Oakland Township Sentinel

Monthly Report – February 1, 2019

Facts About Charter Township of Oakland

Robert A. Yager – Editor Michigan Non-profit #802138464 www.oaklandtownshipsentinel.com yagerra@comcast.net

Table of Contents

Subject	Page	Subject	Page
Board of Trustees	2	Planning Commission	27
Budget/Expenses/Investments	2	Roads	28
Clerk's Department	2	Safety	31
Developments	2	Schools	34
Fire Department	3	Sewers, sanitary	36
Library Board	9	Sheriff's Department	37
Millrace	10	Township Manager	39
Ordinances and Enforcement	10	Zoning Board of Appeals	39
Parks	11		
Bear Creek Nature Park	13		
Cranberry Lake Park	14		
Draper Twin Lake Park	14		
Lost Lake Nature Park	15		
Marshview Park	16		
Paint Creek Junction Park	16		
Paint Creek Trailway	17		
Watershed Ridge Park	17		
Land Preservation	18		
Recreation	26		

Board of Trustees

Two meetings held Jan. 8 and 22.

Budget/Expenses/Investments

Jan. 30 Budget meeting was cancelled due to weather.

Clerk's Department

2018 FOIA Activity

In 2018, Deputy Clerk Cari Neubeck processed 106 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. 52 were for Oakland Township Sentinel.

Developments

Jensam - Clarkston Rd. - Nothing New

There was no new information this month. I suspect that the long Board closed sessions 1-22-18 dealt with the status of the court-facilitated negotiations.

Fire Department

Resident Credits OTFD Paramedics with Saving His Life

In this heavily redacted (privacy and HIPPA concerns) email on the next page, obtained via FOIA #1904, the resident explains. We will attempt to get more details next month:

- who was involved?;
- what is their level of training and experience?;
- how fast were they able to respond?;
- how many total including POC responded?;
- was the ALS ambulance staffed with 2?

Next month would also be a good time for an overall explanation of our ALS ambulance service — much more than a ride to the hospital, and in my view, well worth our tax dollars to fully support it with the best possible paramedics, training, equipment and leadership.

If you are the resident who wrote this email; please contact me at 248-495-8563 to help fill in the blanks.

Bob Yager - Editor

From: Date: January 21, 2019 at 8:36:48 PM EST To: <ialianglois@oaklandtownship.org>, <alianglois@oaklandtownship.org>, <alianalis@oaklandtownship.org>, analis@oaklandtownship.org>, analis@oak</alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianalis@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></alianglois@oaklandtownship.org></ialianglois@oaklandtownship.org>
Good evening. I would to thank you for the support and dedication that you provide to the Oakland Township Fire Department. I had a firsthand experience with these exceptional people last weekend and I am certain that they played a major role in me surviving this emergency.
Saturday night, January 12th, a few minutes before midnight My wife quickly determined that the situation was critical and called 911. The paramedics from Oakland Township Station 2 arrived a few minutes later, as we live in They immediately went into action and with the latest technology that the leaders of our community had the foresight and commitment to invest in. This enabled them to quickly diagnose that and transmit these results to the hospital. I was then transported to where the emergency room doctors had already reviewed had been alerted. All of these details saved valuable time at a very critical moment in my life. From the time that I entered the emergency room, was in place in 24 minutes. In speaking with the team over the past week, it is their goal to have the They thought my procedure may have been a record and attributed much of this success to the Oakland Township Fire Department. Multiple doctors and nurses stated that the paramedic's work was "textbook" and could not have been better. The team from Station 2 was very professional, technically trained at the highest level and compassionate to me and my wife. I can't thank them enough for all they did for us. I truly believe they saved my life.
I am a husband and a father and our family is forever indebted to these exceptional people. I am also a business owner in our community and have 170 employees that I care for and have a deep sense of responsibility for them and their families. I mention this because the team from Station 2 has given me a chance to continue taking care of my family and employees.
I can be reached on my cell phone if you would like to discuss this with me
Best regards,
Oakland Township Resident

Full Time Firefighter / Paramedic Scott Rosati Recovering After January 3rd Hip Surgery

Scot injured his hip joint Aug 2 in the Becker Drive fire. It took a long time to get surgery scheduled. Scot is having physical therapy three days a week, but does not have a return to work date yet. Scot has been a paramedic for over 25 years and with OTFD since 2004 at which time he added firefighter to his qualifications.

Analysis of Six Months (July-December) of Fire Department Weekly Status Reports to Board of Trustees Thwarted Somewhat by Missing Data – To Be Corrected.

The Fire Department has been providing weekly reports to Board of Trustee members since about 7/1/18. The Sentinel received copies via the FOIA process. See complete copies of these weekly reports for 3rd and 4th quarter 2018 here:

Weekly status reports 3rd Qtr 2018 Weekly status reports 4th Qtr 2018 Weekly status reports 1st Qtr 2019

We noticed that the 387 detailed incidents falls short of the claimed 445 incidents. We eventually noticed that all Sundays were omitted from the data and there were in fact 58 missing incident numbers. So the correct number of incidents is, in fact, 445. When Chief Strelchuk was contacted about this error he replied, after investigating "...with regards to the Saturday and Sunday reports times, Lou has found that the report times are pre-populated wrong. He has made the changes to the times so the report will show the proper time frame. Thank you for pointing this out, our reports will now contain data for the entire week.

Nevertheless we decided to analyze the available data (387 incidents Monday thru Saturday).

The data is from what OTFD entered into CFIRS (CLEMIS Fire Integrated Records System). CLEMIS means Courts and Law Enforcement Management Information System. CLEMIS started in Oakland County, but is widely used, including in Macomb County. We put much of the CFIRS data into an excel workbook to allow analysis for this six month period.

Our excel workbook pages can be seen here in these two pdf files.

Incident count data

EMS DATA

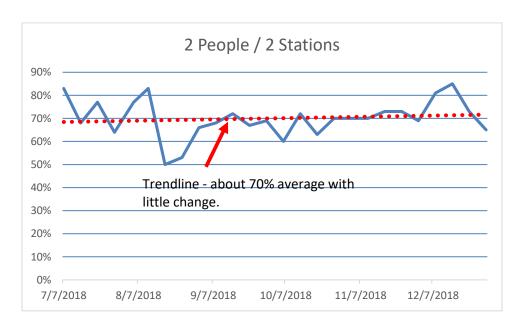
See the three charts below and commentary following each.

• 387 Incidents in 49 Numbered Types (7/1/18-12/29/18), Excluding Sundays (no Sunday data provided).

