



WINTER 2013 NEWSLETTER

INCLUDES LITTLEFIELD TOWNSHIP
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS



ALANSON • ODEN • PONSHEWAING

Emmet County, P.O. Box 188 Alanson, Michigan 49706

WINTER TAX DUE DATE

February 14, 2014

*Taxes paid by this date accrue
no interest or penalties.*

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: Avis Granger 231-548-2830

Cemetery Sexton: Kim Morgan 231-529-5542

Trustee: Dean Morford 231-347-0653

Trustee: Katie Derrohn 231-347-1937

COMPLETED LITTLEFIELD TOWNSHIP ROAD WORK in 2013

This year the township wedged Honeysette Road, Smith Road (between Lakeview and Mission Rd) and Valley Road (west of Moore Road). The township also curbed, guttered and paved the Milton/US 31 intersection in conjunction with the paving of the bike path. And they cracked sealed South Ayr Road, Armock Road and Cincinnati Point for a total of .89 miles.

State Mandated Office Hours for Tax Collection

The Treasurer or deputy will be available one business day between Dec. 25 - 31, 2013 and Friday, February 28, 2014. Location and time will be posted at the township hall or call the treasurer.



Photo courtesy of Emily Meyerson, Northern Lower Peninsula Trailways Coordinator

WELL ATTENDED GRAND OPENING OF THE NEW TRAIL FROM SPRING LAKE TO ALANSON

Originally slated for July 4th, the trail was finally completed by the end of September. It was very popular even before its completion and newspaper articles had to be published advising all to wait to use it until it was completed. Construction of the trail went smoothly except for one difficult section. Part of the rail corridor property was unobtainable so plans were made for an alternate route requiring a boardwalk. During construction it was found that the pilings needed to be seated much deeper than planned. This section will require ongoing maintenance due to drainage off the highway. It is finally done, however, and has already proved to be a wonderful and useful addition to our community.

There are four Wayfinding signs that are called Kiosks which have information about the area and directional maps. There are a lot of directional posts with arrows and distance of miles all along the way. The Petoskey Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation helped fund six benches along the new path. There are safety signs for both path users and motorists crossing the path. There is a temporary ending point marked at Powers Road in Alanson. The Road Commission will be striping this in the spring to direct the path users onto Milton Road. The next step which could begin construction as soon as June of 2015 will go from Chicago Street in Alanson to Mackinac City! This future trail will be crushed limestone instead of blacktop. An example of crushed limestone can be seen on the Gaylord to Mackinac Trail. Emmet County along with the Townships will take on the job of maintenance.

If you would like further information about the trails in Michigan you can go to www.trailscouncil.org and if you are interesting in donating your time or money you can call the Trails Council at 231-348-8280.



ODEN GAZEBO PARK

Above photo from michiganrailroads.com
MIGN Sharks passing through Oden in April, 1978.
[Neil Plagens photo, Mark Andersen Collection]

This year, ownership of the Oden Gazebo Park was transferred by the Oden Community Association to Littlefield Township. The intention is to restore this park to its original beauty along with the flowing well.

The township is thankful to the Oden Community Association for this opportunity particularly because of its location to the new bike trail. It is hopeful that it will become a trail head with parking.



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Santa Visit! At the Fire Hall
Sunday, Dec. 8, 2013 1:00 - 3:00 p.m

"Christmas in Alanson"

A Downtown Open House Event

Friday, December 13, 2013

5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Downtown Christmas Decorating Contest
Restaurant Specials
Free Holiday Treats and Beverages
at Shops and The Inland Waterway Museum
Santa Claus
Christmas Stories at the Alanson Library
and more!

Littlefield Alanson Community Hall Rental
Call Dan Plasencia 548-5656

Local Fire Department News



Art Drayton was officially appointed as the new fire chief for the Alanson-Littlefield Fire Department. We are very fortunate to have this experienced, capable individual heading up our township fire department.

This year the fire department received a grant for the purchase of 15 new hoses from the Local Revenue Sharing Board of Emmet County. The LRSB distributes a portion of the electronic gaming revenues from the Odawa Casino each year. The agreement with the state of Michigan and the tribe is to give 2 percent of net revenues from its electronic gaming operations to the regional community. Serving on the LRSB are Emmet County Commissioner Dan Plasencia; Bear Creek Township Supervisor Dennis Keiser; and Resort Township Supervisor Bob Wheaton.

Medical first responders for Alanson Littlefield Fire Department are still needed. Educational classes are provided. Any interested individual is encouraged to contact our new fire chief at 231-548-5646.

TAX PAYMENT INFORMATION

It's a good idea to include contact information along with your tax payment. In the event of an error the treasurer is able to save you money by contacting you immediately. Tax receipts are available by request. Please send your fax number, email address or a self-addressed stamped envelope along with your tax payment if you want a receipt.

FUTURE RECREATIONAL PLANS



Littlefield Township has purchased an option to buy property at the old marina north of Alanson, formerly called Admiral's Point. Prospects for a recreational site with public access to the river are seen as a possibility through applying for grants and other efforts. The township will be working to develop this and other projects to enhance our already beautiful place to live!

Alanson Area Library Hours

Mon. - Wed. 10-6 • Thurs. 10-7 • Fri. 12-5 • Sat. 10-2
Closed Sundays and Holidays

Phone: 231-548-5465

Please check the website for holiday closings:
www.alansonlibrary.michlibrary.org

Public Transportation in Areas of Emmet County
Straits Regional Ride Bus 231-597-9262