



# BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

## Long-time Trustee Stefanos says farewell

Longtime friends and colleagues said so-long but not goodbye to veteran Bloomfield Township Trustee Sherry Stefanos in December. Sherry, a Township trustee since 1995, resigned her elected position effective Jan. 1, 2008.



She plans to take a staff position with Bloomfield Township's Adult Day Service, a program of the Bloomfield Township Senior Services Dept. facilitated through Jewish Vocational Services. "Although I'm sorry to leave the Board, I am looking forward to contributing to the care and nurturing of our seniors in this very important program. I enjoyed my role at ADS as a volunteer, but this

position allows me to become more involved in the day services we offer our residents coping with Alzheimer's and other dementia as well as support for their caregivers. I'm especially excited about the ADS program being moved into the new senior center when that building is completed," Sherry said. Sherry was the first female

Please see Farewell on page 5



## Capital Improvement Program on schedule for 2008-09

Our Capital Improvement Program is moving forward nicely. Construction has begun at Fire Station #2 (Westview) and will continue through the winter.

Construction drawings and specifications are currently being developed for the Senior Center, the DPW Building, Central Fire Station and campus

site improvements. Construction on these facilities is scheduled to begin in the early spring and continue through the end of 2009. The existing Senior Center, exist-

ing DPW Building and existing Central Fire Station will stay in operation during construction. Watch for a groundbreaking ceremony in early spring.

Central Fire Station



DPW Building



(Above) The new 76,397-square-foot DPW building includes a salt storage facility and room to store the Township's road maintenance equipment.

Senior Services Building



The new Senior Center will have enough space for on-site Adult Day Care and offer features such as a therapeutic pool. It will also bring seniors to a more central location.

(Above) This rendition illustrates additions and renovations to be completed on the Central Fire Station located on Exeter Road within the Township Civic Complex. Originally built in 1965, the station is the center for the Fire Dept's administrative and training operations. One of four fire stations throughout the Township, it responds to all fire calls as a back-up to the primary responding station.

### BLOOMFIELD TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2008

#### ELECTED OFFICIALS

#### ADMINISTRATION

Dave Payne, Supervisor  
Janet Roncelli, Clerk  
Dan Devine, Treasurer

#### TRUSTEES

David Buckley  
Neal J. Barnett  
Leo C. Savoie

#### APPOINTED POSITIONS

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

Jeff Salz, Chairman  
Scot Goldberg, Vice Chairman  
Sherry Stefanos, Secretary  
Richard Mintz,  
Jane Reisinger  
Neal Barnett  
William Stark

#### BOARD OF APPEALS

Corinne Khederian, Chairman  
Jane Reisinger, Vice Chairman  
James Aldrich  
David Buckley  
Brian Kepes  
Lisa Seneker  
Robert E. Taylor, Jr  
Brian Henry, Alternate  
Carol Rosati, Alternate

# Recycling program popular with residents

Try throwing away a plastic milk jug or juice bottle at Pam Wyzgoski's home and you will likely be politely stopped and asked to "check the number." If the plastic is marked with a number one through seven, she will direct you to one of her recycling bins.

"Recycling is just something I've always believed in and always tried to incorporate into our daily life," Wyzgoski said.

Wyzgoski is one of the many residents who were pleased to learn last fall that the Township's waste hauler, Rizzo Services, would be

expanding the types of plastic it collects for recycling to include those with designations #1 through #7.

"We recycle so much that our bin was usually full before collection day. I called Rizzo and was really happy to learn that all I had to do was request an extra bin. I want people to know that they can get more bins if they want. It's just a matter of asking," Wyzgoski said.

Now, on recycling pick-up day, three full bins sit ready for collection at Wyzgoski's curb.

"And they aren't full of paper. We regularly drop

paper off at the schools," she said.

Between November 2005 and October 2006, an estimated 17,000 tons of trash were collected from Township residents. During the same time period, an estimated 3,000 tons of recyclables were collected. The tonnage of recyclables collected is expected to increase now that the Township's waste hauler has expanded its service.

Bins are provided by Rizzo Services, free of charge. To have one delivered to your home simply contact Rizzo at 866.772.8900.



A winter storm can bring with it a myriad of problems: power failure (and stores closed because of it), impassible roads, and an interruption to communications systems. Here are some ideas to help residents get through Michigan's long winter.

- Never wait until a prescription medication is exhausted before refilling it.
- Keep flashlights, battery operated radios, and spare batteries in the home.
- Store four days worth of non-perishable, ready-to-eat food.
- Keep a non-electric can opener in your home.
- Purchase a weather radio with S.A.M.E. (Specific Area Message Encoding). These are available at retailers.
- Never use a BBQ grill to heat or cook food inside the home.
- Keep a non-cordless phone for emergencies. In case of power failure, cordless phones will be useless, even if the local phone network is operable.
- Pets continue to need food, water, and their medications during weather related emergencies. Don't forget them.