Incident Type	Number	%
Medical emergencies		
(321,322,323)	206	53%
Fires (111,131,1110)	7	2%
Cancelled enroute (611)	38	10%
Assist Invalid (554)	31	8%
41 other categories	105	27%
Total	387	100%

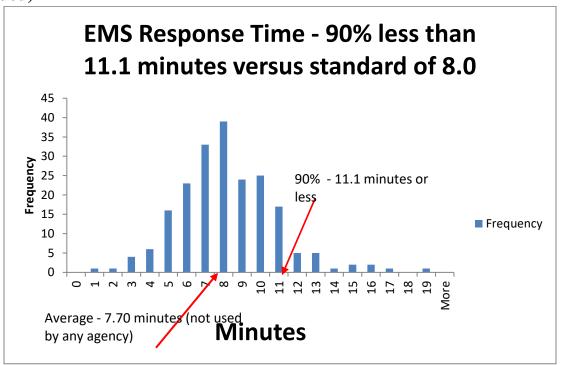
What stands out is the wide variety of incidents OTFD must be prepared for and trained to handle. In the 41 other categories are some serious ones such as - downed power line (7), gas leak (1), odor investigation (2), electrical wiring (1), smoke odor (1).

70% Compliance with Two per Ambulance At All Times (Letter from OCMCA March - 2018) (This data is complete with all days – different source)



In a March 1, 2018 Letter OCMCA (Oakland County Medical Control Authority) asked that OTFD submit a plan to staff each ALS ambulance with 2 EMT personnel at all times. The Board in a March 13, 2018 Motion authorized hiring part-time and scheduling Paid-on-Call to achieve this. Even though 100% compliance has not been achieved yet, before this effort compliance would have been very low, approaching zero. Normally only one person was on duty at each station except during weekdays, day shift at Station #2. Weekdays, daytime, the Chief, Asst. Chief and EMS Coordinator would be there if not involved in off-site meetings or other duties.

11 Minute EMS 90% Response Time Versus Standard of 8 Minutes or Less (OCMCA Letter of 12/2018) (Monday thru Saturday, no Sunday Data provided)



In the November 2017 and 2018 OTFD letter to OCMCA letter certifying compliance or admitting areas of non-compliance, OTFD reported 90% response time of about 9 minutes for each year. OCMCA then requested a plan to "address lack of compliance with the response time standard". See the OCMCA letter at this link: https://oaklandtownshipsentinelcom.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/ocmca-request-for-response-time-compliance-plan-12-14-18.pdf

We calculate 11.1 minutes for runs in the last 6 months of 2018. This is 2 minutes slower than was reported by OTFD for 2018 in their 2019 certification report. Chief Strelchuk had no comment on this apparent discrepancy. Of course if we are supplied the missing 58 Sunday incidents we will re-do this analysis.

Library Board

The Library Board had Two January Meetings

See draft minutes at these links:

Regular Meeting:

The two main items from the minutes are these in my view

Possible Millage Increase

"2. RHPL Liaison Report 8

Tyler reported RHPL has hired consultants to assist with gathering data regarding a 9possible millage increase. The Consultants will conduct focus groups and surveys for the 10 entire service area."

Attempt to Change State Law to Allow Oakland Township Membership on Rochester Hills Library Board

"6. RHPL board membership initiative

Tyler met with Representative Michael Webber in November, 2018 regarding this matter. Mr. Webber showed interest in the topic but advised to not expect anything until after the new legislature convened in January, 2019. Tyler hopes to meet with Mr. Webber again in January during his in-district office hours."

Organizational Meeting:

This meeting consisted of electing officers and setting the meeting schedule for 2019.

Millrace

Nothing new on this 7 year old unfinished business. The last action was an unofficial (unsupported by a Board Motion) request to ask our Township Attorney what the Township legal obligations were. This was back in November.

Ordinances and Enforcement

Ordinance #108 "Prohibition of Recreational Marijuana Establishments" goes in effect 1/31/2019.

The Board of Trustees voted 7/0 to place this ordinance in effect. The complete wording can be seen at this link to the <u>1/22/19 meeting packet</u>. Scroll down to pages 47-49.

Parks (find your nearest Township parks, private recreation facility or school playground on the map below)

Oakland Township Parks and Recreation Facilities

Conservation Parks

- 1. Blue Heron Environmental Area
- 2. Gallagher Creek Park
- 3. O'Connor Nature Park
- 4. Paint Creek Heritage Area Fen
- 5. Paint Creek Heritage Area Wet Prairie
- 6. Watershed Ridge Park

Future Trail Connections

- 7. Paint Creek Junction Park
- 8. Mill Creek Crossing

Community Parks & Recreation Facilities

- 9. Bear Creek Nature Park
- 10. Charles IIsley Park
- 11. Cranberry Lake Park
- 12. Draper Twin Lake Park
- 13. Lost Lake Nature Park
- 14. Marsh View Park
- 15. Mill Race Trail
- 16. Paint Creek Cider Mill (Parks & Rec Office)
- 17. Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park

Other Parks and Recreation Facilities

Other Public Parks

- 20. Addison Oaks County Park
- 21. Bald Mountain State Recreation Area
- 22. Paint Creek Trail
- 23. Stony Creek Metropark

Other Public Recreation Facilities

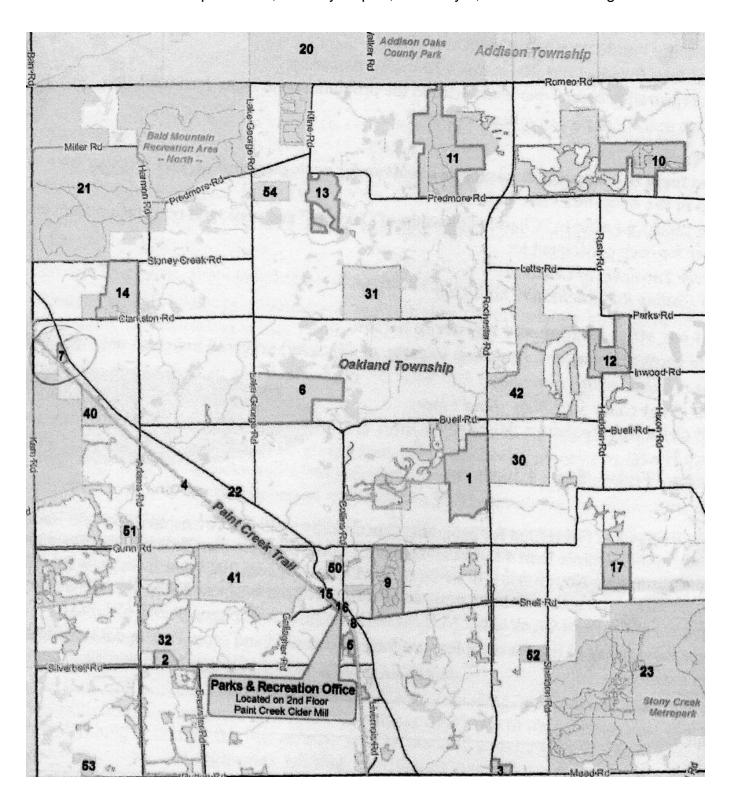
- 30. Blackheath Golf Club
- 31. The Myth Golf and Banquet
- 32. Westwynd Golf Course

