

BLAIR TOWNSHIP TWITTER

WINTER 2016

BLAIR LIBRARY NEWS

New this year is our book storage building on township property where we will have Saturday book sales (weather permitting).

We are pleased to have Patrick Biegler as our Chairperson for the committee. Much appreciation goes out to Karen Giddis for her leadership the past few years and continued dedication to see a branch library in Blair Township. The newest addition to the committee is Chris Christensen; she brings enthusiasm and a "let 's get 'er done" attitude.

Two things have to happen for this branch library to become a reality: 1. enough money raised to buy or build a building; 2. a commitment from Traverse Area District Library to op-

erate our library. We, as twp. Tax-payers, pay just under \$300,000 each year to keep six libraries in Grand Traverse County operating. Wouldn 't it be a great educational and social addition to our community and bring some of our money back home?

The Blair Library Committee welcomes our new Supervisor, Treasurer and Trustees. We look forward to working with each of you. At the same time, we give a big thank-you to Pat Pahl, Brenda DeKuiper, Dan DeVaun and Mike Rademaker for your encouragement, direction and high expectations for Blair Township.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Gloria VanHoose, Secretary
231-645-5431

Patrick Biegler, Chairman
302-367-2201



PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

Greetings!

Thank you to everyone who participated in the creation of the Blair Township Master Plan. As the Township continues to grow planning for future development is important to its vitality and character.

Zoning Board of Appeals meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, as needed, at 6:00 p.m. Planning Commission meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. All residents, property owners, and business owners are encouraged to attend - public partici-

pation is vital to the planning process. Please visit www.blairtownship.org for more information.

If you have any planning or zoning related questions please contact our office by calling 231-276-9263 Ext 105 or email zoning@blairtownship.org.

I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable winter.

Lindsey Wolf, Planning & Zoning Administrator

"I am not a product of my circumstances. I am a product of my decisions."

STEPHEN COVEY



KeepInspiring.me

WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT

Winter is upon us and the water department would like to take this opportunity to remind you of some important winterizing tips:

Remember to wrap your pipes, meter and outside spigots to prevent pipes from freezing and bursting; *The annual increase for water and sewer rates will take effect for the billing period beginning January 1st.* This will also affect the tiered rate charges—which is billed at the current rate for the first 7,500 gallons, then the rate doubles for every 1,000 gallons over. Please check our website for these rates after the new year, www.blairtownship.org.

Have a wonderful holiday season!

Lisa, Patrick, Jack & Robert

TREASURER'S OFFICE

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Safe New Year!

BE THE
REASON
SOMEONE
SMILES
TODAY!

EMS DEPARTMENT

Hello Everyone,

You may have seen in our Public Service Message video *Help Us, Help You*, that one of the most important things you can do to help us provide care to you or your loved ones in their time of need is to keep your driveway and walkways clear. For many of us, this task is performed manually.

Exercise is always a great idea right? In

most cases, this statement is true; however, overexertion can be the cause of medical conditions if we are not conditioned to work in that capacity. Individuals with medical history such as heart, lung, or other vascular conditions who are not physically conditioned to strenuous activity may in fact precipitate an event, resulting in a visit from your friendly neighborhood paramedics.

In all seriousness, if you

have not already done so, start preparing yourself for this extra exertion. Also, ensure your loved ones and neighbors whom might need help have someone to help with this task. The wetter the snow, the heavier it is, and this truly can be a killer for the unconditioned.

Ed Draper

EMS Medical Director

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Candles are a timeless holiday tradition and although they may be beautiful to look at, they are the cause of many home fires and deaths. **FACT:** December is the peak time of year for home candle fires. If you choose to burn candles, please remember these important safety tips. Place

your candles on a sturdy, level and uncluttered surface. Don't let your candle burn all the way down. Put it out before it gets too close to the base or container. Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that can burn. Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home. Lastly,

NEVER leave your candle unattended or lit while sleeping. Please have a warm and safe winter season!

Jim Carroll, Fire Chief

Matt Tallman, Captain

BLAIR TOWNSHIP

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ASSESSING DEPARTMENT

Aaron Plowman, Nancy Blanke, and I would like to thank you for your co-operation during our summer field work reviews. Our annual review includes properties where Land Use Permits have been recently issued, properties that have sold recently, and approximately 20% of the remaining properties in the Township. We will not ask to enter your home, but will take measurements from the outside and update our pictures. Please contact our office if you have concerns.

JUST A REMINDER....our Assessing data, Treasurer's tax collection, and Sewer and Water billing and

payment information is available on the web at no charge and is updated daily! Please visit our website at blairtownship.org. and look for the BS&A Logo. There are links to the information from all three pages on the site *BS & A Software*

If you have questions or updated information please contact our office by calling 231.276.9263 Ext 107 or email to assessor@blairtownship.org.

Have a safe winter.

Wendy Witkop, Township Assessor