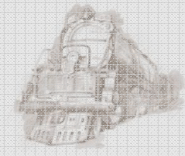


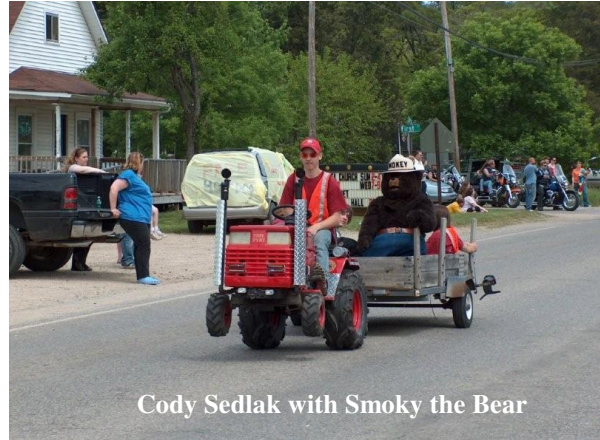
Lee Crossings



Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan

Summer 2009

The 2009 Lee Township Memorial Day Parade was a truly remarkable event with hundreds of residents coming out to pay tribute to our veterans, both at the parade site and at the Lee Township Cemetery following. Although there are too many people to thank and in the hopes of not forgetting anyone, let it be said that this event is truly the work of a community coming together. Spearheaded by Tom and Pat Nolan and the local VFW, local business owners, churches, the cemetery committee and citizen volunteers worked hard to produce a memorable event for all. To top it off Tom Metz cooked up and the VFW served over 100 free chicken dinners at the VFW that evening. A big thank you to all who had a hand in making the Memorial Day celebration a day to remember.



Cody Sedlak with Smoky the Bear



Columbia, Clyde & Fennville Township fire trucks joined Lee Township in this year's parade



Lead Honor Guard Jamie Austin and singer Tonya Austin



Bloomingdale High School marching band



The local Shriners

STUDENTS RAISE MONEY FOR PARK

On Saturday May 16th, 60 Pullman Elementary students got up early and walked...and walked...and walked! They had all gotten sponsors to raise money to purchase picnic tables for the pavilion at the new park. The students raised \$2, 419.00 that purchased 6 picnic tables. Students and staff had a great time. A huge THANK YOU goes out to 4th grade teacher Maria Kahler for organizing this very successful event and for everyone who sponsored the children walking.



Love INC Pullman Office is Open

The Love INC Pullman Office opened on Wednesday, June 3rd. It was a great first day- over 20 families were served with support from collaborating ministries and churches in Pullman. The office, located in the People Helping People building (943 56th Street) will be open every Wednesday and Friday from 12:00 (noon) to 3 pm. Families in need are able to receive food and personal needs items. Love INC Pullman encourages appointments to be made by calling (269) 355-2731. Martha Cerda, a Pullman resident of 20 years, has been hired as the Love INC Pullman Director. Martha is bilingual (English/Spanish). We hope to begin a LIFE skills Program for the Pullman area in October. Please call if you have questions or would like to donate food

WELCOME OFFICER FRANCK

Lee Township recently welcomed its newest officer, Deputy Kevin Franck, who replaced Deputy Bill Greene. Deputy Franck had been with the City of Allegan for 5 1/2 years and with Allegan Sheriff's Department since last October.



Deputy Franck is married and has a 3 1/2 year old son. He looks forward to working in a small town atmosphere and says it already feels like a family. If you have any questions for Deputy Franck you can reach him at (269) 673-0500 ext 4404.

Come Out and Celebrate Pullman Pride 2009 Saturday, July 18th 9 am-5 pm

This is a local annual Lee Township event to celebrate community pride and friendship. It is also used as a way to give back. Some of the proceeds are used to award two \$500.00 college scholarships to graduating seniors who live in Lee Township (see scholarship winner essays in this issue). Our goal is to have a day where family, friends, neighbors and those just visiting can come and spend time together eating, shopping, playing games, and spending time together in our rural yet growing township.

Please mark your calendar and come out (rain or shine) on July 18th for games, food, raffles, flea market, silent auction, pony rides, informational booths, crafters, and music. Bingo will be offered again in the township hall sponsored by Ray of Light Church. Chicken dinners and a variety of other food will be available throughout the day, including a pancake breakfast from 8-11 am in the Pullman Elementary School cafeteria.

