

# Comstock Connect

## March 2024 Newsletter

### Township Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday  
8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday  
8:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

Friday  
8:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

### Township Board

Supervisor  
Randy Thompson

Clerk  
Nicole Beauchamp

Treasurer  
Clyde "Bub" Sherwood

Trustees  
Jerry Amos  
Terry McIver  
Jason Knight  
Bob Pratt

Superintendent  
Scott Hess

Transfer Station

Winter Hours  
November 1-March 31

Thursday  
11:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Saturday  
9:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.



Welcome to March. Winter is on its way out and there's plenty going on in Comstock Charter Township. In this edition we'll cover:

- Items we can and cannot accept for Curbside Pickup (Page 2)
- How to buy a niche at the Maple Grove Columbarium (Page 2)
- Important Winter Property Tax information (Page 2)
- The RCKC's Open House (Page 3)
- March meetings and other important dates (Page 3)
- Merrill Park's upcoming Farmers Market (Page 4)
- Comstock Center DDA's Open Board Positions (Page 5)
- Fun family-friendly events from the Library (Page 6)
- How to get your car seat checked by the Comstock Fire Department (Page 7)
- The Comstock Fire Department's next Community CPR Class (Page 8)
- Comstock Fire and Rescue's open position (Page 9)
- More information on the Maple Grove Columbarium (Page 10)
- How to connect with your Township Government (Page 11)

# Messages from the Township

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**Randy Thompson, Township Supervisor**

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 126](tel:(269)381-2360)

[supervisor@comstockmi.gov](mailto:supervisor@comstockmi.gov)



Curbside Pickup begins at the end of next month. As you think about what you'd like to throw out, please review items we can and cannot accept. The following items are accepted:

- Household doors and windows, furniture, carpeting, toys, miscellaneous rubbish/junk, and packaging.
- Limit 4 cubic yards.
- Glass should be in a cardboard box or other sturdy container and taped shut.
- Mattresses/Box Springs MUST be wrapped in plastic.
- Nothing will be accepted that 2 people cannot safely pick up and place into a truck.
- No plastic bags or loose items must be in boxes.

There are also items not accepted during curbside pickup, we have a list of those [online](#).

**Nicole Beauchamp, Township Clerk**

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 111](tel:(269)381-2360)

[clerk@comstockmi.gov](mailto:clerk@comstockmi.gov)



#### COLUMBARIUM NICHES FOR SALE

We're excited to announce our columbarium was delivered to Maple Grove Cemetery in December! The columbarium niche is an affordable way to inter and memorialize cremated loved ones. The columbarium consists of 64 niches and each niche can hold up to 2 standard-sized urns. The price of the niche includes a memorial plaque. Contact us at 269-381-2360 to inquire.

**Treasurer Clyde "Bub" Sherwood**

[\(269\) 381-2360 ext. 131](tel:(269)381-2360)

[treasurer@comstockmi.gov](mailto:treasurer@comstockmi.gov)



The 2023 property tax year has concluded. Any amounts still owed must now be paid to the Kalamazoo County Treasurer.

The assessor has mailed out the 2024 assessment notices and they should be hitting your mailbox soon. If you want to appeal your values, please see the notice for March Board of Review information including dates and times. Water and sewer special assessment bills will be sent out in April and will be due by August 1. Any amounts not paid by November 1 will be added to the winter tax bill.

Curious about where your tax dollars go? Head to [www.comstockmi.gov](http://www.comstockmi.gov) and navigate to the Treasurer's page. There you will find summer and winter property tax information sheets that detail when each millage was created, when it expires, and what it's used for.

# Dates and Announcements

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## Announcements

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
**4:00pm-7:00pm**  
**March 21st**  
**4400 South 26th Street**

YOU'RE INVITED TO ATTEND A PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE FOR THE  
ROAD COMMISSION OF KALAMAZOO COUNTY NEW COMPLEX

The Road Commission of Kalamazoo County is inviting you to an open house at their new facility in Comstock.

