



Township News and Updates



Grant Received

Erie Township has been awarded a grant through the Michigan Township Participating Plan (MTPP). Clerk Jolene Upchurch submitted the grant application for a security camera system for the Township Hall Building. In receiving the grant award all entrances and exits have had cameras installed along with the Police evidence room and the Township Hall conference room, which will be utilized as an interrogation room for the Police Department. The security camera system was installed by Sunset Security located in Erie Township.



Pictured above left to right: Pam Baker-MTPP Field Representative, Diane LaPlante-Deputy Clerk, Jolene Upchurch-Clerk, and Dean Ansel-Police Chief.

Your Township Officials

Supervisor

William Frey

Clerk

Jolene Upchurch

Treasurer

Cynthia Wisbon

Trustee- Michael Grodi

Trustee- Shawn Cousino

Your Township Office

Sue Smith

Diane LaPlante

Stephanie Renius,
Assessors

Michael Demski- Building /
Zoning Official

Dean Ansel-
Chief of Police

Newsletter Coordinators

Diane LaPlante

Michael Demski

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From the Erie Chief of Police

Citizens of Erie, I would like to take this time to properly introduce two new officers to the Erie Township Police Department' Officer Cody Carena and Officer Shawn Cousino. Officer Carena is currently working the road with his training officers, and Officer Cousino is currently going through the Washtenaw County Police Academy, due to graduate December 12th. Both officers' will be a great addition to our police force.



Halloween is right around the corner. Saturday October 31st, from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Please be extra mindful during Halloween due to all the extra little people that will be on the streets. Remember in their frenzy of looking for goodies, they're not looking for you, so you have to look for them.

To help try and keep you and your children safe this Halloween, the Police Department will be giving out glow stick wrist bracelets. You can pick up the bracelets at the Erie Township Police Department. The bracelets will be available on October 15th. We only have 200 bracelets, so they will be given out on a first come first serve basis, and limited to the total number of people in your immediate family. If we have any extra we will be giving them out on Halloween night.

Dean, Your Chief of Police

FROM THE TREASURER

Cindy Wisbon:



Hello and Happy Fall to everyone. Soon the leaves will be changing color and the evenings and mornings will be getting cooler.

I just attended a conference in Grand Rapids for Treasurers. We usually have several topics that we discuss. This year the main focus was on FRAUD. There are several types of fraud, ACH Fraud, Mobile Fraud, Check Fraud Scams, and Cybercrimes. Those are just a few to mention. Check fraud is still the #1 fraud. Mobile fraud continues to skyrocket, and is becoming much more sophisticated. Cyber crime is an underground international business with well – financed syndicate. The hardest hit industry is the private companies at 38%. We are reminded to not give out personal or financial information over the internet or phone. Keep an eye on your financial accounts and change your passwords frequently.

Did you know that the number of connected devices has passed the number of people in the world, more devices per person and that number is growing each day.

Property Values, Jobs, and the economy are slowly recovering.

In late November the Winter Tax bill will be mailed out. Please read the back side of the tax bill, there is information on due dates and payment methods.

When paying at Erie Township for a tax bill, permit, your water bill, or anything you have to write a check for, please remember to make your check out to Erie Township.

Enjoy the season!

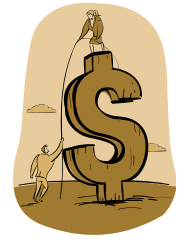
Erie Township is participating in the
**Controlled Substance
"Take-Back" Program.**

This red box will be located in the lobby of the Township Hall, 2065 Erie Road, Erie, MI. Only pharmaceutical drugs will be collected and stored in this box. Residents can drop off medications during regular business hours Monday thru Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



AREA AGENCIES

For any of our senior residents or those who are having financial difficulties there are a number of programs and agencies available to assist you.



- MCOP - various senior programs (734) 241-2775
- Monroe County Senior Legal Serv (734) 241-7644
 - Filling out 1040CR Property Tax Credit
 - Home Heating Credit
 - Other Legal Services
- Commission on Aging (734) 240-7358
 - Help Seniors with taxes
- Area Agency on Aging 1-B (800) 852-7795
 - Reverse Equity Mortgages
- Michigan Veteran's Trust (734) 240-7359
- Department of Human Services (734) 243-7200
 - State Emergency Relief Form
 - Help with Property Forfeiture
- Salvation Army (734) 241-0440
 - Food Programs
 - Prescription Drug Assistance

Open Swimming at Mason High School

Wednesday evenings

7:00 p.m. –8:30 p.m.

ALL AGES WELCOME!

Starting September 23, 2015

*Open Swimming will only be held
when school is in session.

