

Supervisor's News

Audrey Nevins-Weiss, Supervisor

Street Improvement Program

Once again this summer I have been working closely with the Kent County Road Commission for improvements to many streets in Byron Township. Clyde Park Avenue has been completed and work on 84th Street is currently underway. Phase II of the 100th Street Project is scheduled to be completed this year as well. Also, some of the local street improvements have already begun. Residential overlays allow us to extend the life our residential streets with significantly less cost than waiting until they require more extensive repairs. These maintenance projects can extend the life of a street for 20 years at about 20% of the cost of waiting until more dramatic reconstruction has to occur.

Center Manufacturing To Create 80 New Jobs

Center Manufacturing Company located on Piedmont Industrial Drive is going to create 80 new jobs in Byron Center. They recently were approved for two separate tax abatements for their growth. The \$1,000,000 combined project will allow them to add equipment and new employees. We are proud to have outstanding companies like Center Manufacturing located in Byron Township. They are a strong company that is very involved in the Township and assists with many of our community events. I am pleased we were able to work with Center Manufacturing to insure that they remain in our community and appreciate their confidence in Byron Township and our excellent workforce.

Chalk Art Festival Another Great Success

The West Michigan Chalk Art Festival was another great success bringing artists and spectators from Byron Center as well as other areas of the state to our downtown area. This year over 40 artists participated Thousands of spectators also attended the event to view the art and watch the creation of the chalk art. The Kids Chalking Area allowed children of all ages to participate in a fun and colorful day of activities. It was great family event and I was pleased to see many families including grandparents, parents and children filling our downtown area enjoying their day together. Thank you to the Community Wellness Foundation for all your hard work.

Fireworks

The State of Michigan has passed a new law which allows for expanded use of fireworks in the state. I have received many complaints from our residential areas from people concerned about late night use of fireworks. In addition, with the dry weather there are concerns regarding increased fire potential. There have been several fires in west Michigan caused by the use of fireworks. This is another safety issue and we ask that you use extreme caution when using fireworks and also please show courtesy to your neighbors.

Reminders

The Byron Farmers Market is open Saturdays from 8:00 – 1:00. It is located next to the Post Office. Kids events are held once per month.

Byron Festival Days will be held on July 28th. The event includes a parade, 5-K Run, Evening Fireworks and many other family centered activities.

Demolition on the Concession Stand at Cutler Park will begin next week. The building is being demolished for safety reasons and to make room for the new improvements.

Please feel free to contact me at 878-1222 if you have any questions or concerns.

Byron Days July 27-29

Every July, the residents of Byron Township gather to celebrate and fellowship together. There is something for everyone.

Friday, July 27

Flea Market Byron Community Ministries 9am-6pm
Food Concessions--D&C Express Bicentennial Park 4pm-10pm
Byron Days Community Pasta Dinner 1st Reformed, "The Rock" 4:30pm-6:30pm
Inflatable/Rides-Gyroscope, Rock Wall
Craft Fair Bicentennial Park 5pm-8pm
Chemical Bank 5k Registration Chemical Bank 5pm-7pm
Spin Art/Hair Streaking--Sports Clips Bicentennial Park 5pm-10pm
Softball Tournament--Byron Parks and Rec. Whistle Stop Park 6pm
"Praise Fest" Concert Stage-Bicentennial Park 6pm-10pm
Drive-Up Movie "CARS II" 1st Reformed, "The Rock" 7:30pm-9:30pm

Saturday, July 28

Pancake Breakfast--Rotary Club Pathway Ministries 7:30am-9:30am
Farmer's Market--Community Wellness Post Office-North side 8am-1pm
Softball Tournament-Byron Parks and Rec. Whistle Stop Park 8am-Finished
3-on-3 Basketball Tournament--Recsportsonline.com Bicentennial Park 8am-1pm
Chemical Bank 5K Run/Walk 84th and Byron Center Ave. 8:30am
Parade Line-up--enter off 84th St. only Nickels Intermediate School 9am
Chemical Bank Kid's Fun Run 84th and Byron Center Ave. 9:30am
Used Book Sale--KDL Library 9:30am-5pm
PARADE-- Byron Center Ave, 84th Street 10am
Spin Art/Hair Streaking--Sports Clips Bicentennial Park 10am-8pm
Food Concessions--D&C Express Bicentennial Park 10am-10pm
Kid's Craft Fair KDL Library 11am-3pm
Craft Fair Bicentennial Park 11am-7pm
Inflatable/Rides Bicentennial Park 11am-9pm ***
Chicken Dinner--BC Senior All Nighter Bicentennial Park Pavilion 11:30am-3:30pm
FREE Kid's Games-LifeChurch Bicentennial Park Noon-5pm
Horse Pull Brown Elementary 2pm-Finished
"Byron Classic Car Show" 1st Reformed, "The Rock" 3pm-6pm
"Burgers, Fries, & Cokes" 1st Reformed, "The Rock" 4:30pm-6pm
Jeff Schroeder - Musical Performer - Concert Stage- Bicentennial Park 6:00pm
"Union Guns"-Headliner Performance - Concert Stage- Bicentennial Park 7:30pm
FIREWORKS!!! Festival Grounds 10pm