The open house will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2024 from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. at 4400 South 26th Street.

A welcome ceremony will be held at 4:30pm, followed by guided tours. This invitation is open to the public.

## Important Dates

### The Township Board

is meeting on Monday, March 4th, and March 18th at 6:00 PM.

### The Parks and Recreation Board

is meeting on Monday, March 11th at 6:00 PM.

### The Planning Commission

is meeting on Thursday, March 14th, and March 28th at 7:00 PM.

### The Downtown Development Authority

is meeting on Wednesday, March 28th at 5:30 PM

## Parks and Rec News

### VFW Post 6252 Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30th

At Merrill Park

VFW Post 6252 is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 30th for kids 12 and under. A Flag Ceremony will be held immediately before the horn blows at 11 am sharp. Contact VFW Post at 269-342-5601.



Picture: The 2021 VFW Post Easter Egg Hunt.

### Farmers Market Informational Meeting

Wednesday, March 6th at 6:30 pm

or

Saturday, March 9th at 3pm

At the Township Office

Interested in being a market vendor but have never been a vendor at ANY market? This informational meeting will review required State and Local licenses and regulations. Meeting is offered two times! Pick the date and time that works for you. You do not need to attend both meetings.

### 2024 Robert Morris Park Passes

are available for purchase at the Township Office located at 5858 King Hwy. Kalamazoo. Passes cost \$25, or \$10 for seniors (60+). Day passes can be purchased at Robert Morris Park for \$5.

Robert Morris Park is open year round for you to enjoy.

The park features:

1. Swimming Beach
2. Pavilion Rentals
3. Shoreline Fishing
4. 18-Hole Disc Golf
5. Playgrounds and Swings

### Upcoming Events

Adult Softball

- Registration Required
- April 22 - July 17

VFW Memorial Day Parade

- May 29th
- More details to come

Community Garden

- Registration Required
- May-September

Visit our website at

[www.comstockmi.gov/parks-recreation](http://www.comstockmi.gov/parks-recreation) for more information or to register for our programs! Parks Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. Visit the website for meeting location and to view the agenda.

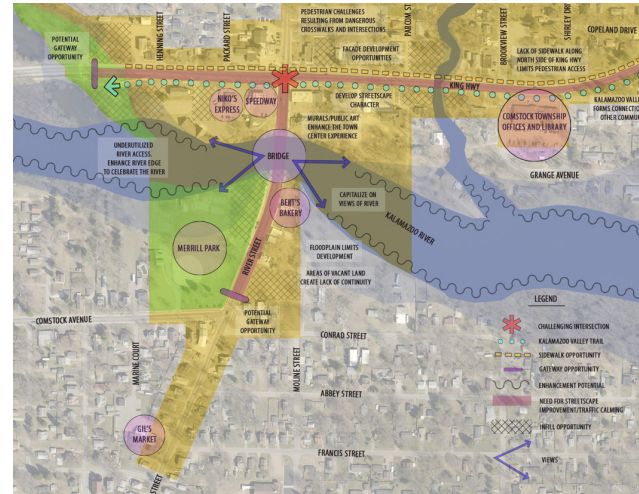
If you see something, say something. If you see someone dumping trash or you see other unlawful activities, please contact 269-343-8212 or email us at [parks@comstockmi.gov](mailto:parks@comstockmi.gov). You can also contact the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department through the non-emergency line (269) 488-8911. If safe, try to record a plate number. We also have a complaint form online: <https://comstockmi.gov/parks>.



