



WINTER 2014
NEWSLETTER



ALANSON • ODEN • PONSHEWAING
Emmet County, P.O. Box 188 Alanson, Michigan 49706

LITTLEFIELD TOWNSHIP ROAD WORK in 2014

With the millage this past tax year Grubaugh and Kilmer Road were wedged. This wedging process seems to be the affordable way to prolong our roads at this time. The final “Y” intersection in the Township has been replaced. This was at the corner of the South Arm of Mission Road and Banwell Road. A new intersection was engineered and completed and is a fine improvement. The last 2 of these intersections were replaced during the last 10 years. One was the intersection at Valley and Milton Roads and the other was Burley and Banwell Road. These intersections were impractical and unsafe and don’t exist anymore in most townships in this area and not at all anymore in Littlefield Township. The Township has been putting away part of the millage for two years in an effort to repair the remaining section of Lakeview Road running from Banwell Rd. to Crooked Lake. Keeping roads repaired and maintained is a great challenge. The Township board uses all the millage appropriated for this purpose and more. Everyone agrees that roads matter.

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

RECREATIONAL SITES IN LITTLEFIELD TOWNSHIPS PAST & FUTURE

ODEN GAZEBO PARK

PAST: Some work was done on the old Gazebo. It was stabilized, repaired and painted to make it safe and useable for the present. There was an old flowing well and the Township tried to bring it back but could not get it to flow. Two properties were acquired next to this park. One had two old yellow buildings on it which will be finding new homes soon and the other is the corner of Luce St. and US 31. The lot on the corner of Luce and 31 and the lot across from the Oden Post Office were cleared of all old concrete and dead trees.

FUTURE: We would like to put in a new flowing well and put lights on the Gazebo. There are plans to put top soil and maybe a fence on newly acquired lots. The Township plans to clean up the lot that had the two yellow buildings and to put gravel in for public parking for anyone wishing to use the new bike path.

WOODRUFF PARK

PAST: A new Flag was put up and more flowers planted and the old grill was removed.

FUTURE: The beautiful old flowing well at this park along the highway in Oden with the Veterans Memorial is in much need of either repair or replacement. We would like to add some flowering bushes and clean up some trees that have died. It is in the works to transfer ownership of this park from the State of Michigan to The Township of Littlefield.

DOW PARK

PAST: The driveway was paved.

FUTURE: Installing steps on the new flowing well to aid children and smaller adults using the drinking fountain and the flow need adjustments. Two posts need to be added along the driveway. The old light pole that is no longer in use needs to be removed.

THE OLD MARINA AND DOCKS AT HAY LAKE

PAST: Littlefield Township has an intent to purchase parts of this property and docks from the new owners of this old Marina formerly called Admiral’s Point.

FUTURE: The vision is to have a public boat launch in connection with the future new Marina at Hay Lake. Gozling Czubak Engineering has been asked to work on a conceptual design and to help the Township in obtaining grants to bring about this exciting new recreational plan!

State Mandated Office Hours for Tax Collection

The Treasurer or deputy will be available

Monday, Dec. 29, 2014 and Monday, March 2, 2015.

Location and time will be posted at the township hall or call the treasurer.

WINTER TAX DUE DATE: *February 17, 2015* Taxes paid by this date accrue no interest or penalties

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS in Littlefield Township

Last year the State of Michigan gave smaller businesses the opportunity to fill out an affidavit declaring the value of their personal property and to receive an exemption. Most businesses in this Township filled out that form and this year for the first time paid no personal property taxes. Since that time the voters have approved this exemption at the polls so we know that businesses will be given this opportunity again, but we have not been informed by the State of Michigan how they are going to do it. The form you will probably need to fill out yearly is called AFFADAVIT of Owner of Eligible Personal Property Claiming Exemption from Collection of Taxes (Form 5076 Michigan Department of Treasury) Please pay attention to any mail coming from your Assessor. If you are eligible, which most businesses are in Littlefield Township, you do not want to miss getting this exemption.

Littlefield Township Cemetery

- This past spring 207 flags were placed on Veterans graves with the help of the Alanson Boy Scout Troup.
- Fall is a good time of the year to remove all artificial flowers, statuary, flower pots, wind chimes, any personal items, trinkets, etc. that are on your lot. Large urns may be covered or turned upside down to prevent possible damage to them. Waste receptacles have been stored for the winter so if you still need to remove anything please take it with you to dispose of.
- Reminder, no type of 'remembrance lights' nor any other lights may be placed on lots
- If you have any questions or would like information on the cemetery, please contact Kim Morgan at 231-529-5542 or kimmorgan@centurytel.net



UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

"Christmas in Alanson"

A Downtown Open House Event

Friday, December 12, 2014

The light is what guides you home, the warmth is what keeps you there.

- Ellie Rodriguez

Local Fire Department News

The first 11 sets of turn out gear were purchased using the grant from Emmet County and the appropriation from the Township Board. There was also an unexpected generous donation from a township resident that wanted to help out! The total cost of this was around \$28,000! But considering the function of this gear is to protect the life of the men in the line of duty as a volunteer fire fighter that doesn't seem too much. The goal is to purchase approximately 12 more sets of turn out gear to replace the old and outdated gear so that the whole fire department will be adequately protected.

Anyone interested in participating at any level in working on the Alanson Littlefield Fire Department is encouraged to contact the Fire Chief Art Drayton.

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.

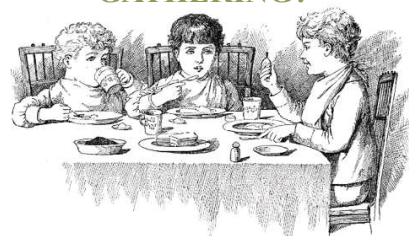


DO YOU NEED A PROPERTY TAX RECEIPT?

About 6 years ago the Township Board in an effort to save approximately \$5,000 per year decided to not send out receipts in the mail unless requested. If you would like a receipt please make your request along with your payment. If you want the receipt mailed to you please enclose a self-address stamped envelope. If you want your receipt faxed or emailed to you please send the fax number or email with your request. The Township Treasurer position is part time and we do not have office hours with staff members to give you receipts upon demand. Please allow time for this.

Thank you.

NEED SOMEPLACE FOR YOUR SPECIAL GATHERING?



Littlefield Alanson Community Hall Rental

Call Dan Plasencia 548-5656

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