



## Why Multi Use Trails in Michigan are a Great Idea

A representative from the Trails Council during a presentation to local governments explained what some of the many benefits of multi-use trails are in any community. Trails are good for the economy as they draw visitors and tour groups and this boosts local business and even initiates rail related businesses to start. Trails have been shown to be even more important to the economy as they bring new homeowners to the area. A number one amenity people look for when relocating is walkable communities. Research shows where there are trails they are used extensively by local residents because they provide safe recreation and non-motorized transportation options thus promoting healthier lifestyles. Rail trails especially provide for fully accessible trails for seniors and disabled populations and are also available for use in every season.

Littlefield Township is involved with other local governments along with The Michigan Trails Council and The State of Michigan to bring this important trail from Petoskey to Mackinac passing right through Alanson!

For more information about trails already available in Northern Michigan contact:

**Top of Michigan Trails Council**

231-348-8280 or [info@trails council.org](mailto:info@trails council.org)

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### **Township Phone Numbers**

Emergency: 911

Fire Department: 231-548-5646

Supervisor: Damien Henning 231-548-5443

Clerk: Sondra Festerling 231-348-8464

Treasurer: Kim Shomin 231-548-2142

Assessor: Jim LaPeer: 231-238-9606

Sewer Clerk and Cemetery Sexton:

Avis Granger: 231-548-2830

Trustee: Dean Morford 231-347-0653

Trustee: Katie Derrohn 231-347-1937

Alanson Public Library: 231-548-5465

## The Land of Artesian Wells

Upgrades have been recently done on the Artesian Wells in Littlefield Township. At a recent Littlefield Township Board meeting, Tom Fairbairn Sr. initiated the first improvement by expressing a desire that the fountain north of town belonging to the family of his beloved late wife Marilyn Jean Fairbairn would be guaranteed a place forever to the public good. The Township board hired their attorney to create a fountain/easement acquisition. Thanks can go to the Housding Family as the owners for entering into this agreement with Littlefield Township. The Citizens of this area will be grateful for years to come to Tom Fairbairn Sr. for his vision of making this fountain available permanently to the public good. Upon signing of the agreement, the Littlefield Township Board renovated that fountain and it is as beautiful as it is useful.

The artesian well at Dow Park in Oden is also being renovated.

The Township Board wishes to continue to do what they can so these wells are available to the public not only in the event of an emergency, but also for beauty!

*by Dan Plasencia, Emmet County Commissioner*

## **NO MORE WET AND MUDDY FEET AT THE ALANSON VILLAGE RECYCLE CENTER!**

Thanks to the combined efforts of the Board of Littlefield Township, Alanson Village Council and Emmet County, the recycle center has been dramatically improved with new drainage, asphalt and concrete. The concrete was provided through an \$8700.00 cost sharing appropriation from the Emmet County DPW Board. I am sure all residents will be pleased with the recycle center!

## **New Management for the Crooked River Locks**

Emmet County has entered into a sub-lease with the Michigan DNR to operate the Crooked River Lock for five years. After one and a half years of discussions with the DNR and following the recommendations of the Crooked River Lock Consortium an agreement was signed by the chairman of the Emmet County Board of Commissioners.

The Counties Parks and Recreation department will be taking over the operations of the lock for the boating season. The agreement allows the County to provide reliable continued operation while decreasing passage fees and extending the boating season through the lock. The 2012 passage fee will be \$30 annual and \$10 daily.

The County encouraged this partnership feeling it would enhance recreational, economic and developmental impact in Emmet and surrounding communities along the Inland Water Route.

Crooked River Lock Schedule is posted at the Township Hall on the outside bulletin board.

