

Clerk's Corner

Joel H. Hondorp, Clerk

Upcoming Elections

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

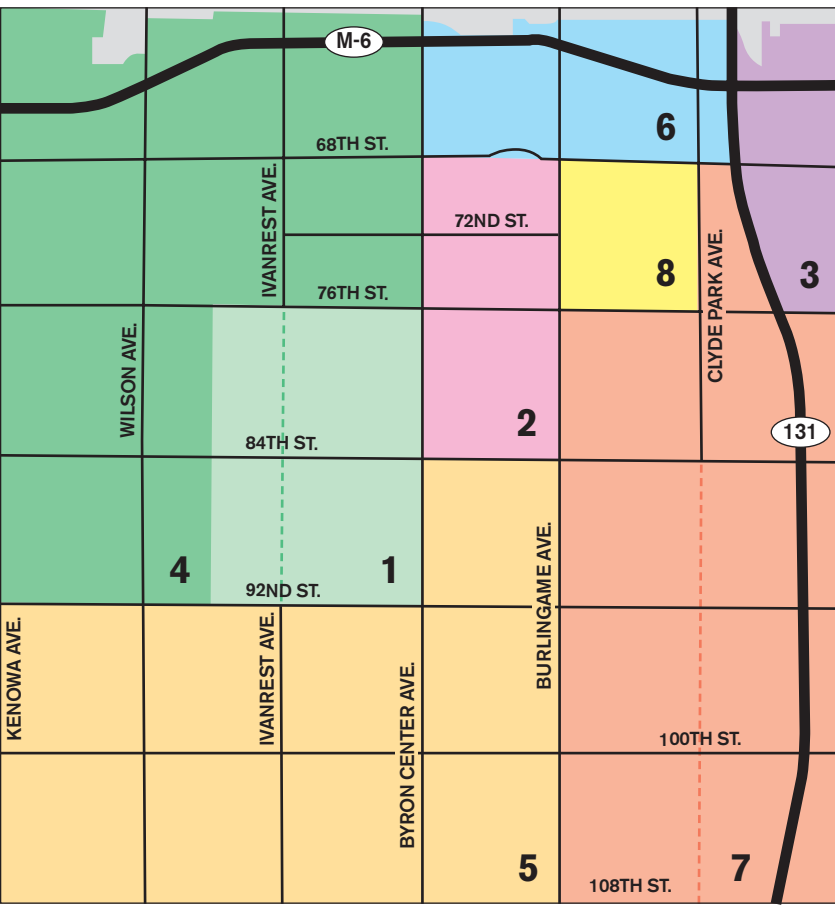
Please call my office if you have the desire to vote absentee and fit the following qualifications: 60 years or older, absent from the community on Election Day, physically unable to attend the polls, prohibited from attending due to religious beliefs, in jail awaiting arraignment or trial, or working 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).



The Byron Township Recreation Department takes pride in offering activities to people of all ages. The Recreation Department is housed in the Community Center located in Whistlestop Park. Recreation programs are held in Township parks, the Community Center and in the local school buildings.

The Community Center includes a full size gymnasium, fitness center, multipurpose rooms, lounge areas with Wi-Fi, and pool tables. There is a membership fee to use the gymnasium and fitness center. We offer affordable daily, monthly or annual rates. You do not have to be a member of the Community Center to register for programs. However, members do receive a discounted rate on the programs.

For more information please check out our website www.byrontownshiprecreation.org. Like us on Facebook to get up to date information.

Byron Township Recreation * 2120 76th Street * Byron Center, MI 49315

Phone: 616-878-1998 * Fax: 616-583-1220 * www.byrontownshiprecreation.org

Halloween Safety

Cars, not candy should be Parents' primary safety concern on Halloween. To help make your child's Halloween safe, Byron Township would like to recommend the following precautions:

- Children under the age of 12 should have adult supervision.
- Decorated costumes bags with reflective tape.
- Give trick-or-treaters flashlights.
- Be sure your children dress in flame retardant costumes.
- Keep candles, pumpkins with matches and lighters out of reach of children.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER	DECEMBER
8 Township Board Meeting	10 Township Board Meeting
16 Planning Commission	17 Planning Commission
22 Township Board Meeting	26 Township Board Meeting
24 Board of Appeals	26 Board of Appeals
NOVEMBER	JANUARY
6 Election Day	14 Township Board Meeting
12 Township Board Meeting	21 Planning Commission
19 Planning Commission	23 Board of Appeals
26 Township Board Meeting	28 Township Board Meeting
28 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

Supervisor's News

Audrey Nevins-Weiss, Supervisor

Cutlerville Fire Department

The Cutlerville Fire Department will soon see three new fulltime faces on the department. The Department of Homeland Security granted the department three new full time positions for two years. The Cutlerville Fire Department is shared between Byron Township and Gaines Charter Township.

