BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 28, ISSUE 1, DECEMBER, 2011

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS: SUPERVISOR – BRIAN ASHTON TRUSTEE – GARY SUMMERS ZONING ADM – JERRY BALMES

CLERK – SHARON HARTMAN TRUSTEE – MEAGAN LITTLE TREASURER - VIVIAN BALMES ASSESSOR - CLAYTON McGOVERN

BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP OFFICES 8888 SOUTH GRAYLING ROAD GRAYLING, MI 49738 PHONE: 989-275-8878 FAX: 989-275-9965 www.beavercreektownship.com

9 A.M. – 2 P.M. MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

OFFICE HOURS

BOARD MEETINGS:

Regular meetings are held @ 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at the Township Hall. Special meetings shall be called at the discretion of the Board with due and proper notice given.

2012 MEETING SCHEDULE:

January 10
February 14
March 13
April 10
May 08
July 10
August 14
September 11
October 9
November 13
June 12
December 11

TRANSFER SITE HOURS:

 Saturday
 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

 Sunday
 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

 Wednesday
 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

BEAVER CREEK TOWNSHIP TRANSFER SITE:

The new transfer site opened November 10, 2007 and is located at 8756 S. Grayling Road, next to the Township Hall. You must have a Transfer Site Sticker displayed on your vehicle's windshield.

Price for a second vehicle is \$3.00 with a limit of two vehicles per residence. If you change vehicles, bring in the old sticker or a portion of it and we will replace it free of charge. All household trash MUST be in trash bags.

Remember, it is up to you to help keep the cost the same on the special assessment shown on your Winter Tax Statement. This can be accomplished two ways: recycling and by not bringing in any garbage from outside our township.

You can recycle plastic, tin cans, paper, cardboard and the metal trailer is still on site too.

SUPERVISOR BRIAN ASHTON:

Another successful season at the community center and township park has come and gone. We have completed the winterization process of the cemetery and the park. The community center will be available for rent throughout the year and you are encouraged to take advantage of this facility; please call us at the township office for details.

Many of you have noticed the positive and constructive changes at the transfer site where household trash is disposed of and recycling materials are collected. We will continue to accept tires at a nominal disposal fee for your convenience. You are encouraged to recycle as much as possible; please talk to Max at the transfer site for details.

Please join us for the 2nd annual Holiday Musical Celebration on December 9th. It will be conducted at the community center at 7:00 PM. It will be fun for the whole family with local musical talent including special performances by the Seventh Day Adventist Children's Choir. We had a good turnout last year and look forward to seeing you there. Please feel free to bring baked goods and holiday goodies to share afterward. As always, my door is always open

As always, my door is always open for your constructive conversation and helpful ideas. Have a great holiday season. Happy Hunting!

CLERK SHARON HARTMAN:

In 2012, we will be having 3 elections: the Presidential Primary on February 28, 2012, Primary on August 7, 2012 and the General Election on November 6, 2012. For the February 28th election, you will select a ballot type from the followina three choices: 1.) Republican Partv Presidential Primary Ballot, 2.) Democratic Party Presidential Primary Ballot, or

3.) Ballot without Presidential Primary (if available). I have not received all the information from the state, but I will be sending out Voter Applications to those on my permanent list, as usual.

Many of our residents want to be on the "Permanent Absentee Voter Application" list. I cannot send you a ballot without a new request each election, but I can send you a request form automatically. So let me know if you would like to be added to the list.

Again, I am a notary and can notarize your documents for you at no charge during office hours.

Cemetery lots are still \$100 each and I will be glad to show you what is available in the spring when the snow is all gone. Our lots are approximately 6'x 12' so they can accommodate one full burial plus a cremation burial. The marker must sit on a base that sticks out all the way around the marker 3-4". This keeps the mower from hitting it and protects the marker. I need to mark the grave before a marker is put on a lot so it will go in the correct spot. Yes, you can plant a tree, but make sure you let me know so that I can mark the corners of the lot.

Wishing all our residents a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!!

TREASURER VIVIAN BALMES:

Many of you probably noticed that my husband Jerry Balmes was in the Treasurer's Office when you came in to pay your taxes last March. My dear dad passed away on February 17, 2011. Fortunately Jerry (Deputy Treasurer) volunteered his time taking taxes at such a busy time for my office. Thank you for stepping in Jerry. I mentioned in the last newsletter that I will be happy to take partial payments with a note and a copy of

the bill or stub and I will send you a receipt showing your partial payment.

