



CASCADE CONNECTIONS

A NEWSLETTER FROM CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

FALL 2017

Office Hours:

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Township Board:

Supervisor:

Rob Beahan; 949-1500
rbeahan@cascadetwp.com

Clerk:

Sue Slater; 949-1508
sslater@cascadetwp.com

Treasurer:

Ken Peirce; 949-6944
kpeirce@cascadetwp.com

Trustees:

Jim Koessel
jkoessel@cascadetwp.com

Jack Lewis

jlewis@cascadetwp.com

Tom McDonald

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John Shipley

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Department Phone Numbers:

Manager:

Ben Swayze; 949-1500
bswayze@cascadetwp.com

Assessing:

Roger McCarty; 949-6176
roger@cascadetwp.com

Building Inspections:

Brian Wilson; 949-3765
bwilson@cascadetwp.com

Community Development

Steve Peterson; 949-0224
speterson@cascadetwp.com

Fire:

Ron Rowland; 949-1320
rrowland@cascadetwp.com

Sheriff/Non-Emergency:

632-6100

CASCADE TOWNSHIP IS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Cascade Township is on Facebook! Like and follow our page (FB: /CascadeTownship) to keep up to date on what's happening in the Township, with your neighbors and with area businesses.



You are also welcome to sign up for our eNews service. This is a news update service from Cascade Township. It is available to anyone wishing to receive periodic e-mail updates from Cascade Township on items related to Township services, government and events in the community.

To subscribe or unsubscribe from this service, please go to our website at www.cascadetwp.com and click the eNews link under Quick Links.



CASCADE FIRE DEPT. HALLOWEEN PARTY

Bring your ghosts! Bring your goblins!

Cascade Township Fire Department invites you to the annual Halloween party on Tuesday, October 31st at Cascade Township Fire Station #1 located at 2865 Thornhills Avenue SE.

The Halloween party at the Fire Department will begin at 5:30 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. Activities will include clowns, a costume contest with prizes, and a bag of goodies for all the children. Complimentary cider, hot chocolate, coffee and doughnuts will be served.

Come early or late, but if you choose to have your costume judged, please be here at 7:30 p.m. for the group judging. If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact the Cascade Township Fire Department at (616) 949-1320.

Join us for a safe night of Halloween fun at the Fire Station.



HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HOST SEPTEMBER 24 TOUR OF CASCADE CEMETERY

Cascade Historical Society will be hosting tours of the Cascade Cemetery on Sunday, September 24 from 2-4 p.m. The cemetery, founded in 1854 is located at 7200 30th Street. It is the final resting place for many of our township's founders, leaders, and veterans of the War of 1812, the Civil War, World War I and World War II.

A brochure outlining a self-guided walking tour of the cemetery was created by Peter Cullen of Boy Scout Troop 334 as part of his Eagle Scout project in 2015. More information is available at www.cascadetwp.com.

Please join us to honor the people who have been instrumental in shaping Cascade's history, and learn their fascinating stories.



NEWS FROM THE SUPERVISOR...



FROM THE SUPERVISOR
ROB BEAHAN

This time of year is usually the middle of road construction season in the area and this year is no exception. By the time one construction project is completed and everyone has figured out alternative routes, another project starts, testing everyone's patience. One that will surely do that is starting in late August.

At that time, the intersection of 28th Street and Kraft Avenue will be under construction. This project includes widening the north side of 28th Street east and west of Kraft Avenue to provide a dual left-turn lane on 28th Street and right-turn lane extension west of Kraft Ave. Kraft Ave. will be widened north and south of 28th St. to accommodate dual left turns off 28th St. and provide dual through movements on Kraft Ave. north and south of 28th St. This project is planned to start August 21, 2017 with completion by October 31, 2017.

The section of Kraft north of 28th Street was recently paved under the direction of the Kent County Road Commission. The Kent County Road Commission has jurisdiction over that segment as well as the intersection of Kraft and 28th St. Once the intersection work is completed, you will notice better traffic flow for turns along with increased safety.

