



Kimball Township News

Issue 57

Kimball Township - WEBSITE: kimballtownship.org

July 2014



SUPERVISORS REPORT

Its exciting to see the continued improvements throughout Kimball Township. Our beautification committee has been hard at work planting flowers in various locations, including the Township office. Two of our trustees have been involved in the work and planning throughout. Clerk Hand and Trustee Kilroy meet on a regular basis to discuss and plan all of the projects.

Thank you also to Chloe Zegelien. Chloe is a younger member of our community. Chloe took a day out of her schedule and came out to Sutherland Park to plant some flowers. She did an awesome job, and we are thankful that she has an interest in making her community better.



With the passing of the State budget, Kimball Township received good news. The legislature modified the EVIP Revenue Sharing. Originally this portion of the State Revenue Sharing was only open to cities and villages. However, with the changes, some townships are now available for this revenue sharing. Kimball Township is one of three townships in St Clair County that will see an increase in revenue. Kimball Township will received an additional \$24,000 in revenue sharing.

There are qualifications that have to be met by the Township to receive this revenue sharing. Kimball Township saw the possibility of this happening two years ago. We made preparations at that time and we already meet those qualifications. In this case good planning has paid off for the Township.

If you haven't been out to either of our parks (Sutherland Park and Smiths Creek Community Park), I'd encourage you to stop in. Both parks have had improvements completed and are looking exceptional. Our park attendants, Jerry O'Connor and Cal Hunt have done a great job coming up with ideas for continued improvement and it shows.

The most recent update is the beach at Sutherland Park. The beach had a lot of growth and did not have a nice clean beach appearance. Thank you to Tim Hammar of Hammar's Contracting who came out and did all of the excavating to make a well defined beach area. By the time the newsletter comes out the new sand should be delivered.

We may also be expanding the parking. Those who have been in the park when all of the Little League fields are being used, know that it can be impossible to find a parking space. When the county completes the Lapeer Road reconstruction, we may be receiving asphalt grindings. Those grindings will be used to expand the driveway into the park. We will then provide an additional 35-50 parallel parking spaces for those busy days.

The great thing about all the improvements being made, is we have been able to do it within our budget We have not had to increase taxes, nor have we needed to use fund balance. In a day when many municipalities struggle to keep their municipality running, we have done that and continued to make the community better.

We continue to work with our Board of Trustees on our policies. Having and acting within policy allows for the Township to function properly, keep a strong budget and avoid situations that could hinder our Township. Good policy helps us avoid scandal, and allows for us to be a part of a community that we all can be proud of.

Should you have any comments or questions, my door is always open. Feel free to stop in the office, or call my cell phone. I hope everyone has a great summer.

Rob Usakowski
Supervisor

QUESTION:

Every Simplicity sewing pattern in the world is produced in what Michigan city?



The answer is hidden somewhere in this newsletter.

The answer to the last trivia question was D. the swallow.

SUMMER FIRE SAFETY TIPS



Every year Americans look forward to summer vacations, camping, family reunions, picnics, and the Fourth of July. Summertime, however, also brings fires and injuries due to fireworks and outdoor cooking. Knowing a few safety tips and following instructions will help everyone have a safe summer.

Consumers who decide to purchase legal fireworks are urged to take these safety steps:

- Make sure fireworks are legal in your area before buying or using them.
- Never allow young children to play with or ignite fireworks. Parents may not realize that young children suffer injuries from sparklers. Sparklers burn at temperatures of about 2,000 degrees-hot enough to melt some metals.
- Always have an adult closely supervise fireworks activities if older children are allowed to handle devices.
- Avoid buying fireworks that are packaged in brown paper because this is often a sign that the fireworks were made for professional displays and that they could pose a danger to consumers.
- Never place any part of your body directly over a fireworks device when lighting the fuse. Back up to a safe distance immediately after lighting fireworks.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose in case of fire or other mishap.
- Never try to relight or handle malfunctioning fireworks. Soak them with water and throw them away.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Light fireworks one at a time, then move back quickly.
- Never carry fireworks in a pocket or shoot them off in metal or glass containers.
- After fireworks complete their burning, douse the spent device with plenty of water from a bucket or hose before discarding it to prevent a trash fire.



A special study by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) shows that fireworks were involved in an estimated 9,600 injuries treated in U.S. hospital emergency departments in 2011. Fireworks are dangerous! For more information and safety tips, please visit the CPSC's website.



