

SANTA ARRIVES DECEMBER 2ND

The firefighters will be busy serving up hot chocolate and cookies as we welcome Santa to Ada. The annual parade <u>will travel</u> down Ada Drive to Thornapple River and end at Ada Fire Station 1 (see map at right for enter

and start points). Santa will have plenty of candy canes so bring your Christmas list and get your picture taken with the jolly old man.



TOWNSHIP OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS: Monday, December 25, 2017 Tuesday, December 26, 2017 AND Monday, January 1, 2018 Tuesday, January 2, 2018

SHOP WITH A SHERIFF

Christmas is fast approaching and I wanted to take the opportunity to talk about the Shop with a Sheriff program. The Shop with a Sheriff program was created to help families that are struggling to get much needed items for their children at Christmas. The families that participate in this program get a one on one experience with a Sheriff's deputy. The children are paired with a Deputy and they walk through the store together. They pick out items on a list provided by mom or dad. The list contains some needed items such as hats, coats and seasonal clothing. We also make some room so the child can pick out something they choose, such as a toy.

I have participated in this program for several years now and each year it excites me. A couple of years ago I received a call after posting something about this program and the woman told me that her children had participated years ago. She thanked me for taking them and told me that it had meant so much to her children that they have talked about it years later. After hearing her tell me the impact that this program can have on a family, I realized the experience provided is not just immediate; it is long lasting!

This program exists completely based on donations from the community. Many businesses and individuals have helped this program succeed for many years. I would ask you to consider supporting the Shop with a Sheriff program this year. The average cost per child is \$150. We normally have over 100 children that participate. The donation is tax deductible. If you are interested in donating, please send a check to the Community Services Office at 701 Ball Ave NE Grand Rapids MI 49503. Please make



the check payable to the Community Action Fund / Shop with a Sheriff. Thank you.

Hope you have a wonderful holiday season,

Ryan Roe Community Policing Officer KENT COUNTY SHERIFF DEPT

Note: A limited number of **"Cadence"** issues are available at the Township offices, in the lobby, on Mondays.

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



NEWS FROM ADA TOWNSHIP FIRE CHIEF

WINTER SLIDE-OFFS: LOOK FOR THE YELLOW CAUTION TAPE



Your Ada Fire Department responds to vehicle accidents when there is an injury or if a caller is not aware of any injuries. During the winter months it is often just a slide off with no injuries. When we respond to a slide off and a wrecker is not readily available, we flag the car with yellow caution tape. If you see a vehicle with yellow caution tape, know that it has been reported and emergency responders have already investigated. Stay safe on the roads this winter and please MOVE OVER AND SLOW DOWN at accident scenes.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTOR?

With the cold weather upon us our homes are closed up tight with the furnace and other appliances operating. Make sure that you have a carbon monoxide detector operating to protect your family in the event of a problem with a fuel fired appliance. Carbon monoxide is an odorless gas that can cause illness and even death. With an operating detector you will be alerted to the gas in your home. If your alarm does go off, evacuate the house, call 911 and your Ada Fire Department will come out to check for any leaks.



THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS BY MRS. CLAUS

Mrs. Claus will be reading her favorite book to all her visitors during the Tinsel, Treats & Trolleys event. Stop by the Ada Fire Station to enjoy her story telling and enjoy a s'more from the camp fire..... made up for you by our Ada Firefighters. See you on December 1st!

GET YOUR HOT DOGS!

Your firefighters will be serving up hot dogs & brats along with soda and water at the annual Chili Cook Off on Saturday, December 2. Stop by, say hi, and grab a hot dog and don't forget to get your **fire department badge**. We will keep the food hot and the pops cold!

ADA RECEIVES \$50,000 MCACA GRANT



Ada Township is very happy to announce the receipt of a \$50,000 capital improvement grant from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA). This grant has helped push the Historical Society even closer to the campaign goal of \$669,000 toward the new addition to the museum building. Check out MCACA's facebook page: www.facebook.com/mcacaarts.

FIRE DEPARTMENT GIFTED AIR FILL STATION

Each time a firefighter enters a fire they wear a self-contained breathing apparatus, this supplies clean breathing air to the firefighter. A bottle will last approximately 40 minutes. After a fire, the bottles are refilled at a facility off site. Thanks to a generous donation by the Amway Corporation, Ada Fire Station One now houses a breathing air fill station. This will allow our team to fill bottles immediately without leaving the area as well as filling bottles for neighboring departments.