Private Recreation Facilities

- 40. Royal Oak Archers
- 41. The Wyndgate Golf Course
- 42. Twin Lakes Golf and Swim Club

Public Schools

- 50. Baldwin Elementary School
- 51. Delta Kelly Elementary School
- 52. Hugger Elementary School
- 53. Musson Elementary School
- 54. Oakview Middle School



Bear Creek Nature Park

Cam Mannino's latest posting. See this article also for Twitter account for Parks

https://oaklandnaturalareas.com/2019/01/11/whats-under-the-ice-wow-winter-tadpoles/

Trail Resurfacing Project to be Combined with Paint Creek Trail Project

The following is from PRC12/12/18 minutes.

"PROJECT REPORT: BEAR CREEK NATURE PARK TRAIL RESURFACING

Ms. Milos-Dale reported that Mannik Smith Group is working with the Paint Creek Trailways staff on the "front end documents" for the bid packet for the Paint Creek Trail resurfacing project, to which our Bear Creek Nature park trail resurfacing project will be added. She explained that when the Trailways was resurfaced in 2004, the City of Rochester Hills prepared the front end documents as part of their in-kind services to the Trailways Commission, and they have again agreed to assist with these services. The Trailways staff is hoping that this project will go out for bid this month."

"Life Preserver in Bear Creek Nature Park (from 1/9/19 PRC minutes)

Commissioner Rooney acknowledged that at a prior meeting the PRC asked staff to place a life preserver in Bear Creek Nature Park. She wondered if we really

need one as the water is so shallow. Further, the life preserver that was installed is "Titanic" in size, and is an eyesore. After further discussion, the Commissioners agreed that Commissioner Rooney will work with Maintenance Foreman Caruso to look into this matter."

Cranberry Lake Park

Use this link to see Cam Mannino's story about a Beaver in residence at Cranberry Lake Park.

https://oaklandnaturalareas.com/2019/01/22/a-beaver-in-residence-at-cranberry-lake-park/

Draper Twin Lake Park

Boundary Survey – Approx. \$8200. Blust suggests adding Permanent Monuments to Mark Boundary

The following from 1/9/19 PRC minutes:

"DRAPER TWIN LAKE PARK: QUOTE FOR BOUNDARY SURVEY/STAKING

Director Milos-Dale referred to a map of the park and explained that we have had a variety of encroachment issues over the years along most of the boundary lines of this park. Encroachments have included dumping of yard waste, mowing of trails, and installation of deer blinds. She is concerned that a very large residence is being built only 5 feet from the western property line, and she wants to make sure that it is clear where that boundary line is. We have budgeted \$15,000 in the Land Preservation Budget under "Other Professional Services" for this purpose.

Director Milos-Dale and the Commissioners reviewed a quote from PEA in the amount of \$8,200, which is a bundled/discounted price.

Treasurer Blust noted that this property was surveyed when Oakland Township acquired it roughly 10 years ago. He said it is expensive to have survey work done, and suggested that we make sure we have permanent monuments, etc. placed so that we will not have to re-do the survey in the future.

After further discussion, the Commission agreed that Director Milos-Dale should ask PEA to make a recommendation regarding where we should place additional monuments (for example, where there is more likelihood of encroachment), and to provide a quote for this additional work. They discussed that we probably need more markers in areas where there is greater likelihood of encroachment, as well as along boundaries with areas that will foreseeably be developed.

Treasurer Blust wondered if this is the sort of service for which we would want to obtain bids. Director Milos-Dale did not recommend this as we have used PEA for many Oakland Township projects, and there is benefit from the fact that they already have much information about our various parcels in their files"

Lost Lake Nature Park

The following is from 1/9/19 PRC draft minutes.

"RENEWAL OF LOST LAKE NATURE PARK CARETAKER CONTRACT

Jeremy Fox, Caretaker, was present.

Director Milos-Dale stated that the proposed 2019-2020 Caretaker Contract has minimal changes, including the new contract period. She shared with the Commissioners the 2018 Executive Summary, which the caretakers prepared. They have communicated and collaborated very well with parks staff to support Lost Lake Nature Park programming and operations, and the staff highly recommends the renewal of their contract.

MOVED BY BLUST, SECONDED BY ROONEY, to approve the Lost Lake Nature Park Caretaker Contract for 2019-2020 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED."

Marshview Park

No Grant \$\$\$ yet for Restrooms

The following is from 12/12/18 PRC Draft Minutes.

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Applications

Unfortunately, our grant application for restroom improvements at Marsh View Park was not recommended for a grant through the MNRTF. However, Director Milos-Dale noted that we still have applications for funding for this project through the Recreation Passport Fund and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Those fund recommendations should be announced by the end of the year."

Paint Creek Junction Park

\$228,000 grant approved for Paint Creek Junction Park

The following is from 12/12/18 PRC minutes

Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Grant Applications

Director Milos-Dale stated that she attended a meeting of the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund ("MNRTF") Board this morning, at which they recommended grants totaling \$26 million for natural areas preservation and outdoor recreation. Oakland Township had two grant applications that were being considered. The MNRTF Board recommended our grant application for the Iron Belle Paint Creek Trail northern trailhead development project at Paint Creek Junction Park in the amount of \$228,000."

(Editor's note – recall that this park will be mainly a large parking lot on 5 acres immediately adjacent to the Paint Creek Trail about ¼ mile south of Clarkston Rd. on Orion Rd. It will have parking, including horse trailer parking, restrooms and possibly a picnic area.)

Paint Creek Trailway

The following from 12/12/18 PRC minutes.

"PROJECT REPORT: REPLACEMENT OF PAINT CREEK TRAIL BRIDGE 33.7

The Michigan Department of Transportation indicated that they would advertise this project for bid on November 30th, with the bid opening scheduled for January 4th."