For more information, go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov). Bloomfield Township Police Community Liaison Officer, Pete Matejcik, can also answer questions. Call him at 248.433.7724.

## Knox Box allows responders access to homes without damaging property



The Bloomfield Township Fire Department offers a new initiative to enhance resident safety. The *Knox Box Safety Program* ensures that emergency responders can access your home without any damage to doors or windows if you cannot open the door for them. Mounted outdoors, the Knox Box gives the Fire Dept. quick access to a home in an emergency or when the homeowner is not home. It is completely secure. Only the Fire Dept./EMS can open your door. It eliminates the need

for forced entry and/or dependence upon family or neighbors who may not be available.

This program is for residents who live alone, are disabled or who care for someone unable to open a door. The cost of the Knox Box and installation is paid by the homeowner. For more information, call Bloomfield Township Senior Services 248.341.6450 or the Bloomfield Township Fire Dept. 248.433.7745.

"This new program further enhances the safety of our most frail citizens while reducing the need for home repairs after what has likely been a very stressful situation. I applaud our Fire Dept. for this new opportunity for residents," said Christine Tvaroha, Director of Bloomfield Township Senior Services.



### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TIME: 8:00 P.M.  
DATE: 2nd and 4th Monday  
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

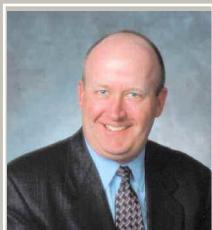
### PLANNING COMMISSION

TIME: 7:00 P.M.  
DATE: 1st and the 3rd Monday  
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

TIME: 7:00 P.M.  
DATE: 2nd Tuesday  
LOCATION: Township Auditorium

NOTE: The Charter Township of Bloomfield will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services at all meetings to individuals with disabilities. All such requests must be made at least five days prior to said meeting. Please contact the Bloomfield Township Clerk's Office.  
PO Box 489 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303-0489  
248.433.7702  
Fax: 248.433.7714



## A NOTE FROM Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor

You may have heard by now that

the PGA Championship Tournament will be held in Bloomfield Township at Oakland Hills Country Club, August 4-10, 2008. The tournament will feature 156 of the world's top golfers and draw up to 40,000 people each day. It will attract media attention from all over the world. Bloomfield Township will be center stage.

As host community, it is the Township's responsibility to provide all public services and do everything possible to assure a safe and secure event. Our Police Department will be the lead law enforcement agency. It will direct and coordinate

the work of other local police departments, the Michigan State Police, Oakland County Sheriff's Department, the FBI, Secret Service, ATF and Homeland Security. Additionally, Bloomfield Township Police will implement a traffic plan that will allow for spectators to arrive in a timely fashion with minimal disruption to motorists and area residents.

Our Fire Department will be responsible for all emergency medical services, fire suppression, fire inspection and hazardous material protection. It will also coordinate the work of private ambulance companies and doctors from area hospitals, and plan for emergency evacuation, natural and technical disasters and severe weather.

The Planning, Building and Code Enforcement departments will assure that the hundreds of thousands of square feet of temporary covered structures meet all safety standards. In addition, they will review all Special Events permits which are necessary for the many social and corporate functions taking place throughout the surrounding areas. The Water Division will assure a safe water supply to a population that will be five times greater than normal that week, and the Road Division will maintain roads and signage to assure safe and efficient passage for the hundreds of thousands of extra vehicles that week.

All direct expenses will be reimbursed by the PGA.

As we do everything in

our power to make this a safe and secure event, we also intend to minimize disruption to our residents and businesses. We will be working with the Birmingham Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce and hold a meeting with our local businesses to gather their input. As the time draws near, we will send all Township residents a special newsletter detailing traffic, parking and other arrangements. The Township website has a section dedicated to the PGA Championship. On this section, there is a contact form by which you may email specific questions or concerns. We have established a telephone hotline – 248.642.7608 – to give basic information and answer specific questions.

Please see [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) for detailed information.

## Watch for announcements on the next Household Hazardous Waste Day

Several residents called the Township to report receiving their copy of the Newsletter the week of Oct. 8, days after the long anticipated Township Open House and Household Hazardous Waste drop off events.

In addition to missing the near perfect weather that greeted Open House attendees Oct. 7, many residents also missed the chance to dispose of unwanted and hazardous materials like paints, cleaning chemicals, and mercury thermometers.

The Township holds two Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off days, typically the first Saturday in May and the first Saturday in October.

