

Genoa Township Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 4

March 2002

RED CROSS

Come one come all 100 pints of blood needed. Help us to meet our goal

Dear Genoa Township Residents:

On behalf of the American Red Cross Blood Services, I would like to thank Livingston County and Genoa Township for sponsoring bloodmobiles throughout the area. You, the donors, are a member of our lifesaving team. Without you, the American Red Cross could not provide patients' with lifesaving blood products. Thank you for your contribution, your time, effort and commitment to providing safe blood products to our community.

Now, as we face the effects of winter weather – increasing traffic accidents and more house fires – we will continue to help people prevent, prepare for and respond to emergencies. With your continued support, and blood donations the American Red Cross will be able to provide the same kind of lifesaving help here at home that we brought to so many affected by the tragedies on September 11, 2001. Working together we can save lives, please donate blood.

Sincerely,

Margo Aasland, Paramedic, EMS I/C
American Red Cross-Livingston County
Donor Recruitment Representative

GENOA TOWNSHIP TO HOST BLOOD DRIVE

Friday, April 12, 2002

Please call and set up an appointment to donate blood at the Genoa Township Hall. We have scheduled a blood drive for Friday, April 12, 2002 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Here in Michigan, the American Red Cross must supply about 2,000 blood products to hospital patients every day. In the United States a blood transfusion is needed every 2 seconds. The Red Cross must always have more blood in stock than is actually used in order to assure every patient's safety. Working together, the Red Cross, the Township and You can make a difference by increasing blood collections and alleviating the shortage of specialized products for people with blood diseases.

111,826 people live in Livingston County and are eligible to donate blood, but of that number only 2541 donate blood on a regular basis. Your donation could help a patient with acute blood loss resulting from trauma or surgery, individuals with leukemia who need platelets, or someone who has had a liver transplant and needs plasma. There is no end to the need for blood within our community. For example a premature baby may require up to four units of red blood cells while in intensive care.

Can you find the time and the heart to give just once? Call (810) 227-5225 and ask for the Clerks Office to schedule your appointment.

We're Ahead of the Game

By Paulette A. Skolarus

While voting continues to be a problem in other states, ***we won't mention which***; Michigan is well ahead in the race when it comes to accuracy and consistency for all elections. Michigan has a set of laws and standards that are above reproach and are followed by all authorities within the state that conduct elections. According to Secretary of State Candice Miller, "Michigan is the national leader on how we conduct our elections. We are the model for the 21st century." Today, the State is continuing to make an effort to make it even better. They are considering Optical Scan voting equipment as the standard for all municipalities across the state.

Genoa Township installed the Optical Scan as the voting choice nearly two years ago. The Optical Scan system was a big hit with our township electorate. Not only did our electors find it an easy application, but also our election workers were surprised at the ease in closing the poles and the recording of ballot tallies at the end of the day. In the past we did not conclude our Election Day until close to midnight. Today, with the Optical Scan, our results are tabulated and transmitted to the county within one hour of the closing of the poles.

It is our hope that in the future, elections can be held over several days so that our residents would find little reason to not exercise their right to vote. Persons 60 years of age or older may vote "absent voter ballot" on demand. We have a standing list of voters who are eligible and are mailed applications and ballots for each election. Call the Clerk's office at (810) 227-5225 and ask for Mary or Polly. We will be happy to add your name to our master file and send you an application for each election. Please note that the local school districts hold their own elections and the township does not participate in running school elections.

Polly's money saving tips

- Set your thermostat fan to "Auto" instead of "On". The fan will run when needed instead of 24 hours a day.
- Save water when brushing your teeth. Turn your water off while brushing and back on to rinse.
- Close your curtains or shades at night. This will add another layer of insulation to your windows and keep the heat inside.
- Close the damper on your fireplace after the fire is out and when not in use. Your warm air will not funnel out the chimney.

Recycle Dates - Every other week

Recycling will be picked up on the same day as regular refuse. Pickups occur every other week beginning Feb. 7th and 8th

Every day is a learning experience. Open your mind to the lesson. Polly

Highlights of Township Activity

by Township Manager Mike Archinal

Genoa Township remains an attractive location for businesses. Especially positive is the fact that a number of the projects involve the demolition and reconstruction of existing obsolete buildings. We often receive calls regarding new commercial and industrial construction along Grand River. Despite a slight slowdown, indicative of the overall economy, a number of projects are planned. New projects, coming soon, that may interest you include but are not limited to the following:

- The long awaited reconstruction of the Log Cabin Restaurant will begin this spring. An attractive new 4,000 square foot restaurant with bar will replace the previous building which was destroyed by a gas main explosion and fire. The replacement for the longtime landmark will be located on

the same site at Grand River and Eckles.

- A Tutor Time daycare facility will be located west of the Lake Chemung I-96 exit. The site will also accommodate several other uses as yet not determined.
- The Meadowview Center will be a 10,000 square foot retail facility located at Meadowview and Grand River. The new brick and stone building will replace the vacant "Yesterday's Treasures" antique store.
- Construction is underway on a CVS Pharmacy to be located on the northwest corner of the intersection of Golf Club and Grand River.
- Pier One Imports is locating at the intersection of Grand Oaks and Grand River. The store will replace the old "Slender You" building.
- Bordines, located on Grand River between Hughes and Kellogg, will be constructing seven new greenhouses, additional parking and additional retail area.
- First National Bank is constructing a branch bank on Grand River Ave., just east of Latson.
- A mixed office and commercial project is under construction on Grand River Ave., just east of Kellogg. The first phase of the project will include approximately 28,000 square feet of retail use.

Public Workshop – February 25th, 2002

Give the gift of sight. Donate your old glasses to the Lions. Genoa has a year round drop off center. Bring those old glasses when you come in to pay your taxes.

Notice: Annual Assessment

Tax Notices headed up "Notice of Assessment ..." will be mailed early in March. In the upper right hand corner of this notice will be a message stating "THIS IS NOT A TAX BILL". It is important to review the information on your notice for accuracy because it may change your Assessed and/or Taxable Value. If you do not feel that you are being assessed properly, you may call the Assessing Dept. or set up an appointment with the Board of Review asking for a change. This is the only time of the year that you can challenge your Assessed and/or Taxable Value. After the March Board of Review, the assessment cannot be changed until the next year.

This is also a good time to make sure that your Homestead Exemption percentage is correct. If this is your primary home it should read "Homestead Exemption - 100%".

The hearings for the March Board of Review are as follows:

- March 11, 2002 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- March 13, 2002 from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- March 14, 2002 from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Letters mailed to the Board of Review must be postmarked no later than March 14, 2002. If you have any questions or concerns please call us at (810) 227-5225 and we will be happy to assist you.

Signed: Debra Rojewski, Chief Assessor

NOTICE of change in policy effective March 1, 2002:

- The township will begin charging a \$25.00 fee for all returned checks.
- The tax and utility departments will no longer accept the post mark date as the date paid. Payments must be received in the township office no later than the due date to avoid any penalty.

We are still looking to acquire land for parks and recreation within our community. The Township is not planning on running any recreation programs. We would continue to work with both SELCRA and Howell Parks and Recreation to establish goals for such an endeavor. A workshop has been scheduled for Monday, February 25, 2002 at the Township Hall at 7:00 p.m. to ask for your input. Representatives from

local subdivisions and riparian associations, as well as the public, are welcome to attend.