



Lee Crossings



Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan

Summer 2012

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PULLMAN PRIDE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

2012 marks the 10th year Lee Township has celebrated Pullman Pride Day (always the 3rd Saturday in July). And this year is no exception. When no one else stepped up to take over the planning of this annual event, three people who have served on the committee in previous years, Pam Rawson, Lisa Galdikas, and Shirley Kay stepped up to make sure that the scholarships were awarded and that the annual event would take place. It was heartwarming to see many of the 7 scholarship applicants mentioned their involvement and participation in Pullman Pride Day in years past. Our hope is that in a few years as these young people graduate they come back and play an active role in the events of the Township, including Pullman Pride Day. Following are excerpts from the two \$500 scholarship winners (two \$250 scholarships were also awarded to graduates Marissa Sustaita and Lauren Curley). Congratulations to all the applicants.

Luis Fernando Silva

My family came to the United States for a chance to obtain a better future, to escape from poverty and more significantly, to find a better life for all of us in our family. Going to college is not something I want. It is something I need. My parents have sacrificed many things to live in this country. They gave up their extended family just to get us here. It is my personal goal to become an engineer, as it is the only career that would fit me. Ever since I could remember, I have had an interest in how everything works. Living in Lee Township has influenced my life by keeping me out of gang life more common in bigger cities. Lee Township is a very peaceful community where it is safe for children to play outside. It has a friendly environment where everybody helps his or her fellow man. I have lived in Pullman for the past 12 years of my life and this place holds a special place in my heart. Once my dream of becoming an engineer is a reality, I will be more than happy to give back to my community that saw me grow up and mature from a child. I believe God has a reward for every good deed that a person has done thus I strive to help wherever help is needed. My G.P.A. reads above a 4.0 and I have



received multiple awards for outstanding student in science, math, English and health. I am also a member of the National Honor Society and am dedicated to upholding its high standards by being a leader and working to better my school and community.

Brian E. Larabel

I was raised by a man who impacted many people's lives in a positive way. My first personal goal is to live up to my dad's expectations and fill his shoes. The two greatest hardships that I have faced in my life have been the loss of both my parents and being raised in a family with a rather limited income. Another of my personal goals is to defy the stereotypes about small schools, with my non-weighted 3.927 G.P.A. and a 28 on the ACT. I want people to know that just because I am from this little town does not mean that I can not be as successful as the big town boys. My third personal goal is to become a successful runner. Participation in sports has been a huge part of my life. I have been a member of the Bloomingdale Cross Country team for 3 years, Captain for 3 years and completed my 4th season of track and field. I hope to graduate from college with a degree in mechanical engineering. One has to serve people in order to become a successful leader. My first volunteer opportunity was safety guard at Pullman Elementary. From that point I was hooked and understood how important it was to help others. I umpired Pullman Youth Baseball, helped out with Pullman Pride days and with the Terry Laraway memorial activities. In November 2009, my dad died in my arms. Most of the paramedics that were at my dad's side were Lee Township residents. When they realized he was gone one paramedic was very polite, respectful, and loving when she delivered the news. After this tragic event I learned how amazing Lee Township really is.



MEMORIAL DAY

Record heat could not keep residents from coming out to enjoy the annual Memorial Day parade sponsored by the VFW. Thanks to all who participated in the parade and the service at the Lee Township cemetery.



“PRIDE IN THE PARK” 10TH ANNUAL PULLMAN PRIDE DAY SATURDAY JULY 21ST 8AM-3PM

Get the family ready for a great day. A pancake breakfast at the new fire station on 109th kicks things off from 8-11 am. From 9am-3pm the activities take place at the park adjacent to the elementary school where some annual favorites as well as new additions will provide something for everyone, including: a community flea market and craft fair, silent auction, music, dance performances, book sale, face painting, public safety demonstrations, voter registration, community health clinic, art project, inflatable, soccer and basketball, animals to pet and Bingo. A free hotdog & chips lunch and ice cream will also be provided thanks to Love, INC, Preferred Market and Prairie Farms. Pullman Elementary students will compete in a “Stuff the Bus” competition to see which grade level brings in the most donated items that day to stuff in a school bus (donated items can be either school supplies, canned or nonperishable food items or bleach, Purina dog and cat food, kitty litter, paper towels, leashes and collars for the local animal shelter.) **There is still time to get involved!** Contact Pam Rawson at 434-6477 or Lisa Galdikas at 236-6119. New activities are still being added so come out and have fun.

DRAIN PROJECT TO GET UNDERWAY

The long-awaited Scott Creek and Branch Drain extension project will begin construction late summer or early fall. The 6 to 8 week project should help to relieve the flooding in this area of our Township. This ditching project will effect drivers who travel east along 109th Ave between 48th Ave and Upper and Lower Scott Lakes. Residents in that drainage district should also budget for a modest increase in their drain assessment for installation and maintenance of the new drain.

