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# BAY TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Summer 2017

## Meet your Board of Trustees:

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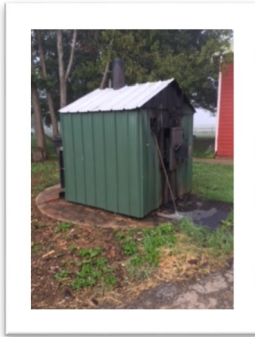
### Trustee:

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The Board of Trustees  
meets the 2nd Thursday  
of every month at 7:00  
PM at the Bay Township  
Hall in Horton Bay

## Thank You for Making Your Voices Heard!

### An update on the Township's approach to regulating Outdoor Wood Furnaces



In January, the Bay Township Planning Commission hosted a very well attended public input session on the topic of Outdoor Wood Furnaces. The purpose of the session was to better understand the desires and concerns of Township residents, and if a local ordinance would be appropriate. Thank you to everyone who contributed time and information regarding this important topic.

Based on the public input and the severity of the health risks posed by Outdoor Wood Furnaces to neighboring residents, the Planning Commission has decided that this matter exceeds the scope of township regulations, and may be better handled on an individual basis through the MDEQ, Health Department, or other means necessary. Thus, the Township has decided to reevaluate what the Township intends to regulate, and focus on public education (educational resources can be found at: <http://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/healthy-air/indoor/indoor-air-pollutants/residential-wood-burning.html>).

### Health Impacts of Outdoor Wood Furnaces

A presentation by the American Lung Association was quite eye opening regarding the severity of the health risks due to smoke exposure from improperly used Outdoor Wood Furnaces. Smoke from these units can be harmful to the health of those in your home and your community. This is especially true for people with lung conditions, as well as children, older adults, people with cardiovascular disease and diabetics. This is because the wood is incompletely burned, and the smoke contains carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds, black carbon and air toxins such as benzene. It also contains fine particle pollution (PM2.5), a particle so tiny that it can get deep into the lungs, harming the lungs, blood vessels and heart. Breathing in pollutants from Outdoor Wood Furnaces can trigger coughing, wheezing, asthma attacks, heart attacks, and even lead to lung cancer and premature death, among other health effects.

### Grants to upgrade Outdoor Wood Furnaces

To reduce adverse health impacts, the American Lung Association is partnering with local retailers to offer financial incentives to upgrade wood burning units. Homeowners of the Lower Peninsula of Michigan that use older wood-or-coal burning heating appliances as their primary or significant heating source may apply for a rebate to replace or retrofit these older appliances with cleaner-burning, more energy-efficient heating appliances and technologies. Residents can receive up to \$4,000 to upgrade a non-compliant system to new EPA-certified hydronic heater or new energy efficient gas furnace or boiler. Learn more about the program at: [http://www.lung.org/local-content/\\_content-items/our-initiatives/current-initiatives/MI-Woodstoves.html](http://www.lung.org/local-content/_content-items/our-initiatives/current-initiatives/MI-Woodstoves.html)

### Using the Zoning Ordinance to Protect Public Health

Instead of adopting a stand-alone ordinance to regulate Outdoor Wood Furnaces, the Planning Commission is exploring updates to the current zoning standards to make sure new Outdoor Wood Furnaces do not have adverse health impacts on neighboring property owners.

(continued on page 2)

A few standards the Planning Commission is considering include requiring an increased setback and minimum stack height, and requiring that all units adhere to the manufacturer's instructions. Please note that the term Outdoor Wood Furnace is not limited to outdoor units, as it is common to locate such units within some sort of non-residence structure. Currently, zoning requires a zoning permit and a county mechanical permit before installation of an Outdoor Wood Furnace.

As always, any changes to the current ordinance will be presented at a public hearing before being reviewed by the County Planning Dept. Please check the Bay Township website for updates and the public hearing schedule.

## Burning Household Refuse

Many Michiganders may be unaware that in 2012 the State of Michigan passed a law banning the open burning of certain household items. Burning these materials can release harmful emissions and pose fire risks. Surprisingly, Michigan was the last Great Lakes state that allowed residents to burn household garbage in barrels. Under this law, it is a civil infraction to openly burn household waste that contains plastic, rubber, foam, chemically treated wood, textiles, electronics, chemicals or hazardous materials. The fine is \$75 for two offenses within three years, \$150 for three offenses during that time, and \$300 for each subsequent offense in a three-year period.



*Natalie Richards, daughter of Nikki and Aron Richards working hard to clean up all the trash at the Stolt Road public access site. Clean up at Lake Street Road was held on Saturday, June 24th. **Mark your calendar for next year; Saturday, June 16th from 9:00 AM - Noon.***

### Tips from the Treasurer

#### Make sure your check includes:

- Black or blue ink.
- The correct amount.
- Date and signature.
- Contact Steve Ritter, Treasurer 231-881-0098 if necessary to set up a time to meet at the Township Hall.

