



BEDFORD TOWNSHIP THE TOWNSHIP UPDATE

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP • TEMPERANCE, MICHIGAN 48182 • VOLUME XVI • ISSUE II • SUMMER 2015

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We're on the Web
WWW.BEDFORDMI.ORG



To access the complete Bedford Township Website from your Smart Phone download a QR code reader by taking a photo of the above code.

OR VISIT US AT THE:

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP HALL
8100 JACKMAN ROAD • P. O. BOX H
TEMPERANCE, MICHIGAN 48182
PHONE: (734) 847-6791
FAX: (734) 847-7809

- Greg W. Stewart Supervisor
- Trudy L. Hershberger Clerk
- Paul R. Francis Treasurer
- Larry O'Dell Trustee
- Paul Pirrone Trustee
- Rick Steiner Trustee
- Nancy Tienvieri Trustee
- Dennis Kolar Building Inspector
- Alan Matlow Assessor

OFFICE HOURS:
8 AM to 5 PM
Monday-Friday

TOWNSHIP OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE FOLLOWING HOLIDAYS

- New Year's Day
- Martin Luther King's Birthday
- President's Day
- Good Friday (afternoon)
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Veteran's Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Friday following Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve
- Christmas Day
- New Year's Eve

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Graphic and Printing services provided
by Bedford Township residents



The Clerk's Corner

By: Trudy L. Hershberger • Bedford Township Clerk

BEWARE OF SCAMMERS!

It seems every day you hear about a new scam targeting citizens, especially our senior citizens. There are several types of scams/frauds committed every day, below is a list of the top scams being committed.

GRANDPARENTS SCAM: A grandparent receives a frantic call from someone they believe to be their grandchild. The supposed grandchild sounds distressed and may be calling from a noisy location. The supposed grandchild claims to be involved in some type of trouble while traveling in Canada or overseas, such as being arrested or in a car accident or needing emergency car repairs, and asks the grandparent to immediately wire money to post bail or pay for medical treatment or car repairs. The scammer typically asks for several thousand dollars, and may even call back again several hours or days later asking for more money. He or she may claim embarrassment about the alleged trouble and asks the grandparent to keep it a secret.



A common theme of the scam across the nation is the caller's request for the grandparent to wire money through Western Union or MoneyGram or to provide bank account routing numbers. Wiring money is like sending cash; there are no protections for the sender. Typically there is no way you can reverse the transaction, trace the money, or recover payment from the telephone con artists.

Names, addresses, birth dates, and telephone numbers are easily ascertained online; they will also check Facebook or other social networking websites to learn about someone's vacation plans, (especially during spring and summer months when many families take vacations), and then contact that person's grandparent pretending to be the real grandchild. In some cases, the senior citizen unknowingly "fills in the blanks" for the thief. For instance, the senior answers the phone, the scammer says something like, "Hi Grandma, it's me, your favorite grandchild," the grandparent guesses the name of the grandchild the caller sounds most like, and the scammer takes on that grandchild's identity for the remainder of the call.

PHONE SCAM - IRS Tax Scams for the 2015 Filing Season: Scammers are able to alter caller ID numbers to make it look like the IRS is calling. They use fake names and bogus IRS badge numbers. They often leave "urgent" callback requests. Scammers have been known to impersonate agents from IRS Criminal Investigation as well. These callers may demand money or may say you have a refund due and try to trick you into sharing private information. These con artists can sound convincing when they call. They may know a lot about you.

THE IRS WILL NEVER DO THESE THINGS:

1. Call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes owed without first having mailed you a bill.
2. Demand that you pay taxes without giving you the opportunity to question or appeal the amount they say you owe.

(CLERK - Continued on Page 2)

Township Directory

Many people calling the township are finding that they reach a "menu" instead of the telephone receptionist. This is sometimes confusing, so in an effort to help you reach the correct person or department a list of names, titles, extension numbers and the department they work in is listed below. To reach Township offices and staff please call:

734.847.6791

and then the extension shown below.

