



# CASCADE CONNECTIONS

A NEWSLETTER FROM CASCADE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Spring  
2016

#### Office Hours:

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

#### Township Board:

##### Supervisor:

Rob Beahan; 949-1500  
[rbeahan@cascadetwp.com](mailto:rbeahan@cascadetwp.com)

##### Clerk:

Clem Bell; 949-1508  
[cbell@cascadetwp.com](mailto:cbell@cascadetwp.com)

##### Treasurer:

Ken Peirce; 949-6944  
[kpeirce@cascadetwp.com](mailto:kpeirce@cascadetwp.com)

##### Trustees:

Jim Koessel  
[jkoessel@cascadetwp.com](mailto:jkoessel@cascadetwp.com)

Jack Lewis

[jlewis@cascadetwp.com](mailto:jlewis@cascadetwp.com)

Fred Goldberg

[fgoldberg@cascadetwp.com](mailto:fgoldberg@cascadetwp.com)

Tom McDonald

[tmcdonald@cascadetwp.com](mailto:tmcdonald@cascadetwp.com)

#### Department Phone Numbers:

##### Manager:

Ben Swayze; 949-1500  
[bswayze@cascadetwp.com](mailto:bswayze@cascadetwp.com)

##### Assessing:

Roger McCarty; 949-6176  
[roger@cascadetwp.com](mailto:roger@cascadetwp.com)

##### Building Inspections:

Brian Wilson; 949-3765  
[bwilson@cascadetwp.com](mailto:bwilson@cascadetwp.com)

#### Community Development

Steve Peterson; 949-0224  
[speterson@cascadetwp.com](mailto:speterson@cascadetwp.com)

##### Fire:

John Sigg; 949-1320  
[jsigg@cascadetwp.com](mailto:jsigg@cascadetwp.com)

#### Sheriff/Non-Emergency:

632-6100

## YARD WASTE PICK UP PROGRAM SPRING 2016

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 April 4 through May 2**

- 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 gallon 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 April 22nd – 24th. There will also be a 15 cubic yard container of finished compost. This material is free and offered on a first come first serve basis.**

For more information, please call (616) 949-1500.

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.

**\*Please Note: The curb side pickup and dumpsters are NOT for the disposal of Garlic Mustard. Please place Garlic Mustard in a separate, sealed bag and put it in your regular trash.**

## ADA/CASCADE CLEAN-UP DAY

**For Ada and Cascade residents: Spring Clean-Up Day is Saturday, May 7th.**

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 7th, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Note: The gates will close promptly at 2:30 – no items can be accepted after that.

**WHERE:** The Kent County Road Commission Garage at the end of Fase Street and the parking lot at Leonard Field Park.

**WHAT IS ACCEPTED:** Non-hazardous yard and household waste, electronics recycling (computers, TV's, etc.), appliances, metal, used household items for recycling will be accepted.

**NOT ACCEPTED:** Shingles, tires, batteries, liquid waste such as paint, chemicals, oil, etc., ashes, propane tanks, medical waste, or any other hazardous material.

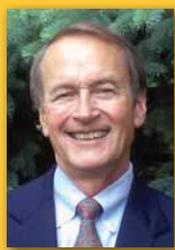
**HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING AND DONATIONS:** The Salvation Army will be in the parking lot at Leonard Field Park by the Covered Bridge to accept used items. Please drop off all household items there instead of Fase Street.

**DOCUMENT SHREDDING** will be in the parking lot at Leonard Field Park by the Covered Bridge. "Shred-It" will do "on-site" shredding (up to 100 lbs.) of your personal sensitive documents.

**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 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. or Cascade Township (616) 949-1500.

**Save the Date:** Fall Clean-Up Day set for Saturday, October 1, 2016.



FROM THE  
SUPERVISOR  
ROB BEAHAN

### FROM THE SUPERVISOR...

The Cascade Historical Society recently acquired a treasure trove of all the original copies of The Suburban Life, a weekly local newspaper for the three surrounding communities of Ada, Cascade, and Eastmont, which was the name used to describe the area around Cascade Road and Forest Hill Avenue. The paper was first published in 1955 and it is a wonderful glimpse into how life was in Cascade 60 years ago.