The purpose of the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant program is to provide funding directly to fire departments and volunteer firefighter interest organizations in order to help them increase the number of trained "front-line" firefighters or to rehire firefighters that have been laid-off. The department will now be staffed 24/7 365 days a year.

The Township Offices parking lot project is finishing up this week. The project widened and lowered the driveway, widened the parking lot, extending the west side parking lot and added 22 new parking spaces. This was a much needed improvement to our 26 year old complex.

The next project you will see is at the Winchester Cemetery. The roads in the cemetery and parking area will be repaved. The weather will determine if it will be this fall or have to wait until spring.

Reminder the Community Wellness Foundation is having the 8th annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 1 at 11:00 a.m. The parade route begins at Nickels School goes up Byron Center Avenue to Prescott to Merton to 84th Street and ends at Pathway Church. Lineup for the parade starts at 10:00 a.m. A chili dinner will be following the parade at Pathway Church.

2012 Leaf & Yard Waste Drop Off Program

In order to better serve our citizens, we have revamped our leaf and yard waste collection process. Starting on Saturday, October 27 and ending on Saturday, November 17, we will have two large dumpsters to collect your leaves and yard waste. Yard waste includes annual and perennial flower clippings, bush and shrub clippings or branches less than two inches in diameter. The dumpsters will indicate which is for leaves and which is for yard waste. You must empty your leaves out of the bags. The dumpsters will be located in the parking lot near the ball fields north of the Township Office Building (8085 Byron Center Avenue). This service is for Byron Township residents and you may be asked to present proof of residency. Any items that are improperly dumped (including trash bags) or leaves left next to the dumpster may cause the Township to end the collection early. We are asking our residents to assist with keeping this area clean and clear around the collection area.

Byron Township Holiday Office Hours

The Byron Township offices will be closed the following dates:

November 22 and 23 – Thanksgiving

December 24 and 25 – Christmas

December 31 and January 1 – New Years

Passport Applications

Byron Township is an official Passport Acceptance Agency for the United States Department of State. We have forms necessary applying a passport.

Bring pieces information:

- Proof citizenship: certified, sealed birth certificate, or previous passport, naturalization papers, certificate citizenship.
- A current Photo ID (Driver's License)
- Passport Photo (Available at Walgreens, Meijer, Sam's, Costco, etc.)
- Appropriate Fees Check Money Order only)
- For minor children under the age of 16, both parents must be present to sign the application or a notarized form from absent parent must be attached to the application.
- All Applicants appear in person.

Fees: Two Separate Checks)

Age 16 and over:

\$110 Department of State

\$25 Byron Township

Under 16:

\$80 Department of State

\$25 Byron Township

If you need it processed faster add \$60 to the Department of State check. The cost is the same no matter where apply. You may combine family members groups into two checks.

You can come Clerk's office any weekday 8-5, to apply for a passport.

Tips to Remember

Bring all the necessary information.

Payments must be made by Check or Money Order.

If you need to renew your passport, pick up forms at our office as well.

Treasurer's Forum

Carol Houseman, Treasurer

Summer has gone and the fall season is in full swing. The Treasurer's Office has slowed down a little since the summer taxes were due on September 14.

If you haven't paid your taxes yet, 1% interest was applied on September 15 and an additional 1% is added the 1st of each month thereafter. If you can only make partial payments, we do accept them and interest is only applied to unpaid balances. If you have questions, please call 878-3196 and Jacki and I will help you.

We have several payment options. You can pay online with a credit card or check (fees apply), ACH withdrawal from your checking or savings, or in person with cash or check. A drop box for your convenience is located at the east entrance of the township hall. Any payments placed in the box after hours are applied the next work day, and again we do accept partial payments.

Winter taxes will be in the mail the 1st week of December. They are due on Thursday, February 14, 2013. The winter tax levy for Law will be 0 this year. This will lower the township levy from 2.22 to 1.62. If you wish to use the deduction for your 2012 income taxes, the payment must be in the office by close of Wednesday, January 2, 2012.

Dog licenses for 2012 will be available at the Township, December 3 thru March 1. Any other time, you must contact the Kent County Animal Control for licensing information. (616-632-7300) or www.accesskent.com