



BEDFORD TOWNSHIP THE TOWNSHIP UPDATE

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP • TEMPERANCE, MICHIGAN • VOLUME XI • ISSUE 3 • FALL 2010

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WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.BEDFORDML.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

Walt Wilburn Supervisor
Robert Shockman Clerk
Sherri S. Meyer Treasurer
Paul Francis Trustee
Larry O'Dell Trustee
Gail Hauser-Hurley Trustee
James Goebel Trustee
Dennis Kolar Building Inspector
Chris Renius Assessor
W. Thomas Graham Attorney
Dennis Jenkins Community Development Director

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
Bedford Township
Supervisor

As these hot days of summer start to cool toward fall, it's time to start thinking about getting our homes, and yards ready for the next season.

- If you are thinking of adding on or fixing up you home, now is the time. (*Remember to get the permits for the work you are doing*). For citizens who qualify, the Township has a Grants and Loan program that allows necessary work to be done to keep a home in safe condition.
- It won't be long before we have to haul out the rakes to clean up the yard (*Please check the Bedford Township web site for burning regulations and permits*). We also need to watch out for the children going back to school and adjust our schedules according to the school bus routes.
- The county wide Backpack Committee will have furnished backpacks to the children of Bedford on August 20, so that every child who needs one will have one to start to school. Thanks to all the many organizations who worked to provide backpacks for our kids.
- On September 11 get ready to walk and talk and look for that special item you didn't know that you needed until you find it at "Downtown Temperance Days". Every year this event just gets bigger and bigger as the Committee keeps adding entertainment to the day.
- There will be one (1) more Super Charity Cruise night scheduled for September 23 for Bedford Community Foundation's "Heart of Hope Fund". This is the last

Charity Cruise of the year, so come on out and check out the cars and enjoy chatting with your neighbors.

- Thanks to all who took the time to vote August 3. The primary election is over with some new faces appearing on the scene. If you don't know them already, take time to get to know the candidates before the general election in November. They are all good people trying to make a difference in Bedford Township. Study the ballot issues as well.
- The bridge work on Sterns Road between Summerfield and Secor Roads has been completed. Additional sidewalk work has been completed in Lambertville and Temperance. The service station at the corner of Lewis Avenue and Temperance Road is newly re-opened and the addition to Family Medical Center is nearing completion. All the tornado sirens are in working order and we are grateful to make it through another season with minimal storm damage.
- My thanks to the **Deputies from the Sheriff's Sub Station** and to the **Firemen and women** who work so hard to keep our Township safe.

Your services are appreciated!



Please remember to keep our service men and women in your thoughts!

Assessing Department Update

By: Chris Renius, CMAE 3, Bedford Township Assessor

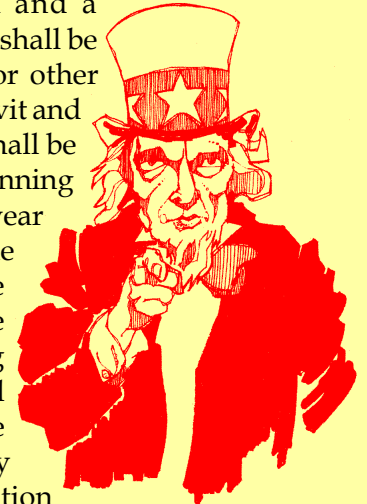
Military Personnel Property Tax Exemptions

This newsletter, the Bedford Township Assessing Department would like to discuss some of the exemptions that are available to active or discharged Military Personnel. The first item to discuss is the Principle Residence Exemption Military Affidavit. A person with an established Principle Residence Exemption (*PRE*) can retain that Exemption while on active duty in the United States Armed Forces if the principle residence is rented or leased. Property that currently qualifies as a principle residence continues to qualify for three years after any portion of the dwelling or unit included in, or constituting the principle residence, is rented or leased to another person and is used as a residence. All of the following conditions must be satisfied:

- The owner of the dwelling or unit is absent while on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.
- The dwelling or unit would otherwise qualify as the owner's principle residence.
- The owner files **Form 4660** with the assessor of the local tax collection unit on or before May 1 attesting that he/she intends to occupy the dwelling or unit as a principle residence upon completion of active duty in the United States Armed Forces.

