

Community Focus

News of the West Bloomfield Township

www.townofwestbloomfield.org

SUMMER 2014

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Supervisor's Update

Todd D. Campbell

It is hard to believe that six months have passed since you elected me to this position - but they have! Thank you to everyone who has attended our Town Board meetings over the last couple of months - your feedback is important to the Board and me as we work on the Town's business. We will soon be starting the 2015 budget process and we look forward to ensuring that the town remains in good fiscal shape and continues to provide the needed services and support for all of our residents.

I would like to extend special thanks to the Highway Department for all of their efforts after the storms in May—we had some damage, but everything is back in good working order due to their efforts. I would also like to thank Eric Muench for his years of service to the town as one of our appointees to the Boughton Park Commission (most recently as President) - we wish him well in his future endeavors!

This summer marked the return of Summer Rec. to East Bloomfield, and we had a large turnout of West Bloomfield kids at Summer Rec. I have received comments from several families about the program and we will make sure we take them into consideration as we make our plans next year, and into the future.

The County Committees that I serve on (Planning & Research, Insurance, and Health & Medical) continue to provide me with valuable information that I bring back to the town and help us be an engaged member of the county. Our most significant decision last quarter was the move from MV Transportation to the RGRTA. Please feel free to stop in and see me if you have any questions or concerns about county operations, etc.

As we continue to move forward we are always looking for help (please see the announcement on the back page of this edition) on our Boards and also for potential committees. The best way to get involved is to submit your name and interests (I am also collecting e-mail addresses for updates and information; please send me yours if you would like to be included).

We are still filling spots on our AG Committee (to help the town plan and protect our AG resources, etc.), the Futures Committee is wrapping up their research and recommendations on the most recent requests from the Town Board and we will soon be asking them to tackle some new issues (ones that may not currently be covered by Town Law or Zoning Code, or that need additional research), the Comprehensive plan will be due for a review, and we will also be looking at the town facilities and how to adequately plan for the town's needs.

My door is open when I am in the office - stop in and visit if you have the chance. I can be reached at my office (585) 624-2461, via e-mail tcampbell@townofwestbloomfield.org, and also on Twitter and Facebook.



Highway Superintendent's Update

Jim Powers

I am pleased to inform you that this spring we took delivery of our new ½ ton pickup truck and new loader. We sent our 2008 ¾ ton pickup, loader, and 1985 excavator to auction; and we made out very well again on all items. We have not taken delivery of our new rubber tired excavator because of some technical difficulties with the bucket attachment, but we expect to get it anytime now.

For work projects, we completed our annual oil and stoning. We did Baker Road, Strong Road, and Olmstead Road (East). We also had what we call "bar patching" done on Elton Road. Elton Road is one of our better roads with a strong base and good surface, and by bar patching we want to maintain that good structure. Where we bar patched was showing some cracking and we wanted to fill in those cracks to prevent the surface from breaking apart. We plan on oil and stoning Elton Road in its entirety next year and this process will help ensure a better product when we do that. We also did tree trimming on Cox Road.

As you may recall we got 2.5 inches of rain on May 16th! It had rained most of the previous night and I was out patrolling at 4:30 AM. Everything seemed fine - but then at about 7 AM events started to unfold. Ditches were overwhelmed with water and the water started to flow over roadways. Roads affected were Allen's Hill, Baker, Conn, Factory Hollow Road, S., LaFevre Road, S., Olmstead, and Wesley. Within a few hours things calmed down and we spent the following weeks repairing the damage. I did submit cost estimates to Ontario County Emergency Management to see if we could qualify for FEMA monies, but have not yet heard back.

In the month of July, we will be starting the project of rehabilitating the parking lot in front of the Highway Garage and Town Hall. We will be grinding off the existing blacktop and adding stone and oil to the grindings and laying it back down again. After those two processes, we

will be oil and stoning the surface. We plan on leaving it in this condition until next year when we put a final top of blacktop over that. Please cope with the effects of this project if you come to the Town Hall or Highway Garage, as we may have to divert you to enter in the rear of the Town Hall. Also, the entire parking lot will be a bit lower than what it is now - until next year when we put the final blacktop down.



A highway safety reminder: avoid all distractions – there are more and more ways to distract a driver every day, and most drivers - even good ones - drive distracted and don't realize it. Loud music, a car full of passengers, selecting a radio station, talking on the phone, and even reading billboards are all distractions that take a driver's focus off the road in front of them. If you can recognize when you're becoming distracted, you can refocus on your driving.

If you have any questions or concerns concerning highway or water matters, please feel free to contact me at – email: jpowers@townofwestbloomfield.org or office: (585) 624-2900.



West Bloomfield Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

Frank Young, Adjutant WBFD

New members are always needed: Anyone who may be interested in the fire service, stop in any Monday evening – we have training every Monday night and we have our monthly meeting on the 1st Monday of the month. All training is free.

