

The Hillman Area Chamber of Commerce



MAY 2018 Newsletter

14797 State Street South Suite 2
PO BOX 506 Hillman, MI 49746
(989) 742-3739 (989) 742-2605
Website: www.hillmanchamber.org
Email: hillmanchamber@yahoo.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

- May 15 – Chamber Meeting (9 am at Patchwood Plaza)
- May 17 – Music at the Brush Creek Mill - Musicians @ 6:30pm - Music starts @ 7pm.
- May 19 – Blessing of the Bikes & ATV's – Downtown Hillman at NOON

Adopt-a-Highway Pickup May 12

We will be holding an Adopt-A-Highway trash pickup on Saturday, May 12th to get ready for this years Blessing of the Bikes & ATV's. We will meet at 9 AM at Patchwood Plaza. If you can help out please call us at 742-3739.

WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Support the 1 Mill Sinking Fund Millage for Hillman Schools.

SUPPORT OF THE 1 MILL SINKING FUND MILLAGE IS VITAL FOR HILLMAN AND OUR SCHOOL

REPRODUCTION: Michigan Law prohibits the school and school personnel from accepting for or spending money a gift or property of this Millage. The school can only provide financial information. This flyer is being put out for the Hillman residents and the state capital.

WHAT IS A SINKING FUND MILLAGE?

A sinking fund millage is a tax on real property that is specifically levied for the purpose of raising money to pay for the replacement, repair, or maintenance of certain capital assets of the school district. The millage is levied on the assessed value of the property and is used to pay for the replacement, repair, or maintenance of certain capital assets of the school district.

The sinking fund millage is levied on the assessed value of the property and is used to pay for the replacement, repair, or maintenance of certain capital assets of the school district.

WHEN IS THE ELECTION? WHAT IS THE VOTING DATE? MAY 12, 2018. The election will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2018. The election will be held on Saturday, May 12, 2018.

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HIGH SPEED Wireless Internet in Hillman.

Allband Communications has a new wireless internet program available in the Hillman area. The cost starts at \$29.99 a month. See the flier on the back for more details.



CALL FOR DETAILS 989-369-9999
Apply NOW at: www.allband.org/wirelessapp
This fiber optic fed wireless solution is now available in limited areas.

New Members Congratulations!

- Hillman Health Foods, Inc.
- Hunters Home Holistic Heaven
- Roy and the Bluesmakers
- Thunder Bay Title

Blessing of the Bikes & ATV's May 19th

HILLMAN'S 24th ANNUAL BLESSING OF THE BIKES and ATVS
MAY 19, 2018 HILLMAN AT NOON
George DeCaire Memorial

Schedule
10:30 am – Registration at the Hillman Hardware parking lot.
Please register for \$89.95
Free coffee served at registration booth
11:00 am to 4 pm – MUSIC: The legendary Donny Hartman playing at the Hillman Hardware parking lot (free will donation)
12:00 pm – Open with Colors (Hillman VFW post #2196)
12:00 pm – Introduction to the Blessing of the Bikes (10-15 min.)
12:15 pm – Blessing starts
After the blessing – 50/50 drawing prize winners and registration prize winners are announced.
• Hot dog and pop tent by the Lions Club.
• Great food and drinks at area establishments.
• 50/50 drawing with half the proceeds being donated to the Special Olympics.
• ATVs will be parked between the Dairy Queen and the car wash.

Sponsored by
Patchwood Products Inc.
14797 State Street South
Hillman, MI 49746
(989) 742-7900
www.patchwoodproducts.com

Alpena Beverage Co. Inc.
2113 W. 1st St.
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 356-6217

Don's Tractor & Equipment Sales
2516 W. 31st Ave.
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 356-6217

D's Honda Sales & Service
2516 W. 31st Ave.
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 356-6217

Other sponsors listed in our brochure, stop by a local business to pick one up.
For more information call (989) 742-3739 or visit www.hillmanchamber.org

Details on page 3, 4, 5

Door Prizes for this years Blessing

We are looking for door prize donations for this years Blessing of the Bikes & ATV's. If anyone has something to donate please drop it off at the chamber office M-F 9AM-3:30PM or call us at 989-742-3739. We thank you for your continued support.



Details on page 6 & 7

HIGH SPEED WIRELESS INTERNET NOW AVAILABLE IN HILLMAN

UP TO 50 MBPS



CALL FOR DETAILS 989-369-9999

Apply NOW at: www.allband.org/wirelessapp
This fiber optic fed wireless solution is
now available in limited areas.

