

# ADA FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS -

#### 24/7 Fire Department Coverage Begins

After over a year of planning the Fire Department is ready to implement staffing of our Fire Station One on a 24 hour basis. This is a change from the Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. coverage we have had for the past 20+ years. An addition for sleeping quarters and day room were recently completed to accommodate the new staffing plan. A selection committee has selected two of our paid on call members to fill these positions. Brandon Holmes and Ken Remijn, along with current full-time firefighter, Nick Dewey, will now fill these new shifts. Our dedicated, paid, on call members will work closely with this team adding additional staffing evenings, weekends and filling vacation shifts. Our response times will improve by several minutes, especially during the after 5:00 p.m. hours when our members previously were responding from their homes to the station. Thank you for supporting our Public Safety Millage that allows us to improve the service we offer to our residents and visitors.



Left to Right: Brandon Holmes, Ken Remijn and Nick Dewey.



#### **Donations for the Fire Station**

To outfit the new barracks at Fire Station One we purchased two recliners from Talsma Furniture on East Paris Ave. We were pleasantly surprised when Talsma Furniture emailed the next day to say they would be donating mattresses, box springs and end tables to complete the new quarters. It was so kind to have received such a generous gift. Thank you, Talsma!

Various other purchases from a television, to kitchen supplies and bedding are also required to begin this new staffing model. A very special thank you to Meijer for the donation of a gift card that will help put the finishing touches on this awesome new addition. What great support we have received from our local retailers. Each Monday our firefighters train and take part in various in-house classes. Our training room recently received (new to us) office chairs from Dennis Moore at Keller Williams Reality. These padded chairs are a welcome improvement over the plastic chairs we have had for 30 years. A new office space for Keller Williams made this gift possible. Thank you KW and Dennis Moore for thinking of us!



**Note:** The Cadence is no longer being published by MLive as of the end of January, 2019.

If you would prefer receiving the AdaView via email, please email the Clerk's office at: jsmith@adatownshipmi.com.

# NEWS FROM KENT COUNTY SHERIFF OFFICE –

Happy New Year. As we begin the new year, I would like to take a minute to reflect on traffic. This reflection may seem sobering at first, but I promise it will make a good point in the

end. The NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration) keeps statistics on vehicle collisions each year. The following statistics are from their website. In 2016 (2016 is the most recent year published) there were 7,277,000 traffic crashes reported to police nationwide. Of those crashes, 3,144,000 resulted in injury and



37,461 resulted in fatalities. Last year the East Precinct (Ada, Cascade and Grand Rapids Townships) had 1,533 reported crashes with 4 total fatalities.

I regularly receive calls and emails regarding traffic complaints throughout the East Precinct. These complaints revolve mostly around speed, stop sign violations, and school bus passing. Most of the complaints are in residential speed zones (neighborhoods). When I conduct selective enforcement in these areas, the most common excuse I receive from the drivers is "I'm in a hurry". It is important to remember that a vehicle has the same potential for serious damage as any other dangerous weapon. When drivers drive too fast, or are not paying attention, the results can be deadly.

So, I want to challenge everyone as we start a new year (think community wide New Year's resolution). Please think twice before you race through a residential street or pass a stopped school bus with its flashers activated. Avoid distractions by putting your cell phone away while driving. If you have a hard time avoiding the temptation of cell phone usage, think of placing it in the glove box or trunk while driving. And always wear your seatbelt! Remember, the consequences for these actions can be far worse than just a citation from your friendly community officer.

Drive safe and happy new year!

Eric Toonstra Deputy Sheriff <u>Eric.toonstra@kentcountymi.gov</u> 616-632-6435

# **ELECTIONS** –

The passage of Proposal 3 from the November 2018 election will affect all future elections in Michigan. At this time the State is working on

procedures and forms to comply with these new laws.

