

# Bruce Township Newsletter

*Bruce Township, Chippewa County, Michigan*

3156 E. 12 Mile Road  
Dafter, Michigan

December 2007

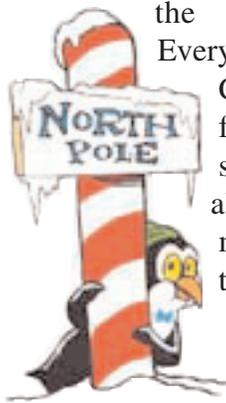
(906) 635-3058  
www.brucestownship.net



## Township Supervisor's Report

### *MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!*

By the time you will be reading this newsletter you will have already received your tax bill from the township. Everyone calls it their Christmas card from the township. This has always been, to me, the wrong time to get these bills. But when is a good time to get this bill anyway? We hope you ALL will have a **HAPPY & HEALTHY CHRISTMAS.**



The annual Senior Citizens Dinner was another huge success again this year with 191 dinners served and a nice celebration for Mr. Clifford Allen on his 100th birthday. The Homemakers again did

their usual fine job of preparing and presenting the food. We need to also mention the extra helpers such as husbands, children, grandchildren and volunteer firefighters that contribute to the success of this great event. All we can say is, we look forward to next year...

We have a new **BULLETIN BOARD** in front of the township office. The old one will be used for posting hours and public meetings that pertain to township business. The new one will be used for posting community happenings, meetings and notices of special events. We will NOT use it for garage sales or for other items for sale. Check with the clerk to post your notice.

### **911 REFLECTIVE MARKERS...**

We are still and will continue to promote the reflective markers that we are trying to have everyone in the township have in front of their homes as soon as we can. To date we have 311 markers out and that

is a long way from what we should have out. This would be a good time to get these and use them as a stocking stuffer for Christmas. For \$5.00 it is an inexpensive gift that could help save a life...

**THINK ABOUT IT!!!!!!!**

## Treasurer's Report Ruth LaJoie

If you plan on using the township hall for a special event this coming year, you had better contact the clerk because it is already filling up for the coming year.

Tax time again? Yes. The winter tax statements have been mailed, everyone should have received theirs by now, if not please call me.(635-3058) 2#.

If you think yours has a mistake on it, again please call. You may pay your tax bill at the office on Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 10 AM to 4 PM through February 29, 2008 (leap year), after that they are payable at the

Township Meetings are the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

Township hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Closed Holidays

Special Meetings and Board of Review are posted on the Township Hall bulletin board.

Planning Commission Meeting is on the Tuesday before the Regular Township Meeting at 7 p.m.

*Dan Gallagher, Township Supervisor 632-0437 (home)*

Chippewa County Treasurer's Office. You may mail them at any time.

I would like to give you a little information as to how the township is growing in valuation and taxable value. For the year 2007



The State Equalized Value is \$80,373,850.00 and the total taxes levied is \$1,514,969.00.

I have to make sure every dollar reaches the destination it was intended for.

If you have a summer tax bill that you need to pay, please call me for the correct amount due, or add 1% per month starting with September, and that is still paid to me until February 29, 2008. This year due to Christmas being on a Tuesday, I will not be in the office on December 24, 2007 or December 26, 2007, however I will be in on Friday December 28, 2007, that will be the last day to pay your taxes in 2007.

Have a great holiday.

## Clerk's Report

Wanda Sawyer

There was an election on November 6, 2007 for the Intermediate School District. There were 277 voters.

I recently received notice that there will be a presidential primary election on January 15, 2008. This is short notice for the printing of ballots and for the delivery of ballots to absentee voters. If you are not on the absent voter list and wish to receive an absent voter ballot, call me at 635-3058.

## Planning Commission

Lou MacDonald

The Planning Commission resumed its monthly meeting schedule in October and will continue to meet on a monthly basis until such time as a reduction in workload permits a change to quarterly meetings. Monthly meetings will probably continue until late spring.