HILLMAN'S 24th ANNUAL **BLESSING OF THE BIKES** **and ATVS**



MAY 19, 2018 HILLMAN AT NOON
George DeCaire Memorial

Schedule

10:30 am – Registration at the Hillman Hardware parking lot.

Please register for GIFTS!

Free Coffee served at registration booth

T-shirts, Hoodies, dew rags, and bike memorabilia for sale

11:00 am to 4 pm – MUSIC - The legendary Donny Hartman Playing at Bike Riders Hillman (across from car wash).

Music will pause for the blessing

12:00 pm – Open with Colors (Hillman VFW post #2356)

12:02 pm – Introduction to the Blessing of the Bikes (10-15 min.)

12:15 pm – Blessing starts

After the blessing – 50/50 drawing prize winners and registration prize winners are announced

- Hot dog and pop tent by the Lions Club.
- Great food and drinks at area establishments.
- 50/50 drawing with half the proceeds being donated to the Special Olympics.
- ATVs will be parked between the Dairy Queen and the car wash



Sponsored by

Patchwood Products Inc.

14797 State Street South
Hillman, MI 49746
(989) 742-2605
<http://patchwood.nfshost.com/>

Alpena Beverage Co. Inc.

1313 Kline Rd
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 354-4329



Don's Tractor & Equipment Sales

2516 M-32 West
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 356-6317

D's Honda Sales & Service

2516 M-32 West
Alpena, MI 49707
(989) 356-6317



16400 M-32 • Hillman, MI 49746
Phone (989) 379-3000 • Fax (989) 379-3030
www.BaderBros.com

Other sponsors listed in our brochure, stop by a local business to pick one up.

For more information call (989) 742-3739 or visit www.HillmanChamber.org

This Year's Great Sponsors

Hillman Area Chamber of Commerce
Dons Tractor & Equipment Sales
D's Honda Sales & Service
Alpena Beverage Co. Inc.
Bader Bros Inc.
Patchwood Products Inc.

A-1 PARTY STORE
A-1 WOODS & WATERS
ALPENA AGENCY
ALPENA BEVERAGE CO. INC.
ALPENA POWER COMPANY
ANCHOR CREEK ELK PRESERVE, THUNDER BAY RESORT
AU TO DOCTOR'S
BAILER'S MEATS & PROCESSING
BIKE RIDERS HILLMAN
BMI POLE BUILDINGS
BRUSH CREEK MILL
BUCKS & DOES BEAUTY SALON
CALVARY ESPISCOPAL CHURCH OF HILLMAN
CHAUNCEY'S PUB
CHEMICAL BANK
CLUBHOUSE GRILL AT THUNDER BAY RESORT
COMMUNITY FINANCIAL CREDIT UNION
CORDES FOREST & FARM LLC
DAIRY QUEEN
DISCOUNT DISPOSAL, LLC
E.J. PAUL AGENCY, LLC
ELK COUNTRY ANIMAL SHELTER
ELKIE'S COLLISION
FIRST FEDERAL OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN
FOCHTMAN CARQUEST OF HILLMAN
GINOP SALES INC.
HALL'S SERV-ALL SEPTIC & SEWER CLEANING
HARDIES ELECTRIC

HILLMAN EZ MART
HILLMAN HARDWARE
HILLMAN HEALTH FOODS, INC.
HILLMAN PHARMACY
HILLMAN REAL ESTATE
HILLMAN SELF STORAGE MINI BOAT & RV L.L.C.
HILLMAN'S HAVEN
HILLTOP PARTY MART
HUNTERS HOME HOLISTIC HEAVEN
LIONS CLUB
MARK'S SERVICE
MATTHIAS DEVELOPEMENT COMPANY, GOLF AND
RIVER HOME SITES AT THUNDER BAY RESORT
MONTMORENCY COUNTY TRIBUNE
NORTHERN STYLES
OMEGA ELECTRIC & SIGN COMPANY, INC.
ONSIGHT OUTDOORS
PRESQUE ISLE ELECTRIC & GAS CO-OP
ROMEO ENNERGING INC.
RUST WOOD PRODUCTS
SORENSEN'S GRASS LAKE RESORT
SUNRISE COMMUNICATIONS
TEAM ELMER'S
THUNDER BAY COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC
TOP O' MICHIGAN INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
VANPAMEL'S HOMETOWN DINER, LLC
VFW POST 2356
WEILAND EXCAVATING & SNOWPLOWING
WHEELS OF NORTHEASTERN MICHIGAN CAR CLUB INC.

