

Byron Bugle



www.byrontownship.org

Volume 18, Issue 3
July 2009

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Recreation Department Information Inside

Township Calendar

July 13	Township Board Meeting
July 20	Planning Commission
July 22	Board of Appeals
July 27	Township Board Meeting
August 10	Township Board Meeting
August 17	Planning Commission
August 24	Township Board Meeting
August 26	Board of Appeals
September 14	Township Board Meeting
September 14	SUMMER TAXES DUE
September 21	Planning Commission
September 23	Board of Appeals
September 28	Township Board Meeting

From the Supervisor Audrey Nevins

Street Light Repairs

Residents noticing repairs needed to streetlights can easily report the problems to Consumers Energy via their website. The website is www.consumersenergy.com. You will click on For Home and then click on Report an Electric Outage and then click on Report a Street Light Problem. You will fill an online form and they will notify you by email when the problem is resolved. You can also call them at 1-800-477-5050 and follow the prompts to report the problem.



Community Block Grant Projects in Cutlerville

Cutlerville Residents will benefit from two grants from the Community Development Block Grant program. The first was \$50,000 for new playground equipment in Cutler Park and the second is \$100,000 toward a new fire engine for the Cutlerville Fire Department.



CDBG monies are received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and distributed through a Kent County department. The amount allocated to each community is based on Census figures.



From the Water and Sewer Department

The water & sewer assessment bills will go out on Tuesday, June 30th. If you have an annual assessment payment of either water or sewer, or perhaps both, they will be due on July 31, 2009 before the close of business. Any bill that is not paid on or before 5:00 pm, August 31, 2009 will be assigned to your winter tax bill. We have a drop box on the East side of the building for your convenience.

The Consumer Confidence 2008 Water Quality Reports are going out in the summer tax bills if you are in a section within the township that has public water. This report is supplied by the City of Wyoming, and tells you that your drinking water is safe. If you need additional copies, we have them available at the township office for distribution.

If you have underground sprinkling, you may want to inquire about getting a second water meter to meter your sprinkling water. For more information on sprinkling meters please contact our office or go to the Water and Sewer section of the website.

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9:30 a.m.

BYRON TOWNSHIP FESTIVAL 2009

July 23-26

Thursday, July 23

9 a.m.-6 p.m. Byron Community Ministries Flea Market (8250 Byron Creek Drive)

Friday, July 24

9 a.m 6 p.m.	Byron Community Ministries Flea Market
4 p.m 10 p.m.	Food Concessions
5 p.m 9 p.m.	Inflatable Rides
5:00 p.m.	Byron Bank 5K Race Registration (Byron Bank)
5 p.m 7 p.m.	Community Spaghetti Dinner (First Reformed)
6 p.m9 p.m.	Battle of the Bands
8:30 p.m.	Movie Night at The ROCK - Disney/Pixar Cars

Saturday, July 25

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7:30-9:30 a.m.	Pancake Breakfast (Pathway Ministries)
8:00 a.m.	Softball Tournament (Whistlestop Park)
8:00 a.m.	Tennis Tournament (BC High School)
8:00 a.m.	BC Little League and Softball Tournament
8:00 a.m.	Rec Sports 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament
8:30 a.m.	Byron Bank 5K Run/Walk (Byron Bank)
9:30 a.m.	Kids Fun Run (Byron Bank)
9:00 a.m.	Parade Line up (Nickels Intermediate School)
9:30 a.m.	Used Book Sale (Library)
10:00 a.m.	Parade
11:00 a.m.	Family Activities, Food Concessions, Several Inflat-
	ables, BC Sports Boosters Agility Course and much more!
12:00 p.m.	Dog Program and Agility Course
1:00 p.m.	Chris Schmitt Fundraiser—Skate Board Competition
2:00 p.m.	Horse Pull (Brown School North Field)
3:00 p.m.	Byron Classic Car Show (First Reformed)
4 - 7 p.m.	Craft Fair
4 - 7 p.m.	Chicken Dinner—BC Senior All Nighter
4 - 5:30 p.m.	Pathway Ministries Praise Band
5 - 7 p.m.	Burgers, Fries, Cokes (First Reformed)
6:00 p.m.	Byron Idol Competition on Stage
8:00 p.m.	Williams Family in Concert
Dusk	Fireworks
	Sunday, July 26

Community Worship Service in the park.

All events located in Bicentennial Park unless noted differently.

Events and times are subject to change.

