



Green Lake Township

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2008

TOWNSHIP BOARD

- SUPERVISOR:** Paul Biondo
- CLERK:** Rita Dinger
- TREASURER:** Sue Schroeter
- TRUSTEE:** Dave Bieganski
- TRUSTEE:** Patrick McDonald
- TRUSTEE:** Marvin Radtke
- TRUSTEE:** Sherry West

STAFF

- ASSESSOR:** Vickie Warner
- ZONING ADMINISTRATOR:** Krysti Baker
- FIRE CHIEF:** Mike Stinson
- MEDICAL DIRECTOR:** Rebecca Pruyne
- OFFICE SECRETARY:** Linda Cudney
- TOWNSHIP PLANNER:** Leslie Sickterman

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Thursday 8:00am-5:30pm, Closed Friday

TOWNSHIP BOARD: 2nd Monday of each month at 6:00pm

PLANNING COMMISSION: 4th Monday of each month at 6:30pm

ZBA MEETING: 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm

THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS.

WEB SITE: www.greenlaketownship.org

EMAIL: greenlaketownship@charter.net

FROM THE DESK OF SUPERVISOR, PAUL BIONDO

Thanks to all of you who again, helped to make the 2008 Safe Halloween Party a great success. Thirty individuals and businesses made donations to make this event happen. This year we had 226 persons attend, 120 children and 106 adults.

During our visioning sessions with Michigan State University, the attendees were asked what they liked best about living in Green Lake Township. Overwhelming the answer was the people. They said everyone says "hello" to each

other, whether they are at the post office or the grocery store, the people that live here are friendly. They also said the residents of the Green Lake Township are always ready and available to lend a helping hand when needed. This fact is evident by the support that you give to the children's Safe Halloween Party to the benefit dinners that are held for families in time of need. We do have a sense of community, and we can all be proud of that.

Interlochen Chamber of Commerce Children's Christmas Party!

The Interlochen Chamber of Commerce will be holding their annual Christmas Party on Friday, December 5, 2008, at the Green Lake Township Hall. Food will be served from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Interlochen Center for the Arts will be providing the music and Christmas Carol singing will begin at 6:00 pm. At 6:30 Santa will arrive and the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony will begin. The horse driven sleigh rides are always everybody's favorite, and will be provided again this year. Dress warm and come enjoy the fun! The Interlochen Chamber of Commerce hosts this event through donations from our community. If you would like to help call 276-7141.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Spring clean up day will be Saturday May 16, 2008 from 8:00 pm to 1:00 pm at the Green Lake Township Memorial Park. See you there!

Grand Traverse County Planning Awards Banquet

This year one of our own businesses was awarded an Outstanding Development Award. Bud's received the award for providing an exceptional example of well thought out planning. The design is consistent with the rustic buildings in the area, such as Interlochen Center for the Arts and the State Park. The building was carefully sited to provide improved access from 11th Street, and to make it easy for pedestrians to access it from both north and south. Congratulations on a job well done!

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

- Green Lake Township276-9329
- Grand Traverse County
- Construction Code.....995-6044
- Grand Traverse County Health Dept.....995-6051
- Miss Dig 1-800-482-7171
- Interlochen Library276-6767
- Traverse City Library.....932-8500
- Grand Traverse County
- Sheriff's Dept. non-emergency995-5000
- Grand Traverse County Road Commission922-4848

- Interlochen Chamber of Commerce276-7141
- Traverse City Chamber of Commerce.....947-5075

Schools

- Interlochen Elementary933-5920
- West Middle School.....933-8200
- West Senior High.....933-1904
- Kingsley Elementary.....263-5161
- Kingsley Middle School263-5162
- Kingsley High School.....263-5261