Fun, Food and Friends

*Hillman Chamber of Commerce
24th Annual*

Blessing of the Bikes & ATV's

George DeCaire Memorial



May 19, 2018 (Saturday)

Downtown Hillman, Michigan

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m.

For Information:

989-742-3739

www.HillmanChamber.org

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m.
at the Hillman Hardware parking
lot. Please register for GIFTS!

Free Coffee served at registration
booth

Chamber Pins, T-shirts, Hoodies,
Dew Rags, and Bike Memorabilia
FOR SALE by Hillman Area
Chamber of Commerce

Great food at area establishments

Hot dog and pop tent – Lions Club

LIVE MUSIC

The legendary Donny Hartman
Playing at Bike Riders Hillman
from 11 to 4pm

(Downtown across from the car wash)
Music will pause for the blessing

Blessing begins at noon

50/50 drawing with half the
proceeds being donated to the
Special Olympics.

ATVs will be parked between the
Dairy Queen and the car wash

Come join the fun
at the 24th annual

Blessing of the



Bikes



in
Beautiful
Downtown Hillman



Chamber of
Commerce PIN
\$5 Each



10:30 am – Registration at the Hillman Hardware
parking lot

11:00 am – Music starts playing at Bike Riders
Hillman, across from car wash

12:00 pm – Open with colors
(Hillman VFW post #2356)

12:02 pm – Introduction to the Blessing of the
Bikes (10-15 min.)

12:15 pm – Blessing starts

After the blessing – 50/50 drawing prize winners
and registration prize winners are announced

- Hot dog and pop tent by the Lions club

- Music resumes playing at Bike Riders Hillman
(music ends at 4 pm)

Tune in to Hillman Community Radio – 103.5 FM

SUPPORT OF THE 1 MILL SINKING FUND MILLAGE IS VITAL FOR HILLMAN AND OUR SCHOOL

INTRODUCTION: Michigan Law prohibits the school and school personnel from campaigning for or spending money urging passage of this Millage. The school can only provide factual information. So this flyer is being paid for by Jack Matthias and Ken and Teresa Cordes.

WHAT IS A SINKING FUND MILLAGE?

A sinking fund millage is a limited property tax that is specifically designed for addressing building repairs and upgrades. Essentially, it is an avenue that allows the community to provide financial support to schools to pay for necessary repairs and updates to school buildings that cannot be paid from the general fund without negatively affecting course offerings and the number of teachers or a reasonable general fund balance. The sinking fund proposal is for 1.00 mills for ten years beginning in July 2018, and will generate approximately \$176,000 each year.

The sinking fund is NOT a bond issue or loan that requires interest payments. Instead, the revenue from the sinking fund millage is used from year to year as the taxes are collected to pay for building projects – a “Pay as You Go” method. However, short term borrowing against the sinking fund revenue is permitted in critical situations

WHEN IS THE ELECTION? WHAT IF I'M UNAVAILABLE TO VOTE ON MAY 8th?

The election will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Absentee ballots are available 45 days before the election from your Township Clerk.

WHY IS THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ASKING FOR A NEW MILLAGE NOW?

Our elementary building is over 60 years old and the middle school-high school was built in 1999. Many areas of these buildings have not been repaired, upgraded or improved since the late 1990's. Sinking fund millage is allowed to be used for enhanced security, technology, repairs, replacement of roofs, windows, doors, electrical and mechanical systems, upgrades and re-modeling. Sinking Fund proceeds CAN NOT be used for general fund items such as classroom instruction, supplies, utilities, payroll or programs.

WHAT ARE OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN MONTMORENCY COUNTY DOING?

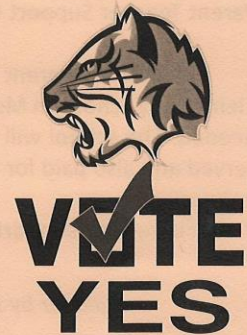
ATLANTA taxpayers voted 3 mills (3 times as much) to fund a 6 million dollar bond issue to upgrade their school building, which is newer than our elementary building.