A complaint heard frequently after a stretch of road has been improved and repaved is speeding. In addition to the regular road patrols by the Kent County Sheriff Department, the department also concentrates on those areas that have generated increased calls. Cascade Township has a large mobile speed board that can be placed in areas throughout the Township. We share this on a weekly basis for three seasons of the year with Grand Rapids Township and Ada Township, which with us make up the East Precinct. Cascade Township has also recently purchased two smaller digital speed boards that will be used exclusively in Cascade to help make drivers aware of their speed. Once the recorded digital information on the speed boards is analyzed we can request increased spot patrolling and enforcement from the Sheriff's Department to help bring the speeds back down to the posted limit.



TREASURER'S DEPARTMENT

Summer taxes were due and payable on July 1, 2017. The last day to pay your summer bill without penalty is Thursday September 14th, 2017. Postmarks are not accepted. Our office hours are 8am – 5 pm Monday thru Friday. The office will be closed Monday, September 4th, Labor Day. If you mail your check, it would be helpful to include your telephone number on the check in case there are any issues with the payment. Information is available on the Cascade Charter Township web site to help you verify the amount of summer property tax paid or the balance due.

Please visit the web site for tax information at:
cascadetwp.com

- Quick Links (left side of screen)
- Assessing/Bldg/Tax Info
- Enter Parcel No., Address, or Name in search bar
- Click on the parcel number and the tax information tab.

If you have not yet received your 2017 summer property taxes, call the Treasurer's office at (616) 949-6944. We look forward to assisting you.



TELL US WHAT YOU LOVE ABOUT CASCADE: TAKE OUR ONLINE FEEDBACK SURVEY



The Cascade Downtown Development Authority (DDA) wants your feedback on what makes this community great.

Look for the online feedback survey under "What's Happening" on our website at www.cascadetwp.com in September.

This survey is part of an effort to clearly showcase our community's strengths to current and potential businesses and residents.

The survey will be used to create a brand and marketing plan to promote Cascade.

Thanks for taking the time to give your feedback!

YARD WASTE PICK UP PROGRAM FALL 2017

Purchase Yard Waste Tags at the reception desk of the Township Offices from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Tags are \$1.00 each
Pick up will be every Monday
From October 16 through November 13

- Please have your yard waste near the curb by 6:00 a.m. to assure pick up.
- Place a tag on each bag of leaves or bundle of branches. (No grass clippings, dirt, sod, cement, sand or rocks please).
- Please use 30 gal. plastic bags or paper yard waste bags.
- Sticks should be no longer than 4 feet in length and branches, logs and stumps are not to exceed 1 inch in diameter.
- Residents 62 years of age and older will receive 20 tags FREE per calendar year, per household.
- This service is only available in the restricted burn area.
- The yard waste dumpsters will be available behind the Thornhills Fire Station on October 21-23 and November 4-26.

For more information, please call
949-1500.

Note: If you have tags left over from last spring or fall and you intend to use them, please contact the Township Office so your address can be added to the pickup list.



NEWS FROM THE CLERK, SUE SLATER

VOTING CHANGES

Cascade is growing

– and that will mean some changes to our voting precincts. We are finalizing details this fall and will share more information in January.

ADA / CASCADE FALL CLEAN-UP DAY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14 FROM 8AM TO 2:30PM

FOR ADA AND CASCADE RESIDENTS, we are again hosting the Fall Clean-Up Day.

Note: The gates will close promptly at 2:30 – no items can be accepted after that.

WHERE: By the old Kent County Road Commission garage at the end of Fase Street and in the parking lot at Leonard Field Park.

WHAT: Non-hazardous household waste, yard waste, appliances, metal, used household items for recycling, electronics recycling (computers, TV's, etc.), household papers for shredding will be accepted. No hazardous material or tires will be accepted.

