



Fruitland Township
White River Light Station Museum

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E-News

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April 15, 2019

Township Board
Marcia Jeske, Supervisor
Karolyn Rillema, Clerk
Melissa M. Beegle,
Treasurer
Trustees
Mary Ann Bard
Manny Cisneros
Mike Holman
Terrie Hampel

NESTROM PARK DISC GOLF COURSE

The Parks and Recreation Commission voted at their March meeting to close the Disc Golf Course. This is a seasonal closing due to the risks of Oak Wilt. If you have questions or comments relative to the closure, please send an e-mail to prcommission@fruitlandtwp.org.

WHITE LAKE ASSOCIATION **LIFE JACKET LOANER STATION**

A second station with forty-eight (48) life jackets on loan will soon be available to boaters in the White Lake area. A partnership of the White Lake Association and the Sea Tow Foundation is establishing the life jacket loaner station at the Scenic Drive Boat Launch and hope to have it installed in mid – late May. The station will have life jackets that boaters in the area can borrow for free. Sizes of the jackets will range from infant to adult extra-large. This partnership is the 2nd in West Michigan with the first installed in Montague last summer.

If you care about White Lake and would like to get involved in maintaining a healthy lake for generations to come, visit their website at www.whitelakeassociation.org for membership information.

Thank you, White Lake Association, for all that you do!

MAY ELECTION

REMINDER: May 7, 2019 Special Election

Due to the passage of the statewide ballot proposal 18-3 last November, all eligible and registered voters in Michigan may now request an absent voter ballot without providing a reason. Cast your vote from the convenience of your own home. Contact the Clerk's office to obtain an absentee voter application and ballot. The Clerk's office will be open on Saturday, May 4th and Sunday, May 5th from 8:00 a.m. to noon to issue absentee ballots.

Check your voter registration at: www.michigan.gov/vote.

ASSESSING NEWS

The Michigan Department of Treasury is reminding Michiganders that a Principal Residence Exemption – known as a PRE – does not expire.

Inaccurate posts being shared on social media are claiming that Michigan taxpayers will experience a surge in property taxes due to their PRE expiring after 25 years. In return, the State Treasury Department and local assessors are experiencing a surge in inquiries from residents who are trying to verify this information or submit unneeded paperwork.

A PRE exempts a residence from the tax levied by a local school district for school operating purposes up to 18 mills. To qualify for a PRE, a person must be a Michigan resident who owns and occupies the property as a principal residence.

For more information about property taxes, go to www.michigan.gov/propertytax.

SPRING FLOODING

The Office of the Drain Commissioner has put out a newsletter discussing spring flooding issues. They often receive calls from people with water in their basements. Unfortunately, many of them are outside a formal drainage district, so this office is unable to provide immediate assistance. Even so, because groundwater can span over miles, there is only so much that can be done to address it seeping into basements. Visit their website to find information that may be helpful if you are experiencing a wet basement: www.co.muskegon.mi.us/492/Drain-Commissioner.

SCENIC DRIVE DOCK

We have been advised that the dock at the end of Scenic Drive may be installed by the end of next week.

FRIENDS OF THE FRUITLAND TRAILS

The Friends of the Fruitland Trails has put the welcome mat to bring your talents, skills and efforts, at all levels to the table! Join them at the Township Hall on May 14th to work out details and on May 15th, from 5 – 9 p.m. at the Northside Pub for a fundraising dinner. Visit the Fruitlandtrails Facebook page to learn more.

PRO MED NEWS

The President of Pro Med attended our last work session with information about call counts and response information in 2018. Upon his conclusion, he noted a Pro-Med Plus membership program designed to help cover the costs of an ambulance transport. This program is designed to cover the applicant, spouse, and minor children living in the same residence. Pro-Med Plus members have no out-of-pocket costs for a medically necessary ambulance service. You can download and print their pamphlet/application by going to <https://www.promed.org/membership/>.

MUSKEGON COUNTY RECYCLING EVENTS

The dates for the Muskegon County Recycling events are official: **Saturday, April 27, 2019 and October 19, 2019**. These are free to County Residents only and are held at 1350 E. Keating Ave. in Muskegon. Recycling includes Scrap Tires, Hazardous Waste, Electronics and Sensitive Document Shredding. Please visit their website at www.muskegoncounty.net/777 for important details.

Also recently announced are the tire Collection Events for 2019. These can also be found at the above website or by calling 231-724-6002.

MEETING TIME CHANGES FOR PLANNING COMMISSION TO 6:00 P.M. AND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO 5:30 P.M.

Best,

Marcia Jeske, Supervisor