



New

March is one of those months in Michigan when no one can really predict what the weather will be. Tornados are one of the dangers no one likes to think about but everyone needs to prepare for.

Tornadoes are violent, rotating storms with winds that can exceed 300 miles per hour. Tornadoes are a product of thunderstorms and sometimes hurricanes and they can be highly destructive. Injuries or deaths from tornadoes are most often due to collapsed buildings, flying objects, or people caught trying to outrun the funnel cloud.

A little common sense can go a long way toward preparing for unpredictable and violent weather. Each family should designate a shelter area within their home. A basement or storm cellar is the safest. Otherwise, use an interior room or hallway on the ground floor. Family members should then practice getting to the home shelter area. The home shelter area should be stocked with a flashlight, a battery-powered radio, extra batteries, water and a first aid kit. People who live in mobile homes should find a sturdy building nearby where they can take shelter as mobile homes offer very little protection in a tornado.

When a “tornado watch” is issued, this means tornadoes are possible in the area. Residents should stay tuned to the radio or

television and watch the sky. Be prepared to take shelter at any time, since some tornadoes develop so quickly that advance warning is impossible. Stay out of large, flat buildings with wide open areas such as supermarkets or shopping malls.

A “tornado warning” means that a tornado has been sighted and residents should take cover at once. Head for a designated shelter or a central area on the lowest floor of a nearby building. In a high-rise, get to the lowest floor possible and go to an interior room. If you are caught outside, lie flat in a ditch and cover your head. Do not get under a bridge or an overpass. Never attempt to outrun a tornado.

From the VILLAGE HALL

The Village Council adopted the proposed budget for the 2007-2008 fiscal year at the last Council meeting.





From the POLICE DEPARTMENT

Officers investigated 28 traffic crashes during the month of February. Many of the crashes resulted from a combination of poor weather, excessive speed and inadequate stopping distances. In addition, officers responded to 35 motorist assist complaints. The majority of these involved vehicles that slid off the freeway and became stuck.

Officers Kusmack and Rottman were called to the Later Elementary School in the early morning hours of February 7 in response to an alarm going off. When they checked the scene, they found the school was flooded by several inches of standing water. An overhead pipe froze and burst. When the doors were opened, a small tidal wave poured out into the parking lot.

Sergeant Goodrich and Officer Huston investigated a suspicious odor at the Mary Kay Apartments on February 19. The source of the odor was not initially apparent and the building was evacuated. It was later determined that the problem was a faulty trap inside the building which allowed sewer gasses in. Residents were allowed to re-enter the building after the manager had the problem corrected.

From the DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES

Water/Sewer/Streets/Parks Department: The crew continues to be busy with snow plowing, snow removal and salting of Village streets. The crew has also responded to a number of water leaks.

Electric Department: The crew has been assisting with snow removal. Tree trimming and repairing street lights as necessary are ongoing.

Motor Pool: Maintenance of Village snow plowing and hauling equipment is ongoing. As time allows the crew is also beginning maintenance of other Village equipment which will be needed for spring clean up.

Safety/Health News: Sometimes the symptoms of a person who has experienced a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, a lack of awareness often spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Neurologists report that patients who receive medical treatment within three hours of experiencing a stroke have the greatest potential to make a full recovery.

Many doctor say a bystander can quickly recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions. First, ask the individual to smile. Second, ask the person to speak in a simple sentence. Third, ask the person to raise both arms. An easy way to remember these three questions is to just begin spelling the word stroke: S - smile, T - talk and R - raise both arms.

An additional indicator of a stroke is to ask the person to stick out their tongue. If the tongue appears crooked, if it goes to one side or the other, this is also an indication of a stroke.

If the person in question has trouble with any one of these simple tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

BIRTHDAYS

- Rutsy Ritsema - March 3
- Tim McMeekan - March 17
- Gerald Schur - April 9
- Charles Wieclaw - April 27

