

CCRC CROSSROADS

A publication of the Calhoun County Road Commission (CCRC)

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 6

SUMMER 2007



Angela N. Kline Assistant County Highway Engineer

Since January 2004, Angela (Angie) Kline has been the Assistant County Highway Engineer for the Calhoun County Road Commission (CCRC). A graduate of Western Michigan University, Angie holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Engineering and is currently working toward a Professional Engineering (P.E.) state registration. She is certified through the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality as the County Enforcing Agent for Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control (SESC) and Storm Water Operator.

As Assistant County Highway Engineer for CCRC, Angie's responsibilities include the preparation and oversight for federal aid construction projects, County Enforcing Agent for SESC commercial sites, permit issuance and inspections for commercial driveways and private roads, site plan review for plat/site condo developments, abandonments, traffic engineering studies, maintenance and management of county bridge inspection files and response to all engineering and traffic requests for service.



Federal aid projects in 2007 include the following:

- ◆ **High Risk Rural Roads (HRRR): B Drive South from 9 1/2 to 12 Mile Road, 12 Mile Road from 16 to 20 1/2 Mile Road, and Union City Road from R Drive South to H Drive South.** Safety project for the removal of fixed objects in the right-of-way, improving clear vision areas at intersections, widening the roadway to 6' shoulders, installing delineators at curves and updating pavement marking.
- ◆ **T Drive South from 20 to 22 1/2 Mile Road:** Resurfacing and widening gravel shoulders to 6'.
- ◆ **Verona Road/11 Mile Road:** Intersection improvement including traffic signal installation and widening each leg of the intersection to three lanes.
- ◆ **North Avenue from the Battle Creek City Limits to Halbert Road (S Drive North):** Resurfacing and 6' paved shoulders.
- ◆ **Custer Drive Bridge:** Bridge replacement and realignment.
- ◆ **Design and Oversight for the City of Springfield—20th Street from north of LaFayette to Gogiac Street and Avenue A from Dickman Road to Upton Avenue:** Milling and resurfacing.
- ◆ **Design and Oversight for the Village of Homer—Main Street from M-60 to Webster:** Milling and resurfacing.
- ◆ **Pavement Marking—Countywide**

Angie and her husband Mark reside in the City of Battle Creek with their daughters Kiara (11) and Izabella (18 months). In her spare time, Angie enjoys spending time with her family, pets and playing volleyball.

Would you like to share your public organization's information with others? Let us know and we will gladly add your website link to our website.

Just give us a call at 1-800-781-5512 or email us at info@calhouncrc.net



ATTENTION
Our website address has changed!!!

Please visit us at:
www.calhouncrc.net

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---|---|
| CALHOUN COUNTY'S HISTORIC BRIDGE PARK | 2 |
| KIMBALL PINES PARK | 2 |
| OTT PRESERVE | 3 |
| JAIL ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING PILOT PROGRAM | 3 |

CALHOUN COUNTY'S HISTORIC BRIDGE PARK

On June 30th, the Calhoun County Road Commission and the Parks Trustees Board held its annual "Living History Demonstration" at Historic Bridge Park on the Kalamazoo River in Emmett Township. The event included demonstrations of industrial building techniques such as forge welding, blacksmithing and riveting, as well as the dedication of our newest addition to the park, the Charlotte Highway Bridge.

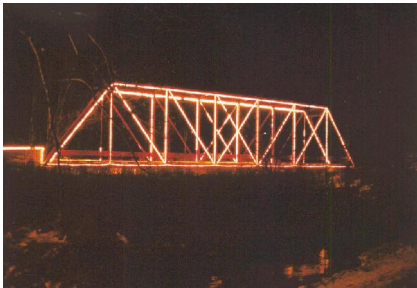
Historic Bridge Park is a passive recreation area with a network of non-motorized trailways and restored historic bridges. It serves as the trailhead for the County Linear Trailway, as well as a segment of the National Park System's North Country National Scenic Trail.

The park is home to five historic road bridges that have been restored and relocated to the park: Bauer Road Bridge, Charlotte Highway Bridge, 133rd Avenue Bridge, Gale Road Bridge, and the 20 Mile Road Bridge. They feature a variety of truss designs and manufacturing techniques dating back to the late 1800's and 1900's. Native to the park is the Michigan Central Railroad Bridge over F Drive North, or Dixon's Bridge. This massive stone-arch bridge was built around 1890.



Historic Bridge Park is open every day from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. Facilities include: picnic area and shelter, boat launch, trails, parking area and handicap accessible restrooms.

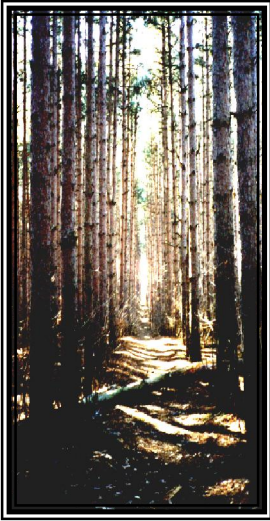
Each year during the holidays, Historic Bridge Park celebrates by lighting the bridges. Experience the scenic nature of Historic Bridge Park, its bridges and the Kalamazoo River.