If you have any questions please contact Pam Rawson at 269-434-6477.



Kids Games



Food Booth provided

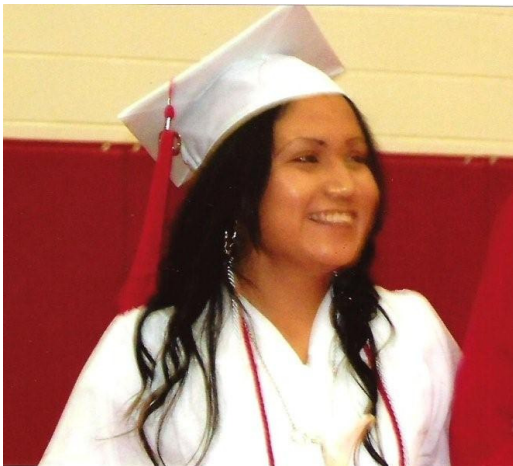
2009 PULLMAN PRIDE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

Hello, my name is **Maydely Garcia** and I would like to tell you a little bit about myself. I am from Mexico and have been living here in Pullman Michigan for 6 years and I am a student from Bloomingdale High School. I am proud to be a Pullman/Lee Township resident. When I first moved here I did not like it but now after 6 years have passed I like it because it is a calm and safe place. I also like it because I have grocery stores and gas stations close to my house. Pullman is a very clean place and I have good neighbors. The people around town are very polite and friendly. I really love Pullman and I am proud to live here.

After graduation I plan to continue my education by moving to Kalamazoo and attending Kalamazoo Valley Community College for 2 years. Then I will transfer to Western Michigan University for my bachelors' degree. My goal is to be a bilingual teacher.

Before I moved here I wanted to be an actress, but when I entered this school my goals have changed. My first years were really hard. The first day was an especially hard day, a nightmare for me, because I did not understand anything. Now, many days have passed and I have set my goal to become a bilingual teacher. I still have some hard times, but I tell myself when I am a bilingual teacher I will help students and adults who don't know English. I will teach students who want to learn Spanish so they can have the same opportunities as I had. This scholarship will help me obtain my goal. Hopefully you can help me make my dream come true.

Well, now you know why I am proud to be a Pullman/Lee Township resident and my future goal. Thank you for your time in reading my essay.



My name is **Amelia Echevarria**, and I am a senior from Bloomingdale High School. Why am I proud of being a Pullman Township resident? The reason is that it is a really calm place to live. My family and I have lived here for 19 years. I attended school in Pullman from kindergarten through 6th grade. My teachers were wonderful. They loved me a lot because I was one of their best students, and I always had the enthusiasm of being ready to learn. My hard work and on time assignments were the main thing that would impress them. They have given me many skills and advice to reach my goals, which is why I am the person I am today. The town of Pullman has had many events and festivals that I have gone to. I have enjoyed living here and so has my family.

In September 2009 I will be attending Baker College in Muskegon, and working towards my Associates Degree as I study to become a registered nurse. I love helping people and know, truly know, that a degree in nursing is the right choice for me. I am proud of showing people that I can be someone in this world no matter how difficult it is to get to the top. If there are people in this world that accomplished their dreams, why can't I? I have put all the effort I can possibly give and I'm happy with my results, receiving an A in all my classes. I feel that my work has been gratifying to God and my family, and they have been with me through the bad and good situations. Being a Latina student I can serve as a role model and encourage many other Latinos pursuing a healthcare degree or any kind of degree. I can encourage them not to give up on their dreams, try their hardest to accomplish their dreams, and just like me if I am awarded your scholarship, I will give back to the community by being the best nurse, role model, and citizen possible. I would like to show all young Latinos getting a degree is possible for them as well as for me.

Wetland Mitigation - Go See!

One of only 2 sites in Michigan

The wetland site is fenced in with high mounds of sand. The reason for this site is Klett Development requested the DEQ allow them to fill some wetlands in South Haven. In order to develop a subdivision, called "Lighthouse Village", the developer had to access some of the property through wetlands. In exchange for allowing the wetland fill the DEQ agreed to have Klett buy 40 acres on 58th, dig 13 acres of wetland type level, and plant wetland plants. The sand mounds at present are being removed from the site for fill on I-196.

