

Village of Steward newsletter

June 2017



Village President

Hugh McKiski

Clerk

Chrissy Smardo

Treasurer

Matt Hayes

Trustees

Les Bonnell

Tom Brown

Mark Jensen

Les Kinne

Kimberly Lancaste

Kristy Pavlak

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It's official! At the May 8, 2017 Steward Village Board of Trustees, newly elected officers took the oath. Reelected were President Hugh McKiski, Clerk Chrissy Smardo, Trustees Les Bonnell, and Les Kinne. Mark Jensen, who had been appointed, has now been elected. Kimberly Lancaste joins the board for the first time! Tom Brown's and Kristy Pavlak's terms had not expired and they continue to serve.

Get to know your new trustees!

Mark Jensen and his wife Christy moved to Steward in 2005. They have an RTHS student and 3 SES students. He would like to see semi's rerouted. Living on Main Street, he hears them get louder and faster the later in the day it gets. Mark is also our go-to guy for Nestle contributions for the Easter Egg Hunt and Halloween! He has volunteered in various Village projects, including mowing the park and other Village properties.

Kim Lancaste moved to Steward in 1998 with her 3 sons, all in school. Although they've all graduated and moved away, her husband

Cliff now resides with her. She would like to see Steward remain a great small town. She sees opportunity for more digital communication to keep residents informed and ready for community involvement. She wants to see Steward remain a great place to live with nice neighborhoods that people take pride in. Safety is on her list as well, making sure needed building codes and ordinances are in place without having needless restrictions. What a wonderful place to call home. Kim is proud to be part of it.

Outgoing trustee

Mildred Danekas has served over the years as trustee and also

Village President at various times. We have much to thank her for. The tree that has served as a giant Christmas tree in the park was once a seedling from the Arbor Day Foundation. She was overseer of the project of raising the seedlings at Ruth Hays' farm outside town. When they were large enough, she had them transplanted in the park. Issues while she was president were loose dogs and park supervision. A dog catcher was appointed (Ed Cardott) to round up dogs. Mil herself attended to making sure kids had activities to do in the park, through a county program. Thank you for all your contributions through the years, Mil!

Arbor Day

With the help of Tom Brown and Tom Ellis, the Arbor Day Tree for this year, a bald cypress, was delivered and planted. Even though its leaves are needles and it is a conifer, it is deciduous. This will be an interesting tree to watch. It is located in the fenced in area of the school playground on the east side.



Know, know, know your Oaks! Red Oak (V shaped branches), White Oak (branches straight out), Bur Oak (twisted branches), and Pin Oak (upside down V branches). These Steward Elementary School children helped demonstrate various oak branch shapes and hold pictures of their leaves. Steward School hosted Arbor Day Celebration on April 28, 2017. President Hugh McKiski was on

hand to read his proclamation and present the “Celebrate Oaks” program with Karen Bonnell.

Congratulations to Zackary Lawrence and Matthew Moore on the completion of Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District Basic Operations Fire Academy! We are proud of you—and thankful!

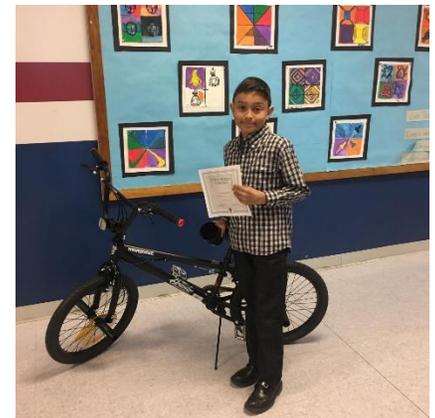


Thanks to Pauline Barnes Cultra, Nora Jeter, Zach Burkhart, Hugh McKiski, and Dick Miller for work on Celebration Garden this spring! They keep it fresh!



Daisy Scouts troop 1870 is making a difference. They gathered at Kissing Rock Garden May 16 to learn about the rock and make plans to plant perennials!

Lee County Sheriff’s Department conducts a Bicycle Safety Program each year in a different school. This year it was at Steward! Javian Reyes was the winner of a new bicycle! Congratulations!



SLOW DOWN! Watch those blind corners. Kids are out of school. Let’s all work to keep them safe.