<https://www.cpsc.gov/en/Regulations-Laws—Standards/>

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Annual Awards Dinner



This year's annual awards dinner was held on April 5th 2014 at the Angry Bull Banquet Center. This year's guest speaker was Deputy Fire Chief George Scrimger of Elba Township Fire Dept. His presentation was on leadership and where it starts with any fire department. Throughout the evening this department awarded 10 certificates of appreciation, 5 training certificates, and 11 lifesaving Commendations to its members for events that took place in 2013. Each year we award to one of our members a Firefighter of the Year Award, and the 2013 fire for the year was awarded to Firefighter/EMT Jared Reaume.

“Congratulations Jared”!

UPCOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY EVENTS

FREE Senior Vital Signs Clinic & Vial of Life program from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the Kimball Township Fire Department Station #1 located at 1970 Allen Rd. Kimball MI, 48074 on the following Saturdays:

July 12th, August 9th, and September 6th

COMMUNITY FIRE DEPARTMENT PICNIC

On August 23rd the Community Fire Department Picnic will be held at Sutherland Park on Howard Rd. Times to be announced shortly.



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| BALD EAGLE | FIREWORKS | NATIONHOOD |
| BALLOONS | FLAG | PARADE |
| BARBECUE | FLOATS | PARTY |
| BASEBALL | FREEDOM | PATRIOTIC |
| BEN FRANKLIN | GREAT BRITAIN | PHILADELPHIA |
| BETSY ROSS | HAMBURGERS | PICNIC |
| CAKE | HISTORY | RED WHITE BLUE |
| CARNIVAL | HOLIDAY | STARS AND STRIPES |
| CELEBRATION | HOT DOGS | STREAMERS |
| COLONIES | INDEPENDENCE | THOMAS JEFFERSON |
| CONCERTS | JOHN ADAMS | USA |
| DECORATIONS | LIBERTY | WHITE HOUSE |
| DEMOCRACY | NATIONAL ANTHEM | |

TOWNSHIP WIDE TRASH COLLECTION

The Township has had several residents request that we look into Township wide trash collection. Their reasoning includes lower costs for resident, eliminating blight, less road traffic, etc. Resident concerns on the other side include concerns such as higher trash collection costs, loss of choice, forcing out the smaller haulers, etc.

We need your input. Here are some facts that may assist you in forming your opinion on this subject. The Township issued an RFP recently so that trash haulers could provide costs of such services.

If you are paying more than \$30 quarterly (\$120 yearly) you will save money by Kimball Township having Township wide trash collection. Our research indicates that most residents pay around \$50 per quarter or \$200 per year. The average resident will save about 40% off their trash collection service.

Hammar & Jones was the lowest bidder. They are a local hauler located here in Kimball Township. They would purchase additional trucks and hire additional Kimball Township residents to work for them if they are selected as the hauler.

Kimball Township has a policy that we request bids on services every three years to insure that the cost we are paying for all services is competitive. This has always resulted in price saving for the Township.

Kimball Township currently has 6 trash haulers driving on the roads. Having one hauler will reduce wear and tear on the roads.

Our ordinance enforcement department has a multitude of blight complaints. The majority are related to two issues, grass cutting and trash/clutter. Having Township wide trash collection would reduce the blight.

There are several areas on the rural dirt roads that have become common dumping grounds for trash.

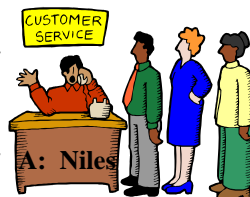
You will find a form in this newsletter that will allow for you to vote on your desire for us to continue to move towards Township wide trash collection. We would like to hear from as many of you as possible so that as the board discusses this matter we know how our residents feel about this particular subject. If you have any question, please feel free to contact me in the office at 810-987-9797 ext. 123 or on my mobile phone at 810-637-1537.



Rob Usakowski
Supervisor

WELCOME JODY

If you have the opportunity to do some business at the counter here at the township office, you will see a new smiling face. The Township Board hired on Jody as a new clerk in June. We hope that you will join us in welcoming Jody.



TOWNSHIP WIDE TRASH COLLECTION

 I am in favor of one trash hauler for the entire township at \$30.00 a quarter.

 I am not in favor of one trash hauler for the entire township. (Continue with the old way)

Name: _____

Address: _____

