Smoke detectors have saved literally tens of thousands of lives, and prevented hundreds of thousands of injuries over the years. They are cheap, easy to install, and you can pick them up at hardware or home improvement stores. How many do you need? At a bare minimum, you need at least one for every level of your house. You should test your smoke detectors on a regular basis. Most smoke detectors have a button marked TEST, and you simply push it in. If the alarm sounds, it’s fine. If it doesn’t, either the detector has gone bad or the battery is worn out.

2013 WINTER TAX INFORMATION

Tax bills will be mailed by December 1st. Please check your bill upon receipt for possible errors. Errors may be corrected at the December Board of Review scheduled for Tuesday December 10th at 1:30pm at the Township Hall.

The Treasurer will collect tax at the Township Office on Tuesdays (9am – 12pm) and Fridays (9am - 5pm) the months of December, January, and February. A 3% penalty will be added to winter tax paid after February 14th. Payment must be received by due date, postmarks are not honored.

Unpaid Summer 2013 tax must be paid at the Township (interest added 1% per month beginning September 15, 2013).

Beginning March 1, 2014 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. Verify the correct amount to be paid by contacting the County Treasurer's Office at 673-0260 or www.allegancounty.org. *Defer penalty and interest*

Qualifying senior citizens or permanently disabled persons may defer penalty and interest on tax payments until April 30th for **Homeowner’s Principal Residence only**. Notify the Township Treasurer to apply for a **Deferment Application** at the receipt of your tax bill.

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.
- 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.
- Pullman Branch Library is open Monday- Friday, 3 - 6 pm and Saturday, 10-12 pm. Fennville District Library now offers free library cards to Lee Township residents.
- Transfer Station hours (year round) are 9 am - 3 pm Saturday and Sunday only (no Wednesday hours).

Cemetery

Reminder: grave sites must be kept within the rules that are posted in the cemetery and are available in print at the Township Office.

General Township Information

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

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 Gaidikas, Trustee 236-6119
- Heather Mitchell, Assessor 269-978-8274
- Dan Poll, Building Inspector 673-3239
- Ted Chamberlain, Interim Fire Chief 236-5988
- Albert Rawson, First Responders 434-6477
- Ryan Brown, Twp Deputy 673-0500
- Lee Township Transfer Station 236-6485

Township Ordinances, are available at the Township office or can be viewed at the official Lee Township website.

The Lee Township Board welcomes all comments and suggestions either by mail, e-mail, fax or left at the office.

CHURCH NEWS

Bravo Christian Reform - 5587 113th Ave. (113th & 56th St.), Fennville, Pastor Peter DeHaan, 269-235-5037. Service times: Sunday 10 am. Open to all. Singing and Bible reading 6:30 - 7:00 and Bible study classes 7:00 - 7:30 pm. Sonshine Thrift Store Tues-Sat 10-4. Something for everyone. Donations accepted.

Fresh Start Gospel Church - 5581 109th Ave., Pullman, Pastor Jim Blackston, 269-655-6172. Sunday Worship Service 5 pm; Bible Friendship Group Service, Wed. 6:30pm. Potluck held second Sunday of every other month.

Horseshoe Bible Church -104th Ave, Pastor Don Miller. Sunday School 10am, Worship 11am; Wed. prayers study 6:30pm.

Mt. Calvary MB Church - 5424 105th, PO Box 36, Pullman, Pastor Knox, Service times: Sunday School 10 am; Morning Worship 11:30 am.

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church - 558 58th St. Pullman, Pastor Steppney Black, 236-5693 or 5722. Service times: Sunday School 9:30 am; Morning Worship 11 am.

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

Pullman Ridge Point Church –Old Congregational Church now Pullman Community Center just north of 109th on 56th St, Pastor Lisa Todd. Service 6:30 Thursday with meal served afterward.

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., 236-5011, Pastor William Richardson 616-644-4153. Worship Services: Sabbath school- Saturday 9:30 am; Divine worship 11 am; Bible Study Thursday 6 pm.



Al-Van Humane Society

Adopt Volunteer Donate Advocate

Al-Van Humane Society continues to provide emergency shelter and care for animals in Allegan and Van Buren counties. Lee Township continues to have the highest numbers of animals surrendered to Al-Van from all of the townships within Allegan County. As of October 1st, 71 animals have been surrendered. Donation boxes in Preferred Market and Pizza Plus have collected about \$300 a year for the shelter. Thanks to everyone's generosity the cats and dogs in our community are getting the help they need. **Saturday December 7th will be Al-Van Humane Society’s Annual Open House.** Come and tour to the shelter located at 73303 8th Ave in South Haven between 11am-2pm. If you are able, please bring an item to restock their shelves. Top items on their wish list: cat litter, Purina dog and cat food, bleach, paper towels, large garbage bags, towels and blankets.



Country Life Natural Foods

UPCOMING COUNTRY LIFE PROGRAM (NO CHARGE)

Oak Haven, 641 52nd St., Pullman, MI 49450 ~ **Nov. 24th-Sunday, 4:00 to 6:00 pm—Men in the Kitchen-** recipes, demos, samples and power point “Coping with Stress” **By Reservation Only** ~ For more information or to register call 269-236-8326 or email patty@clnf.org