 $Check\ out\ www.byrondays.org\ for\ updated\ schedule\ and\ details!$

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THE CLERK'S CORNER By Joel Hondorp

Elections 2009

May 5 Turnout

Precinct	Voted	Registered	Percent
1	322	2373	13.57
2	103	1430	7.20
3	52	1362	3.82
4	238	2109	10.90
5	187	2109	8.87
6	185	2364	7.83
7	100	1271	7.87
8	243	2052	11.84
Total	1430	15144	9.44

Census 2010

Counting Everyone Once—and only once and in the right place

The foundation of our American democracy is dependent on fair and equitable representation in Congress. In order to achieve an accurate assessment of the number and location of the people living within the nation's borders, the U.S. Constitution mandates a census of the population every 10 years.

The census population totals determine which states gain or lose representation in Congress. It also determines the amount of state and federal funding communities receive over the course of the decade.

By 2010, there will be an estimated 310 million people residing in the United States. Counting each person is one of the largest operations the federal government undertakes.

With one of the shortest questionnaires in history, the 2010 Census asks for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship, and whether you own or rent your home. It takes only about 10 minutes for the average household to complete. Questions about how we live as a nation, our diversity, education, housing, jobs and more are now covered in the American Community Survey and is conducted annually throughout the decade and replaces the Census 2000 long-form questionnaire. Responses to the 2010 Census questionnaire are required by law. All responses are used for statistical purposes only, and are strictly confidential.

TREASURER'S FORUM By Carol Houseman

Very often property owners have concerns over the amount of their tax bill and perhaps do not realize where their taxes go.

Below is a tax chart for a home that has a homestead exemption and is valued at \$200,000 with a taxable value of \$100,000. It will show the taxing authority, millage rate and annual tax dollars.

One mill equals one dollar per thousand of taxable value of your property. In the above example 28.9708 mills equates to 28.9708 X 100 representing the taxable value in thousands and the taxes are \$2897.08 annually.

Non PRE (principle residence exemption) properties, such as rental property and a second residence are not considered your homestead and are assessed 18 mills more than properties with a homestead exemption. That additional tax goes to support education.

In 1993 prior to the implementation of proposal A, the millage rate was 52.891 mills. Today it is 28.8745. That's 23.9202 mills lower than 1993. Proposal A also limits annual property tax increases to the rate of inflation or 5% whichever is less.

While the process is confusing, I hope it answers some of your questions.

Taxing Authority	Millage	$\underline{\text{Dollars}}$
GR Community College	1.7865	\$178.65
Kent Intermediate Schools	4.6903	\$469.03
Byron Center Public Schools	8	\$800.00
State Education Tax	6.000	\$600.00
Kent County	5.3940	\$539.40
Kent District Library	.88	\$88.00
Byron Township Law	.6000	\$60.00
Byron Township Fire	.9100	\$91.00
Byron Township Allocated	.7100	\$71.00
Total	28.9708	\$2897.08

The summer tax bill is about 72% of your annual taxes.

Check out the website for information about paying your taxes online. A fee will be assessed to pay with a credit card. You can find the information under the quick links on the home page. You can also sign up for automatic deduction from your checking or savings accounts.





Byron Township 8085 Byron Center Ave., SW Byron Center, MI 49315



List of Upcoming & Fall Programs

Summer Camps

THEATER CAMP

This new camp is built for 1st time theater students. Miss Angie's students will learn instructional memorization, song & dance, and will create their own costumes. At the end of the week participants will have an open house to showcase their talents.

Day: Monday-Friday **Date**: August 17-21, 2009 (5-8 years old)

Time: 1:00pm-3:00pm Activity Number: 1025

(10hrs of instruction= \$6.50 an hour)

Location: The NEW Community Center, 2120 76th Street Cost: \$65 Resident / \$75 Non-Resident

nimum: 8 Maximum:

Registration Deadline: August 7, 2009 Note: Tuesday and Wednesday, please dress in craft/paint clothes.

BALLET CAMP

Ever wondered what it'd be like to dance with a hula hoop or ribbons? Or how fun it would be to dance with your doll or teddy bear? Well then come dance with Miss Angie! This one week camp is centered around creative play and movement while learning the basics of ballet.

Day:Monday-FridayDate: August 17-21, 2009Time:3:15-4:15pmActivity Number: 1022Age:3-4 years oldCost:\$35 ResidentLocation: The NEW Community Center, 2120 76th Street\$45 Non-Resident

Minimum: 6 Maximum: 10 Registration Deadline: August 7, 2009 Note: Participants must provide their own ballet shoes for the class. Bring your doll or teddy bear too!