In simple form, here are the most basic changes you will notice:

- Change in voter registration deadlines. There is no longer a 30-day advance requirement for registration. Mail registration must now be done 15 days before the election. Some voters may register up to and on Election Day. Watch for more information on this.
- No reason absentee voting. Anyone may now request an absentee ballot without declaring a "reason."
- Straight-party voting. You may now check one box on your ballot to vote for all races for your party of choice.

At this time we are anticipating a May election . . . only for those in the Lowell School District. More information to follow . . .

# FOREST HILLS EXPO

#### March 16, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Ada Christian School

The Expo strives to increase community awareness of goods and services available in the Forest Hills area. Along with over 90 vendor booths, the event will feature food, prizes, Kid-Zone play area, live entertainment and more! Plus, enter to win the Grand Prize of \$500 to spend at Forest Hills participating businesses!

Admission is **FREE** 

www.foresthillsexpo.com

# USED BOOK SALE

Sponsored by the Friends of the Cascade Library. Over 10,000 books for **every age and interest**.

> Saturday, March 16, 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. members only presale (join at the door)

> Saturday, March 16, 10:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 17, 12:00 noon – 3:00 p.m.

#### Monday, March 18, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Also included in the sale are music CDs, DVDs, books on CD and LPs.

Cash, check or credit.

Cascade Township Branch Library 2870 Jacksmith SE Grand Rapids, MI 49546 phone 616-784-2007 <u>cascadefriends.org</u>



# IT'S A LEPRECHAUN HUNT!

Parents, save the date for you and your kids to come hunt for hidden leprechauns around Ada Village. Grab some prizes and refreshments as you see how many leprechauns you can find!



When: Friday afternoon, March 15

Where: Begin at The Community Church 7239 Thornapple River Dr. SE, Ada, MI 49301

For more details, go to http://adamichigan.org/events

# ADA FARMERS MARKET

#### Happy 11th Birthday, AFM!

Yes indeed, we are celebrating 11 years of 'local fresh' this season at the market. Your favorite vendors are returning as well as some new ones will join us for all the fun. Everyone is eager to capture your culinary curiosity with unexpected flavors and treats.

The market continues to be successful because of the collaboration among vendors, volunteers, shoppers, and local retailers. It's amazing how everything comes together each Tuesday, building a community event like no other in downtown Ada. From the sounds of the first truck in the morning to the wave goodbye from the last vendor to leave the lot, everyone contributes to the market's look and feel. Every year the personality of the market changes a bit, as each person adds something different than the year before. It can be as big as a new vendor or as small as a smile, but it brings something new the market didn't have the year before.

This year, the market will bring a change of location, as it comes together at a new place and time, so take note!

Construction will be everywhere this season. One of those projects will impact our market space. To keep construction noise and debris from disturbing operations, we are moving the market to a new location. This year 'local fresh' will be in the parking lot along the river, in Ada's updated downtown retail space. Our new location provides plenty of outdoor seating to appreciate the music, the weather and the atmosphere of the market environment along the river. It will allow space to sit and enjoy all those goodies you buy, or leisurely enjoy a snack before you get home. It will be a great place to connect with friends and family.

We'll even be revamping the website with a new look, making it easier for you to find out what's new at the market.

We will still have programming, such as Chefs in the Market who will be presenting their unique spin on produce in the market for the day. They will create a dish you can make

# BEERSEBRIDGE

# SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FIFTH ANNUAL BEERS AT THE BRIDGE SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

#### Friday evenings: June 21, July 19, August 16

Location: Leonard Field/Ada Covered Bridge 7490 Thornapple River Dr SE Ada, MI 49301

For more information, visit http://adamichigan.org/events

at home, complete with tasting samples and recipes. The balloon guy will still be squishing and squeaking shapes out of balloons for the little ones. Our sponsor, Spectrum Health, will also be there, offering educational information on healthy options for you to take along.

So, expect a mix of old and new, with something for everyone!

It all starts on Tuesday, June 4th. The new hours will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We're hoping this change will help keep the produce fresher, longer, for vendors struggling with hot summer heat in the parking lot and ensure shoppers get the freshest produce possible to take home.

