

BALKAN TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

Spring 2022 edition

Pancake Breakfasts:

Starting April 23rd, the pancake breakfasts will be offered for \$5 per person at the Balkan Community Center.

- May 21st, 2022
- June 18th, 2022
- July 23rd, 2022
- August 27th, 2022
- Sept. 24th, 2022

If you know anyone interested in volunteering, please call Ann at 780-5294!



BROADBAND IN BALKAN

Balkan's Broadband committee is working on lining up funding for broadband deployment. We have lined up Paul Bunyan as our potential partner in broadband, IRRRB's Whitney Ridlon is on board to help with a letter of support for Balkan's efforts securing broadband development and local funding, RAMS director, Ida Rukavina is helping give sound advice, a support letter and coordinating local representatives. Representative Lislegard, Eklund and Sandstede have pledged to help Balkan with legislative red tape, St Louis County has given a planning grant to Balkan for \$25,000 that requires a 1:1 match.

In addition to all of this help, we still need **your** help. **If you have a personal story about how broadband in Balkan will help make your life easier or you have a story about your current internet service to share with your legislature, please write to your legislature or representatives.** Please call the Balkan office at 254-3967 to get the addresses of your representatives and the governor to send your broadband stories to.

Quality broadband service is key to growing our economy, and learning, competing, and succeeding in today's digital world.

~ Ralph Northam~

Broadband is not a luxury; it's critical infrastructure.

~Kim Reynolds~

BALKAN HAS A NEW SUPERVISOR – GARTH WILSON

For those of you that attended the Annual Meeting at the Balkan Community Center on March 8th, 2022, you know Garth Wilson was elected to fill the open supervisor position previously held by Jennifer Tarnowski, who did not seek re-election. Congratulations Supervisor Wilson!

The residents of Balkan Township re-elected Misty Hendrickson to the clerk position at the Annual election. She will serve another two years.

At the Annual Meeting, the town levy was discussed, as it is typically the main topic of discussion every year. As you can see in your lives, inflation has had a hold on the economy in 2022. Before the levy increase, we have seen culvert, fuel oil, and tires increase in cost this year. To be prepared for increased costs in the next year, the board recommended a levy increase. The electors (residents) at the Annual Meeting voted to increase the levy from the current amount of \$331,500 to \$344,760 for 2023. Our main priority is the roads and keeping them safe and passable for residents.

ROADS

Spring thaw is always hard on our gravel roads. The Balkan road crew has been working to keep the roads from going under water, opening the culverts, pushing back snow banks so the snow that melts go into ditches rather than on the roads, and maintaining road equipment.

Please slow down on our gravel roads until Balkan's road crew can grade out the pot holes, add road crowns and make the roads more drivable. This will likely be when the roads dry up more and/or green up comes. It is not helpful to grade the roads when there is so much water on them and the frost is yet to come out, it makes the roads a muddy mess.

DUST CONTROL

The Balkan Board of Supervisors will call to get calcium chloride for our roads earlier this year. This dust control measure attracts moisture from the air and resists evaporation to extend dust suppression throughout the summer months.

Some residents have suggested using a soy-based dust control. The soy-based method is mixed with old asphalt to allow the road to re-establish its binder properties. They use soy bean oil as its major material. This material helps clear the air and deter respiratory issues. More research into this method is needed to see if it would help Balkan roads.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP SCHEDULED FOR JULY 6TH, 2022

St Louis County's 2022 Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Community Collection is scheduled for **July 6th, 2022 from 10am-1pm**. This is a mobile collection site available annually, free to households.

Allowable items include:

- paint and paint product
- automotive fluids and greases
- deep fat fryer and other cooking oils
- pesticides
- aerosol products
- rechargeable batteries
- caustic or corrosive products
- other household chemicals and cleaners
- fluorescent tubes, CFLs, and ballasts
- mercury
- adhesives
- lead sinkers and other lead items

Be careful handling Household Hazardous Waste:

- Transport in containers that do not leak.
- Keep in original packaging if possible. If not, label the container with content ingredients.
- Secure fluorescent lights and glass containers so they do not break and release hazardous vapors in your vehicle.



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT:

www.balkantownship.com for all the board's minutes, community center rentals, activities planned for this summer and more...

Balkan also has a new Facebook page. Look us up on the web to see what's new!

Contact Us

Balkan Township

PO BOX 66

5524 HWY 73

Chisholm, MN 55719

www.balkantownship.com

email: balkantown@gmail.com

Balkan Township

5524 HWY 73

PO BOX 66

Chisholm, MN 55719

Presorted Standard

U.S. Postage Paid

Chisholm, MN

Permit No. 50

Balkan Resident