The second exemption is an exemption from real estate taxes on a property used and owned as homestead by soldier or sailor discharged with a service connected disability IF the soldier or sailor has received pecuniary assistance due to the disability for Specially Adapted Housing. The entire section of the General Property Tax Act, section 211.7b, is as follows in its entirety: Sec. 7b. (1) Real estate used and owned as a homestead by a soldier or sailor who was discharged under honorable conditions with a service connected disability, and who has a certificate from the United States veterans' administration, or its successors, certifying the soldier or sailor is receiving or has received pecuniary assistance due to disability for specially adapted housing, shall be exempt from taxation. To obtain the exemption, an affidavit, accompanied by the certificate, showing the facts

required by this section and a description of the property shall be filed with the supervisor or other assessing officer. The affidavit and accompanying certificate shall be filed during the period beginning with the tax day for each year and ending at the time of the final adjournment of the local board of review. The affidavit and accompanying certificate when filed shall be open to inspection. The county treasurer is hereby authorized, pursuant to section 55, to cancel the taxes for any year in which a soldier or sailor has acquired title to real estate exempt under this section.



Upon the granting of the exemption as allowed in this section, each local taxing unit shall bear the loss of their portion of the taxes upon which the exemption has been claimed and allowed. (2) If a soldier or sailor entitled to the exemption permitted by this section dies, the exemption shall continue in favor of the unmarried surviving spouse of the soldier or sailor. The spouse shall comply with the requirements of subsection (1) and shall indicate on the affidavit that he or she is the surviving spouse of a soldier or sailor entitled to exemption by this section. The exemption shall continue as long as the surviving spouse remains unmarried.

Please contact the assessing department if you have any questions regarding these exemptions.

The Township assessing information is available on the Township web site at www.befordmi.org. If you need a copy of the physical drawing of your home, map, etc. that is not available online, you can obtain the information from the Assessing Department. There is no charge for information on your own property. The Assessing Department's hours are from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday through Friday except for holidays. □



Election News Update

Are You Registered To Vote?

If you're a new resident to Bedford Township, have moved, just turned 18 years of age, or haven't voted in several years, you may not be sure if you're registered to vote here. The easiest way to check, if you have a computer, is to go to our website, bedfordmi.org, "click" on clerk (located on the left side of the page), then scroll to the bottom of the page and "click" on Voter Information Website. This site will give you election information and tell you if you're registered to vote or where your precinct location is. If you do not have access to the web, just call my office, **734.847.6791**, extensions **134** or **154**. Either I or one of my staff will be happy to assist you. If you find that you are not registered to vote and wish to vote in the **November 2, 2010 General Election** (and any future elections), **Michigan Election Law requires you to do so at least 30 days before the election**, which means you would have to do so by **October 4, 2010**.

Absentee Voters

With the upcoming General Election in November, I would like to remind our permanent absentee voters to get your applications signed and returned to my office, if you haven't already done so. If you are not sure if you have returned your application, or if you would like to be added to our permanent absentee voter list (you must be 60 years of age or older or unable to go to the polls because of a physical disability) please call my office, **734.847.6791**, extension **134** or **154**, and we will add you to our list of permanent absentee voters. Once you are on this list, for each scheduled election, you will be automatically sent an absentee ballot application form that must be signed and returned in order to receive the ballot.

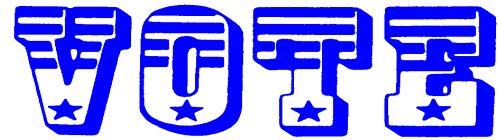
Election Inspectors

I would like to thank all of our election inspectors who worked the August 3, 2010 Primary Election. They attended training classes, arrived on time and worked the long hours of Election Day, without complaint. Our inspectors do an outstanding job in performing the

many election duties assigned them, especially when you consider that Bedford Township is the largest voting bloc in Monroe County, with the most precincts (14). While the task seems overwhelming, our inspectors/chairmen do an amazing job.

August 3, 2010 Primary Election

The August Primary Election is over, with voter turnout in Bedford at 20%, which was higher than most of the rest of the county, but still a low turnout. Unofficial local election results are posted on our website, bedfordmi.org. There isn't enough space in the newsletter to adequately report this information.



November 2, 2010 General Election

The **November 2, 2010 General Election** will allow voters to elect a **Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Federal Congressman, a State Representative and State Senator**, as well as **County Commissioners and County Road Commissioner**. Having the opportunity to vote is a privilege as well as a responsibility we should not take lightly. Please remember to vote on November 2, 2010.