Fall Programs

YOUTH

- Art
- Babysitting Class
- Ballet
- Cooking Club
- Gymnastics
- Hip Hop Dance
- Kindermusik
- Mad Science * NEW
- Self Defense
- Sign & Sing * NEW
- Spanish Class * *NEW*
- Tae Kwon Do
- Trunk or Treat
- Volleyball

ACTIVE & YOUNG AT HEART

- Cards
- Luncheons
- Mystery Trip
- Pizza and Bingo
- Health Expo * NEW
- Check the website for more information and registration forms.

www.byrontownship.org

ADULT

- Ballroom Dance
- Open Basketball
- Fitness Classes
 - Yoga
 - Body Burn
 - 20/20/20
 - Zumba
- Ladies Volleyball League
- Line Dance * NEW
- Tai Chi * NEW
- Open Volleyball
- Watercolor

Byron Township Recreation Department & Community Center * 2120 76th Street * Byron Center, MI 49315 Phone: 616-878-1998 * Fax: 616-583-1220 * Website: www.byrontownship.org

Byron Township Community Center

The NEW Byron Township Community Center offers a walking track, PreCor fitness equipment, Hoist weight machines, a full size gym, multipurpose room and lounge areas with wifi. Come and join us!

BYRON TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY CENTER

BUILDING HOURS

Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Sunday Closed

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Phone (616) 878-1998 Fax: (616) 583-1220

SPECIAL BUILDING CLOSINGS

The Byron Township Community Center will be closed on Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving & the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Eve and New Year's Day. The community center will also be closed at noon on Good Friday.

The Community Center is the perfect place to host your next birthday party, family reunion or bridal shower.

MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships include use of fitness area, track and open gym. It also includes discounts on programs.

Residents	*Annual	Monthly	Daily
Family	\$375	\$40	-
Adult Couple	\$325	\$30	-
Individual 18+	\$175	\$20	\$4
Older Adult 55+	\$125	\$15	\$3
Minor 4-17	\$100	\$15	\$3
Non-Residents	*Annual	Monthly	Daily
Family	\$562.50	\$60	-
Adult Couple	\$487.50	\$45	-
Individual 18+	\$262.50	\$30	\$6.00
Older Adult 55+	\$187.50	\$22.50	\$4.50
Minor 4-17	\$150	\$22.50	\$4.50
Corporate	*Annual	Monthly	Daily
Family	\$468.75	\$50	-
Adult Couple	\$406.25	\$37.50	_
Individual 18+	\$218.75	\$25	-
Older Adult 55+	\$156.25	\$18.75	-
Minor 4-17	\$125	\$18.75	-

Note: Non-resident rates are based on 150% over the Resident Rate.

*Registration for annual memberships must be paid in full at the time of purchase.

Memberships & daily passes are non-refundable and non-transferable.

FACILITY RENTAL PRICES AND PROCEDURES				
Room/Area Minimum 2 hours is required	Maximum Occupancy	Resident Per Hour	Non-Resident Per Hour	After Hours Supervisor Minimum 2 hrs
Multi Purpose #1, Plus Kitchen 747 Sq. Ft.	35	\$20	\$30	\$15 per hour
Multi Purpose #2 1090 Sq. Ft	65	\$12.50	\$18.75	\$15 per hour
Multi Purpose #3 898 Sq. Ft	50	\$12.50	\$18.75	\$15 per hour
Multi Purpose #1,2 and 3 Plus Kitchen 2,515 Sq. Ft.	150	\$45	\$67.50	\$15 per hour
Gymnasium 9,600 Sq. Ft. *Occupancy depends on actual activities in the building.	100-200*	\$50	\$75	\$15 per hour

FACILITY RENTAL REFUNDS

Rentals will be subject to the following cancellation refund procedures:

- 1. 50% of rental fee will be refunded with a 1-month cancellation notice.
- 2. 25% refund with be refunded with a 2 4 week cancellation notice.
- 3. No refund will be given with a notice of thirteen days or less.

NOTES:

- 1. Reservations may be made one year in advance of the actual reservation date
- 2. A \$100 security deposit will be required for all rentals on the day of the event. If you leave the room clean and as you found it you will receive your deposit back the same day.

RESIDENT: Residents must reside within Byron Township boundaries.

NON-RESIDENT: Non-Residents, organizations, institutions, agencies, groups that are not located within Byron Township boundaries. *Charging admission and/or selling products.