SOLON TOWNSHIP – WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER

Solon Township, Kent County 15185 Algoma Ave NE Cedar Springs, MI 49319 Office hours Mon-Wed 9am-5pm 616-696-1718

NEW WEBSITE

We are happy to announce the release of our redesigned website. It has been crafted to reflect what residents need now but also builds upon technology capable of addressing future needs. The new website was designed to be a resource hub as well as a communication vehicle for the community, with expanded capabilities for sharing and interaction.

You will be able to find Forms, Meeting minutes, Tax information, news about the Fire Department, Township Committees, Parks and Market events, and to easily make inquiries and comments.

Immediately you will notice simple menus and navigation tools to access the information you need any time of day. In the coming months, we plan to add photos, documents and features to give you better access to information in and around your community.

Please check it out at www.solontwp.org. We look forward to your ideas for continual improvement of this site.

PROPERTY TAXES

Just a reminder the Winter property taxes are due without penalty and interest by February 16, 2016. Summer and Winter Taxes can be paid at the Township office through March 1, 2016, with additional interest and/or penalty charges being applied. You can pay them at the Township Hall, by mail or you can drop them in the drop box next to the front door of the Township Building. We do not accept post marks as the date received.

Go to our new website <u>www.solontwp.org</u>. and look under Property Taxes – Search Property tax information online for the correct balance or call the office if paying after the due date. Our office hours are Monday – Wednesday 9:00AM to 5:00PM On March 2, 2016 the delinquent taxes are turned over to Kent County Treasurer for collection. Please contact their office for the correct balance, 616-632-7500.

FARMER'S MARKET

Greetings from your Market Committee!! We want to thank all our vendors and customers for a great season! Some changes for 2016: Beginning in June, we will only be open once a month on the second Saturday of each month through October. This will enable us to plan bigger events, use the community room and provide more seasonal produce to our Market venue. Our calendar of events is as follows:

- * June 11 Opening Day Community Sale
- * July 9 Christmas in July
- * August 13 Dog Daze Pet Expo
- * September 10 Giveaways
- * October 8 Boo-tackular

Contact Shelly, market manager, at 616-696-1848 with questions and suggestions or if you are interested in volunteering. Like us on Facebook/Solon-Market.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Several years ago, the Solon Township Board of Trustees appointed an advisory committee to gather opinions from township residents for use of the township land at 15185 Algoma Avenue. The committee conducted mail and person-to-person surveys over the past 3 years. These surveys and public meetings were used to determine the opinions, ideas and concerns of the residents and to serve as a foundation for decision-making regarding parks and recreation.

Using the information gathered, and a grant from Kent County Community Development, the committee has worked diligently with a design company to create a Park Master Plan and 5 Year Recreation Plan, which the Board of Trustees adopted at their meeting on November 10, 2015.

As they move forward, the committee will solicit ideas for events and fund raisers to raise the required matching funds in anticipation of a DNR Trust Fund grant award and begin Phase 1 of our Park Plan —building walking paths, restroom facilities, and playground area. Phases 2 through 5 add many exciting things that can be seen on our website.

There will be many opportunities for volunteers to join the team to build our community park. Watch for information on our website or call us at 616-696-1718 to share your concerns, needs and interests so that the Township will be able to plan and direct resources for the benefit of the community.