



Todd Campbell Town Supervisor

Welcome to Fall! This season is a busy one for the Town Board as we begin to work on the 2024 budget and assess where we are so far with our 2023 budget. The town wide revaluation will have a significant impact on our budget, but we will continue to look for ways to improve our operations and spend wisely. Please attend any of our Town Board meetings (check the Town website for dates and times) if you have any specific requests or topics you would like us to evaluate. One of our most significant sources of revenue is the sales tax distribution from Ontario County, and while we have seen an increase this year that will help, we need to plan for a “normal” distribution next year so we are not caught short. Shopping local and in Ontario County does have an impact—so please do so when you can.

Please remember to check the Town website as we are regularly posting updates there about community events etc., links to registrations for Household Hazardous Waste, Tire Recycling and Electronics Collections events that are held across the County, as well as Legal Notices for Planning and Zone Board public hearings and actions.

As we begin to see more signs of Fall, and the first signs of winter—please make sure to check and test all your heating equipment and are prepared for the cooler weather that will soon be heading our way.

Remember that we are always looking for residents to serve and assist us on our Planning and Zoning Boards and also for any potential committees—if you are interested, please drop me a note or give me a call. My office is always open when I’m in the Town Hall, and I can be reached via e-mail at tcampbell@townofwestbloomfield.org or (585)624-2461



Annual hunting licenses and privileges are valid from September 1 through August 31 each year. Hunting and fishing licenses are available at the Town Clerk's Office. To obtain a hunting, bow hunting, or trapping license, a previous hunting license or sportsman education certificate must be presented. To purchase a Resident license of any type, proof of residency is required. For information on Sportsman Education Courses being offered in your area, or to obtain a duplicate training certificate, you may call 1-888-HUNTED2.

Deer Management Permits (DMPs)

Hunters possessing a Deer Management Permit (DMP) may take one antlerless deer per permit, in addition to deer that may be taken with a regular big game tag or Bow/Muzz Antlerless or Bow/Muzz Either Sex tags.

DMPs may only be used for antlerless deer (have no antlers or antlers less than 3" long).

DMPs may only be used in the WMU for which they are issued.

DMPs are valid during all deer hunting seasons.

Junior Bowhunters may use DMPs during the special archery seasons and during the regular season.

Hunters may transfer or receive up to 2 DMPs from other hunters.

DMP Application Deadline: October 1st each year

Extended Application for Leftover DMPs Will Begin November 1, 2023

If there are permits remaining after the initial application period ends, the leftover DMPs may be available during an extended application period. Applications for leftover DMPs will be accepted at license issuing outlets only. Applications will not be accepted by phone, mail, or on-line for leftover DMPs.

Hunters may apply for and receive up to two additional DMPs in these WMUs.

Applicants with licenses that are exempt from paying a DMP application fee or hunters who have previously applied for DMPs this license year will not be charged any additional fees during the extended application period. Otherwise, there is a non-refundable \$10 application fee for leftover DMPs.

Leftover DMPs are issued on a first-come / first-serve basis. DEC will continue to issue permits in these WMUs until sufficient numbers of DMPs are issued to achieve optimum management in each unit. When a unit is opened, it will remain open at least until close of business that day. At the end of the business day, any units that have reached the desired number of permits will be closed.

Applications for leftover DMPs will not affect any preference points held by the applicant.

Note: DMPs are only valid for antlerless deer in the WMU for which they are issued.

Town Clerk Hours:

MONDAY & TUESDAY: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm; 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

WEDNESDAY: 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

THURSDAY: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT Jeff Ball

Your highway team has been busy this summer. We completed our oil and stone in the early spring, and the paving projects at Allen's Hill North and Lefevre Road South in July. We also stayed busy with roadside mowing, caring for the grounds at the parks, Pioneer Cemetery, and the Town Hall. We helped other Ontario County Towns with their highway projects, hauled in materials for future projects, and worked on building maintenance and transfer station management.