Thank you Amway!



FIRE FIGHTERS WANTED

Have you ever thought about becoming a firefighter? The Ada Fire Department is made up of 20 paid on call firefighters and we need you to be part of our team! As a POC firefighter we pay you, train you, and outfit you with gear to respond to emergencies in Ada and surrounding areas. All of our firefighters have other careers and respond to emergencies in their off time. If you are interested, give us a call or stop by the station to ask some questions, check out the equipment and see if it is for you. You have the opportunity to make a difference in your community, and learn lifesaving skills while meeting and training with new friends.

> David Murray, Fire Chief dmurray@adatownshipmi.com



AUTUMN VILLAGE UPDATE

There has been significant positive momentum in Ada Village over the last several months – from Township events to the reconstruction of Ada Drive, to the relocation of Village businesses. Here's a quick overview to keep you in the know.

- ADA DRIVE As you know, Ada Drive is now fully open to all traffic! This tremendous undertaking, with its inevitable challenges, was completed <u>on schedule</u> for a Labor Day opening. Finishing work with utilities and landscaping on the edges is expected to be wrapped up soon.
- SITE FOR NEW LIBRARY/COMMUNITY CENTER Following a joint township work session, the Ada Township Board approved the location of the proposed library and community center on the south side of Headley Street, adjacent to The Community Church. Plans for the capital campaign to raise funds for this project are underway.
- NEW BUILDINGS WELCOMING TENANTS Michigan Software Labs and Pilates of East join Artisan Flowers and Peacock Alley in the newly constructed Ada Drive Plaza Building, with Edward Jones and Gravel Bottom Brewing Company soon to follow. The Ada First Building, owned by Dixon Architecture and DMC Design, celebrated a fully occupied building with Alkalign Studios, Lown Homes and Union Bank. Look for more news as additional businesses move in and join our Ada community!
- GRAND OPENINGS & GROUNDBREAKING CELEBRATIONS

 Kingma's Market opened its doors September 11, and on September 18 Vitale's celebrated the grand opening of its new location on Fulton. McDonald's and Zeytin Turkish Restaurant broke ground in September. Additionally, Spectrum Health anticipates the opening of their new Fulton Street facility in February.
- NEW RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT Construction has begun on The Bronson Street Residences, the new 25-condominium development at the corner of Bronson and Headley Streets. Construction is also underway on a second 4-unit townhome building in the Riverpoint of Ada development at Ada Drive and Rix Street, as well as the first of 4 new single family homes in the Cottages of Ada development at the corner of Ada Drive and Bradfield Street.
- NEW RETAIL & OFFICE SPACE The Township has also approved the construction of two new 2-story buildings planned for retail and office use, and a third building with retail and residential use in the redeveloping shopping center area, none of which have yet begun construction. Continued interest from developers and businesses serves as another indicator that Ada Village is thriving!
- NEW ROADS The construction of the new River Street and continuation of Settlers Drive (between Ada Drive and River Street) is well underway and will be completed by the end of the year.
- THORNAPPLE RIVER WATER MAIN CROSSING Construction of a new water main extending underneath the Thornapple River and extending along Thornapple River Drive to Fase Street is in progress. The purpose of this project is to provide a secondary source of water supply and enhanced service reliability to water system customers on the east side of the Thornapple River.
- BEERS AT THE BRIDGE And finally, thank you for making this summer's concert series the most successful season yet! Overall attendance topped 6,000. Stay tuned for the 2018 summer lineup!

PERSONAL PROPERTY SMALL BUSINESS EXEMPTION

In order to claim this exemption, an affidavit must be **filed with the local unit where the personal property is located** no later than **February 10, 2018** (**postmark is acceptable**). This form <u>IS NOT</u> to be mailed to the Michigan Department of Treasury or the Michigan State Tax Commission. Late filed forms cannot be accepted by the local unit.

This affidavit will exempt property owned only by the entity filing the affidavit. If personal property is leased to or used by an entity other than the property's owner, the owner of that personal property must file the affidavit for that property, not the lessee or the user. The owner may file the affidavit and claim the exemption only if the True Cash Value of all of the commercial or industrial personal property located within the local tax collecting unit that is owned by, leased to, or in the possession of the owner or a related entity was **less than \$80,000** on December 31, 2017.

