

# **RICHLAND TOWNSHIP**

SUMMER 2015

## **Introducing Our New Staff!**

**Welcome! Lysanne Harma—Supervisor, Angela Kirby—Assessor, and Desiree LaDuke—Clerk.**

Lysanne Harma joined Richland Township as the new Supervisor effective March 1st. Lysanne replaced Alan Bussema as the Township Supervisor due to Alan's passing. Lysanne has lived in the area since 1977 and graduated from Gull Lake. Both of Lysanne's children graduated from Gull Lake as well. Lysanne came to the Township with a Human Resources and Real Estate background.

Angela Kirby has been hired to fill the Assessor's position. Angie has 16 years of assessing experience and works in multiple municipalities, including a neighboring township. She is available at Richland Township on Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m. During the rest of the week you are welcome to reach her by email or phone. Just call the office if you need her contact information.

Desiree LaDuke was appointed as Township Clerk upon Jackie Light's retirement. Desiree has lived in and been very active in the Gull Lake community since moving here in 2007. She has two girls that attend Gull Lake Community Schools. Desiree comes to Richland Township with an education background after having taught in Illinois and substitute teaching in the Gull Lake Community School District from 2009-2014.

**We look forward to meeting the Township residents so please stop by anytime!**

If you live in Kalamazoo County, there will be an additional 42 cents per device charge on any device that can make a 911 call on your phone bill beginning July 1st. The revenue generated by the surcharge will help finance the expanded 911 service and be used as start-up money for the Consolidated Dispatch of Kalamazoo County.

The Richland Fire Department would like to remind citizens that we test our tornado sirens on the first Saturday of each month and all year round. Weather sirens are designed to alert someone who is outside. You may not hear them in your home or business. On days where poor weather, thunderstorms, and tornado watches are predicted, we urge you to please listen to local weather stations.



The fire department would ask residents that live near a fire hydrant to keep them cleared of snow, brush and grass.

The Richland Fire Department is always seeking applicants. You must be 18 and have a clear criminal history. If interested, pick up an application at the Township Offices, 7401 N. 32nd Street.

## **RICHLAND TOWNSHIP**

**7401 North 32nd Street  
Richland, MI 49083**

Phone: 269-629-4921

Fax: 269-629-5993

Website: [www.richlandtwp.net](http://www.richlandtwp.net)

**Township office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Closed Fridays.**

**Township Board Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month.**

**ZBA and Planning Commission meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month. ZBA @ 5:30. Planning @ 7:00.**

**Holiday Hours: The office will be closed July 6th in observance of Independence Day.**

### Other general notes:

- **Keep up with Township news by visiting the website at [www.richlandtwp.net](http://www.richlandtwp.net).**
- **If you would like to get announcements you can join our email list on that site.**
- **There is also a "bulletin board" for community events at [www.richlandconnections.com](http://www.richlandconnections.com). Several community organizations post notices.**



**Wednesday Walkers:** A Wednesday Walkers group started on June 3<sup>rd</sup> to promote health and wellness in our community and in also seeking grants that benefit our parks system. Every Wednesday for the next 8 weeks citizens can meet at the various park locations in our Township and walk for an hour. The goal is an average of 20 walkers over the 8 week period. The first week we had 37 walkers!

**7/1 @ 6PM Wednesday Walkers meet at Dollar General...walking three loops around the Passive Dog park.**

**7/8 @6PM Wednesday walkers meet at Richland Square... trail is the Gull Rd Pathway to the water tower and back.**

**7/15 @ 6PM Wednesday Walkers walk the Township park, meet at the Pavilion.**

**7/22 @ 6PM Wednesday Walkers meet at the Richland Farmers Market... grab some fresh veggies/fruit and join us as we walk from the market thru the village to the Post Office and back.**

### MOVIE NIGHT AT THE PARK!



**Free event at the Park.** Movie Night is Friday, August 14th at 8:30pm. This year's movie is Big Hero 6! Grab a blanket, bring a chair, and come watch a movie under the stars at the Township Park!

**Rugby Camp—July 21-23—6:30-8:00 PM—\$50 per player**

**This is a co-ed camp for 5th-12th graders to learn about the game of rugby. For more information please call Matt at 269-203-5054.**

### Farewell

It is with great sadness that we share the news of Alan Bussema's passing on March 18th. Alan faithfully served Richland Township for seven years as Township Supervisor. His love for this community was evident in the many roles he held. We wish to convey our gratitude to his family, for his service. He will be greatly missed.

After devotedly serving Richland Township for 22 years, Jackie Light - Clerk, and Parker - Township Dog, have retired. Jackie has plans to travel, play the ukulele, knit, and visit her new grandbaby! We offer our most sincere thanks for her many years of dedication to Richland Township and wish her all the best!

