



# THE BYRON TOWNSHIP BUGLE



Volume 11, Issue 3

www.byron.mi-twp.org

October 2002

### Dates to Note:

October 14	Township Board Meeting
October 21	Planning Commission
October 28	Township Board Meeting
October 23	Zoning Board of Appeals
November 11	Township Board Meeting
November 18	Planning Commission
November 20	Township Board Meeting
November 27	Zoning Board of Appeals
December 9	Township Board Meeting
December 16	Planning Commission
December 23	Township Board Meeting
December	Zoning Board of Appeals

## BYRON TOWNSHIP LEAF COLLECTION

Byron Township will be providing a Leaf Collection Drop-Off Station to assist Township Residents in disposing of their leaves. The Township Board is encouraging use of this drop-off site as alternative to open burning.

The drop-off site will be located near the ball field at Bi-Centennial Park, 8085 Byron Center Avenue, SW because it is centrally located within the Township.

This service is provided for Byron Township Residents only and proof of residence may be required. The program is provided at no charge for residents.

Residents are encouraged to bring dry bagged leaves only. Township employees will be available to assist in placing the leaves in the compactor truck. Residents will take leaf bags back with them.

People dropping off bags of leaves at other

than designated times and bags of trash or other abuses of this program will jeopardize the program in the future.



This service will be available on five consecutive Saturdays, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. starting October 26, 2002. Leaves will not be accepted at any other times.

### Leaf Collection Dates and Time

Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

October 26

November 2

November 9

November 16

November 23

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## 2002 Byron Township Softball Champs

### Monday Men's Fast Pitch

Grand Rapids Office Supply

### Monday Co-ed Slow Pitch

Clark Connection  
Ace Tool

### Tuesday Men's Slow Pitch

Miedema Auction  
Sebright Products  
Algera Poured Walls

### Tuesday's Women's Slow Pitch

Dentures in a Day

### Wednesday Women's Fast Pitch

Still Bulldogs

### Wednesday Men's Slow Pitch

Bulls  
Roussey's Gang  
Falcon Palet Management

### Thursday Co-ed Slow Pitch

Byron Center Methodist  
Grace Bible Fellowship  
Ralph's Tire

### Thursday Men's Slow Pitch

Veldheer Insulation  
Pines Golf Course

## Goodbye, Joyce, we hate to see you go!

It is with deep regret that the Township Board accepted the resignation of Township Trustee, Joyce Vander Haar. Joyce has served Byron Township for the last 19 years as Treasurer and then Trustee.

When Joyce started with Byron Township in 1983, she was in charge of the Treasurer's Office and the Water and Sewer Department. She headed the Water and Sewer De-

partment until 1991, when the Township hired a Water and Sewer administrator.

Joyce's knowledge and experience will be missed on the Township Board. The Township Board will appoint a new Trustee to replace Joyce in October. That new member will serve until the 2004 election.

Good Luck Joyce, we will miss you!

## HOLIDAY SAFETY

### *General Holiday Safety Tips*

- All holiday decorations should be non-combustible or flame-retardant and not placed near heat or electrical sources.
- Keep candles away from flammable materials like curtains, plants, and Christmas Trees—place candles where they can't be blown over.
- Don't forget to change you smoke detector batteries when you set your clocks back in the fall.
- Never use an oven or range as a supplemental heating device. It can be a source of potential toxic fumes.
- Never store gasoline or propane in the basement.
- If there is a fire hydrant near your home please keep the hydrant clear of snow so in the event it is needed, it can be locate.



### Halloween

**Cars not candy should be Parents' primary safety concern on Halloween. To help make your child's Halloween safe, Byron Township would like to recommend the following safety precautions:**

- Children under the age of 12 should have adult supervision.
- Decorated costumes and bags with reflective tape
- Give trick-or-treaters flashlights.
- Be sure your children dress in flame retardant costumes
- Keep candles, pumpkins with candles, matches and lighters out of the reach of children.



### Christmas

- Keep Christmas tree needles moist by replenishing the water supply daily. Dryness is the biggest fire safety hazard. Do not place your tree close to a heat source, including a fireplace or heat vent. The heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks.
- Check your indoor and outdoor Christmas lights each year before you use them. If there are frayed cords, exposed wires or broken sockets, replace or repair them before using. Unplug your lights when you leave your home or before going to bed.
- Do not put wrapping paler in a fireplace or stove, it can throw off dangerous sparks.
- NEVER LEAVE CANDLES AND CHILDREN UN-ATTENDED.

We all like to see a winding drive with trees on both sides, but have you ever thought if an emergency vehicle would have access to your home. Byron Township emergency clearance require 14 feet of height and 8 feet of width to safely reach your dwelling.