## Township Road Millage - Your Tax Dollars at Work

The Board of Trustees has continued to follow the 2015 Road Plan as it administers the funds generated by the 1.0 mill road millage authorized by the residents of Bay Township. The funds generated in 2015 and 2016 were combined and used primarily to fund the repair and resurfacing of Camp Daggett Road from approximately Camp Sherwood to the county line. In addition, a section of Stolt Road was also repaired. The project cost \$288,000. We are proud to inform you that this work was recognized by the Asphalt Pavement Association of Michigan for superior construction quality. The contractor, Reith Riley, nominated the project following its completion. The work was judged on:

Appearance: includes overall neatness, no overspray or left over materials;

Ride: must be smooth;

Texture Uniformity: free of segregation, major surface grinding, roller marks, etc.;

Longitudinal and Transverse Joints: straight, well-blended, smooth and uniform;

Edges: straight, uniform, true to the contour of the road.

The Camp Daggett/Stolt Road project scored high on these construction qualities and as a result the Charlevoix County Road Commission was given an *Award of Merit* for this exceptional paving project funded by the residents of Bay Twp.

This summer the Township will be repairing and resurfacing Sumner Road between Boyne City/Charlevoix Road and Camp Daggett Road and a portion of Chappelle within the Villa De Charlevoix subdivision. The board is most interested in obtaining your suggestions and feedback about our future plans. The Road Plan can be reviewed at our website: <http://www.baytownshipmi.org/>.

A special thank you to all contributors to the Bay Township Summer 2017 Newsletter including, Chuck Vondra, Charlevoix County Sheriff; Clair Karner, AICP Associate, Beckett & Raeder, Inc.; Dennis Amesbury, Boyne City Fire Chief; Al Welsheimer, RBCFD Chief; Asuka Barden, BC Historical Commission member; Jim Vanek, Clerk; Steve Ritter, Treasurer; Georganna Monk, Trustee; Bill Wehrenberg, Trustee; Ron Van Zee, Zoning Administrator; Dave Skornia, Planning Commission Chairman; Wendy Simmons, Planning Commission and ZBA Member; Christine Redman, Cemetery Committee Chairman.

**Georganna Monk and Wendy Simmons, Co-Editors**

## Boyne City Fire Department

Dennis Amesbury, Fire Chief, reports that this is a very significant year for them. First, the department will be moving into brand new facilities in July of this year. The station is part of the new Boyne City facilities complex. Bay Township residents are invited to attend the festivities to celebrate the Opening, as well as the 100th Anniversary of the city's 1917 LaFrance Fire Engine, beginning with Stroll the Streets at 6 PM on Friday, August 11th. The LaFrance will be on display and a raffle will be held that evening for a ride in the fire truck.

Throughout the weekend, the Antique Car Show will pay special tribute to antique and vintage fire engines from other Fire Departments which will also be on display. An Open House and Museum Preview where the LaFrance will be permanently showcased is on tap as well on Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> at the new facilities.

The United States Post Office will be releasing a Special Edition Cancellation Pictorial Postmark of the Boyne City LaFrance Firetruck. Boyne City Post Office employees will be at the City Hall to stamp your post cards and letters during the Open House. For updated information please contact the City of Boyne City or the BC Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Amesbury reports that for year 2016 the department responded to 11 calls in the southern portion of Bay Township. The actual fire calls were deemed minor, one brush fire and one grill fire. In addition, there was 1 car accident and 2 ambulance calls. The most frequent call for services was in response to downed electric lines.



*Progress being made on the City of Boyne City's new complex which will house the new BCFD. Picture taken June 3, 2017.*

## Resort/Bear Creek Fire Department

This department, which covers the northern half of the township, received 24 calls in 2016. Fortunately only one was classified as a major incident. This was a one car roll-over with the driver trapped inside the vehicle. Other incidents included events like a furnace malfunction, ATV rollover and motor vehicle accidents. Unfortunately, more than one half of the calls were false alarms. The issue of residential false alarms remains a concern and there is a charge-back policy in place if property owners do not take steps to rectify the problem.

All of the dry hydrants serviced by the department have been checked this spring and there were no issues. Al Welsheimer, the RBCFD Chief, reports that the department has an average response time of 7 minutes although it is slightly longer for Bay Township since we are at the outer limits of the district.

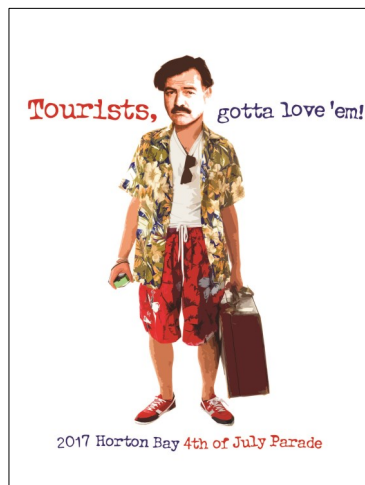
His staff enrolled in more than 1700 hours of continuing training and education.

As an additional service to the township, the RBCFD received a grant for the purchase of 9-volt batteries for smoke and CO detectors from the Energizer Battery Company and are available, while supplies last, by contacting the department at 231.347.0592.



