



### *Special Points of Interest*

#### **Assessment Appeal Workshop**

March 2, 6:30pm

#### **Board of Review Dates**

March 3, Organization 6pm

March 9, BOR 9am-3pm

March 10, BOR 3pm-9pm

March 11, BOR 6pm-8pm

#### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

March 9, 12pm-6pm

Milton Township Great Hall

#### **Silent Auction**

March 12, 9am-5pm

Old Township Hall

#### **Big Spring Clean Day**

May 2, 7am-11am

(or until the dumpsters are full)

See Page 3

#### **Council On Aging Potluck**

May 4, 11am-1pm

See Page 3

#### **Election Update**

May 5 Statewide Special Election

#### **Holiday Closing Schedule**

April 3 Good Friday

May 25 Memorial Day

July 3 Independence Day

#### **Smith's Chapel Open House**

Saturday June 20

10am-2pm

#### **Regular Meetings**

Board of Trustees

3rd Tuesday 7:00pm

Planning Commission

1st Tuesday 7:00pm

## News From Our Township Supervisor

Our township has completed our township reassessment project with conjunction with Cass County and the State of Michigan. This week all township residents were mailed new assessment notices.

March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm, I will be having our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual workshop to discuss how assessing works, how taxes are impacted by assessing changes, and the steps to challenge your assessment numbers. If you are not familiar with how assessing works and how to challenge your assessment numbers, please come to this workshop. If your assessed value is more than 50% of true market value, you should contest the assessment during one of our March Board of Review meetings. The Board of Review will be meeting on March 9th from 9am-3pm and March 10th from 3pm-9pm. You can contact me if you would like to schedule an appointment with the Board of Review or you can stop in during their meeting.

Our township's budget runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>. We will be having a public hearing on March 17th at 6pm to take input on next year's proposed budget. The proposed budget will be available at the township hall and on our website on March 12<sup>th</sup>. If you can't attend the meeting, mail or e-mail your comments to me prior to March 15th. The township is NOT considering any new taxes to support the proposed budget.

Every July 1<sup>st</sup> two positions for the Planning Commission become available. The planning commission helps to control growth, improve quality of life for Milton residents, and promote economic health. The commission reviews certain applications, develops new zoning ordinance changes, and maintains the township's master plan. If you are interested in serving, send me a letter of interest no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Are there issues in the township that you are concerned with? Give us a call, e-mail, or drop by if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas for improvement in our township.

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

Visit our Website:  
[www.miltontwp.org](http://www.miltontwp.org)

## Clerk's Office News



There will be statewide special election on May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015 for the purpose of submitting a proposed constitutional amendment to the voters to raise the sales and use tax rate, and earmark sales and use tax receipts for revenue sharing and the school aid fund.

Also, the Edwardsburg School District will have a millage renewal proposal. My office can provide further information and resources regarding this election should you be interested.

The important dates to remember for this election are as follows:

March 21 <sup>st</sup>	Ballots Available For Delivery to Absent Voters
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day To Register For This Election
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Election Day

If you would like to check your status as a voter you can use the following web-site: <https://vote.michigan.gov/mvic/>



The township will be auctioning used equipment on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The equipment includes office furniture, old metal ballot boxes, and other miscellaneous items. The equipment will be available for inspection on the date of auction between 9am and 5pm at the old township hall. A list of the equipment and photos are available on our website or at the township hall.

If there is anything I can do to serve you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank You,  
 Steve Sante 269-591-7975  
[clerk@miltontwp.org](mailto:clerk@miltontwp.org)



Want to be a Weather Spotter? What is a Weather Spotter? A team that reports weather to the Cass County Emergency Center. Weather Spotter Training will be held at: Southwestern Michigan College 58900 Cherry Grove Road, Dowagiac, MI 49047 Monday, March 23rd, 2015 6:00 PM Register for training at: <http://cass-mi-spotter.eventzilla.net>. Or you can email David Smith ([davids@cassco.org](mailto:davids@cassco.org)). Include your first and last name, email address, phone number (home or cell), home address, years of spotter experience and whether you have completed the online MetEd Spotter course.



Milton Township will be working jointly with the City of Niles for the triggering of our weather sirens. Soon our weekly testing will change to the 1st Saturday of the month at 1:00pm.