Our preferred stone for oil and stone projects has been hard to come by. As a result, we've been using an alternative that can be very dusty! You may have noticed the dust if you drive down or live on one of these roads. We're aware of this and are doing all we can to get cleaner stone. The preferred stone is also used for making asphalt and it appears that large commercial projects are creating the demand and shortage.

Last year's light winter allowed us to let salt in the salt barn dwindle down to just a few truck loads. The Town of East Bloomfield Highway Department kindly let us store the balance in their barn for a few months. That left the salt barn empty for the first time in years and it was the perfect opportunity to do some needed repair. The barn was built new in 2001 and needed a new roof cover, asphalt floor, and side walls. This was all completed in time for us to fill it with salt for the upcoming winter. Since our salt contract must be filled by August 31, we got it done just in time. A big thanks to the employees who worked hard on this project!



Our last highway project this year will be paving Sand Road from State Route 5 & 20 to Olmstead Road. We have already replaced all the cross culverts on the section, and they have settled with some leaving bumps. It should be nice and smooth soon.

Finally, we took possession of a new Cat Roller in August. This will be very helpful in our efforts to get better compaction on cross culverts, shoulders, and other road projects as well as rolling the fields at the park.

As always, feel free to reach out to me with questions or concerns. I always enjoy speaking with residents.



Superintendent Jeff Ball, 585-624-2900 or highwaysuper@townofwestbloomfield.org

Hard to believe it's September already – except that it's starting to get dark earlier and earlier. Trees are already starting to turn color. As an avid skier, I'm anxiously awaiting snow. I know most don't agree with me on the snow, but you must admit, our Highway Department keeps the roads cleared better than anywhere else around us. Speaking of clearing roads, don't forget to help our First Responders by keeping the area around your fire hydrant clear. You want them to be able to find and access it easily in the event of an emergency.

By the time this is published, some of the North Bloomfield Chapel's lower clapboards will have been replaced. The building is scheduled for a scrape and paint job in late October. We'll give you the before and after pictures in the next issue of *Focus*.

Our notecard packages, combining historical and current photos of the North Bloomfield area, are still available for \$5. You will get 6 cards/envelopes, which are blank inside. These have been a big hit, so be sure to get yours today! They can be purchased from Community Association members or from the West Bloomfield Historical Society. Monies raised will be used for our continuing maintenance of, and improvements to, the North Bloomfield Chapel building.

The North Bloomfield Community Association encompasses the area within approximately a one-mile radius of the North Bloomfield Chapel, located at 1924 State Route 65 (at the end of Quaker Meeting House Rd). The Association strives to preserve and share the heritage and history of North Bloomfield through preservation and community use of the Chapel building. Dues are \$10 per family annually. Funds are used to pay for maintenance and improvements to the building. Checks can be made payable to the North Bloomfield Community Association and can be mailed or dropped off to: Doreen Haller/ 1891 State Route 65/Honeoye Falls/14472. We make every effort to keep everyone informed about our community. We can keep you informed, up-to-date, and our costs down if we have an email address. Please send your email address to: doreen@treeskiers.com. This list will not be sold or marketed to anyone other than for North Bloomfield Community Association business.



WEST BLOOMFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY Suzanne Washburn

Thank You West Bloomfield . . . Our 31st Annual Yard Sale was a big success with profits approaching \$6,000. The sale funds yearly operations and helps us preserve our 1834 building and the artifacts that tell West Bloomfield's story. We're so grateful to all of you for your support. Special thanks to the volunteers who "went the extra mile" and the teens and non-members who came forward to help. We also had 25 outside vendors; generous donations from Wegmans, Dependable Disposal, and Honeoye Falls Dunkin'; and a great food cart contractor in Jill Weigert. Teen helper Emma even donated her tips to WBHS! There's hope for the future with these kids.