JOHANNESBURG-LEWISTON approved a 2.3 mill (2.3 times as much) Sinking Fund and due to a higher tax base – they raise \$947,000 each year, or 5.38 times more money than our proposed Sinking Fund. Their Lewiston Elementary building is about the same age as ours.

So the Hillman Board has been very conservative in what has been proposed, perhaps too conservative. Could have justified more, but felt we could not risk being turned down by the community.

WHY IS THIS NECESSARY NOW?

About 80% of Michigan Schools have been losing students during the last 10 years for a number of reasons, including: Declining Birth Rates – a number of families decided not to have kids during the “Great Recession” and that has decreased incoming class sizes in kindergarten and lower elementary grades. Families have moved out the community during the “Great Recession” for better job opportunities outside of Michigan – like in the oil fields of the Dakotas. Loss of some “school of choice” students back to their home district. More online and home schooling. Loss of some of our kids to surrounding districts under “school of choice.”



Let's be honest, school educational performance has been weak for a number of years due to poor leadership, which is ultimately the Boards responsibility and we have lost some students as a result.

We now have a good administrative team in place, course offerings are being improved and Board Members will be undergoing additional training. Our academic performance is improving and hopefully, we will have stopped the loss of students and may regain some students.

Currently a lost student costs the school district \$7,613 in revenue. Unfortunately, many of our costs are largely fixed – transportation, utilities, most staffing costs and do not decline proportionately. This results in loss of programs and staff.

The state reduced our funding during the "Great Recession." While funding per student has been increased, the state has significantly increased funds we must pay back for the underfunded pension program. As a result we have deferred maintenance to avoid further program cuts. Under proposal A, the community cannot vote additional millage for operational purposes including salaries – which make up much of our budget. But the community can support a bond issue and/or a sinking fund.

WHAT ARE EXAMPLES OF CRITICAL NEEDS?

Improved security to deter potential school shootings is a critical need. Incidents in nearby schools indicates we are not immune from this possibility just because we are small and rural.

The shingles on the 1985 wing of the elementary school should have been replaced 6 or 7 years ago at a cost of \$45,000 to \$48,000. But that amount equals the salary of an experienced teacher. The cost to fully replace all the roofs on both buildings will exceed \$600,000 and both are also near the end of their useful lives. We have elementary classrooms that only have one electrical outlet for the entire room – totally inadequate. Further technology improvements are needed.

WHAT WILL IT COST ME?

Taxpayers will pay \$1 for each \$1,000 of taxable value. Taxable value is usually ½ or less of true value or market value of your home or business. For a home with a value of \$100,000 and a taxable value of \$50,000 – the tax would be \$50 a year or 96 cents a week.

Some residents, including many Seniors, are eligible for the "Homestead Property Tax Credit." For residents who's homes have a taxable value of less than \$135,000 (homes with a value of less than \$270,000) and incomes of less than \$41,000 get a refund of any property taxes paid in excess of 3.5% of their income. Those with incomes of between \$41,000 to \$50,000 receive a declining percentage of the property tax paid in excess of 3.5% of income – which is "Phased Out" for incomes above \$50,000. Some renters are also eligible for a "Homestead Property Tax Credit." So residents currently collecting a "Homestead Property Tax Credit" would likely get a full or partial refund of the Sinking Fund Millage Tax on their home. Non-resident cottage and hunting camp owners will actually pay a significant portion.

HOW WILL I KNOW COLLECTED FUNDS ARE BEING USED APPROPRIATELY?

State law requires an independent annual audit of the sinking fund to be submitted to the State Treasurer.

THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES HAVE ENDORSED THE SINKING FUND MILLAGE PROPOSAL.

The Hillman Area Chamber of Commerce, Hillman Community Education Foundation, Hillman Lions, Hillman Parent Teacher Support Group and the Hillman Education Association have all endorsed.

The Hillman Parent Teacher Support Group will be hosting an OPEN HOUSE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL at the Elementary School on Monday, April 30th from 5:30 to 7:30 so that citizens can inspect the building and upgrades needed. The school will be paid rent for this use of the building to comply with State Law. Ice Cream will be served and also paid for by the sponsoring groups.

We urge your support. Thanks for your consideration. Jack Matthias (657-6996), Teresa & Ken Cordes

Paid for by Jack Matthias and Ken and Teresa Cordes. P. O. Box 157, Hillman, MI 49746