For the future of the wetland site, Harold Schmacher, owner partner, Brett Geier, Bloomingdale School Superintendent and Chuck Pugh, Lee Crossing reporter, will be investigating whether this site could be donated to the school district for a wetland study site for science classes.

If the donation is established, there will be a future article in Lee Crossings.



North of 109th on 58th - 1/3 mile from 109th on the east side of the road.



July Board of Review

The Assessor has authorized the **Board of Review to convene on July 20, 2009 at 4:30 pm 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.

2009 Clean Team Season

The 2009 Clean Team season has already begun but volunteers are always needed. We even have brand new (donated) orange vests for safety. Mark your calendars and join us! We meet at the Township Hall.

Saturday, July 11 from 9 – 11 (due to heat)

Saturday, August 8 from 9 - 11 (due to heat)

Saturday, September 10 from 10 am – Noon

Saturday, October 10th from 10 am – Noon

Saturday, November 7th from 10 am – Noon



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.
-

2009 -2010 Budget

The board approved the budget for the fiscal year April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010

	Revenue	Expenses
General Fund	\$500,309.00	\$652,849.00
Fire Department	\$251,780.12	\$142,365.00
First Responders		\$ 55,043.00

FREE COUPONS FOR THE TRANSFER STATION

At the June Township Board meeting, the board passed a continuation of free coupons which will be mailed in the summer tax bills. The board continues to promote community "clean-up".

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

Steve Miller, Supervisor 214-6276
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk 214-1250
Jessie Lowery, Treasurer 434-6614
Steppney (Steve) Black, Trustee 236-5693
Bruce Ferguson Trustee 434-6507
Doug Brousseau, Assessor 699-7619
Paul Shamblin, Building Inspector 628-5255
Nelvin DeWeerd, Fire Chief 236-5492
Ted Chamberlain, Asst. Fire Chief 236-5988
Albert Rawson, First Responders 434-6477
Mark Lytle and Kevin Franck Twp Deputies 673-0500
Lee Township Transfer Station 236-6485

Featured Church

Do you need prayers, uplifting, someone to care for you, encouragement? **Welcome to The Ray of Light Church of God.** Our services start at 10:00 am and 6:00 pm on Sundays and 6:30 pm on Wednesdays. You will be received



with open arms, warm hearts and lots of love. The foundation of this house has been built on the word of God. We teach and preach according to the Bible. You will feel the presence of the Lord move upon you as we praise and worship Him. Senior Pastor Mary Hoots has a heart of gold and treats everyone with the same love and kindness. Pastor Bud Bradford knows how to get the spirit of the Lord moving through our church with evangelism and Pastor Art Thomas uses props with heart of the subject in the same- the word of God and getting his message across to anyone and everyone who will listen. The little church with the big heart is apparent as our church family helps each other in times of need showing love, care and support. We have church members who will call you if you are sick or going through difficult times or they may just sense you need someone to talk to and prayer. At Thanksgiving and Christmas we prepare food baskets to give to families in need. And most recently God has blessed us with the resources necessary to start a food pantry to help people in our community. We want you to be part of our family too. Come on over and see what the Lord has to offer you.

Romans 10:13 Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

CHURCH NEWS

Bravo Christian Reform - 1317 56th St, Fennville, Pastor Don Jabaay, 236-5500. Service Times: Sunday 10 am; House of Mercy (emergency food and clothing) Wednesday 12:30 -3 pm; Family Night Worship/free dinner Wednesday 5:30 pm.

Horseshoe Community Bible Church - 4950 104th Ave., Grand Junction, Pastor Don Miller, Service Times: Sunday School 10 am, Morning Worship 11 am, Evening Service 6 pm.
Mt. Calvary M B Church- 5424 -105th 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., 236-5011, Pastor William Richardson 616-364-5697 Service Times: Saturday Bible Study 9:20 am and Worship at 11 am.

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE SPECIALIST TO SPEAK IN PULLMAN

Are you interested in learning more about simple, natural methods to take better control of your health? Then this weekend is for you! Agatha Thrash, M.D. will be speaking at Oak Haven/Country Life Natural Foods the weekend of July 31- August 2. Dr. Thrash is the Director of Uchee Pines Institute, established in 1970 by Calvin Thrash M.D., specialist in Internal Medicine (no deceased), and his wife Agatha, board specialist in pathology. It is a non-profit, health educational and treatment facility located in the country near Seale, Alabama, 15 miles from Columbus, Georgia.