(Editor's note: This is about a \$750,000 project)

"CHAIRMAN CHOI'S REPORT (from 1/9/19 PRC minutes)

Paint Creek Trailway - Vegetation Management

Chairman Choi reported that he was approached by a resident who said the vegetation management work that was done between the crossings at Silver Bell Road and Gallagher Road looks very rough. Director Milos-Dale asked for more detail, as this is a long stretch of trail."

Watershed Ridge Park

\$1,826 Purchase of Grading Equipment Approved to Begin Trails and Parking Lot Work

The following is from PRC 12/12/18 minutes.

"PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR PHASE I TRAIL GRADING AT WATERSHED RIDGE PARK

Natural Areas Stewardship Manager VanderWeide was present. He explained that, at the request of the Commission, he and Maintenance Foreman Caruso again looked at what they feel would be the best equipment to prepare the trails and parking area at Watershed Ridge Park. They are still recommending that we purchase a three-point disk.

MOVED BY BLUST, SECONDED BY BARKHAM, to approve the purchase of a Frontier 6ft 4 inch three-point disk from Rochester Lawn at a cost of \$1,826.16 as recommended.

MOTION CARRIED."

(Editor's note: Parks Foreman Doug Caruso is unafraid to tackle tough projects like this one.)

Land Preservation

Monarch Butterfly Talk, Thursday Feb. 7th, 6:30 PM

The following excerpt is from an email from Dr. Ben VanderWeide

"Greetings,

For our second Stewardship Talk of 2019 we are excited to host Dr. Nate Haan from Michigan State University for his talk, "Monarch Butterfly Ecology and Conservation." The talk will be on Thursday, February 7, 2019 at 6:30 pm at the Paint Creek Cider Mill, 4480 Orion Road, Rochester, MI 48306. Dr. Haan will share about monarch butterfly natural history and ecology, as well as some of the current research on their decline and what we can do to save them.

Hope to see you there!"



Hiring of 3 is Underway for 2019 Stewardship Summer Crew; Flexible Dates This Summer; 40 Hours per Week; Deadline to Apply is Feb. 15;Details at Link Below

https://oaklandnaturalareas.com/2019/01/29/were-hiring-join-our-2019-natural-areas-stewardship-crew/

\$6,075 for Seed for 45 Acres of Recently Mowed Forestry Area to Prevent Return of Invasives.

The following is from PRC 12/12/18 minutes.

"SEED PURCHASE FOR FORESTRY MOWING AREAS

Natural Areas Stewardship Manager Dr. VanderWeide was present. He explained that we will complete approximately 54 acres of forestry mowing in 2018. Of these 54 acres, approximately 45 acres were very dense with invasive shrubs. We need to establish native plant cover quickly to help keep invasive shrubs from regaining dominance.

The Commissioners and Dr. VanderWeide reviewed three quotes for a native seed mix. This mix, which is mostly native grasses, will allow us to establish native cover as we treat invasive shrub sprouts with a broadleaf specific herbicide.

Dr. VanderWeide recommends that we purchase a native seed mix from Native Connections at a cost of \$6,075. This is a Michigan company, and the majority of the seed would be Michigan genotype. Monies for this purchase would come from the "Prairie Restoration Contractors" line item in the budget. He stated that, while this is not the lowest bidder, there is only a minimal difference in price, and the fact that this company offers a Michigan genotype outweighs the minor price difference.

MOVED BY BUKOWSKI, SECONDED BY SIMON, to purchase a native seed mix to cover 45 acres from Native Connections at a cost of \$6,075 as discussed this evening.

MOTION CARRIED."

Oak Wilt - The Following 2 page Brochure Covering Oak Wilt disease is Available at Township Hall.

What is Oak Wilt?

Oak wilt is an exotic, invasive and lethal disease of oak trees. This fungus, Bretziella fagacearum, clogs the water conducting vessels of the infected tree causing them to wilt, and ultimately die.

What trees are impacted?

Trees in the red and white oak groups are susceptible to oak wilt. However, if red oaks become infected, they will die in as little as 3 weeks. Trees in the white oak group are more tolerant of the disease and may live for years after infection.

Why do we care?

Oak trees are valuable landscape trees, and make up a large portion of Michigan's native forests. Oaks provide food and shelter for wildlife. Michigan DNR recently estimated the total value of standing red oak timber at more than \$1.6 Billion.

When a red oak tree becomes infected, it will die. Though research continues, today there is no known cure. However, adjacent oak trees can be protected and the spread of disease stopped when oak wilt is confirmed at the site and proper measures are taken.

How can I tell if my oak trees are infected?

Watch for these symptoms in red oaks:

- In June, July or August, often near the top of the tree, leaves discolor to a dull, olive green.
- Discolored leaves then wilt from the top of the tree downward, and additional leaves quickly become brown or bronzed.
- · Rapid leaf drop occurs as the disease progresses. Infected trees are almost entirely defoliated within a few weeks! Fallen leaves usually are brown at the tips and margins and sometimes green at the base. (see photos)



Oak trees killed due to pruning during infection period.

How is it spread?

Oak wilt moves from tree to tree in two ways:

- Insects carry spores from infected oak trees or wood cut from infected trees to injured or freshly
- The fungus moves from infected trees to nearby healthy trees through connected root systems (root grafts).



Rapid leaf drop, and discoloration caused by oak wilt.



What can you do to prevent oak wilt?

- Prune oak trees in late fall and winter. If pruning becomes absolutely necessary at other times of the year ALWAYS immediately cover all oak tree wounds with tree wound paint or latex paint.
- DON'T move firewood. Movement of infected wood is a significant cause of new oak wilt infection centers.

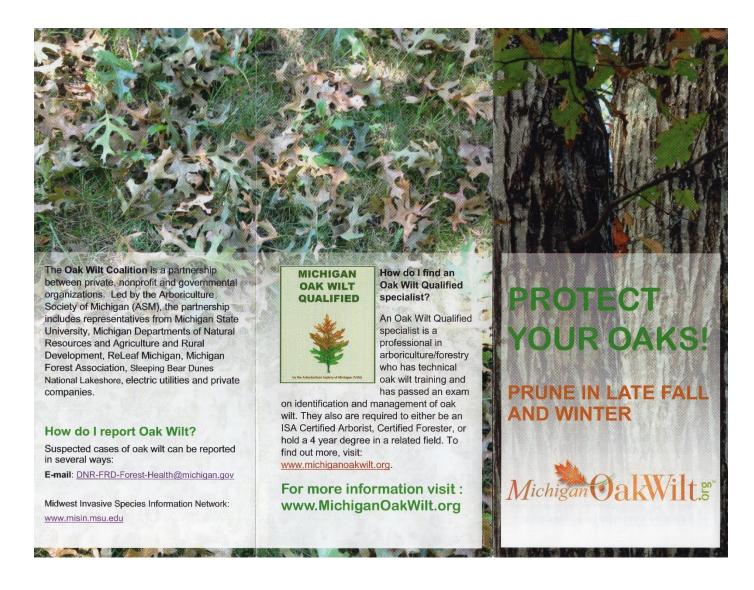


Pruning oaks in winter avoids risk of oak wilt infection.