Work is in progress on a modification of sign permit provisions by establishing a new classification for minor signs. The revisions are intended to ease and simplify permitting procedures for minor signs. The proposed changes will be available for public review and comment in the next 2 - 3 months.

Work is also in progress on Phase 2 of the Township's Master Plan. Phase 2 addresses the interior portions of the Township that were not included as part of Phase 1. Current efforts also include a second look at some locations covered by Phase 1. This second look is in response to some "after the fact" comments received subsequent to the adoption of Phase 1. The fact that Phase 2 work is not yet complete allows this "tweaking" of Phase 1 that normally would be accomplished during the 5-year review cycle.

Public hearings are always held when Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance revisions are under consideration. The Planning Commission welcomes timely constructive input in these processes and encourages your

participation at both our regular meetings and at our public hearings.

## Assessor's Report

Ken Brown

We are now making final inspections on any new construction projects not looked at during the construction season. Anything that is on any property on Dec. 31 is taxable for the 2008 TAXABLE YEAR.

We would again ask for info on any buildings that were demolished during the year so we can take them off your property record card and also reduce your Assessed and Taxable Value.

Any tax questions can be referred to the Assessor at 632-6584.

We would like to wish everyone in the Township a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## December Bayliss Library Events

**Dec. 10, 7 p.m.**

FILM@Bayliss,  
"Her Name is Sabine"  
(Documentary, France)

**Dec. 13, 6:30 p.m.**

Author Bill Jamerson,  
Big Shoulders with music  
and film

**Dec. 15, 1:30 p.m.**

Family Movies@Bayliss,  
"Muppet Christmas Carol"  
(1992)

**Dec. 19, 7 p.m.**

CCGS, research session

**Dec. 20, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
Cabin Fever Writers' Group

## Fire Department

**Tim Andrews, Fire Chief  
Bruce Township  
Volunteer Firefighters**

The fire department held their annual pig roast in October where we served 242 adults and 22 children.

At the dinner, the fire department revealed that they had received a generous grant from AAA for extrication tools.

The firemen demonstrated the “jaws of life”, the cutter and the ram in the parking lot.

Fred Garlinghouse received the “Fire Chief’s Award” for doing extra work to make the department run smoothly.

Dave Winters received the “Firefighter of the Year” award for going above and beyond his duties as a firefighter.

In October, we went out to Brimley Elementary school for a fire safety demonstration for the second and third graders.

We were able to show the children what fire fighters do and what equipment they use. Shawn Joabar dressed in his turn-out gear with the SCBA [self-contained breathing apparatus] on.

Students were able to see and hear what a firefighter looks and sounds like when searching buildings for people,

If anyone wants to help or join the department, please contact me directly or through the township office.



## Township History by Janice Kessler

The Bruce Township Historical Society has determined there were at least seven churches in the Township from the earliest days until the present. As we gather information about the churches and other points of interest we would like to include short essays in the newsletter. Rosedale Church is an example of our research.

### *Rosedale Community Church*

In 1880, the Agar family donated a portion of their property on the corner of Shunk and Nine Mile Roads to the Rosedale community for the purpose of building a church. The cost of the building was \$500.00 according to church records.

The first pastor of record was William Curry in 1883 when the congregation met in a nearby school. The following year, Rev. Joseph Holt traveled in November with his family from Liverpool, England, to Lansing. When they

reached Cheboygan, the plan was to go by boat from Cheboygan to the Sault, but no boats were available. In St. Ignace, a team and wagon was hired to bring the family to Rosedale. In his memoirs he mentions “a mud hole between St. Ignace and Rosedale - which was all of the way”! He was in his 40s at the time with four children, “the youngest was Willie, our baby, not yet two”.

Rev. Holt was the pastor until 1888. The church was originally known as Mt. Forest Congregational Church and was installed on May 26, 1885.

By 1948, the church was behind on mortgage payments and in danger of being purchased for a beer parlor, so the community took up a free will offering and paid the \$701.00 debt! The church was known as the Rosedale Community Church from then on.

The origin of the name apparently came from the wild roses that grew along the ditch banks in the area.

This church is unique since it still meets in the original building from