Finally, we are exploring how a Saturday market might fit into the big picture. We've heard lots of feedback from the community about the need for one and want to get a sense of what folks are thinking would work best. Keep an eye out on Facebook for a link in late spring or volunteers handing out surveys to get your opinion.

Until then, keep an eye out for clear blue skies, warmer weather and we'll see you soon at the Market!



# ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Events for March, April & May 2019

#### March 14, April 11, & May 9 – Monthly Board Meeting

**1:00 p.m. at the museum.** Board meetings are open to the public. We welcome your involvement. Join us to find out how we're making history! Please call or email with any questions.

## Friday, March 1 – Museum Re-opens for Visitation

**Regular hours are Fridays and Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.** The museum re-opens to visitors after a short winter's nap. Plan to visit permanent exhibits highlighting Ada history, see what changes we have in store, and explore the beautiful new addition that opened last October.

#### Thursday, March 7 – Ada Is... Over the Rivers Opening

7:00 p.m. at the museum. Positioned between the Thornapple and Grand Rivers, Ada's development was tied to its bridges. **Over the Rivers** explores life along Ada's rivers, highlighting the community's many bridges, the dam, and historic floods. The tide is turning in Ada's little museum come check it out!

# HOURS OF OPERATION

The Averill Historical Museum of Ada is open Fridays and Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m. and also by appointment.



#### **Contact Information**

Address:	7144 Headley St., PO Box 741, Ada
Phone:	(616) 676-9346
E-mail:	adahistoricalsociety@gmail.com
Web:	www.adahistoricalsociety.org

#### Saturday, March 16 – Forest Hills Community Expo

**9:30** a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Ada Christian School, 6206 Ada Dr. AHS is proud to join in this community celebration. The Expo features area businesses and organizations, local products and services. Admission is free and includes a kid zone play area, food from area restaurants and live entertainment.

# Saturday & Sunday, May 4-5 – "Spring Into the Past" Tri River Historical Museums Tour

11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Averill Historical Museum and other Tri River museums. All museums in the Tri River group will be open that weekend and all will be FREE. The theme this year is "Getting From Here to There." The museums are located in Barry, Eaton, Ionia, Kent and Montcalm counties. The 2019 booklets will be available at all the museums.



#### A library in Ada?

Ada Township Hall, April 20, 1966. The township offices, the Ada Fire Department and a library shared this building on the north corner of Ada Dr. and Thornapple River Dr. beginning in 1948. The Hall was rented out for events like wedding showers, receptions and even tap dance lessons.

Back in 1936, two local women started Ada's Kent County Rural Library in the old township offices. By 1940, the Ada Ladies Literary Club was in charge and paid Librarian Grace Whaley a handsome salary of \$10/month. Wonder how the librarian felt about that tap dancing.

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# ADA / CASCADE SPRING CLEAN-UP DAY

#### Saturday, May 18, 2019 Forest Hills Central Middle School

**FOR:** Ada and Cascade Township residents. 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.

**WHEN:** Saturday, May 18, 2019 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Gates close sharply at 2:30 p.m.

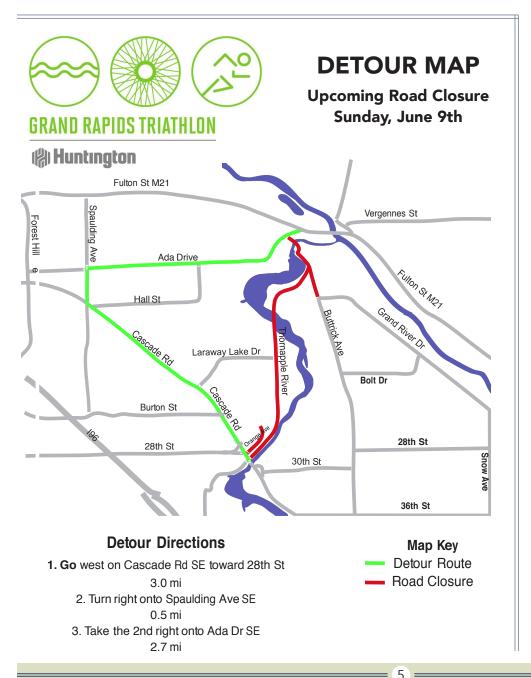
WHERE: Forest Hills Central Middle School parking lot. ONE WAY ENTRY FROM ADA DRIVE, EXIT HALL DRIVE. Enter via Ada Drive near Alta Dale by Central Middle School. **WHAT:** Non-hazardous household waste, appliances, scrap metal, electronics for recycling (computers, TV's, etc.), household items for re-use, office paper for shredding.