Think you have an oak wilt infected tree?

Contact an Oak Wilt Qualified specialist at www.michiganoakwilt.org. They can help manage oak wilt infections and protect nearby healthy oaks from the fungus which moves through shared roots.





Parks & Recreation Commission Drafts Resolution Opposing Senate Bills that Would Reduce our Townships Ability to Protect Woodlands and Wetlands.

The following is from the PRC 12/12/18 minutes.

"NATURAL AREAS LEGISLATION

Oakland Township Natural Areas Stewardship Manager Dr. VanderWeide was present.

Proposed Legislation Affecting Woodlands

Director Milos-Dale reviewed information received from the Michigan Association of Planning. On November 8, 2018, Senate Bill 1188 was introduced. This bill would amend Public Act 110, the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act, and would prohibit local government from adopting and enforcing tree and vegetation removal ordinances. The bill was introduced in response to an incident in a single community and, if approved, would affect every municipality in the state. The Michigan Association of Planning opposes this bill and is urging communities to reach out to Senate Natural Resource Committee members and to their Senators.

The Michigan Association of Planning feels that local government has long recognized the economic, environmental, ecological, health and quality of life benefits of protecting trees and vegetation, and local government has adopted local vegetation protection ordinance to that end. The proposed bill would preempt local control and undermine local government's ability to address matters of local concern locally.

The Commissioners commented on this proposed woodlands legislation. Commissioner Blust said that Oakland Township has a tree ordinance in effect; he wants to keep this local protection in place and maintain the ability to hold developers to these standards. Commissioner Bukowski pointed out that there are many benefits from protecting trees in our community: they provide insulation from noise, wind and other weather, and old growth trees are important for natural habitats.

Proposed Legislation Affecting Wetlands

Dr. VanderWeide reviewed his memorandum regarding proposed legislation changes that would affect wetlands. He stated that wetlands are critical, and are more effective in stormwater management than expensive manmade systems. He reviewed how proposed Senate Bill 1211 would amend a 1994 law and remove protections for wetlands less than five acres. He also reviewed the implications from such steps.

Commissioner Blust wondered what the motivation was for proposing this bill; Director Milos-Dale responded that this is an example of non-scientists attempting to address a scientific issue. Commissioner Bukowski added that some 30 to 40 years ago, there was a big effort among conservation groups to protect wetlands to allow waterfowl and other populations to reestablish. These conservation groups are opposed to the proposed legislation.

Proposed Resolution

Director Milos-Dale stated that at this point, both of these bills have been approved at the Senate level. Senate Bill 1211 regarding wetlands has been referred to the Michigan Committee on Competitiveness, and Senate Bill 1188 regarding woodlands has been referred to the Michigan Committee on Local Government.

The Commissioners considered a resolution opposing this proposed legislation and made revisions to the draft. The fourth "whereas" paragraph should be revised to read, "WHEARAS Since 2001...and to manage and restore natural areas..." The fifth "whereas" paragraph should be revised to read, "WHEREAS Senate Bill 1211 of 2018 will take away regulation protecting an estimated 70,000 wetlands and about 4,000 inland lakes, which covers approximately a half million acres statewide, according to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, allowing exposing them to be filled, dredged potential filling, dredging and being constructed on without a permit, thus increasing pollution..." The sixth "whereas" paragraph should be revised to read, "WHEREAS Senate Bills 1188-1194 of 2018 will remove local control of municipal tree and woodland protection ordinances that benefit..."

MOVED BY BUKOWSKI, SECONDED BY SIMON, to adopt the resolution presented and revised this evening, a Resolution Opposing Michigan Senate Bills 1188-1194 and 1211 of 2018.

AYES: Choi, VanAgen, Barkham, Blust, Bukowski, Simon NAYS: None ABSENT: Rooney MOTION CARRIED.

The Commissioners agreed that this resolution should be sent via individual email to our locally elected Senators and Representatives. It should be sent via group email to the remaining Senators and Representatives, including our local Senators and Representatives. It should also be sent via group email to each of the committees considering this legislation.

Chairman Choi wondered if the Oakland Township Board of Trustees is aware of this proposed legislation and if they received the information that the PRC reviewed this evening. Director Milos-Dale said she does not know if they have this information.

Deer Survey \$1300; Deer Hunting Proposed by Resident

AERIAL DEER SURVEY (from 1/9/19 PRC minutes)

"Chairman Choi recalled that the Commission approved the aerial deer survey for last year. Unfortunately, there was not enough snow to conduct it at that time. The Commissioners reviewed the memorandum from Natural Areas Stewardship Manager Dr. VanderWeide. We last participated in the aerial deer survey program in 2015. Dr. VanderWeide's memorandum explains that these surveys help us determine if the deer densities in our parks are appropriate, and provide us with information to make informed management decisions.

Treasurer Blust questioned if we need to conduct a deer survey, or if we can gather information regarding deer populations from neighboring communities. Commissioner Simon wondered if the survey could be conducted with a drone instead. The Commissioners discussed the survey and agreed to participate this time as we have not done a survey since 2015 and since Dr. VanderWeide is recommending that it be done.

MOVED BY BARKHAM, SECONDED BY BUKOWSKI, to approve participating in the Oakland County Parks and Recreation 2019 Aerial Deer Survey to survey our parks in priority order at a cost not to exceed \$1,300. Discussion on Motion:

Resident Martin McClure said he would like to see Oakland Township consider allowing limited hunting in certain of our parks as a sport, not just as a way to manage the population. He said hunting is considered a sport, and he feels this use would complement our archery program. He added that the PRC could also consider offering a program to teach deer processing.

Vote on Motion:

MOTION CARRIED."

(Editor's note: Archery deer hunting is allowed in Stony Creek Ravine Nature Park as condition of the grant \$\$\$ received from MNRTF. Special permit needed.)

Recreation

Use www.semcog.org/ParkFinder to find the activity you want in 2600 Parks in the 7 county Southeast Michigan area (Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, Wayne counties) (Source - Oakland Township Hall brochure

Archery Club Teams Forming (1/9/19 PRC minutes)

"Archery Club teams are forming for Adams High School and Van Hoosen Middle School (March 14th through May 16th). Anyone interested should call the Parks and Recreation office for more information."