Affordable Fun for the Entire Family

- Great Exercise
- No Membership Required, All Are Welcome
- Certified Lifeguard on Duty at All Times
- Changing Facilities Available
- Partitioned Lanes Available

Only \$1 per hour

*prices are per person

Mason High School Natatorium

2400 Mason Eagles Drive, Erie Michigan

Questions? Call 734-848-9357

FROM THE CLERKS DESK



Hi Everyone!! I hope everyone had a great Spring and Summer and enjoyed everything the warm weather brings.

Erie Township will not have a November, 2015 Election, the next election will be the 2016 Presidential Primary which will be held on the second Tuesday in March. Normally this primary election is held in February but, legislation eliminated the February election date which was defined as a "regular election date" in presidential election years in Michigan Election Law.

If anyone would like to vote absentee for any election, please contact the Clerk's office and we will get you on the Absentee Voter List and get an application out to you. Hope to see you at the polls and exercise your right to vote.

The Clerk's office is always looking for new election inspectors. If anyone is interested please contact my office, 734-848-5915 ext. 2.

I am always open to any comments or suggestions you might have for the Clerk's office.

Enjoy all the colors Fall brings!!!!

Jolene Upchurch, CMC,

Cemeteries News

Both Union Cemetery and Brigham Cemetery have had major clean up and some trees and over grown bushes removed. As stated in our previous newsletters our cemeteries have gotten out of control with tress, bushes and ornaments. As of April 2014 Erie Township will no longer allow any benches, statues, trees, planted plants or ornaments on the grave plots unless they can be mounted on the footer.



If you would like a copy of the cemetery rules you can stop at the Township or go on Erie Township's website at erietownship.com and print a copy or I have placed boxes up at each cemetery that has the Cemetery Rules in them for you to take.

Thank you for helping keep our cemeteries clean.

Jolene Upchurch, CMC,

From the Assessing Department

The State Tax Commission adopted the following guideline regarding annual inspection of property within a local unit: Local units are encouraged to annually inspect a minimum of 20% of the parcels in each property class each year.

In order to maintain accurate assessing records, Erie Township will be conducting 20% field inspections per year in order to comply with the State Tax Commission guidelines.

During the field inspections, the Assessing Department staff will check the accuracy of township records regarding land, all buildings and update photos. We will not come inside your home but may ask property owners to verbally verify that the data we have on record is correct. If no one is home, we will conduct our outside inspection and leave a card requesting verification of the interior information for property owners to update and return to the Assessing Department. Assessing Department vehicles are properly marked with Erie Township identification and we also carry proper photo identification. Please be advised that because of weather, time constraints, or other circumstances, we will not take appointments.

If you have any questions you can contact the Assessing Department on Wednesdays

Stephanie Renius, Erie Township Assessor

BUILDING DEPARTMENT NEWS

From Michael Demski, Building/Zoning Official

WHEN DO YOU NEED A PERMIT?

The best way to find out is to call the building department before starting your project. Permits are usually required for all projects including building, electrical, plumbing, and heating/AC work. Most of these types of work require specific items for code compliance and therefore a permit and inspections are required for code compliance. Some projects such as sheds and fences do not require a building permit, but it still may be necessary to obtain a permit for zoning compliance. Please contact the Building Department before beginning your project.



1-800-462-2050

MONROE, MI 48161

MONROE COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

What a wonderful summer we had at Erie Branch Library celebrating our summer reading theme: Every Hero Has a Story. Little Super Heroes galore read and participated in special hero programs including honoring our community heroes, learning to draw super heroes, meeting service animals and many more. Our littlest patrons joined in the fun at preschool storytime. Every Wednesday morning, children listened to stories, danced, sang, and had fun with special activities such as planting flowers, painting, making super hero capes and a final water party.



The warm weather will soon be ending but the fun and learning continue at the Erie Branch library! Join us on Monday, September 28th at 6:00 p.m. for Color My World, a look at the popular adult coloring craze presented by Jennifer Saul. Attendees of this program will learn about coloring as a stress management technique, sample different coloring tools, and color their own masterpiece. All materials are supplied.

Adults and teens will enjoy a night of Halloween inspired nail art on Monday October 5th at 6:30 p.m. Christine Allen will help participants create nail looks featuring pumpkins, mummies, eyeballs, Frankenstein patchwork, black cats and more! Materials will be supplied but you can also bring your own polishes.



Adults can also join us for a fun and informative evening of soap making on Monday, October 26th at 6:30 p.m. Lori Diver owner of *From the Homestead* will make a batch of soap while explaining the process and touching on essential oils and herbs as additives.

