

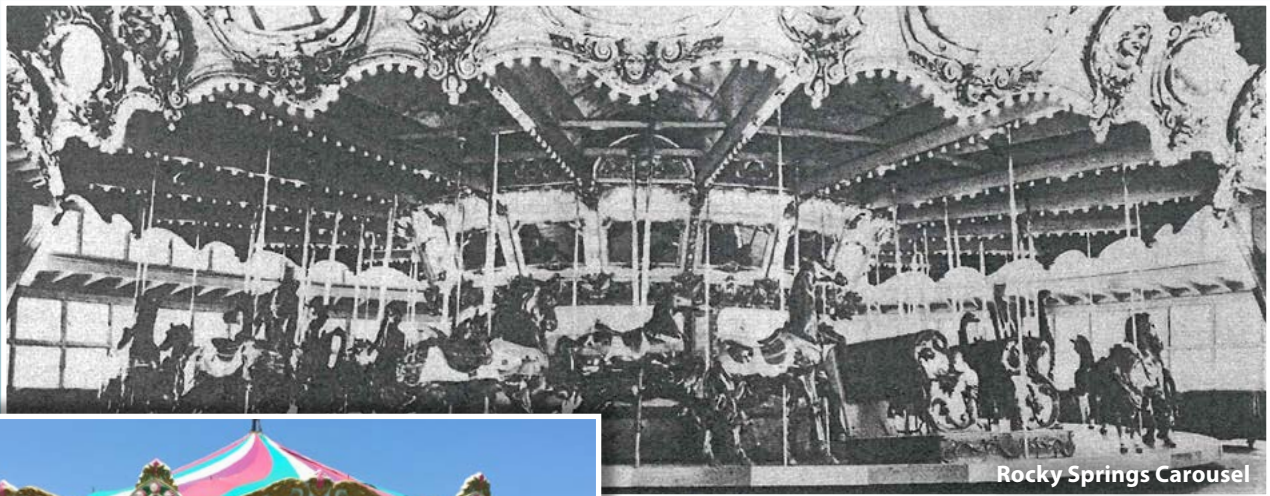


• EST. 1842 •

MERIDIAN
TOWNSHIP



A Prime Community



Rocky Springs Carousel



Carousel Returns to Lake Lansing

Meridian Township and Ingham County Parks Bring Back the Amusement Park Days at Lake Lansing for Meridian Township's 175th Anniversary! Longtime residents will remember the good old amusement park days and want to join the celebration. The long gone, but still fondly remembered amusement park operated from the 1930's until 1974 when it was shut down. One of the major attractions throughout that time period was a carousel.

Summer fun destination seekers are invited to come celebrate with us by reliving the old days of past with a carousel ride! ...

MERIDIAN
MONITOR
Summer 2017

Discover more Meridian inside ...



PRIME EVENTS IN MERIDIAN



Fun in the Sun Day
Friday, June 16
4 pm - 10 pm

Fun In The Sun Day at Lake Lansing



Fun in the Sun Day on Friday, June 16, 2017 at Lake Lansing is a free family-fun event generously sponsored by **The Meridian Company**. Lake Lansing will once again become the area's favorite summer destination as a longtime remembered favorite ride returns. The carousel is being provided by our generous sponsors; **Playmakers of Okemos** and **Al Lin's Floral and Gifts**.

During the event, carousel rides are free for as many times as riders' want! The carousel features 25 animals and a musical calliope with tons of dazzling lights. Each ride is 90 seconds in length. Riders must be 3 feet tall to ride alone. There are no size limitations for children who are smaller if accompanied by an adult.

Fun in the Sun Day is filled with plenty of other activities, including a giant inflatable slide and moonwalk, dunk tank provided by Kiwanis Club of Haslett, a petting zoo and children's games sponsored by Old Chicago and HOMTV, face painting by Hilary, LLC and Henna Tattoos by Anshu.

CADL kicks off their summer reading program at the event with Linc and some of his friends for songs, stories and lots of fun! The evening ends with fantastic musical performances by **Gemini** and **the new rule**.

Parking is free at Lake Lansing. Overflow parking is also free and available at Haslett Village Square provided by CBRE|Martin with free shuttle rides available. Okemos Masons will be grilling up a chicken barbecue fundraiser for the Friends of Ingham County Parks. For lovers of Lake Lansing and Meridian's history, the Friends will host a History of Lake Lansing tent including photos of the past and keepsakes that can be purchased as part of Meridian Township's 175th Anniversary Celebration.

Join the Fun in the Sun Day Celebration at Lake Lansing on Friday, June 16th from 4pm - 10pm! We can't wait to see you there.