SUPERVISOR'S DEPARTMENT

Greg W. Stewart..... Supervisor 7321
 Kim Pollins..... Administrative Assistant 7322

CLERK'S DEPARTMENT7323

Trudy Hershberger..... Clerk 7328
 Garnet Francis.....Deputy Clerk 7334
 Nancy Gin..... Administrative Assistant 7320

TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT..... 7342

Paul R. Francis..... Treasurer 7324
 Krista Jandasek..... Deputy Treasurer 7327
 Cindy Baum..... Administrative Assistant 7352
 Amy Hogberg..... Utilities Clerk 7332
 Pam Andrews..... Part-Time 7339

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

David Manning..... Finance Director 7325

PLANNING/ZONING DEPARTMENT..... 7331

Karen Kincaid..... Planning Department 7337
 Jodi Rector..... Planning Department 7338

BUILDING DEPARTMENT 7330

Building Department Counter 7343
 Dennis Kolar..... Building Official 7336
 Linda Willing..... Administrative Assistant (Part-Time) ... 7330
 Steve Carnill..... Part-Time 7345
 Bernie Zarb..... Part-Time 7346

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT 7353

Alan Matlow..... Lead Assessor 7329
 Lewis Smith..... Assessing 7349
 Dan Cervi..... Assessing 7326

ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT

Damon Cecil..... Supervisor/Ordinance 7350
 Shayla Pitzen..... Ordinance Officer..... 7341

TRUSTEE OFFICE 7344

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Detective/Sergeant..... 7315
 Detective..... 7316
 Deputy..... 7318

(CLERK - continued from Page 1)

3. Require you to use a specific payment method for your taxes, such as a prepaid debit card.
4. Ask for credit or debit card numbers over the phone.
5. Threaten to bring in local police or other law-enforcement groups to have you arrested for not paying.

If you get a phone call from someone claiming to be from the IRS and asking for money, call the **IRS** at **1-800-829-1040**. Remember, too, the IRS does not use email, text messages or any social media to discuss your personal tax issue involving bills or refunds. For more information on reporting tax scams, go to www.irs.gov and type "scam" in the search box.



LOTTERY/CASH SCAM: These frauds generally do not involve a product or service; instead, they include a set of scenarios to get cash from the unsuspecting person. The offender may pretend to be in a position of authority or otherwise trustworthy, telling a story to get the victim to hand over cash, and then disappearing. For example, in "lottery scams", the scammer claims to have won the lottery, but has no bank account in which to deposit the money. The scammer promises to pay the victim a "fee" in return for use of his or her bank account number. Once the victim makes a "good faith" payment to the scammer or gives out their account number, they never hear from them again. **SCAM!**

TELEMARKETING: Scammers call people at home, using high-pressure tactics to solicit money for fraudulent investments, insurance policies, travel packages, charities, and sweepstakes. These telemarketing operations will ask for information such as your social security number, your bank account numbers, credit card numbers, or other personal information, which if given out can result in monies being withdrawn from these accounts without your knowledge or approval. **SCAM!**

MAIL: Fraudulent prize and sweepstakes operations will mail materials to a large audience, relying on potential victims to return a postcard or call to indicate an interest. The mailings often look official, with seals, claims of authenticity, extensive personalization (*for example repeating the recipient's name in the text of the letter*) and they make a request for the recipient to submit a small fee to cover "postage or handling charges". Be assured, if you send the fee, you will never receive the grand prize or sweepstakes winnings. **SCAM!**

FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT: This type of fraud usually involves products and/or services which require face to face contact in the victim's home. Often the scammer will gain entry into the home by posing as a utility worker or official who then keeps the victim distracted while an accomplice burglarizes the home. It's wise to never allow any stranger into your home if you are alone or unless you are aware that person is supposed to be there, or they can provide some kind of proof of who they are in which you can contact their business/company to be sure they are legitimate. **SCAM!**

These are just some examples of the "scams" that are being perpetrated by people who are trying to take your money or other assets. When someone calls, e-mails you, sends a letter, or visits you offering a deal that sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Don't give out any personal information, no matter how much pressure is applied. Contact the **Monroe County Sheriff's Department (911)** if someone comes to your door and you believe they may be trying to harm you or steal from you. ■



From The Supervisor's Desk

By: Greg W. Stewart Bedford Township Supervisor

I was reminded by a Bedford citizen; a friend, that leadership isn't just about doing the work that the state defines as mandatory, or even working on projects such as roads and economic development that has always been my passion. There is a responsibility to maintain and enhance that thing called community. There is a duty to bring the positive aspects of our lives to the limelight, while working hard to resolve the problems that can cast a shadow on our achievements and success.