While an additional hazardous waste drop off day can not be added to the calendar prior to the May date, the Township's Engineering and Environmental Services Dept. can answer specific questions regarding proper storage and disposal of

household hazardous waste. They can be reached at 248.594.2800 or via email at [EES\\_dept@bloomfieldtwp.org](mailto:EES_dept@bloomfieldtwp.org)

The E & E Dept. also has a long list of suggested safe alternatives people can use in place of common household cleaning solutions. For a complete list, visit the E & E section of the Township website. at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) and locate the E & E page from the "Services" sub page.



### Postal errors delayed Fall Newsletter

A processing error at the Bloomfield Hills Carrier Annex of the U.S. Postal Service caused a major delay in the delivery of the

Township's Fall Newsletter. While the Post Office assures the Township that it

Please see DELAY on page 4

## Comcast moving BCTV's Channel 15 position

Comcast notified Bloomfield Township officials in mid-December that all Public, Education and Government (PEG) access channels would be moved to the digital tier, effective January 15, 2008.

Bloomfield Community Television (BCTV), the government access channel offered by Bloomfield Township, will no longer be on channel 15. It has been changed to 915.

The Bloomfield Hills Schools channel has been changed to 902 and the Birmingham Schools channel

has been changed to 903.

Comcast notified its subscribers of this change in its November bills.

Comcast analog subscribers (basic tiers) need a digital converter box to view channel 915. Comcast will provide one box per household at no charge for one year. Please call Comcast at 1.877.824.2984 to find out how to obtain this box.

Bloomfield Community Television produces approximately 500 programs a year that focus on the people, places and events that make

this community unique.

These programs are brought to BCTV by community organizations and local residents who want to share their expertise and ideas with their neighbors via the medium of television.

In addition, BCTV produces many programs and announcements that specifically address Township services.

BCTV is a department of Bloomfield Township and is funded by franchise fees and PEG fees returned to the Township by the cable provider.

### DELAY from page 3

will work hard to correct the problem, residents can make sure they get the latest news by joining our E-mail update service.

The free service allows residents to receive E-mail notifications from Bloomfield Township.

Notices are sent approximately once each month or when circumstances call for a special notice.

E-mail reminders are also sent when the quarterly

Township Newsletter is posted on the website, two weeks before it arrives in residents' mailboxes.

To subscribe visit the Township website at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org) and select the "E-mail List" option from the home page. The link directs users to enter their e-mail address and submit.

Bloomfield Township relies on several communications vehicles in order to keep residents informed of

important happenings in the community. In addition to its website at [www.bloomfieldtwp.org](http://www.bloomfieldtwp.org), the Township also runs regular messages on Bloomfield Community Television Channel 15, announcements in newspapers and through regular features in its quarterly Newsletter. The Township makes sure newsletters are ready for mailing well in advance of any special events on its calendar.



## Is Your Home Ready for Winter?

A quick walking inventory of weak areas in a home's defense system against icy winter winds can net manifold benefits for homeowners. The following list of home winterization tips was prepared by the Bloomfield Township Building Department.

- Check the condition of caulk around places where electrical cables, air conditioning wiring and condensation lines enter a home.
- Check the condition of covers around outdoor electrical outlets.
- Disconnect garden hoses from hose bibs. Water trapped inside the hose can freeze pipes even when the outdoor faucet valve is turned off.
- Cover the air conditioner.
- Remove snow that accumulates to one foot or more from a home's roof. This will minimize ice damming.
- Change smoke detector and carbon monoxide sensor batteries the first of the year.
- Change furnace filters every month (check the manufacturer's specifications).
- Have furnaces inspected bi-annually by a licensed mechanical contractor for the first 10 years and annually thereafter.

## 2008 is promising to be an exciting year for elections

Four elections command the attention of Bloomfield Township voters in 2008. Beginning in January, the Presidential Primary Election debuts on Tuesday, January 15, as a closed primary. Voters must select a Republican or Democratic ballot to vote for their

favorite presidential candidate. This election promises to be a memorable event considering all the last-minute legislative and judicial challenges facing this primary.

The second election of the year affects only Bloomfield Township residents in the

Pontiac School District. The Pontiac School Board will schedule a school board election for Tuesday, May 6, 2008. However, at this writing, the Pontiac School Board has until December 31, 2007 to select another date for 2008. The summer months promise to be campaign time for the

third election of the year, the August Primary. This election is on the agenda for Tuesday, August 5, 2008. Following this primary will be the November 4, 2008 General Election.

The Clerk's office encourages all eligible voters to cast a ballot in 2008.

## Farewell from page 1



Long-time Township Trustee Sherry Stefanec, third from right) receives a warm thank you from her colleagues upon announcing her intention to step down. Saying farewell to Sherry from left to right are: Trustee Leo Savoie, Clerk Jan Roncelli, Supervisor Dave Payne, Trustee Neal Barnett, Treasurer Dan Devine and Trustee David Buckley.

