Bath Charter Township September 2021 Newsletter

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Brenda Butler-Challender Awarded 2021 Deputy Clerk of the Year

Clerk Brenda Butler-Challender was awarded the 2021 Deputy Clerk of the Year Award. The recipient of this award is voted on by the over 800 Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks (MAMC) members. Brenda was one of two finalists chosen in June 2021. Brenda's award was bestowed by MAMC President Mary R. Clark and Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson.



Brenda was nominated by Superintendent Hildebrant. The nomination referenced the way that Brenda stepped in and assumed many of the Clerk duties during the Clerk's unexpected long-term medical absence after 40 years of service. She had to adapt quickly and take on many additional new responsibilities. In anticipation of higher voter turnout, Brenda quickly identified a need for updated election computers to manage the expected record turnout in 2020. She then took the older laptops, networked them and added an additional station in each voting precinct to strictly process absentee ballots to ensure the voting line was efficient and results were reported in a timely manner.



CONTACT US

Township Offices

(517) 641-6728 info@bathtownship.us www.bathtownship.us



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In her previous role as Deputy Clerk, Brenda developed new training manuals for the e-poll book, and the County even began using her instructions. She also managed the Township's accounts payables; maintained the rental facility calendars for both the parks and Township buildings; worked with the auditors on collating and assembling required paperwork; office inventory; managed the burn permit program; invoices for services rendered; conducted utility billing; and created and maintained quarterly sewer bills. She was appointed the Township Clerk by the Board of Trustees in April 2021 and continues to make improvements to our processes and procedures. She is now preparing for a special election in November 2021. We are very proud of Brenda's incredible accomplishment!

New Township Planner - Miles Roblyer

On August 30, Miles Roblyer started as the new Township Planner. Miles comes to us from Fenton, Michigan. He has a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and Planning from the University of Michigan – Flint and a master's degree in Urban Planning from Wayne State University. He has most recently worked with the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Region as an Economic Development Planner. We are excited to have Miles join our team!



Safe Routes to School

The Township is working with the Michigan Fitness Foundation and Michigan State University to begin the planning process for the Safe Routes to School program. Bath Community Schools, Clinton County Road Commission, and the Bath Township Public Library have also assisted in the planning process. A walking audit of the current sidwalks will be conducted on Friday, October 1 from 3:30 - 5 p.m. A kick-off meeting for the Safe Routes to School program will take place on Thursday, October 7 from 4 - 5:30 p.m. at James Couzens Memorial Park, weather permitting (in the event of inclement weather, the meeting will be held at the public library). The public is encouraged to attend this kick-off meeting. More information can be found on the Township website at www.bathtownship.us.

Pleasant Hill and Rose Cemetery News

The two Township cemeteries are serviced by the Clerk's Office and our Department of Public Works. Should you wish to purchase a cemetery lot or have inquires about our cemeteries, we are happy to assist you! Planning for headstone foundations is currently underway. The foundations are installed three times a year: the end of May, July and September. The deadline for ordering a foundation placement for this fall is September 20, 2021.

Questions about adornment and plantings near a monument are frequently asked. Those answers and more can be found in the Cemetery Rules and Regulations. A complete copy of our rules and regulations can be found on the Township's website at www.bathtownship.us.

Township Updates

- We are encouraging all visitors to wear a mask when in our Township buildings.
- Sign up for automatic sewer and tax bill payments! More information can be found on the Township website under <u>property taxes</u> and <u>sanitary sewer</u>.
- The Senior Center is open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Lunch is served at noon and can be picked up as take out. The cost of lunch is \$4 for residents and non-residents over 55 and \$5 for anyone 55 and under. More information can be found on the
- Township website under <u>Senior Center</u>.