SPRING 2016

ZEELAND TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



CALENDAR of EVENTS

MONTH OF MAY

Use the coupon on the reverse side to drop off one pickup load of trash at Autumn Hills.

MAY 3 SCHOOL ELECTION

Both Hudsonville and Zeeland Schools have an operational millage renewal proposal on the ballot. This proposal will allow the school district to continue to levy 18 mills on all property except principal residence and other property exempted by law.

Voting will take place at all 3 precincts. You may request an Absentee Ballot if you are unable to get to the polls. Polls are open 7AM—8PM.

MAY 21 CAKES, WINGS AND OTHER THINGS

Shields of Hope is hosting a community day fundraiser on Saturday, May 21st, from 8am to 1pm at the Ottawa Executive Airport at 5923 Byron Road Zeeland. The fundraiser includes a pancake breakfast and several children's activities such as games, face painting and bounce houses. Take an opportunity to bid on silent auction items and then take a scenic flight of the West Michigan lakeshore for as little as \$45 and watch a flyover by T-134 Warbirds. The Fire Department, Ottawa County Marine Water Rescue boat, and AMR Ambulance will be on display. Fun for all ages and supports a great cause! All profits benefit Shields of Hope. All profits stay local in West Michigan!

JULY 1 SUMMER TAX BILLS MAILED

If you do not receive a tax bill, please call the office to verify your mailing address. Farmers wishing to defer summer tax payment until February should contact the office with their parcel numbers.

JULY 5 DEADLINE for August Primary Registration

New voters must register by this date to vote in the Aug. 2 State Primary.

AUG. 2 STATE PRIMARY ELECTION

Voting will take place at all 3 precincts. You may request an Absentee Ballot if you are unable to get to the polls. Polls are open 7AM—8PM. Included on the ballot are candidates for township office positions. There are contested races for supervisor, treasurer and trustee positions. Term is 4 years.

AUG. 20 58th ANNUAL DRENTHE CHICKEN BBQ

The Drenthe Community Association invites all residents to the Annual Drenthe Grove BBQ. Tickets are \$8.00/dinner. Activities are free and include fire department demonstrations, Ottawa Co. Sheriff's Dept., Critter Barn, hay rides, antique tractor display and more! Tickets can be purchased at the township office. Volunteers needed! Call 772-6701.

OCT. 11 DEADLINE for Nov. General Election Registration

New voters must register by this date to vote in the November 8 General Election.

WHAT'S NEW...

NEW BUSINESS in ZEELAND TOWNSHIP

American Char opened in February. They are located in the former Drenthe Village Dipper. Chef Len Towne offers a variety of smoked meat entrees as well as Sherman's ice cream. Pick-up family meals are also available for your convenience. Doreen and Roger VanderVeen, former owners, express heartfelt gratitude to our residents who frequented the Dipper.

Comfort Family Dentistry is building a new dental office at 3290 96th Ave. Davon Manufacturing Co. outgrew their plant in Hudsonville and plan to build a new facility at 3625 80th Ave. Davon specializes in fourslide stampings, wire forms, prototypes, custom tooling, and aluminum die sets

Gentex's new facility on Riley St. will be ready for warehousing and manufacturing processes in July.

Redwood Living will begin construction of 86 rental units on Homestead Dr. east of 84th Ave. Check out their homes: www.byredwood.com.

Western Logistics will open a transportation hub for the furniture industry at 8301 Riley St.

BUILDING CODE CHANGES

As of Feb. 8, 2016 the State of Michigan adopted changes to the 2015 International Residential Code. There are substantial changes in the building code that most builders are aware of. However, if you are considering building a new home and being your own contractor, it would be advisable to familiarize yourself with these new changes before you begin.

NEW INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The township board motioned to approve a new Industrial Development District on 8301 Riley St. for Western Logistics.

CEMETERY ORDINANCE CHANGES

Effective January 1, 2016, the township board adopted changes to the ordinance. Changes include:

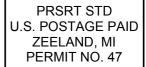
- 1. A name shall be assigned to a burial space when it is sold.
- For township residents: the first two burial plots may be purchased for \$200 each, up to 4 additional plots may be purchased at \$500 each.
- 3. Nonresident plot price is \$1,250 per plot.
- 4. No Sunday burials.
- Markers for cremains shall be no more than 48 inches in width and two markers are allowed in a cremains plot.
- 6. Fiberglass vaults can be used for small children burials.
- If a Burial Space is purchased for the sole purpose of cremations, up to four cremains can be placed on one regular burial plot.