AT END OF FASE STREET GARAGE AREA:

- *Republic Services for general household waste and yard waste
- *Pando's for scrap metal and appliances

AT LEONARD FIELD PARKING LOT:

- *Salvation Army for re-usable household items and donations
- *Shred-It for household papers to be shredded (no businesses – 100 lbs. limit / customer)
- *Comprenew for electronics recycling – computers, TVs, VCR's, small appliances..

IDENTIFICATION is required to verify your residency within the townships of Ada or Cascade. If you live in Grand Rapids Township but your mailing address is Ada, you do not qualify.

FOR QUESTIONS, call Ada Township Hall (616) 676-9191 x. 29 M-F, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Or Cascade Township (616) 949-1500.



EAST PRECINCT NEWS...



Good day Cascade residents, this article is regarding speeding in our community.

The Kent County Sheriff's Office receives several calls a day related to vehicles speeding all over Kent County, with many of these complaints coming from neighborhoods. Speeding is a concern and until we all have self-driving cars that can navigate the morning commute, we must pay better attention

to how fast we are going.

Numerous factors are considered when determining a speed limit, one of which is the speed that the majority of traffic drives. It was surprising to me that most of us, without paying attention to how fast we are traveling, will drive a reasonable speed.

With that said another, and I believe the biggest, factor in determining a speed limit is if the location is a residential Plat or subdivision. Take a residential subdivision for example - the speed limit is set at 25 MPH. This is because of the close proximity of the homes and driveways, other roadways as well as foot traffic in the area. All this is taken into consideration. The speed limit is set to be sure it is slow enough to stop quickly.

I have had the opportunity to use a driving simulator that many insurance companies have for distracted driving programs. It is always interesting to watch people participate in operating the simulator and text or make a phone call. The reaction time is the biggest factor. While in the simulator the person is hyper focused on staying in their lane and not speeding but when they need to stop suddenly or swerve, that is when everyone notices that the person does not respond fast enough.

I understand driving distracted doesn't necessarily mean speeding, but I believe we all are driving distracted. Whether it is kids in the car yelling in the back seat or making that call to the office. Our mind is not focused on driving. Driving is a task that demands focus and attention.

I know we all can agree that we don't want our child involved in a crash. If everyone drives with that thought in mind I know we can slow down, especially in our neighborhood communities.

Be Safe and Aware,

Deputy Ryan Roe

Kent County Sheriff Department
Ryan.roe@kentcountymi.gov

NEWS FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT...

Adding a room, renovating a basement, or doing some much-needed repairs? Finding a good contractor is important.

Do Your Research...

- Check with friends, neighbors, or co-workers who've used a contractor.
- Look at sites you trust that post ratings and reviews.
- Find out how long they've been in business.
- Check for qualifications, like licensing and registration... The building department keeps records of all registered contractors and permits that have been issued.



Get Estimates...

- Once you've narrowed your options, get written estimates from several firms.
- Don't automatically choose the lowest bidder.
- Ask for an explanation to see if there's a reason for the difference in price.

Ask Questions...

- How many projects like mine have you completed in the last year?
- Will my project require a permit?
- May I have a list of references?
- What types of insurance do you carry?
- Will you be using subcontractors on this project?



Understand Your Payment Options...

- Don't pay cash.
- Try to limit your down payment.
- Try to make payments during the project contingent upon completion of defined amounts of work.

Get a Written Contract...

Additional information is available at www.consumer.ftc.gov or contact the Cascade Township Building Department 616-949-3765.

LET THE LIBRARY KEEP YOU WARM THIS FALL

SUNDAY AFTERNOON LIVE

When it gets chilly, we bring local musicians inside the cozy Wisner Center on Sunday afternoons. Concerts will take place one Sunday afternoon a month from October through April, with a special KDL bonus concert in February. This fall, come listen to Megan Dooley and The Moxie Strings. For Adults.



Sunday, October 22 at 2:00pm, Megan Dooley
Sunday, November 19 at 2:00pm, Moxie Strings

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION DAY

The Friends of the Cascade Township branch of Kent District Library want to say thank you to our community for your support all year long with a party. The party will include a special Dinosaur Dig Storytime. All ages.