E Michigan Ave

# Volunteer! Get Involved! Share Your Ideas!

- The Comstock Center Downtown Development Authority (DDA) is seeking a resident who lives in the DDA district to volunteer on the DDA Board. The new board member would serve a four-year term beginning in January 2024.
- Here is your chance to provide direct input in downtown beautification projects, planning events, business assistance/development and to help lead the Comstock Center Riverfront Redevelopment Plan. Come work with a passionate DDA team of local business owners in creating a vibrant destination for the Comstock community.
- The Comstock Center DDA regularly meets every 4th Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm at the new Township Hall. An overview of DDA goals and priorities can be found at: [www.comstockmi.gov/downtown-development-authority/](http://www.comstockmi.gov/downtown-development-authority/)
- Please contact Steve Deisler, Comstock Center DDA Director for further details at:
  - Comstock Township, 5858 King Hwy., Kalamazoo, MI 49048
  - 269-381-2360
  - [sdeisler@comstockmi.gov](mailto:sdeisler@comstockmi.gov)
- To apply online fill out the DDA Board Member application at: [Boards-and-Commissions-DDA-Board-Application-FILLABLE.pdf](#) ([comstockmi.gov](http://comstockmi.gov))



[269-381-2360](tel:269-381-2360)



[comstockmi.gov/downtown-development-authority/](http://comstockmi.gov/downtown-development-authority/)

# Comstock Township Library

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### Library Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Friday 9:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.



Comstock  
Township  
Library

Where community meets the world.

### Library Contact

[269-345-0136](tel:269-345-0136)

[Info@comstocklibrary.org](mailto:Info@comstocklibrary.org)

[www.comstocklibrary.org](http://www.comstocklibrary.org)

## Solar Eclipse Program

Wednesday, March 27 @ 6pm

Join us as we welcome Richard Bell from the Kalamazoo Astronomical Society. Mr. Bell will be presenting on the solar eclipse set to occur on April 8, 2024, what we can expect to view from Kalamazoo, Michigan, and other fun bits of astronomy!

## CTL Writers

Tuesday, March 5 & 19 @ 2:30pm

Have a bit of writing in your soul, but you need the encouragement to get it out? Join the CTL Writers! Twice a month (the first and third Tuesdays), we get together to read over another member's work, then share a writing sprint to get the words out on the paper. Bring your laptop, notebook, whatever you need to get your words out. Light refreshments to be served.

### State Representative Matt Hall Listening Hour

Wednesday, March 20 from 12-1pm

Constituents of the 42nd State House District are invited to meet with staff members from the office of State Representative Matt Hall. All constituents are invited to come discuss any issues of concern or to ask questions.

### Drop-In Playroom

Thursday, March 7, 14, 21, & 28 from 10am-5pm

Stop by our storytime room and play with our special toys that are usually reserved for after storytime sessions. This is a drop-in program.

### Family Game Night

Wednesday, March 6, 13, 20, & 27 from 4:30-7:30pm

Everyone is invited to come in and play board games at the library. Bring your own board games or make use of some of the library's own. Be sure to bring your friends too!



Please register for these free events by calling the library at [269-345-0136](tel:269-345-0136) or by visiting the Events page on the library's website [www.comstocklibrary.org](http://www.comstocklibrary.org)



### Get a Car Seat Checked

We all want our children to travel safely in cars. Installing a car seat for younger children and babies can be a challenge. Comstock Fire & Rescue has certified child passenger safety (CPS) technicians through the Safe Kids Coalition who can check to make sure your car seats are installed correctly and teach you how to use and install a car seat on your own.

Comstock Fire will be hosting a Safe Kids Car Seat Safety event on Wednesday, March 27th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Station 9-1 (1960 River Street). Trained technicians will teach you everything you need to know to make sure your car seat is installed and used correctly.

If you are not able to attend the Car Seat Safety event in March, we also provide installations by appointment. Please contact Fire Marshal Mike Kessler at 269-345-9244 or email him at [mkessler@comstockmi.gov](mailto:mkessler@comstockmi.gov) to schedule an appointment.

There are a few things you should know before you meet with a CPS technician. This isn't like getting an oil change on your car, where you leave the car and go do something else. Working with a CPS technician will be a one-on-one learning experience. When you leave, you should be confident that your child's seat is installed correctly and feel comfortable reinstalling it on your own. This may be the most important thing you learn.

#### Before the Car Seat Checkup

Be prepared to learn, not just watch the CPS technician install the car seat. They're trained to teach you.