The form must be **filed annually** by the owner or the owner's authorized agent. A separate form **must be** filed for **each** personal property parcel and each business entity.

A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER

Winter tax bills will be mailed December 1, 2017. If you do not receive yours, please call our office to obtain another copy. All tax payments are due in our office by 5:00pm, Wednesday, February 14, 2018. <u>Remember</u> the Township **DOES NOT** accept postmarks. The date received is considered date paid. After March 1, 2018, all unpaid real property taxes will be turned over to the Kent County Treasurer's Office for collection.

The usual payment options still apply; by mail, in person, or by credit card (see the reverse side of your tax bill for instructions). Any payments made by credit/debit card will be charged a fee of <u>3% of</u> <u>the tax bill</u>. Additionally, you may sign up for ACH electronic payments. Forms must be returned 15 days before payment is due. Please contact our office for more information about ACH. If you do your banking on-line, **please allow a <u>minimum</u> of 10 business days** for payment to reach us. As stated we do not accept postmarks or check dates as date received. We are not responsible for the date of delivery by the United States Postal Service.

Since our office will be closed December 30, 2017 thru January 2, 2018, all tax payments <u>left in our drop box</u> will be considered as "PAID" December 31, 2017.

Please do not include any other Township payments with your tax payment. Thank you.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!!

Kevin Moran, Treasurer 616-676-9191 ext 23 | <u>kmoran@adatownshipmi.com</u>

Gina Olszewski, Deputy Treasurer 616-676-9191 ext 27 | <u>golszewski@adatownshipmi.com</u>

HOURS OF OPERATION

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



Contact Information 7144 Headley St., Ada Phone: 616.676.9346 adahistoricalsociety@gmail.com www.adahistoricalsociety.org

ADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dec. 14, Jan. 11, and Feb. 8 - Monthly Board Meeting 1:00 pm 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.

November 17 – December 9* – Wreath Sale Fundraiser

Do good and look good in one easy step! Know that you will help preserve our community's history as you get into the holiday spirit with a beautiful, fresh-cut, evergreen wreath. Sale runs most Fridays and Saturdays but hours vary, so check out the order form on our website for more info.

*At the museum barn, while supplies last!

Friday, December 1 – Tinsel, Treats, and Trolley

Beginning at 5:30 pm at the covered bridge.

Ada Village's annual holiday celebration begins with a bridge lighting ceremony, followed by trolley rides with stops at area venues throughout the village from 6:00-9:00 pm. Plan to stop by the museum to take a picture with Mrs. Claus and her elf, enjoy some special goodies, and see the museum decorated for the season. Fresh-cut evergreen wreaths will be for sale in the barn.

Saturday, December 2 - Ada-themed Gift Shop Sale & Santa Parade

The museum gift shop will be open 10:00 am- 4:00 pm highlighting Ada-themed items to help you fill Santa's bag. There will be cookies and hot chocolate in the barn beginning at 10:00 am before the Ada Santa Parade begins at 11:00 am.

January & February

The museum is closed for visitation during these months. Please contact AHS with any questions.

BUILDING EXCITEMENT FOR ADA'S MUSEUM

Fundraising efforts for the Museum Expansion Project officially started this past March 27. Now, eight months later, we are getting very close to reaching the campaign goal of \$669,000. Have you watched the thermometer rise on the fundraising sign along Headley Street?

We're pleased to report that overall response has been positive and community support has been strong. A \$50,000 Capital Improvement Grant awarded to Ada Township from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs has been a significant contribution toward the project. Please contact the Ada Historical Society or visit our website if you would like to know more about this impactful project.

'TIS THE SEASON FOR...

- GIFTS FROM ADA Let us help you manage that gift list this year. The museum gift shop is the place to buy Ada-themed gifts for your family and friends, from artwork prints of village landmarks to our recent book, The Next 50 Years in "A Snug Little Place" Ada Michigan 1930-1980, and more.
- GIFTS FOR ADA We ask that you consider AHS in your holiday and year-end giving this year. A gift to the current Museum Expansion Project is a gift to the Ada community. Plans to expand the museum will enable AHS to engage the community in a new learning and meeting space and to preserve Ada's past well into the future. For more info on how you can help, stop by the museum, visit our website, or call AHS Board Member Betty Jo Crosby at 949-0417.

