

# Merrill Township News

March, 2016 Volume 16, Issue 1 Editor: MLP

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## \*M.T. Officials' Office Hours & Contact Numbers

Tues. 1:00 - 4:00, Clerk Marilyn Pembrook  
(231)745-7661 or (231)689-1225  
Thurs. 2:00 - 5:00, Assessor Earl Spalo  
(231)745-7661  
Fri. 1:00 - 4:00, Zoning Administrator Ron Corradin  
(231)745-7661  
Sat. 9:30 - noon, Treasurer Debra Fisher  
(231)745-7661 or (231)689-0776

**\*Other times by appointment.** Hours subject to change.

Supervisor Barry Baldwin  
(231)745-7661 or (616)260-5151  
Trustee Gene Fisher, (231)689-0776  
Trustee Frank Jackson, (231)689-6049

## 2016 Board Meeting Schedule

Regular Township Board meetings for 2016 will be held on the **third Monday** of each month, **except the August meeting which will be held on the fourth Thursday** of the month. All meetings are held in the Community Complex, at 7:00 p.m.

Jan. 18, Feb. 15, Mar. 21, Apr. 18, May 16, Jun. 20,  
July 18, Aug. 25, Sep. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21, Dec. 19

This notice is posted in compliance with Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended, the Open Meeting Act, MCLA 41.72a(2)(3) and the Americans With Disabilities Act. Merrill Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting or public hearing upon 14 days' notice. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Merrill Township office in writing or by telephone.

## **Senior Meals**



The N.C. Commission on Aging serves lunch at the M. T. Community Complex at 11:30 Monday, and at 12:00 Tuesday through Thursday. If you are 60 or older, the suggested donation is \$2 per meal, \$4 if you are under 60. Please call (231)689-2100 if you have any questions.

## .Merrill Township Transfer Station

Located at Bingham and 12 Mile Rd.  
Telephone (231)745-8609.

### **Hours of operation December through March:**

- Sunday 12:00 – 5:00
- Wednesday & Saturday 9:00 – 2:00

### **Hours of operation April through November:**

- Sunday, Wednesday, & Saturday 9:00 – 5:00
- Also open Memorial Day, July 4, and Labor Day from 9:00 – 5:00.

Your transfer station is for disposal of household refuse. No concrete, medical waste, dirt, leaves, grass, clippings, liquids, pesticides, or other hazardous materials are accepted.

There is also a **recycling bin** at the Transfer Station. 'Single stream recycling,' enables you to mix all of your CLEAN plastic jugs, metal cans, glass bottles, and paper products together in one container...NO need to separate." Ask the attendant for an information sheet.

You must present a Merrill Township Transfer Station I.D. Card when you use the Transfer Station. Cards can be obtained in person or by mail from the Township office.

Watch for flyers and posters with information about the **2016 Annual Spring Clean-up Week: May 22 – 30.**

## Board of Review

Members: Barry Baldwin, Gordon Elzinga, Barbara Lanting-Miles, and Tom Wenstrom; alternates are Phyllis Carter and Sharon Jones. March, 2016, meeting dates are:

Tuesday, March 8, 1:30 p.m. (organizational meeting)

Monday, March 14, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 15, 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

## Planning Commission

Members: Gene Fisher, Gus Hopson, Sharon Jones, Peter Morgan, and Denise Suttles. Regular meetings for 2016 will be on the **second Thursday** of each month at 7:00 p.m. The P.C. is working on a revision of the current Merrill Township Zoning Ordinance. You are encouraged to come to the meetings and express your opinions on planning and zoning issues.

## Zoning Board of Appeals

A schedule of tentative meeting dates (will convene if there is pending business) for 2016 is yet to be set. Please contact the office for more information.





### Neighborhood Watch

It's that time again...

Attention: Neighborhood Watch meetings have been changed for you. Our meetings will be held on the first Thursday of the month: June 2, July 7, August 4, September 1, and October 6.

The time will be from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. At each meeting information concerning activities in the neighborhood will be imparted to you by those who are informed, both past year accomplishments and other information we think might interest you. Let us know if you wish to be placed on the agenda. Your concerns are ours. Please attend the meetings. We need you.

### Woodland Park Schoolhouse Committee

It's time for an update on the Woodland Park Schoolhouse!



- Our annual Fall Soup Supper was a success. Many people came and enjoyed the homemade soups, salad and bread! Watch the sign in front of the schoolhouse for other fundraisers; we usually hold one per month between July and October.
- The bathroom is finally finished and looks great!
- A piano was donated by Tom and Renee Pastoor
- We are currently looking for a couple more schoolhouse lights for the main room. We have 4 and need 3-4 more.
- Several desks have been sandblasted and painted/stained
- Our goal for this year is to get a handicap ramp and wider door installed so that we are handicap accessible.
- We are still looking for recipes for our cookbook. You can send your recipes to: Woodland Park Schoolhouse Committee, PO Box 116, Bitely, MI 49309
- We are always looking for volunteers to help with our projects. If you have some spare time, please consider volunteering. You can contact Gordon Elzinga or Harry Dillard to volunteer.
- As always, donations are appreciated. Our progress is dependent on the money we have to spend on projects!
- If you see us working at the schoolhouse, drop by! We love to show off our project!
- Check our website at [www.wpschoolhouse.webs.com](http://www.wpschoolhouse.webs.com) and like us on Facebook.

Thank you to those who contributed the articles on this page.

### Woodland Park Lake Association

Your Woodland Park Lake Association has experienced phenomenal growth in the past year, from just a handful of dedicated, long-term members to over 51 as of the organization's last September meeting. *"I am excited and grateful about the renewed interest in the Association,"* stated Mark Bates, the association's current President. *"Because of the excitement shown by members, we have been able to complete some very nice projects this past summer season,"* he added.



In fact, the association was permitted to plant over 1,250 walleye in the lake this past October, sponsored new colorful marker buoys at the public beach and established a Facebook page where members and friends can post photos and comments about the Park. Mr. Bates says that the association has improved communication among the members through the use of digital communications techniques such as e-mail and has streamlined how the meetings are organized so that members can be quickly informed and their comments and suggestions heard.

The Woodland Park Lake Association was founded in 1991, by permanent and seasonal residents for the purpose of maintaining the water quality, managing recreational use, monitoring the fisheries resources, and to address all other concerns that are directly related to the management of watershed.

The association *needs* your support if it can be expected to continue its stewardship of the area. Scheduled meetings for 2016 are at 1:00 p.m. on May 28, July 2, and Sept.5 at the Merrill Township Hall, 1585 W. 11 Mile Road, Bitely 49309. The membership dues are still only \$20.00/year and it is not necessary to be a resident of the area to become a member. Donations are gratefully accepted, will automatically make you a member, and will be put to good use. For more information, via e-mail, on how to become a member, contact Mr. Bates at [markbates1121@aol.com](mailto:markbates1121@aol.com) or call 517-204-0893.

### REMEMBER



### 2016 Election Dates

Presidential Primary	March 8
State Primary	August 2
State General	November 8