And about next year's sale . . . The Society has some off-site storage for a limited number of special items. If you have an item you wish to donate before next spring, please call 585-755-5464 to discuss it.

Our last public event of the season is an Open House at the Society on Sunday, October 22 (1-4 pm). Stop by 8966 Rt. 5 & 20 to see our 2023

exhibits, show the kids how their great grandparents lived, and share your own stories of West Bloomfield. Find up-to-date information about the Society at our website (wbhsny.org) or on Facebook at "West Bloomfield Historical Society, New York".



Grants . . . We've received two grants from Greater Hudson Heritage Network/NY State Council on the Arts. The first provides preservation supplies for textiles, garments, photos, and posters. The second funds a visit from a consultant to teach us how to safely care for, store, and display these items.

To High School Seniors & New Residents: You are eligible for a free one-year membership, and we would love to have you. **And to all the community:** We welcome new members year-round at a reasonable cost.

Yearly rates: Single \$12; Family \$15; Senior Age 60+ \$10; Student \$8; Business \$25; Single Lifetime \$100; Senior Lifetime for Couples age 70+ \$150. New Residents and High School Seniors – 1 year Free. **Printable membership forms** are available at wbhsny.org.



This Summer brought cooler and wetter weather than usual to our area. Despite that, we continued to train and prepare for emergencies in our Town. We were fortunate to have the use of an abandoned house in town offered to us for training. We seldom get this opportunity, and we are very thankful for the opportunity provided by our Supervisor Todd Campbell and his family. We spent several Monday evenings in July and August training on such things as search and rescue, hose advancement, ventilation, emergency firefighter rescue, and forcible entry. We trained collectively along with firefighters from West Bloomfield and East Bloomfield-Holcomb.

I'm happy to report there were no major incidents in our community in the last few months. Our calls included things like motor vehicle accidents, residential alarms, and weather-related calls. One particular call involved closing Route 5 & 20 for several hours as a result of a car shearing off a utility pole, bringing down electric wires across the road. To compound the issue, the utility pole was directly above the water main. The main was damaged as a result and the water authority had to come and make repairs once the power company had finished setting a new pole and reconnecting the power lines. It was unfortunate that this incident inconvenienced a lot of people including all those traveling along Route 5 & 20. In the end, I'm happy to say there were no serious injuries to those involved.

In a previous article, I mentioned we are having some major work done on our antique white truck. While the work has taken several months, it has been challenging to find all the necessary parts. Tom Parrish has been working meticulously on the truck and when it is finally done, it will be back to running like it did in its prime.

It will soon be time for our annual fund drive. This is one way we raise funds for some of the projects we have. Recently, we accepted the donation of a turnout gear extractor. This is a special washing machine used to clean our turnout gear. It is necessary now more than ever to clean our turnout gear regularly due to the threat of harmful cancer-causing carcinogens in the smoke we encounter. Another concern is contamination from motor vehicle accidents and patient care. Our next project is to obtain a drying rack or cabinet to dry the turnout gear after cleaning. Your support will help us to complete that project.

Finally, as always, we can use your help. Ionia and West Bloomfield are always looking for new members. Please consider joining one of your local fire departments. BE SAFE!!

WEST BLOOMFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.

John MacKenzie, President

Website: www.westbloomfieldfiredept.org

The leaves are turning, the chill is in the air, and it is time for everyone to make sure their chimneys are cleaned before you start that fall wood stove or fireplace fire to get rid of the early morning chill. This is also a good time to check and make sure smoke detectors and CO detectors are in working order and have fresh batteries if they are replaceable. Make sure you have an escape plan in case of emergencies and, most importantly, designate a meet-up place outside where all family members know to meet. It should be away from any danger and a place where arriving firefighters can check to make sure everyone is out of the building if something does happen. Try to practice escape drills a couple times so everyone is aware of what to do and where to go.