- Know your child's current weight and height.
- Using the car seat instruction manual and the vehicle owner's manual, try to install the car seat into your vehicle before your appointment.
- Tip! Check the index of your vehicle owner's manual for "child safety seats."
- Be sure to bring the car seat instruction manual AND the vehicle owner's manual with you to your appointment.
- If possible, bring your child with you as well as another caregiver to help while you are learning.
- Be prepared to learn. The CPS Technician is trained to educate you to install and use your car seat properly in your vehicle.

#### During the Car Seat Checkup

This one-on-one education typically takes 20-30 minutes, depending on your car seat and vehicle. The technician will take all the time you need until you feel comfortable that your car seat is used and installed correctly:

- During the checkup, a CPS Technician will:
  - Fill out a car seat check form to document the process (including car seat type, location in the vehicle, misuse observations, etc.). The form may be electronic or on paper.
  - Review car seat selection appropriate for your child's age, weight, and height as well as review factors that affect proper use.
  - Review the car seat instruction manual and the vehicle owner's manual to ensure that both are being followed correctly.
  - Ensure that an appropriate seating position in the vehicle is being used.
  - Check the car seat for recalls, visible damage, and expiration date.
  - Guide your installation of the car seat. You are encouraged to ask to learn how to install the car seat in different seating positions with different installation techniques.
  - Discuss the next steps for your child, such as when to move to the next type of car seat.
  - Answer any questions you may have, so ask away.



## Community CPR Class

Our next Community CPR training session will be offered on Saturday, March 23rd, at 9 AM.

We are excited to continue this community outreach program and encourage all who are interested to consider signing up. Participants will be contacted in the order they sign up, with preference given to Comstock Township residents. Please do not hesitate to sign up, as the first eight Comstock residents to sign up will be contacted for confirmation first. Vacancies created by cancelations will be filled using the order of the list. People from outside the township will be contacted if we are unable to confirm eight Comstock township residents in a timely manner.

\*\*\* If you have a disability that requires special assistance (i.e., hearing-impaired/deaf and needing an ASL interpreter), please specify when filling out the registration form attached to this post. Because coordinating special resources takes time, any need for accommodation must be submitted at least 2 weeks before the day of class. Every effort will be made, but nothing can be guaranteed due to a shortage of interpreters and other local resources.

One registration form must be filled out for each person planning to attend. For example, a family of three would need to submit three separate forms, not three names on one form.

CPR cards will not be issued for this program due to the limited scope of instruction. This class is based on the American Heart Association's Family and Friends CPR curriculum. Since no cards are issued, this training is provided for FREE!

The class will be held at Comstock Fire Station 9-1, (1960 River Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49048) on Saturday, March 23rd, 9:00 am - 11:00 am.

We will announce upcoming classes on our Facebook page, so make sure you're following us to stay informed.

Questions can be emailed to Lt. Crabtree at [ccrabtree@comstockmi.gov](mailto:ccrabtree@comstockmi.gov)

Please follow this link to register: <https://forms.gle/W46oiHTrF1aXya5Z6>

## Still in need of free Smoke and/or CO alarm?

If you need Smoke Alarms or Carbon Monoxide (CO) detectors, please get in touch with Fire Marshal Mike Kessler at 269-345-9244 or email @ [mkessler@comstockmi.gov](mailto:mkessler@comstockmi.gov). You can scan QR code or click on the link [Smoke Alarm Request Form](#) to complete the "Request Install of Smoke Alarms or Carbon Monoxide Detectors" form.