An article printed in a 1955 edition of The Suburban Life stated that Cascade Road was built sometime around 1838 and between 1877 and 1884 was actually a toll road until just after 1900. The Kent County Road Commission was formed in 1910 and shortly after that a state road system went into effect in 1917. Cascade Road soon was designated US-16, the main thoroughfare to Lansing and Detroit and was one of the first roads taken over by the new State Highway Department. The road was paved from the village to near Lansing in 1923 and in the early fifties the stretch between Cascade and Grand Rapids was made into four lanes to handle the average of 7,000 vehicles a day.

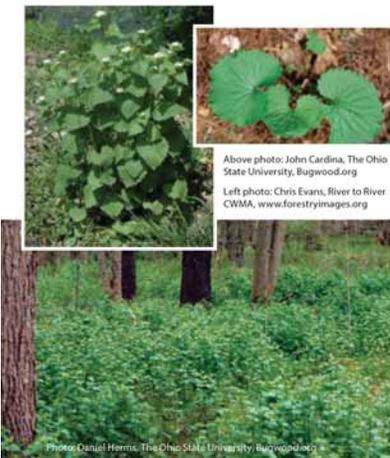
The population of Cascade Township in 1955 was around 1,600 residents, a far cry from the 17,000 number today and the 35,000 daily trips on Cascade Road. The improvements made in 2015 for the village area have helped with better, safer traffic flow. In 2016, the KCRC will be working on Cascade Road from Hall Street to Burton Street. In areas where it is only four lanes, it will be widened to provide a center turn lane for the entire project length. The project will be done in phases to maintain two way traffic.

Outside of the Township, the KCRC will resurface Cascade Road from Kenmoor Avenue to Forest Hill Avenue, which will also be done in two phases to maintain two way traffic. This is part of the larger Michigan Department of Transportation project to reconstruct and reconfigure the Cascade Road at I-96 interchange to a Diverging Diamond Interchange.

When ours and the other projects are completed, Cascade Road traffic will be smoother and safer for the future years to come.

### MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

The Veterans of Cascade Township are planning a Memorial Day program on Monday, May 30th at the Cascade Library, 2870 Jacksmith Drive. Join them at 10:00 am to honor Veterans of all wars and conflicts.



Above photo: John Cardina, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org  
Left photo: Chris Evans, River to River CWMA, www.forestryimages.org

### 2016 BAGGED GARLIC MUSTARD DROP OFF SITE

**Garlic Mustard** is a highly invasive and destructive plant. It drops thousands of seeds, poisons the soil and out-competes many native plants and tree seedlings.

This spring, bagged garlic mustard can be sent to the incinerator instead of the landfill. The West Michigan Cluster of The Stewardship Network has funded an incineration program again this year with one Garlic Mustard Disposal Site. Please take advantage of this valuable free service.

**What to do if you miss the incineration dates** - Invasive plants like garlic mustard are exempt from the ban on yard waste going into municipal landfills. Garlic Mustard should be bagged and tied tightly for trash pick-up. The best solution is to burn invasive plants, yet many local ordinances do not allow burning on private property. **DO NOT COMPOST!**

### GARLIC MUSTARD DROP SITE:

Friday May 6  
to Sunday, May 21

**Cascade Township Hall  
2865 Thornhills Ave SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546**

Drop off is available after  
4:00 p.m. Friday, May 6  
until 4:00 p.m. Sunday,  
May 21.

For more information about garlic mustard or other invasive plant species contact [wmc@stewardshipnetwork.org](mailto:wmc@stewardshipnetwork.org). Be a part of the state-wide Garlic Mustard Challenge. Report your bag totals to [www.stewardshipnetwork.org](http://www.stewardshipnetwork.org).



### GRAND RAPIDS TRIATHLON 2016

Reminder the Grand Rapids Triathlon will be taking place in portions of Cascade Township on Sunday, June 12th. Registration is open if you would like to participate in our event this year. Volunteer registration will be opening soon. Please consider being part of our event this year. We'd like to thank Cascade Township and its residents for welcoming us back again this year! See you in June!