*Last year the folks at Lavender Hill Farm planted 10 lavender plants around the Bay Township Hall's Flagpole. We are happy to announce they all made it through the winter and are thriving, thanks to the continued care of Lavender Hill Farms.*

## Parade Committee wants to break a 'MILLION' in Attendance



The Horton Bay Parade Committee announces the parade is on again this year because of popular demand. They are hopeful to make it bigger and better with an eye toward making it an annual gathering and re-establishing it as a must-see Northern Michigan event. This year's theme: **Tourists, You've Got to Love Them!**

The rules: **Nothing Mean, Nothing Serious and Nothing Dangerous.** Entree forms can be picked up at the Horton Bay General Store, by emailing [hortonbay-parade@gmail.com](mailto:hortonbay-parade@gmail.com) or call 231.675.2245 for questions.

The parade will start at 1:00 PM on Monday, July 4th.

Authorizing a curb side trash pick-up again this year was an easy decision based upon positive feedback following last years event. Complete results on this years collection held June 8th will be detailed in our winter newsletter. Please contact Bill Wehrenberg for any questions or comments at 231.439.9880.



## Community Pride is Everyone's Responsibility

Recently the Board of Trustees has been made aware of a number of acts of theft and vandalism within Bay Township. Signage at some of our road lake ends and launch sites, including very crucial Fire Department Hydrant location signs, have been damaged and even destroyed. In addition, thefts of dock equipment and landscaping material have occurred.

While Sheriff Chuck Vondra states that the incidence of reported vandalism has not increased, he is concerned that these unregistered occurrences are now coming to his attention and stresses the importance of every citizen to be diligent about immediately reporting to his office any acts of vandalism they may observe. He has also concentrated the patrol efforts in our township and will document and act on any suspicious activity.

Remember, it is your tax dollars that are spent to repair and replace these items. We strive to use our township resources diligently and wisely. Please help us and everyone to benefit and take pride in our beautiful Bay Township!

### Wreaths Across America

It was a very calm but chilly and snowy day on Saturday December 17, 2016, nonetheless a large group gathered to place 45 remembrance wreaths on every veteran's grave as well as the seven Ceremonial wreaths, in our three cemeteries in Bay Township. A special thanks goes out to American Legion Post Commander Dean Kleinschrodt for playing taps at all 3 cemeteries and to local resident Diane Burke for the beautiful photography, as well as to retired Air Force Veteran Terrill of Colorado (pictured) for delivering our wreaths. His trucking company's (Try Hours Inc.) donation made it possible for many of the participating WAA groups to receive their wreaths on time and in some fairly inclement weather.



Please plan to join us Saturday, December 16, 2017 when for our 4th year, The Bay Township Area Cemeteries (BTAC) group will be proud to be an official location for Wreaths Across America! **"I'm An American, Yes I Am"** is National Wreaths Across America Day Theme for 2017.

The cutoff date for US mailed sponsorships is November 27, (the Monday after Thanksgiving) and online orders by December 1, 2017. A complete list, Sponsor Forms and more information can be obtained at the Township's website: [www.baytownship.org](http://www.baytownship.org) or by contacting Georganna Monk, location leader, at the phone and email listed on the front of the newsletter.

Since 2014, Patrick McCleary and Georganna Monk have been compiling photographs, biographical material and military memorabilia on the 46 veterans interred in the three Bay Township Cemeteries. It is their hope to see this material published in the near future, creating a lasting memorial tribute to all of our Bay Township veterans. They would like to take this opportunity to thank the many family and friends who have contributed information and also reach out to others who would like to assist them in documenting the lives and military careers of these Bay Township veterans. If you can assist with photographs or other materials, please contact Patrick at 231.348.8255 or Georganna at 231.883.9867.

### The following 46 U.S. Veterans are known to be buried in our three cemeteries in Bay Township:

#### OAK LAWN CEMETERY

(1):  
Edward Dodge Park

#### NORTH BAY CEMETERY

(26):  
Larry (Herm) Bergmann  
Rev. James Calvin Bradley  
Lewis Brecheisen  
Richard Lavern Buckmaster  
Henry U. Dyer  
Oliver Mitchell Jodway  
Albert Johncheck Sr.  
Harold Roy Johncheck

Henry Johncheck  
Marvin D. Johncheck  
Charles G. Kimball  
Earl E. Kritcher  
Ray Allen Kunkle  
Eldon Lake  
Henry "Ray" Leismer  
Peter Leist, Sr.  
Joseph Lorentz  
Roy D. Miller  
Dorman J. Robinson  
Edward Starmer  
Robert Charles Stutzman Sr.  
Charles Sundberg

William Thomas Weller  
Benjamin F. West  
Quinton Dale White Sr.  
Renold L. Willis

#### DYER CEMETERY

(19):  
Paul Aiff  
Patrick A. Bleske  
James Bogetto  
John H. Corwin  
Douglas Warren Daman  
Donald Lee Eggers

Cornelius Flagg  
William Hervin  
Miles F. Norton  
Henry Mathews  
William H. Ohle  
John Lyman Overshiner  
Philip C. Sahara  
Carl Skornia  
Robert Wesley Stolt  
Alonzo J. Stroud  
Kevin Von Allmen  
Isaac Willis Jr.  
Wendell L. Willis