TECH HELP NEEDED

Do you have computer tech skills and a few hours once a month to volunteer? We are looking for help with the museum office computer – updating, backing-up, and other basic support. AHS is a small, volunteer-run, non-profit organization and a small amount of your time could make a big impact. Please email <u>AdaHistoricalSociety@gmail.com</u> if you can help. Thank you!



The Community church, in the heart of the village and home to the Ada Farmer's Market, descends from the Reformed Church of Ada who met in this building on the same site. By 1901, the church was being rented for 50 cents per Sunday service to the newly-forming Reformed Church by previous occupants, the Methodist Episcopal Church who built it in 1871. The old church was torn down in 1968 to make way for the new.

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 & Locke Arboretum

1180 Buttrick Ave. – 57 acres Picnic Shelter, Gazebo, Parks office, Learning Center, Arboretum, softball and soccer fields, tennis courts, basketball court, playground, pond, trails, picnic areas.

<u>Roselle Park</u>

1010 Grand River Dr. NE – 247 acres Restrooms, meeting room, picnic area, playground, paved and non-paved tails, observation decks, natural areas, Grand River shoreline.

Leonard Field Park & Ada Covered Bridge

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

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

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. 2018 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: Open to public except during scheduled programs, games and tournaments. Reservations available.

UPDATES ON TOWNSHIP PARKS & PRESERVES

"Settlers' Grove" – a new Riverside Park

"Settlers' Grove" is the new park project in the Village located along the banks of the Thornapple River. Phase one of the construction began this fall with the establishment of River Street and setting the foundations for the schoolhouse, playground, and restroom. Phase two of the construction will begin in the spring with bank stabilization work, completion of the restroom and playground and installation of trails and a small amphitheater. Completion is targeted for fall of 2018.

Ada Township Park

The Shelter and Gazebo are now closed for the winter. They will re-open at the end of March. Reservations for the 2018 season (April-October) will start December 1st for Ada Township residents.



Leonard Field

No ice rink will be offered this winter due to past lack of consistent cold weather and site limitations. The rest of the park will remain open throughout the winter.

Carl Creek Preserves

The Carl Creek Crossings Preserve, located along Grand River Drive, was established in 2015 with walking paths and a small parking area. It is open to the public year-round but has limited parking access in the winter.



The Carl Creek Wetlands Preserve, located along Alta Dale Road, is targeted to have a trail system and small parking area developed in the summer of 2018.

Both preserves were established to help protect the Carl Creek as a tributary of the Grand River.

ANNUAL GIFTS

For making contributions, memorial gifts or donations to support park projects and programs, please contact the Park office for details and assistance. All are tax deductible.

ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

FAMILY FRIENDLY PROGRAMS

Birds and Bird Feeders

Saturday, December 9 – 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Roselle Park – \$10/feeder kit

Learn to identify local winter birds and how to improve the habitat in your backyard so you can attract more birds. Build a wooden bird feeder to take home. All materials and supplies will be provided. Pre-registration is required by December 4.



The Winter Night Sky

Wednesday, January 10 – 7:00 p.m. Roselle Park – \$3/adults \$2/youth

An evening in the park to observe the winter night sky. A short indoor orientation with winter sky maps and star charts will be followed by outside observation time. *Rain date: January* 17

Winter Fun Day

Saturday, February 3 – 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Roselle Park – Free – Donations accepted

Celebrate winter in the park! Build a snowman, learn about winter birds, bring your own snowshoes or take a snow hike, then come inside for hot cocoa. Bill & Paul's Sporthaus on

hand with XC skis and snowshoes to demo and a "Basics of XC Skiing" clinic at 11:00.





Snakes, Turtles, and Frogs, Oh My! Thursday, March 8 – 7:00 p.m.

Roselle Park – \$5/person This special presentation by the Outdoor

Discovery Center features live reptiles and amphibians. Learn about their amazing adaptations and how to identify them. Reservations are required since space is limited.

Exploring the Night Sky with GRAAA

Thursday, March 22 – 7:30 p.m. Roselle Park – \$3/person

Join the Grand Rapids Amateur Astronomical Association as they talk about what to see now and in upcoming months as

winter transitions to spring and then summer. Go outside to observe the crescent moon, Orion Nebula, and other sights with naked eye and telescopes provided by our visiting amateur astronomers.