Uchee Pines is dedicated to helping those suffering from the lifestyle illnesses of today that are killing millions of people in the western world every year. Uchee Pines is committed to assisting people through the use of simple, natural methods, using exercise, nutrition, hydrotherapy, massage, the rational and judicious use of some herbs and supplements, and firm faith in the Divine Healer. Since 1975, thousands have been helped at the Lifestyle Center. A dedicated and professional staff help patients adopt a new lifestyle, often halting or reversing the damage of diabetes, coronary heart disease, hypertension, or a host of other lifestyle related diseases.

We are excited to have Dr. Thrash speak in Pullman, and we hope you will consider joining us for a weekend packed with beneficial information for the whole family.

For more information and schedule details, contact patty@clnf.org or call 269-236-5011, ext 326. You can also visit Uchee Pine's website at www.ucheeepines.org

Lee Township Regular Board Meeting Synopsis of Minutes

April 3, 2009 -Special Meeting

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to compare and select an engineering firm to complete the grant process for the construction of a new fire station and township hall. A motion was approved to retain the services of Midwest Civil Engineering in South Haven to satisfy the necessary requirements for grant purposes.

April 13, 2009 -Regular Meeting

Motions passed to approve the March 9, 2009 Regular meeting, Special Meeting of April 3, 2009 and the Budget Meeting on March 28, 2009.

Motion passed to receive the treasurer's report as presented. A motion passed to approve the request for a noise variance for the rodeo scheduled on May 10 and May 24th from 1-9 pm located at 4875 104th, Grand Junction. A motion passed to approve the name change for the Pullman Tavern from State Flights LLC. A motion passed to make the final budget adjustments and to expenditures.

A motion was passed to authorize the clerk to pay the bills as presented.

A motion was passed to authorize the clerk to publish the Spring Clean-up notice before April 30th.

May 6, 2009 Special Meeting

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to give an update on the developments with the new property in consideration for the new fire station along with a noise ordinance variance for Jason Schmidt for his Mud Run and discussion on problems with the Port -a- John company.

Motion was passed to authorize the Supervisor to proceed with ordering a survey to allow the project to move forward for consideration as a possible purchase.

Motion was passed to approve a one time waiver for May 9th to be held on 479 58th Street from 11:00 am. To 7:00 pm.

May 11, 2009 Regular Meeting

Motions were passed to approve the minutes of the April 13th Regular Board Meeting, minutes of the Special Meeting held on May 6, 2009 and to approve the Treasurer's report as presented.

A motion was passed to approve the work order for the yearly Dust Control in the amount of approximately \$52,000.00.

A motion was passed to retain the services of Siegfried & Crandall for the annual audit.

A motion was passed to authorize the clerk to pay the bills in the amount of \$32,097.60.

A motion was passed to approved the payment of the Election Inspectors from the May 5th Election.

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

SUMMER TAX COLLECTION

The Treasurer will collect tax at the **Township Office on Fridays (9 am- 12 pm & 1 pm - 5 pm)** the months of July, August and September. Interest penalty will be added to taxes paid after September 14th. Summer Tax 2009 can be paid to Lee Township Treasurer until February 28, 2010. - ***Tax Receipt will not be mailed unless requested. The bottom portion of the tax bill*** should be presented when paying tax, either by mail or in person. Make address changes on the notice. Pay by check or money order for the exact amount of the taxes and make payable to LEE TOWNSHIP TREASURER
P.O. Box 280, Pullman, MI 49450.

Deferment of Summer Taxes- Michigan residents may defer payment of tax until the time of that winter taxes are due. If they meet the following criteria:

1. The principle residence of the person 62 years or older.
2. Person with a certified disability
3. Property that is classified or used as agricultural property.

Complete a form available through the Treasurer's Office or www.leetwp.org to receive the deferral. The form must be filed by September 15, 2009.