Hunting and Fishing Seasons and Safety

COMMISSIONER BUKOWSKI'S REPORT (from 1/9/19 PRC minutes)

Sportsmen's Update

"The Michigan Department of Natural Resources has extended the deer season in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties.

Anyone interested in hunting in the spring turkey season may submit an application now.

This is winter steelhead season. Commissioner Bukowski suggested that fishermen could go to the Clinton River. He noted that the Paint Creek if off limits as it is a protected trout stream.

Finally, he said that as it gets colder, it will be the season for ice fishing. He cautioned ice fishermen to use extreme caution on the ice, and to always fish with a buddy."

Ice Skating

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS (from 1/9/19 minutes)

Ice Rink

"Director Milos-Dale reported that the staff will attempt to fill the ice rink now that the weather is getting colder. She further reported that our risk advisor visited Bear Creek Nature Park and was very pleased with the inspection."

Melissa Streng Hired as Recreation Program Assistant

The following from PRC 12/12/18 minutes

"RECREATION PROGRAM ASSISTANT

The Commissioners reviewed the memorandum from Recreation Manager McLogan. The 2018-2019 Parks and Recreation budget allocated monies for two part-time (20 hours/week) Recreation Program Assistant positions. We have filled one position. Recreation Manager McLogan and Director Milos-Dale interviewed two qualified applicants. They are recommending that we hire Melissa Streng to fill this vacancy, who they feel is the best qualified candidate based on her educational background, previous work experience, and positive references.

MOVED BY SIMON, SECONDED BY BUKOWSKI, to hire Melissa Streng as a part-time Recreation Program Assistant at a wage of \$16.58 per hour, starting January 2, 2019.

MOTION CARRIED."

Planning Commission

January meeting cancelled.

Roads

Road Commission Points out that Oakland County fatal accidents trended down in 2018 to 23. Alcohol & drugs (9) and motorcycles (4) account for 56%

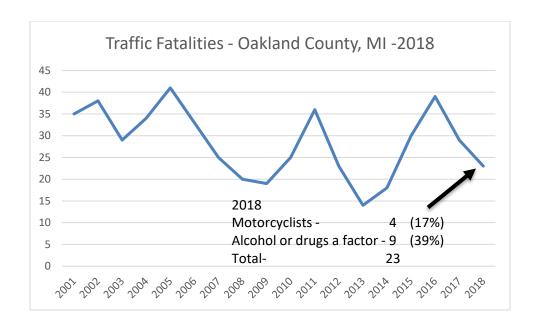
In a <u>press release</u> the RCOC also points out that the county fatality rate is historically about half the national and state averages and summarizes what RCOC does for safety.

"Safety remains the top priority for RCOC," stated RCOC Chairman Greg Jamian. "Throughout the years, the focus on safety has guided many RCOC decisions related to road project selection, design and maintenance," he added.

The press release emphasized these safety strategies and tactics the Road Commission employs:

- Dangerous intersection studies
- Roundabouts
- More visible 6" instead of 4" white edge lines
- Paved shoulders for better control of vehicle
- Signals that automatically adjust to traffic
- LED bulbs in signals
- Work on cars that can talk to road infrastructure
- Road project safety audits
- Rumble strips
- Detailed winter maintenance guidelines

Graphing the annual data in the report shows wide swings in fatalities from year to year that are unexplained. So 2019 might turn out to be the worst ever; there seems to be no predicting.



Source of data for above chart 2018 fatalities:

https://www.rcocweb.org/DocumentCenter/View/5890/2018-fatality-locations

Resident Gets Road Commission to Fix Drain on Silverbell to Alleviate Flooding

Fifth generation Oakland Township resident Colleen Barkham reports this story.

Ms. Barkham noticed that a portion of Silverbell always flooded and this led to many problems. She called the Road Commission and suggested that an engineer study an existing drain that seemed to need some grading to lead water off the road to the drain. RCOC responded and fixed the issue. Ms. Barkham called them to thank them; a step she says is sometimes overlooked.

I told this story to Township Supervisor, Mike Bailey, at Officer Office hours, the same day. He told me a similar story about flooding from Brewster placing mud on Safety paths and boardwalks belonging to Cloisters subdivision at intersection of Silverbell and Brewster. The Township worked with the Road Commission to correct the flooding. The initial RCOC fix was not effective, but they returned and installed a culvert that corrected the problem.

Note below that no one in Oakland Township government has any official responsibility for roads, since none belong to the Township.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP ACT (EXCERPT)

Act 359 of 1947

42.10 Township superintendent; appointment; delegation of powers and duties of township supervisor.

Sec. 10.

The township board in each charter township shall have power to appoint a township superintendent and may delegate to him any or all of the following functions and duties which functions and duties, unless so delegated, shall be exercised by the supervisor:

(c) To have charge of the construction, repair, maintenance, lighting and cleaning of streets, sidewalks, bridges, pavements, sewers, and of all the public buildings or other property belonging to the township;

RCOC MANAGING DIRECTOR PRAISES COMMUNITIES FOR SUPPORTING ROAD MILLAGES



Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) Managing Director Dennis Kolar praised the voters in seven Oakland County communities who stepped up on Nov. 6 when they approved property tax millages to support roads.

The communities are: Independence Township, Berkley, Milford, Farmington, Farmington Hills, Huntington Woods and Northville (partially in Wayne County).

"I applaud each of these communities -- and those that have previously approved road millages," Kolar stated. "The leaders and voters in these communities acknowledged the magnitude of the road problem and took it upon themselves to do something about it. They are taking some ownership of the solution to our roads problem which was caused by years of inadequate road funding, and I commend them for this."

In particular, Kolar praised Independence Township Supervisor Pat Kittle and the voters of that township who approved a tax increase of up to two mills for four years for roads. "That makes Independence Township only the second township in Oakland County with a millage for roads," Kolar noted. Bloomfield Township has a one-mill levy that is required under a state law that allows the township to maintain local roads within its borders.

"A lot of people complain about the roads. It's harder to do something about them," Kolar said.

"The leaders and voters of these communities did something, knowing it would cost them a little

money out of their own pockets. The rest of us who use those roads owe them a debt of gratitude."

Independence Township's millage will allow for the resurfacing of all main roads within the township during the coming four years. "I think that's a pretty good return on a two-mill-a-year investment," Kolar said.

He noted the township's millage is unique, because townships, according to Michigan law, do not have jurisdiction over roads. That means the money raised by the millage will be used to improve roads under the jurisdiction of the Road Commission.

