



the ADAVIEW

the ADAVIEW is published by Ada Township

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH...
FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL "GRAND RIVER-RUN" & "ROSELLE PARK RIVER FESTIVAL"**
Roselle Park, 1010 Grand River Drive • Ada, Michigan



"Grand River-Run" • 8K Run at 9:00 a.m. • 5K Run at 9:15 a.m.
1.5 mile Fun Run/Walk at 10:30 a.m.

The "Grand River-Run" features three events this year: *An 8K combo timed race, consisting of trail and paved paths; a 5K timed run on the paved path; and a 2K Family-Friendly Fun Run/Walk.* The chip-timed 8K course offers a mostly flat, yet challenging scenic tour of the 240-acre nature preserve as it

takes runners on trails alongside the Grand River, by wetlands, woodlands, meadows, and streams. The 1.5 mile chip-timed 5K course is on the paved bike path allowing for a scenic mini-tour in the park. The 1.5 mile course is also on the bike path, perfect for families with children, first-time runners and walkers. Plus it is stroller-friendly. Top 8K and 5K finishers will receive medals and prizes! All children participants will receive Finisher's Ribbons! Register at: www.grandriver-run.com



The Grand River-Run Receives Pure Michigan FITNESS Endorsement

The Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health and Sports and the Michigan Fitness Foundation have endorsed the Grand River-Run as a quality physical activity event through the Pure Michigan FITNESS Series endorsement program. The Pure Michigan FITNESS Series program endorses local, regional and statewide events that are consistent with the Governor's Council and the Michigan Fitness Foundation mission to promote healthy choices while offering a physical activity event that is open to all participants, regardless of skill level or age. The Grand River-Run leads by example in providing a safe, healthy physical activity event for Michigan residents.



Ada Township is honored to receive this recognition from the Governor's Council and we invite the community to come out and enjoy all the activities we have planned for the day from the Grand River-Run to the Roselle Park River Festival. For more information about the Governor's Council's endorsement program, please visit www.michiganfitness.org/pure-michigan-fitness-series.



"Roselle Park River Festival"

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. • Roselle Park • Free admission

The Roselle Park River Festival is a family friendly day full of FREE fun at the Park. Take part in the runs and stay for the fun, or come out for any part of the day. Enjoy live music from various bands, good eats, live animal presentations, hands-on activities and crafts, artists, nature walks, children's games and activities, river

conservation displays, hiking, bicycling and much more!

Be sure to check the Ada Township website for event specifics, as we are finalizing food, musicians and activities daily leading up to the festival on Saturday, September 27th. Yes, it is Free! (Donations are always appreciated.)

Volunteer are needed for both of these events. Please contact the Park office for details.

ENVISION ADA UPDATE

Dirt is not yet being turned, but that doesn't mean there are not any activities taking place with regard to implementing the vision for the Village that was developed through last year's Envision Ada planning process.

DDA and Township staff and officials, working in partnership with Amway Corp., our consultants, and the Kent County Road Commission, are focused on refining the design of our first phase project – the re-location and re-construction of Headley St. in the Village. We are also working with residents, businesses and property owners along Headley St. to coordinate the street plans with existing and potential future development on the properties that border the street.

At the same time, we are developing a proposed financing plan that relies on a combination of public, private and philanthropic funding sources to pay the costs of the estimated \$16 million in public infrastructure improvements identified in the Ada Village Plan.

These improvements range from the mundane – new streets, water, storm water and sewer lines under the streets, to the exciting – an attractive, publicly-accessible riverfront, civic spaces and a new Farmers' Market Pavilion/Community Building. All of these improvements are intended to create a more inviting, safe and walkable public environment that will attract new commercial and residential development to the Village - a strategy known as "Placemaking."

Look for the most up-to-date information on the Envisionada.com website and on Facebook.com/envisionada.

ADA/CASCADE CLEAN-UP DAY

For Ada and Cascade residents, we are again hosting the Spring Clean-Up day.

WHEN: Saturday, October 4, 2014 from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm.

