

## Thornapple Township Year in Review 2018

2018 was another year of positive accomplishments in Thornapple Township. We continue to reference our Strategic Plan which was crafted in 2017. Our Planning and Zoning Administrator, Catherine Getty, issued thirty-two (32) permits for new home builds this year. We took a “wait-and-see” stance regarding medicinal marihuana facilities and said “no” to recreational marihuana facilities in our Township. Emergency Services Chief, Randy Eaton, was moved from part-time to full-time status. “Appointed” Trustee, Curt Campbell, was elected to serve the remainder of the vacated term through November 2020. Sandy Williams was added to our staff as the Office Coordinator. As the “face” of the Township, Sandy is also there to greet and assist residents. We changed insurance carriers and IT providers. All the lighting in both our Township Hall and Emergency Services Building were upgraded from fluorescent to LED. We partnered with the Barry County Road Commission on an “experimental” dust control process that resulted in reduced road dust issues for residents of Moe Rd. The Township continues to be in conversation with Township property owners regarding the potential of a linear park connecting Barry County with Kent County sections of the Paul Henry Trail. We continue to explore additional and improved access to the Thornapple River. Township Treasurer, Deb Buckowing, researched and found improved opportunities to invest Township monies. Clerk, Cindy Willshire conducted a successful election in November and has begun work on preparing for Mt. Hope Cemetery expansion. The Township is also exploring the idea of relocating our Emergency Services from the ever changing/growing downtown and riverbank area. We also have an active Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/ThornappleTownship](http://www.facebook.com/ThornappleTownship)) and improved helpful website ([www.thornapple-twp.org](http://www.thornapple-twp.org)).