CLEAN UP AFTER HOSE TESTING BY WEST BLOOMFIELD & IONIA

West Bloomfield Fire Dept., Inc's annual fund drive letters have gone out and most should have received theirs by now. We send over 600 letters annually to residents of West Bloomfield. We do not send letters to homes in the area that Ionia has covered per a mutual aid agreement established years ago, except for a few people who have asked for letters. In 2022, out of 627 letters sent, we received a return of 91 donations or about 14.4%. We know times are tough and we do appreciate your donations. Years ago, we went door to door for the fund drive and we wish we had the manpower today to come out and speak with each of you. We are a 501c3 non-profit corporation and your gift is tax deductible. We are also required to track all the funds we collect. Every penny collected each year goes to the maintenance and purchase of equipment for our fire department. Nothing is shared with any other organization or business in the area. West Bloomfield Fire Dept. and all its members and officers are very thankful for everything collected. So please, keep up the good community relations, get chimneys cleaned, furnaces checked over, snowblowers and shovels all fueled and ready to go. And enjoy our upcoming winter weather.

CONGRATULATIONS, to 1st. Asst. Chief Ron Smith for being voted our 2022 Firefighter of the Year. Ron has given his available time to being a dedicated firefighter in the town of West Bloomfield. Our Officers and members congratulate and thank him for his continued service to the community and surrounding communities as needed.

West Bloomfield Fire Dept. is always looking for HELP. If you may be interested in helping in any way, please stop by the Fire Dept. any Monday evening at 7 pm and we will show you around. And please feel free to contact the fire dept. with questions at president@westbloomfieldfiredept.org.

It's back to school time and that also means "Back to Scouts." This year our Scouts will be eagerly planning the upcoming activities and events we participate in each fall. One event is the Ionia Fall Festival. In recent years, the community has grown to expect Troop 56 to provide a kid-friendly, free activity for the festival and we enjoy it. In addition to the Troop, you will also likely find Leaders and Cubs from our Pack 56.

September is recruitment time for Cub and Boy Scouts, when each community's Scout units are looking to sign up new youth and adults. Who are we looking for? Everybody! Our Pack needs re-organization and leadership. We have a couple of willing and interested parents. However, we need some key positions filled, namely Cub Master and Assistant Cub Master. These positions are like boat captains. He/She is responsible for two meetings a month, September to May. At one meeting, leaders plan the upcoming month or two, help choose a theme, and come up with an outing, activity, or Pack meeting plan. Pack meeting is where our Cub Scouts share what they've been doing in their dens and interact with the other Cubs and parents.

Our local council provides training for new and established leaders. Myself and others from the Pack and Troop are ready and willing to help with ideas, resources, and connections to people, organizations, and really cool and fun things to experience right here in West Bloomfield!

Cub Scouts is for boys and girls, age kindergarten to 5th grade. The BSA Scouting program is for boys and girls from 6th grade to age 18. Our Troop 56 is all boys. If we have young ladies who would like to join, we would need a group of 3 to 5 so we could make an all girls' patrol.

We are also looking for interested parents. At the least we would ask you to become a committee member. However, we would welcome any interested adult for any position – Scout Master, Assistant Scout Master, or Treasurer. The qualifications? Enthusiasm and a willingness to be a hero to your child and maybe others.

The West Bloomfield Scout program is a great opportunity to meet others in our town. Did you know that several of our Scouts are home schooled? These truly dynamic young people have been a pleasure to work with. Many of you have read about other fine young people who've been in our units over the years. They've been shaped by their families, the community, and their experiences, some of which they could not have had without the Scouting program.

Did I mention that joining Pack or Troop 56 is free? Yes, that's right, free! Our program is funded and we underwrite the costs for anyone who joins. Our Troop (and Pack) need more active youth, and importantly, active and interested parents.

Our community has many diverse and interesting people who are perfect candidates for Scout leadership. It's a grand opportunity to get out of your comfort zone, meet some wonderful neighbors, and help guide your child to develop a solid moral structure for the future.