I want to highlight some of the positives going on in our community. Many Bedford residents and leaders are striving to keep Bedford strong. Here are some:

- **Fire Chief Rudy Ruiz** has announced an "**Assistance to Firefighters Grant Award**" of **\$294,000** to purchase 47 Self Contained Breathing apparatus including the air bottles and face pieces; an additional 7 face pieces so that all firefighters have their own face piece; and finally a new air compressor cascade system to fill the air cylinders.
- The **Bedford Business Association** headed up a community effort and submitted a grant proposal for "**America's Best Communities**" and received a **\$5,000 grant**.
- Bedford has been nationally recognized as one of the best communities to raise a family. Both Lambertville and Temperance scored high (*and if Samaria would have eligible, they too would be up there I'm sure*).
- **The Bedford Express**, our very own robotics team was fourth in the **WORLD**. This isn't just a win for the Bedford students that put forth a great effort; it is a win for the schools and the community. Preparing our youth for a future "*knowledge based*" work force shows that our schools will assure that Bedford youth are prepared for the 21st century.
- Speaking of the future, let's not forget that Bedford has also been chosen by **NASA** to produce parts for the space station. Getting chosen shows that **NASA** knows that Bedford has the quality students, teachers and assets that they can rely on.
- We want to thank **Bridge Point Church** for their support in helping the community expand the recycling program; their contribution has helped enormously to make a positive difference. However the recycling will be moved at the end of May.
- In a collaborative effort The **Monroe County Health Department's "Recycling and Green Communities Program"** and the **Bedford Public Schools**, We are announcing that starting **Tuesday, June 2** the recycling bins will be located at **1575 W. Temperance Road** this is the

Temperance Road Elementary School. The bins will be placed on the west side of the building from **6:00a.m.-6:00p.m.** every **Tuesday**. This central location will replace both the **Bridge Point Church** and **Township Hall** locations for the summer.

We encourage everyone to recycle, but there are some rules: Please remember **NO TRASH**. Please push your recyclable to the center to make room for others.

- 1) All materials may be co-mingled (mixed in the same bin). We accept **ONLY** containers that held food, beverages, detergent or bleach. Rinse and flatten if possible. Labels may stay on.
- 2) Acceptable materials include glass (*clear or colored*), tin, aluminum, plastic (*1-7*), mixed paper, milk and juice cartons, cereal boxes and magazines.
- 3) Please **DO NOT** place garbage, telephone books, text books, plastic bags, motor oil bottles or pesticide containers.
- 4) These directions are for the **Monroe County Recycle-NOW** drop-offs only. The yard waste recycling has been a success and I want to remind everyone that the Bin is here at the Township Hall. We will most likely be bringing this service back in the fall, so we encourage you to plan ahead. Thanks.

Board Trustee, Paul Pirrone has announced that the **Francis Family YMCA, 2000 West Dean Road, Temperance**, will once again host the **Bedford Farmer's Market**. The market opened on **Saturday, May 16**.

Most of the vendors from last year have returned as well as new vendors for a second successful season. The market will be every **Saturday** until **October 31**. The hours are from **8:00 AM to 1:00 PM**.

The **Events Manager, Monica Rinckey** says that this year the market will highlight musical entertainment, kid's events, and adult learning opportunities.

Through the seasons the market will highlight local produce, flowers and plants as well as home-made preserves and other local offerings. They will also be selling baked goods and coffee to enjoy your visit. There will even be volunteers to preform health screenings, and offer free bottled water.

Vendors will be posted on the **FaceBook** page (*Bedford Farmer's Market*) on Friday of each week highlighting their special for the day. You will also be able to find more details, including availability of fresh seasonal produce at the web site. **www.bedfordmifarmersmarket.org**.

Good things are happening and as someone mentioned to me...

COMMUNICATE! ■



Bedford Branch Library News

By: Jodi Russ, Bedford Branch Librarian

Your Bedford Branch Library has something for everyone this Summer!