Sunday, October 29 from 2:00 to 4:00pm

CREATE A TRADITIONAL FOLK REMEDY

Come and prepare a jar of this pungent, handmade mixture based on Fire Cider. Taste a sample and learn how it is used. For Adults.
 Pre-registration is required.



Monday, October 16 at 6:00pm

BOOK SALE

Friends of the Cascade Library will sponsor a Book Sale on Saturday, September 16, 2017 from 10:00 to 4:00 in the Wisner Center of the Cascade Township Branch of the Kent District Library, 2870 Jacksmith Ave. SE, Grand Rapids, 49546.

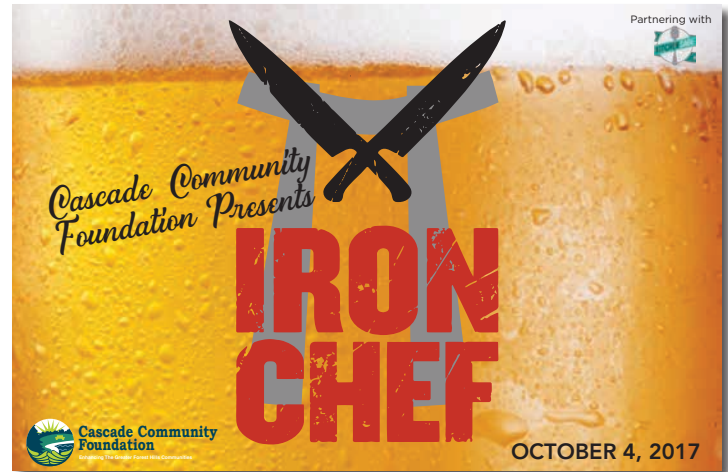
- Hardcover books are \$1.00, and paperbacks are \$.50 OR
- Fill a paper grocery bag with adult books for only \$10

(Sorry, CD's, children's books and LP's are not included in the bag sale)

All proceeds support the Cascade Branch, for more information about special events go to: www.kdl.org or www.CascadeFriends.org



SAVE THE DATE!



When:

Wednesday, Oct. 4, 6:30PM

Where:

Blue Moose Sports Club
 6240 28th Street SE
 Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Tickets:

\$100/person or
 \$800 for a table of 8
 Tickets can be purchased at
cascadecommunityfoundation.com
 2 complimentary beverages per person + cash bar

RSVP By:

Friday, Sept. 20

Itinerary:

6:30 Doors Open
 7:00 Iron Chef Judging & Strolling Dinner
 8:15 Program & Awards
 9:00 Mix & Mingle

Our Restaurants:

The Pour House, The Pit Stop, Honey Creek Inn, Cascade Roadhouse, Ganders, Noto's Old World Italian Dining, Nonna's: The Trattoria

Thank you to all of our sponsors.

For sponsorship opportunities please contact Valery Young at president@cascadecommunityfoundation.com



**Cascade
 Community
 Foundation**

www.cascadecommunityfoundation.com
info@cascadecommunityfoundation.com

6 CASCADE CONNECTIONS

SO MANY STORIES: JOIN US FOR A TOUR OF CASCADE CEMETERY ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

The Cascade Cemetery is a quiet place, bordered by a black iron fence and mature trees. The gravesites here reflect our township's long history, from the earliest pioneers who cleared the land to the 20th century civic-minded men and women who helped make Cascade the fine community it is today.

There were no cemeteries in the United States before the 1830s. Loved ones were buried in "hallowed ground" surrounding a church, or in a private plot on the family farm. Growing awareness of how disease could spread from crowded graveyards, especially during floods or epidemics, led to the establishment of park-like rural cemeteries—expansive places outside of the city or town center—which were regulated by the local board of health.

