

THE TOWNSHIP UPDATE

Inside This Issue:

From The Supervisor's Desk 1

Meet The Township Hall Staff 2

Clerk's Corner 3

Dollar\$ & \$ense 4

The New Township Hall 5

The Move To The New Facility 5

Bedford Beautification Committee Update - "The Spice of Life" 6

Township Directory 7

Meeting Schedule 8

Points of Contact

Telephone (734) 847-6791
 Fax (734) 847-7809
 Info (800) 846-8725

We're on the Web

www.bedfordmi.org

or visit us at the:

Bedford Township Hall

8100 Jackman Road • P. O. Box H
 Temperance, Michigan 48182
 Telephone: (734) 847-6791
 Fax: (734) 847-7809
 PALine: (800) U-GOT-PAL

Walt Wilburn • Supervisor
 Robert Schockman • Clerk
 Sherri S. Meyer • Treasurer
 Paul Francis • Trustee
 Larry O'Dell • Trustee
 Rick Steiner • Trustee
 Dennis Steinman • Trustee
 Dennis Kolar • Building Inspector
 Chris Renius • Assessor
 W. Thomas Graham • Attorney
 Dennis Jenkins • Planning Coordinator

Office Hours:

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 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 •



From The
Supervisor's Desk

By: Walt Wilburn, Township Supervisor

View of the Township

As usual there has been a lot going on around Bedford Township this summer

- Lewis Avenue is getting a face lift. Lewis Avenue from Whitman Ford north to the Railroad Tracks is being resurfaced as we speak. The work should be completed by September.
- Lambertville is getting a new Walgreen Drug Store on the corner of Secor and Sterns Roads. The LaSalle Bank is building a new facility just to the east of the corner. Food Town Plaza is filling up with new businesses, and Kroger Plaza also has some new businesses added since the 1st of June.
- Douglas Road got some attention with resurfacing from Sterns Road to West Temperance Road. Striping will be completed soon.
- Summerfield Road is being resurfaced from Smith to Douglas Roads and is due to be finished in September.
- The new Bedford Township Hall/Government Center is nearing completion. I know that there are some who think that building a new Township Hall/ Government Center is a foolish waste of funds. However, I can assure you that building materials and labor will not be less expensive in the future. Neither will maintaining an inefficient building, nor will services requested be easily provided with no elbow room or storage space. And I can also assure you that the carpeted walls with nearly 60 years of dust and germs, will not be missed. As soon as we are moved in and settled, there will be an Open House planned. We hope you will stop in and tour the building. (See the article by Dennis Steinman, Trustee, on page 5 for further information.)



- The Bedford Alliance Church is working on expanding their present facility and the new building is looking closer to being finished. Jackman Road is looking pretty impressive.
- You will have noticed some changes at the northwest corner of Secor and Smith Roads with more to come soon. All around town there is building, renovating, and resurfacing, etc. etc.
- Some beautiful homes are going up on West Temperance Road as well as many other places around the Township. *(18 new homes started May, June and July and 112 homes transferred ownership since June 1.)*
- Forest View Lanes on Dean Road is currently involved in renovations to their facility. Engraved Images built a larger facility and moved to Lewis Avenue. Good things are happening this year.
- But, all is not honey and roses. We still are going through growing pains with flooding, and more roads that need fixed, and a lack of homes our children can afford. However, we will keep plugging away at the problems while enjoying the Best about Bedford.
- And have you taken the opportunity to drive by Brock’s Greenhouse on Smith Road between Secor and Douglas Roads? Please do so...*the profusion of flowers there is simply awesome.* I can’t even begin to guess how many flowers it took to cover areas that are blooming. Thank you Brock’s for sharing your love of flowers with us.
- “**Summerfest**” and “**Walk Bedford**” went off without a hitch, and the **Bedford Fireworks** were **FANTASTIC**. Of course our Bedford Charity Cruises on the 4th Thursday night of every month thru the summer is a sight to behold. If we’re not careful, there will soon be more classic cars in Bedford than regular cars. *(That just might be a good thing. Walking down memory lane is great exercise.)*
- Also have you noticed that you can hardly find a seat at any restaurant in Bedford on a Friday night? Which leads me to my list of Bedford Goods*:
 - 1. Good Government** **2. Good Schools** **3. Good Businesses** **4. Good Homes**
 - 5. Good Food*** **6. Good Friends** **7. Good Ideas**
- It’s no wonder we like living in Bedford. Hope your summer has *(so far)* been way above your expectations and you are looking forward to fall.
- Thanks to all for your cards, prayers and thoughts of my family when my mother passed away in July. The power of prayers and thoughts is truly a blessing. **Thank You!** ■