**Please be aware of road closures in the area of the Thornapple River on both June 11 and June 12.** If you have any questions please contact Andy Vidro (616) 805-3059. [www.grandrapidstri.com](http://www.grandrapidstri.com)

## PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE REMINDER

The deadline for qualifying for the Principal Residence Exemption is coming up. If you own and occupy a residential property as your primary residence, it qualifies for the Principal Residence Exemption (PRE). The Principal Residence Exemption reduces your taxes. It does not change your assessment or taxable value. Properties with an exemption do not pay the School Operating Millage tax. This reduces the millage rate by 9 mills on the summer and 9 mills on the winter tax bills.

Cascade residents who have moved in the past year should update their Principal Residence Exemption status. When you occupy a new home that is your primary residence, you should file a **HOMEOWNER'S PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION AFFIDAVIT** to obtain the exemption for the property. *June 1st* is the deadline to own and occupy the home to be eligible to claim the exemption for the entire current year. Property owners who move in after *June 1st* and before *November 1st* will have their exemption start on the Winter tax bill. Property owners who occupy the home after *November 1st* will have their request activated in their name the following year. If the prior owner already has an exemption, it will stay active for the rest of the year. You do not need to reapply each year. Once you have a PRE, it continues until there is a change in the status of the property.

When a property is no longer your principal residence, you must file a **REQUEST TO RESCIND HOMEOWNER'S PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION** form with the City or Township you had the exemption in. The exemption will be rescinded for the year following the change. For example, if a property stopped being your principal residence in 2015, the exemption will be removed for 2016.

Some homeowners may have two homesteads for a period of time. If you have moved to a new residence for which you have received a PRE, you may be able to request a **CONDITIONAL RESCISSION of PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION** to continue the PRE on the old home for up to three years while you sell it. For details, check the Michigan Department of Treasury website or stop down to the Assessor's Office.

The Principal Residence Exemption Program is a State program administered by the Michigan Department of Treasury. Cascade Township sends the PRE forms it receives to the Treasury Department PRE section which monitors for duplicate exemptions. The Department of Treasury has the ultimate decision as to the validity of an exemption.

There are several ways to confirm whether you have the exemption. The tax bill will indicate the PRE percentage and show if school-operating millage is being charged. The **CHANGE OF ASSESSMENT NOTICE** you received in February listed whether you had an exemption. You may also check on our website or stop down to the Assessor's Office.

Property owners who discover their exemption status is wrong may request the July or December Board of Review correct it. The Board may add or remove an exemption for the current year and three prior years. If you do not have a Principal Residence Exemption and believe you qualify, contact the Assessor's Office at (616) 949-6176.

---

## DON'T BE A VICTIM OF FRAUD

We take several fraud complaints a day at the Sheriff's Office. I want to provide some steps that may decrease your chances of being a victim of fraud.

- Never give personal information to anyone on the phone that calls you. If the caller needs to confirm your information. Hang up and call the company that the person claimed to be with. Most often they claim to be from a bank or credit card company.
- Don't keep secrets, if a person who you believe to be a grandchild calls and needs money, don't keep that a secret. Confirm the information with the parents before sending money.
- The police and the IRS won't call you to remind you that you owe money. They won't make threats and demand payment or jail.
- Home repairs, I suggest getting references from friends, or checking the Better Business Bureau for any type of work done in or around your home. Don't pay the full amount until completion of work.
- Be cautious of who you let into your home. Door to door sales people are required to get a permit from the township. Even if they have a permit be cautious. I have taken many complaints from people missing medications or electronics after someone has been invited into the home to sell a product or repair an appliance.

If you have been the victim of a fraud you need to call the police immediately. The officer that responds will explain the next appropriate step.