WHAT: Non-hazardous yard and household waste and electronics (computers, TV's, etc.) will be accepted. No hazardous material will be accepted.

WHERE: The Kent County Road Commission Garage at the end of Fase Street.

Note: The gates will close promptly at 2:30 – no items can be accepted after that!

The Salvation Army will be at the Covered Bridge (Leonard Field) for your gently used items. There will also be a document shredding company available at the same location to do "on-site" shredding (up to 100 lbs.) of your personal sensitive documents.

Identification is required to verify your residency within the townships of Ada or Cascade (if you live in GRAND RAPIDS TOWNSHIP but your mailing address is Ada, you DO NOT QUALIFY).

For questions, call Ada Township Hall (616) 676-9191 ext. 29 M-F, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. Or Cascade Township (616) 949-1500.

LEAF & YARD WASTE COLLECTION DAYS

Tuesday, October 21, 2014

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Trash bags can be purchased at the Township Office prior to the dates above for \$.75 each. Please have all bags out to your curb by 6 a.m.

**(Restricted area only; south of Fulton to Township line.)*

NOVEMBER 4TH GENERAL ELECTIONS

The General Elections are coming up on November 4th, a short time from now. The following are the offices to be elected: Governor, Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, U.S. Senator (1 seat), U.S. Representative in Congress, State Senator, State Representative, State Board of Education (2 seats), University of Michigan Regents (2 seats), Michigan State University Trustees (2 seats), Wayne State University Governors (2 seats), Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge of the Court of Appeals, Judge of the Circuit Court, Judge of the District Court, and Judge of Probate. *View your precinct ballot by going to Michigan.gov/vote.*

The last day to register to vote for this election is October 6 (only if you haven't already registered to vote in Ada Township). Absentee Voters must fill out an application for a ballot, available by contacting the Clerk's Office at (616) 676-9191 x.20. Application forms are also available online at Michigan.gov/elections.

The polls will open at 7:00 am, and close at 8:00 pm. Ada Township has 8 precincts at the following polling place locations:

St. Roberts of Newminster Parish
6330 Ada Dr. (Precincts 3, 4 and 8)

First Congregational Church of Ada
6477 Ada Dr. (Precincts 1, 2, 6 and 7)

Ada Township Fire Station #2
7211 Knapp St. (Precinct 5)



FIREFIGHTER OF THE ISSUE

Peggy Ferguson has been a firefighter EMT with the department for 12 years. You have probably seen her working in the parks and maintaining the buildings and grounds throughout the township. Her husband Eric and chocolate lab Luke have lived in Ada for 14 years. It has been an honor to serve the community as a member of the fire department and Peggy looks forward to many more years in Ada.

LOCK BOXES AVAILABLE

The Thornapple Valley Lions Club has made a donation to the Ada Township Fire Department to provide lock boxes to its elderly residents. The lock box allows access by fire personnel into houses where a patient may not be able to unlock the door during an emergency medical event. If you are interested in the fire department installing a lock box at your home please contact the station at (616) 676-2376.



Bob Ballard, President of the Thornapple Valley Lions Club, and Chief David Murray are shown with one of the boxes installed.

FIELD REVIEW NOTICE

The Assessor is required to appraise, for tax purposes, all real and personal property within the Township. Michigan Statute requires that all property be evaluated annually based on current market conditions. This evaluation requires an inspection of each property in the Township.

This includes measuring all buildings and other property improvements on the property, taking current digital photos of the property, verifying the buildings current physical condition reviewing the amenities present, and interviewing the property owners to determine bedrooms, baths, and type of basement, etc.

The State of Michigan has recommended that 20% of properties in a governmental unit be visited each year to review assessment record accuracy and to ensure that properties are being appraised and assessed at 50% of the market value.

In efforts to continually improve our excellent standards, the Assessor's office strives to enhance the annual review process and better meet or exceed the State of Michigan's expectations. The goal is that if the Assessing office will review at least 20% of Township properties each year, then every single property is visited at least once every 5 years.

If one of the inspectors from the Township arrives wearing a Township issued I.D. badge and carrying a clipboard and digital camera and knocks on your door requesting to review your property, please welcome them. Accurate assessments benefit everyone in the community.



