

FALL 2015

TIDBITS:

- **2015 Summer Tax Bills** are due on **Monday Sept. 14, 2015.** Keep all tax receipts for income tax filing! Partial payments are accepted. Also, a phone number on your payment stub is helpful if the treasurer should need to contact you for any reason. Thank you.
- **Upcoming Election Dates:** November 3, 2015. Keep watching the township website and Facebook page for future election dates and other election information.
- **Historical Information:** If you have any old documents/photos/signs etc, we'd love to borrow them and put them on display here in the Township Hall in recognition of this year's sesquicentennial celebration!
- **2015 Yard Waste Cards:** the cost is \$15.00 per calendar year!

Laketon Township

2735 W. Giles Rd, Muskegon, MI 49445 P. 231-744-2454 web: www.laketon.org

September—Back to School



Back to school means more morning traffic, school busses, bus stops, school zone speed limits and kids walking and biking to school—especially with this being the first year of the new Safe Routes to School sidewalk.

The Safe Routes to School sidewalk is located on W. Giles Road from the school east to Horton Rd and then south down Horton Rd (on both sides) to Dykstra Rd. Please drive safely and watch for the kids as they start using this new sidewalk to get to school. Also, thinking about fall, leads to thinking about winter and snow. Laketon Township will be doing their best to keep this sidewalk clear for the kids, but any assistance from the property owners would be most welcome. If you are unable to help, that's ok, just please do not place any snow where it would block the sidewalk! Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

School Zone: The school zone on W. Giles Rd is 25 mph when the lights are flashing. The lights are set to flash at the following times on school days: 7:08 am to 7:38 am, 8:10 am to 8:40 am, 2:35 pm to 3:05 pm and 3:45 pm to 4:15 pm on half days: 10:50 am to 11:20 am and 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm.

The Assessor's Corner

Hello Residents,

I am Laketon Township Assessor, Wanda Budnik. I will be out and about in the community doing what assessors do. Letters are being sent out area by area in advance so you will know about when I will be in your area. Please complete and return the questionnaire that comes with the letter. Feel free to call if you have any questions.

I will be verifying sales & property record data as well as gathering new construction data. I will be driving a vehicle that is clearly marked with Laketon Township magnet placards. In addition, I have a Township issued photo identification card that I wear on a lanyard when I am out in the community.

The cooperation of all property owners is greatly appreciated as the data gathered is needed to ensure the accuracy of property assessments. Having accurate property information and assessments ensures property is taxed fairly and equitably, this may even benefit property owners if the information we currently have isn't accurate or up to date.

Thank you, *Wanda*

Sewer Usage Rates to Increase

Laketon Township sewer customers will see an increase of \$3.90 per month on their next bill—the rate increase will take effect October 1, 2015. The rate, billed quarterly, will change from the current \$78.00 to \$89.70 per quarter.

Why an increase?

- Higher rates from the Muskegon County Wastewater System.
- Adequate funds needed for sewer system maintenance and repair.
- Amortization of principal amount of Muskegon County Wastewater Management System Bonds.

Need help budgeting for your bill? There are options for paying the bill:

- Quarterly payments with the bill or
- Monthly, bi-weekly, or weekly payments are accepted—the bill must still be paid in full by the due date to avoid late fees.

To schedule a convenient payment plan, please call us at 231-744-2454.

“The magic of America is that we're a free and open society with a mixed population. Part of our security is our freedom.”
- 64th U.S. Secretary of State (1997—2001) [Madeleine Albright](#)

BIKE PATH - DYKSTRA RD BRIDGE CLOSURE COMING SOON

Please be advised that there will soon be construction work undertaken that will require the bike path bridge on Dykstra Rd to be **COMPLETELY CLOSED** for as much as two weeks.

We do not yet have exact dates for the construction work, but anticipate it taking place sometime in September 2015. There will be closure signage and temporary fencing blocking off the bridge.

For your safety, please respect all closure signage and fencing around the bridge during this construction work.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Laketon Township 744-2454



THANK YOU TO THE NORTHSIDE LIONS CLUB

Laketon Township is very fortunate to have an active charitable organization in the local area. Once again the Muskegon Northside Lions Club has come through for Laketon Township, residents of Laketon Township and anyone that uses Mullally Memorial Park & Lange Complex.

The Club members provided volunteer manual labor to construct additional accessible sidewalks to access the baseball fields at the Mullally Memorial Park Lange Com-

plex of baseball fields. When you are out at the



park, you will notice a new sign, acknowledging their hard work, near these new accessible pathways.

Laketon Township would

like to thank the Northside Lions Club for providing the volunteer labor to get these sidewalks constructed for the benefit of everyone using the park facility.

In addition, another huge thank you to the Northside Lions for their part in raising the funding to remove a dead and dangerous tree that loomed over the bike path on Horton Road. The removal of this tree was necessary for the safety of property owners and everyone using the bike path.

Laketon Township was founded in 1865, therefore, 2015 is the sesquicentennial (150 year) anniversary. We would like to put up a display of historical photos, newspaper articles etc. If anyone has any items they would like to share with the rest of the community, please contact Laketon Township Supervisor Kim Arter by email: karter@laketon.org or phone 744-2454

Township Parks: Dogs and Rules Everyone Should Know

Laketon Township has a parks ordinance and it includes rules regarding dogs. The entire ordinance is available at the Laketon Township website (www.laketon.org) under the General Township Info tab, then click “General Ordinances” where they are listed alphabetically. It is called the Parks and Public Property Ordinance.

Section 13 of the parks ordinance states in part: “No person may have under their control, allow, bring, cause to be present any animal except in areas expressly permitted by sign or township rule. Animals must not be permitted

to run at large. All animals must be restrained at all times on adequate leashes no greater than ten feet in length. Cleaning up after animals is required.”

Dogs ARE permitted in the walking path area around the baseball fields. Clean up bags and trash cans are provided to clean up after your dog when necessary.



Dogs ARE NOT allowed on athletic fields, inside of picnic pavilions or on the playgrounds.



If you do bring your dog to the park, please be sure to leash your dog appropriately and observe all other rules for a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. Thank you for your cooperation.

“I know in my heart that man is good, that what is right will always eventually triumph, and there is purpose and worth to each and every life.”

– [Ronald Reagan](#), 40th President of the United States of America (1/20/81—1/20/89)