Be Safe and Aware,



Deputy Ryan Roe  
*Kent County Sheriff Department*  
[ryan.roe@kentcountymi.gov](mailto:ryan.roe@kentcountymi.gov)

## THE CASCADE HOSPITAL FOR ANIMALS DOG PARK



**Stephanie Fast**  
Community Standards  
Officer

Cascade Recreation Park received some wonderful improvements last year, one of which involved the addition of the Cascade Hospital for Animals Dog Park. This approximately one acre park will give our canine residents the opportunity to lawfully run off leash and socialize with each other, perhaps giving new meaning to the “dog days of summer”. With the official grand opening approaching, I wanted to embrace the opportunity to outline the dog park rules, and provide a few tips that will help you take full advantage of all the fun the dog park has to offer.

### The general dog park rules will be:

*Clean up after your dog. Mutt Mitt dispensers are available as well as trash receptacles.*

I can't emphasize enough how important good sanitation practices are to the health of humans and canines alike. There are some intestinal parasite eggs that can live in the soil for months to years, giving them ample opportunity to infect other animals or people. As pet owners, we know that with exercise our dogs are likely to eliminate. Please make sure that you pick up after your dog.

*If aggressive behavior is observed, take immediate action: Dogs displaying aggressive behavior will need to leave.*

As a former animal control officer, I can tell you that occasionally there are altercations at dog parks involving aggression. Since dogs speak their own language and are unable to read and agree to abide by these rules, it is up to us as their owners to watch for signs that a problem may arise. If you observe your dog reacting negatively to another person or dog, please remove them from the situation. Your vigilance will protect you, your dog, and other residents. If a scuffle should ensue be aware that once aggression is occurring, it is possible for it to be redirected to an unintended target. Meaning your best friend and companion could bite you or the other pet owner in the heat of the moment, making it necessary for you to use the utmost caution while breaking up a fight. A small marine air horn may be helpful, as the noise may frighten the animals long enough for you to intervene.

*Monitor your dog at all times and keep your dog's leash with you.*

Unless your dog has his own Twitter account, you will not be able to monitor him from your smartphone. Make sure you are cognizant of your surroundings.

*Dogs must be on a leash when outside the fenced area.*

The fenced in area is the only place dogs are allowed to be off leash. Walking your dog off leash on public property is prohibited in Kent County. Also make sure you close the gates behind you when you leave to prevent dogs from escaping the fenced in area.

*Children under 10 years old must be with an adult to be in the dog park.*

As I discussed earlier, a dog on dog attack can be a dangerous situation for an adult to navigate. Therefore, we are prohibiting children under 10 without an adult. Parental discretion is advised for minors ranging from 10-17 years old.

*Dogs must be licensed and should wear current license tags and be up to date on all required vaccinations. (rabies, distemper/parvovirus, Leptospirosis and Bordetella).*



If your dog is not currently licensed you can purchase one at the township hall, the Kent County Animal Shelter, and certain vet clinics. You will need your proof of rabies vaccination in order to license your dog. Keeping your dog's license up to date will improve their chance of returning home if lost, protects public health by reducing the risk of rabies transmission, and helps fund animal control investigations.

In addition to their rabies vaccine, distemper/parvovirus, Leptospirosis, and Bordetella vaccines will protect your pet and the health of other pets who visit the park. Keeping your dog up to date on flea and heartworm prevention is also extremely important.

*All dogs over 6 months of age must be neutered/spayed to enter the dog park.*

This not only helps with the overpopulation problem, but will promote the animals getting along. Male dogs are less likely to be aggressive if neutered, and spaying will prevent females from receiving unwanted attention due to their heat cycles.

*No more than 3 dogs permitted per owner.*

Since strict supervision is the name of the game, we ask that each owner bring a maximum of 3 dogs.

*Dog Owners and their dog assume all risks associated with the use of the park.*

Consider your own dog's temperament when visiting the dog park. Observe how the dogs are interacting. If you sense your dog or another dog is reacting poorly, it is better to remove your pet from that situation. Keep in mind that if your dog is unlikely to follow your verbal commands, letting him off leash in public is probably not a good idea.

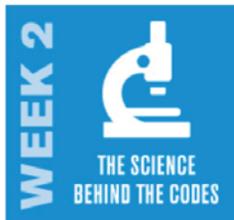
Now you, and man's best friend, are ready to embark on an adventure at the dog park! Please note there is a canine water fountain available for use. This park was a marvelous addition to Cascade Charter Township, and is a feature our residents will enjoy for years to come.