Meet The Township Hall Staff

(Each issue we will spotlight a different staff member in alphabetical order)

Years employed at Township Hall: I have been employed at the Township Hall for 5 years as of July.

Township Department: I work in the Treasurer’s Department.

How long have you lived in Bedford: I have lived in Bedford Township for 14 years.

Favorite thing about Bedford Township: I enjoy all our wonderful parks.

Retirement Dream: Honestly, I have not even thought about retiring. I’m too far from retirement age.

One thing you would like people to know about you: I have a wonderful husband and a handsome little boy that makes me smile every day.



KRISTA JANDASEK ■



The Clerk's Corner

By: Robert Schockman, Township Clerk

Passport Information

Due to the high volume of passport applications we have received at our office this past year, I am repeating the information below to assist residents who are planning to travel overseas within the next six (6) months. I hope this information will make the process of applying/receiving a passport easier for everyone.

Bedford Township Hall has been a passport agency since October of 2003. We are delighted to be able to assist our residents as well as residents of other communities in acquiring a passport so that they can travel abroad. The \$67⁰⁰ fee to the U.S. Department of State must be in the form of a check or money order for citizens who wish to apply for a passport at Bedford Township Hall. The \$30⁰⁰ execution fee and \$10⁰⁰ fee for photographs can be paid by check, money order or cash.

If you are planning a trip outside of the United States, please allow at least 12 weeks processing time for passport applications. If you need a passport sooner than that, you may want to consider expediting your passport application. The U.S. Passport Service will "expedite" your application for an extra \$60⁰⁰ fee per application. With this extra fee, your passport application will be processed in 3 to 4 weeks.

Until September 30, 2007, for persons traveling by air or sea to Canada, Mexico, Bermuda, or countries in the Caribbean region that have applied for a passport but not received it can go to the U.S. Department of State's web site to download a Department of State Official Proof of Application for a passport. This proof of application plus a government issued photo ID (such as a driver's license) will allow you to travel to the above designated locations. The State Department is allowing this service **ONLY** until September 30, 2007 for those countries because of the longer than expected processing times for passport applications due to the record-breaking demand.

If you wish to have Bedford Township take your passport photos, a \$10⁰⁰ additional fee will be charged along with the \$30⁰⁰ execution fee. Bedford Township's hours for accepting passport applications is Monday-Friday, 8:00 am til 5:00 pm. For any other information, you can go to our website, Bedfordmi.org and "click" on passport information. From this site you can get general information or access the U.S. State Department's website. If you do not have internet access, please call me or one of my staff at 734-847-6791.

	Adults-age 16 or over (valid for 10 yrs.)	Age 16 or under (valid for 5 yrs)
Passport Fee	\$67.00	\$52.00
Execution Fee	\$30.00	\$30.00
Total	\$97.00	\$82.00

Additional News from the U.S. Department of State.

- **Effective January 1, 2008** – Passports will be required for all travel border crossings, as well as land, sea, and air travel to all countries.
- Children under the age of 14 who are applying for a passport must have both parents/guardians present when submitting the application. If one parent/guardian cannot be present, the absent parent must fill out form **DS- 3053**, which is a notarized consent form to issue a passport to a minor under the age of 14.
- If you have any questions or concerns about any travel outside of the United States, go to the state department's web site at **travel.state.gov**. This site will also give you information regarding visa requirements, safety issues and immunization requirements in certain countries, and a great deal of other important information that will make travel plans easier for you.



Dollar\$ & \$ense

By: Sherri S. Meyer, Township Treasurer

Tax Deadline September 14

REMINDER: The deadline to pay your 2007 Summer Taxes is September 14. After the 14th a 1% interest charge per month will be charged.