ON SALE \$15

175th Anniversary Special Events

Fun in the Sun Day at Lake Lansing
Friday, June 16th
4 pm - 10 pm
Lake Lansing Park South, 1621 Pike St, Haslett

Free Yoga in the Park
for International Day of Yoga
Wednesday, June 21st
11:30 am - 1 pm
Central Park Soccer Field, Okemos

Celebrate Meridian
Saturday, July 1st
11 am - 11 pm
Meridian Municipal Complex, 5151 Marsh Rd, Okemos

Food Truck Rally
Saturday, July 1st
11 am - 10 pm
Central Park Drive near Meridian Mall, Okemos

Heritage Festival
Saturday, July 1st
11 am - 4 pm
Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Rd, Okemos

Gus Macker Comes to Meridian
Friday - Sunday, July 14th - 16th
Meridian Mall, 1982 West Grand River Ave, Okemos

Turtle Toast Gala
Saturday, July 22nd
5 pm - 8 pm
Harris Nature Center, 3998 Van Atta Rd, Okemos

Rock the Block! at Carriage Hills
Shopping District
Saturday, August 12th
Kids Activities 1 pm - 5 pm
Starfarm 7 pm - 11 pm
Spartan Dance & Fit Center, 6075 N. Hagadorn, EL

Old Pine Lake Tour: Lake Lansing
Sunday, August 20th at 2:30 pm
Lake Lansing South, 1621 Pike St, Haslett

Senior Center Brunch Tribute
August 22nd
1:30 pm
The Willows, 4830 Central Park Dr, Okemos



Celebrate MERIDIAN

Kid's Activities

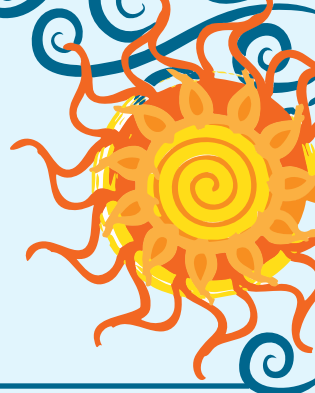


Saturday, July 1st
11 am - 11 pm

Meridian Township Municipal Complex &
Meridian Historical Village
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos

Schedule

Farmers' Market	8am - 2pm	Beer/Wine Tent	11am - 11pm
Heritage Festival	11am - 4pm	Food Vendors	11am - 11pm
Arts and Crafts Fair	11am - 8pm	Car Show Cruise	12pm - 5pm
Business Booth Expo	11am - 8pm	Main Stage:	12pm - 10pm
Children's Activity Area	11am - 10pm	Meridian Community Band	12pm - 2pm
Food Truck Rally	11am - 10pm	Life Support	3pm - 6pm
		Soulstice	7pm - 10pm
		Fireworks Finale!	10:15pm



FOODIE FESTIVAL BRING YOUR APPETITE FOOD TRUCK RALLY

July 1 at 11 am - 10 pm



BBQ RIBS? STREET TACOS? CREPES? WHY CHOOSE!

Try a variety of foods as part of the Celebrate Meridian event. Choose from more than 60 food trucks, located along Central Park Drive just north of the Meridian Mall.



Heritage Festival
11 am - 4 pm



Family
Fun

#CelebrateMeridian



WHILE FAMILIES MAY
BE MILES APART
SHARING
ADVENTURES
IS ONLY A POST AWAY



SHARING TIPS

1. **SELFIES** - When taking selfies, position with enough distance away from the background, so the image is behind you and in the picture. Shoot at angles!
2. **SNAPCHAT** - Use filters to snap events and moments in time. Create a story of your day!
3. **CONNECT** - visit our website and connect to all the fun www.meridian.mi.us

Save the Date! Meridian Township offers PRIME Events All Summer Long

Rock the Block!
with Hairstyles Through the Decades
Saturday, August 26th
Evening Gala
Douglas J Salon & Spa, 4663 Ardmore Ave, Okemos

Village of Hamilton Walking Tour
Sunday, September 17th at 2:30 pm
Okemos Community Church, 4734 Okemos Rd, Okemos

Rock the Block! Zumbathon
with Curves of Haslett
Saturday, October 14th
2 pm - 4 pm
Haslett Shoptown Neighborhood Center Parking lot
SE corner of Haslett Rd and Marsh Rd, Haslett

Old Okemos Cemetery Guided Tour
Sunday, October 29th at 2:30 pm
Riverside Cemetery, 2451 Small Acres Ln, Okemos

Poor Farm Cemetery Guided Tour
Sunday, October 29th
3:30 pm
Ingham County, 3860 Dobie Rd, Okemos

Christmas in the Village
Sunday, December 10th
2 pm - 4 pm
Meridian Historical Village, 5151 Marsh Rd, Okemos

FIND DETAILS AT
WWW.MERIDIANCELEBRATES175.COM



PRIME TRAILS IN MERIDIAN

Trails of Meridian

Meridian Township provides a park or natural area within a 15-20 minute walk of every Township resident. That is approximately 2000 steps (on your pedometer) closer to a healthier lifestyle. With over 900 acres of land on 29 park properties with 20 miles of trails and 76 miles of pedestrian/bicycle pathways, we have numerous opportunities for you and your family to enjoy getting to your destination of choice along the Trails of Meridian.