Both of my children were involved in Scouting. I thank the program for so many opportunities I have shared with them and other young people from right here in town. The connections and people I have met and interacted with have enriched my life and I know it will for you. Come join us! Contact me at 585-509-1350 or fordguru@frontiernet.net.

West Bloomfield Congregational Church

9035 Routes 5 & 20, West Bloomfield, 585-624-1313, wbccucc.org, wbccoffice@rochester.rr.com

West Bloomfield Congregational Church UCC meets on Sunday mornings at 10 am for inspiring worship, song, and discussion. Services are also livestreamed on our Facebook page, "West Bloomfield UCC."

Pastor Keyes returned from his 12-week sabbatical on September 5th. We are so happy to have him back!

We are thrilled to announce a momentous occasion in the history of West Bloomfield Congregational Church – our **225th Anniversary Celebration** in 2024! Over two centuries of unwavering faith, community, and service have brought us to this remarkable milestone, and we want to celebrate it with all of you. We have many exciting plans throughout 2024 to celebrate our *quasquibicentennial* including a "Tastings Through Time" dinner, an organ concert, ornament sale, Solar Eclipse viewing party, the return of our Day of Curiosity, and much more. Please follow us on Facebook (West Bloomfield UCC) to stay up to date with all we have planned!

The H.O.P.E. (Helping other people eat) Food Pantry: We maintain a 24-7 food shelf in the alcove at the south side of the building, accessed by the metal ramp. We also hold a once a month "grocery store" style food giveaway. Watch our Facebook page for notices and dates concerning our food giveaways. Donations are always accepted! Please call the church if you are having a food emergency, 585-624-1313.

The H.O.P.E. FOOD Pantry will also have a special **Holiday Food Giveaway** on Saturday Dec. 16th. Families will be asked to sign up for this event. More information, and instructions on how to sign up, will be out soon.



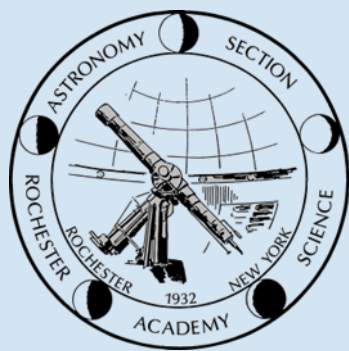
Our **Annual Cookie Sale** returns Dec. 9th. Let us be your Holiday Baker! Find a huge selection and variety of cookies, sold by the pound, including some gluten free varieties. Homemade breads, fudge, and more. And vendors will sell all kinds of wonderful treasures. Put this event in your calendar! Sat., Dec. 9th, 9 am -12 pm.

Please also check out our **social media presence** for information about the happenings at WBUCC.

Instagram Page @westbloomfieldcongregational

Facebook - West Bloomfield UCC

By Pastor Corey Keyes, and Sarah Williams, Program Director



ASTRONOMY SECTION OF THE ROCHESTER ACADEMY OF SCIENCE

www.RochesterAstronomy.org

Marian & Max Farash Center for Observational Astronomy
8355 County Rte. 14, Ionia, NY

We are Rochester's "Astronomy Club" with our dark sky observational center right here in Ionia. We are dedicated to helping our members and the general public appreciate and enjoy the wonders of the universe, and to furthering the understanding of astronomy in the Greater Rochester area. Members enjoy all aspects of astronomy, including planetary, lunar and deep sky observing, astrophotography, education and public outreach, armchair astronomy, and more.

ASRAS is a diverse group that includes people of all levels of interest and experience. Members share a common love for astronomy and space sciences. Some are well-versed and experienced amateur astronomers. Others have little or no expertise but make up for that with enthusiasm and willingness to learn. Although most members have little or no formal training in astronomy, math, physics, or the space sciences, a few members are professional astronomers.

If you are interested in any aspect of amateur astronomy, why not join us? We can help you learn your way around the sky. We can help you choose the right telescope to buy. We'll help you learn the fascinating science behind the hobby. And, we'll help you have fun while doing all that.

