



# Kimball Township News

Issue 55

Kimball Township - WEBSITE: [kimballtownship.org](http://kimballtownship.org)

January 2014



## 2014

I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

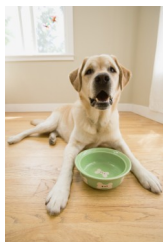
Can you believe that another year has passed? It seems like just yesterday we were ringing in 2013. A lot has changed here at the Township Hall. We had two retirements and a few new people that joined our staff.

And as you already know Marcia Worley, our Administrative Assistant retired the beginning of summer.

Our Deputy Treasurer, Sally Dupell retired on December 2nd. She will be missed by all of us here at Kimball.

Wendy O'Connor is Sally's new replacement. Wendy joined the Kimball staff in April as a Clerk I and was sworn in as Deputy Treasurer on December 2, 2013. Welcome Wendy!

## DOG TAGS



Dog tags are now for sale at the Kimball Township Hall from December 2, 2013 until February 28, 2014.

The cost for altered dogs is \$12.00 and non-altered dogs is \$22.00.

You **"must"** have proof of your dogs current rabies shot when purchasing tags. We are no longer able to call your veterinarian to get that information.

**There will be no exceptions!**



## WINTER VEHICLE EMERGENCY KIT

### Supplies should include:

- \* At least two blankets or a sleeping bag
- \* Flashlight or battery-powered lantern & extra batteries
- \* Booster (jumper) cables
- \* Emergency flares
- \* Extra clothing, particularly boots, hats and mittens
- \* A steel shovel and rope to use as a lifeline
- \* Bottled water or juice and nonperishable high-energy foods (granola bars, raisins, nuts, etc.)
- \* First-aid kit and necessary medications
- \* Sand or non-clumping cat litter for tire traction, if your vehicle gets stuck in snow or ice
- \* A cell phone and car charger
- \* Ice scraper and snow brush
- \* Tire repair kit and pump

## SAFETY TIPS IF STRANDED

The best advice is to remain with the vehicle. It guarantees shelter.

- \* Tie a bright colored cloth to the vehicle's antenna, driver door handle or outside mirror
- \* Keep the exhaust pipe clear of snow. Poisonous gases can filter into the vehicle if clogged.
- \* Run the engine and heater no more than 10 minutes every hour with a window slightly cracked
- \* Light a flare or turn on a flashlight to let others know that you are stranded
- \* Use floor mats, seat covers and blankets for added warmth.
- \* Keep bottled water in your emergency kit of vehicle. Never eat snow. It will chill you and lower your body temperature.
- \* Remain calm. Chances for rescue are better if you remain calm and in your vehicle.



## From the Elections Desk

As we ring in the New Year the Clerk's Office would like to remind you of the dates for the 2014 elections and encourage you to exercise your right to vote.

- February 25, 2014
- May 6, 2014
- August 5, 2014
- November 4, 2014



If you have any questions or concerns regarding the upcoming elections, contact Clerk Hand or Deputy Clerk Blaszcuk at 810-987-9797, ext. 111.

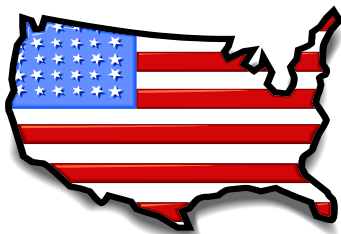
Kimball Township is also accepting applications for individuals interested in working at these elections. Training is provided. Applications are available at the Township Office for those who may be interested. In order to apply, you must be registered to vote in Michigan. Questions can be directed to Deputy Clerk Blaszcuk.

The Clerk's Office wishes you a safe and happy New Year!

## OUTDOOR GATHERING PERMITS

It has been brought to our attention that most residents and groups are not aware that our Township has an Ordinance for Outdoor Gatherings. Ordinance number 104 requires a permit for any "Outdoor Assembly" or a gathering of over 50 attendants. The application for the permit is to be submitted 60 (sixty) days prior to the event and the cost of the permit is \$100.00. The application form is available at the Clerk's Office. If you should have any questions about the permit or application, feel free to call Connie at 810-987-9797, ext. 110. She will be more than willing to assist you.

## TRIVIA



Which American state is nicknamed "The Diamond State"? The answer is hidden somewhere in this newsletter.

## Calling All Gardeners

For those who have not heard, we (board members and some of your fellow citizens) have embarked on a new journey. One area of interest is labeled Beautification. During the first couple of meetings we discussed placement of flower beds, signs that would help locate some of our sights and attractions, and placement of seasonal decorations. We also feel we could work with the Parks and Recreation group to spruce up the parks.

We have been told that several people in our township are Master Gardeners. We would like you, the Master Gardeners conduct some meetings with our residents to furnish them with information and ideas to improve their gardening skills. We would like to start in February with a meeting at our Township Hall. We are very flexible with the time and day for the meeting. If you would like to help our neighbors and are available, please call Bob Hand at 987-9797, ext. 112.



## FROM THE DESK OF NICOLE BLASZCZUK

As part of our recent Strategic Plan development Kimball Township has decided to build an outdoor ice rink at Smiths Creek Park on Henry Street this winter. The rink will be free for everyone to use. The project is being spearheaded by Deputy Clerk Nicole Blaszcuk. If you would like to get involved with this project, please contact Deputy Clerk Blaszcuk at 810-987-9797, ext. 111.