Learn more about and register for these programs and more at <http://bit.ly/eventsatbd>

- **Summer Reading Club for Adults - Monday, June 15, 2015 -Friday, July 24, 2015.** Why should the kids have all the fun? Join us for our special Summer Reading Club for Adults! It's easy! Fill out an entry form for each book you read this summer, drop it in the entry box, and we will randomly pull an entry each week for a prize. All entries will be submitted for the grand prize drawing! You could win a Kindle Fire!
- Escape the Ordinary by joining us for our **Annual Book Lover's Party** on **July 16 at 6:30 p.m.** Sherlock Holmes fan extraordinaire, Regina Stinson, will entertain with: "Why Do We Love Sherlock Holmes?" Discover how Holmes began life, how he influenced science and popular culture and why his popularity endures. Refreshments and Door Prizes!
- **Essential Oils mini-series - Lori Diver, from Homestead Soaps,** will introduce the world of Essential Oils. Learn what they are, how to use them, and how to can make blends to use around your home every day. Lori will also host classes on how to make soap and lip balm. Registration required. Be sure to register for each event separately.
 - Essential Oils Everyday- June 24, 6-8pm*
 - Soap Making Class- July 1, 6-8pm*
 - Lip Balm Class- July 8, 6-8 pm*
- If you're looking for fabulous and free activities for your kids this summer, the Bedford Branch Library is the place to be! We have story times, book clubs, movies, yoga camps, camps, and more for kids aged 0 - 12 during our annual summer reading program. This year Every Hero has a Story and we want to hear about yours! Check out our website for specific listings. <http://bit.ly/eventsatbd>.
- **Teen Summer Reading** runs **June 8 through August 28.** Turn in a slip for every 3 books or 6 graphic novels that you read this summer and choose a book to keep with your entry. All entries will be eligible for the grand prize drawing for a Kindle Fire at the end of August!
- Makerspace is coming to your library soon! Watch our calendar and the local newspapers for more information.
- **The Bedford Flower & Garden Club Annual Garden Tour - Saturday, July 11 from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm** begins at the **Bedford Branch Library.** Tickets are **\$9** at the door where you will receive your map of the gardens to tour in our community. Garden-themed vendors with a variety of items for sale to decorate your garden will be at the library. All proceeds help support the Club's activities and scholarships.
- I want to send out a huge **THANK YOU!** to the **Friends of the Bedford Library,** without whom we would not be able to do many of the fabulous things we do for our community. The Friends support us in so many ways, but mostly by providing funding for programs, including all of the summer reading events and prizes we offer. Interested in helping support your library? Become a Friend! Stop in and we'll tell you how. ■

News From The Assessing Department

By: Alan Matlow, MAAO & Lewis Smith, MCAO • Bedford Township Assessing Department

CHANGE IS HARD, and sometimes it can be downright painful. Because of this, most of us tend to shy away from it. However, I cannot say that about the person I am writing about. **Mr. Chris Renius** has been the **Bedford Township Main Assessor** for the past 9 years. Many things have changed in those 9 years here in Bedford Township. One thing that has not changed is that Chris has had the drive to take on new and different challenges. Chris, his wife Stephanie, and brother, Brian have worked diligently to help the people of Monroe County through their assessing service firm. Chris has also been active in the Bedford Community as a youth soccer, basketball, and baseball coach.

It is very hard to replace someone with such drive, diverse talents and skills. He will be missed very much. We have enjoyed working with you and learning alongside of you over the years. Thank you so much for the time that you have spent with us.

In closing, change happens. We all grow and need to continue growing. We in the Bedford Township Assessing Department have been fortunate to share that growth with our family, friends, community and a great co-worker Chris Renius. ■

Treasurer's Department News

By: Paul R. Francis, Bedford Township Treasurer



2015 SUMMER TAX BILLS

2015 Summer Tax Bills will be **PRINTED IN HOUSE**, and mailed out around **July 1**. They are due and payable on or before **September 14, 2015** without interest being assessed. On **September 15** a **1% interest charge** must be added to your unpaid tax bill and an **additional 1% must be added the first of every month thereafter until the tax bill is fully paid**.

Taxes may be paid by cash or check payable to the Bedford Township Treasurer, by mail (*using the envelope provided*), by using our convenient drive-up window, drop box, or service counter inside the **Bedford Township Government Center, 8100 Jackman Road, Temperance, MI 48182**. In addition, we are pleased to accept payments by debit or credit cards, and electronic check. Detail information regarding payments by debit or credit cards, and electronic check is provided below. Also for your convenience, taxes may be paid at any branch of **Monroe Bank & Trust, Fifth Third Bank (Lambertville Branch)** and **First Merit Bank (Temperance Branch)**.