Thanks To Our Precinct Location Sites

I would also like to thank **Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Christ the King Lutheran Church, the United Methodist Church, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, the Assembly of Christian Church, Northwest Christian Church, the Bedford Christian Community Assembly of God Church, and the Bedford Branch Library** for their willingness to allow us to use their facilities as polling locations on Election Day. Difficulties with illegal campaign signs at these locations and candidates campaigning within 100 feet of the polling place entrance have caused minor problems in past elections, but with your help we were able to resolve these issues. □



Dollar\$ & \$ense

By: Sherri S. Meyer
Bedford Township
Treasurer

SUMMER TAX BILLS DUE

We have been very busy in the **Treasurer's Department** collecting the **2010 Summer Tax Bills**. The summer bill is due on or before September 14 without interest. On September 15 a 1% interest charge will be added to your tax bill and an additional 1% interest charge the 1st of each month thereafter. If you can't pay your entire bill we do accept partial payments. The interest and penalty after September 14 is only applied to the unpaid balance, so anything paid helps reduce the amount of interest and penalty added to the bill after the due date. We accept partial payments through February 28 with interest and penalty until we turn over our tax roll to the County Treasurer on March 1.

For our residents who use the **Summer Tax Deferment**, don't forget **THIS FORM MUST BE FILLED OUT ANNUALLY** by September 14. Please call the **Treasurer's Department** at **734.847.6791 ext. 142** for the form and/or information regarding the deferment. By filing the deferment form, you still must pay your property taxes. The deferment form defers the payment of your Summer Taxes without any interest or penalties until February 14.

For residents who travel or go south for the winter months, don't forget you can have your tax bills automatically deducted from your checking or savings accounts. You may choose one of two dates for your Summer Tax bill payment and one of two dates for your Winter Tax bill payment. Forms are available in the Treasurer's Department or on our website at bedfordmi.org. If you have any questions please call the **Treasurer's Department** at **734-847-6791 ext. 142**.

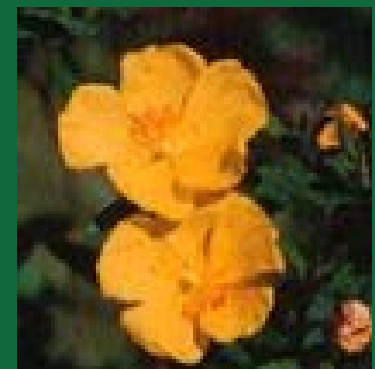
WEBSITE: bedfordmi.org

Don't forget about our website bedfordmi.org! It is in real time and you can look up the amount of your taxes 24 hours a day! Check to see if your taxes have been paid by your bank or escrow agent, print your own receipt, get an ACH form, check your assessment, and look up your sewer use bill. If you haven't looked on our website please do, as there are many things about the Township and it is very informative! □

THE BEDFORD BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE **So Much For So Little!**

Spring flowering bulbs celebrate the end of a long winter with exuberant floral fireworks and now is the time to get them in the ground. Can't decide where to plant those big daffodils and tulips? Then try the lesser known little bulbs for a treat that improves over the years.

True to their name, white snowdrops (*Galanthus*) were blooming and cheering winter-weary hearts this last spring even through the snow. Then winter aconite (*Eranthis hyemalis*) appeared with its ruff of green sepals framing tiny yellow buttercup flowers. Species crocus, such as *Crocus tommasinianus* or *chrysanthus*, arrived in shades of purple and cream followed by Siberian squill in deep, true blue and puschkinia in bleached denim blue. The little daisies of *Anemone blanda* opened in the sun along with *Glory of the Snow* stars (*Chionodoxa*) both in shades of pink, white and purple while checkered fritillary sported its nodding purple or white checkered bells in the shade along with the delicate foliage and pale purple flowers of *Fumewort* (*Corydalis solida*). Grape hyacinth followed in deep purple profusion.