West Bloomfield Congregational Church



West Bloomfield Congregational Church is an open and affirming congregation where all are welcome to share in God's holy promise. Our Sunday service is held at 10:00 AM.

Sunday school for grades K-5, held at 9:30 AM, is developed and team-taught by Corey & Teresa Keyes. While this is technically a class for K-5th graders, ALL ages are welcome! Corey & Teresa keep it fun and educational. We also offer an activity during service time (crafts, games, mediation, movies, etc.) led by wonderful volunteers. We encourage the kiddos to stay in the sanctuary and take an active role in the service on the 3rd Sunday of each month (Kids In Church, or KIC, Sunday). Nursery care is available.



DIABETES WORKSHOP

with Certified Diabetes Experts Heidi Kipp & Danielle Burry

This workshop will be taught by Certified Diabetes Experts whose knowledge and skills can help you learn to live with this disease in a healthy way.

Learn about diabetes, the complications from it, and the treatment for it, from Nurse Practitioner and CDE, Heidi Kipp.

Danielle Burry, a Registered Dietician and CDE will discuss diabetes meal planning and how to effectively manage your diabetes.

Come with questions.

Tuesday August 12th
6:30-8:30

West Bloomfield
Congregational Church
Community Room

\$5 suggested donation

Call 624-1313 or log onto
wbccucc.org for more
information

WBCC-U: Intellectual, Emotional & Artistic Workshop Series
West Bloomfield Congregational Church
9035 Routes 5 & 20, W. Bloomfield NY

Bring a lawn chair. Refreshments will be available but feel free to pack a picnic. Tickets available at Shivers, Toomey's Express. Or contact us at 624-1313 wbccoffice@rochester.rr.com

6525 Rts 5 & 20
BLOOMFIELD

Near Toomey's Corner (across from The Outdoor Store) Event benefits West Bloomfield Congregational Church. More information can be found at wbccucc.org

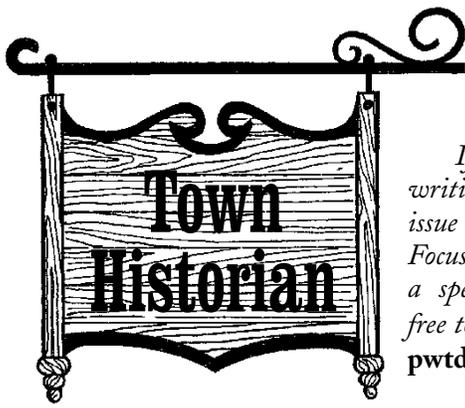
We hold a coffee/fellowship time after every service.

Monday Night Bible Study is 6:30 PM – 7:45 PM.

The church choir always welcomes new members! If you have a love of music, that is all you need. If you are unable to read music, there is no need to worry. Feel free to attend a rehearsal and see if we are a good fit for you. Rehearsals are **Tuesdays** from 6:30 PM -7:45 PM. Hope you can join us!

There's a lot happening at WBCC! We'd love to see you on Sunday. Take a moment for yourself - rejuvenate and energize for the week ahead. Gain clarity and wisdom. Invite a friend and share in the fellowship.

For more information on WBCC, please call (585) 624-1313, drop us an email at wbccoffice@rochester.rr.com, or stop by www.steeplepeople.ministrypath.com. You can also find us on facebook by searching West Bloomfield UCC.



*If anyone is interested in writing an article for a future issue of the Community Focus, or to request we cover a specific topic, please feel free to contact **Pat Talley** at pwtdmthillock@aol.com.*

Two of the Cemeteries of West Bloomfield

There are four cemeteries in the Town of West Bloomfield: West Bloomfield Cemetery, Pioneer Cemetery, Millers Corners/Ionia Cemetery, and North Bloomfield Cemetery. The following article is about two of them. The West Bloomfield and Pioneer Cemeteries will be featured in a later edition of the Focus.



The Millers Corners (Ionia) Cemetery is located on County Road 14. People wandering through the cemetery read the stones and ask questions - who, where, why - and those questions spark their interest in the past. The dates and names open doors to the yesteryears.

The oldest recorded grave in the Millers Corners Cemetery is for Susanna Miller, wife of Samuel, who died on May 19, 1822, at the age of thirty-seven. The cemetery has many unrecorded graves whose stones are so weathered that the inscriptions are illegible. In addition, other old, unrecorded graves were covered over.

Samuel Miller and other early settlers were buried in the Pioneer Cemetery in West Bloomfield. In the late 1800's, Carlton Miller, the great-grandson of Samuel, erected a monument in Samuel's memory in the center of the Miller family plot in the Millers Corners Cemetery. On

this monument was a bronze medallion stating that he was a Connecticut Minuteman in the American Revolution. This medallion has been stolen and replaced several times and is presently missing.