76 TOTAL MILES OF MAINTAINED PAVED PATHWAYS	3.8 Miles of Off Road Pathways 1.8 Miles of Interurban Pathways 70.6 Miles of Pathway Along Roads
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#meridiantrails

19.3 Miles of Natural Trails in the Parks
½ Mile at Harris Nature Center
.37 Mile Wonch Park Loop Trail

20 MILES OF TRAILS THROUGH THE PARKS

Trails and pathways are funded through the Park Millage and Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Millage and are maintained by the Township's Parks and Grounds Maintenance staff.

Top 10 Staycation Spots

All roads lead to Meridian Township; A Prime Community for a Staycation. Leave the keys behind and get out your walking shoes or dust off that bicycle seat and discover Prime Staycations in Meridian Township.

1. Relax along the beach at Lake Lansing Park South
2. Go back in time at the Meridian Historical Village
3. Discover Local Landmarks with these 4 great walking tours: (see events section for details)
Old Pine Lake Tour along Native American Trails
Village of Hamilton Tour and Okemos Days of Old
Poor Farm Cemetery Guided Tour and Bodies Sold for Research
Riverside Cemetery Guided Tour and Earliest Settlers
4. Check out the area's largest farmer's market at the Meridian Farmers' Market
5. Tantalize your taste buds with our Taste of Meridian Tour
6. Discover Sounds of Summer Friday nights at the Lake Lansing Band Shell
7. Experience the 4.8 mile, 3 hour journey along the Red Cedar River Water Trail
8. Enjoy the Seasons of Meridian along our 20 miles of trails & 29 parks
9. Celebrate Meridian with Special Events Happening all Summer Long
10. Explore your love of nature at Harris Nature Center & Nature Exploration Area

Tasting Trails of Meridian



As part of Meridian Township's 175th Anniversary, 15 restaurants in Meridian have agreed to celebrate with us by being part of our Taste of Meridian program this year. It's easy to participate:

1. Pick up a stamp card at any participating location or at Meridian Township Municipal Building
2. Visit each participating restaurant location and have your server sign the card
3. Mail or drop off your filled out card to Meridian Township to receive your free participation gift at the Meridian Township Municipal Building 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864

Asian Buffet
Burgdorf's Winery
Cancun Mexican Grill
Coral Gables
Dusty's Cellar
Dusty's Tap Room
Ellison Brewery
Henry's Place

Maru Sushi
Mayfair Bar
New Thai Kitchen
Oscar's Bistro
Red Haven
Tannin
Watershed Tavern & Grill

Meridian Offers Pavilion Rentals

Central Park
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI

Nancy Moore Park
1960 Gaylord C. Smith Court, Haslett, MI

Hartrick Park
3685 Hulett Road, Okemos, MI

Wonch Park
4555 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI

Contact the Parks and Recreation Department for reservations at 517.853.4600 or faust@meridian.mi.us



Summer Gatherings in Meridian Parks are a special time for families. Meridian Township has four (4) pavilions available for rent at a rate of \$60/4 hours for Township residents and \$120/4 hours for non-residents for picnics, parties and family gatherings. Bathrooms, picnic tables, grills, trash cans and parking are available.

Dogs are welcome in all Township Parks and trails but are required to be on a leash and dog waste removed. Pavilions may be reserved up to one year in advance.





Since opening its doors, the center has had over 260,000 visitors and program participants



Harris Nature Center's 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

History of the Harris Nature Center

July 22, 2017 Turtle Toast Gala 20 Year Celebration

The Harris Nature Center (HNC) opened its doors to the public in 1997. Situated along the Red Cedar River and nestled between Eastgate Park and Legg Park within Meridian Riverfront Park, its focus is on protecting, promoting and interpreting the Red Cedar River through educational opportunities.

Meridian Township purchased the HNC property with Land and Water Conservation funds in 1986 from Paul and Vila Allen for \$240,000. One tenet of that grant was the intent to turn the 65-year old house located on the property into a public nature center. Ten years later, on June 8, 1996, the Township broke ground for the renovations to convert the house into a nature center building. On July 22, 1997, HNC officially opened and began offering environmental activities and outdoor recreation opportunities to the public.

A 1/2 mile paved trail was added in July of 1999 to provide access for everyone to enjoy the woods, meadows and riverside viewing.