"This is truly a partnership," Kolar said. "The Road Commission will provide the design and inspection functions for these projects at no cost, and the township millage revenues will cover the cost of the contractor paving. It's a win/win situation."

Safety

Pro Pit-Bull Legislation Attempt Again; This Time in Michigan House of Representatives

On January 15, 2019 Representative Jim Ellison of House District 26 (Royal Oak, Madison Heights) sponsored legislation to prohibit municipalities like Oakland Township from banning Pit-bulls. Local resident Ann Marie Rogers sent an extensive email full of facts to the Committee on Local Government and Municipal Finance, outlining the reasons not letting municipalities ban Pit-bulls is a bad idea. Among these reasons that Ms. Rogers backs-up with links to extensive factual material are:

- Local governments should have the legal right to make public safety laws that they think best serve their citizens.
- Michigan heavily regulates wolf-dog crosses which are not as dangerous as pit-bulls. In the last 13 years, pit bulls have killed 314 people compared to the wolf-dogs that have only killed a few.
- 225 children killed by pit bull type-dogs

- The purpose of a breed specific ordinance is not to prevent bites, but to prevent maulings. Bites require band-aids or a few stitches; maulings require amputation, plastic surgery, rehabilitation therapy, and possibly caskets
- Delta airlines, 300 military bases, 1,089 U.S. Cites and 50 countries ban Pitbulls.
- The medical community wants pit-bulls away from children.

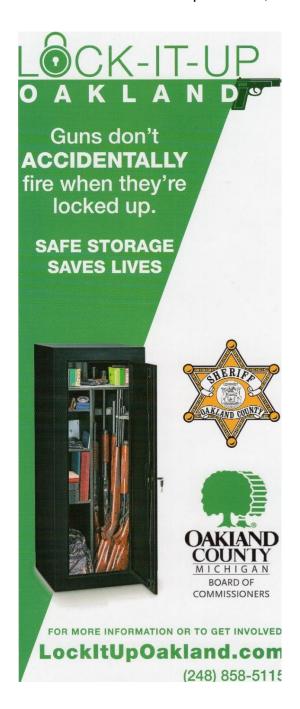
Thanks to Ms. Rogers for following this issue and speaking up. Below is her email to members of the Committee.

 $\underline{https://oaklandtownshipsentinelcom.files.wordpress.com/2019/01/rogers-email-to-house-1-28-19-pit-bulls.pdf}$

The bill can be seen here: http://legislature.mi.gov/documents/2019-2020/billintroduced/House/pdf/2019-HIB-4035.pdf

It has been referred to the Committee on Local Government and Municipal Finance, where hopefully it will die.

Please Lock Up Your Guns – Use This Brochure for 15% Discount on a Gun Safe (Brochure Available at Township Hall





Schools

Active Shooter Training in Clarkston Schools

Press release from Oakland County Sheriff's Office January 21, 2019

CLARKSTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AND OAKLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE PARTNER IN ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE TRAINING

Clarkston, Mich. -- All Clarkston Community Schools staff today engaged in active shooter response training facilitated by the Oakland County Sheriff's Office (OCSO). OCSO Deputies and SWAT team members collaborated with the district's School Safety Task Force to lead district employees through a simulated threat event. The exercise was conducted on all of the district's school campuses as part of the ALICE Training Institute's organizational certification process.

The ALICE protocol empowers staff and students with proactive, options-based strategies ("Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate") and increases survivability of a potential mass-casualty incident.

"We are grateful for the support and partnership of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office," said Clarkston Community Schools Superintendent Shawn Ryan. "Our local law enforcement shares our commitment to keeping our school community safe and secure. Though this is training we hope we never have to use, it's very empowering to know that we have trained in a real-life setting alongside true experts."

"The Sheriff's Office is grateful for its partnership with Clarkston Community Schools in this collaborative training to better equip their staff with the knowledge on how to better protect their students and colleagues," said Sheriff Michael J. Bouchard. "While we hope to never witness any tragedy in our community, hope is not a strategy we can rely on. With this training, the Clarkston community is prepared for any threat to its campuses.

Clarkston Community Schools began the ALICE certification process last spring with all-staff training from an ALICE instructor and an online training module. All employees also received life-saving, hands-on Stop the Bleed® trauma training from St. Joseph Mercy Oakland, and all classrooms are being stocked with necessary first-aid supplies. Following today's simulation trainings, the district will join the more than 4,200 ALICE-certified K-12 schools nationwide.

About Clarkston Community Schools

Clarkston Community Schools creates a learning environment where students, staff, and families are challenged, healthy, engaged, safe, and supported. Clarkston Community Schools is a highly regarded school district in Oakland County, Michigan. Our campuses cover a combined 418 acres and 63 square miles. We serve 7,500 students in seven elementary schools (K-5), one middle school serving grades 6-7, one junior high school for grades 8-9, and Clarkston High School, which serves students in grades 10-12. We also have an alternative high school, Renaissance High School, and an Early Childhood Center for children ages 3-5. Clarkston Community Schools students are well-prepared for a future that excites them, and believe that they can achieve their dreams! Learn more about Clarkston Community Schools at www.clarkston.k12.mi.us.

About the Oakland County Sheriff's Office

The Oakland County Sheriff's Office is the largest "full service" Sheriff's Office in the State of Michigan. With a current jurisdictional population of 1.2 million residents, the Sheriff's Office services over 343,000 of those residents through law enforcement contracts in 15 different communities and corrective services for nearly 1600 inmates. The coverage area also encompasses 450 inland lakes.

###

Sewers, Sanitary

Water Resource Commission Says 65% of Sewer Back-ups are Caused by Putting Fats, Oils and Greases Down the Drain; Ask Us Not to do This.

(Two page brochure available at Township Hall)

What is FOG?



FOG stands for Fats, Oil and Grease produced from food preparation, packaged foods and food scraps. FOG should never be put down any sink drain. FOG should be disposed of in the trash.

Where does it come from?

Homes, restaurants, schools, churches, food processing plants, hospitals, hotels, shopping malls and many other establishments produce FOG.

It is found in things

like:

- x Meat fatsx Cooking oil
- x Cooking oil x Margarine
- x Cooking scrapsx Sauces
- x Lardx Butter
- x Shortening
- ooking scraps x Dairy Products
 - x Dressings

Why shouldn't fats, oils and grease go down the drain?

When FOG goes down the drain it enters into the sanitary sewer system and sticks to the inside of sewer pipes. It will build up and harden in the pipes and cause blockages which result in Sanitary Sewer Overflows and sewage backups in your home. Sanitary Sewer Overflows are a potential threat to our health, homes and environment. 65% of all sewer spills are FOG-related.





How does it affect me?