UPDATE ON FIRE STATION & TWP HALL

For the past year the township has been looking into the need of upgrading its current Fire Station and Township Hall. These buildings were originally built in 1968. The buildings that we are in now are too small and not cost efficient. The Fire Station is small and the firefighters have no place to store their gear. There is no ventilation to get rid of the diesel smoke. The smoke then filters through the furnace and gets into the Township Hall. This alone is a health hazard. The walls in the township hall building are black from this smoke. The hall is getting too small. As we are getting more residents in attendance the room will not accommodate everyone in the near future. The fuel bills are very large running around \$1,000.00 per month during the cold winter months. The furnace is working overtime to try to keep the building warm. The offices are too small for the Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer with the long term storage area over crowded as well.

The initial parcel considered on 56th St after much research was far too costly of an option. So we started to look at other parcels in the township. These parcels were located West and South of Pullman. Two parcels were considered West of Pullman, but found to be too low with many yards of fill required to be brought to a level necessary for building. It was also decided that being the West side of the tracks would hamper the emergency response vehicles in case they had to wait for a train. Most of the response calls are South and East of Pullman. We looked at a parcel located at 108th and 56th Street but it was determined that this parcel was also too low and too much work would have to be done to build a new building on it.

The parcel we are considering now is located East of Pullman near Beech Street. This parcel being 1.57 acres belongs to William Wesbey. He offered this property for \$40,000.00. This sounds like a lot, which is it but it is in a good location and the property is high and dry. The Health Department has done a soil bore and ground water could not be detected at 9 feet. Water for the Fire Department will be plentiful. Minimal fill will have to be brought in. All in all, buying this piece of property would be cheaper than the other parcels that were considered. We are going through a land split at this time and Midwest Civil engineer in South Haven are going to handle all the engineering and oversee the construction of the new facility.

Although there are no specific plans for the current buildings, possibilities include the Fire Station and Township Hall could be renovated and developed into a larger library or possibly sold to the Bloomingdale School District if there was interest. It was determined that the property that the present Fire Station and Township Hall site is too small to build a new facility.

We now are applying for a government grant to help with the funding of this project. The amount has not been established as of yet, but it should be somewhere in the area of

\$50,000.00 to \$75,000.00. All decisions made regarding this project have been based on the cost effectiveness to the township. At this time a building committee has not been set up. All information and resolutions will be brought before the board. All tax payers will be kept fully informed to what is going on through public meetings. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Steve Miller at 269-214-6276

TOWNSHIP ROADS – Pot Holes, High Water, Road Closures

This winter and spring have been very rough on the township roads. Although it has been very unusual weather, the roads and roadways have shown how weak they are.

Because of the road conditions, a township road committee has been formed. The committee members are John Cravens, Sally Lacy, Babe Laraway, Chuck Pugh, Les Rawson and Ray Russell. The committee assignment is to survey the township roads to see what improvements are needed, to gather county road information and other sources of road information and to make a report to the township board in September.

Of all the roads in the township, the county is only responsible to maintain roadways, culverts and bridges on 56th from Baseline to 112th, 109th from 60th to 48th, 60th from Baseline to 109th and 102nd from 60th to 54th (curve), 103rd from 54th to 52nd curve, 104th from 52nd to 48th. The county does provide snow plowing, grading, and minor gravel and ditch work with all road signage on all roads. All other roads, whether paved or gravel, are the responsibility of the township. Each year the township pays for major graveling, major ditch work, dust control and right-away mowing. Also, the township is responsible for maintenance of all bridges and culverts not maintained by the county.

As of June 1st, the township has major road problems including potholes, flooded roads and culvert and bridge problems. One example is the wash out of the culvert on 102nd between 49th and 48th. At present the road is one lane. In order to have the road be 2 lanes, a new culvert has to be installed at an estimated cost of \$140 - \$180 thousand. This would be a township expense.

The last year the township had road millage was 1999. All road expenses since 1999 were paid for from general revenues (state sales tax sharing). These expenses at times have been major. Contact the road committee with your suggestions and /or comments.



SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BUSINESS

Al's Citgo
Back Door Video
Baylor Buddy Johns
Belitas Taco & Grocery
Bell's Grocery
Bodtke Farms
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
Simpsarosa Riding Stables
Studio 109- Forever Tan
T & J Trucking
Terry's Auto Sales
Thin-Spin Productions
Walkers Tire & Lube
Warner Camp