Ada Historical Society & Museum

Events for September, October & November 2014

Monthly Board Meeting

September 11, October 9, and November 13

1:00 pm at the museum. Board meetings are open to the public. Please join us to find out what we're planning for the coming year. Please call or email with any questions.

Roselle Park River Festival

& Grand River Run 8K, 5K & Fun Run

September 27

10:00 a.m. Festival, 9:00 a.m. Race start. Hosted by the Ada Parks Department, the festival includes fresh food, live music from local bands, arts & crafts, youth nature activities, hiking biking, animal interactions, educational exhibits, and more!

Harvest Door Decoration Class • October 18

1:00 pm in the barn. Bring the beautiful fall colors home with you! Master Gardener Carol Penninga will demonstrate techniques and help you create a natural masterpiece to adorn your front door. Plant materials will be provided. If you wish to incorporate a particular color ribbon please bring it along. Class is free to members, \$10 for non-members. Please pre-register. Spaces are limited, so register early.

Veteran Event • November 6

7:00 pm at the Ada Township Assembly Hall. Program information available soon.

Decorate the Museum • November 18

1:00 pm at the museum. We could use a helping hand getting into the holiday spirit. Volunteers will gather to break out the boxes and the Christmas carols to get the museum dressed for the holidays. Do you have any new decorating ideas for our old house? Please join us!

Wreath Sale Begins • November 21

Begin your holiday shopping with a stop at our annual wreath sale fundraiser. The sale is AHS's principal fundraising opportunity of the year. We will have Douglas Fir and Fraser Fir wreaths with handmade bows. Order forms can be found soon on our website, at the Township offices and at the museum.

In the Wings...

The wheels are turning for some other fun events in the coming months. Be on the lookout for a lecture on Madame LaFramboise who owned and operated the trading post in Ada before Rix Robinson, a volunteer appreciation event, and the annual Membership Meeting and Program, "Growing Up in Ada."



In the 1920s and 1930s, clammers set up camps to pass the summer in Ada. Leonard Fase (above) is shown clamming the Grand River. "Clamming was ready cash," according to early resident, Maude Fase. Shells were shipped off on the railroad to become buttons. Local farmers fed the clam meat to their hogs.

Wish List

Since its inception in 1974, AHS has been fortunate to receive ongoing support from members and the community. We have benefited from countless volunteer hours, essential object donations, and financial support to aid in our programming and the preservation of this community's archives. We simply could not operate the museum and host events without this generosity.

We ask that you keep the museum in mind as we move into the season of giving. Please stop by the holiday wreath sale fundraiser, shop for unique Ada gifts in our gift shop or gift a loved one with a contribution in their honor. Below is a sampling of items on our holiday list. Please call or email us if you can be of help. Thank you!

- Crank handle ice cream maker for historic demonstrations
- Digital transfer of oral history audio tapes
- Cider press for historic demonstrations
- Garden bench
- 3 hat stands for exhibiting and storage
- Assistance with military veterans database program

Hours of Operation:

The Averill Historical Museum of Ada is open Fridays & Saturdays from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. & also by appointment.



Contact Information

7144 Headley St., Ada
Phone: 616.676.9346
adahistoricalociety@gmail.com
www.adahistoricalociety.org

ADA FARMERS MARKET

This spring was wet and wild, but the Ada Marketeers were unfazed, coming to shop wearing rain gear, carrying their baskets and on the hunt for the best fresh produce. It's been a great season, in spite of all that rain and we expect the rich harvest to continue through the rest of the season. If you haven't been to market yet, schedule us in during lunch time, when you can eat, shop and chat with neighbors from the area.

Vendors are standing by between 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the parking lot of The Community Church, ready to share this year's crop. There's always plenty of selection and lots of unique homemade treats you simply will not want to miss!



Monica Smolenski, Hannah Syme, Claire Baghera, Emily Gawrych, Grace Gawrych, Chessie Mac Anaspie, Mary Lynne Drumheller, Barry Kiefer, Neil Smith, and Beth Czekaj.