*Littlefield Township Newsletter requested the above articles from Plasencia due to the fact that he secured the cost sharing from Emmet County for our recycle site and authored the Crooked River Lock Consortium.*

**SUMMER TAX DUE DATE: September 14, 2012**

*Taxes paid after this due date accrue interest at 1% per month.*



## Littlefield Industry in Focus

Free of charge, each newsletter will highlight one or two of the many businesses we have in our town. Articles will be published on a first come, first serve

*In all labour there is profit. Proverbs 14:23*

## ALANSON SHEET METAL

Alanson Sheet Metal of Alanson, a family owned business, has been in the heating and air conditioning trade since 1972. They specialize in residential construction, both new and remodeling as well as light commercial construction. They install forced air and hot water/boiler heating systems, Unico high-pressure heating and air conditioning systems. The company fabricates the ductwork in their shop and will build custom metal fabrications for any type of work from an extensive stock of colored metals. A CNC plasma machine helps them to design just about any type of metal part needed for any type of job. Their welding service can weld black iron, stainless steel and aluminum metals. Installations are available for fireplaces, gas logs, log lighters, venting of bath fans, venting of dryers and ranges and fireplace chimney chase tops. Alanson Sheet Metal also offers 24 hour emergency service. They can be reached by calling 548-2823.

### 2012 Election Dates

- August 7, 2012 State Primary Election
- November 6, 2012 State General Election

### Absent Voter Requests

Registered residents in Littlefield Township can request in writing an Absent Voters Ballot from the Clerk. All requests can be mailed to Township Clerk, 7898 Crump Road, Alanson, MI 49706.

### UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

#### July 4th Celebration

Boy Scout Breakfast 7:00 - 10:30 a.m. in Townhall

**Independence Day Parade!** July 4th 11:00 a.m.

Line up on Banwell Road at 9:30

Contact Person: Art Drayton 548-5721

Firemen will be selling hotdogs, brats and pop in the park after the parade.

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#### ALANSON RIVERFEST

August 10, 11, and 12 For more information:

[www.alansonriverfest.com](http://www.alansonriverfest.com)

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**Crooked River Firefighter's Antique Truck and Classic Car Show:** September



## Racc Enterprises, LLC

Racc Enterprises, LLC, owned by Richard and Anne Bacon, is a local business serving the computer and networking needs of Northern Lower Michigan since 1985. We have gained a reputation for selling high-quality computers---including custom-built, computer components and providing the best repair available. In 1996, we became an ISP (Internet Service Provider), providing high quality dial-up services including web hosting and ISDN connections.

In 2002 we launched our DSL service, pioneering DSL to the Petoskey and Alanson areas. Since then, we have expanded to many other Michigan towns including Indian River.

We set the bar again in 2005 when we introduced wireless broadband internet connections using cutting edge technology to service areas where dial-up was the only option. We currently have multiple towers servicing a number of areas including Alanson, Oden, Petoskey, Burt Lake and Walloon Lake.

Our new entity for 2012 is VOIP (Voice Over Internet Protocol) telephone service. This telephone service uses the internet. For more information please call us at 231-548-2000.

It is and always has been our goal to provide the best service while remaining locally owned and operated. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

### Littlefield Alanson Community Hall Rental

Call Dan Plasencia  
548-5656

### Island Sanctuary Park

volunteers continue to work on the board walk on Crooked River. *It looks terrific.*

### News From Avis Granger, Cemetery Sexton

A Thank You to the Boy Scouts of Troop # 4, Jeff Wyatt Scoutmaster, and David Lesh, Sponsor Coordinator of Alanson for putting 16 dozen flags on the graves of Veterans that are buried in the Alanson Littlefield Cemetery before Memorial Day.

This spring, the driveways and parking lot at the back of the cemetery have been improved with split stone, a new flag pole has been installed and the front of the vault has been updated and improved.

The cemetery has had 13 burials this spring, 4 of them were 4 World War 2 Veterans.

This newsletter is prepared bi-annually by the Littlefield Township Treasurer's office and printed at The Office Shop.

If you have events to advertise or local news please call the treasurer's office: 231-548-2142