

Blackman Charter Township *News for Summer, 2019*

Supervisor: The road millage project is under way in Stonegate JCDOT plans to complete Stonegate and possibly a couple of the remaining gravel roads this fall. The schedule of roadwork to be completed is determined by JCDOT. We have an opening on our Local Development Finance Authority it entails one meeting every other month at 6:00 p.m. here at the township office, if interested please stop in and complete a committee request form. The 2020 Census is approaching it is very important that everyone be counted because federal funding for local projects uses census information to determine funding levels, these are our tax dollars coming back to our area. Have a safe summer.

Public Safety Department: As we move into the summer months, we will start to receive more complaints from Township residents on blighted properties in the Township. Under Township Ordinance, Blight is defined as junk automobiles, building materials (without a building permit), junk, trash, rubbish or refuse, vehicle parts, un-used appliances, remnants of wood or other cast-off material, un-mowed grass (greater than 12 inches), etc. Blight is not only unsightly, but hurts property values and is a significant quality of life issue for the residents of Blackman Township. If you would like to report Blight in the Township, please call Sergeant Ganzel at (517) 539-8399

Upon receiving a complaint of Blight, an officer will investigate the complaint and if a violation is found, a letter will be sent to the owner of the property, giving the property owner 10-days to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected within 10-days, a misdemeanor citation will be issued to the property owner, which will necessitate the owner going to court and answering the misdemeanor charge. If the property owner does not correct the violation, after the misdemeanor court process is complete, the Township Attorney will file a Nuisance Complaint in Circuit Court, requesting relief and abatement of the nuisance. This can be a somewhat lengthy process, but the Township will follow through with the process, until the nuisance is properly abated. If you have any questions, please contact Sergeant Ganzel at (517) 539-8399

Clerk's Office: Thank You to *Rob Wells (Wells Concrete) and Scout Pack 339* for the SPRING cemetery clean up. Looking good at the Cemetery. Thank You to the May election workers. Another perfect performance with no problems.

Assessing: Reminder: Disabled Veteran's Exemptions and Hardship Exemption applications must be filed each year. If selling your home, you may qualify for a Conditional Principle Residence Exemption- the home must be for sale and unoccupied. You must file yearly for up to three years.

Please note: The assessing department is conducting field inspections of property in Blackman Township. These field inspections are required by the State of Michigan.

The CPI (consumer price index) is 2.4%, or expressed as a multiplier is 1.024. This number is utilized to produce your 2019 taxable value. Changes have been made to the filing of Business Personal Property. Business owners should contact their CPAs or review the changes made by the State Legislators.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Township at (517) 788-4345

Property Taxes: If you find paying your property tax in a lump sum payment is hard, you can make several smaller payments. We will stamp your property tax bill with "Partial Payment," give you a receipt for this payment and a new bill that shows the remaining payment. You can do this as many times as you wish prior to the due dates.

If you are having problems with mortgage, loss of job, or other financial emergencies, check with StepForwardMichigan.org, they may be able to help.

1. What if I do not receive a tax bill?

First, call us to make sure we have your correct name and address. We can resend your property tax bill. You will not receive a property tax bill if a mortgage company handles your bill. If you want to receive a duplicate bill, please call our office and request one.

2. How can I insure my payment will not be sent back to me?

Make sure you write separate checks for Sewer and Property Taxes. The amount must be correct, not rounded up for Property Tax. The check must be filled out completely, dated, made out to Blackman Charter Twp, amount (both numeric and written), and your signature. We cannot sign nor make changes to your checks.

New help in the office: We welcome our new office members.



Sherry A. (Staska) Eva, Deputy Clerk.
Married to Gary Eva and we have three daughters, Aimee Eva, Melisa Smith and Sheela Eva, Four grandchildren Arya, Jaylynn, Carson and Elijah.
I retired from the County of Jackson after 30 years in 2008, having worked in Treasurer, Veteran's, Sheriff, and Health Departments.
From Nov. 30, 2008 to Nov. 30 2018, I worked Casual at Health Dept, was a Para Pro for NW schools, and was a patient sitter at the Hospital.



Hal Levy, Deputy Treasurer, is married to Mechele for 33 years and has one son Tyler. He served in the US Air Force for 6 years as a Law Enforcement Specialist. Retired from the Department of Corrections after 25 Years of service the latest as the Control Center Officer.



Bryan Powers, Building / Zoning Department is married to Heather who is a medical assistant at HFA Health and has one young son. They both grew up in the area. Bryan comes to us with a background in construction trades and received his building officials license in 2015 and has worked part time with Sandstone, Sheridan, Springport and Hanover townships.

Rod Mills Park News: Things are happening at the park. The new vault bathrooms are in place, playground area had repairs made, new mulch installed (30 yards!), a new roof on the small pavilion, 4 new picnic tables, another grill.... A Community Mini Grant from the Jackson Community Foundation was received and is going toward a bench that will say "In Memory of Jack & Annette Burke, Who Donated This Land in 1980". The JCISD Kit Young (Young Adult Program) students have been back doing some raking & planting of grass and wild flowers, Thank You. More is planned for ADA walkways & a drinking fountain this year, and adding water to two more pavilions. Check out your park, 3300 Parnall Road.



Sewer / Special Assessments, Water & Sewer: Delinquent bills not paid by August 31st will be placed on the Winter Tax Statements.

We will be offering some seminars on identity theft, technology, retirement, credit score, & other topics. Call if you have an interest. It's in the planning stage.