While you are shopping, keep an ear out for musicians under the tent. Buskers (musicians who play for tips) play from 12 p.m. until 3 p.m. The kid's tent is next door and going strong, with lots of fun activities. Visit adafarmersmarket.com for the latest schedules.

If you haven't gotten your basket or need a few for last-minute gifting, stop by the Market Booth and browse the selection. Proceeds from the sale of the baskets fund market operations every year. Choose from four styles and two sizes. Prices are \$35 for the large baskets and \$15 for the small.

September is time for school and that means we are losing our valuable student volunteers. Each Tuesday, you can find them helping vendors set up and take down their booths, running errands or counting customers in the Market. They work hard behind the scenes and we want to take time out to thank them for all they do to make sure every market day runs smoothly!

Thank you as well to our wonderful crew of adult volunteers who generously donate their time, managing the Market Booth, organizing kid's activities, coordinating musicians and managing the set up/take down process each Tuesday, and so much more. Without their dedication,

it would be nearly impossible for market operations to happen in a timely manner.!

Additionally, we have local businesses whose donation of resources helps contribute to the Market's continuity and sense of place. They are: The Community Church (the host of our location), Peninsular Oil and Gas Company (providing parking for vendors), and Ben Bos of Conservation Properties (providing sign management services).

Finally, sincere thanks for the two most important groups of people who create the Market – the vendors and you, the community. Each group meets to build and support the special qualities of this vibrant market, making it West Michigan's best place to be on Tuesdays, from mid-June until the end of October. You can see photos of all the fun on our website, Twitter and Facebook. Visit weekly to see pictures and videos of each Tuesday.

Remember, this year the Market is extending the season through the end of October in order to get the last pickings of the fall harvest. Rain or shine, we will be open each Tuesday, so mark your calendars!

See you at the Market!

Ada Parks & Recreation Department

Contact Information:

Phone: 616-676-0520 **Fax:** 616-676-5870
E-mail: mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com
Web site: www.adatownshipmi.com
Office in Ada Park: 1180 Buttrick Ave, Ada, 49301
Mailing address: P.O. Box 370, Ada, 49301
E-News: To receive news and updates via e-mail send a request to: mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com.

***Mission:** "To provide all community members with diverse recreational opportunities including access to premier natural, historical and cultural areas that enhance our quality of life and inspire the preservation of nature."*

Ada Township Parks:

Ada Park & Locke Arboretum 1180 Buttrick Ave. 57 acres. Parks office, Learning Center and Locke Arboretum. Softball and soccer fields, tennis, pickle ball and basketball courts, playground, fishing pond, accessible trails, picnic areas, pavilion, gazebos.

Leonard Field & Ada Covered Bridge 2 acres. 7490 Thornapple River Drive. Softball field, bike path, Thornapple River overlook deck, Ada Covered Bridge.

Roselle Park 1010 Grand River Dr. NE, 247 acres. Bike path, trails, picnic area, observation decks, natural areas, Grand River shoreline.

Grand River Natural Area Grand River Drive SE Enter via Ada Park or McGraw Park, 110 acres. Nature areas, trails, bike path, Grand River shoreline.

Carl Creek Crossing Preserve 6230 Grand River Dr. Construction work this fall. Trails available soon.

Facility Use

Park Hours: Park grounds are open to the public dawn to dusk, seven days a week.

Dog Policy: Township ordinances require dogs to be on a leash and cleaned up after in all parks.
Motorized recreation vehicles are not allowed.

Ada Park Shelter & Gazebo Rentals and Reservations: Available April through October. For rates, availability, use policies or reservations, contact the Park office. 2015 reservations will begin after January 1st.

Athletic Fields: Baseball & soccer fields at Ada Park and Leonard Field are used in the spring, summer and fall for area leagues and instructional programs. Contact the Park office for information, schedules or reservations.

Basketball & Tennis Courts at Ada Park are open to the public except during scheduled lessons and programs. Tennis Courts #5 and #6 are set up for Pickle Ball.