Sunday July 29

Community Worship-Heritage CRC Concert Stage- Bicentennial Park 9:30am

For a full schedule of activities and details:

www.byrondaysfestival.com

Treasurer's Forum

Carol Houseman, Treasurer

Summer tax season is in full swing. You should have received your bill the 1st week of July. If you didn't, call us. Your 2011 summer taxes are due by **Friday, September 14, 2012 at 5:00pm**. 1% interest will be added at that time and an additional 1% the 1st of each month.

We have several options for paying your bill.

CHECK OR CASH: In person, dropped in drop box at the East entrance of the building, or by mail. Remember we don't accept postmarks.

ACH WITHDRAWAL: Sign up and we will withdraw your payment on September 1 directly from your bank or credit union. Forms are on line at www.byrontownship.org

ON LINE PAY: Go to our website and go to the Treasurer's page and scroll to "Pay Bill". A fee of approximately 3% will be charged for debit or credit card payments and 25¢ for checking and savings.

If your gross income was under \$40,000.00 for 2011, you are 62 years or older, you are disabled, or if your property is classified Agricultural Real Property, you can defer your Summer taxes until the Winter tax due date without interest or penalties. A copy of the form is on the website or we can send you one.

Sometimes it is difficult to pay the full amount of taxes by the due date. **We do accept partial payments.** When you make a partial payment, the interest or penalty is only added to the unpaid balance.

As always, if you have any questions, please give us a call or stop in. 616-878-3196 Jacki or Carol will be happy to assist you.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!!

Clerk's Corner

Joel H. Hondorp, Clerk

Upcoming Elections

August 7 — Primary Election

The primary election is used to narrow candidates down by party. The Republican and Democrat candidates will be on the ballot, but you must limit your votes to only one party – no crossing over.

November 6 — General Election

You may choose any candidate of your choosing on this ballot up to the number to be elected to office.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Please call my office if you have the desire to vote absentee and fit the following qualifications: 60 years or older, absent from the community on Election Day, physically unable to attend the polls, prohibited from attending due to religious beliefs, in jail awaiting arraignment or trial, or working in as a precinct inspector on Election Day. You can also download a form from our website of the Secretary of State's website.

You can check your registration status and where your vote at www.michigan.gov/vote.

NEW PRECINCT BOUNDARIES & POLLING LOCATIONS

Beginning on March 1, 2012, a new precinct boundary map for Byron Township will be used for all future elections. The change affects 4793 of the 15,140 voters or slightly under 32%. After every decennial census, US Congressional, State House, State Senate and County Commission districts are redrawn and population evenly distributed in each district. At this time Byron Township re-aligned precinct boundaries to distribute voters in each precinct more uniformly.

Also in the process, a polling location was moved from the Cutlerville Fire Station to the Byron Township Community Center. The voters who previously voted at the Fire Station will either vote at Legacy Christian School (those that live east of US 131) or at Frontline Bible Church (those that live west of US 131).

FIRE HYDRANTS

Now that the warmer weather is here, Byron-Gaines Utility Authority personnel will be testing the fire hydrants in the township. While this may appear to be wasteful, it actually serves several important purposes. This flushing provides a test for the hydrants that, thankfully, are seldom used. It provides us the opportunity to check for any damage that may have occurred and to keep the hydrant lubricated and in the best possible working condition. The flushing prevents sediment from building up in the water mains and removes any contaminants that may have entered them due to breaks or other problems.

SPRINKLING METERS (IRRIGATION)

If you use a large volume of water for the purpose of sprinkling your lawn and landscaping, please consider a separate meter for irrigation. With a second meter you would not be billed for any sewer usage when you irrigate your lawn. For example, if you sprinkled your lawn over a billing period of 3 months using a total of 80,000 gallons, the sewer use charge alone would be about \$200.00 without a second meter. If you had a second meter there would be no sewer use charge on any irrigation water. As of this writing the township has 680 separate residential sprinkling meters. Call us for more details at 878-0660.

