

October/November 2010

# Milton Township News

**Office Hours:**

Monday 9:00-5:00  
Wednesday 9:00-1:00  
Friday 9:00-5:00



32097 Bertrand Street Niles, MI 49120  
Phone: (269) 684-7262 Fax: (269) 684-1742  
Email: [milton@miltontwp.org](mailto:milton@miltontwp.org) Website: [www.miltontwp.org](http://www.miltontwp.org)

### Special Points of Interest

*Election Day*

Nov. 2nd. 7am - 8pm

*Daylight Savings Ends*

Nov. 7th. - 2am

*Smith's Chapel*

*Holiday Program*

Dec. 4th. 7pm

### Regularly Scheduled Meetings

3rd Monday Each Month

Township Board of Trustees  
7:00pm

1st Monday Each Month

Planning Commission  
6:30pm

The next few Planning Commission meetings will be covering the update of the Master Land Use Plan. Your input is key.

## From Our Township Supervisor

As part of my plan to get input from residents in the decisions affecting Milton Township, I will be holding a budget town hall meeting to get ideas and input into the upcoming year's budget process. This meeting will be on January 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at the township hall. I will discuss where Milton Township currently stands against its budget as well as what the financial future of Milton Township looks like today. Please bring your financial ideas on where you would like to see Milton Township spend its resources during the next fiscal year. Parks? Roads? Come and make a difference.

Did you know that the township has its board agenda on the web and at the township hall the Wednesday prior to each board meeting? Also, you will find the minutes to the previous board meetings available.

I have office-hours on Wednesdays from 6pm-8pm for anyone that wishes to discuss concerns, suggestions, or has questions regarding Milton Township. I am also available by phone and appt. anytime.

Robert Benjamin  
Milton Township Supervisor  
(269) 262-0111  
[supervisor@miltontwp.org](mailto:supervisor@miltontwp.org)

## From Our Township Clerk

The Township Clerk's office is mailing out absentee ballots for the November 2<sup>nd</sup> General Election. All Milton Township registered voters should be aware of some important dates.

On November 2, 2010 the Milton Township Community Center, located next to the Township Hall on Bertrand Street, will be open for voters from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. When voters arrive they will be required to show identification, so make sure you have a valid form of identification with you.

distributing them in person instead of mailing them to voters. We promise to work efficiently, but we will appreciate your patience and support.

If there are any questions, please feel free to contact the Township Hall.

Mike W. Layher  
Milton Township Clerk  
[clerk@miltontwp.org](mailto:clerk@miltontwp.org)

The Election workers will also be distributing new voter identification cards with the updated addresses. This process may slow down the voting line a little, but we're hoping to save money by

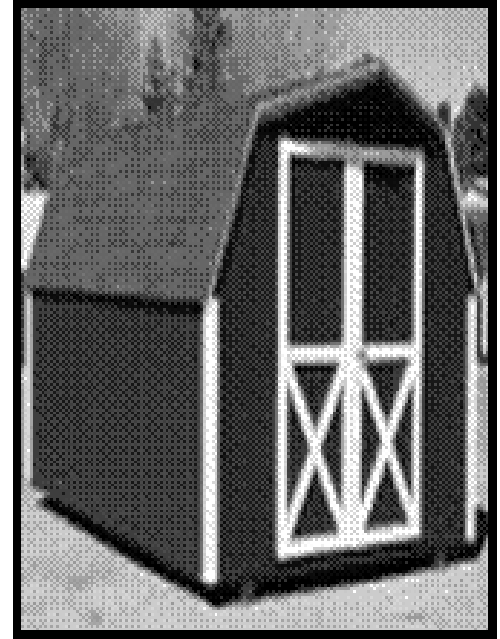


“Nov. 2nd is election day. Come out and vote!”



Milton Township property owners considering erecting a carport, shed, or other accessory building are reminded that prior to the construction or placement of these structures you must have an approved Zoning Site Plan Application from the Milton Township Zoning Administrator (Zoning Ordinance Section 16.03). Property owners must also obtain a building permit prior to erecting these accessory buildings (Zoning Ordinance Section 16.04). Also be aware that these structures may be assessed on your property taxes. If you have any questions feel free to contact the following officials:

**Zoning Administrator: Paul J. Sniadecki**  
(269) 329-8320  
**Building Official: Wayne Hardin**  
(269) 663-2347 (T,Th, Sat 9am-12)  
**Assessor: Doug Brousseau**  
(269) 699-7619



## TOWNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### Board of Review

There is a Board of Review Member opening available at the township.

This is a 2-year appointed position to be decided by the township board on December 20, 2010.

*Eligibility:* Qualified elector, land owner, and tax payer in township.

### BOARD OF REVIEW DUTIES

Examines and review the assessment roll for the current year as prepared by the assessor. Adds property omitted from the assessment roll. Corrects errors in names, descriptions of property, and the assessment and valuation of property. Hears taxpayer appeals. Endorses the completed assessment roll.

### Fire/Ambulance Board Member

#### SUMMARY OF DUTIES

Represents Milton Township on the Edwardsburg Fire and Ambulance boards.