**NO YARD WASTE.** You will need to use leaf pick-up day, your curb side service or other source for yard waste such as leaves, branches and brush.

**NO HAZARDOUS MATERIAL** such as paint (open and dried paint cans okay), cleaners, batteries or hazardous material will be accepted.

# SPRING LEAF PICK-UP DAYS

on Tuesdays: April 16 and May 14



# CLEAN-UP DAY SERVICES ON SITE:



**Republic Services:** For general trash and junk, appliances, scrap metal. No yard waste.

**Salvation Army:** For used or new household items such as furniture, kitchen items and clothes. Donation receipts available.

**Shred-It:** For shedding of office paper, personal files and other documents. Up to 100 lbs. of <u>personal</u> sensitive documents.

**Comprenew:** For electronic items such as computers, televisions and small appliances, cell phones, household batteries. (Large appliances are accepted by Republic Services.)

**For questions:** call Ada Township Hall (616) 676-9191 x 29, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Or Cascade Township (616) 949-1500. Or view Ada Township web page: <u>adatownshipmi.com</u>.

# ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

#### **Contact Information:**

Phone: (616) 676-0520 Fax: (616) 676-5870 E-mail: <u>mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com</u> Web site: <u>www.adatownshipmi.com</u>

**Office in Ada Park:** 1180 Buttrick Ave, Ada, 49301 **Mailing address:** P.O. Box 370, 7330 Thornapple River Dr., Ada, Michigan 49301

**Mission:** "To provide all community members with diverse recreational opportunities including access to premier natural, historical and cultural areas that enhance our quality of life and inspire the preservation of nature."

# **ADA TOWNSHIP PARKS & PRESERVES**

**Ada Township Park** 1180 Buttrick Ave. 57 acres Park office, Picnic Shelter, Gazebos, Learning Center, Arboretum, softball and soccer fields, tennis courts, pickleball courts, basketball court, playground, pond, trails, picnic areas.

Roselle Park 1010 Grand River Dr. NE. 247 acres.

Restrooms, meeting room, picnic area, playground, paved and non-paved trails, observation decks, natural areas, Grand River shoreline.

#### Leonard Field Park & Ada Covered Bridge

7490 Thornapple River Dr. 2 acres. Softball field, bike path, Thornapple River overlook deck, Ada Covered Bridge.



Grand River Drive SE. 110 acres. Enter via Ada Park. Trails, bike path, Grand River shoreline.

**Grand River Natural Area** 

#### Carl Creek Crossings Preserve

6230 Grand River Drive. 8 acres. Trails, creek access.

# **FACILITY USE**

Park Hours: Park grounds are open dawn to dusk.

**Dog Policy:** Township ordinances require dogs to be on a leash and cleaned up after in all parks and preserves.

Motorized recreation vehicles are not allowed.

Alcohol is not allowed in the parks or park facilities.

**Walking and Bike Paths:** Located throughout the Township and the Parks. Maps available.

**Facility Reservations and Rentals:** Contact the Park office for scheduling and fees.

**Ada Park Shelter & Gazebo:** Available April - October. 2020 reservations will begin December 1st.

**Roselle Park Meeting Room:** Available on a limited basis for education programs, non-profit groups, Ada community groups and local businesses.

**Athletic Fields and Courts:** At Ada Park. Open to public except during scheduled programs, games and tournaments. Reservations available.