Starting with:

September 15	1%
October 1	2%
November 1	3%
December 1	4%

The first of each month an additional 1% interest will be charged. You may pay your tax bills at Bedford Township Hall from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday or at Monroe Bank & Trust, Temperance and Lambertville branches, LaSalle Bank, Temperance and Lambertville branches, and at Fifth/Third, Lambertville branch.

Deferments For Qualified Residents

The Michigan General Property Tax Act has been amended with **Public Act 24 of 2005** to allow certain citizens, including senior citizens, veterans and persons with disabilities to defer their summer property taxes if they have a **HOUSEHOLD INCOME BELOW \$40,000⁰⁰**. To qualify for the deferment a township resident must meet one or more of the following conditions as defined by the State Income Tax Act:

- Is a totally and permanently disabled person, blind person, paraplegic, quadriplegic, eligible serviceperson, eligible veteran, or eligible widow or widower.
- Is 62 years of age or older, including the unremarried surviving spouse of a person who was 62 years of age or older at the time of death

Township residents who believe they qualify under the new limit and wish to defer their summer property taxes can obtain an Application for Deferment of Summer Taxes from the Township Treasurer's office at the Bedford Township Hall, or call us at (734) 847-6791 and we will mail you a form. **THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT ANNUALLY BY SEPTEMBER 14 OF EACH YEAR.** Collection of the approved deferred taxes will be delayed until the winter property taxes are due. ■

The New Township Hall

By: Denny Steinman, Trustee

The new township hall has been under construction since October, 2006 and we are close to completion of the project. Currently, we are within 1 percent (1%) of our projected budget for the construction, and the projected move in date is the third or fourth week of September.

At this time, the building finishes are being completed. Examples are: ceiling tile, flooring, carpeting, trims and touch-up painting.

Some of the features you will be seeing in the new building are: ADA accessibility, a drive-up window (*to pay taxes, utility bills and conduct other business*), increased security, a disaster center (for weather events, large fires and other situations), conference rooms, a larger boardroom (*with improved lighting and sound*), better parking with lighting, as well as many other improvements too numerous to mention.

In the new building, a better work flow between departments located near each other has been planned. For example: Building, Planning, Zoning and Ordinance Enforcement are all located on the second floor. The Clerk, Treasurer, and Assessing Departments will be on the first floor. Because we are using the latest building technology, the new township hall building will save the township on utility costs and be very low maintenance for at least the next several years.

After the move into the new township hall, the board plans to tear down the old building and construct a front parking lot on that location. All the office equipment and other articles that can be used in the new building will be moved, and an auction is planned this fall to sell the unused equipment. Those funds will be put back into the township treasury.

It is our hope that the new building will enable our staff to better serve the community when township services are needed.

The total project will be completed by November, depending on weather conditions. A date will be announced when the formal dedication is organized. ■

The Move To The New Facility!

By: Robert Schockman, Township Clerk

The move to the new Township Facilities may disrupt some services; however, every effort will be made to continue services with as little change as possible by all of the Bedford Township Staff. The Clerk's Office will continue to operate our passport, voter registration, park rentals and scheduling, and special assessment information offices whether we are in the new or old building or somewhere in between.

I'm equally sure that the Treasurer's Office, Planning Department, Assessing Department, Building Department, as well as the Supervisor's Office, will all be open to offer excellent service under these difficult circumstances. We would only ask that you have patience with us during this move. We have been told the move will be completed by the middle of October. ■

The Spice of Life

Emerald ash borer, gypsy moth, maple and oak wilt, pine borer. Good grief, are there any trees that a poor homeowner can plant that are guaranteed free of destructive pests and disease? Well, no, probably not. But variety is the spice of life as well as smart landscape planning. With a variety of trees, chances are that the “*bug du jour*” at any given time won’t wipe out the tree canopy in your yard.



Emerald Ash Borer

The following are some less well-known trees that deserve spots in our yards here in Bedford Township:

- American Hophornbeam** (*Ostrya virginiana*)
 - Slow growing to 40 feet tall by 25 feet.
 - Dark green foliage with yellow fall color.
 - Disease and pest resistant; likes moist soil but tolerates dryness and light shade.