The cemetery was deeded to West Bloomfield by Silas and Almira Miller, and Carlton and Mary Ann Miller on February 15, 1842. On April 30, 1892 at 8:00 pm, a meeting was called at the schoolhouse. On that evening, the Millers Corner Cemetery Association was formed. Charles R. Hewer was chosen Chairman and Seward French became Acting Secretary. Six Trustees were also named: C.S. Miller, H.R. Lay, Frank Dawson, N.W. Dibble, Charles B Hewer and E.H. Crowel. An annual meeting has been held each spring since the Association's inception.

In June 1892, an unknown number of graves were covered over in the northeast section of the cemetery. Some of the twenty-four men who helped fill in this section by donating teams of horses and drawing dirt were: Nathan Parrish (2 ½ days), Samuel Baker (1 day), George Howes (2 days), Mike Nugent (1 day), Isaac Parrish (1 day, 1 horse), and eleven-year-old Norman Parrish who drove a team of horses.

In 1892, the average price for a three-foot lot was \$5, with larger lots selling for \$1 per foot. Prices to dig graves were \$2 for infants and \$4 for an average size grave.

In 1894, "Hartman Fence" was purchased for the cemetery at a cost of \$200. In 1895, eight rods of galvanized gas pipe was purchased and used to construct a hitching rail - which still stands in front of the cemetery fence.

The cemetery vault, located in a corner of the Grove, was contracted out to Charles Longyear on September 10, 1914. Work was done by Alfred Evers (who was a violin player and drove a Lozier touring car). Field stones were used to face the corners. This vault was designed to hold 4 coffins, and is a beautiful piece of craftsmanship.

A cannon and six stacks of cannon balls were placed in the cemetery after World War 1 as a veterans' memorial. There are currently 26 veterans buried in this cemetery, including an unknown soldier. In 1977, the American Legion Bloomfield Savage Post 970 installed a flagpole. The Cemetery Association places flags on all of the veterans' graves on Memorial Day and the veterans are honored with a 21-gun salute presented by the Legion in a ceremony following the annual parade through town.

For many years people speculated on the whereabouts of the actual grave of Susanna Miller, the daughter-in-law of Ionia's founding father, Samuel Miller. Her original tombstone, for many years, has been resting against an old scale house on the Nugent Farm. It was thought that Susanna was buried near the road on County Road 14 and that her stone was removed when the new road was built in 1938. When the Nugent Farm was sold, Curt Barnes, as one of the new owners, set out to research the mysterious grave to alleviate potential problems in the future if excavating

work was necessary to build an access road on the property. After carefully checking available records, Curt determined that in all likelihood, Susanna was actually buried in the cemetery where a newer stone still stands in the family lot.

At the main gate, a new wrought iron arch with the name "Millers Corners Cemetery 1892" was erected in April 1988, four years after the idea was conceived by Don Parrish. Don spent many painstaking hours designing this "Old English" style sign to compliment the cemetery's original iron fence; preserving the ornamental post caps from the gate posts and placing them on top of the new sign posts. The sign was fabricated by Sargeants Ornamental Iron Company of Livonia, under the careful supervision and assistance of Don.

Taken from "Unmasking the Past, Millers Corners Ionia 1789-1989." This book may be purchased at the West Bloomfield Historical Society Museum.



The North Bloomfield Cemetery is located at 1941 NY Route 65. There are plots available for sale, plus there is an area that has not yet been developed. The cemetery is managed by a seven-member board of volunteer trustees. In the last 23 years, the cemetery has had 146 burials, which is an average of 6.3 per year. Of these, 46% have been cremations.

The first burial was an infant daughter of the Gates Family in 1804. She was buried on the family burying ground. This burial ground was donated to the community in 1870. Additional land was donated by the Gates in 1883. More land was donated by the Wells in 1964 and more land in 1989 by the Bauchles.

There are just over 1,300 burials in the cemetery. Of these 113 are veterans - one from the French & Indian War, four from the Revolutionary War, eight from the War of 1812, 26 from the Civil War, 13 from the Spanish-American War, one from WW1 & WW2, 45 from WW2, three from WW2 & Korea, 11 from Korea, one from Vietnam, and three who served in peacetime. There are a number of "cenotaph" graves (a grave marker but no body).

Civil War Vet buried at Bull Run, Korean War Vet, and MIA are just two examples. The names of all veterans are read every Memorial Day at the cemetery.

In August 2008, the Canandaigua Chapter of the NYS DAR held a ceremony to install a marker next to the grave of Florilla Swetland Pierce, who was a "real daughter," a woman who was a member of the DAR and whose father was a soldier in the war. There are only 766 of them identified.