These tiny bulbs are east to plant, generally are not bothered by critters and reproduce by both bulb division and self-seeding. To plant, simply stick a trowel straight down in the ground, rock it back and forth to open a slit, drop in the bulb and cover with soil. They can even be planted in the lawn. Imagine in a few years, hundreds of little flowers where you just planted a few dozen—large deep blue pools of squill, clumps of crocus, stars and daisies peeking out around newly emerging perennial greenery. For little cost and effort, these miniature gems will pay great dividends for many years to come. □

BEDFORD PARK COMMISSION UPDATE

By: John Mohr, Pearl Albert-Green, Rick Garrett, Joe Blaze, & Paul Pirrone, Bedford Township Park Board

Summer is ending and Fall is on the way!!

Summer is ending and fall is on its way, but there is still a great deal of opportunity to spend time outside at Bedford's parks. We thought it would be a good time to share some news about what's happening this fall and winter.

- **Temperance Action Committee** and the Bedford Park Board will be holding a **Garage Sale Day** at **Carr's Grove Park**, on **September 11, 2010**. You can either "*rent*" a space and sell your unwanted stuff, or just come over and shop, see the sights and enjoy the entertainment. There will be lots to do and see, so stop by.
- On **Sunday, December 5, 2010**, from 3 pm until 5 pm, the **Temperance Action Committee** and the Bedford Park Board will again jointly hold a **Christmas Tree Lighting** at **Carr's Grove Park**. This annual event will get everyone in the mood for the Holiday Season, with Christmas Caroling, hot chocolate, and a visit from Santa Claus. In addition, **Samaria** will hold a **Christmas Tree Lighting** at **Samaria Community Center** on **Friday, November 26, 2010** (*the day after Thanksgiving*), again there will be entertainment, etc.
- If you wish to use one of the shelters in our parks (*White Park has two, Carr, Samaria, Parmelee, & Indian Creek each have one*) please contact the Bedford Township Hall, **734.847.6791**, ext. **134** to reserve. There is a \$20.00 charge to reserve a shelter, you must make a reservation and obtain a permit to have a right to use any of the shelters.
- The Park Board also has two community centers, one at Carr's Grove Park and the other at Samaria Park. These can be rented by contacting the Bedford Township Hall, **734.847.6791**, ext. **134**. There is a fee to use these community rooms, for Bedford residents the fee is \$215.00 with a \$200.00 refundable damage deposit. Reservations are taken for the current year only, we do not book any reservations a year or more ahead of time.
- We often get calls for reservations at **Vienna Park**, off of Vienna Road in Bedford Township. **Vienna is a county park**, and you must call **734.241.3101** in order to do so.
- We have been experiencing some vandalism at our parks, especially at **Parmelee Park**. If you are visiting one of the parks and see something going on, please contact either the police or the township ordinance officers immediately. During weekday hours, call **734.847.6791**, ext **141** or **151** for our ordinance officers. During evening hours or weekends, call Central Dispatch, **734.243.7070**, which is the non-emergency number for the **Monroe County Sheriff's Department**.
- The Park Board has again applied for two grants from the DNR to help fund the new **Ansted Park** at the corner of Lewis Avenue and Samaria Road. If we are successful in receiving either grant, we will be able to develop the road to the park, the 3.5 acre fishing pond, picnic areas, walking/ biking trails and sledding hill. We will know whether we have received one of these grants in December of this year or in January.
- If you have any questions/concerns about our parks, or would like to be more involved in our parks on a volunteer basis, why not come to one of our board meetings. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month, at 7:00 pm. at the Bedford Township Hall, 8100 Jackman Road, in the 2nd floor board room. Or, if you have access to the web, go to the township's website, bedfordmi.org and "*click*" on parks and recreation, on the left hand side of the screen. There are pictures, and lots of good info on our parks.

Lastly, we would like to thank all of you who voted for the park millage on August 3, 2010. Unfortunately, the millage failed by a margin of 349 votes. Depending on the economy in the State of Michigan, and how much state funding the township will receive next year, we will be looking at making major cuts in our park budget for the 2011-12 fiscal year. Please be assured we will do everything possible to keep and maintain all of the beautiful parks we have in Bedford Township. □

A REMINDER: We do not allow alcohol consumption at any of our parks, including the community centers.



THE BEDFORD TOWNSHIP HOUSING COMMISSION UPDATE

By: Susan Soda, Executive Director
Bedford Township Housing Commission

The Ivor J. Lindsay Housing Complex Celebrates its' 30th Anniversary!

One of Bedford Township's treasures is the Ivor J. Lindsay Housing Complex which recently celebrated its' 30th year anniversary.