This fall's upcoming events:

Public Star Party on Friday, October 13, from 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM. At the Farash Center in Ionia.

Open House on Sunday, October 1, from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM. Same location as above.

Bring your Astronomy curiosity and a jacket to keep warm. Please park in the lower field in the designated area outlined by traffic cones.

Visit our website calendar for more opportunities to participate:

www.RochesterAstronomy.org. Welcome to our Astronomy Section Dark Sky site – Mark Minarich, Past President, ASRAS

The library had an amazing summer! We had lots of fun with our Summer Reading Program theme, “All Together Now.” The Wegmans Zoomobile came for a visit, we had our 2nd Annual Tiny Art Show, and a Stuffed Animal Campout. We also added many new materials for our patrons to enjoy!

Fun events coming up this fall: On October 21st, we will have our annual Fall Fun Day and costume exchange. Stop in for some fun family games and activities from 1:30-3:00. Don’t forget to bring your old costumes to trade for new ones! We will also be featuring new events and programs for all ages throughout the fall. Join us for Adult Coloring on Tuesdays, Family Game Night on Fridays, and Kids Makerspace on Saturdays. Also, keep an eye out for our Fall Puzzle Exchange. Bring puzzles to trade with others to get ready for fun during the winter months. We have new “Make & Takes” monthly and will have one new story featured on the Storywalk® before winter.

The library will also be having our final book sale of the year, which is a “take what you like, pay what you can” sale. Check our social media for days and times to pick up amazing new-to-you books, DVDs, and audio-books. We are currently taking donations of used books and DVDs in good condition. Items can be dropped off at the library during open hours. (Please note that we cannot take encyclopedias, textbooks, manuals, or items in poor condition as they are costly for us to dispose of.)

The Allens Hill Free Library is just 6 miles south of the West Bloomfield Town Hall on County Road 40. We have DVDs, Blue-Rays, CDs, video and board games, and books of course! We also have internet access, computers for patron use, and printing services. We are going to be adding new kits and hobby items to be checked out in the coming months.



Check out our website and social media for more details on events and book sales. We would be thrilled to provide you with a library card if you don’t already have one. Stop by and visit us soon!

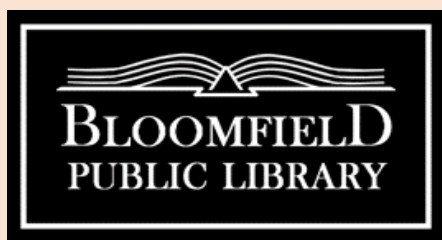
Hours: Tuesday 3:00-6:00. Wednesday, 3:00-6:00, Friday 3:00-8:00, Saturday 1:00-4:00

Phone: (585) 229-5636 Address: 3818 County Road 40, Bloomfield, NY 14469

Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/allenshillfreelibrary>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AHFLibrary Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ahflibrary>

(The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.)



9 Church Street
Bloomfield, NY 14469
585-657-6264
www.bloomfieldpubliclibrary.org

The **Bloomfield Public Library** is BURSTING with new programming! From guided hikes and craft workshops to presentations on how to support relocated refugees, life in Tanzania and protecting our water resources, we have something for everyone. Our October through December calendars are still in the works, so stop in and see us at the circulation desk for the latest info – and you can follow us on Facebook for updates!

We also have lots of ongoing programming. We have TWO Book Clubs: one that meets at the library on the first Monday of every month at 2:30 p.m. and another that meets the first Wednesday of the month at 5 p.m. at Other Half Brewing. Other continuous programs include:

Tuesdays

10:30 a.m. Family Storytime

4 p.m., second Tuesday of the month: International Snackers Club (ages 11 and up)

Wednesdays

11 a.m. Baby Sensory Play OR Toddler/Pre-K STE(A)M Play (alternate weeks)

4- 6 p.m. After School Crafternoons

6:30 p.m., last Wednesday of the month: Adult Craft Night

Thursdays

3-5 p.m. Drop-In Tech Help

Fridays

1:30 p.m. Drop-In Knitting

Some other updates:

We extended the loan period for our new DVDs, so new releases are now available to check out for five days instead of just three! We also added a selection of Nintendo Switch video games, and Vox Read-Aloud books, which have recorded audio that kids can play and follow along with as they learn to read.

