

# Charter Township of Brighton

Volume I, Issue I

Summer 2005

## We're Back!

In an effort to open the lines of communication and extend our commitment to provide township residents and property owners with information on current township issues we are resurrecting our community newsletter. We hope it will provide residents with useful information on current township happenings. It will be published twice yearly and included with your tax bill. This will assure that all property owners are aware of what's happening in the township and it will keep the mailing costs down. It is our hope that it will serve as an avenue of communication.

In doing so we would like to introduce your new Board of Trustees. Our trustees include one seasoned veteran and three new faces.

Mike Slaton is currently serving in his third term as a trustee. Appointed to the Board about six years ago, Mike lives with his wife Sharon on the Township's southwest side. A paralegal by training and a former security

consultant, he serves on the township's cable committee and Zoning Board of Appeals. Mike brings a depth of experience in local government to the Board.

Cathy Doughty, a new face on the Board lives with husband Ron in the northeast area of the township. She was raised in the Clark Lake area so she knows the area well. She serves on the Lakes Committee, Livingston Community Water Authority, and as the SELCRA representative.

Tom Murphy or "Murph" as he likes to be called lives with wife Kelly and family in the southeast area of the township. Tom has been active in school and community affairs and brings a strong business background and computer security acumen to our board. He serves on the Roads, Utilities, and Cable committees and also serves as the township representative on SELCRA and as the Livingston Community Water Authority alternate.

Tim Winship, an attorney, lives with wife Jill and three children



Communication is key. Check out Comcast Cable Channel 15 or [www.brightontwp.com](http://www.brightontwp.com) for current news happenings.

in the northwest area of our community. He brings to the Board a level of expertise in employment and general law. He sits on the Planning Commission and the Brighton Area Fire Authority Board.

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## Fall Yard Waste Clean-up Day

Yard waste clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, November 5th. Acceptable items include grass clippings, leaves and brush under two inches in diameter. It must be delivered in paper compost bags or loose in trashcans. Material in plastic bags cannot be collected. Brush should be bundled for easy handling. Yard waste cannot include

sod, branches over two inches in diameter, dirt, pet waste, hay, stumps, trash, or wood chips.



## Mark your calendar!

**Yard Waste  
Clean-up Day**

**Saturday,  
November 5th**

**8:00 AM—Noon**

**Township Hall**

**4363 Buno Road**



Visit us at [www.brightontwp.com](http://www.brightontwp.com) or visit Comcast Cable Channel 15.

## www.brightontwp.com

The Township website continues to grow in content and flexibility. You can find online Assessing data, Tax data, Building data, Ordinances, and a Site Search Engine.

The Online Assessing, Tax and Building data provides public data on the various land parcels of the township. Only public data is provided and it is made available so one can search for infor-

mation via the internet 24 hours a day without making the trip to Township Hall. To find this data go to the appropriate Department web page and follow the link to the online data.

Meeting agendas and minutes are also on the web. Additionally, we are expanding the website to include forms and applications. Some forms are already on line.

Beginning this Fall, we will be working with the Michigan Townships Association to expand the website even further and make it even more user friendly. Through this association we will be working with University students as part of a class project using the latest technology and design practices.

Regular Board Meetings are on the 1st and 3rd Monday's of each month. The meetings are held in the Board Room in the lower level of Township Hall.

Meeting start time is 7:30 P.M.

## Board (Continued from Page 1)

Supervisor H.E. "Bud" Prine lives with his wife Lou in the center of the Township on Lake Moraine. Formerly a trustee, he is a civil engineer and worked in general contracting for over 35 years. His previous local government experience includes sitting on a city council and serving on the Brighton Township planning commission.

Ann Bollin, our returning clerk,

lives with husband Tim and three boys in the center of Brighton Township. She has over 15 years of local government professional experience and previously served on the Brighton Township Planning Commission for ten years.

Treasurer Geri Harmon has been on the Board the longest at eight years. She began as a trustee and is currently serving her

second term as Treasurer. She lives with husband Gordon on the south side and has many years of accounting experience.

It is a diverse group of people committed to the future of Brighton Township. All board members can be contacted through township hall at 810.229.0550 or via e-mail. Contact information is listed later in this newsletter.



Our Water. Our Future. Ours to Protect.

## Seven Simple Steps to Clean Water

1. Help keep pollution out of storm drains
2. Fertilize sparingly *and* carefully
3. Carefully store & dispose of household cleaners, chemicals and oil
4. Clean up after your pet
5. Practice good car care
6. Choose earth-friendly landscaping
7. Save water

## Township Hires New Manager

David M. Murphy joins the township as our new township manager. As manager he is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the township. He comes to us from the Village of Caro where he served as manager for seven years. David brings 12 years of professional experience to the table.