Where Your Tax Dollars Go

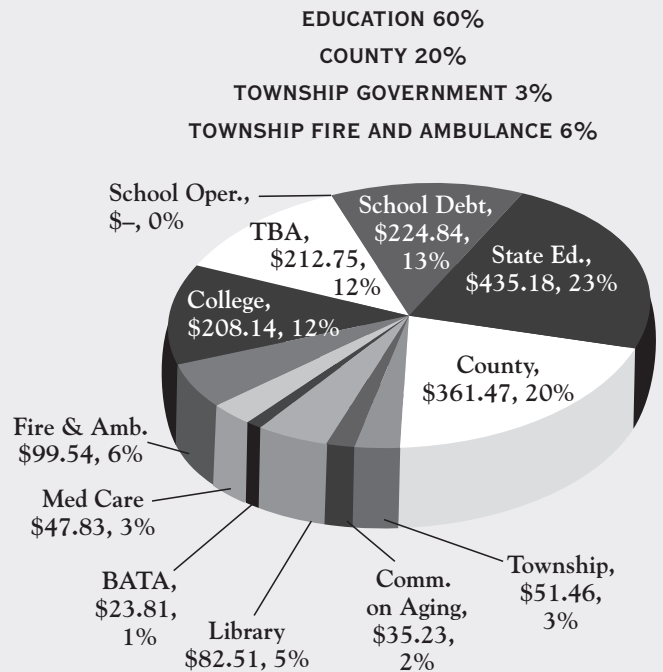
Did you ever wonder where all of your tax dollars go? Many township residents ask this question when they receive their summer or winter tax bills. Residents are surprised to learn that the Township received only about \$175,400 in 2007 from property taxes paid by township residents and about \$7.7 million was paid to other taxing jurisdictions. To illustrate how taxpayer dollars are distributed, the following table represents how much each taxing unit received from taxes a typical township homeowner paid in 2007. The example assumes the following information: resident is homesteaded and owned home for at least three years; true cash value of home, \$150,375; state equalized value (SEV) of home, \$75,190; taxable value of home, \$72,530.

TAXING UNIT	MILLS	TAX
School Operating Tax*	18.00000	exempt
State Education Tax*	6.00000	435.18
Grand Traverse County*	4.98380	361.47
Extra Voted School Debt*	3.10000	224.84
TBA ISD*	2.93340	212.75
Northwestern Michigan College Operating	2.17000	157.38
District Library**	.95480	69.25
Northwestern Michigan College Debt	.70000	50.76
Green Lake Township**	.70960	51.46
County Medical Care**	.65950	47.83
Commission on Aging**	.48580	35.23
District Library Debt	.18300	13.26
BATA**	.32830	23.81
Fire/Rescue**	1.37250	99.54
Total		\$1,782.76

*Paid once a year in summer

**Paid once a year in winter

2007 GREEN LAKE TOWNSHIP RESIDENT PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,782.76



Message From Our Fire Chief, Mike Stinson

In 2005 alone, U.S. fire departments responded to 15,600 home structure fires started by candles. These fires resulted in 150 deaths, 1270 injuries and an estimated property loss of \$539 million. Another item of interest is that December had almost twice the number of home candle fires of an average month. This is timely information for our upcoming holiday season. If your holiday decorum includes the use of candles, please use extreme caution and observe these simple safety rules:

- Never carry a lit candle
- Be sure candles are placed on stable surfaces
- Keep combustibles clear of candles (around & above)
- Always extinguish candles when leaving the area or going to sleep
- Keep candles out of reach of children. A responsible adult should always be in attendance when candles are in use
- Only use candles in tip proof holders large enough to collect all wax drippings

Below are listed other tips for keeping your household safe during the holiday season:

- Choose a green Christmas tree and help keep it that way by cutting off the end of the trunk. This promotes absorption of water and keeps the tree less combustible. Be sure the reservoir is kept full of water
- Do not locate your tree in or along egressways. Always maintain two viable exits

- Do not overload electrical circuits. Use only good quality plug strips with circuit breaker protection, not cube taps (multiple plug adapters). As with all electrical devices use only UL Listed equipment.
- Inspect your lights and decorations closely and do not use if bare wire, cracked or frayed insulation, or broken sockets are found. Check for hot wires periodically after installation.
- Only use lights and decorations in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. When decorating the exterior of your house, use only equipment listed for outdoor use and exercise caution when decorating in wet locations
- Purchase only decorations that are fire resistant or fire proof. Keep combustible decorations to a minimum, especially in egressways.
- Do not burn discarded Christmas wrappings in your fireplace. It could start a chimney fire

Most importantly check your smoke detectors and maintain working detectors on all levels of your home. All our firefighters want you to have a safe and joyous holiday season. Call us at the fire station if you have any questions about these or other fire safety issues. Our non-emergency number is 231-276-6297.

Yours In Safety,
Michael Stinson, Battalion Chief