DEFERED PAYMENT OF 2015 SUMMER TAX BILLS

Senior citizens (age 62 and over), veterans, and persons with total and permanent disabilities may qualify for deferment of 2015 Summer taxes if your household resources (*taxable and non-taxable income*) is **\$40,000 or less**. Qualified agricultural property also qualifies for deferment. The deferment application form must be filled out every year and filed with the Township Treasurer's office before **September 14, 2015**. If you qualify, payment of your **Summer 2015** taxes may be deferred until **February 14, 2016** without any penalty or interest added. Please call the **Bedford Township Treasurer's office**

at (734) 847-6791, extension 7342 for the required forms and/or information regarding the deferment process. This may be important to you, so please don't overlook it.

DEBIT & CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS NOW ACCEPTED

For your convenience, the **Bedford Township Treasurer's office** is able to accept debit card, credit card and electronic check payments for any payments you wish to make to Bedford Township for property taxes, sewer usage bills, building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing permits, passport fees, park facility rental fees, planning and zoning fees, cemetery lot sales and burial fees, etc. A Convenience fee (user fee) will be charged by a third party (*Point and Pay, LLC*) as follows: for tax payments (*only*), a user fee of 3% of the payment amount will be charged; for all other debit and credit card payments, a user fee of **\$1.50 per \$50.00** increment will be charged; for electronic check payments (*online*), a user fee of **\$3.00** for payments up to **\$10,000.00**, **\$10.00** for payments in excess of **\$10,000.00** will be charged. Debit card and credit card payments can be made at our convenient drive-up window, our service counter inside the **Bedford Township Government Center**, or online, using our township website (www.bedfordmi.org). E-Check payments can only be made online by using our township website.

PLEASE NOTE: Because we are a completely separate entity from the South County Water System, we are unable to accept debit card, credit card or e-check payments for water usage bills. We can only accept cash or checks payable to the South County Water System, which we then forward on to them as a convenience to you. ■

THE BEDFORD BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE Water-Wise Gardening

You can have a lovely garden, even though your yard is sunny and dry, without spending hours every day watering or putting in a sprinkler system. All it takes is starting with the right plants that thrive in these conditions. Plants that require little, if any, supplemental water have developed a variety of ways to obtain and retain water.

The Oak Openings native plants are naturally adapted, many with deep taproots that store water. For a list of Oak Openings natives go to www.oakopen.org/plant_species/. Sedum, both the taller varieties such as " and the ground cover types, as well as Hens and Chicks (*Sempervivum*) have thick, fleshy leaves and stems that retain water. Silver leafed plants like Russian sage, Artemesia and some pinks (*Dianthus*) have tiny hairs or a waxy coating that serve as protection from the sun.

Other drought tolerant plants include butterfly weed (*Asclepias*), Verbascum, Salvia (*both annual and perennial varieties*), Penstemon such as the popular 'Husker's Red', most grasses, Coreopsis, catmint (*Nepeta*), daylilies, and both bearded and Siberian Iris. ■



GOVERNANCE..

It Includes A Sound Budget!

By Nancy Tienverri, Trustee

I have written about Governance, the practice of governing, in other Update articles. It is an essential part of the responsibility of elected officials. It has been an important concept promoted by the Michigan Townships Association for several years. The concept is vital during the time the Township Board deliberates on the Annual Budget. A strong system of governance is important for elected officials to adopt and follow in order to maintain a consistent operation, since every four years there can be a change in office holders. If policies - especially with regard to budgeting tax dollars - are not in place, and officials adhere to a casual method of budgeting, the adopted budget will only serve to meet the needs of those in office rather than the public they serve.

By the time you read this, the budget process for the **2015-2016 Bedford Township Budget** will have been completed and a new budget adopted since the fiscal year for Bedford Township begins July 1 and ends June 30. The Township Board must approve a budget beyond June 30 of each year before the bills coming in July 1 can be paid. Each approved budget is for one year only. Consequently, the information here will hopefully encourage public involvement in the future budgeting process.

