



Colfax Township Hall

Office Hours: by appointment

First Fridays: join the fun every month at the Village Community Center on Lincoln Avenue.

Bingo, music, fellowship and a wonderful meal for \$3 for those 60+, slightly more for younger attendees. Everyone is welcome!

Sept. 14: summer taxes due. Check for hours of collection at the hall's display box or the township website, or email treasurer Laurie Draeger at colfaxbenzie@gmail.com.

Fall Festival: October in the Village Park on Lincoln Avenue. Date will be posted on our website when it is set, or look for the date on the banner at the pavilion in early October.

Township Vacancies

Interested in serving your community? The Colfax Board is accepting letters of interest from residents in the township and Village (Colfax side) to fill vacancies for Library Board, Election Officials, Board of Review and Joint Planning Commission. No experience necessary. None of the positions require a lot of time. To learn about what they involve, feel free to call Ron Evitts at 383-1749. Send letters to the township's mailing address.



Township Hall: 7607 Michigan Ave.
231-378-2144
231-378-4665 (fax)
Hours by appointment

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 68
Thompsonville, MI
49683

Website: www.colfaxtownship.org

Township Board Meetings:

The Board meets at 7:00 P.M. the second Wednesday of each month at the Colfax Township hall. The public is encouraged to attend!

Officers: **Supervisor** – Ron Evitts
231-383-1749

Clerk – DeAnn Mosher
231-631-9221

Treasurer – Laura Draeger
231-378-2144

Trustee – Shelley Greene
231-378-2334

Trustee – Tom Besey
231-631-9227

Assessor: Christy Brow
2895 Arborview #27
Traverse City, MI 49685
231-499-1671
231-941-4309 (fax)
Email: colfaxassessor@hotmail.com

Helpful Phone Numbers

- Emergency/ambulance/fire: 911
- Benzie County Sheriff's Dept.: 231-882-4484
- Michigan State Police: 1-800-525-5555
- Benzie County Treasurer: 231-882-0011
- Benzie County Road Commission: 231-325-3051
- Benzie County Council on Aging: 231-525-0600 or 1-888-893-1102 (toll free)
- Thompsonville post office: 231-378-2411
- Betsie Valley District Library: 231-378-2716

Greater Thompsonville Area Zoning Ordinance

A new Joint Zoning Ordinance went into effect May 15, 2015 for Colfax Township, Weldon Township and the Village of Thompsonville. Zoning questions and requests for Zoning Permit Applications should be directed to:
Craig Meredith, Zoning Administrator
231-378-2377 or 970-9361
P.O. Box 115
Thompsonville, MI 49683

The zoning ordinance, zoning map and permit applications are on Colfax Township's website. Now that the zoning ordinance has been adopted, one of many topics the Joint Planning Commission will spend time discussing in the future is community spaces -- how they can be improved and possible funding sources. Meetings are held at 7:00 P.M. the first Thursday of the month at the Weldon Township hall on Thompson Avenue. Everyone is welcome!

Recycling

- Improved lighting and a security camera are installed at the recycling site at the Village DPW Maintenance Building on CR669.
- Volume has more than doubled since the bins were relocated to the DPW.
- Household hazardous waste and electronics collection days are 9:00a.m.—noon on
*Saturday, July 11: Frankfort recycling site
*Saturday, August 8: Honor Road Commission
Appointments are required; call 882-0554.
- As a reminder, never put trash, construction material or hazardous waste in a recycling bin. That is illegal dumping and increases costs; the county will prosecute violators.
- As of June 10, 28 illegal dump sites in Benzie County were documented. Sincere thanks to Recycling Coordinator Marlene Wood and volunteers who are battling mosquitoes and other hazards to clean up the dump sites!
- The Transfer Station in Thompsonville accept trash (fee involved). Call 378-4657.
- Best Buy (829-2388) on US31 in Traverse City accepts televisions up to 27". Call ahead.

Benzie County Veteran's Affairs

This Department supports and assists veterans in writing benefit claims for compensation, education and training and financial assistance to name just a few, as well as arranging for transportation to VA related doctor appointment. Accredited VA counselors are also available. The BCVA works with the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Fund, the Michigan Veteran's Trust Fund federal agencies and other sources to help veterans receive benefits and assistance that are available to them. The BCVA is partnered with Grand Traverse County's Veteran's Affairs and the Grand Traverse Bay Area Disabled American Veterans. Staff is available Mondays (except holidays) 9:30a.m.-3:30p.m. The Veterans Affairs Office is located in Beulah in the lower level of the Benzie Government Center; phone number is 882-0034.