In 1973, as President of the Bedford Senior Center, Ivor J. Lindsay approached the Bedford Township Board with a list of senior citizens interested in a senior citizens housing program. From this petition the Bedford Township Housing Commission was established. An application for low-income public senior housing was made to the Detroit office of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Four years later Carol Wojcik, President of the Commission announced that Bedford Township Housing Commission had



The Ivor J. Lindsay Housing Complex

received approval for 97 apartments through the Public Housing Act. Groundbreaking was the following June. Four one-story buildings, along with an office/maintenance and community building, sit on about ten acres off Lewis Avenue behind the Family Medical Center.



Ivor J. Lindsay (Center) at the 1979 Groundbreaking Ceremony
Photo courtesy of Pearl Albert-Green

The first residents moved in April 1980, since then over 450 residents have called Ivor J. Lindsay home. The complex is federally funded. Federal occupancy requirement guidelines must be followed. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development sets the income limits for eligibility, which are reviewed and revised annually. A resident pays 30% of their annual adjusted income for rent. The Housing Commission receives a monthly subsidy

(IVOR LINDSAY - Continued)

THE BEDFORD TOWNSHIP HOUSING COMMISSION



Susan Soda
Executive Director

Philip Koenigseker
Commission President

2010 BEDFORD HOUSING COMMISSION

- Philip Koenigseker President
- Raymond B. Williamson Vice-President
- Yvonne Rado Member
- David Beard Member
- Royce R. Maniko Member

The Bedford Township Housing Commission Office and the Ivor J. Lindsay Housing Complex is located at 8745 Lewis Avenue, Temperance. For more information please call 734.847.3950.

(IVOR LINDSAY - From Page 6)

bathroom renovations, and office/maintenance/community building additions.

The Bedford Housing Commission board, staff, and residents are most proud of the Residents Memorial Garden. The garden, constructed in 1998, is a tribute to the residents who have lived at Ivor Lindsay. The



Local Official along with Ivor Lindsay residents were in attendance for the ceremony

garden is funded through donations. The Housing Commission staff holds an annual garage sale (with resident and community donated items) and other fundraisers throughout the year. The Bedford Beautification Committee assisted the Housing Commission

with the original plan and construction for the garden. The Bedford Lions Club purchased a gazebo. Through the funds, raised by the staff and residents, an arbor, a large water feature, trees, bushes, and flowers have been added. The garden has been the stage for weddings, cookouts, and music concerts. It is an excellent spot for the residents and guest to enjoy.

The Bedford Township Housing Commission Board, staff, and residents know that Ivor J. Lindsay would be proud of his namesake today. □



↑ Anne Bradley shares about her Father, Ivor J. Lindsay and his vision



↑ Susan Soda, Executive Director and Bedford Township Supervisor, Walt Wilburn



From Left to Right: Susan Soda, Executive Director
Dave Gardner, Maintenance Supervisor, Leanne Pobursky, Secretary
(not shown) Mike Ciha, Maintenance Assistant

The dedicated staff of the Ivor J. Lindsay Housing Complex →

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 Bedford Township offices and staff please call:

(734) 847-6791

and then the extension shown 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
Kim Pollins	Part-Time	154

TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

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

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

David Manning.....	Finance Director.....	125
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PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Dennis Jenkins.....	Planning/Zoning Coordinator.....	135
Karen Kincaid.....	Administrative Assistant.....	137
Duane Tucker.....	Zoning/Land Division Administrator.....	131

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

Dennis Kolar.....	Building Official.....	136
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ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

Chris Renius.....	Assessor.....	126
Alan Matlow.....	Assessing.....	129
Holly Merritt.....	Assessing.....	149

ORDINANCE DEPARTMENT

Steve Heer.....	Ordinance Officer.....	150
James Brunt.....	Ordinance Officer.....	151
Shayla Pitzen.....	Ordinance Officer.....	141

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP BOARDS & COMMISSIONS 2010 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 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	Meets 3 rd Monday of each month

- **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**.
- **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: Walt Wilburn, Supervisor • 8100 Jackman Road • P. O. Box H • Temperance, MI 48182**. You may also contact **Supervisor, Walt Wilburn** by calling **(734) 847-6791, ext. 121**.

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.

Bedford Township Image Committee

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



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