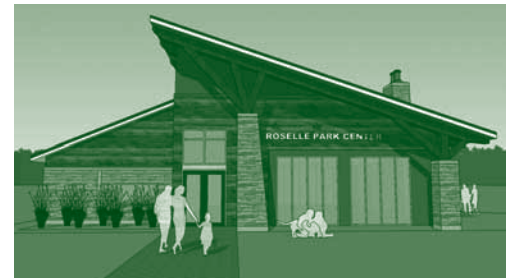


Update on Ada Township Parks & Preserves

Many Thanks to our community for your ongoing support. With your assistance we have been able to offer a wide range of program services and move forward on several projects in the Township Parks and Preserves..

For Ada Township Park, the new 3.3 acres parcel adjacent to the park that was acquired last fall has been cleaned up and looks like it is part of the park now. The cracks in the tennis courts have been patched and repainted. We are currently working towards paving the gravel parking lot off of Grand River Drive to make it more accessible and available for year round use.

For Roselle Park, we have moved through the conceptual design phase for the new resource building. Copies are available through the park office. We are now in the fundraising phase with the goal of starting construction in the spring of 2015. Opportunities for donating toward that building or other aspects of the park are available through the Park office contacts.



For the **Carl Creek Crossing Preserve** on Grand River Drive a new site master plan has been completed by the Open Space Board. In the fall there will be construction on site to develop a trail system, parking area, boardwalk and foot-bridge. This site may not be very accessible for this fall, but it will be soon.

Volunteer Opportunities

Ada Parks & Recreation Department has ongoing volunteer opportunities to assist with grounds, gardens, trails, habitat stewardship, clerical, youth programs and planning committees. Contact the Park office for details.

*Volunteer Stewardship Work Days

Tuesday mornings 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Locations vary from Ada Township Park, Roselle Park, Grand River Natural Area, Carl Creek Preserves and Leonard Field. Work is usually landscaping type outside. Contact the Park office to sign up or a detailed schedule.

*Annual Volunteer River "Clean-Up Day"

Saturday, Sept. 20 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Leonard Field

Join either a "land team" (on the shores) or a "water team" (canoes, kayaks) to collect trash along the Thornapple and Grand Rivers in Ada Township. Supplies, gloves, snacks and lunch provided. Pre-registration required by contacting the Park office.

Ada Parks & Recreation Department *(con't)*

Adult & Family Programs & Events

Ada Adult Softball Programs



Standings for the 2014 summer leagues are available on our web site. The adult fall leagues are under way at Ada Township Park and Leonard Field and will run through October.

Applications for 2015 summer leagues for new or returning teams will be available in January 2015. For an application or information contact the Park Office at 676-0520 or email rmccormick@adatownshipmi.com.

Special Event



**The Grand River-Run
& Roselle Park River Festival**
Saturday, September 27
Roselle Park,
1010 Grand River Drive, Ada

The "Grand River-Run" - 3 runs this year!

- An 8K Run through the trails starting at 9:00 a.m.
- A 5K run on the paved path at 9:15 a.m.
- A 1.5 mile Family Run/Walk at 10:30 a.m.

For information and registration forms for the runs see www.grandriver-run.com



"Roselle Park River Festival"

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Free

Enjoy Ada Township's Roselle Park on the shores of the Grand River! There will be activities for all ages plus food, music and river and stewardship information.

Special activities for the day include:

- Family friendly Food
- Live Music by "The Porters"
- Exhibits by local conservation organizations
- Hands-on discovery activities and games for kids
- Live animal presentations
- Walking, Hiking and Biking trails all open



****Free Admission – Donations welcome****

Family Programs

"Bats of the World"

Thursday, October 23
6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Ada Park Learning Center
\$5/person



A special interactive presentation with live bats and artifacts by the Organization for Bat Conservation. Learn the truth about bat myths, how echolocation works, bat flight and feeding habits and why they are so important! Meet four live bats from across the world including the Flying Fox! Reservations are required since space is limited. Call ahead to (616) 676-0520 or email mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com.