The cemetery has two monuments that are made of cast zinc, made by the Monumental Bronze Co. of Bridgeport, Conn. The company was in business from 1874 to 1914. They were shut down because the foundry and zinc were needed for the war effort (WWI). They offered their product through catalog and salesmen. Their catalog had over 500 designs from 4" to 25' tall. The monuments are hollow with panels, which are screwed in with the family names and dates. These panels were available until 1939.

Submitted by Tom Witzel, overseer of the North Bloomfield Cemetery records.

Millers Corners Cemetery

Wayne Parrish



Despite all the rain this spring, the cemetery was in fine shape for Memorial Day weekend. The lawn was mowed a few days ahead of the weekend, a new flag was installed on the flag pole, and the small veteran, graveside flags were all in place.

The roof of the vault is in need of some masonry repairs. The Superintendent is getting quotes for this work.

The local regulation that does not allow graveside, nighttime memorial lights was discussed at the annual meeting as the superintendent has received some complaints about this regulation. Some modifications to the regulation were proposed. The end result is that the regulation stands as originally written. No lights may be installed for any amount of time or any time of the year. This is not unique to our cemetery. Many cemeteries do not allow these lights even though various stores continue to sell the lights.

The cemetery continues to be open from dawn to dusk on a daily basis.

Those interested in purchasing a lot, or scheduling the installation of a monument, please contact the Superintendent, Larry Evans, at (585) 624-4993.

West Bloomfield Historical Society

Sandy Schlenker, President



WOW! What a weekend! Our Annual Yard Sale on July 12th/13th was great, despite the rain on Sunday. Thank you Judi and Jack Ferman, organizers of the event, who did such a fabulous job... again!

You definitely show what it means to go "above and beyond." Thank you also to the wonderful people with treasures to sell, who set up their tents on the lawn. Our hot dog tent became the social gathering place for the weekend, and helping Tim was Devin Campbell, our youngest volunteer. We couldn't have done without Pat Talley, Tyler and Christine Ferman, Matt Crysler, Tim Schlenker, Tim Schiefen, Mike Schlenker, Mike Borgeest, Dorothy Corrigan, Leslie Giering. Larry Decker, Sue Linder, lin Ely, Tom Ely, Adrienne Porter, Sue Kircher, Todd and Alicia Campbell, Anne Stonewei, Katie Schlenker, Dorothy Strapp, Tom Witzel, and Georgiana Gardner, a friend of Judi's, who believes in us! Thank you all so very, very much.

On Tuesday, September 2nd at 7:00 you **NEED** to come to the museum. People sometimes say of historical societies "Oh they're just a bunch of old people." **WRONG!** (well, some of us maybe!) We were young when we started this some 30+ years ago and we're waiting for **YOU**, waiting for more young people to show their interest in how our families lived "back in the day." All of you, young and old, will decide if the town of West Bloomfield will have a

museum in the future. Even if you're a relative newcomer, you belong here now. This is for you! There will be a brief business meeting followed by a **SHOW and TELL** (bring an item from home to share with the group). Refreshments served, of course!

Tuesday, October 6th, 7:00, will be our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. Please come and show your support. Requesting all members attend.

Tuesday, October 14th, 7:00: The Town Board will meet in the museum. Doors open at 6:00.

Tuesday, November 11th, 7:00: Program to be announced. Please check our signboard.

CALLING All CARPENTERS: We are ready to begin the new stairs project. Please call Jack Ferman 624-4978 for info and to submit bids.

**Don't forget to check out our website:
www.wbhsny.com!**

If you have any questions, or have stories, photos, papers, and/or artifacts you may want to contribute for the museum, please contact me, Sandy Schlenker (585) 624-2458, Pat Talley (585) 657-7226, or Jack or Judi Ferman (585) 624-4978.

The West Bloomfield Historical Society welcomes new members, whatever your age. Dues are \$15 per family, \$12 single, \$10 Senior (62+), and \$8 junior/student. We meet once monthly, April to December, with a mix of business, education, and entertaining social events.

Ionia Women's Club

Mary Twardokus

The Ionia Women's Club welcomes all women living in the Ionia area to their meetings, held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7 PM in a member's home. For information on joining in the gatherings, call Kay Bennett at (585) 657-7483.

Besides donating a scholarship to a graduating senior at Bloomfield High School each June, the groups collects General Mills box tops for area schools, so if you have any to donate, give them to a club member.

September 17th, the group will gather at 6:30 PM for their annual "Hors D'oeuvres & Dessert" meal at the home of Nora Relyea. June Shone will hostess the October 15th meeting at 7 PM.



West Bloomfield Fire Department Ladies' Auxiliary

Nancyann Young

We are always looking for help in the Auxiliary - please stop by our meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of the month to get some information on what we do. We not only assist the West Bloomfield Fire Department, but we also assist the Ionia Fire Department - so please stop by and sign up to help these brave men and women who do all the tough stuff no one else wants to do.



