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School Election Scheduled

Brighton Area Schools and Hartland Consolidated Schools have scheduled a Special Election for Tuesday, May 6, 2008. Persons wishing to vote absent voter ballot may print an application from the township web site www.genoa.org. Complete the application and mail to Paulette Skolarus, Clerk 2911 Dorr Road Brighton, MI 48116 or FAX to (810) 227-3420. A ballot will be mailed upon receipt of your application. Both Howell and Pinckney Schools will hold their elections in conjunction with the Township's General Election.

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Visit us online:
www.genoa.org

Genoa Charter Township News

April 2008

Don't Flush Them

Hazardous Drug Disposal *By Paulette A. Skolarus*

If you are like me, you have a cupboard full of unused drugs probably dating back ten or fifteen years - after all you never know when you might need them - right? (*Not a good answer.*) Today, managing those unused medications is not only a safety concern for your family but an environmental concern for our lakes and streams. In the past we were told to flush unwanted medications down the drain or toilet, but today that method of disposal is causing problems for our municipal sewer and water facilities as well as our septic fields. Antibiotics and other medications in a septic system can destroy beneficial bacteria necessary for the system to operate. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove or process many compounds found in medications and they end up being discharged into our surface and ground water.

A study by the United States Geological Survey done in 1999 determined that 80% of the streams sampled contained detectable levels of compounds found in common medications. National attention is growing to develop more appropriate methods of safely disposing of unwanted medications. However, the disposing of narcotics is a legal issue and therein lies the problem because a police officer would need to be present for the exchange of narcotics. Our local pharmacies are not permitted by law to receive unused drugs.

So how to take care of the problem - Today, the solutions are few.

Chemotherapy drugs may require special handling. Work with your healthcare provider for proper disposal options for this type of medication.

- Keep other pharmaceuticals in their original container since the labels may contain safety information, the container is chemically compatible, and the caps are typically water tight and child-proof.
- Scratch out, cover with tape, or use permanent marker to make personal information unreadable.
- To reduce the opportunity for misuse, prepare the drugs for disposal as follows:
 - **For solid medications, such as pills or capsules:** add a small amount of water to at least partially dissolve them. Seal the container in a plastic bag and place at the curb with your weekly refuse.
 - **For liquid medications:** add enough table salt, flour, charcoal, sand or kitty litter. Seal the container with duct or other opaque tape to prevent leaks, place in a plastic bag and place at the curb with your weekly refuse.
 - **For blister packs:** wrap the blister packages containing pills in multiple layers of duct or other opaque tape.
 - **Unused ampoules, vials, and IV bags** should not be opened (other than to scratch out the patient's name). Wrap the item with duct or other opaque tape to minimize breakage, and then place in an opaque plastic container (such as an empty yogurt or margarine tub), then place at the curb in your weekly refuse.

Just please don't flush them down your toilet or pour them into your sink.

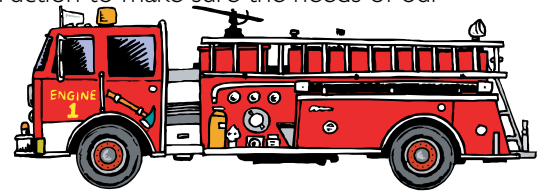
From the Desk of the Township Supervisor

By Gary McCricrie

- Some time ago, in a previous newsletter article, I wrote about our plans to install warning/tornado sirens in the Township. I am happy to report that as of April 1, 2008 we have three new sirens in place! The electrical service remains to be completed on one unit and we should have power from DTE shortly. You may see these in your travels, but in case you have not they are located at the fire station on Dorr Road next to the Township Hall, on Grand River at the small park on Lake Chemung across from Champion Chevrolet, and at the waste-water treatment plant in Oak Pointe on Brighton Road. You will hear them being tested on the first Saturday of every month at noon.

We worked closely with the Brighton Area Fire Authority and the manufacturer to select areas that would serve the most populated areas of our community. By reviewing aerial maps we were able to cover wide geographic areas on this first phase of this valuable project. In the future we will be selecting areas for placement of additional units. The township board is striving to make Genoa a safe place to live and raise families.

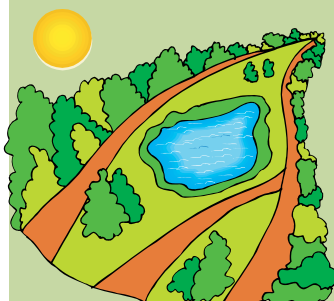
- We are proud to announce that the new fire sub-station is complete and operational on Chilson Road just south of I-96. In cooperation with the Brighton Area Fire Authority we were able to construct and outfit the station to provide the best possible fire emergency service to the western portion of our Township. The project was made possible by the generous donation of the land to the township, the cooperation of the Genoa Township Board and the great work of our contractor Corrigan Construction to make sure the needs of our residents are met for years into the future. We are also proud to report that, through careful planning and fiscal responsibility, we were able to complete this project without borrowing any money and will pay for it out of our general fund. Watch for an open house soon to give our residents the opportunity to view the building and interact with the hard-working firefighters who will be working for you!



From the desk of Township Manager Michael Archinal... **SIDEWALKS AND PATHWAYS**

Last fall the Township completed a .66 mile bike/walking path on the Township Hall property at 2911 Dorr Road. Even with this year's late spring the path is receiving a fair amount of use. The looped path winds around wetlands and through fallow pasture and has a moderate grade. Future projects will connect the Township Hall path to a comprehensive system of pedestrian walkways including the existing paths on Brighton and Bauer Roads.