In keeping with this national trend, in January 1849, less than a year after being designated a township, Cascade created two cemeteries—one at 5601 Whitneyville Road, which is still being used, and the Cook-Teeple Cemetery, near where Lewis and Elizabeth Cook established the first farm in the township in 1836. Both cemeteries were not far from two of the township's significant centers of population at that time. A third cemetery was created at 3131 Snow Avenue, and is still in use.

To meet the needs of the growing township, Cascade Cemetery was established in 1854 on high ground on what is now the south side of 30th Street. It is



possible that in those days, without the mature trees that cover the hill today, the cemetery might have been visible from a distance, to travelers on what is now Cascade Road, or perhaps even from the area near the river crossing, where the bridge is today.

In 1966 the Cook-Teeple Cemetery was relocated from near I-96 and 28th Street during the completion of the expressway. These graves, many of them very old, were moved to the southwest corner of Cascade Cemetery.

One early account of Kent County history claims that that the land for Cascade Cemetery was donated by the Reverend Erie Prince in 1856, but our local history book, *Cascade Chronicles*, states that this is not true. Prince made the first land purchase in Cascade in 1832, taking

possession of what is now much of the neighborhood near the cemetery. He was respected for his hard work, devotion to family and community, and kindness. He was a preacher at Cascade Congregational Church, and owned a small store near his home on the east side of the river.



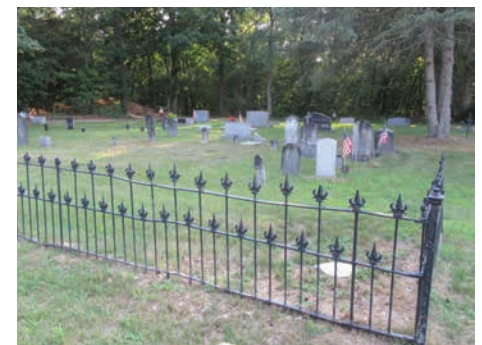
Prince and his wife had a son, and expanded their family when they brought the young George Gorham to live with them. Near the end of his life, Prince became a controversial figure, alienating segments of the community. He revised his last will and testament, disowning his wife and their son, complaining that they had treated him poorly and even forbidden him to ride his favorite horse. He endowed George Gorham with all his worldly goods and property. He died in 1862, and specified that he wished to be buried in an unmarked grave. Yet there is a marker for him, on the boundary of the cemetery, at the very edge of the Gorham plot, making it easy to miss, which would probably have pleased him.

In all cemeteries, every tombstone represents the story of a life, and Cascade Cemetery is the place where the human history of our community is memorialized. The tale of Erie Prince is but one of many narratives about the people who shaped Cascade. For more of these stories, and to learn about the pioneers, veterans, leaders, volunteers, and neighbors who lived them, please join us as the Cascade Historical Society hosts tours of the cemetery on Sunday, September 24th from 2 to 4 p.m.

Cascade Cemetery is located at 7200 30th Street. Parking is limited; please follow posted directions.

Some of the venerated citizens on the tour include Charles Richardson Buttrick, James W. Washburn, Linson Beard Jr., George Seward Richardson, James R. Laraway, Rev. Erie Prince, George W. Gorham, Edgar R. Johnson, Gideon Denison, Henry Clay Denison, Frances E. Campau, Dr. Mortimer W. Danforth, John M. Patterson, Charles F. Holt, Hugh B. Brown, William J. Watterson, Richard J. Slater, Henry C. Koetsier, Peter Teeple, Elizabeth and Lewis Cook, Charles M. Nobbs and William Auble. Biographies of these people are at [cascadetwp.com/Community/Historical-Society-\(1\)](http://cascadetwp.com/Community/Historical-Society-(1)). We will also be noting more recent citizens, including the Reverend Raymond Gaylord of Cascade Christian Church, former township clerk Mickie Kleinheksel, and the recently deceased Kathryn Buttrick (Kloosterman) Wingeier, who was part of the "heart" of Cascade.