Trustee to serve on the Bloomfield Township Board. She was appointed to the position in 1995, elected in 1996 and re-elected in 2000 and 2004. Prior to serving as a Trustee, she served for two

years on the Township Zoning Board of Appeals. In November 2002, Sherry was appointed to the Township Planning Commission and has served on this board concurrently with her service on the

## Proper de-icing leads to a healthier environment

The Township Public Works Dept. makes every practical effort to minimize the environmental impact of de-icing while providing safe and clear roadways for residents, school buses and emergency vehicles. These efforts include: effective coordination and scheduling of salt application, using computer-controlled and calibrated applicators to maximize efficiency; pre-wetting salt in extreme cold temperatures and proper salt storage and management.

Keeping sidewalks and driveways safe and clear is important, but traditional de-

icing salts have a negative effect on our environment.

After salt is applied, it can be washed off paved surfaces into storm drains or onto adjacent ground. From there it can then be carried into nearby bodies of water. This may cause increased salinity of the soil and water and have a detrimental effect on plants and animals.

De-icing salt can also affect groundwater because it dissolves readily and can percolate through the soil.

To protect the environment, store de-icing material in a dry place and try the following tips:

Board of Trustees.

Sherry has a long and varied history of community involvement.

She is the immediate past-president of the Birmingham Bloomfield Community Coalition. She was president of the Bloomfield

Village Board of Trustees and has held leadership positions in the Women Officials' Network, several Birmingham Public Schools' parents groups and the Junior League of Birmingham. She was the District Liaison for Shelley Goodman Taub, former State Representative, 40th District. Sherry and her husband George are the

parents of three adult children.

Dave Payne, Bloomfield Township Supervisor, said, "We will miss Sherry's insight and dedication. She has been an extremely committed Trustee, always prepared and well informed about the issues in front of us at each meeting."

Dave Payne  
Township Supervisor

We will miss Sherry's insight and dedication. She has been an extremely committed Trustee, always prepared and well informed about the issues in front of us at each meeting.



Place a small amount of salt down before the snow storm to prevent ice build-up.

Slightly wet salt before you apply it so it will stick to snow and ice. Consider

alternative de-icing materials.

Although materials such as calcium chloride and calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) are a bit more expensive, they have less impact on the environment.

## On our Cover



A hard snowfall can make most couples think twice about driving but Jon and Katie Grigsby log hundreds of miles annually in some of Michigan's worst weather. The two are Bloomfield Township Road Dept. equipment operators responsible for, among other things, clearing subdivision streets of snow and ice.

Jon, an 11-year Road Dept. veteran, is responsible for 42 miles of Township roads.

[His route runs from Lahser and Hickory Grove to Square Lake (east of Woodward) and up to the northwest corner of the Township.] Katie, with the Road Dept. since 2002, clears Bloomfield Village streets.

Bloomfield Township is the only township in Michigan that operates its own Road Division. Jon and Katie are part of a 17 person, full-time crew that maintains 176 miles of subdivision roads and an additional 37 miles of unpaved roads within the Township.

Talking about their jobs, both Katie and Jon explain the science behind navigating a multi-ton truck with a plow that extends several feet beyond the vehicle's

width through narrow streets.

"We need to get within two inches of the mailboxes in order for postal workers to be able to deliver the mail," Katie said. "That's a bit of a trick and you have to keep up your speed in order to actually push the snow out."

Township trucks operate with two plows, the 12-foot wide front plow and a smaller, underbody plow.

"The underbody plow just won't move heavy snow so you really have to do the first pass with the big, front plow," Katie said.

But the real trick for Jon and Katie and all Township plow drivers comes when residents park on the street during heavy snow events.

"Sometimes you have to back all the way down a street because you can't turn around. Those trucks don't turn and stop like cars so it takes some finesse," Katie said.

And as much as the Grigsbys enjoy the challenge of their job, the sense of accomplishment after clearing miles of streets of slippery snow and the feeling of community that comes from working a designated territory, they agree that the real bonus of the job comes from working with great people.

"Our department is really like a family. Everyone in our department is really committed to providing the best service to residents," Jon said.

**TOWN&HIP DIRECTORY**

433-7730  
Water/Sewer Emergency

Administration 433-7700  
Accounting 433-7712  
Assessor's Office 433-7710  
Building Dept. 433-7715  
Clerk's Office 433-7702  
Community Cable 433-7790  
Engineering & Env. 594-2800  
Fire Non-Emergency 433-7745  
Police Department 433-7750  
Administration 433-7750  
Non-Emergency 433-7755  
Animal Welfare 433-7757  
Investigations 433-7760  
Alarm Info 433-7775  
Property 433-7777  
Records 433-7776  
Public Works 433-7709  
Road Division 433-7709  
Water & Sewer 433-7731  
Senior Services 341-6450  
Adult Day Service 335-2813  
Treasurer's Office 433-7705

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