WATER & SEWER RATE STUDY

ZCT has not changed it's fee schedule for connecting to water and sewer utilities since 2007. This spring Utility Financial Solutions will evaluate our meter fees, front foot rates and trunkage fees. Their proposed changes to our current utility fees should be finished by the end of July.

DANGEROUS BUILDING ORDINANCE

The township board approved this ordinance to promote the health, safety, and welfare for township residents. The ordinance gives the township power to require dilapidated buildings determined to be dangerous to be removed by the owner.





6582 Byron Road Zeeland, MI 49464

Supervisor, Glenn Nykamp Clerk, Kate Kraak Treasurer, Al Myaard Trustee, Tim Barkel Trustee, Ron Brink Trustee, Tom Oonk Trustee, Chad Overweg

Zoning Adm., Don Mannes Assessor, Steve Hansen Fire Chief, Phil Hunderman Sexton, Jim Timmer

SPRINGTIME SAFETY MAINTENANCE REQUEST

Fire Chief Hunderman recommends springtime as a great time to trim trees and landscaping that could hinder fire apparatus from reaching your home. Ensure that your house number is easily visible from the road. Inside your home, change the batteries in your smoke detectors.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department instituted a new Probationary Fire Program. The purpose of the program is to give both the department and potential candidates an appropriate amount of time to evaluate the suitability of the candidate before enrollment into the Fire Academy. If you are interested in applying for a position in the department, please review the information on our website. Click on "Departments & Services" > "Fire Department" > "The Department" > "Becoming a Fire Fighter".

ELECTION WORKERS NEEDED \$12.50/hr.

We need help setting up and tearing down the precincts. Duties would be the day before and day after election days. You must be able to lift heavy voting equipment.

There is also a need for poll workers. The election day begins 6:30AM and ends after the polls close and paperwork is finished. Full day and partial day shifts available.

Please call 772-6701 or email: Kate.Kraak@zeelandtwp.org

PARKS & RECREATION

Drenthe Grove Park Thanks to a recreational grant from Zeeland Board of Public Works, the park will be installing new playground equipment. Over the winter, the Drenthe Grove Association remodeled the interior of the Dozeman Center. This spring, the old restroom facilities will be removed. Public bathrooms are available in the concession stand. ZBPW assisted with bringing electric to the pond for an aerator.

VanZoeren Woods is still closed. Anyone interested in removing firewood may obtain a permit from the township office.

Zeeland Township Office

6582 Byron Road Zeeland, MI 49464 616-772-6701

Hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs. 8:30-5:00 Wed. & Fri. 8:30—noon Assessor available on Saturdays 10:00-2:00

Fire Chief Phil Hunderman

Burn permits call: 616-886-6666 Township Web Site: zeelandtwp.org

Email Supervisor:
Glenn.Nykamp@zeelandtwp.org

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

If you are a new voter who registered at the Secretary of State and have not yet received a voter ID card from the township, please check your registration status. You can go to www.michigan.gov/vote or call the township office.

ZCT COMMUNITY POLICING

Requests for the speed trailer to be placed in your area can be made from our website: zeelandtwp.org > Departments & Services > Zeeland Community Policing. If you'd rather call the township, we will make the request for you.

You can also request *Home Security Checks* while you are away on vacation. Request online (see link for speed trailer) or call the office.

DID YOU KNOW...

Based on the percent change in population from 2014 to 2015, Ottawa County was the fastest growing county in Michigan. In 2015 the county's estimated population was 279,955. Zeeland Township's population was 10,690 in 2014 (most recent information.)

ROAD PROJECTS for 2016

Adams Street between 96th & 88th Ave.
Air Park /Aero Estates subdivision
Esker Creek subdivision
Zeeland Meadows subdivision
Pentatech commercial district
84th Ave 1000 ft. north of Riley

THANK YOU TO...

Al Myaard, Treasurer since 1997. Al will be retiring from office at the end of his term.

Lisa Freeman, Deputy Treasurer/Adm. Asst. since 2007. Lisa was appointed Assessor for Overisel Township.