



# Lee Crossings



Lee Township, Allegan County, Michigan

Summer 2013

## 2013 Pullman Pride Scholarship Winners

This year Lee Township was honored to present the Pullman Pride Scholarship to Seth Walle, Matt Lopez and Nayeli Sanchez. Following are excerpts from the scholarship winners essays. Their experiences are just as varied as their goals and hopes for the future, but one thing rings true for all three, they are fine young men and women who have made the best of life's lessons and have grown into responsible young adults who look to the future with hopes and dreams of making a difference. Congratulations to all three.

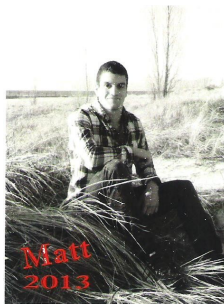
### Seth Walle

I attended Pullman Elementary School, Grand Junction, Bloomingdale Elementary School and also Van Buren Vocational/Technical Center for Hospitality/Culinary Arts. I am representing our communities as Mr. Bloomingdale this year. After High School I plan to attend Grand Rapids Community College for Culinary Arts and then transfer to Grand Valley State University or Ferris State. I have had a passion for cooking ever since I was little. I am a strong role model for underclassmen because I try my hardest in every sport I do. I thoroughly believe working as a team gets each and every task accomplished. I enjoy volunteering for my community. I have volunteered at the Relay for Life pancake breakfast, the Terry Laraway Memorial Ride and spaghetti dinner, Pullman Pride Day, Youth Baseball, and organized a can food drive to help families in need at Thanksgiving. Living in Pullman has made me respectful, trustworthy and driven.



### Matt Lopez

I have lived in Lee Township all my life and after graduation from Bloomingdale High School I plan to attend college to study Exercise Science/Physiology. My goal is to become a Personal Trainer as staying healthy and fit is important to me, for I lost my grandfather, my best friend, due to complications with diabetes way too soon. At a very young age I had the privilege to accompany my grandfather to the Pullman Area Family Center where he worked. He showed me through his actions the importance



of being involved in my community and to help others. That is why over the years I have volunteered at my church, helped my elders in the area with yard work, and volunteered for Rocket Football and Youth Wrestling programs. I also helped with a penny drive to support the children of 9/11 and Katrina. I have worked very hard academically over the years and have maintained honor roll status this whole year. An accomplishment I am very proud of considering at a young age I was diagnosed with seizures and ADD, making learning very difficult at times. Yet I never gave up. I was a two time All State line backer, All State wrestler and member of 4 x 800 State qualifying team.

### Nayeli Sanchez

I have lived in Pullman since I was five. As a young girl, in a small trailer with my single mother and younger sister, I knew everyone on 58th St. When I moved to 56th St. a few years later I gained a new step father, I had a new baby brother on the way and a new house, but my best friend had moved away, too. I have experienced great moments of joy and freedom in Pullman. I have also experienced sadness and loss. I am immensely glad to have grown up in a safe and quiet place with close family and friends to support my family and I through hard times and celebrate through brighter times. Living in Pullman has taught me to be down to earth, and at the same time it has ignited a yearning for something more worldly. I plan to succeed. I want to represent not only myself, but my community as I grow into my career. I plan on attending Western Michigan University to study International Communications and Political Science.



## MEMORIAL DAY

In true Pullman spirit, crowds came out in the rain to honor and remember on Memorial Day 2013. Thanks to the VFW and all who participated in the parade and at the service at the Lee Township cemetery. Special thanks to all our local veterans.



## ROAD MILLAGE RENEWAL-August 6<sup>th</sup>

On August 6<sup>th</sup>, you will be asked to vote to renew the Township road millage of 2 mills for an additional three years. The previous 3 year millage will have collected approximately \$335,000 by the end of next year. During the first year, 4 ½ miles of Township roads were seal coated on 58<sup>th</sup> St, 105<sup>th</sup> Ave, and 103<sup>th</sup> Ave. This year 0.9 mile of 54<sup>th</sup> from 110<sup>th</sup> to close to 111<sup>th</sup> will be paved with 2 inches of asphalt and Nadeau Dr. will be seal coated. At this time there are approximately **16 additional miles** that need seal coating. The cost of seal coating is approximately \$24,000 per mile (16 miles would cost \$380,000).

The Road Committee hopes residents recognize the importance of the renewed road millage to continue the work needed for the safety of everyone traveling our Township roads, including school buses carrying our children to and from school, first responders, firefighters, and deputies responding to our emergency needs and our residents who live and work here.

2 mill tax would cost a \$60,000 state equalized value property \$31 per year. That is \$2.60 per month. **Please vote on August 6<sup>th</sup>.**

## STORM OF THE CENTURY-Wednesday June 12th

No one could have predicted the extensive damage Lee Township and surrounding areas sustained as 75 mile per hour winds whipped through uprooting 30 foot trees and dropping 3.75 inches of rain. Although the National Weather Service stated no tornado came through, residents who suffered devastating damage (pictured below) are not so sure.



## LOOK WHAT'S UP AT PHP AND LOVE, INC

(For information on Love, INC programs contact Martha Cerda at 236-6295.)