Youth Programs

Discovery Days

Ages 3-5 10:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Ada Township Park
\$5/youth/session



Parents or guardians can join their pre-schoolers for a fun morning of nature study, hands-on activities, a craft, and games. Each session has indoor activities as well as a guided discovery experience outdoors. Pre-registration is requested by calling (616) 676-0520 or email mfitzpatrick@adatownshipmi.com.

Tree Treasures

Wed. Sep. 17 & Thur. Sep. 18

Camouflage

Wed. Oct. 15 & Thur. Oct 16

Michigan Migrators

Wed. Nov. 12 & Thur. Nov. 13

Youth Tennis Lessons at Ada Township Park

Group sessions for 3-12 years old. The Fall season runs September - October. Registration and instruction is by the YMCA of Grand Rapids. Contact the YMCA at (616) 855-9622 or email: nherrema@grymca.org.

Schools Based Programs

PreK-12 guided field trips and service learning projects in the parks. Contact the Park office for details.

Boy and Girl Scout Programs

Park staff to help with badges, field trips, service projects & facility use. Contact Park office for details.

Summer Day Camp Adventures - 2015

Ages 6-11 Dates vary
Ada & Roselle Parks



Three-day camp sessions offered from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with exciting themes and fun activities. Fees range from \$65 to \$75 per session. Scholarships are available. Registration packets for 2015 will be available in February. A copy of 2014 programs is on our web site.



PRSR. STD.
US POSTAGE
PAID
Grand Rapids, MI
Permit No. 657

7330 Thornapple River Drive SE.
P.O. Box 370
Ada, Michigan 49301

CALENDAR (2014) FALL ISSUE

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Labor Day - Office Closed
- 2 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*
- 9 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30 p.m.
- 8 Ada Township Board Mtg – 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*
- 11 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.*
- 11 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd – 4:00 p.m.
- 15 Downtown Development Authority – 8:00 a.m.
- 16 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*
- 18 Planning Commission – 7:00 p.m.
- 20 Annual Volunteer "River Clean-Up Day" – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.*
- 22 Ada Township Board Mtg – 7:00 p.m.
- 23 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*
- 27 Roselle Park River Festival" 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.* and "The Grand River Run" starts 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.*
- 30 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*

OCTOBER

- 4 Ada/Cascade Clean-Up Day – 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*
- 6 Last Day to Register before November General Election!
- 7 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30 p.m.
- 7 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*
- 9 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.*
- 13 Ada Township Board Mtg – 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Downtown Development Authority – 8:00 a.m.
- 14 Ethics Board – 6:30 p.m.
- 14 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*
- 16 Planning Commission – 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Ada Leaf & Waste Pick-Up Day – 6 a.m.*

- 21 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*
- 27 Ada Township Board Mtg – 7:00 p.m.
- 28 Farmers' Market; 11:00 – 4:00 p.m.*

NOVEMBER

- 4 STATE GENERAL ELECTION – Polls open 7:00 a.m., close 8:00 p.m.*
- 10 Ada Township Board Mtg – 7:00 p.m.
- 5 Zoning Board of Appeals – 4:30 p.m.
- 11 Veterans Day – Office Closed
- 11 Ada Leaf & Waste Pick-Up Day – 6 a.m.*
- 13 Open Space Preservation Advisory Bd – 4:00 p.m.
- 13 Ada Historical Society Board Meeting – 1:00 p.m.*
- 17 Downtown Development Authority – 8:00 a.m.
- 20 Planning Commission – 7:00 p.m.
- 21 Annual Wreath Sale – Ada Historical Society
- 24 Ada Township Board Mtg – 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Thanksgiving Day – Office Closed
- 28 Day After Thanksgiving – Office Closed

*See article

Coming in December:
The Bridge Lighting,
"Tinsel Treats & Trolleys" & Santa Parade

Dec. 24, 25, 26 Christmas Holiday – OFFICE CLOSED

Coming in January:
January 1 and 2, New Years Holiday – OFFICE CLOSED

IMPORTANT INFORMATION (remove & save)

AdaView is published by Ada Township Board.
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