Along with these special programs, please don't forget our weekly Tai Chi class on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 p.m. for some gentle stretching. The Erie Area Historians that meet on the first Thursday of the month at 4:00 p.m. and our monthly book club on Monday October 19th and Monday November 9th at 6:30 p.m. for discussion on a good book while you sip some tea and nibble some treats.

And finally, our fun and educational Preschool Storytimes every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Children will have a great time listening to stories that will increase crucial language and listening skills. It also gives them a chance to practice their social skills while singing, dancing and participating in art activities. Have your children wear clothing that can be soiled as we may have messy fun learning activities.



All adult, teen and children's programs at the library are FREE but we do appreciate your registering. You can register on-line, in person, or by calling the Erie Branch Library 734-848-4420.

Please check our on-line calendar for more fall and winter activities to come at www.mymcls.com

We welcome your visits to the library but if we can be of assistance over the phone, please call us at 734-848-4420.

See You At The Library!
Shannen McMahon



PARK NEWS

Improvements are still being made to Grace Connolly South Park per receiving a grant from the Department of Natural Resources-Recreation Passport Grant Program. The old shelter has been replaced with a new one similar to the shelter that was placed in Maplewood Park. A new concrete floor was completed by Davison Concrete and the new wiring for the electric was completed by Electricians Chip Suiler and Dale Morin. To save money the shed was refurbished instead of replacing it, a new roof, siding, and new doors were put on. That work was completed by CHB Home Repairs & Remodeling. The walking trails at South Park have been improved by clearing out the brush and adding stone to the walk path, this work was completed by Devos Excavating LLC. This fall we are hoping to get the west ball field flipped at South Park so it will be finished at ready to go for next year's ball season.



If anyone would like to give us a hand we will be looking for volunteers to help when we flip the field at South Park.



We hope everyone has enjoyed the new look at South Erie Park and we will continue to make our parks a great place to be with your family.

The Park Commission has put locks on all the dumpsters at the parks because residents have been putting their trash and remodeling supplies in the dumpsters. The dumpster are for park use only, so now only the people renting the parks will have a key to the dumpsters.

If you would like to reserve the park for next summer please call Erie Township @ 734-848-5915. Any reservations for next year will need to be made after the Park Commissions organizational meeting held in January of 2016. Listed below is the Park Commissioners contact information if you have any suggestions or concerns for the parks:

- Joneil Upchurch- Chair 734-915-2314
- Ryan Upchurch 734-777-5776
- Kevin Skaggs 734-755-1582
- Eric Carsner 734-735-5393
- Jake Nehrig 419-466-5153

Thank you for all you do to keep our parks clean and safe for everyone to enjoy!!!

MORIN POINT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT



Fire prevention week was October 4-10. Did you know that if a fire starts in your home you have just 2 minutes to escape? The most effective way to protect yourself and your home from fires is to identify and remove fire hazards. It's 60% of the fire deaths that occur in homes with no working fire alarms. During a home fire, working smoke alarms and fire escape plan that has been practiced regularly can save lives.

Fire Safety Tips:

- If fire occurs in your home GET OUT, STAY OUT, CALL FOR HELP.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas.
- Test smoke alarms once a month if they are not working change the batteries.
- Talk with household members about fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year.

Each year over 4,000 Americans die in fires, more than 25,000 are injured in fires and more than 100 firefighters are killed while on duty. Eighty five percent of civilian fires deaths occurred in the residence.

A few reminders, be aware of road conditions, watch for black ice and other weather related road conditions. Drive accordingly, you want to get where you are going safely. Please be aware of emergency vehicles and personnel we want to go home safely too. During the holidays enjoy, but designate a driver. Friends don't let friends drive drunk. Thirty six percent of traffic fatalities involve alcohol. Please don't text and drive.

On behalf of the Morin Point Volunteer Fire Department, Best wishes for Safe and Happy Holidays to you and yours.

Sincerely
Pat Zaleski Chief

Morin Point Volunteer Fire Department

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We're on the web!
Visit us at:
www.erietownship.com

Erie Township – At Your Service

Office Hours:
Monday thru Friday
7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

**Note: we no longer
have different summer
and winter hours**

Erie Township Is On The Internet

Erie Township has been working to add more content and information to our web site. When you have questions or need township information please check out erietownship.com where you may find answers to many of your questions.

- **It's fast and convenient...**Search for important data from the convenience of your office or home without having the hassle of stopping at the township hall.
- **Download forms and applications**
- **Review meeting minutes and agendas**
- **Get email addresses and contact information**
- **Review property information...**(register to view your property information for free, pay a small fee for others)
- **Simply go to erietownship.com**
Or scan the QR code with your Smartphone or tablet to visit our web site.



The Erie News

**Please look inside for Important Information
From Erie Township!**

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