## SURVIVING SOLICITORS

Cascade Township has an ordinance that requires solicitors have permits. Any person who travels from house to house attempting to take orders for the sale of goods must obtain a permit from Cascade Township. This permit consists of a picture identification badge, signed by Township staff, that the solicitor must wear on his or her person in full view, at all times.

If you encounter a solicitor who is not wearing a badge, please call the Kent County Sheriff Department (336-3113) or the Township (949-1500). As always, report any suspicious person in your neighborhood to the Kent County Sheriff's Department.

Please note that while persons soliciting for nonprofit and religious institutions must register with the Township, they are not required to obtain a permit. Persons canvassing or petitioning for a public office are not required to register or receive a permit from the Township.



## BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign created by the ICC (International Code Council) to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create safe and sustainable structures. The campaign reinforces the need for adoption of modern, model building codes, a strong and efficient system of code enforcement and a well-trained, professional workforce to maintain the system.

This year's theme is ***Building Codes: Driving Growth through Innovation, Resilience and Safety***. Each week of Building Safety Month spotlights a specific area of building safety.

During the month of May, the Building Department will have information available for "Building Safety Month" covering the topics listed above.

– [Cascade Inspection Services](#)

## SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for the  
**Cascade Metro Cruise Warm-up**

Thursday, August 25, 2016 &  
Friday, August 26, 2016  
5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Thornapple Center – 6797 Cascade Rd.  
Cascade Rd./28th St. Intersection

Classic Cars, Bands, Kid's Activities, Food, Fun!



## BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Cascade Library will hold a one-day Book Clearance Sale on Thursday, April 21, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Wisner Center of the library. You'll find bargains in adult fiction (and limited non-fiction).

As all of the books sold are donated by the community to raise money for the library, book donations are really appreciated! Books, videos, DVD's, CD's, puzzles, and games can be put in the drop box at the side of the library or dropped down the chute. Thanks to the community for your support!!

Location:

Cascade Township Branch of the Kent District Library

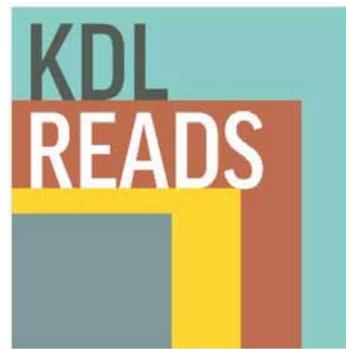
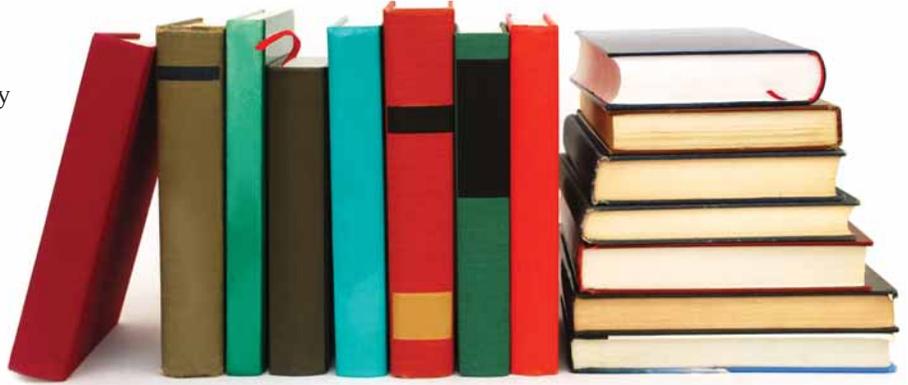
2870 Jacksmith Ave., SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Telephone 616-784-2007

[www.kdl.org](http://www.kdl.org)

[www.CascadeFriends.org](http://www.CascadeFriends.org)



## KENT DISTRICT LIBRARY

This spring, Kent District Library is excited to introduce **KDL Reads**, a community reading event centered on the book *Brown Girl Dreaming* by Jacqueline Woodson. This powerful memoir chronicles Woodson's coming of age amid the backdrop of the turbulent 1960's. Woodson finds her voice and tells her story through beautifully rendered poems steeped in memory and rich with family ties. The **Cascade branch** hopes KDL Reads will inspire community members of all ages to:

Read this book

Explore their own cultural heritage and family experiences

Engage with others about those experiences, and

Create something personally meaningful.