Benzie County Veterans Memorial Project

In honor and memory of the men and women of Benzie County who served their country in time of war and peace, a veterans memorial will be constructed in 2016 in Benzonia Township Memorial Park on South Street in Benzonia. Fundraising is underway to benefit the memorial. Inscribed bricks may be purchased to honor anyone you feel worthy of remembrance, living or deceased, or to express patriotism or gratitude for the life we live. Bricks may be purchased to promote a business or organization or to thank those who serve. Order forms with inscription information are available from Veteran's Affairs committee members or the Benzie County Treasurer. Brick costs: 4x8" - \$35 each or 3 for \$100; 8x8" - \$70 each or 3 for \$200. Questions? Call Bob Roelofs at 231-645-1187.

BENZIE COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

Who are we?

•We are 14 Employees •We are 12 contractors •We are 98 volunteers strong •We delivered 33,895 meals to 230 homebound clients and traveled over 50,000 miles this year to provide these meals •We provided 3,509 service hours of homemaking services to 122 clients •We provided a total of 45 foot clinic hours for 207 clients at no charge •We served 23,254 meals to 1,219 folks at our congregate meal sites in Honor and Thompsonville •We provided 1,120 snow plows to 128 clients •We provided 336 lawn mows to 79 clients •We provided 1,658 Benzie Bus Punch Cards to seniors who have no other means of transportation which enabled them to visit their doctors, go shopping, out for meals, etc. at no cost to them •We provided 52 clients with Income Tax Preparation Assistance at no cost •We assisted 152 individuals at no cost helping them through the Medicare and Medicaid maze including: Medicare Part D Prescription coverage, choosing the right Medicare Supplemental Insurance, annual paperwork and documentation for Medicaid Applications, etc. •We provided 4,416 Dining Out Vouchers to help seniors with their nutritional needs which benefits our local area restaurants •We provided 25 clients (with no cost to them) the peace of mind of having the Guardian Medical Monitoring System installed to their phone line for emergency needs •We provided 167 individuals at no cost to them with Senior Project Fresh Booklets valued at \$20 to obtain fresh produce from our local Farmer Markets, putting back over \$3,280 into the local economy •We answered a total of 6,945 phone calls and in-person contacts to those requesting information and assistance for help regarding senior services •We provided 26 individuals with dental vouchers worth \$4,500 to help with urgent dental needs •We provided a variety of social, physical, health & educational activities/programs along with day trips that were attended by 4,686 members •We provided at no cost 67 flu shots •We provided through Miracle Ear monthly hearing clinics that 87 individuals benefited from at no cost •We provided a total value of \$200,879 in services to our Senior Veterans and/or dependents •We sent out over 11,000 Newsletters during the past year

Statistics from 2014

Who are we?

WE ARE BENZIE COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING – PROUDLY SERVING BENZIE COUNTY SINCE 2003!

As you can see many of our programs are offered for free. In fact the only programs that have a charge are Snow Removal, Lawn Chore and Homemaking. These three programs are based on your annual household income and your cost can range from as little as \$2 per unit of service to up to \$20. Even at \$20, that still is a savings of 45% of what we pay the contractor to provide the service.

For all other programs, we do ask for a suggested donation, but no one is ever turned away if they do not have the means to donate. We do depend on donations and contributions from others in the community to help our agency meet the ever increasing demand for our services.

The Senior Millage that is supported by voters in Benzie County only covers 64% of the total cost to provide these services. To make up the difference we rely on grants from local foundations, state and federal governmental agencies and donations and contributions from folks like you. If we didn't receive these other funds, then many of the most frail and vulnerable older adults would not receive our services and would be at risk of going into an institutionalized setting such as long term care facilities that would be much more costly to all of us.

We also couldn't provide all of these services without our dedicated group of 98 volunteers. Many are drivers for our Home Delivered Meals Program. They have become guardians of our clients for it is not just a meal they deliver. Many of our clients do not have family or friends that live close by. Our volunteers see them 5 times a week making sure they are doing well and watching for anything out of the ordinary. If they have any concerns they contact staff immediately. Our volunteers have saved several of our clients' lives over the years by being observant to their health needs. They are the heart and soul of our agency!

WE ARE SERVING SENIORS TODAY, TOMORROW AND IN THE FUTURE!

For questions, please call our office at (231) 525-0600 or visit our website at www.benziecoa.org