# **UPDATES ON PARKS, PRESERVES & TRAILS**

# PARKS, RECREATION & LAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

This set of Ada residents helps coordinate local parks, preserves, trails and recreation program services. Meetings are held at 4:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month at Roselle Park. The public is welcome. Ada residents may join in on committee work. Check with the park office for information or agendas.

#### UPDATE ON THE NEW SETTLER'S PARK

The new "Settler's Park", located along the banks of the Thornapple River in the Village, is nearing completion. The final construction phases will start back up in March and continue into the summer. This includes restoration work along the riverbank, trail work and the stage area. Please be careful in the area while construction continues and supervise children in the playground and near the river. The fundraising campaign is still underway. Contact <u>bhilbrands@adatownshipmi.com</u> for details. A dedication and naming event is planned for the end of May.

#### **ROSELLE PARK – PUBLIC HEARING MARCH 11**

The next development phase at Roselle Park is being planned for 2021. This will include an open-air picnic shelter, an accessible outdoor picnic area, improvements to the parking area by the silo and added playground amenities. A Public Hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on March 11 at the Township Hall for input prior to a grant submittal. Funding opportunities are available to help support the project. Contact the Park office for details.

#### **ADA TOWNSHIP PARK**

The Shelter and Gazebo at Ada Township Park will re-open April 1, 2019. Ada residents are encouraged to make their reservations early since they fill up quickly.



#### **BIKE PATHS AND NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS**

Repairs to worn areas in the Township's 20 miles of paved paths will start up again this spring and continue through the summer. Note, bridges and other areas may be slippery when wet. Reports any issues and concerns to 616-676-0520.

#### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

Volunteer opportunities are available to assist with planning committees, gardens, grounds, trails, stewardship, clerical tasks and youth programs. Contact the Park office for an application, interview or schedule of events.

#### SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS

Contact the Park office for a registration packet.

# **ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

# **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

#### "4TH OF JULY EVENTS"

Thursday, July 4 Ada Village Parade at 10:00 a.m., Fireworks at dusk.



#### "BEERS AT THE BRIDGE"

Fridays: June 21, July 19, Aug. 16 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Leonard Field Park by the Ada Covered Bridge

"AUGUST IN ADA" CHILDREN'S FAIR Friday August 2 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Ada Township Park Free Games, exhibits, food and entertainment. www.adabusinessassociation.com

# **FAMILY PROGRAMS**

**EVENING SIGHTS AND SOUNDS** – Frogs & Stars 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Thursday, March 28 Roselle Park \$3/adults \$2/youth

"UP CLOSE AND WILD" - Live animal presentation Thursday, May 2 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

\$5/person

NATIONAL TRAIL DAY - Group Hike 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Saturday, June 1 Seidman Park Free



# **ADULT PROGRAMS**

Roselle Park

## ADULT SOFTBALL PROGRAMS

Leagues for men's slow pitch, fast pitch and coed slow pitch. Registrations due March 19. \$735/team. April 30 – July 31 season. Contact rmccormick@adatownshipmi.com

# **GRAND RAPIDS TRIATHLON**

Sunday, June 9 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thornapple River Drive and Buttrick Drive www.grandrapidstriathlon.com



#### SPRING WILDFLOWER WALKS

Thurs., May 9 and Sat., May 11 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon Carl Creek Crossings Preserve \$3/adults \$2/youth

THRU-HIKING: AN APPALACHIAN TRAIL ADVENTURE Wednesday, April 10 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. **Roselle Park** \$3/adults \$2/youth

#### MANAGING YOUR PROPERTY FOR INVASIVE PLANTS

Wednesday, April 17 **Roselle Park** 

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. \$5/Person



# YOUTH PROGRAMS

# SCHOOL AND SCOUT BASED PROGRAMS

Opportunities for preK-12 schools and Boy and Girl Scout groups – field trips to service learning.

