

# *The Bingham Farms Post*

*Autumn 2020*

## **Halloween and COVID-19**

The village has received several inquiries from residents asking if Halloween will take place this year in light of COVID-19.

Halloween is not a village-sanctioned event, but rather a nationally recognized holiday and tradition. The village has no legal authority or basis to cancel Halloween or restrict the free movement of its residents.

All residents who participate, however, should adhere to any public health recommendations from the Oakland County Department of Health and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

Be safe and practice common sense. Wear a mask (insert Halloween joke here). Stay socially distanced if not with people from the same household. Any household with a positive case should not participate in trick-or-treating or passing out candy. Keep Halloween parties small; MDHHS Emergency Orders limit residential gatherings to 10 or less, and advises wearing masks at such events.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) offers the following general Halloween guidelines:

- Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
- Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to aid drivers.
- Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Only visit well-lit houses. Never accept rides from strangers.
- Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you. WALK and don't run from house to house.
- Look both ways before crossing the street.
- Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid homemade treats made by strangers.
- Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat. The Franklin-Bingham Farms Police Department will examine treats upon request

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## **Bingham Farms Office**

Residents and commercial property owners are encouraged to contact the Bingham Farms staff with any questions or concerns. Call 248-644-0044. Email [info@binghamfarms.org](mailto:info@binghamfarms.org). Visit [www.binghamfarms.org](http://www.binghamfarms.org). Office hours are 9 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday.

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## **Limited Contact**

Due to COVID-19 concerns, the village office continues to follow social distancing guidelines. We ask that business be conducted by phone, email or regular mail whenever possible. Those who must visit the office are required to wear a mask. Only one person will be allowed to enter the office at a time.

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## **Election 2020**

Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3. There will be four village trustee seats on the ballot -- three full term seats (4 years) and one partial-term seat (2 years).

Southfield Township oversees elections for Bingham Farms. For additional election information, please visit [southfieldtownship.org](http://southfieldtownship.org).

## 13 Mile roadwork in Beverly Hills

The reconstruction of 13 Mile from Evergreen to Southfield Road began in June. Eastbound 13 Mile is closed; one lane of westbound 13 Mile is open. The work is on schedule to conclude before the end of October.

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### Political signs and village ordinances

The village respects political expression and the display of lawn signs. However, village ordinances regulates signage.

Ordinance 98.02(3) specifically addresses sign placement: "All signs shall be at least 12 feet distant from all street lines." Please adhere to the ordinance and place all signs at least 12 feet from the edge of your street.

Ordinance 98.02(E) specifically addresses political signage.

(E) Political signs shall be solely for the purpose of providing information relating to the election of a person to public office, or to a political party, or the expression of a political opinion, or to any matter to be voted upon, and shall be permitted subject to the following conditions:

(1) Maximum area. Political signs shall not exceed three square feet in area.

(2) Political signs shall not be attached to any utility pole, other sign, other sign parts or landscaping, including trees. Political signs shall be ground signs.

(3) Political signs shall not be erected in such a manner that they will or reasonably may be expected to interfere with, obstruct, confuse or mislead traffic. No sign shall be erected in the right-of-way.

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### Treasurer Karin Ludwick to retire

Karin offers the following comments: "After 21 years of service, I am retiring from the positions of Village Treasurer, Village Assessor and Finance Director effective end of business Monday, November 30. It has been a privilege and an honor to serve the citizens of Bingham Farms, and work with some of the most dedicated, talented and extraordinary people on our Council, committees and staff for so many years. I wish the Village Council, board members, and residents of this lovely village all the best in the future."

## Council meeting time change

The Bingham Farms Village Council meets monthly. It recently approved a change to its meeting start times. Meetings will begin at 7 p.m. rather than 7:30. Meetings are typically on the fourth Monday of the month. Below is the remaining 2020 schedule, with holiday adjustments.

Mon. Oct. 26  
Mon. Nov. 23  
Mon. Dec. 21

Meetings are held by teleconference due to COVID-19 concerns.

Council Chambers is located in the village office, 24255 13 Mile, Suite 190, Bingham Farms, MI 48025.

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### Important numbers

Emergency: 911  
Police dispatch: 626-5444  
Police office: 626-9672  
Fire office: 626-9862  
DTE: 800-477-4747  
Consumers Energy: 800-477-5050