

MAPLE RIDGE TOWNSHIP-ROCK, MI

Township Updates, Summer 2016

The Rock Memorial Park is busy with baseball games and family outings. The tennis court has been redone and many of our young are using the basketball hoops daily. The tennis net is available with a newer one in the works. The parking lot has been resurfaced and there are now designated Handicapped Parking areas in the parking lot and in front of the tennis court. The outhouse is being used regularly. We ask that all using the outhouse to please pitch in and keep it clean and please do not use the toilet for garbage. There are garbage cans available. If there are any issues; such as no toilet paper, extreme dirt, etc. please pick up the phone and leave a message at the office (356-6311) so that the matter can be taken care of as quick as possible.

Concerts: The “West Side Park” (the lot across the tracks just before the Credit Union) will be the site once again, for 6 weeks of concerts and one more week with a “Street Dance”. Through a grant from the **Community Foundation of Delta County**, funds from a spaghetti feed and the 150th committee we are able to provide this year’s concert series. It is our goal to continue with the concerts for as many years as possible, therefore we will continue to gather funds to do so through fundraising, collecting donations and selling refreshments at the concerts.

The concert dates and groups are listed at the end of this newsletter. Be sure to share this information with neighbors and friends.

The “West Side Park” is also getting some work done this year. With a grant of \$3000 from **CUPPAD’s Prosperous Places Mini- Grant** and matching funds from the Township, parking areas will be installed, the gazebo will be moved to a central location with a cement foundation installed, a walkway from the gazebo to a “Patio with benches” and then pathways to each parking area are also in the plans.

A split rail fence will be installed at the southern lot line and trees, bushes, perennials, etc. are also planned around the gazebo and along the pathways. Donations are being sought to help with the expenses and we are also looking for donations of flowers, bushes, and “muscle power” to complete the work. Every hour that is donated toward the work will count toward our grant commitment, even the plants will count. Please contact Judy to say how you can help (356-6003 or 356-6311).

Additional fencing at the Rock Cemetery will be installed this summer. The south end of the cemetery (bordering the county road) will be done and we will begin to install fencing along the east side of the cemetery for approximately 400 feet. Again, help is needed to install the fence.

The Recreation Plan is in the process of being updated. As part of the process a survey must be done. When you see the survey at the center, the credit union and area businesses, please take one, fill it out and return it. Public input is very important as we update the recreation plan.

Elections: This year is the year of elections. There were four elections on the schedule; two down with two remaining elections to go; the primary in August and the general in November. The August primary ballot has a proposal asking for one mill for Road Millage to be used exclusively for Road Improvements in Maple Ridge Township. With your vote you will be advising the Board how you feel about Road improvements. The November general election is a Presidential election which means it is also time to vote for Township officials. Each of the present township board members, Sue Sicotte, Clerk, Janet Pattan, Trustee, Bill Toyra, Trustee, Barb Nummilien, Treasurer and Judy Trudell, Supervisor are running for re-election with David Beauchamp and Sandra Beauchamp running in opposition of Janet Pattan and Bill Toyra for the two trustee positions.

Labor Day 2016: The Lions Club will once again sponsor the parade and festivities for Labor Day here in Rock the Saturday before Labor Day as usual. Last year's Labor Day was a huge success and we hope to see that again this year. If you wish to be a parade entry and/or help with the festivities contact a Lions Member.

Maple Ridge Township has a **new assessor**. Jamie (Maki) Lippens was hired by the board on June 1st replacing Daina Norden who resigned to take a position with the State Tax Commission. We wish Daina well in her new position and welcome Jamie and ask that all are patient with this transition. Jamie is a home town girl. She has three children, all girls; Jada, Jacinda and Josie, ranging from the ages of 18 to 9 and they attend Gladstone Schools.

Jamie's contact information is:
Phone: 1-906-280-3061
E-mail: jlassessing@gmail.com

For tax assessment information, contact the assessor, Jamie Lippens. For questions regarding the payment of your taxes contact the treasurer, Barb Nummilien, 356-6119. If you have any problems contacting either of them, call the office (356-6311) and Judy will help you make contact. If there is no answer, leave a message.

This summer the groundskeeping within our Township is being taken care of by Bill Toyra, Sr. and Gerald Luedtke. Many hours have been spent on the grounds within the township and the cemeteries. We are pleased with their work and if you are, let them know, when you see them, what a great job they are doing!

The Flowers at both ends of town and in the flower boxes east and west have been put in by Kathy Wojda. Another super job and again, let Kathy know how you appreciate her efforts.

We are looking for someone to clean at the Community Center once a week/four hours at \$8.50 an hour. Are you interested? Call Judy (356-6311) and discuss the position.

2016 CONCERT SERIES AT THE GAZEBO IN ROCK

July 6 th	Jonathan Rundman
July 13 th	Dan Cartwright & Friends
July 20 th	Just the Two of Us – Caelee Rose
July 27 th	Lil Bit O Outlaw - The Fosters
Aug. 3 rd	Corey, Brendan, Chasey Williams
Aug. 10 th	Generations Band
Aug. 17 th	Community Street Dance

**Bring your own lawn chairs
and
enjoy the music
Refreshments Available**

SPONSORS:

Delta County Community Foundation, Rock 150th Committee, Maple Ridge Township, Rock Sr. Center, Generous donations from Rock Community. Special thanks to all the volunteers who made this happen.

July Events in our area:

July 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2016 (4 days)
Rock Bible Chapel's Vacation Bible School
10:00 a.m. to Noon for ages Kdg. and older
Games, snacks, bible stories, crafts and songs
Questions? Contact Kathy Lepisto at 356-6346

Sunday, July 17, 2016
St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Perkins
59th Annual Parish Picnic & Raffle
Noon until 4:30 p.m. on the Parish Grounds
Dinner, Music, Games, Raffle Drawing at 4:00 p.m.
Questions? Call the Parish Office at 359-4701

July 18th through July 22, 2016 (5 days)
Faith Lutheran Church's Vacation Bible School
"Barnyard Roundup" is the theme -- 9:00 a.m. to Noon



Ages: 4 years through 6th grade
No cost and all are welcome
Questions? Contact Priscilla B. at 356-6872

Reminder: Saturday, September 3, 2016
Rock Labor Day Festivities
Parade starts at 11:00 a.m. followed by
Festivities on the Lions Club grounds
Food, Music, games, raffles
and
Senior Citizens Rummage Sale at the
Township Community (Senior) Center
Noon until 5:00 p.m.