- Trident Maple** (*Acer buergeranu*)
 - Grows to 25 feet tall by 35 feet.
 - Mottled bark; dark green leaves turn orange to red in fall.
 - Disease and pest resistant; likes full sun but tolerates drought and urban conditions including salt.

- Turkish Filbert** (*Corylus colurna*)
 - Low maintenance tree that reaches up to 50 feet tall by 30 feet.
 - Maintains broad pyramidal shape; dark green foliage.
 - Disease and pest resistant; tolerates drought once established.

- American Hornbeam** (*Carpinus caroliniana*)
 - Slow to establish then grows 30 feet tall by 30 feet.
 - Interesting “*muscle*” bark; grows in single stem or clumps; good orange-red fall color.
 - Prefers shaded, moist soils but tolerates intermittent drought.
 - Disease and pest resistant but purchase trees grown in the north. ■



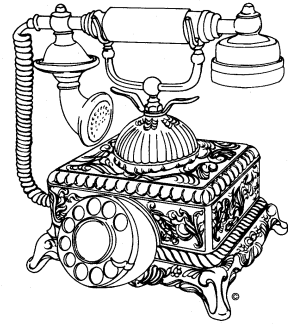
Turkish Filbert



Gypsy Moth

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.



SUPERVISOR’S DEPARTMENT

Walt Wilburn.....	Supervisor.....	121
Meg Smith.....	Deputy Supervisor.....	122

CLERK’S DEPARTMENT

Bob Schockman.....	Clerk.....	123
Trudy Hershberger.....	Deputy Clerk.....	128
Garnet Francis.....	Election Clerk.....	134
Linda Hritz.....	Receptionist.....	120

TREASURER’S DEPARTMENT

Sheri Meyer.....	Treasurer.....	124
Sandy Renius.....	Deputy Treasurer.....	127
Krista Jandasek.....	Administrative Assistant.....	152
Amy Hogberg.....	Utility Clerk.....	132
Pam Andrews.....	Part-Time.....	139
Trish Williams.....	Part-Time.....	133

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Mike McMillan.....	Finance Director.....	125
--------------------	-----------------------	-----

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Dennis Jenkins.....	Planning/Zoning Coordinator.....	135
Karen Kincaid.....	Administrative Assistant.....	137
Duane Tucker.....	Zoning/Land Division Administrator.....	131
Mike Nafziger.....	GIS Technician.....	138

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Dennis Kolar.....	Building Official.....	136
Barbara Martin.....	Administrative Assistant.....	130
Jack Lange.....	Building Inspector.....	145

ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

Chris Renius.....	Assessor.....	126
Liz Gray.....	Assessing.....	129
Alan Matlow.....	Assessing.....	149
Karen Metreger.....	Assessing.....	153

ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT

Ken Idle.....	Ordinance Officer.....	141
Steve Heer.....	Ordinance Officer.....	150
James Brunt.....	Ordinance Officer.....	151

Bedford Township Boards and Commissions 2007 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 & December
Board of Zoning Appeals	Meets 1 st Monday of each month
Cablevision Committee	Meets as needed
Economic Development Corporation	Meets 1 st Thursday of each month
Fire Commission	Meets 2 nd Tuesday of each month • Fire Station • 7016 Lewis Avenue
Bedford Library Board	Meets 4 th Monday of each month
Housing Commission	Meets 3 rd Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. • Ivor Lindsay • 8745 Lewis Avenue
Planning Commission	Meets 1 st , 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 1:00 p.m.
Law Enforcement Committee	Meets 2 nd and 4 th Tuesday of each month
Temperance Action Committee (TAC)	Meets 1 st Monday of Each Month • Ivor Lindsay • 8745 Lewis Avenue

- 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 Branch of the Monroe County Library System, 8575 Jackman Road Temperance, MI 48182.
- Housing Commission meetings are held at the Ivor J. Lindsay Senior Housing Facility, 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: Walt Wilburn, Bedford Township Supervisor • 8100 Jackman Road • Box H, Temperance, MI 48182. You may also contact Supervisor, Walt Wilburn by calling (734) 847-6791.

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

Bedford Township Image Committee

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



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TEMPERANCE, MI PERMIT NO. 65

**Postal Customer
Bedford Township**