One thing we've been so grateful for is our relationships with wonderful community partners. Lazy Acre Alpaca Farm generously donated two gift cards for our end-of-summer raffle and Duvall Farms hosted us for a bunch of wonderful outdoor story times throughout the summer. We're excited to continue those partnerships, and if you're a local artist, business owner or organization that wants to work with us, please stop in or call to talk with Danielle about how we can collaborate! We're eager to deepen and nurture our community connections.



Millers Corners Cemetery

Wayne Parrish, Millers Corners Cemetery Association

It was a busy time around the cemetery this summer:

Flags were placed by the veterans' graves and a brief ceremony was held on Memorial Day.

Four interments have been held thus far this year.

The Superintendent filled in several sunken graves.

The President bush hogged the back of the cemetery and cleaned up the dirt along the front of the woods.

Several new monuments were installed.

A couple of dead trees in danger of falling on memorial stones were removed by Extreme Landscape.

The NYS Division of Cemeteries Investigator inspected the cemetery with the Superintendent and found everything in order.

CEMETERY RULE REMINDER: Memorial lights may not be used in the cemetery. Flowers may not be planted; they must be potted. All flowers must be removed by November 1st.

CEMETERY FEES: There were no changes made to the cemetery fees this year.

The prices will remain at: plots - \$800; cremation burial - \$550; and casket burial \$900 with a \$300 surcharge if performed on a weekend or holiday.

YOU CAN HELP: Our maintenance funds are slowly dwindling. It would be appreciated if people would request in the obituary that donations be sent to the cemetery General Fund when a loved one passes. It would also be appreciated if a portion of your estate was donated to the General Fund when you pass and are being buried in the cemetery. As always, any donation would be accepted at any time from anyone.

Mail donations to Millers Corners Cemetery, PO Box 52, Ionia NY 14475

LASTLY: If you wish to purchase a lot or schedule the installation of a monument, please contact the Superintendent, Larry Evans, at 585-624-4993.

1941 NY Route 65, Honeoye Falls, N.Y. 14472

Cemetery Superintendent 585-624-1823

Plots for sale, \$650

About The North Bloomfield Cemetery, No. 35-021:

Established in 1804 and incorporated in May 1870.

This picturesque property was originally donated by Captain Josiah Gates' family.



Upcoming Event: Fall Clean-up, Saturday, Nov 4,
9:00-Noon. Rain date, Nov 11

Do you realize that when well-meaning friends and families leave artifacts and remembrances of flowers, stones/rocks, glass and metal objects, that our lawn maintenance folks need to mow around these and cannot trim? Stones can be thrown, damaging other monuments and possibly hurting people. Full cans/bottles of alcohol can be picked up by minors and cause other illegal issues. Please consider this when leaving items at your loved one's place.

You will notice some preventative tree maintenance being done in the coming weeks. When large limbs or whole trees come down, they damage the monuments which cannot be repaired due to the expense.

Most people do not realize that these country cemeteries are run and maintained by the volunteering of community people that live in and around the cemetery. It has been challenging to keep these cemeteries viable as their only sources of income are donations, sales of plots, and volunteers. More and more cemeteries are being abandoned to the towns and villages they lie within. The towns are not required to sell plots and only required to mow a few times a year. Please consider helping a few hours a year or serving on the board at one of the local cemeteries.

Find further information and photos at www.northbloomfieldcemetery.com or look up "North Bloomfield Cemetery" on Google Maps.