The budget is a fundamental management tool for townships. It gives authority to various elected officials and township employees on how and where to spend the revenue coming in to the township. Spending of tax dollars cannot be done randomly, but must be done according to the line items of the adopted budget.

The Board must first establish goals and determine the public needs that exist in the township. Each township is different because each township has different infrastructure, population, demographics, services, etc. The budget must be designed to meet explicit goals, plans, priorities directly associated with the public needs. The Township Board must be cautious not to focus on what is to be purchased in a budget without concern for what the Board has determined to specifically accomplish during a particular fiscal year.

In this last year and continuing into 2016, the Bedford Township Board has focused on, set goals, and appropriated funds to make extra progress in road improvement. Additional funds have been allocated in the 2015-2016 Annual Budget to meet that goal. At the same time the budget allocates funds to meet the ongoing needs of the township offices, buildings and grounds, parks, library, fire services and much more. It is important that all the departmental needs of the township be addressed in allocating dollars while meeting the annual goals.

The Budget process begins in March with the Township Board holding informal Budget Workshops to look over the current budget and the spending in each department. Several workshops are held with Board Members between March and May. These workshops are not formal meetings, but are open to the public.

The Department Heads submit their request for the upcoming budget year including the line items from the current budget showing what has been spent. Each department and fund is reviewed and discussion is held on what should be accepted, what should be postponed until a future budget, and finally what should be denied or eliminated. Sometimes what a particular department may wish to have approved is not what the entire Board deems to be necessary for the needs of the Township at large.

Of course since the Township Board is made up of seven (7) people of different backgrounds, philosophies, and opinions, there are many differences in perceived needs and wants. This is a good thing and important to the process of examining the overall goals for the Township. It is the entire Board's responsibility to come to a consensus on the appropriations in the budget in order to be fiscally responsible in meeting the needs of the Township.

It is also extremely important for the taxpayers in the Township to follow closely the budgeting process. The residents of a township have an invested stake in the development and outcome of these decisions of the Township Board. The Township Board needs to know and understand the expectations of the citizens; and the citizens must hold the elected officials accountable to accomplish the goals that have been set. If the budgeting process serves only to enhance the departments of the Township offices and employees, then the distribution of the revenue is misaligned. Revenue coming into the township funds is from property tax, State shared revenue (*sales tax, etc.*) and other miscellaneous (*finer, permits, etc.*) revenue. All revenue sources are supplied by taxpayers in one manner or another. If the revenue comes from the taxpayer, then the expenditures should in the most part be used to supply the needs of the taxpayer. The elected officials on the Township Board have a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers in the way the dollars are budgeted, spent, and accounted for (*audited*). Any way you slice it the public is in charge and should come first. ■



Bedford Park Board News

By: John Mohr, Connie Velliquette, Garnet Francis, Sally Dunn, and Joan Schockman

Summer is here, school is out and it's time to visit Bedford Township's great parks! We have been very busy this spring, getting not only the playground areas all "spruced up" and ready for visitors, but our **Community Centers**, as well. To start out with, all the parks are open, including the skateboard park and disc golf course at **Parmelee Park**. We are putting in new mulch at all the playgrounds, and stone on the driveways.

We are looking forward to **Friday, June 26, 2015** for our **Annual Fireworks Display**. It will be held at the **Bedford Community Stadium**, beginning at **dark (9:30 or 10:00 pm)**, and so mark your calendars, we plan on having a wonderful, exciting evening of spectacular fireworks for your viewing pleasure.

The last **Bedford Walk** is also scheduled for **Friday evening, June 26**, and we will be walking at both **Indian Creek** and **White Park Trails**. The event begins at **6:00 p.m.** If you're interested in participating, show up with your walking shoes, and you might even win a prize at the end of the walk!

Work will be starting this summer on the extension to the walking trail at **Ansted Park**. This project was originally scheduled for last summer, but had to be delayed until this year. We have bid the project out and are ready to get started early in June and expect to have it completed by August/September. We will be having an official "Grand Opening", probably sometime in early fall.

We have something new and exciting coming at **White Park** this summer. We will be transforming one of our tennis courts into two **Pickle Ball Courts**. There have been several articles in the newspapers about this relatively new sport, which is like tennis, but on a smaller court using a paddle and wiffle ball instead of a tennis racquet and ball. Community Education is offering pickle ball classes to anyone interested in trying out this fun game.