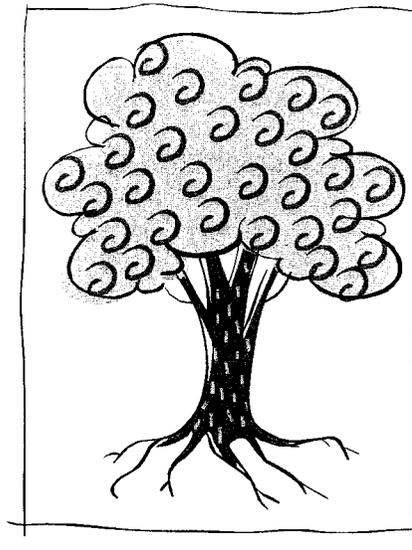
He attended the University of Michigan and holds a master's degree in public administration from Oakland University. He is married to Kathleen and has two children: Nicholas (3) and Ethan (2). He is looking forward to moving to Brighton Township and settling in to our "beautiful community".

## Township Adopts Land Clearing / Tree Preservation Ordinance

An Ordinance was recently adopted to preserve the natural woodland environment in the township and prevent clear-cutting. The ordinance was developed after the clear-cutting that took place last summer at Old US 23 and Spencer Roads. The Township's Master Plan dated June, 2002 also suggested the preservation of natural woodland areas as a goal that the residents desired. It will require property owners to file a permit application before cutting down landmark trees. The ordinance can be viewed on the township's website ([www.brightontwp.com](http://www.brightontwp.com)). Questions can be directed to the Township Planner, Kelly Mathews, at (810) 229-0562.

## Summer Property Tax Deferrals

There are no changes for the 2005 summer tax deferrals. To determine if you qualify, you may obtain an application at the Treasurer's Office. Contact the Treasurer's office at (810) 229-0556.



## Property Tax Shift

As a result of legislative action by the State of Michigan, the General Property Tax Act has been amended to provide for the following:

- 1/3 County allocated taxes will be collected with Summer 2005 taxes rather than Winter 2005
- 2/3 County allocated taxes will be collected with Summer 2006 taxes rather than Winter 2006
- 100% County allocated taxes will be collected Summer 2007 and each Summer thereafter.

This change has been reflected on your Summer 2005 tax bill.

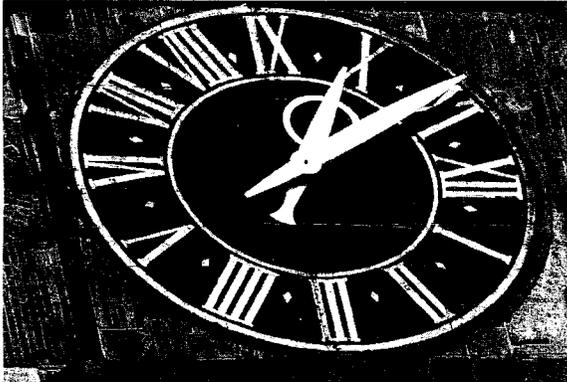
## Want to Save Your Road?

The Township's Road Advisory Committee continuously looks for ways to improve the road conditions in the Township. One way is to reduce the volume of heavy vehicles on local streets. This can be accomplished by reducing the number of garbage haulers by having one hauler service the entire subdivision. Benefits to this approach include:

- One truck in the subdivision just one day per week
- Potential cost savings
- Improved safety
- Competitive pricing

## Charter Township of Brighton

4363 Buno Road  
Brighton, MI 48114  
Phone: (810) 229.0550  
Fax: (810)229.1778



### A Bit of History ....

Settlers first arrived in the area in 1832. They settled on land presently part of the General Motors Proving Grounds near what is now Hyne and Pleasant Valley Roads. Early accounts indicate good relations with the local Indians who helped them out by providing venison and other game in return for "scanty returns" which was perhaps vegetables or other farm produce.

Brighton Township first came into existence during the term of President Martin Van Buren. In 1834 Green Oak was formed including the area known as Brighton Township. In 1837, the area we know as Brighton Township was officially established.

Please forward newsletter comments to:  
clerk@brightontwp.com or  
david.murphy@brightontwp.com

Please be sure to add "newsletter" in the subject line

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

[www.brightontwp.com](http://www.brightontwp.com)

### SUPERVISOR

H.E. "Bud" Prine  
bud.prine@brightontwp.com  
(810) 229-0550

### CLERK

Ann Bollin  
clerk@brightontwp.com  
(810) 229-0560

### TREASURER

Geri Harmon  
treasurer@brightontwp.com  
(810) 229-0556

### TRUSTEES\*\*

Cathy Doughty  
cathy.doughty@brightontwp.com

Tom "Murph" Murphy  
tom.murphy@brightontwp.com

Mike Slaton  
trusteemike@brightontwp.com

Tim Winship  
tim.winship@brightontwp.com

### MANAGER

david.murphy@brightontwp.com  
(810) 229-0550

### *Regular Meeting Days and Times\**

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1st & 3rd Mondays of every month at 7:30 PM

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month at 7:30 PM

#### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

4th Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM

*\*Meetings are subject to change. Contact the Clerk's office for more information.*

*\*\*Phone messages may be left at (810) 229-0550 for all trustees.*