Ionia Volunteer Fire Department

Rev. Thomas F. Wickett, Ionia & Ontario County Fire Chaplain

I was driving to Victor to do some shopping at Eastview Mall a few days ago, when I became concerned about a young man driving a small red car. He came right up behind me, and was so close that I couldn't see his headlights. As I looked in my rearview mirror, I could see that he was talking on his cell phone while travelling an easy 55 miles an hour on Route 96. He was inattentive to his driving and almost ran into the back of me two or three times.

I remember another time when I was coming home from Canada on the New York State Thruway, when all of a sudden I could see two deer on their way to a collision with the car ahead of me. One of them turned back towards the woods but the other crashed into the side of the car. I stopped to help them but thank God there were no injuries and only minor damage.

A number of years ago, on County Road 30 here in Ontario County, I was travelling the speed limit when a pickup truck came up behind me, leaned on his horn, then passed me on a double yellow line and gave me the finger. I caught up to him at a stop sign. He looked over at me, and I gave him the sign of the cross and showed him I was wearing my clerical collar. He went red in the face and sped away.

You may ask, what do these stories have to do with the Ionia Fire Company? It is true that we are a fire company, but Ionia responds to many more motor vehicle accidents than any other emergencies. Our first responders have seen carnage on our highways and secondary roads; and many are caused by careless, thoughtless, stoned, and drunk drivers. Sometimes there can be mechanical failure or an unexpected emergency. I have seen people who have been killed, others

gravely injured, while still others suffer serious shock and trembling. Some end up in the back seat of a sheriff's or trooper's squad car waiting to appear before a magistrate.

Although, I normally talk about our fire department, this article is written to remind you to drive safely wherever you travel. Most accidents happen within a few miles of home. I urge you to keep your vehicle in good repair, don't drink and drive - get someone to take you home, be careful for the side effects of prescription drugs, don't do illegal drugs and get behind the wheel, pull over to text or talk on your cell phone, drive defensively, and lastly don't drive if you are too tired.

One more thing, if you come upon an accident scene, slow down, obey the directions of the police officer or firefighter directing traffic, and watch out for first responders in the roadway. As usual all our firefighters are ready and able to respond in the event of accidents, fires, or other emergencies. Do not call the fire station, instead call 911. Remember to slow down, pull over, and change lanes if possible, for all emergency vehicles.

I pray that you will have a safe summer on the roads, at home, and on vacation. Remember you have family and friends that love you - return home safely, and have a blessed and wonderful summer.

God Bless You All.



North Bloomfield Community Association

Doreen Haller

The North Bloomfield Community Association is a group of residents who live within approximately a one mile radius of the North Bloomfield Chapel, who strive to preserve and share the heritage and history of North Bloomfield through the preservation and community use of the North Bloomfield Chapel. Former residents are always welcome.

Don't forget to check out our Facebook page: Hamlet of North Bloomfield.



CUB SCOUTS Pack 56 News



Check back in the next edition of the Community Focus to see what boys have been up to over the summer, and what their plans are for the upcoming Scouting year!

Come see what we have to offer! Contact Cam Whitmore at (585) 624-7306 for more information or stop by the West Bloomfield Congregational Church on a Thursday evening and meet some of our den leaders!

Boys between the ages of 6 and 10 are always welcome in Cub Scouts. We meet most every Thursday evening at the West Bloomfield Congregational Church. Come and join us!

Boy Scouts Troop 56 - Summer 2014

Committee Chairman, Tim Schiefen

Starting off, let me apologize for missing the last few deadlines. Honesty is the best policy; and I am sure you can all understand the business of life these days - as well as the long depressing winter! Despite this, our Scouts have been just as busy, if not busier than usual!

Our Troop remains committed to the local food pantry, F I S H (Friends In Service Here), and in support of the West Bloomfield & Ionia Community. This last fall (2013), we collected and delivered 74 cartons of non-perishable foods, as well as two frozen turkeys!

Thank you to all of you wonderful folks who stay alert for our Scouting for Food fliers (now mailed to you) and thank you for the extra care many take to help us receive your donated food by placing it where a youth can find it.

This spring, our Troop welcomed several new Scouts who crossed over from Pack 56. We now add Trevor, Will, Jacob, Aidan, Sean and two Zacharys to our roster. Welcome, Scouts!

We would also like to say thanks to all of you who continue to support our Troop with your donations of returnable cans and bottles. So many of you have dropped off cans at our Scout hall on dump day, as well as at my auto shop, that we have been able to purchase a Haulmark utility trailer from Mr. Ulmer.

Our Troop is very fortunate to have such wonderful support from so many!