For more information on Calhoun County's Parks,
contact the Calhoun County Road Commission at 269-781-9841 or 1-800-
781-5512
or visit our website at www.calhouncrc.net

**Visit the Calhoun County Road Commission booth at
the Calhoun County Fair:
August 12—18, 2007**

KIMBALL PINES PARK



Planted in the 1930's and 1940's, Calhoun County's Kimball Pines Park is 100 acres of mostly plantation pines. Plantation pines are trees that have been planted closely in rows that run both north/south and east/west with the intention that some trees will be removed. Kimball Pines is one of the oldest stands of urban pines in Michigan. The park also contains deciduous woodlands, ponds and a creek that is a tributary of the Kalamazoo River. Kimball Pines offers scenic areas, hiking trails, picnicking facilities, cross-country skiing and nature observation. Access to the park is located on East Michigan Avenue in Emmett Township and is gained through the entrance to the Calhoun County Medical Care Facility. The park is open every day from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m.

Kimball Pines Park is also home to the Silver Leaf Renaissance Faire and an 18-hole disc golf course. Weekends in July through the first weekend in August, travel back in time to the Middle Ages and join the villagers in a wonderful celebration with games, feasting, daring feats, sword fighting, theatre, music and shopping. This festive village atmosphere is complemented by hundreds of costumed entertainers and patrons. For more information on the Silver Leaf Renaissance Faire, please visit www.silverleafrenfaire.org.

Home to a challenging 18-hole disc golf course, Kimball Pines Park will host the 2008 Disc Golf World Championships. This course was established in 2003 and is situated among plantation pines. It is a very demanding course, with long fairways and some moderate elevation changes.

OTT PRESERVE

The Ott Preserve includes approximately 300 acres of natural habitats that have been shaped extensively by glaciers. Within the boundaries of the preserve are two spring fed kettle lakes: Brigham Lake and Hall Lake, as well as the east edge of Dexter Lake.

Marshes on the preserve are dominated by sedges, grasses, cattails and shrubby species such as red-osier dogwood and willows. In addition, several species of frogs, toads and turtles exist in the forest, fens and marshes. Numerous birds and waterfowl call the preserve home, as well as sand hill cranes, gray squirrels, raccoons, beavers and white-tailed deer.

Several trails run through the Preserve, although not all the trails are fully developed. Currently, the primary access to the Ott Preserve is a parking area on the south side of the property at the end of Arlington Street, off Michigan Avenue. Parking is also available off of Jameson Street. Once parked, visitors may hike north along a trail through a young forest to a well-developed upland hardwood forest. A boardwalk has been constructed to allow visitors to view the wetlands up close. The park is open every day from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m.



JAIL ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING PILOT PROGRAM

The Calhoun County Road/Parks Jail Alternative Pilot Program is operated collaboratively by the Calhoun County Road Commission, Calhoun County Sheriff, Calhoun County Community Corrections Agency, 37th Judicial Circuit Court and Friend of the Court, and the 10th Judicial District Court.

This pilot program started on June 18, 2007 and will run until approximately Labor Day. The program offers an alternative to jail time for civil offenders. Participants convicted for the nonpayment of child support and other court-ordered payments like fines and costs are serving their sentences working for the Calhoun County Road Commission on county roads, in county parks and manual labor projects.

On June 7, 2007 the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners approved the allocation of \$10,000 from the general fund contingency for equipment such as safety identification vests, gloves, eye protection, radios, etc. The potential is there to save much more, however, by not requiring the county to pay to incarcerate the offenders—ultimately saving taxpayers money and providing a benefit to county residents.



**CALHOUN COUNTY
ROAD COMMISSION**

13300 Fifteen Mile Road
Marshall, Michigan 49068

Phone: (269) 781-9841
Toll Free: (800) 781-5512
Fax: (269) 781-6101

**Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners
Board of Public Works
Parks Trustees Board**

**Chester Travis
Charles Monaweck
Scott Brown**

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!
WWW.CALHOUNCRC.NET**

MISSION STATEMENT

**"TO PROVIDE QUALITY, COURTEOUS, DEPENDABLE, AND
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES TO THE CITIZENS OF CALHOUN COUNTY;
THROUGH INNOVATIVE AND COOPERATIVE EFFORTS."**

The Road Commission's primary responsibility is to provide reasonably safe roads through construction and maintenance. The Board of Calhoun County Road Commissioners are responsible for establishing policies and budget priorities as part of their review of operations of the Road Commission. Other services provided by the Road Commission include reviewing roads for plats and subdivisions, abandonments and issuing permits.

The Board of Public Works (BPW) establishes policies and budget priorities as part of their review of operations of the BPW for the County Board of Commissioners. The BPW has the responsibility of administering the various Public Works Project Construction and Debt Service Funds under the provisions of Act 185, Public Acts of 1957, as amended, and the BPW Revolving Fund. Construction and financing services are available to cities, villages and townships within the county for water and sewer projects.

As part of their review of operations of the County Parks for the County Board of Commissioners, the Parks Trustees Board establishes policies and budget priorities. Calhoun County is fortunate to have the following facilities for area residents to enjoy: Historic Bridge Park, Kimball Pines Park, Ott Biological Preserve and several canoe launches.

**Calhoun County Road Commission
13300 Fifteen Mile Road
Marshall, Michigan 49068**