ADULT PROGRAMS

ADULT SOFTBALL PROGRAMS

Leagues for men's slow pitch, fast pitch and coed slow pitch are offered for spring and summer. We begin accepting 2018 softball team registrations in February 2018. Team registration forms and fees are due by March 17, 2018. The entry fee is \$725 per team which includes softballs, umpire fees, team awards, MASA sanction fees and league tournament. League play starts on May 7, 2018.



Happy Holidays

from

Ada Parks & Recreation Department

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer opportunities are available to assist with grounds, gardens, trails, habitat stewardship, office work, special projects and youth education programs. Residents may also participate on committees and the Parks, Recreation and Land Preservation Advisory Board which assist with planning and development. Contact the Park office for an application, interview or schedule of events.



Volunteers – Carl Creek Stewardship

ADA PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Discovery Days

Ages 3-5 10:00 a.m.–12 noon – \$5/youth/session

Pre-schoolers and guardian can have a fun adventure together in the parks with hands-on activities, nature crafts, and guided discovery experiences outdoors.

Nature Prepares for Winter

Wed. Dec. 6 Ada Park Snowballs & Snowflakes Wed. Jan. 10 Ada Park Tracks Wed. Feb. 7 Roselle Park Cool Critters Wed. March 7 Roselle Park



Ada Village Kids' Garden

For 9-12 years olds – Next to Ada Community Church

A full season of gardening experience. Runs Tuesdays, after school in the spring and fall, mornings in the summer. Details available in January.

2018 Summer Day Camps

For Ages 6-13 (teens may volunteer to help)

A full summer of youth programs including 3-day camps and half day programs is offered. Program information for 2018 will be available in February. Contact the Park office for details.

Field Trips for Pre-K, Elementary and Middle Schools

Outdoor environmental education experiences are available yearround at Roselle Park, Ada Township Park and Leonard Field Park. Programs are thematic, place based, hands-on and aligned with curriculums. Programs generally run 1½ to 2½ hours with a fee of \$3/student. Outreach programs to your school are also available. Contact the Park office for details.





Boy Scout and Girl Scouts Opportunities

Achievement and badge theme programs are available for Scout groups by scheduling field trips to the parks and through service projects. Contact Park office for details.

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CHRISTMAS TREE AND WREATH RECYCLING

Ada Township Park - Dec. 26 - Jan. 15, 2018

Ada Township residents may drop off Christmas Trees and Wreaths for recycling to the back parking lot of Ada Township Park from December 26, 2017 through January 15, 2018, between 7:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.

The trees will be recycled into wood chips while the wire from the wreaths will be recycled. Please remove any decorations, wires, strings, ribbons or other items from the trees that might interfere with a chipper.

Residential Christmas items only – no yard waste, trimmings or commercial businesses – Thanks.





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 (2017-2018) WINTER ISSUE

DECEMBER

- 1 Winter tax bills mailed (due 2/14/18)
- 1 Annual Bridge Lighting Ceremony 5:30P
- 1 Annual Tinsel, Treats, & Trolley 6-9P
- 2 AHS cookies & hot chocolate in the barr before the parade 10A
- 2 Annual Santa Parade 11A
- 2 Annual Chili & Beer Festival 12P-3P
- 11 Downtown Development Authority 8A
- 11 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P
- 14 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting 1P14 Parks, Recreation & Land Preservation
- Advisory Board 4P
- 21 Planning Commission 7P25 Christmas Holiday -
- Township Office Closec 26 Christmas Holiday -
- Township Office Closed
- 26 Christmas Tree & Wreath Recycling a Ada Park (Dec 26-Jan 15, 2018)

JANUARY

- 1 New Year's Holiday -Township Office Closed
- 2 New Year's Holiday -
- Township Office Closed 8 Downtown Development Authority 8A
- 8 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P
- 9 Zoning Board of Appeals 4:30P

- 11 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting 1P
- 11 Parks, Rec & Land Pres Advisory Board 4P
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr Day -
- Township Office Closed
- 18 Planning Commission 7P
- 22 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P

FEBRUARY

- 6 Zoning Board of Appeals 4:30P
- 8 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting 1
- 8 Parks, Rec & Land Preservation
- Advisory Board 4P
- 12 Downtown Development Authority 8A12 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P
- 12 Ada Township Board Meeting /P
- 14 TAX PAYMENTS due at Township Office by 5P
- 15 Planning Commission 7
- 19 Presidents' Day Township Office Close
- 26 Ada Township Board Meeting 7P

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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