**STUFF THE BUS-** Friday July 26<sup>th</sup> from 3-8pm and Saturday July 27<sup>th</sup> from 8am-8pm at the Fennville Main Street Market. Come out and help stuff the bus with food and personal needs for the Pullman Love Inc. pantry.

**BACK PACK GIVEAWAY-**We are gearing up for back to school. We need backpacks and back to school supplies, including, color pencils, pens, notebooks, binders, calculators, paper, and folders.

**LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM-**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.

**People Helping People (PHP)** sponsored a Hungry for Christ food distribution on June 12th which provided many local families with nutritional meals. **The 6th annual Community Pig Roast will take place Saturday August 24th at 5pm.**

## PULLMAN PRIDE DAY SATURDAY JULY 20TH

Providing college scholarships for graduating Lee Township HS students is a great way to show community pride and a great reason to get together for some community fun. This year's activities will take place right in the center of downtown Pullman (corner of 56th and 109th). Pizza Plus and Preferred Market are sponsoring a \$2 picnic lunch from 12-2pm including a slice of pizza, pop and ice cream as well as children's games sponsored by the Pullman Library. Northwoods will offer a breakfast special and will have music, face painting, and the Al-Van Humane Society pet adoption fair from 11-2 pm. The Pullman Tavern will have a beer garden for you to enjoy live music from 4-8pm, also sponsored by Northwoods and Preferred Market. Raffle tickets are on sale now and winners will be announced that evening. Watch for flyers at local businesses for all the details, including a local fishing contest, or call Lisa Galdikas at 236-6119 with questions. Come out, have fun, and support higher education for our local youth.

### THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW...

- Ridgepoint VBS youth 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. Thank you for this great partnership!
- The renovations at the new Community Center are almost complete. Watch for information regarding programs to be offered at that site and thanks to PHP for all their volunteer work hours getting it into shape.
- The new Lee Township Police car has arrived and is on the road.
- Remember to shop locally and support our local business owners. There is a listing of businesses on the Lee Township website [www.leetwp.org](http://www.leetwp.org) and in the fall and spring newsletter.

## KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN

Lee Township provides a Transfer Station for residents to take their garbage and recyclables to be properly disposed of. Although there is a small usage fee, that in no way covers the cost of this service, which runs the Township over \$40,000 annually. Jim and Fred Rawson, who manage the Transfer Station, have been working tirelessly to keep the area clean and safe for our residents. Please take a moment to review the following information regarding recycling material as some information has changed.

- All patrons must check in with the attendant and show proof of Lee Township residency.
- Cardboard boxes must be broken down flat.
- Magazine and telephone books are accepted.
- Bottles and cans must be CLEAN.
- Plastic bottles have a triangle insignia with a number in the center. Numbers 2, 3, 4, 5 & 7 are OK. #6 IS NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE.
- Also NOT recyclable: swimming pools, plastic buckets, vinyl siding, plastic children's toys, hoses of any kind, pool covers, tarps, Styrofoam
- NO TRASH IN RECYCLABLE BINS PLEASE.

*Lee Township is still looking for volunteers to head up the Community Clean Team. Please contact the Township office if interested in helping.*

## 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](http://www.leetwp.org).
- Anyone with information for the newsletter can call the Township office at 236-6485 or email to [leetwp@i2k.com](mailto:leetwp@i2k.com) or send to P.O. Box 427 Pullman, MI 49450.
- Pullman Branch Library is open Tues & Thurs, 3 - 7 pm. Check out the Summer Reading Program. 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*

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  
Heather Mitchell, Assessor 269-978-8274  
Building Inspector 673-3239  
Nelvin DeWeerd, Fire Chief 236-5492  
Ted Chamberlain, Asst. 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. House of Mercy in conjunction with Love INC (emergency food and clothing) Wednesday 12:30 -3 pm; 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.

**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.

**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.

### SUMMER 2013 TAX INFORMATION

The Treasurer will collect taxes at the Township office on Fridays 9am-12 and 1-5pm 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, 2014. 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](http://www.leetwp.org) and [www.allegancounty.org](http://www.allegancounty.org). The form must be filed with the Township Treasurer by September 15, 2013.

### BOARD OF REVIEW SCHEDULED FOR JULY 16TH 2PM AT THE TOWNSHIP HALL FOR ERRORS AND OMISSIONS.

### SERVING AND PROTECTING IN LEE TOWNSHIP

*Submitted by: Lisa Galdikas*

I am one of many who often wondered what our officer does while on duty for Lee Township. Officer Ryan Brown was kind enough to allow me ride along with him one evening. I was hoping we would have some time to talk about his thoughts about the Township and future planning strategies, but that did not happen. We were too busy responding to call after call assisting residents with everything from reports of theft and vandalism to custody concerns, to traffic stops for speeding and driving with a suspended license. In every situation Officer Brown took time and presented genuine care and concern. He treated everyone with respect and in turn was treated the same, even when the outcome was not in favor of the person. Watching him exit the patrol car with one hand near his service weapon, reminded me that every call he answers could be a dangerous one. I feel very fortunate that Lee Township values community safety and has continued to invest in this tremendous public service for our entire community.