Our Troop will soon be turning 50 years old! Many have seen the collection of Boy Scout and Cub Scout historical items at the West Bloomfield Historical Society, but we are searching for former Scouts and leaders to dig through their attics and basements to see if you might have items of interest for us to include in our permanent display. We are also looking for a youth sized mannequin or torso so that we may display a Scout uniform donated by one of the very first Troop 56 Scouts, Joe Shanks. We are fortunate to have received not only a complete first year Troop 56 uniform, but a period photo of Joe wearing it as a young man! If anyone has artifacts, information, pictures, or stories, please contact either me or Mike Smith. (Contact information is at the end of this article.)

I would be hopeful to learn more about where our "Welch Hall" came from. I was told that there were pictures of our Scout hall and its possible move from East Rochester?

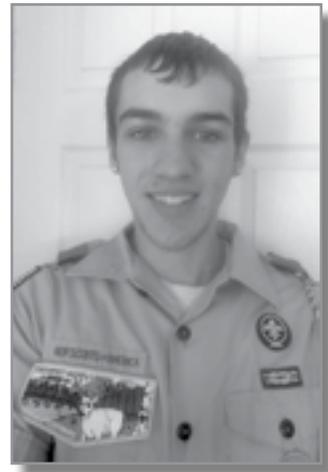
On July 1st, our Troop held a "Court of Honor" for our Boy Scouts. This is the opportunity for the Scout Troop to recognize the achievements of our Scouts through awards such as rank advancement and merit badges.

Imagine my surprise when our guest, Mr. Travis Piper from the Bloomfield Rotary Club, presented an award to yours truly - you could have "blown me over with a feather" as I received their Citizen of the Year Award for 2012-2013! I would like to thank their organization, for it truly is an honor, and I am very humbled by it.

But let that not overshadow our Scouts' accomplishments! I am very proud to report that over the past year Troop 56 has helped produce five Eagle Scout candidates. Yes, FIVE! If you look at the regional numbers, less than 7% of all Boy Scouts make it to Eagle Rank (2012 numbers). So for us to have guided 5 in such a short period, speaks volumes for the type of young men in our Troop!

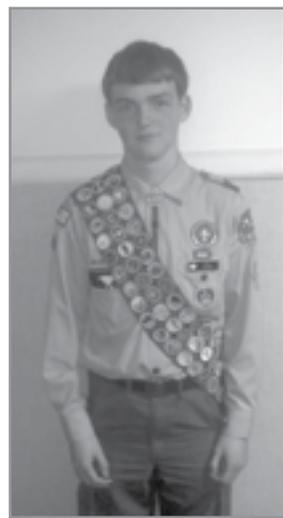
Three of our candidates have received their final Eagle Board of Review and have been confirmed as Eagle Scouts.

I would like to congratulate:



Keenan Whitmore

Keenan's project was to create a playground at the West Bloomfield Congregational Church.



William Gales

William's project was to rebuild and right a permanent boat dock in Boughton Park.



Will Schiefen

Will's project was to rebuild and enhance the West Bloomfield entry sign on Routes 5 & 20

The other two young men have completed their Eagle Scout projects and are awaiting their Boards of Review; I would like to congratulate those two young men as well!

Isaiah Keyes and Dustin Green - You will hear more about these soon to be Eagles in a later issue of the *Community Focus*.

I am also pleased inform you that Troop 56 has been awarded the 2013 Troop of the Year award from the Seneca district of Seneca Waterways council. This also comes with Committee Chairman of the Year honors for me.

There were a number of qualifications for the Troop of the Year awards, such as the super duper Camporee we hosted in 2013, our Troop's percentage of Scouts who participate in council activities, as well as retention and rank advancement.

This year our Scoutmaster Mr. Les Gales was awarded the "District Award of Merit." This is one of the highest honors an adult leader can receive. It has been a long time coming; Mr. Gales is a very active leader, volunteering as a unit commissioner for several units in our local area. This is in addition to the time he spends with our Scouts.

Maybe you noticed our very own First-Class Scout Ian Mitchell, reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at the Memorial Day ceremony at Elton Park. We are all very proud of Ian and glad he represented us so well!

Did I mention our Troop was asked if we would again host our Seneca District Spring Camporee? Our Scouts stepped up to the plate and again organized, and hosted, a fun-filled three-day Camporee. Attended by 75 Scouts and about 30 leaders, this year's theme was Seneca-Olympics. We crafted numerous activities with an Olympic theme. We had individual and team competitions throughout the day on Saturday. The previous evening we had movies with

one of my favorites, Moonrise Kingdom (a modern treasure with a Scouting theme). Saturday was rounded out with a microburst, compliments of Mother Nature; however, few of the units toughed it out until Sunday. We can't thank Tom Williams and Walt Huff enough for letting us use their property for our Camporees! They continue to be very supportive of our Troop!