SPECIAL THANKS GOES OUT TO:

- Debbie Laraway and family who hosted this year’s Easter Egg decorating for the children in our community.
- Ridgepoint VBS youth who spent a week in June in Pullman picking up roadside trash, planting flowers at our downtown businesses and running a yard sale to raise money for the Lee Township Holiday Social.
- All those who helped with the planning of the new Fire Station dedication and Open House.
- All those who participated in the 5th Annual Terry Laraway Memorial Motorcycle Ride this year. Thanks also to all those who volunteered, donated, bought a dinner, raffle ticket or auction item or supported us in any way--we appreciate it all!

Remember to shop locally and support our local business owners. There is a listing of businesses on the Lee Township website www.leetwp.org and in the fall and spring newsletter.

2011 CLEAN TEAM DATES:

Volunteers are asked to meet at the start time at the Township office.

July 14 & Aug 11, 9 a.m., Sept. 8 & Oct. 13 10:00 a.m.

The commitment is just 2 hours once a month and you don’t have to commit to every month. If you have a teen that needs to do community service this is the perfect opportunity. All we ask is that a parent or grandparent participate with their child (including bringing them and picking them up and supervising them). You can reach Donna or Gene at 236-5121 from 9am-6pm or email at donnaallgaierlamberti@gmail.com.

LOOK WHAT’S UP AT PHP AND LOVE, INC

Love, INC continues to have open enrollment for their Life Skills program. Program participants can access many of the other services including food and personal care pantries. A Youth Enrichment Program (YEP) is just getting underway for girls who just completed the fourth grade. What a great opportunity for our young girls to get connected to a supportive group of people as they face many life transitions. For information on either program contact Martha Cerda at 236-6295.

People Helping People (PHP) sponsored a Hungry for Christ food distribution on June 6th which provided many local families with nutritional meals. The 5th annual Community Pig Roast will take place Saturday August 25th at 5pm. The first annual Pullman Pulse 5K walk/run will also take place on August 25th. Anyone interested in participating should contact Jennifer Hoogveen, Event Coordinator at 616-510-5275.

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR COMMUNITY

For the second summer in a row Lee Township has sponsored a community clean up. Last year People Helping People teamed up with the Township for two dumpsters that residents could bring their household trash to dispose of free of charge. This year Lee Township was awarded a \$3000.00 DNR grant to dispose of clean passenger tires. Residents could drop off and pick ups were scheduled to help those who could not transport. In total over 1,900 tires were collected on Saturday June 9th (2 tractor trailers full). It was a long hot day but well worth the effort. Thanks to all the residents who stepped up and brought in tires and to all of our volunteers from Pullman and Ridgepoint Church in Holland for another successful clean up effort.



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. Pullman Branch Library is looking for volunteers. Contact Debbie Laraway @ 236-5590.
- 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 or 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 Avenue.

Township Board Members & Department Staff *Township Office 236-6485*

Steve Miller, Supervisor 236-6485
Jacquelyn Ann King, Clerk 236-5129
Jessie Lowery, Treasurer 434-6614
Steppney (Steve) Black, Trustee 236-5693
Bruce Ferguson, Trustee 434-6507
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
Ross Mysliwicz, 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. House of Mercy in conjunction with Love INC (emergency food and clothing) Wednesday 12:30 - 3 pm; Family Night Worship Wednesday until April 13th, 5:30 to 6:30 pm dinner. 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 6 pm; Bible Friendship Group Service, Wed. 7-9 pm. Potluck held second Sunday of every other month.

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 MB Church - 5424 105th, Pullman, Pastor Rev. A.G. Bailey, Service times: Sunday School 10 am; Morning Worship 11 am; Bible Study & Prayer Meeting Tuesdays 5:30 pm.

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 Country Chapel - 5769 106th Ave, Pullman, 236-9869. Service times: Sunday School 10 am and Worship Service 11 am and 6 pm and Wednesday at 7 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 616-644-4153. Worship Services: Sabbath school- Saturday 9:30 am; Divine worship 11 am; Prayer meeting Wednesday 7 pm.

SUMMER 2012 TAX INFORMATION

The Treasurer will collect taxes at the Township office on Fridays 9 am-5 pm the months of July, August and September. Interest will be added to taxes paid after September 14th. Summer tax bills can be paid to Lee Township Treasurer until February 28, 2013.

Summer deferment Form may be filed to defer payment of tax 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 summer 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, 2012.

BOARD OF REVIEW IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 17TH 6PM AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL FOR ERRORS AND OMISSIONS.

ROAD MILLAGE PUT TO WORK

This summer begins the three-year process of repairing Township roads using our road millage. On June 5th the Township Board held a special meeting to decide which roads to repair first. With advice from Larry Brown, Allegan County Road Commission and the Road Committee, the following recommendations were made: 105th from 53rd to 56th - 1 ½ miles; 58th from 105th to 109th - 2 miles; 103rd from 50th to 52nd - 1 mile. (Note: 54th from 110th to 112th improvements are at county expense.) The first year millage collection was \$116,800. It is the hope of the Board and the Road Committee that \$116,800 will be able to complete the above 4 ½ miles of roads.

