

# GARFIELD TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2024

466 WEST SHARON ROAD, FIFE LAKE, MICHIGAN 49633 (231) 369-2483

## Free Property Fraud Alert

Taxpayers are encouraged to sign up for free alerts that will notify them of ANY documents recorded with their name match in Kalkaska's land match records. If a document is recorded, the taxpayer will be contacted by phone, text or email (your choice) within 48 hours. Taxpayer contact information is not shared with any entities; it's strictly used for notification purposes. Sign Up at: [www.propertyfraudalert.com](http://www.propertyfraudalert.com). Contact JoAnn DeGraaf at Register of Deeds Office with questions at: 258-3315.

## Pioneer Family Recognized



This years Pioneer Family is the Clinton and Ada Hall Family who moved to the Sharon Area of Garfield Township at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Their daughter Kay Sieting, who lives in Sharon, accepted the Proclamation with her family from Mary Lou Stuck, Historical Society Chairperson.

## Spring Cleanup; Save Date

As always, this occurs over the Memorial Day Weekend. The 2025 cleanup will be 7AM-Noon Saturday May 24th at the Hatley Road Annex Property. Cleanup Rules are posted on the Garfield Township Website. Multiple trips are authorized within prescribed times. Park & Rec Bottle Drive will occur at the same time and location. direction signs will be posted at surrounding intersections. Volunteers needed/welcomed.

Supervisor Todd Jones

Township Officials  
 Treasurer Terri Sibole  
 Trustees Lisa Nason and Eric Rohn  
 Website: [www.garfieldtwsp.com](http://www.garfieldtwsp.com)

## New Zoning Administrator



Garfield Township's ZA Dave Martin

## New Officials for 2025-2028

Gathered at the Town Hall for November's Regular Board Meeting. Pictured (L-R)

Clerk Ken Nason, Trustee Lisa Nason, County Commissioner Dave Persons, Treasurer Teri Sibole, Supervisor Todd Jones and Trustee Eric Rohn



## Branch Library Open

This wonderful addition is located at the Town Hall (466 West Sharon Road) and enables patrons to pick up/return library materials, browse catalog, get tech help and access free high-speed internet conveniently close to home. They are open every Monday from 9AM to 6PM. This is a welcoming place where a knowledgeable team is waiting to assist you with a smile.

Clerk Kenneth Nason

## **KMHC Future is Bright**

During the November 5<sup>th</sup> Election, Kalkaska County voters overwhelmingly approved a ballot initiative that enables the KMHC to become a 501(c)(3) Not-for Profit Hospital. This is a major achievement, and the process to transition from a governmental entity will take up to a year to accomplish. There are many advantages to be realized once the process is completed; all focused on keeping the hospital viable, independent and able to provide the best care possible, close to home. One other notable change is a lower tax rate for property owners. It's All Good!

## **Traffic Study Results**

After a very serious speed related rollover traffic crash last summer, Road Commission Traffic Studies were conducted in two areas; Fletcher and Sharon. During the week-long periods, here are the highlights:

**Fletcher.** 8042 vehicles with an 88% enforceable violation rate; the fastest vehicle was 119 MPH in a 55 MPH Zone

**Sharon.** 12111 vehicles with an 78% enforceable violation rate; the fastest vehicle was 92 MPH in a 55 MPH Zone.

Obviously, both these areas will be given special attention; especially during the Winter Driving Season. Please Slow Down!

## **DNR Access Improvements**



We Thank the DNR for their continuous investment in our Community Recreation Resources at Smithville Canoe Launch Site.



## **Park to Dedicate New Trail**

Veterans Memorial Park (VMP) currently has three (3) walking paths; the paved Memorial Pathway, the Woodland Trail and the Meadow Walk. With the cooperation from our Branch Library Staff, the Parks Board will develop the Story Book Trail which will encourage children reading.

## **USMC 249<sup>TH</sup> Birthday**



Area Marines gathered to celebrate their common bond. At 99 years young, area resident Art Van Eck, a WWII Marine aviator, was the oldest Marine present and had the honor of cutting the birthday cake.

## **Welcome to the Holidays**

TaffelTown Lodge will be hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Christmas at the Lodge, Saturday November 30<sup>th</sup> from 11AM to 5PM. Local Artisans, crafters and bakers will have their wares on display. Enjoy a hearty meal and do some early shopping at one Festive Place.