Whether you're a local history fan or a descendant, relative or friend of anyone who rests in peace at Cascade Cemetery, we welcome your presence, questions and reminiscences. Hope to see you on Sunday, September 24th!



JULY 4TH, 2017

This year's 4th of July Celebration, as in the past, was an enjoyable event for all that attended and participated. Even the weather was fantastic.

The day began with the Friends of the Library Book Sale at our Township Library. Area boys and girls headed up Cascade Road to 28th Street on their bikes for the Annual Bike Parade. The Kent County Sheriff's Department, leading the way, started the Community Parade, with Uncle Sam and the Boy Scouts carrying the American Flag right behind the Deputies. There were floats from many Community businesses and organizations, cars, trucks, and others participating.

For the last several years, Pat Vredevoogd-Combs has sponsored the Parade and supplied trophies for the best two floats in the Community Parade. Pat is huge supporter of this event. Thank you, Pat, for your many years of support to Cascade Township 4th of July celebration.

After the parade finished the Celebration began on the grounds by the library and Noto's restaurant. Thank you, to the Noto's family, for the use of the parking lot and for your many years of support to Cascade Township 4th of July celebration.

Throughout the day kids from the community were able to enjoy numerous rides and inflatables. There was food, music and a steady stream of water from Caledonia Fire Department's ladder truck, helping to keep all attending cool during the day.

This event requires countless hours of planning to make it a success. It starts many months prior to the event and cannot be completed without all of the help that is



received from so many people - Cascade Christian Church and volunteers helping set up tables and chairs the night prior to the event, staff from the Township Board, Fire Department and Building and Grounds and volunteers working all day during the event to make it enjoyable for everyone.

We personally would like to thank all that attended the Celebration, the businesses that donated and attended the Celebration, and Funny Business Agency for the rides and time spent helping with the event. Thank you to all Township Board Members, Building and Grounds, Fire Department and Township staff and the volunteers for spending your day at the event. Your work and support is appreciated and made the celebration a huge success.

If anyone would like to help or has a suggestion or comments for next year's celebration please call me at 616-949-1320 or e-mail me at RRowland@cascadetwp.com.



THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR JULY 4TH 2017 CELEBRATION SPONSORS!

Lacks Enterprises
Culver's
Ada Bible Church
R-Athletics
Spartan Nash
Recycling Concepts of West MI
Applied Imaging
Family & Friends Veterinary
3 S LLC DBA Great Clips
esmls-Cascade Family Dentistry
Joymar, Inc. Cascade carwash
Cascade Fellowship CRC
Betten Imports
Bagger Dave's Burger Tavern, Inc
Friends of the Cascade Library
William Bos Greenhouses & Farms
College H.U.N.K.S.
FlexFab LLC
Rob Beahan
Cascade Animal Hospital
Cascade Community Foundation
Verburg's Automotive



Cascade Charter Township

2865 Thornhills Ave SE.
Grand Rapids MI 49546
phone: 616.949.1500
fax: 616.949.3918
www.cascadetwp.com

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PATHWAY NEWS...

The other day Kathy and I were riding our bikes on the trail between Cascade Road and Ada Drive. About half way down the trail a female deer darted out in front of me and missed hitting my bike by inches. This deer must have weighed 150 pounds and appeared to be traveling 25 miles an hour. Had I been hit someone else would be writing this newsletter. After I got my heart back into my chest and checked to see if I soiled myself we continued on with our ride. I tell you this as a warning to be ever vigilant. Deer are on the move. They don't have a GPS system warning them of impending collisions. On a lighter note and just as a repeat reminder, if in your travels on our wonderful trail system you come across portions of the trail that are need of repair, contact Steve Peterson at (616) 949-0224 or speterson@cascadetwp.com. Please let him know the location (using the nearest address is usually best) and nature of the problem. As always to those of you that take the time to pick up trash on and around or trail system many thanks.

Remember, KEEP CASCADE BEAUTIFUL!

*Kris Taylor
Pathway Coordinator*