In the past you may have left a message at our office and wondered why no one got back to you. Our phone system was not working correctly so even though you thought you left a message we could not retrieve them. We have a new phone system now and if you call in you can leave a message for the Clerk, Treasurer, Supervisor, Zoning Administrator, Assessor or Secretary.

I hope you have a Joyous Holiday Season and a Healthy New Year.

TRUSTEE MEAGAN LITTLE:

Greetings everyone! As the holidays roll around, I think it's a perfect time to thank everyone who makes this township a great place to live. Thank you to the full time staff, Brian Ashton, Vivian Balmes, Sharon Hartman, Max Meisner and all the hardworking people at our fire station. I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome Max to the township staff. I think I speak for everyone in saying that you are a very welcome addition to the township and thank you for your great attitude and all of your initiative at the transfer site; I love going to the transfer site and being welcomed with such a welcoming smile-thank you. To the township residents, I would like to extend my wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

TRANSFER SITE MANAGER MAX MEISNER: REDUCE....REUSE...RECYCLE

This is the mantra that is being taught to school kids. What does this mean? It is about consumer consumption and being responsible about the waste we generate. Here is how this applies to us. By **REDUCING** what we throw away in the big green compacting machine at the transfer site we all benefit. The township is charged by the ton when we have the container emptied. We are also charged a fee for each time it is emptied. Also, try carpooling (or trashpooling) and save a little gasoline. Let's work together to keep these costs to a minimum by following some simple ideas.

How can we all contribute?

Let's start with **REUSE.** Last summer many got onboard with egg carton collection. You and your neighbors brought in your used egg cartons and they, in turn, were donated to local poultry farmers. Yes, these items are also recyclable, but reusing is even better. Did you know that 20 to 35 cents are built into the cost of your eggs at the store?—this is just for the carton! Need cardboard boxes or egg cartons, we got'em. If anyone has any more suggestions in this area, please let me know.

Next RECYCLE. Some of you do a great job with recycling and are an inspiration to others who are getting up to speed; let's encourage all of our neighbors to recycle. Recycling starts at home in several ways. Composting is simple and makes good sense because it is Mother Nature's way of recycling everything from vegetable waste in the kitchen to yard waste. Talk to me or your neighbors about it and get some ideas.

Our role in recycling is the collection of packaging materials such as plastic containers, metal cans, styrofoam, and cardboard. Plastic is a generic term and there are many types. We collect #1CLEAR, #2 CLEAR, and #2 COLORED plastics. Here is how to determine what's what...look on the bottom, and read the number embossed inside the triangle-it's that simple! The receptacles for these are clearly marked. The lids, caps, dispenser valves, etc. are made from other materials and need to be removed and thrown out. I'm here to help, please feel free to ask for any help or clarity on this matter.

Many folks have asked why we only have cleanup day once per year. A good guestion deserves a fair answer. There are significant costs associated with this effort and we are all trying to contain costs these days. Maybe you or someone has extra space in a pole barn or some dry storage area and can combine efforts for hauling on the next cleanup day. In the meantime, if you have some items that require hauling or if you have special circumstance, ask me and maybe I make arrangements. Remember, I'm here to help...

IMPORTANT WINTER DATES:

Holiday Musical Celebration— "Christmas in the Creek"-- at Township Community Center December 9th, at 7:00 PM

Presidential Primary Election --February 28, 2012

Cemetery Cleanup Day—will be held in mid-May, please call us for details.

Annual Clean-up Day—usually held in mid-June, call for date as June approaches.

Primary Election-- August 7, 2012

General Election-- November 6, 2012

OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED:

12/23/11- CHRISTMAS EVE 12/26/11- CHRISTMAS DAY 01/02/12- NEW YEAR'S DAY 01/16/12- M. LUTHER KING DAY 02/20/12- PRESIDENT'S DAY 04/06/12- GOOD FRIDAY 05/28/12- MEMORIAL DAY 07/04/12- INDEPENDENCE DAY 09/03/12- LABOR DAY 11/12/12- VETERAN'S DAY 11/22/12- THANKSGIVING DAY 11/23/11- DAY AFTER