Also, please make sure you have an address on your home that is visible from the street. This will help emergency vehicles find your home and save precious time.

**Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season  
from the Byron Township and Cutlerville  
Fire Departments.**

## THE CLERK'S CORNER

### By Joel Hondorp

#### Primary Election 2002

Precinct	Voters	Voted	Percent
1	2435	633	26%
2	1145	229	20%
3	1562	203	13%
4	1627	488	30%
5	1946	545	28%
6	1485	401	27%
7	857	300	35%
8	1482	430	29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12539</b>	<b>3229</b>	<b>27%</b>

Full Primary Election results can be viewed at:  
[www.byron.mi-twp.org](http://www.byron.mi-twp.org).

#### 2002 Election Dates

#### Tuesday, November 5

Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

If you would like an application for an absentee ballot, please mail a request to the Byron Township Clerk's Office at 8085 Byron Center Avenue, Byron Center, MI 49315 or call 878-9104.

#### Precinct Polling Locations

Precinct 1  
 PATHWAY MINISTRIES  
 8350 BYRON CENTER  
 AVENUE  
 BYRON CENTER, MI 49315

Precinct 2  
 CUTLERVILLE FIRE STATION  
 11 - 68TH ST  
 GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49548

Precinct 3  
 CUTLERVILLE CHR. SCHOOL  
 67 68TH ST  
 GRAND RAPIDS, MI 49548

Precinct 4  
 BYRON TWP OFFICE  
 8085 BYRON CENTER AVE  
 BYRON CENTER, MI 49315

Precinct 5  
 NICKELS INT. SCHOOL  
 8542 BYRON CENTER AVE  
 BYRON CENTER, MI 49315

Precinct 6  
 BANNER OF CHRIST  
 CHURCH  
 1111 - 68TH ST  
 BYRON CENTER, MI 49315

Precinct 7  
 BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH  
 8283 PFEIFFER FARMS DR.  
 BYRON CENTER, MI 49315

Precinct 8  
 FIRST CUTLERVILLE CRC  
 1425 68TH ST  
 BYRON CENTER, MI 49315

## TREASURER'S FORUM

### By Carol Houseman

Summer is past and fall has begun. I hope you and your family were able to relax and enjoy the beautiful season together.

The Treasurer's Office is little quieter these days, since the Summer Tax Cycle was over on September 16. Hopefully, you remembered to pay your property taxes. If you did forget, I can take payments until February 28, 2003. Interest of 1% will be added the first of each month on the unpaid balance. If you are in doubt if your taxes were paid, please call my office at 878-3196.

Winter taxes will be in the mail the first week of December. They are due on February 14, 2003. If you wish to use the deduction for your 2002 income taxes, the payments must be in by December 30th.

If you have questions or just want to say hi, please stop in. My door is always open.

## Christmas Store

This year the Christmas Store sponsored by Heritage CRC and Pathway Ministries will be held on December 14, 2002. This store is for struggling families in the area to help ease some of the financial stress unique to this holiday. At the store, parents may choose their own gifts for their children and then purchase the gift for approximately 25% of retail price. This gives them the dignity of providing for their kids themselves, as well as ensuring that the children get what they want and need.

If you or someone you know could benefit from this store, applications will be available at Byron Community Ministries from October 1 to November 8, 2002.

If you are willing to donate gifts to the Christmas Store, please check the lobby of Pathway Ministries after November 17. A tree with tags will be set up, and you can take a tag listing the age and sex of a child whose parents will be shopping at the store. Gifts must be returned by December 11 to Pathway Ministries.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Hofstra at 531-3225.



Byron Township  
8085 Byron Center Avenue  
Byron Center, MI 49315  
Phone: 616-878-9066  
Fax: 616-878-3980  
Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m.  
[www.byron.mi-twp.org](http://www.byron.mi-twp.org)

**Byron Township Phone List**

Receptionist	616-878-9066
Supervisor	616-878-1222
Clerk	616-878-9104
Treasurer	616-878-3196
Inspections	616-878-9155
Assessor	616-878-6033
Water and Sewer	616-878-0660
Recreation	616-878-1998

*Byron Township  
Holiday Hours*

*Days Closed*

*Thanksgiving  
Day after Thanksgiving  
Christmas Eve (Noon to 5)  
Christmas  
New Years Eve (Noon to 5)  
New Years Day*

*We will be open 8:00 to Noon  
on New Years Eve.*

**Byron Township**

**8085 Byron Center Ave., SW**

**Byron Center, MI 49315**

*Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour - October 27, 2002*