#### ADA VILLAGE KIDS' GARDEN Ages 9-12 Tuesdays: April 23 – September 17 Next to Ada Community Church



A "full season" experience from soil preparation and planting to harvest and sales.

#### **BIKE DECORATION DAY**

Wednesday, July 3 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Ada Park \$5/bike For ages 4-12 with parent or guardian.



# DISCOVERY DAYS Ages 3-5

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \$5/youth/session Pre-schoolers and guardian together in the parks.

**Beautiful Bugs** Tues., June 18 **Roselle Park** Jump, Frog, Jump! Tues., July 30 **Roselle Park** Butterflies & Flowers Tues., Aug. 13 **Roselle Park** 

#### YOUNG EXPLORERS Ages 5-7

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon \$5/youth/session Fun mornings of outdoor activities and adventure.

Wed., June 19 Bonkers for Bikes **Roselle Park** Fishing Fun Wed., July 31

Ada Park

#### JUNIOR NATURALISTS Ages 8-11

Wednesdays – Times vary \$5/youth Hands-on activities and adventure-based outings. Fishing Frenzy June 12 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Ada Park Bike-A-Thon June 19 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Roselle Park** Rocks & Fossils Aug. 14 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Ada Park

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURERS Ages 10-13

9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Sites & fees vary Outdoor adventure activities. Adventure Challenge Thurs., June 20 Roselle Park \$10 Paddle the Grand! Thurs., July 11 DNR landing \$25

#### SUMMER DAY CAMPS Ages 6-11 Various Dates

9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Ada & Roselle Parks Two and three-day sessions with exciting themes and activities. Fees range \$60-\$80.

Arts in the Park Sports Spectacular Eyes on Survival **Pioneer Days** 

June 25-27 July 16-18 July 23-25 Aug. 7-8

Ada & Roselle Ada Park Ada & Roselle Ada Museum

#### GIRL SCOUT DAY CAMP Monday-Thursday, June 17-20

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Ada Township Park



Information & registration contact: <a href="mailto:sud.fhsu@gmail.com">sud.fhsu@gmail.com</a>



TOWNSHIP

7330 Thornapple River Drive SE P.O. Box 370 Ada, Michigan 49301 PRSRT. STD. US POSTAGE **PAID** Grand Rapids, MI Permit No. 657

# **CALENDAR (2019) SPRING ISSUE**

#### MARCH

- 5 Zoning Board of Appeals 4:30P
- 11 Downtown Development Authority 8.
- 11 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P
- 14 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting 1P
- 14 Parks, Rec & Land Preservation Advisory Board - 4P
- 15 Leprechaun Hunt
- 16 Forest Hills Community Expo @ Ada Christian School - 9:30A-2:30P
- 16-18 Cascade Library Spring Book Sale; Sat 10:30A-4P; Sun 12-3P; Mon 10A-2P
  - 21 Planning Commission 7P
  - 25 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P

#### APRIL

- 2 Zoning Board of Appeals 4:30P
- 8 Downtown Development Authority 8A
- 8 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P
- 11 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting 1P
- 11 Parks, Rec & Land Preservation Advisory Board - 4P
- 16 Spring Leaf Pick-Up
- 16 Ethics Board Meeting 6:30P
- 18 Planning Commission 7
- 22 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P

#### MAY

- 4-5 Spring into Past @ Averill Historical Museum and others
- 7 Zoning Board of Appeals 4:30P
- 9 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting 1P
- 9 Parks, Rec & Land Preservation Advisor Board - 4P
- 13 Downtown Development Authority 8A
- 13 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P
- 14 Spring Leaf Pick-Up
- 16 Planning Commission 7P
- 18 Ada/Cascade Clean-Up Day 8A-2:30@ Forest Hills Central Middle School
- 27 CLOSED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION (remove & save)

#### AdaView is published by Ada Township Board.

7330 Thornapple River Drive SE P.O. Box 370 Ada, Michigan 49301 www.adatownshipmi.com

TELEPHONE: (616) 676-9191

HOURS: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., M-F, closed Federal holidays

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