Look for us this fall at the Ionia Fall Festival - our Troop will be there again with a fun, free activity for the families.

Please remember Troop and Pack 56 is here in West Bloomfield and Ionia. We are the Scouts you see serving this community. Please do not be fooled into joining that other Troop or Pack when they saturate the school with their fliers. You owe it to your son to bring him to one of our Pack or Troop meetings.

Troop 56 meets every Tuesday night 7pm at Welch Hall. (Adjacent to the Town of West Bloomfield Highway dept. on Co Rd. 37.)

Pack 56 meets at the West Bloomfield Congregational Church just about every Thursday night at 7pm while school is in session. *All are welcome!*



By the time this article is in print, seven of our Scouts will be having fun for a week at Camp Babcock-Hovey in Ovid, NY. Our younger Scouts are working on their Tenderfoot requirements and having fun swimming, hiking, and camping on the shores of beautiful Seneca Lake.

Then the following week, six of our older First Class and above Scouts are taking a 5-day hiking trek to the Adirondack peaks from the Massawepie Scout camp, located in the town of Piercefield, NY. This will be the first time our Troop has sent a group of Scouts on an Adirondack trek. I am sure they will all have a great time!

Tim Schiefen, Committee Chairman
(585) 624-4420.

Mike Smith, Troop Treasurer
(585) 624-5486





Ionia United Methodist Church

Mary Twardokus

The Ionia United Methodist Church Sunday Worship is held at 10:30 AM (please note new time!) at 2120 Elton Road with a "Coffee/Fellowship Time" held after the service. A Nursery is provided for pre-school children during the worship service. Sunday School for pre-school through 6th grade will resume in September.

All are welcome to worship with us!

Youth Groups: The Ionia Church has three very active youth groups open to ALL area youth.

Tween Youth Group: (grades 3-5) contact Heather Kenyon (585) 657-8060.

Junior High Youth: (grades 6-8) contact Sue Milton (585) 657-7820 and Terri Graham.

Senior High Youth: (grades 9-12) contact Margaret Tiffany, (585) 624-4695.

All three groups are active in missions and fellowship activities, and are fully supervised by adult leaders.

On July 6th we welcomed our new pastor: Pastor Juls Foos! Because she will also be pastoring Canadice, our worship service will now begin at 10:30 AM. We look forward to many years with Pastor Juls.



Mark your calendars for our Fall Festival & Tractor Parade on Saturday, September 20th, at the Ionia Fire Hall Grounds. Our Tractor Parade, now in its 11th year, has tractors from all over Western NY and is one of the largest in Western NY! The parade begins at 1 PM, but you can look at the tractor & implement displays all day long.

Begin your day with a delicious Pancake Breakfast, served from 7:30-10 AM, then later a Chicken BBQ, beginning at 11:30 AM until we're sold out. Hot dogs/hamburgers/etc. are served all day.

All day long: Live Music, Food Tent, Cake/Dessert Wheel, Toy Tractor Display, Displays & Demonstrations, Kids' Games, Vendors, Door Prizes, Hayrides to the Wolk Observatory & much, much more. Come for a fun fall day in the country!



Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box collection and drop-off will be held in November. This will be our 11th year as a relay center! More information and drop-off dates/times will be in the next Community Focus.

Lima Legion Post 282



Frances M. Dalton

American Legion Post 282 (located at 2475 State Route 65 in the old West Bloomfield Union School) hosts an all-you-can-eat buffet including scrambled eggs, home fries, French toast, bacon, sausage, pastries, fruit cocktail, juice, and coffee. Take-outs are available. Cost is \$7.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children six to ten, and children five and under eat free. **Second Sunday** of every month (with the exception of November 11th, Veterans Day) from **7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** All are welcome!

MEETINGS:

Legion - 2nd Monday of each month @ 7:30 PM (excluding July & August)

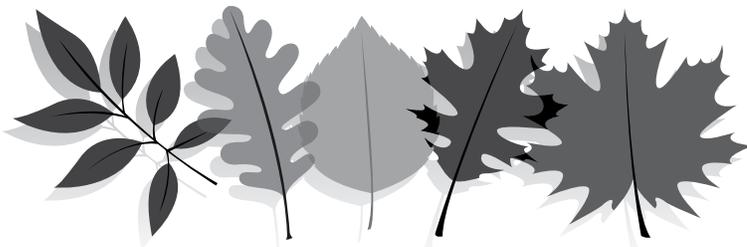
Auxiliary - 2nd Monday of each month @ 7:00 PM (excluding July & August)

Sons of American Legion - 1st Sunday of each month @ 12 Noon

Legion Riders - 1st Tuesday of each month @ 7:00 PM

If you or anyone you know would like to join the American Legion and/or the other organizations, stop in Tuesday - Friday after 3:00 p.m. or Saturday and Sunday after Noon.

