

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Marilyn Fleis Supervisor
(231)276-9263
 Betty A. Tharp Clerk
(231)276-9263
 Brenda DeKuiper Treasurer
(231)276-9263
 Stacey Clous Trustee
(231)263-5992
 Mike Rademaker Trustee
(231)943-3044
 Roger Zeits Trustee
(231)276-9545
 Joe Lowe Trustee
(231)943-4354

**BLAIR TOWNSHIP
NEWSLETTER**

2121 County Rd 633, Grawn, MI 49637

(231)276-9263

www.BlairTownship.org

MEETINGS

Township Board

2nd Tuesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. (except July 2:00 pm)

Planning Commission

1st Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

Zoning Board of Appeals

2nd Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m.

The public is welcome to attend all meetings.

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

*Closed
Mondays & Weekends*

Holiday Schedule

2007 -2008 Fiscal Year

Offices Closed:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day (observed)
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving Day
- Day After Thanksgiving
- Christmas Eve
- Christmas Day

Dog Licenses

Dog licenses are required for dogs over four months of age, for newly purchased or acquired dogs, and for those dogs just becoming a Michigan resident. Licenses may be purchased at the G.T. County Treasurers Office.

TOWNSHIP WEBSITE

Blair Township is very proud of the fact that our website is the largest in Grand Traverse County. We are in the top 5% of all township websites in the state. There are many documents that are only a click away. Many residents, builders, and businesses have commented on how user friendly it is. If you have not done so, please surf through our site. Our goal is to add a Park link along with a Township History link. If you have any pictures or information that would be of interest to the History link please call the Deputy Clerk, Lori McGee. If there is something you think would be value to the website please let us know.

Pop / Bottle Can Drive

Fundraiser for the New Playground
9:00 - 12:00 pm
Township Hall
Saturdays, July 14 & August 18

Summer Newsletter 2007



BURN PERMITS

Residents can obtain a Burn Permit by going to :

www.michigan.gov/burn-permit

You can also call a toll-free number at: (866)-922-2876 to obtain a burn permit. Residents who call the toll-free line will have their permit recorded and they will get a confirmation number. A burn permit, which is free, is required any time a property owner burns yard debris, such as leaves, tree

Important Phone Numbers

Blair Township	231-276-9263
Blair Township Fax	231-276-5111

All Emergencies Dial 911

Non Emergency/General Info	231-995-5000
Township Police Office (Deputy Mike Opper)	231-276-7641

Blair Non Emergency Fire / EMS	231-276-6341
Blair Medical Director Office	231-276-9354

Water Office	231-276-0374
Grawn Post Office	231-276-9871
Traverse City Post Office	231-946-9616
Animal Control	231-922-4879
Commission on Aging	231-922-4688
County Road Commission	231-922-4848
G.T.C. Governmental Center	231-922-4700

Summer Library at the Playground

Every Thursday from July 19 through August 23, 2007

Blair Township Pavilion next to the Playground

Preschool Story Hour: 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Library Activities for School age children: 11:30-12:30 pm

Snacks served to both groups in between!

All children and their parents, grandparents or caregivers are welcome to participate!

If you have questions please call Dorothy Biegler at (231) 276-9816



Recycling News

A new Recycling Site will be opening soon in Blair Township at Traverse Bay Recycling 3770 Blair Townhall Rd, east of M-37 near the Fairgrounds. This new site will offer enhanced recycling for scrap metal, appliances, and auto batteries. For more information, feel free to call the Recycle Hotline at (231) 941-5555

**Grand Traverse County
Brush Drop-off Site**

2571 N. Keystone Rd.
Located 1/2 mile south of S. Airport Rd.
Open in 2007 from April 7th - November 17th.

Hours: Tuesday noon - 7 pm
Thursday 9 am - 3 pm
Saturday 9 am - 3 pm

Rent the Pavilion

Interested in renting out the Park/Pavilion? There is a \$50.00 charge (\$25.00 rental fee and a \$25.00 refundable deposit) for the Pavilion located in the Township Park. Picnic Tables, Restrooms and Electricity available.

PASSPORTS

The Grand Traverse County Clerk's office accepts passport applications Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Department of State website has application information and forms that you can access at: www.travel.state.gov

2007 2nd Annual Family Fun Day in the Park

Saturday, August 18, 2007
11:00 am to 3:00 pm

This was a huge success last year. We hope this years event will be bigger and better than last year. Last year hundreds of people attended and enjoyed the activities while the children played on the new playground structure for the 2-5 year olds. A live broadcast was done by The Fox Radio station. Please join us for food, fun and games again this year and watch the ribbon cutting ceremony on the 2nd phase of our 5 - 12 year old play structure. If you would like to volunteer or donate please call Brenda DeKuiper at (231)276-9263 ext. 2. What a wonderful way to meet people in the community.

BLAIR COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND PROJECT

Brenda DeKuiper, Playground Chairperson, Township Treasurer

I hope everyone has had a chance to enjoy the first phase of the new playground at the Blair Township Park, on the corner of Vance Rd. and County Rd. 633. We will be installing the 5 - 12 year old Play Structure on the 27th, 28th, and 29th of July. We will be needing help with the installation of this project and also those that would be willing to bring food or snacks for those that are working on those days. If you can and would like to help, please call Brenda DeKuiper at 276-9263 ext 2 or 276-9527. This phase will have ramps and transfer decks for those that are in wheelchairs or have other disabilities. We also need your help with monetary donations if we are going to complete this phase this summer. We need to raise \$43,000 for the poured-in-place rubber surfacing to go around this entire play structure. I am continuing to write for grants, but we also need your contributions. If everyone could just donate \$5.00 we would have half of the money we need to get the poured-in-place rubber surfacing in to make the playground safe, clean and most importantly accessible for anyone and everyone. You can also send your tax deductible donation to Blair Township Playground Project, 2121 County Rd 633, Grawn MI 49637. Thank you for your help in making our township a wonderful place to raise children and a great place for families.