Looking for a new church home? All are welcome at our services, fellowship times, & events! Find us at 2120 Elton Road in Ionia. Sunday Worship is at 9:30 AM and two Zoom Bible Studies will be held this fall. Our website is www.ioniaumc.org, and we are on Facebook at www.facebook.com/IoniaUMCNY.

Drop off your redeemable pop cans & bottles into the crate behind the church – 100% of the redemption money is used toward our church's missions to local, regional & national organizations! Thanks to the generosity of our community, we have collected over 12,000 cans & bottles & raised over \$700 for missions so far in 2023! Please empty and rinse cans and bottles before donating and place them in plastic bags (no boxes)! Thank you!

We thank our whole community for all of their support – the can and bottle project; your food & clothing donations; coming to our socials, dinners, and the 25th Annual Fall Festival & Tractor Parade. Thanks to all who attended, drove their tractors in the parade, purchased food, and enjoyed the games, hayride, and vendors!

Our 53rd Annual Holiday Fair Craft Show is on Sat., Nov. 19th, 9AM – 3PM at the Bloomfield High School, 21 Oakmount Ave. Booth applications are available on our website www.ioniaumc.org. There will be 120 crafter spaces selling a wide variety of crafts, gifts, & homemade goodies. Free admission and parking. Lunch is available. Bring your holiday shopping list!

Christmas is a special time of year at Ionia UMC with our Advent study and special services Christmas Sunday, 9 AM and Eve. We will continue distributing Christmas dinners to area people and collecting mittens, hats, gloves, coats, and more on our "Mitten Tree" for the Open Door Mission and Blessing Room. There is a box to collect donations of clothing and food items on the back porch of the church.

Ionia Women's Club

Mary Twardokus

The Ionia Women's Club welcomes all women living in the Ionia area to their meetings, held on the third Wednesday of each month, 7 PM, at members' homes. Throughout the years, the basic purpose of the club has remained the same – to share friendships, homemaking skills, cooking, crafts, to keep abreast of current trends, community action, and to give back to the community. Programs this year include speakers, crafts, pot-luck meals and more. We continue to make dresses for the international organization "Dress A Girl" and surgery caps for Golisano Children's Hospital. We collect school supplies for area children through the Blessing Room, and supply pet supplies for Ontario County's Happy Tails Animal Shelter. For information on joining the gatherings, call Mary Twardokus 585-657-7722.

COMMUNITY FOCUS

A NEWSLETTER OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST BLOOMFIELD

9097 DAYLIGHT DRIVE

WEST BLOOMFIELD NY 14585

ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

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Contributor Deadlines Dec 5 2023, March5 2024, June5 2024

A West Bloomfield Hero

On July 6th, a miles-long procession of emergency vehicles travelled from Jeff Harloff's County office to the Ionia Firehall, where he has been a volunteer firefighter since he was a teen. This was a celebration of Jeff's retirement as Ontario County's emergency management director and fire coordinator. A 3rd generation volunteer in Ionia, he also served on the former West Bloomfield ambulance. After earning a paramedic diploma and working professionally, he joined the County as a coordinator and was named Director of Emergency Management in 1994.



Jeff called the job a "two hatter": helping municipalities deal with and prevent disasters; and working with 28 fire departments in the County. This included responding to major incidents and using his extensive investigative training. In a *Finger Lakes Times* article, Sheriff David Cirencione cited Jeff's dedication and leadership in Ontario County's teamwork approach to public safety. The sheriff described one horrific and complex scene where "Jeff and I worked side by side for eight hours that night with the assistance of East Bloomfield firefighters . . . focused on accomplishing this task for the families."

Last month, the vehicles that came to Ionia were filled with volunteer and professional emergency personnel who wanted to thank Jeff for his 32 years of service. At the celebration's end, he was signed off as Car 35 by the County's radio dispatcher for the last time – to the applause of his colleagues and community.