



## Whitewater Township August 2012 E-Letter

Questions, comments, ideas for future stories or to be added or removed from future mailings? Contact:

Leslie at [Zoning@whitwatertownship.org](mailto:Zoning@whitwatertownship.org) OR  
Della at [Treasurer@whitwatertownship.org](mailto:Treasurer@whitwatertownship.org)

### Meetings Calendar

07/24 Township Board  
07/26 Fire Auxiliary  
08/01 Planning Commission  
08/07 Primary Election  
08/13 Parks & Recreation  
08/14 Township Board  
08/23 Fire Auxiliary

## Primary Election - August 7, 2012

The Whitewater Township Primary election will take place on Tuesday August 7th. The polls are open from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm.

Political signs have been popping up all over the Township. Although our zoning ordinance calls for signs to be erected no more than 30 days prior to an election, the rule was challenged - we cannot enforce the rule as it is written. The goal of the Ordinance was to keep the area from being cluttered with signs for a long time, as they tend to blow down and come apart over time. We are hopeful that candidates will take care of their signs so this does not happen.



ANY signs that are placed in the road right of way along M-72 can and often are removed by MDOT. GTC Road Commission also picks up signs their road right-of-way. Signs that are removed can be picked up at the Road Commission.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Tampering with or destroying a political sign not only interferes with private property, it also shows a lack of courtesy and respect for others views. Let's everyone be civil during this time of political competitiveness, it is the best example to set.

### **Treasurer's Corner—Ardella M. Benak** **Reminder - Application for Summer** **Tax Deferments still available !**

Applications for deferment are available at [whitwatertownship.org](http://whitwatertownship.org) or the Township Hall and must be returned by September 14<sup>th</sup> **annually**. Summer taxes can be deferred without interest until February 14<sup>th</sup> one of two ways;

- 1) Any tax payer whose household income does not exceed \$40,000 **and** qualify under one these classifications: 62 years or older, paraplegic/quadruplegic, blind, totally and permanently disabled, eligible veteran/service person or surviving spouse of eligible veteran/service person.
- 2) Own property, which is classified or used as agricultural real property and that the gross receipts of agricultural or horticultural operations in the previous year (or the average gross receipts for such operations in the previous three years) are not less then the household income for the preceding calendar year or the combined household incomes in the previous year of the individual members of a limited liability company that owns the agricultural real property.

Once you have received a summer tax deferment form, I will add you to a permanent listing to receive a form each year for your conveyance.

### **EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS !**

If your looking for a way to help but not sure what you can do? Whitewater Emergency Services Auxiliary (WESA) helps to stock the fire and ambulance crews Quick Response Kits with water, Gatorade, granola bars and other high energy snacks. You can assist by donating supplies in any quantity. It is all very much appreciated. You can drop it off at the township hall or you can drop off at the Fire station. Questions? please call 231-735-3987.

### **Household Hazardous Waste & Pesticide Collection**

July 26, 2012  
From 1:00 to 6:45 pm

Appointments are required and can be made on line at [RecycleSmart.info](http://RecycleSmart.info). Or by calling the RecycleSmart Hotline at 941-5555.

This service is provided at no cost, (up to 150lbs, \$1.30 lb. thereafter) Electronics are charged .38 cents per pound. Accepted material includes oil based paints, (latex is not accepted), cleaning products, pesticides, mercury, moth balls, pool chemicals and more

In 2011, over 50,000 pounds of household hazardous waste was collected for proper disposal.

### **NEWLY APPOINTED**

Melissa Melton is the newly appointed member to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee. Welcome Melissa and thank you for dedication and service to our community.

### **Something NEW is Happening along the M-72 Corridor District**

**Mr. C's Pub & Grill LLC** located at 9009 M-72 (old Arizona Bldg.) Planning to open sometime in the fall of 2012. Hometown feel with reasonable pricing.

"A place where locals can go to get a burger and cold drink and maybe watch the game is the plan" said new owners Chris & Laurie Copeland.

**ACTS (Acme Christian Thrift Store)** has purchased the Whitewater Plaza strip mall. Renovations to the building in progress. Volunteers are needed to help retrofit the new store. They welcome volunteers with all kinds of skill sets. Staffed entirely by volunteers, proceeds from the thrift store are used to purchase food for the pantry. To volunteer your services contact : Carol Hockin at 231-492-6952

*Welcome to the community !*

**Ordinance UPDATE:** Township board voted to pass an Abandoned Buildings Ordinance on 06/12/12. This ordinance will go into effect on 08/19/12. For more information on how this may effect you, contact Leslie, Zoning Administrator. 267-5141 Ext. 21

# WESA – Whitewater Emergency Services Auxiliary



A very good time was had by all at Hi Pray Park for the Emergency Services “Thank You Picnic” sponsored by the Whitewater Emergency Services Auxiliary. Good food, and a fun game of softball was played. Ending with a water balloon toss event to cool everyone down! It was an excellent way to say to thank you to the volunteers who serve so well and to their families who have to endure the calls in the middle of the night and interruptions at events and meals.

It takes a special kind of person to be a volunteer but it takes a special kind of family to endure it. Whitewater Township is very fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers.

## Emergency Services 2012 Picnic

### Mark your calendars – Save the dates



**Annual Spaghetti Dinner**  
**September 15**  
**from 5-8 pm**

Join us for dinner at the United Methodist Church on Church Street. There will be lots of local door prizes.



**Halloween Party**  
**October 27**  
**From 6-9 pm**

at the Fire Station. We are looking for volunteers to help with this “spooktacular” event.

If you like to have fun and enjoy the smiles on the faces of all the kids (young and old) we would love to have your help.

**3rd Annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting Event December 4, 6 pm**



“Hi” Pray Park. Santa will be there to help bring In the Christmas season.

More information on the fall events will be coming as the dates draw near. If you have any questions, please call Lois MacLean at 231-735-3987 or email: [loismaclean@sbcglobal.net](mailto:loismaclean@sbcglobal.net)



### Loon Update

The Elk River Chain of Lakes (ERCOL) Watershed may be home to the largest population of nesting loons in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan.

In 2011, 16 loon pairs returned to the Watershed. 2011 was also a tough year for the loon chicks. Only 6 of 12 reached maturity. Careless boaters, rogue loons, predation or something else may have contributed to this mortality.

Adult loons, which can live 25-30 years, begin to leave the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed in September. The chicks are not yet ready for migration and may continue to feed and grow in their North country homes until October. Michigan loons spend the winter in the Gulf of Mexico or along the Atlantic coast. The adults return in the spring, but the chicks remain for three to four years, until they reach maturity. Then they migrate north. The male juveniles return to the same lakes where they were raised, and the female juveniles disperse to new territories. Juveniles remain on lakes until they are seven or eight years old before they begin breeding.

For more information, contact:  
 Elk River Chain of Lakes LOON NETWORK  
 P.O. Box 117 - Alden, MI 49615  
[www.commonloon.org](http://www.commonloon.org)  
[commonloon.comfort@gmail.com](mailto:commonloon.comfort@gmail.com)



Loons on Lake Skegemog  
 Photo by Tom Hodgson