Smoke Alarm Request Form







# COMSTOCK FIRE & RESCUE



## A JOB LIKE NO OTHER

CHALLENGING

FAST PACED

REWARDING

COMMUNITY  
INVOLVEMENT

TRAINING  
PROVIDED

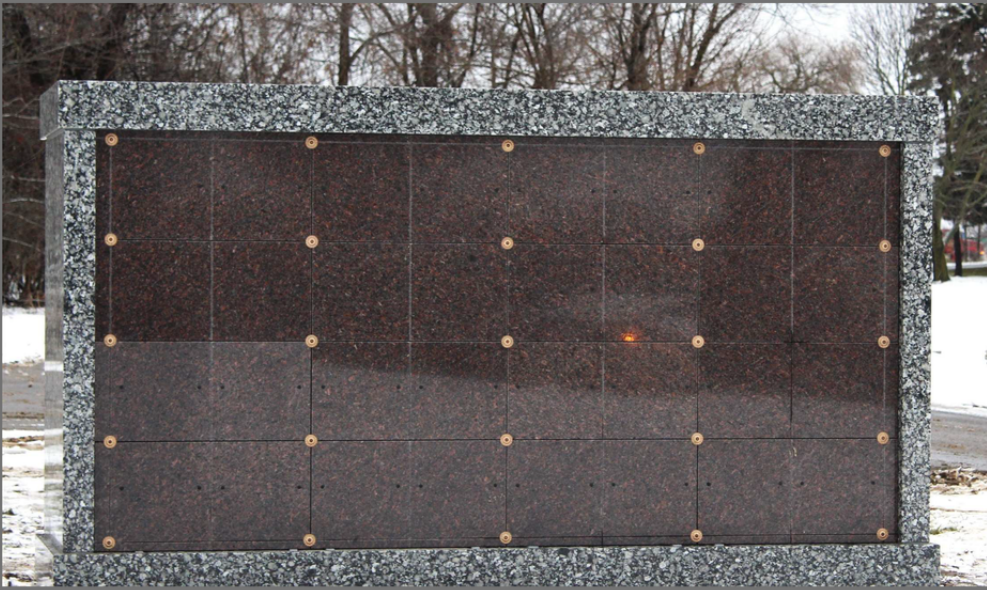
COMPETITIVE  
WAGES

## PAID-ON-CALL FIREFIGHTER RECRUITMENT

Comstock Fire & Rescue is now accepting applications for Paid-On-Call Firefighters. No prior experience required if you live within the Township. We will provide sponsorship for the EMS Certification class and the Kalamazoo County Fire Chief's Association Fire Academy to qualified candidates.

The men and women of Comstock Township Department of Fire & Rescue provide 24/7 essential fire suppression and investigation, education, rescue, and emergency medical services to over 15,000 residents and visitors, responding to over 2,200 requests for service each year.

Visit our website @ [www.comstockfire.com](http://www.comstockfire.com) to download an application. Printed applications can be hand-delivered at Station 9-3 (8700 E. Michigan Ave, Galesburg, MI) or mailed to P.O. Box 8, Comstock, MI 49041. You may also e-mail your application to [kbeauchamp@comstockmi.gov](mailto:kbeauchamp@comstockmi.gov).



Single Plaque



Double Plaque

# COLUMBARIUM

Niches available at Maple Grove Cemetery

**A columbarium niche is an affordable and beautiful way to honor and memorialize your loved one.**

- Engraved plaque is included in cost and up to two names can be engraved
- Two standard sized urns fit into one niche

Residents: \$900

Non-Residents: \$1100

Opening/Closing: \$100

Additional fee may be assessed if price of plaque increases from time of purchase to time of need.

 [tpenny@comstockmi.gov](mailto:tpenny@comstockmi.gov)

 (269) 381-2360 ext 119

 [www.comstockmi.gov](http://www.comstockmi.gov)

 5240 Azo Court

## CONTACT



## Find us on Social Media

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/comstocktwp>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/comstockctwp/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ComstockCTwp>

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/comstock-charter-township/>

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## Meet the author



Thank you very much for reading this edition of the Comstock Connect Newsletter. We look forward to keeping you up-to-date on all the latest happenings in our community.

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Have a story to tell? Get in touch with our Communications Development Coordinator and he can help!

Matt Miller

Communications Development Coordinator

(269) 381-2360 ext. 120

[mmiller@comstockmi.gov](mailto:mmiller@comstockmi.gov)