Over the last several years sidewalks have been installed along Grand River as properties have developed. To fill in the gaps, a program is being implemented to connect existing sidewalks and create a contiguous usable pathway from Howell to Brighton. This summer's planned improvements include a sidewalk installation to provide a continuous path on the north side of Grand River between Natanna and Latson.

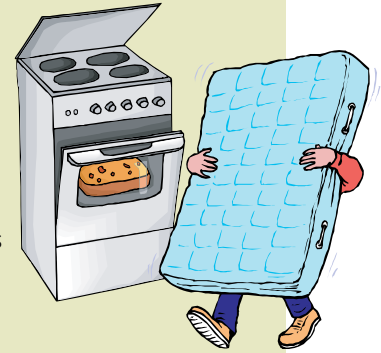


Existing paths connect residential areas with businesses, schools and recreation areas. Your Township Board is committed to providing a safe, healthy pedestrian alternative. If you have any questions regarding existing or planned paths or if you notice an obstruction such as a fallen or low hanging branch please contact Township Manager Mike Archinal at (810)227-5225 or email: mike@genoa.org.

Large Item Refuse Collection

The Township has decided to continue its large item pick-up program for another year. This program has successfully reduced roadside dumping and helped clean up individual properties. Township residents that pay for refuse collection on their winter tax bill can purchase one large item sticker per household for \$6 at the Township Hall. Additional stickers can be purchased for \$12 each.

The stickers can be used for appliances, mattresses or other large bulky items that are not typically picked up. Please note that appliances containing freon such as refrigerators must have the freon removed by a certified technician prior to pick-up. Appliances that could endanger children must have the doors removed prior to placing them out for pick-up.



Questions related to what Waste Management will pick up should be directed to 1.800.971.7490. Other general questions related to this program should be directed to Genoa Charter Township at 810.227.5225. We would like to thank Waste Management for their cooperation in making this program a success.

NOTICE:

We're looking for some action shots such as ski jumping at Mount Brighton, golfing at Oak Pointe or other facility, walking our bike paths, water skiing on our many lakes, etc. If you would like to submit a photo, please send it to polly@genoa.org. One or two action photos will be used on our new web site. Our new web site will also include a community scrap book. So if you want to show off that new baby or special occasion, send them to me.

From the desk of Township Treasurer

By Robin Hunt

Even though all payments made at the Genoa Township offices are received at the Treasurer's counter, **separate checks are still needed for the different types of services.** Ex: Taxes, special assessments, sewer/water utility payments, etc.

Partial Payments

Township residents have the option of making partial payments toward their tax amounts due. This option is available for summer and winter taxes. However, payments can only be made during the tax collection season. Summer tax bill payments can be made between July 1st and February 28th and Winter Tax Bill payments can only be made between December 1st and February 28th. If interested please feel free to contact the Treasurer's Office for more information.

Dog Licenses

The State of Michigan requires the annual licensing of all dogs 4 or more months old. Township residents may purchase their dog tags at the Genoa Township Treasurer's office year-round.

The 2008 Dog Licenses were available at the current rate of \$7.00-Spayed/Neutered and \$25.00-Male/Female from December 1, 2007 thru February 29, 2008, and a delinquent fee of \$30.00 after 2/29/08. New Residents, New Dogs or Puppies/Dogs under 1 year: Will be considered non-delinquent and charged the current rate price. Lost Current Dog Tags: You can purchase a replacement tag for \$1.00 as long as the rabies vaccination is still current.



In order to issue you a license we must see the paperwork from your veterinarian showing proof of spay/neutering, if applicable, as well as proof of current rabies vaccination.

Refuse collection dates for 2008 are as follows:

Spring Cleanup 04/26/2008 and 05/17/2008
from 9:00 a.m. until noon

Please bring your small brush and yard waste to the Township Hall
on either of these dates.

Holiday Collection Schedule

Waste Management observes the following Holidays...

New Years Day	Memorial Day	4 th of July
Labor Day	Thanksgiving Day	Christmas Day

Memorial Day – Monday, May 26, 2008 – One Day behind All Week
Labor Day – Monday September 1, 2008 – One Day behind All Week
New Years Day – Tuesday, January 1, 2009 – One Day behind All Week

The other Holidays do not affect Genoa Township since our collection dates are Mondays and Tuesdays.

Please note that refuse collection times may occasionally change.

- According to our Township Rubbish Ordinance, residents should have their disposable refuse at the curb no later than 6:00 a.m. on collection days.
- Only 90-gallons of refuse are allowed per household.
- Refuse may be placed in either a large Waste Management container, three 30-gallon garbage cans or four 30-gallon plastic bags.
- A \$2.00 per bag fee may be assessed by Waste Management for refuse beyond what is allowed under our contract.

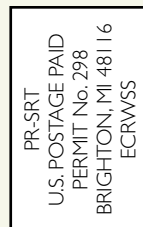
Please comply with our contract with Mister Rubbish

Update on Livingston Wireless

The Livingston County web site provides up to date information on the progress of Livingston Wireless. Please check out www.co.livingston.mi.us - Livingston County - Wireless Internet - Frequently Asked Questions. According to the site, services are expected to be deployed county wide late in 2009.



**Birthdays are good for you.
The more you have, the longer you live.**



Genoa Charter Township
2911 Dorr Road, Brighton, MI 48116



POSTAL PATRON

Genoa Charter Township Board Members

Supervisor

Gary McCrie

Clerk

Paulette Skolarus

Treasurer

Robin Hunt

Trustees

Todd Smith

Jim Mortensen

Steve Wildman

Jean Ledford



photo by Victoria Moilanen