



# THE BYRON TOWNSHIP BUGLE



Volume 11 Issue 2

July, 2002

### Dates to Note:

July 8	Township Board Meeting
July 15	Planning Commission
July 22	Township Board Meeting
July 24	Board of Appeals
August 6	Primary Election
August 12	Township Board Meeting
August 19	Planning Commission
August 21	Board of Appeals
August 26	Township Board Meeting
September 9	Township Board Meeting
September 16	<b>Summer Taxes Due</b>
September 16	Planning Commission
September 23	Township Board Meeting
September 18	Board of Appeals

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## INTRODUCING THE BYRON TOWNSHIP E-BUGLE

Once a quarter I have the privilege of producing the Byron Bugle, which is also available online at [www.byron.mi-twp.org/byron\\_bugle.htm](http://www.byron.mi-twp.org/byron_bugle.htm). The information contained within the Byron Bugle alerts Township residents of upcoming meetings, township rules and policies, as well as the winners of various Recreation Department Leagues and area road construction.

I am excited to announce that Byron Township, in addition to the quarterly

Byron Bugle, will now be offering a more frequent The Byron Township E-Bugle. We will be updating residents with Road Construction updates and Township happenings and matters of interest.

To receive the E-Bugle, just send your email address to Clerk Joel Hondorp at:

[jhondorp@byron.mi-twp.org](mailto:jhondorp@byron.mi-twp.org)

## STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP

It is hard to believe we are already half way through 2002. It has been exciting year in Byron Township. Especially in the area of road construction. It has been a difficult summer to maneuver around Byron Township with the M-6 project, the widening of 131, the widening of 68th Street between 131 and Division, water and sewer projects on 72nd Street, and the paving of Kenowa Avenue near 100th Street. After this year it will be easier to travel around Byron Township. Please be patient with the construction workers and pay attention to speed limits and detours.

Byron Township along with several other Townships continues to be in the center of the West Michigan area experiencing a more than average population growth. About 3% a year. Our population in the 2000 census was 17,553 people. With that increase over the last two years, our population is nearing 19,000 people.

Many factors contribute to this kind of growth. First, it that we are blessed with excellent educational opportunities. We are surrounded by exemplary Public and Chris-

tian schools plus we are have several higher education opportunities near by.

Second, is the quality of life issue. Suburban living affords an opportunity for a little more space and perhaps more of a sense of community.

The Byron Township Board, its Boards, Commissions, and Advisory Committees continue to strive to manage our growing community.

Byron Township continues to operate on 2.22 mills. This millage rate has remained consistent since 1986. In the past 16 years we have built a Fire Station, put an addition to the Township Hall, purchase new fire trucks without borrowing money or going to the taxpayers for a millage request. We are doing the same with our current WhistleStop Park on 76th Street and the building of a new Library starting this year.

Your elected officials, commissioners, and staff stand ready to answer any question you may have and listen to any of your concerns.



## BYRON TOWNSHIP FESTIVAL 2002

### July 26, 27, 28



#### Thursday, July 25

9:00 a.m. Byron Community Ministries Flea Market

#### Friday, July 26

9:00 a.m. Byron Community Ministries Flea Market  
 4:00 p.m. Craft Show  
 5:00 p.m. Chicken Bar-B-Q (Carlisle Methodist Church)

#### Saturday, July 27

7:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast (Byron Methodist Church)  
 8:00 a.m. Softball Tournament  
 8:00 a.m. Rec Sports 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament  
 9:00 a.m. Byron Community Ministries Flea Market  
 9:00 a.m.  
 9:30 a.m. Parade Line up  
 10:00 a.m. Parade  
 11:00 a.m. Kids Games – Craft Show – Concessions  
 12:00 p.m. Chicken Bar-B-Q (Carlisle Methodist Church)  
 1:00 p.m. Inflatable Rides  
 1:00 p.m. Byron Community Band  
 7:00 p.m. Byron Festival Concert  
 featuring the Williams Family and Wes Harrison  
 Dusk **Fireworks**  
 (sponsored by BCSB, Buist, Byron Township,  
 Lions Club and Byron Center Grange)

#### Sunday, July 28

7:30 p.m. Byron Center Praise Fest  
 Van Singel Fine Art Center

*Most festival events will be held at the Festival grounds, located behind  
 Nickels Intermediate School, 8542 Byron Center Avenue.*

*For Festival Information, please call Ken Koster at 878-1998  
 or Joel Hondorp at 878-9104*



# THE CLERK'S CORNER

## By Joel Hondorp

### Election 2002



It is once again an even numbered year and Clerk's Office is busily preparing for the 2002 elections. Due to the 2000 census, our U.S. Congress, State Senate, State House and County Commissioner Districts have changed and been renumbered. You will be receiving a new voter registration card that will include these new district numbers and information containing your voting precinct.

### 2002 Election Dates

**Tuesday, August 6**  
**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.

### 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

Very often property owners have concerns over the amount of their tax bill and perhaps do not realize where their taxes go.

Below is a tax chart for a home that has a homestead exemption and is valued at \$120,000 with a taxable value of \$60,000. It will show the taxing authority, millage rate and annual tax dollars.

<u>Taxing Authority</u>	<u>Millage</u>	<u>Dollars</u>
GR Community College	1.8	\$108.000
Kent Intermediate Schools	3.8192	\$229.152
Byron Center Public Schools	7.9930	\$479.580
State Education Tax	6.0000	\$360.000
Kent County*	5.323	\$319.38
Kent District Library*	.8787	\$52.722
Byron Township Law	.6000	\$36.000
Byron Township Fire	.9100	\$54.600
Byron Township Allocated	.7100	\$42.600
<b>Total</b>	<b>28.0339</b>	<b>\$1,682.0344</b>

One mil equals one dollar per thousand of taxable value of your property. In the above example 28.0249 mills equates to 28.0249 X 60 representing the taxable value in thousands and the taxes are \$1,681.494 annually.

Non homestead properties, such as Industrial and Commercial properties, rental property and a second residence are not considered your homestead are assessed 18 mills more than properties with a homestead exemption. That additional tax goes to support education.

In 1993 prior to the implementation of proposal A, the millage rate was 52.891 mills. Today it is 27.899. That's 24.992 mills lower than 1993. Proposal A also limits annual property tax increases to the rate of inflation or 5% whichever is less.

While the process is confusing, I hope it answers some of your questions.



Byron Township  
8085 Byron Center Avenue  
Byron Center, MI 49315  
Phone: 616-878-9066  
Fax: 616-878-3980  
[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

# Goodbye Von!

June 28th was the last day of work for Von Chenier, the Byron Township Water and Sewer Administrator. She has been with Byron Township since 1991 and is looking forward to spending more time with her grandchildren. Under her supervision, the Water and Sewer system has increased immensely. Julie Cremeans take over as Administrator. Good Luck Von and Happy Retirement!

**Byron Township**

**8085 Byron Center Ave., SW**

**Byron Center, MI 49315**