NEWS FROM THE SUPERVISOR

Thank you for the warm welcome and the opportunity to serve you as your new Township Supervisor. I am really enjoying learning all there is to know. Right now things are running smoothly in the Township, thanks to the great staff. We have gone to quarterly water usage reads for the Water District. However, it is extremely important that you still do your monthly reads or you could have a surprise each quarter. I wish to invite you to the monthly meetings so you may be informed about what is going on in our township. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call me anytime at (231)276-9263 ext. 3 or my home (231)943-4074. Have a great summer!

Marilyn A. Fleis, Supervisor

NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

Thank you to everyone who came out to vote in the Elections and thank you for your patience and support during my phase as Interim Treasurer. I am getting a good grasp on the responsibilities involved in being Township Treasurer. My new deputy, Lynette Ferman, started in January. Some may recognize Lynette, as she has been the recording secretary for the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals for the last two years.

Since the 2006 tax season is over, I have been meeting with area banks to learn what they offer and different strategies for investing township monies. Lynette and I have also been working on collecting delinquent personal property tax. If you own a business in Blair Township and have received a letter from our office regarding delinquent personal property tax, please send in your payment as soon as possible. The bills for the 2007 installment of the Water Assessment were mailed the first week of April and are due June 30, 2007.

The park pavilion rental schedule for the summer is filling up fast. You can print the rental agreement from our website at www.BlairTownship.org click on the Treasurer's link, then click on Park/Pavilion. Call 276-9263 ext. # 2 for availability. Have a safe and happy summer!

Brenda DeKuiper, Treasurer Lynette Ferman, Deputy Treasurer

NEWS FROM THE ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Now that summer is in full swing there will be many projects that are going to happen around the house. Please remember that many improvements require land use permits from the township. If you are installing a fence, deck or shed you will need a land use permit. An application is available online at www.blairtownship.org on the Planning and Zoning Page. If you have any questions feel free to call or stop by the Zoning Office.

Sara Kopriva, Zoning Administrator

NEWS FROM THE WATER DEPARTMENT

Summer is upon us and the Water Department would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some important watering tips: Minimize evaporation by watering during early morning hours when temps are cooler and winds lighter, check sprinkler systems for leaks and adjust them so you are only watering plants and lawn. Drip irrigation systems can save up to 60% of water usage. Have a wonderful summer!

Lisa Guerrieri, Blair Township Water Coordinator

Marty Hisem and Patrick Gallagher
Wade Trim
Operations and Maintenance

NEWS FROM THE CLERK

If you are new to our community and would like to become a registered voter please stop by our office and we will be happy to register you. If you previously lived outside Blair Township prior, your voter registration does not carry over when you move. You must re-register in your new jurisdiction. Anyone can register to vote at anytime, including those who will be turning 18 years of age 30 days prior to your birthday. There will be an Election on November 6, 2007.

Our office automatically mails out absentee applications for registered voters 60 years of age and older, along with those who are disabled, or who are on our permanent mailing list. Anyone can vote by absentee ballot any given election or all elections providing you meet at least one of the required criteria. Please call our office for more details or visit our website to print an absentee application form request for absentee ballot. Please give us a call if you have any questions regarding your registration. We will be happy to answer your questions. There is lots of information on the clerk's link on the www.BlairTownship.org website on voting or you can obtain more through the Secretary of States website www.michigan.gov/sos. Please have a safe and fun summer.

Betty A. Tharp, Clerk Lori L. McGee, Deputy Clerk

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSOR

Summer is here!!!! Greetings from the Assessing Department. The Assessing Department is starting field work for the 2008 Assessment Year. You may see personnel from the Assessing Department at your property for new pictures and updates to your property. If you have any questions or concerns, please call (231) 276-9263 ext. #5 for the Assessing Department. Have a safe and enjoyable summer season.

Aaron G. Plowman, Assessor Carrie H. Bautzmann, Office Assistant
Marvel J. Mallory, Field Work Inspector

NEWS FROM THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

I hope everyone is able to keep cool with the warm weather that is upon us. The EMS department has been very busy this spring with over 100 additional calls for service in the first 5 months as compared to last year. The summer months bring out more people trying to stay fit. Please watch out for pedestrians, bicyclists and children and don't forget about our beautiful Township Park that offers a paved walking and biking path. Grand Traverse Central Dispatch is now utilizing "Prioritized Medical Dispatch". This system is used to ask pertinent questions to the person calling 911. Dispatchers are trained to ask specific questions about current conditions and complaints as well as a medical history so that an ambulance or rescue unit can be sent in the appropriate manner and so that emergency units can be utilized more effectively. Ambulances and Rescue units may respond to certain emergencies non emergent (no lights or sirens), therefore it is critical to answer all of the dispatchers questions to the best of your ability.

Have a fun and safe summer. Make sure to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Always wear your protective safety gear when biking, rollerblading or skate boarding. Wear your life jacket when boating and don't leave children unattended near the water.

As always, feel free to stop in and meet our staff, look at our equipment or have your blood pressure checked.

Daryl Case - Medical Director

NEWS FROM TRUSTEE, ROGER ZEITS

Trustee Roger Zeits wishes to give a heartfelt thank you to Carl Bearer for the speedy installation of flagpoles purchased in May by the Township Board. American Flags were waving proudly at the cemeteries in time for Memorial Day Weekend; a nice tribute to our Veterans.