**Thank you to LumberJack Building Centers** for their generous donation of the materials to build the ice rink.

A special thank you to the Kimball Township Fire Department for agreeing to flood the rink once it is built and to all of the volunteers who have donated their time thus far in the project.

We look forward to see you skating this winter!



**THANK YOU!**  
**THANK YOU!**  
**THANK YOU!**



## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **FRANK LOYSON**



#### **What's the pleasure of the board?**

If you ever saw Frank Loyson run a meeting, you know this was a phrase he used often. When I first ran for office, someone said to me, "You need to watch Frank Loyson chair the Planning Commission meetings". I did so. Frank had a great way of moderating the discussion, keeping everyone on track and bringing topics to a vote. He was always a gentleman even during the most heated debates.

Sadly, Frank passed away recently. I think we will all miss some of his catch phrases as he ran the meetings. But Frank was also a wealth of knowledge when it came to Kimball Township. From his many years of involvement in Kimball Township, Frank would tell you where nearly every sewer line was, when it was installed and probably who was on the board at the time it was installed. Frank himself was very instrumental in bringing water and sewer to the township.

Those that have been in Kimball Township for 20 years or more years may remember that Frank served as the Township Treasurer for many years. Staff working around Frank remember how professional he was in dealing with Township business, yet Frank was also able to share humor at various times.

While Frank was serving in the Township, he also operated a greenhouse on Richman Road. Many people in our area have purchased flats of various flowers on a yearly basis from Loyson's Greenhouse. Frank would often donate many of the flowers that he had raised to be used at Township parks.

Our condolences go out to the Loyson family. We are grateful for their willingness to share Frank's talents and time for the betterment of Kimball Township. Frank will be missed.

#### **From the Desk of Supervisor Usakowski**

For the past several months we have been working diligently on a plan for Kimball Township's future. We have held multiple workshops, conducted surveys, and had many meetings with residents, community leaders, business owners and county officials. Our goal was to receive ideas from the community on what they want the future of Kimball Township to look like.

I am pleased to say that your input has already put plans into motion. Soon we will have an ice skating rink at Smiths Creek Park. Ice skating was identified as a possibility at a community workshop and then placed into surveys. Among residents it was one of the most popular desired items in survey results.

Although we will soon conclude the initial planning process, our township officials desire your input and feedback on all issues related to the township on a continuing basis. As elected officials, we are here to serve you, and your input guides us in our decision-making processes.

Soon, we look to finalize our plans. Some of the many things you can look forward to are some senior activities, big screen movie nights, and areas of the township with more flowers.

Our special thanks go out to the fifth grade students at Indian Woods Elementary School. They have participated in the process throughout and we thank them, their parents and the staff for their involvement in the Strategic Planning process.



# 31st Annual SNOWSHOE TOURNAMENT

Saturday, February 1, 2014  
At the Pink Elephant Bar, 340 Henry Street  
Smiths Creek, MI 48074

**Sign Up:** 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.  
Pitching starts at 1:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$5.00

## Draw for Your Partner, Two Game Elimination

There will be food, 50/50 raffles, raffles for fantastic gifts and services donated by generous merchants and individuals in our area and a nice fire by the horseshoe pits to keep our hands warm. Participation is not necessary. We would love to see people at the side lines cheering on their favorites to win the tournament. Trophies will be awarded to first and second place teams.

All proceeds from the tournament, food, raffles, etc. will be sent to the Leader Dogs for the Blind.

Knowing your support will help a person gain independence and self confidence is wonderful feeling. The mission of Leader Dog for the Blind is to enhance the lives of people who are blind and visually impaired.

Contact Jill Hunter at (810) 367-9242 or (810) 367-6311 for further information.

## WINTER FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Each year many departments respond to multiple different types of calls for service in their communities. Unfortunately, departments see an increase in calls for service during the winter months due to residential heating equipment. Per the 2011 National Fire Academy National, Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) heating equipment was involved in an estimated 53,600 reported U.S. home structure fires, with associated losses of 400 civilian deaths, 1,520 civilian injuries, and \$893 million in direct property damage. These fires accounted for 14% of all reported home fires. Space heaters, whether portable or stationary, accounted for one-third (33%) of home heating fires and four out of five (81%) of home heating fire deaths.

The leading factor contributing to home heating fires (28%) was failure to clean, principally creosote from solid-fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys. Placing things that can burn too close to heating equipment or placing heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattress, or bedding, was the leading factor contributing to ignition in fatal home heating fires and accounted for more than half (53%) of home heating fire deaths. Half (50%) of all home heating fires occurred in December, January and February. Prevention is the key to ensure that the heating product is used and is installed accordingly to manufacturer's recommendations. For more fire safety information about heating equipment or other topics visit the link below. Stay safe!

[www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/prevention\\_education/](http://www.usfa.fema.gov/fireservice/prevention_education/)

NEXT ISSUE APRIL 2014

Postal Customer  
Kimball, MI 48074

Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit 005  
Smiths Creek, MI 48074

Kimball Township  
2160 Wadhams Road  
Kimball, MI 48074