

## **Commissioner's Report - Centerville Township Board Meeting – 7-8-20**

### **Recycling**

Establishing a recycling site, or sites, will be on the Leland township July 13<sup>th</sup> agenda. It is recommended that a site be located on Popp Road just south of the school bus storage area on Township property. This is an issue I have been working on for the past year, and a topic of major interest to residents. I hope that the Board is able to take action.

### **Internet Sufficiency Survey**

My thanks to everyone who participated in the Home-Business Internet Sufficiency Survey—we had an excellent response and those responses strengthens our case for the Economic Development Administration grant that the County will be submitting seeking Internet infrastructure to expand broadband capabilities In Leelanau County. The survey was funded through a grant from the Edward F. and Virginia B. Ball Foundation.

### **BOC Executive Committee Meeting**

The BOC meets tomorrow at July 14<sup>th</sup> and at the beginning of our agenda there will be a presentation from the Area Agency on Aging, Meals on Wheels and the County's Senior services Program providing a report on their activities over the past year and highlighting the needs of seniors during the pandemic crises and the manner in which services have been provided to meet needs.

### **Senior Services Millage**

I sit on the County Senior Services Committee and can attest to the success the Senior Services Department staff have had serving seniors for the past two years, helping seniors remain independent, in their homes and living life on their terms. The millage increase two years restored the nurse services overseeing medication management and helping seniors with health-related issues. It also allowed expansion of collaborative services with other agencies to engage seniors in activities occurring in their own communities. The Senior Services program collaborates with Meals on Wheels, Area Agency on Aging, Leelanau Probate Court, ShareCare of Leelanau, elder law attorneys, AARP tax assistance, Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program, Leelanau Christian Neighbors, Munson Home Health, and Comfort Keepers. These collaborations allow ALL Leelanau County seniors to access services such as Meals on Wheels, Estate Planning consultation

and services, assistance in signing up for Medicare and Medicaid, tax preparation services, Medical Equipment Loan closet, foot care clinics, phone reassurance program, transportation to medical appointments, in home assessments, sales and service of Freedom Alert Emergency Pendants, along with social and education programs.

Two major issues of concern that became apparent with the advent of the pandemic crises were isolation and food insecurity. Senior Services staff continue to work with volunteer groups and church organizations to deliver meals and fresh vegetables to seniors and to maintain contact by phone and online to help seniors feel supported and less isolated.

*The Senior Service Millage will be on the August 4th Primary ballot for a renewal rate of .320 for four years. The millage rate of .320 will equate to \$32.00 of tax for every \$100,000 in property taxable value per year.*

I know these are challenging times for all us but hope you will support our seniors by supporting the millage again this year. Additional points on the Senior Services program will be posted online on the Township website.