We would like to thank the members of the **Bedford Alliance Church** who contacted us offering to help with a spring cleanup of our parks. Thirty to forty members of that church met with board members on **Saturday, April 25** and spent several hours cleaning up leaves and other debris from **White, Parmelee** and **Indian Creek Parks**. They did a great job and we appreciate their hard work.

Most of you probably saw an article in **Bedford Now** regarding a potential **Dog Park** in Bedford Township. To those of you who completed the **Dog Park Survey** that we handed out at the **Bedford Trade Fair**, we thank you for your input. This would be a big project, with some major costs involved, such as a parking lot, fencing, park benches, etc. The board has many decisions to make on how this park would be funded, whether we will charge a membership fee to use the park, what kind of maintenance we will have to do, and many other issues. We know there's a lot of public interest in having a dog park, and the park board will be looking at this issue slowly and carefully to be sure that whatever we do, it will benefit Bedford residents.

The **Bedford Township Park Board** is looking forward to a great summer at all of our parks. Come and join us! ■



www.bedfordmi.org

By: Trudy L. Hershberger, Bedford Township Clerk

Visit the Bedford Township Website



The website can be accessed by going to www.bedfordmi.org. We have photos of the township, township parks photos (*new ones will be added in the spring when everything is green*), approved minutes for the township, planning and BZA meetings, agendas with the entire board packet for Township Board meetings, voter registration forms, forms to volunteer to be on a board or commission, Freedom of Information Act forms, and many others. We have a calendar that will be kept updated about various meeting dates and much, much more. Please check the site out and let us know if you have any ideas for additional information we can add to keep the community updated. ■



Bedford Township

P. O. Box H • 8100 Jackman Road
Temperance, Michigan 48182

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**BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
2015 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

Bedford Township Board	Meets 1 st and 3 rd Tuesday of each month
Beautification Committee	Meets 2 nd Thursday of each month
Board of Review	Meets in March and possibly in July and December
Board of Zoning Appeals	Meets 1 st Monday of each month
Fire Advisory Board	Meets 2 nd Wednesday of even numbered months • Fire Station • 7016 Lewis Avenue
Bedford Library Board	Meets 4 th Monday of each month
Housing Commission	Meets 3 rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. • Ivor Lindsay • 8745 Lewis Avenue
Planning Commission	Meets 2 nd and 4 th Wednesday of each month
Park Commission	Meets 2 nd and 4 th Monday of each month
Downtown Development Authority	Meets 1 st Friday of each month at 3:00 p.m.
Temperance Action Committee (TAC)	Meets 1 st Monday of Each Month • Ivor Lindsay • 8745 Lewis Avenue
Lambertville Pride Committee	As Needed
Samaria Heritage Committee	Meets 2 nd Tuesday of each month • Samaria Hall (Park) at 6:30 p.m.

- **All** meeting times are at **7:00 p.m.** unless otherwise stated.
- **All** meetings are held in compliance with the **Open Meetings Act of 1976**. Meetings are normally held at the **Bedford Township Hall - 8100 Jackman Road - Temperance, MI 48182** unless otherwise indicated. Meetings are subject to change of date, time and place, pending notification.
- The **Library Advisory Board** meetings are held at the **Bedford Township Branch - Monroe County Library System - 8575 Jackman Road - Temperance, MI 48182**.
- **Bedford Township Housing Commission** meetings are held at the offices of the **Ivor J. Lindsay Senior Housing Complex - 8745 Lewis Avenue - Temperance, MI 48182**.
- The **Township of Bedford** will provide necessary and reasonable auxiliary aids and services for individuals with disabilities attending Township meetings upon one week's notice to the Township of Bedford. Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Township of Bedford in writing. *Please address all correspondence to: Greg W. Stewart, Supervisor - 8100 Jackman Road - P. O. Box H - Temperance, MI 48182.* You may also contact **Supervisor, Greg W. Stewart** by calling **(734) 847-6791, ext.7321**.

Township Board Meetings are broadcast on Buckeye Cable Channel 11 or 7 with a box the Wednesday after the meeting at 9:00 a.m. and the following Thursday at 7:00 p.m.