### KDL Reads Kick-off Event Featuring Vox Vidorra

Join us as we kick-off KDL Reads with a free concert featuring Vox Vidorra, live poetry, door prizes and refreshments. **Monday, April 11, 6:30 pm, Wealthy Theatre, 1130 Wealthy St. SE, Grand Rapids.**

### Find Your Voice 13th Annual KDL Teen Poetry Contest

Is Poetry in you? The Teen Poetry Contest is back, with two ways to win! Submit up to three poems online at [www.kdl.org/teens](http://www.kdl.org/teens) or at any KDL branch during the month of April for a chance at a juried category prize. **For teens grade 6-12.**

### Show and Tell

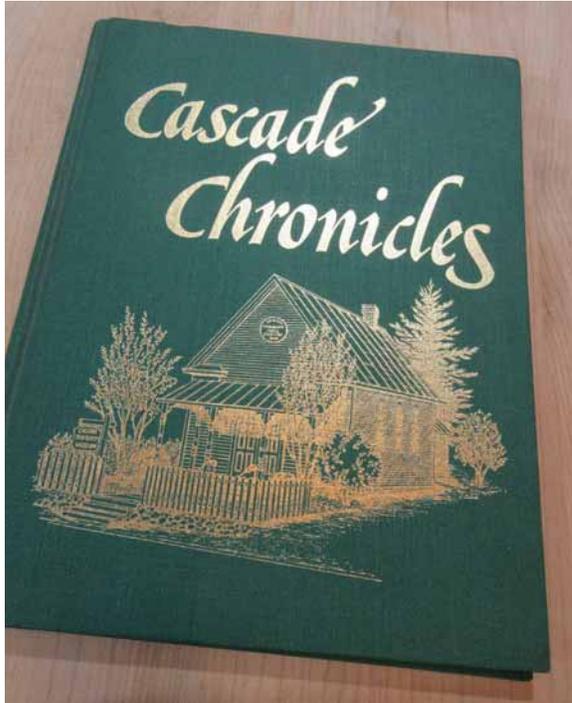
Remember when you brought a prized possession to school for Show & Tell? This is an opportunity to bring in an old photograph, a family memento or other personal artifact and tell a short story about it. Deb Moore of The Stories of Your Life will moderate the evening and everyone, young or old, is welcome to become part of the conversation. Participants don't have to show and tell – they can simply look and listen if they prefer. **Monday, April 18, 6:00 pm, Cascade branch, 2870 Jacksmith Ave., SE Grand Rapids, MI.**



KDL - Cascade Township Branch

### Sunday Afternoon Live featuring The Blue Water Ramblers

Please come and enjoy the last concert in our popular music series. The Blue Water Ramblers' repertoire comes right out of our Michigan life experiences and the history of the Great Lakes region. It includes lake shanties, lumberman ballads, union rallying cries, farmers' paeans, Michigan humor, '60s civil rights and protest music, love songs, gospel music and children's ditties. Everyone agrees that these combine into a versatile repertoire to the delight and entertainment of their audiences. "I think my hero, Woody Guthrie, would approve," opined Banjo-Jim. "We're singing the people's songs about the people's lives and they can join right in and sing along. **Sunday April 24 at 2:00 pm, Cascade branch, 2870 Jacksmith Ave., SE Grand Rapids, MI.**



## CASCADE CHRONICLES: THE HISTORY OF OUR TOWNSHIP

*Cascade Chronicles* tells the story of Cascade Township—the land, the river and streams, the waves of people who have made this place their home over the course of ten thousand years. With maps, photographs, letters, diaries and other first-person accounts, the book weaves together a history of native Americans, daring and determined pioneers, farming families who gave their names to streets and subdivisions, and the growth of commerce, roads, churches, and schools. It discusses a local foray into panning for gold; the monster that was reputed to lurk in a nearby lake; the popularity of the beautiful Cascade Springs Hotel; and the impact of the Civil War, the automobile, and the building of the airport.