LEE TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER
877 56TH STREET
PO BOX 427
PULLMAN, MI 49450

Synopsis of Lee Township Board Minutes

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

February 13, 2012-Regular Board Meeting

Motion made to approve the Regular Board Meeting minutes from January 9, 2012 and to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Ken Draisma from People Helping People read a letter to the board regarding a possible future collaboration with the Township and the old church building. Deputy Ross reported 64 calls for the month of January and presented needed repairs on the patrol car. Motion was made to have the ABS system repaired as necessary. Chief DeWeerd reported 99 fire calls for 2011. 9 calls in the month of January. Building inspector reported 9 permits issued for a total property value of \$16,700. Transfer Station collected \$370 and 28 tickets. DEQ Grant was submitted on behalf of the township for free tire disposal. Motion made to authorize the Clerk to publish March Board of Review notice. Motion made to approve waiver of penalty for property taxes to be extended to February 28, 2012.

Motion made to approve payment to BCI \$22,611.67.

Motion made to approve the bills as presented.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm.

March 12, 2012-Regular Board Meeting

Motion made to donate coffee pot from the kitchen to Al-Van Humane Society. Motion made to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 12, 2012 and accept the Treasurer's report as presented. County Commissioner gave an update on the jail project. No deputy report. Fire department reported 4 calls in February. First responders reported 19 calls for the month of February. Motion made to purchase protective gear and helmets for the First Responders. Building inspector reported 6 permits issued in February with a total improvement cost of \$96,000. More details are being worked out with the joint project of the old church building and PHP/Love, INC. Transfer Station received \$445.00 and 13 tickets. Motion made to adopt the 2012 Federal Poverty Guidelines. Cathy Thaler, Executive Director of Al-Van Humane Society presented information on the services Lee Township receives. Motion made to sign a contract with Al-Van Humane Society for \$750.00 annually to care for animals from Lee Township. Motion made to have contracts for Building Inspector and Cemetery Sexton by the recommendation of the State and Township Auditors. Motion made to approve contract of dust control for \$16,500 per application. Motion was made to authorize the Clerk to pay the Board of Review members upon receipt of the time sheets. Motion made to publish the notice for the Annual Meeting on March 31st at 10am. Motion was made to approve the bills as presented. Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 9:25pm.

March 31, 2012-Annual Budget Meeting

Discussion regarding the budget and the cost for the upcoming drain project. Motion was made to adopt the budget as presented. Motion was made to sign the General Appropriations Act as with corrections. Meeting was adjourned at 10:25am.

March 31, 2012-Annual Township Meeting

Lisa Galdikas volunteered to be moderator. Les Rawson encouraged people to get out and vote. He felt the township spends too much money on ordinances would like to see the mileage for the Fire Department and First Responders reduced, utilize the Sheriff's Dept for police services and focus more on road improvements. Donna Allgaier-Lamberti respectfully disagreed and feels there needs to be continued emphasis in dealing with blight issues. Discussion was had about the use of the old fire department buildings, finding a grant to purchase a new patrol car and selling the two older ones we have. Questions about repairs to the old church building were raised by Lisa Galdikas. The board stated repairs still need to be made before they finalize how to utilize the building. Jerome Adams introduced himself as the new supervisor for Second Chance Ranch. Tim Kotas gave an update on the tire grant. Lisa Galdikas encouraged someone to step up to chair Pullman Pride Day. Meeting was adjourned at 10:32.

April 9, 2012-Regular Board Meeting

Motion made to approve the regular meeting minutes from March 12, 2012, the annual budget meeting minutes of March 31 and to receive the Treasurer's report as presented. Supervisor Miller reported 87 complaints were received and 30 were handled by Deputy Ross. Fire Department answered 12 calls for March. Open House/Dedication of New Fire Station set for April 14th 11am. First responders responded to 26 calls (72 for the past 3 months). Motion made to approve up to \$1500 to purchase a computer for First Responders. Motion made to authorize payment for reimbursement to the City of Fennville for the Lucas Medical Unit that was purchased to be shared by all communities. Peggy Shamblin stated one building permit, 3 electrical, 3 mechanical and one plumbing for a total improvement of \$85,000. Update on the Community Center building was presented. Transfer Station received \$441 and 15 tickers. Lake Board noted they received a resignation letter from Jody Cravens. Assessor reported Board of Review went smoothly. Motion made to approve land split for Laura Kreiger. The issue of graveling between 55th and 56th was tabled. Motion made to accept the recommended changes as presented by the Treasurer for the Revenue Adjustment. Motion made to adopt the budget adjustment as presented by the Clerk. Motion made to approve the bills as presented. Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 8:46pm.