



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2015

12050 Old Belding Road Belding, MI 48809 616-691-8450
Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00a.m.—4:00p.m.

TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor:	Frank Force
Clerk:	Kessie Brummel
Treasurer:	Sabrina Freeman
Trustee:	Dennis Heffron
Trustee:	Paul Knoerl

FROM THE SUPERVISOR:

Another year is coming to an end. Soon the Township will be generating their budget for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, which begins April 1, 2016. Everyone is invited to these meetings or any other meeting. The dates and times of all Township Board Meetings are posted on the front window of the Township.

Sewer Update

As Sewer Administrator I always like to talk about the sewer and the great strides that the Township has made with upgrading an old and ailing system. In two years our sewer system will have its 40th birthday and it is feeling some old age pains. As you know all the sewer customers are helping us upgrade our system and keeping it in good shape through the Capital Improvement Fee that you see on your bill each quarter. In 2014 the Township was awarded a grant from the State called a SAW grant which stands for Storm Water, Asset Management and Wastewater Grant Program. Even though we do not have a Township owned storm water collection system, our grant is providing electronic sewer maps, rate studies, capacity studies and a system assessment that will help us keep our system in good working order for years to come. The work paid for by this grant will take place over a three year period and should be completed in late 2016 or early 2017.

We have our Township engineer, Prein&Newhof, to thank for helping us procure this grant and providing the expertise to take full advantage of it. Infrastructure Alternatives, our sewer maintenance company, is also involved in providing services to facilitate the work being done by the engineers. Infrastructure has provided excellent service to the Grattan community through their outstanding maintenance work in the last six and one half years.

Free Wi-Fi

I would like to let everyone know that the Township is now providing free Wi-Fi through the generosity of the Kent District Library. It has an approximate 500 foot range so you will have to come to the hall to take advantage of it. It does not require a password.



Farewell and Welcome

We bid farewell to Tori Meyer, our Zoning and Building Administrative Assistant. She has resigned her position to move to Indian River. Her husband accepted a teaching position there, so the family made the move to north country. We all wish Tori and her husband the best of luck with their new home and future endeavors.

Grattan also welcomes our new Zoning and Building Administrative Assistant, Laura Kuhnert, who has taken over Tori's duties. She is very experienced and is adjusting to her new duties. We are very happy that she has joined the staff as we have seen increased building activity in the Township which bodes well for the economy in general and we hope to see it continue.

Committee Members Needed

Grattan Township needs to fill an opening for a Member of the Safety Board of Appeals Committee. This committee meets as needed to address issues of docks and safety on our lakes. We really need a representative from Big Crooked Lake. We also will have an opening for an Alternate Member on the Fire Administrative and Safety Committee, that meets 4 times a year, or more as needed to interview potential fire fighters and address needs of our Fire Department and other safety issues in the Township. We would like to encourage our residents involvement to serve as committee members. If you would like to serve on any committees please submit a Committee Application to Grattan Township. The applications are at the township office or you can find it on our website www.grattantownship.org on the Applications and Forms tab.

Frank Force
Supervisor

FROM THE CLERKS OFFICE:

New Deputy Clerk

Amy Sue Brown is now our Deputy Clerk at Grattan. Amy was working as our Zoning, Building Administrative Assistant for the last two years and as of last April transferred to the Clerk's office. Amy had worked as an Election Official before becoming your deputy, so you may have met her if you came in to vote.

Luckily there was only the one election this year, and we had time to comfortably make this adjustment. Amy has caught on quickly. I feel blessed to be partnered up with her.

The Ballot for March 8, 2016 election will include 2 Fire Department fire millages due for renewal.

Grattan Clean Up Day is Saturday, May 14, 2016 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Things not accepted are as follows: No liquids, brush or yard waste, or hazardous materials. Tires must be cut in half or cut the sidewalls out, and propane and fuel oil tanks must be cut in half and cleaned out. For a complete list of Household Items not accepted and disposal options for those items please visit www.accessKent.com/hhw.

Kessie Brummel
Clerk

FROM THE TREASURER:

Dates to Remember

December 1, 2015 – 2015 Winter tax bills mailed

December 29, 2015 – Township Office will be open to collect taxes only 9:00am – 5:00pm

February 16, 2016 – Winter taxes due

February 29, 2016 – Last day to pay 2015 Summer and Winter taxes at the Township Township will be open 9:00am – 5:00pm to collect taxes

March 3, 2016 – Taxes sent to Kent County as delinquent Contact County at (616) 632-7500 after March 10, 2016

You may purchase dog licenses at the Township all year.