First published in 1987, *Cascade Chronicles* is a good read, and now it's better than ever. The Cascade Historical Society has recently reprinted the book with clearer photographs, thanks to Ron Redman, the society's treasurer, who tracked down and rescanned many of the originals. "It was a privilege to bring this book into the digital age," said Redman. "It's a local classic, the result of years of dedicated effort by people who cared tremendously about Cascade history."

An extraordinary group of people came together in the 1980s to make *Cascade Chronicles* a reality. The book was the brainchild of the Cascade Friends of the Library. The goal: "To recognize and honor the township's founders for their courage and steadfastness in a hazardous pioneering life," and "to record the forces and events which have shaped the township into what it is today."

The names of the researchers, editors, contributors and supporters of the book will be familiar to anyone who lived in Cascade during the mid to late twentieth century: Doris Keener, Mary Tonneberger, Mary Chapman, Thelma Estes, Kathryn Buttrick, Douglas Dykhouse III, Edith Jarvi, Mary Helen Price, Lois Palmer, Dianne Van Strien, Ruth and Lester DeKoster, Elizabeth Beahan, Leone Badaluco, Joann Herrity, Jessie Vandenberg, Flora Bishop, James Mulder, Marc Dannerman, Sue Bauman, and Wendell Champion. These people enriched *Cascade Chronicles* with their diverse areas of interest and expertise.

If it took a village to compile the history of the village that became Cascade Township, it took a singular woman to write it up as a book. That woman was Marjorie Mallory Wykes, who moved here from Evanston, Illinois in the 1930s. Married to Roger Wykes, she fully embraced Cascade Township and its rich history. Every page of *Cascade Chronicles* bears her commitment to historical accuracy and her interest in the stories of families and individuals. Her brother-in-law, Frederick Wykes, did the artwork of old Cascade on the inside covers of the book.

We are also fortunate that the project was guided by the steady hand of Joann King, President of the Cascade Historical Commission (forerunner of the Cascade Historical Society) at that time. She remembers organizing index cards from the researchers on the floor of the Cascade Museum, trying to figure out the best way to tell each aspect of Cascade history. She took a leave of absence from her job for ten months in order to see the book to completion. One of her favorite memories, she says, is of selling the book at Cascade's Fourth of July Celebration in 1987. "It was hot off the presses," she remembers, meaning the books were literally still warm from the printing process. The books "sold like hot cakes" on that scorching summer day, with help from Township Supervisor Wendell Champion.



The new edition of *Cascade Chronicles* is available for purchase in the township office at an introductory price of \$10. It's a great gift for Mother's Day, Father's Day and graduates who are interested in local history, and a welcoming way to invite new residents to learn about and become part of the ongoing narrative of our community.



## Cascade Charter Township

2865 Thornhills Ave SE.  
Grand Rapids MI 49546  
phone: 616.949.1500  
fax: 616.949.3918  
[www.cascadetwp.com](http://www.cascadetwp.com)

PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GRAND RAPIDS MI  
PERMIT No. 1

### PATHWAY NEWS...

I am writing this from Scottsdale, Arizona, so indulge me if it sounds like I don't have my usual rapier wit. It is a sunny 85 degrees and I am as relaxed as a piece of cooked linguine.

I will, however, mention that spring is just around the corner, and it will soon be time to clean up yards, garages, and the 17.3 miles of multi-use trails throughout the township. This might be a great time to get your civic organization more deeply involved in the community. Our parks may need some sprucing up also.

I have to tell you that as I ride and walk the trails in the summer months, I frequently complain about the high humidity. The Sonoran desert sports an average of 7-9% humidity. Remind me to never complain about how humid Michigan can get. I think my skin just turned to stone. Remember **KEEP CASCADE BEAUTIFUL!**

Kris Taylor  
*Pathway Coordinator*



*On a long ride my wife was feeling a tad dehydrated, so I went to get some water for her. I guess I took a little too long to get back to her. Oh well... remember to **KEEP CASCADE BEAUTIFUL!***