Please check the sign out front for upcoming events!



News From The Bloomfield Public Library

Laurie Newell, Library Manager

This summer the Bloomfield Public Library is collaborating with the Bloomfield Elementary School for the program—“**Fizz Boom--- READ!**” Over 400 children from the Bloomfield school district are enthusiastically participating in the library reading program by logging in the number of minutes they read on their own webpage, through special summer reading software provided by New York State. As of mid-July the children have read almost 40,000 minutes since school got out in June. That is about 660 reading hours in less than 4 weeks! **Great job Bloomfield Readers!**

Several summer reading program events continue during the month of August:

- **Lego Day** on Tuesday, August 5th from 3:00 – 4:00 PM. Join your friends to create with our giant Lego collection.
- There will be a **Family Tie Dye** event on **Wednesday, August 13th at 7:00 PM**. Bring any small 100% cotton item and turn it into a work of art.
- **Wildlife Defenders** on **Thursday, August 7th at 3:00 PM**.
- The Friends of the Library are sponsoring an adult **Tote Bag Class** on **August 12th**. Learn how to create a very special tote bag using micron pens and markers. Class size is limited, so please register in advance.
- The Friends of the Library 2nd annual **Community Art Show** for adult artists runs from **August 19th through August 29th**, during regular library hours. There will be an opening reception on August 19th at 7:00 PM.

The **Library Book Club** will meet August 4th (Unbroken by Hillenbrand); Monday, September 8th and Monday, October 6th. All are welcome to join us at 2:30 PM for a book discussion.

The library will be hosting an **AARP Driver Safety Class** on **September 16th and 18th from 1:00 – 4:00 PM**. Fee is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members. Please call the library at (585) 657-6264 to register. Many thanks to West Bloomfield resident, Eleanor Trice, volunteer AARP instructor, for teaching these classes.



The fall series of story time programs for pre-school children will resume on Tuesday morning, September 23rd, and continue through the fall. Preschool story time for ages 3-5 will be from 10:30 to 11:00 AM.

Library Hours of Service:

Monday 2:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Tuesday 10:00 AM – Noon &
2:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Wednesday 2:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Thursday 2:30 PM – 8:30 PM
Friday 2:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Saturday 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Please visit the library soon and often. The internet is available on our five public computers, and WiFi is free! The meeting room may be reserved by non-profit organizations for programs

or for committee/board meetings. Audio books and E-books are available to download for free through OWWL2go.

Facebook Users – Check out our Facebook page, become a fan, find out the latest scoop on what’s happening around the Bloomfield Library! “Like” us to get more information or reminders of library events.



Editor's Note

We would love to hear from anyone in the West Bloomfield community who has town information, happenings, or historical information to share. Please don't hesitate to send your article submissions and **photos!** Submission dates are January 15th, April 15th, July 15th, and October 15th; and all submissions can be emailed to me at kjbarker@netacc.net.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Allens Hill Free Library News

Dorothy Graziano



Photo courtesy of waymarking.com

The Allens Hill Free Library is located at 3818 County Road 40. The Allens Hill Free Library Board of Trustees would like to thank all those who contributed to our fund drive. Our new roof is on - protecting all our materials from the heavy rains we have had!

The **Summer Reading Program** is in full swing. So far, Let's Make Noise and Potato Power programs have taken place. On July 23rd, there will be a **Rowdy Robots** program from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. Then on July 30th, it is the **Magical Adventure** program from 4:00 to 6:00 PM, followed at 6:30 PM by a family movie.

On **Saturday, August 16th, from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM**, we will be having our **annual Bake Sale, Book Sale, and Raffle** at West's Shurfine in Honeoye. There will be delicious baked goods, books galore, and raffle baskets including wine, gardening, and automotive. Come and help support our library!

The library is always looking for people to volunteer or be a Friend of the Library. Stop in and let us know if there are any books, videos, etc. that you would like the library to own.

Library hours are:

Tuesday 2:00 PM - 5:30 PM Wednesday 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Friday 2:30 PM - 8:00 PM Saturday 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Sunday hours will start in October.

Check our website, <http://allenshillfreelibrary.com/>, or call (585) 229-5636 for more information on our offerings!

Sharing Town News

As always, you are welcome at any Town Board meeting, held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 pm.

◆ HELP WANTED ◆ TOWN OF WEST BLOOMFIELD

Notice is hereby given that the West Bloomfield Town Board is accepting applications for the following positions:

- Zoning Board of Appeals Member and Alternate
- Planning Board Alternate
- Board of Assessment Review Member
- Boughton Park Representative

Interested parties should submit resume and or letter of interest to the West Bloomfield Town Board, PO Box 87, West Bloomfield, NY 14585

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