Sabrina Freeman
Treasurer

DROP BOX

We do have a drop box slot on the front of the Township Office. Feel free to drop off payments for Taxes or Sewer in our locked drop box.

FROM THE FIRE CHIEF:

Congratulations to Ken Brandes on his appointment as Deputy Fire Chief. Congrats also to Joel Steenwyk and Mike Conley as newly appointed Lieutenants. George Smith III is now the Instructor Coordinator for our EMS continuing education program and sponsor of our medical classes.

The Fire Department welcomes 4 new personnel Kyle Ford, John Rasch, Falcia Pelkey, and Matthew Ferguson. Matthew has already been through the Fire Academy and is looking for a medical class to attend. Kyle, John, and Falica are currently going through the Fire Academy and should graduate this coming spring. We are looking forward to working with all of them.

If interested in community service please stop by the Township and fill out an application or call the Chief at 485-5925. We would like to add a few more fire fighters.

Wood stoves are now being fired up, let's be cautious. Please be sure to clean and inspect the chimneys prior to using them. Chimney fires are the cause of many of our structure fires, so please check your smoke and fire detectors to make certain they are all working properly.

Louis Kirkbride
Fire Chief



This year's Toys for Tots Campaign is in full swing. The need is great this year. We have set a goal of 250 this year! We will be collecting toys from November 15th thru December 15th. Toys should be new and unwrapped, for ages 1 to 16. Grattan Township drop off locations are:

Grattan Township Office (Mon-Thur 9-4)
Grattan Fire Station
Grattan General Store
Crickets Crop Shop (across from General Store)

All of the toys collected will stay in our area.

Historical Society

Please join us on Tuesday, December 1st at 7:00pm for our annual get together at the Grattan Township Hall. Refreshments will be served. Please bring a toy for Toys for Tots.

The Grattan Museum is closed for the winter and will reopen in the spring. If you wish to visit the museum in the winter months, please call 616-826-1872 and we will be happy to set up an appointment for you.

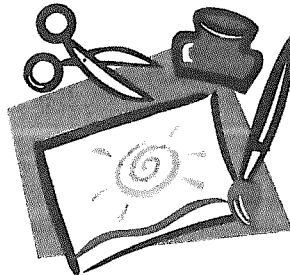
Family, Friends and Neighbors

Family, Friends and Neighbors will again be hosting fund raising crops in 2016. Donations from these crops help support different organizations within our township. The crops are on Friday and Saturday from 9:00a.m. to 10:00p.m. If you have some unfinished scrapbooking or sewing projects and would like to join us please contact Dianna at 616-826-1872 or email force.cricket@gmail.com Registration is required as there is a limited number of spaces.

All crops are fundraisers. Mark your calendars for the following dates:

January 8th & 9th	February 5th & 6th
March 4th & 5th	April 1st & 2nd
May 6th & 7th	June 3rd & 4th
August 5th & 6th	September 9th & 10th
October 7th & 8th	November 4th & 5th
December 2nd & 3rd	

All Crops are held at: Grattan Township Hall
12050 Old Belding Rd NE in the Village of Grattan (48809)



IMPORTANT INFO FROM KENT COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION ROAD WORK / GRATTAN TOWNSHIP BEGINS IN APRIL 2016

Lincoln Lake Reconstruction from Five Mile Road to M-44

Proposed Work: Work includes tree removal, removing existing asphalt and concrete pavement, earthwork, sand subbase and aggregate base, asphalt pavement, ditching, concrete curb & gutter and restoration in order to construct a 2- lane all weather roadway.

Duration: Approximately 6 Months

Traffic Control: Through traffic will be detoured and local traffic will be maintained for the duration of the project.

Happy Holidays!
From Grattan Township Staff



Grattan Township Meeting Schedules

Location: Township Hall Time: 7:00pm

Township Board	2nd Mon. each month And 4th Mon. as needed
Planning Comm.	1st Wed. monthly as needed
ZBA	3rd Wed. monthly as needed
Safety Board	4th Thur. monthly as needed
FASC	4th Wed. monthly as needed
Sewer Advisory	3rd Tue. monthly as needed

website www.grattantownship.org & TV Cable Channel 25

CLIP & SAVE

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GRATTAN TOWNSHIP
EMERGENCY SERVICE
PHONE: (616) 776-9656