BILLING OPTIONS

Paperless billing is available for your convenience. Email Julie@byrontownship.org for more information.

Automatic funds transfer from a checking or savings account. (Form at www.byrontownship.org)

The ability to pay your bill online with a debit/credit card is available at www.byrontownship.org. Users paying with a debit/credit card will be charged a convenience fee. If you are paying with a debit/credit card and are in danger of shut off, please allow ample time for the processing of the payment! **(We now accept Mastercard/Visa credit card payments over the counter!)**

Visit our website (www.byrontownship.org) to initiate the process to have a utility bill debited directly from a checking or savings account for only \$0.25.

Visit our "new improved" website at www.byrontownship.org and click on "water and sewer" for forms and ordinances.

Have a great summer!

Julie Meza

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY

- 9 Township Board Meeting
- 16 Planning Commission
- 23 Township Board Meeting
- 25 Board of Appeals
- 27-29 Byron Days

SEPTEMBER

- 10 Township Board Meeting
- 14 Summer Taxes Due
- 17 Planning Commission
- 24 Township Board Meeting
- 26 Board of Appeals

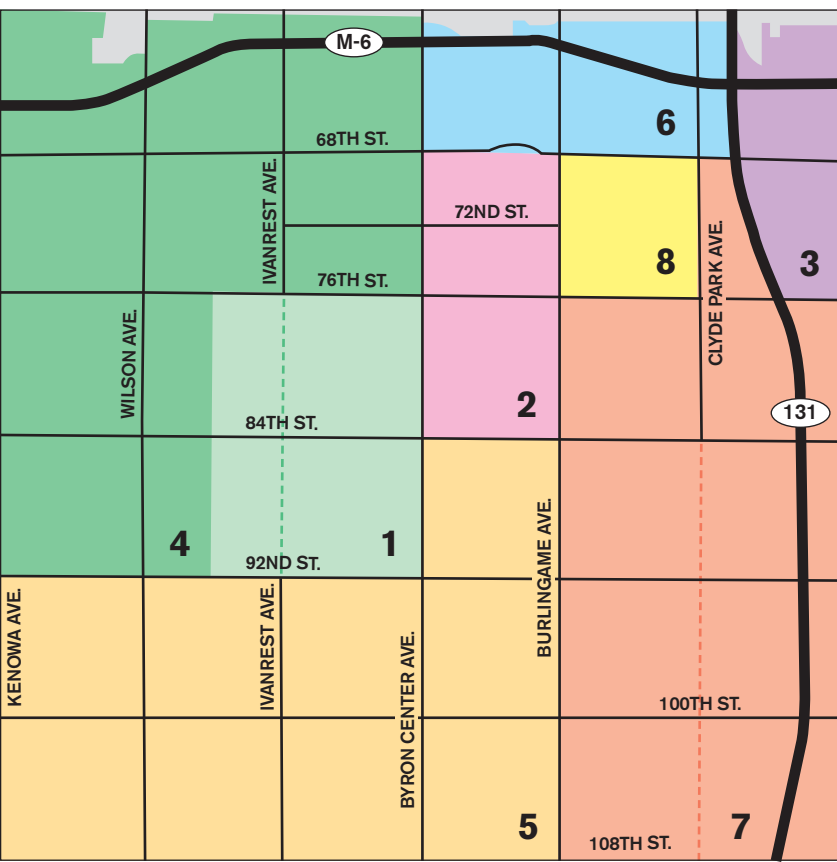
AUGUST

- 7 Election Day
- 13 Township Board Meeting
- 20 Planning Commission
- 22 Board of Appeals
- 27 Township Board Meeting

OCTOBER

- 8 Township Board Meeting
- 16 Planning Commission
- 22 Township Board Meeting
- 24 Board of Appeals

Byron Township Precincts (Effective 3/1/12)



- Byron Township — Precinct 1**
Pathway Church
8350 Byron Center Ave.
- Byron Township — Precinct 2**
Byron Township Community Center
2120 76th Street SW
- Byron Township — Precinct 3**
Legacy Christian School
67 68th Street SW
- Byron Township — Precinct 4**
Byron Township Offices
8085 Byron Center Ave.
- Byron Township — Precinct 5**
Byron Center Public Schools
Administration Gym
8542 Byron Center Ave.
- Byron Township — Precinct 6**
Banner Of Christ Church
1111 68th Street SW
- Byron Township — Precinct 7**
Frontline Bible Church
8283 Pfeiffer Farms Dr.
- Byron Township — Precinct 8**
First Cutlerville
Christian Reformed Church
1425 68th Street SW