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](http://www.leetwp.org) or at the Township office.*

**February 11, 2013-Regular Board Meeting**

Motions were made and approved for the following agenda items: To accept the Regular Meeting minutes from January 14, 2013 and to accept the Treasurer's report as presented; to accept patrol car bid from Woodham's Ford and accept the bid from M. DeHoek for the conversion equipment in the amount of \$4,899; to extend the collection of taxes and waive the late penalty until February 28th; to approve replacement of the Township office furnace not to exceed \$1,900; to authorize the Clerk to publish the March Board of Review dates; to authorize payment of the bills with additions presented; to adjourn at 8:38pm.

Additional information presented: 7 fire calls; 22 tickets redeemed and \$385 collected at the transfer station; road committee noted safety concern on 103rd between 54th & 52nd that will be addressed this summer per the county; Al-Van Humane Society reported annual statistics of animals served in Lee.

**Special Meeting March 5, 2013 6pm**

Purpose of the meeting was to allow public comment regarding the acceptance of the grant from the USDA for a new patrol car. There were no citizens' comments.

**Special Meeting March 5, 2013 6:30pm**

Purpose of the meeting was to discuss complaints and concerns regarding the building inspector. Motion was made and accepted to contact the Township attorney to take formal steps to remove the building inspector.

**March 11, 2013-Regular Board Meeting**

Motions were made and approved for the following agenda items: To approve the Regular Meeting minutes of February 1st, Special Meeting minutes of March 5th, and accept the Treasurer's report as presented.; to authorize purchase of the fire hoses not to exceed \$3,816.25; to accept the resignation of building inspector Paul Shamblyn without accepting the recommendation for replacement; to authorize the Clerk to post the position of building inspector; to continue with the current subcontractors; to publish the Budget Hearing/Meeting of the Electors on March 30th at 10am; to authorize payment of the bills; to adjourn at 8:38pm.

Additional information presented: 10 fire calls; 23 first responder calls; 7 tickets redeemed and \$228 collected at the transfer station; 4 residents attended Board of Review; easement request of land locked property discussed and tabled.

**Special Meeting March 30, 2013 9:30am**

The purpose of the special meeting was to approve the necessary budget adjustments for the final bills to be presented at the year end on March 31, 2013. Motion made and accepted to approve the budget adjustments as presented.

**March 30, 2013-Annual Budget Meeting 10am**

Members of the board reviewed the budget and discussion took place. Motions were made and approved to accept budget with changes in the fire dept budget and to sign the General Appropriations Act; meeting adjourned at 10:40am.

**April 8, 2013-Regular Board Meeting**

Motions were made and approved for the following agenda items: To approve the Regular Meeting minutes from March 11, Special Meeting minutes of March 5th and March 30th, annual budget meeting minutes of March 30th and to receive the Treasurer's report as presented; to authorize the Clerk to publish May 1st spring clean up at the cemetery; to sign contract with Al-Van Humane Society for continued service and care for Lee Twp stray and surrendered animals; to sign contracts with current subcontractors handling electrical, plumbing and mechanical permits; to pay the bills as presented; to have meters read quarterly to match quarterly billing; to adjourn at 8:53pm.

Additional information presented: 11 fire calls, health dept permit issued to fire dept., change to rules in burn barrel requirements; 83 calls in the last 3 months for first responders; ambulance report read; Michigan Township Services to handle Lee Twp building permits for now; dust control options discussed and tabled until next month for further review.

**May 13, 2013-Regular Board Meeting**

Motions were made and approved for the following agenda items: To approve the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of April 8 and to accept the Treasurer's report as presented; to authorize the Clerk to advertise for bids for dry walling the community center; to approve the land split for Lanke as presented; to authorize the Clerk to publish the special meeting notice for opening bids and discussion of millages; to accept bid from Michigan Chloride Sales for dust control; to authorize the Clerk to pay the bills as presented; to authorize the Clerk to pay the election workers; to adjourn at 9:58pm.

Additional information presented: Citizens' request for signs at public beaches; Larry Brown from the Allegan Co. Road Commission reported updates to roads; 92 complaints taken by police; 19 fire calls; 29 first responder calls; 49 tickets were redeemed and \$807 collected at the transfer station; road committee recommended work and millage issue discussed and tabled for a special meeting; combining the fire department and first responders discussed.

**May 23, 2013-Special Board Meeting 6:30pm**

The purpose of the meeting was to approve the resolution to put the road millage on the August 6th ballot. Motion was made and approved.

**May 29, 2013-Special Board Meeting 6:30pm**

The purpose of the meeting was to open bids for Township mowing and for dry walling community center. Motions made and accepted to accept the bid by R & N Mowing and the Chernetki dry wall bid.

**May 29, 2013-Special Board Meeting 6:50pm**

The purpose of the meeting was to review the request for an older mobile home to be brought into the Township, what roads to work on with remaining funds from road millage and discuss combining of the fire department and first responders. Motions were made and accepted on the following: To allow the Stickley home to be brought into Lee Township; to use road millage funds to work on 54th from 110th to 111th and any remaining funds to chip and seal coat Nadeau Dr.