Improper FOG disposal leads to costly sewer backups and overflows, increased sewer rates and public health and environmental hazards. FOG build-up in sewer pipes is costly to clean requiring public works staff to go to the site and remove the blockage.



Clogged sewer pipes can also cost you a lot of money and inconvenience if your sewer system backs up onto your property.

What can I do?



- Never pour oil and grease down the sink, toilet or any drains.
- Put used oil and grease in covered containers and cans for proper disposal.
- Wipe down greasy pots and pans with a dry paper towel and dispose of in the trash.
- Scrape food scraps and discards into the trash.

 Avoid using the garbage disposal.
- Don't rely on a garbage disposal to get rid of grease- it grinds it into smaller pieces but it doesn't keep grease from going down the drain.
- Don't run hot water over greasy pans or use hot water to wash grease down the drain. The grease will eventually cool and congeal in your pipes.

Why should I help?

- Stop sewer overflows into your home, yard, streets and storm drains.
- Avoid spending money on costly cleanups of sewage spills and regulatory fines.
- Reduce the number of times you have to clean your pipes.
- Protect the quality of our water.
- Prevent grease buildup from blocking sewer lines.
- Reduce cost of grease removal from sewer system.

More ways to tackle grease

Use environmentally safe cleaning products instead of harsh detergents or cleaners that can damage sewer lines.

If you generate large amounts of used cooking oil, reuse or recycle it. If you generate small amounts of cooking oil, reuse it as often as possible and then pour it into a disposal container. Never pour it down the drain.

Mix liquid vegetable oil with an absorbent material such as kitty litter or coffee grounds in a sealable container before throwing it in the trash.

Keep drains clean by pouring $\frac{1}{2}$ cup baking soda down the drain followed by $\frac{1}{2}$ cup vinegar. Wait 10 to 15 minutes and then rinse with hot water.

Start a compost pile at your home with scraps that are not meat.

Find out about composting at: http://msue.anr.msu.edu/topic/info/soils_composting





Sheriff's Department

Oakland County Sheriff' Office – Major Incidents in January 2019

Oakland County Sheriff Office (OSCO) sends major incident press releases to news media personnel. Of 32 major incidents in January, one took place in Oakland Township (stealing lumber from Blossom Ridge). See the pdf https://oaklandtownshipsentinelcom.files.wordpress.com/2019/02/osco-major-incident-reports-jan.-2019.pdf

for the full copy of any press release. (Get the pdf page number from the summary chart we made below.)

	Oakla	and County Sh	eriff's Offic	e - Major Incidents - January 2019	
Date	Time	Municipality	Number	Incident	Page in PDF file
1/11/2019	4:06 AM	Brandon Twp.	#19-6967	Missing Person	15
1/7/2019		Commerce Township		Fire	3
1/8/2019		Commerce Township		Armed Robbery	6
1/10/2019		Commerce Township		Swatting (false call by others)	13
1/7/2019		Highland Township	#19-3954	Drug Overdose	1
1/18/2019		Highland Township	#19-12560	drug overdose	31
1/13/2019		Independence Twp.	#19-8515	Death investigation	20
1/13/2019		Oakland Twp.	#19-8418	Larceny of Building Materials	19
1/13/2019	11:14 PM	Orion Twp.	#19-8770	Felonious Assault - Domestic	21
1/17/2019	2:58 AM	Oxford Twp.	#19-12157	Adult suicide	28
1/8/2019	1:06 PM	Pontiac	#19-4290	Armed Robbery	2,35
1/8/2019	4:02 PM	Pontiac	#19-4425,4483	Personal Injury Accident	5
1/8/2019	8:54 PM	Pontiac	#19-4612,4569	Personal Injury Accident	9
1/8/2019	8:00 PM	Pontiac	#19-4591	Armed Robbery	10,35
1/11/2019	10:36 AM	Pontiac	#19-7116	Missing Person	17
1/11/2019	6:00 PM	Pontiac	#19-7446	Drug Overdose	18
1/14/2019	12:43 AM	Pontiac	#19-8797	Attempted Sexual assault / strong arm robbery	22
1/14/2019	2:08 AM	Pontiac	#19-9573	Felonious assault/concealed weapon/obstructing police	25
1/17/2019	12:42 AM	Pontiac	#19-11785	Drug Overdose/ traffic accident	26
1/17/2019	2:50 AM	Pontiac	#19-11845	Drug Overdose	27
1/18/2019	3:39 AM	Pontiac	#19-12541	Death Investigation / Domestic Violence	30
1/18/2019	1:27 AM	Pontiac	#19-11064	attempted murder / set wife on fire	32
1/23/2019	2:18 PM	Pontiac	#19-14986	Armed Robbery	37
1/27/2019	12:35 AM	Pontiac	#19-17276	Residential fire	40
1/28/2019	1:04 AM	Pontiac	#19-17842	stabbing / assault	41
1/11/2019	10:30 AM	Rochester Hills	#19-6519	School Shooting Threat - Stony Creek H.S.	12
1/11/2019	3:40 AM	Rochester Hills	#19-6953	Breaking and entering	14
1/18/2019	2:17 AM	Rochester Hills	#19-12521	Attempted Suicide	29
1/18/2019	4:41 AM	Rochester Hills	#19-13063	Breaking and entering	34
1/21/2019	9:43 PM	Rochester Hills	#19-13976	reckless discharge of firearm	36
1/26/2019	5:38 PM	Rochester Hills	#19-17092	Stolen vehicle recovered in traffic stop	39
1/12/2019	9:06 PM	Springfield Twp.	#19-8228	Suicidal subject	16

Sheriff's Department – Oakland Township Substation

Apparently, based on recent FOIA responses, the local substation, which we fund with over \$2,100,000 annually, does not provide routine reports to our Township Manager, Supervisor or Board.

Township Manager

From the Board minutes for 1-08-19

2. Township Manager Search Update from Jaymes Vettraino with GovHR

The Board heard a presentation from: Jaymes Vettraino - GovHR MOTION by Buxar, supported by Giannangeli to authorize GovHR to proceed with the Position Brochure text, and to have the Brochure linked to the Position Advertisement.

The Board heard public comment from: Richard Bosler – 3579 Briarbrooke Ln. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Buxar, supported by Ferriolo to authorize GovHR to proceed with the suggested wage range that they had developed based on GovHR's recent executive search projects in Michigan.

Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The January meeting was cancelled. There have been no meetings of ZBA since April 2017. At one time the ZBA members expressed the desire to have a training session during their regularly scheduled meetings if there was no business on the agenda. I thought this was an excellent idea. How else can they keep up their knowledge?