## Commissioner's Corner

- At our Commissioners Organizational meeting this year Commissioner Bernie Williamson was elected chair of the Board of Commissioners and I was elected vice-chair. Both of us know the responsibilities involved with these positions and we are both up to the challenge they present.
- The Household Hazardous Waste collection will be May 16, 2015 from 9:00 a.m. until noon at the county fairgrounds. Please mark your calendar and check our county website (after March 1<sup>st</sup>) for additional information.
- Please visit our county parks. Currently at Dr. TK Lawless Park enjoy cross country skiing and tubing. The groomed 3 mile cross country ski trail is open and the cost is only the \$2 entrance fee. More information on activities can be found at [casscountymi.org](http://casscountymi.org).



Please contact me should you have any county related issues.

Robert L. Ziliak  
 County Commissioner, District 5

**News from the Treasurer**

**ANNOUNCING – Activities for Milton Township Residents**

Milton Township has partnered with Council on Aging, to provide activities to socialize, have fun, eat lunch and participate in an activity.

We invite you to join us the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm for resident activities. Our first Event is May 4<sup>th</sup> at the New Township Building in the great hall. We will have a potluck lunch so bring a dish, Council on Aging will provide the main dish offset by a \$1.00 donation per resident. Mark your calendars for future events coming up: June 1st And July 6th. 11:30 to 1pm.



Following lunch we will play BINGO. You can RSVP to Susan Flowers at 269-591-7974 or just show up. Mark your calendars now, we are excited to begin these events with you.

**Spring Cleaning**



If your property is in need of a good spring cleaning, May 2, 2015, is the date to remember. Milton Township will be having its annual Spring Clean that day. Dumpsters will be located at the township hall to collect your bagged trash, electronics, and metals for recycling. Tires will be collected this year for a small fee of only \$2.00 for each passenger tire! For more information, contact the Administrative Assistant or go to the township’s website. Let’s avoid blight, and keep Milton Township clean and beautiful. Spring is also a time for new construction. Zoning approval is necessary before construction can begin. These forms can be obtained either on Milton Township’s website or at the township hall.

Eileen Glick, Zoning Administrator/Code Enforcement Officer (269) 591-7982

Craving some fresh air? Escape into the great outdoors for some heart-pumping activities. For a more relaxed pace, enjoy the scenery hiking, bird-watching and enjoying nature in one of Cass County’s 6 parks, or Dowagiac Woods Nature Preserve.

Here’s a short list of some of activities for the outdoor enthusiast:

- |                      |                          |                     |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Downhill skiing      | Snowboarding             | Snowmobiling        |
| Sledding & tubing    | Cross County Skiing      | Ice Fishing         |
| Hiking & backpacking | Camping (tent or cabin)  | Canoeing & kayaking |
| Horseback riding     | Biking & Mountain biking | Running & marathons |
| Golf                 | Disc golf                | Fishing             |



Easter  
Sunday  
April 5th

**RED CROSS**  
  
**BLOOD DRIVE**

**Blood Drive**  
Milton Township  
March 9, 2015  
12pm-6pm

Mothers Day  
Sunday  
May 10th

WE HONOR AND LOVE YOU

MILTON TOWNSHIP  
32097 Bertrand Street  
Niles, MI 49120

NEWSLETTER - Spring 2015 Issue

PRSRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 449

\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*

## Postal Customer

### Township Board

**Supervisor** Robert Benjamin 269-262-0111  
supervisor@miltontwp.org

**Clerk** Steve Sante 269-591-7975  
clerk@miltontwp.org

**Treasurer** Susan Flowers 269-591-7974  
treasurer@miltontwp.org

**Trustee** Eric Renken 269-684-7262  
trusteerenken@miltontwp.org

**Trustee** Kelly Sweeney 269-684-7262  
trusteesweeney@miltontwp.org

### Planning Commission

Richard Hebard, Chair 269-663-2555  
Karen Shirk, Vice Chair 269-684-7262  
Kelly Sweeney, Secretary & Ex-Officio 269-687-1635  
Kara Boyles, Member 574-292-4737  
Jeremy Clanton, Member 269-684-7111  
Geoff Klopenstine, Member 269-684-7262  
Scott Kretchman, Member 269-684-7262

### Zoning Administrator & Code Enforcement Officer

Eileen Glick 269-591-7982  
zoning@miltontwp.org

### Assessor

Bill Gibert 269-369-5285

### Building Inspector

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

### Electrical Inspector

Johnny Hamilton 269-684-7848

### Mechanical/Plumbing Inspector

Ed Wainwright 269-663-8542

### Board of Review

Virginia Kraft, 269-684-7262  
Roger Kempton 269-683-2875  
Thomas Talley 269-684-0764  
William Corbett (Alternate)

### Zoning Board of Appeals

Patty Carr, Chair 269-684-7262  
Susan Flowers, Secretary 269-591-7974  
Jeremy Clanton 269-684-7111  
Robert Ziliak (Alternate)