### Niles-Buchanan-Cass Area Transportation

#### Study (NATS)

#### Representative

#### SUMMARY OF DUTIES

Represents Milton Township at the NATS meetings making transportation related decisions.

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions, please send a letter of interest to the following:

Attn: Supervisor  
Milton Township  
32097 Bertrand St.  
Niles, MI 49120

## Upcoming Holiday Program

Smith's Chapel Holiday Program this year will be on December 4, 2010 at 7pm located at 29858 Redfield Road, Niles, MI 49120.

The Smith Chapel Historical Association asks that you join them to start the holiday season with music and entertainment. Santa Claus will also be making a visit for the children.

For more information please contact the Smith Chapel Historical Association at: 269-663-8423  
smithschapelhi@aol.com



## From the Treasurer's Office

Winter tax collection will start December 1st, 2010. If you have an escrow account, be sure your mortgage company requests the tax bill from the township.

Please call the township if you do not receive a bill. It is the responsibility of each property owner to be sure taxes are paid on time. Duplicates of bills can be obtained from the township office.

Dog tags will be sold at the township hall starting December 1st, 2010 through February 28, 2011. Proof of rabies vaccination and neutering/spaying required as necessary.

Delinquent summer 2010 tax bills will be collected at Milton Township with penalties until February 28, 2011.

All delinquent personal taxes are collectable only at Milton Township.

Linda DeBroka, Treasurer

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## Commissioner's Corner

### Cass County Updates and Information

On September 16, 2010 the Commissioners adopted the county budget for 2010-2011 of just over \$14,000,000. This budget was almost a \$1,000,000 less than what was forecast in November, 2009. As Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, I called a special budget workshop where the commissioners went through each line item of the proposed budget and made recommendations. This was the first time to have such an extensive review of the budget and the results of this long workshop paid off.

Following the budget workshop the commissioners held a regular workshop on September 18, 2010. Information was presented to the commissioners for their input and tentative action. In addition a presentation about possible insurance savings was presented by Cadillac Insurance.

With the daylight hours getting shorter you can help keep the township intersections safer by notifying the township secretary at [milton@miltontwp.org](mailto:milton@miltontwp.org) whenever you notice a street light that is not working. Just give her the intersection street names in your e-mail.

#### *Mark your calendar:*

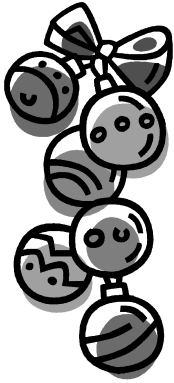
The Board of Commissioners meetings are the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Commissioners Chambers located on the second floor of the Old Courthouse Annex, 120 N. Broadway, Cassopolis, MI.

Fall is a nice time to visit one of our seven county parks. Information on the parks can be found on the county website [www.casscountymi.org](http://www.casscountymi.org)

Please contact me should you have any county related issues.

**Robert L. Ziliak**  
Commissioner  
District 15





**TOWNSHIP BOARD**

Supervisor Robert Benjamin 269-262-0111  
[supervisor@miltontwp.org](mailto:supervisor@miltontwp.org)

Treasurer Linda DeBroka 269-684-7262  
[treasurerdebroka@miltontwp.org](mailto:treasurerdebroka@miltontwp.org)

Clerk Mike W. Layher 269-684-7262  
[clerk@miltontwp.org](mailto:clerk@miltontwp.org)

Trustee Sharon Ward 269-683-9505  
[trusteward@miltontwp.org](mailto:trusteward@miltontwp.org)

Trustee Robert Harvey 269-684-2398

**Planning Commission**

Kelly Sweeney, Chair 269-683-2564  
Diane Shields, Vice-Chair 269-663-2962  
Ronald Jureziz, Secretary 269-684-8546  
Jeremy Clanton, 269-684-7111  
Richard Hebard, 269-663-3324  
Sandra Redman, 269-687-1635  
Sharon Ward, Trustee 269-683-9505

**Zoning Administrator**

Paul Sniadecki 269-329-8320  
[zoning@miltontwp.org](mailto:zoning@miltontwp.org)

We're on the Web at  
[www.miltontwp.org](http://www.miltontwp.org)

**Assessor**

Douglas Brousseau  
Edwardsburg, MI  
(269) 699-7619

**Building Inspector**

Wayne Hardin  
At the Ontwa Twp. Hall in Edwardsburg  
269-663-2347  
(Tue., Thu., Sat. / 9am to Noon)

**Electrical Inspector**

Johnny Hamilton 269-684-7848

**Mechanical Inspector**

David Swanstrom 269-684-5271

**Plumbing Inspector**

Ed Wainwright 269-663-8542

**Board of Review**

Roger Kempton, Chair 269-683-2875  
Robert Thibodeaux 269-683-8659  
Steve Sante 574-220-6085

**Zoning Board of Appeals**

Roger Kempton, Chair 269-683-2875  
Diane Shields 269-663-7508  
Linda DeBroka 269-684-7262

MILTON TOWNSHIP  
32097 Bertrand Street  
Niles, MI 49120

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STD MAIL  
Permit 449  
Niles, MI 49120

**Postal Customer**