The HNC is home to a multitude of Michigan wildlife, and may be seen as you walk on the trails. Other animals are part of exhibits in and around the building. These animals are either temporary residents or they are permanently injured in some way and cannot be released back into the wild. HNC is the only nature center in Mid-Michigan dedicated to the preservation of the Red Cedar River. It is also the only center in the Lansing Area to house Red-tailed Hawks. HNC features animal exhibits, interpretive displays, a Nature Exploration Area and Red Cedar River Overlook.

Over the years, HNC enhanced exhibits and nature programs, and added features such as the river overlook deck, fishing dock and canoe launch for visitors to use. In 2012 they launched the Nature Exploration Area with its first feature, a turtle sculpture. That was followed with the log jam, sticks and stones, Haslett-Okemos Rotary Club gathering circle, spider web climber and Michigan fossil dig. The project is financed by the Harris Nature Center Foundation with support from a multitude of local businesses, service clubs and individuals. More features will be added in the future with the beaver lodge currently in progress.

HNC offers a wide variety of events and programs to the public. The largest events offered each year include Winter Wonderland, Nature Connection Day Camps and Halloween Adventures. Throughout the year guided walks, campfire programs, family nature programs, adult classes, stewardship opportunities and much more are offered.

All HNC programs are listed on the Meridian Township website www.meridian.mi.us

Turtle Toast Gala

with Jazz Performer
RANDY SCOTT

Harris Nature Center
3998 Van Atta Road
Okemos, MI



**Saturday,
July 22nd**

**Wine Tasting & Tapas Stations
5 pm – 8 pm**

**Jazz Performance by Randy Scott
5:30 pm – 6:15 pm**

**Recognition Ceremony
6:45 pm**

**Live Auction
7:15 pm**

**Ticket Prices: \$20 in advance
\$25 at the door (if available)**

This special evening celebrates HNC's 20th Anniversary. Admission includes heavy hors d'oeuvres and two glasses of wine in a commemorative glass.

Price of ticket goes to support HNC Foundation's many enhancement projects.



Turtle Toast



PRIME SERVICES IN MERIDIAN

EMS/FIRE AND POLICE Protection Millage Tuesday, August 8 Ballot Proposal Request

At the April 5, 2017 Township Board meeting, the Meridian Township Board approved the following ballot language for Meridian Township voters to consider on Tuesday, August 8, 2017:

“CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION MILLAGE

Shall the Charter Township of Meridian impose an increase of up to 1.483 mills (\$1.483 per \$1,000 of taxable value) in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution and levy it for ten (10) years, 2017 through 2026 inclusive, to provide police and fire protection, which increase would raise an estimated \$2,497,738 in 2017?

The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed EMS/Fire and Police Protection Millage in 2017, under current law, is a proposal to increase 1.483 mill tax (\$1.483 for every \$1000 taxable value) towards the Fire/EMS and Police Protection Services for a period of ten years, 2017 to 2026. Estimated revenue that the Township would collect from this millage comes to \$2.5 million in the first year.”

Millage Quick Facts

Ballot Millage Question Voting Date:

Tuesday, August 8, 2017

Length of the Millage:

10 years

Years of the Millage: If approved, the 2017 – 2026 millage will appear on the winter tax bill starting with the 2017 winter tax bill and ending with the 2026 winter tax bill.

Millage Amount Requested:

1.483 mills

Cost to \$200k Market Value Homeowner: \$12.36 per month
\$148.32 per year

Total Millage Amount Collected: The millage amount collected will be almost \$2.5 million annually over a ten-year period based on today’s current taxable value with an estimated growth rate of 1.75%.

The Proposed August 8, 2017 Millage for EMS/Fire and Police Protection Includes:

- Providing two additional EMS/Firefighters
- Providing two additional Police Officers
- Operating, maintaining, equipping and replacement of ambulances, police vehicles and fire equipment including replacement of a \$1.2 million dollar 18-year-old ladder truck
- Eliminating long-term pension liability for EMS/Fire and Police

Why is a Millage Being Proposed? EMS/Fire and Police protection services are underfunded relative to the current property tax revenue. To protect the community on an annual basis, it costs Meridian Township just over \$10 million each year including pension costs. The current EMS/Fire and Police Protection Millages generate slightly over \$2 million annually.

What are the Current EMS/Fire and Police Protection Millage Amounts?

EMS/Fire Protection Millage (2004) .6385 mills **expires December 2019**

Police Protection Millage (2004) .6061 mills **expires December 2019**

VOTER INFORMATION

Special Election August 8, 2017

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN POLICE AND FIRE PROTECTION MILLAGE

Polls open: 7 am

Polls close: 8 pm

Last Day to register to vote: July 10

Last Day to request an Absentee Ballot:

August 7 at 4 pm

For information on absentee ballots, voting precincts, voter registration, and ballot language call the Clerk’s office 517.853.4300, visit www.meridian.mi.us or michigan.gov/vote



Mt. Hope Road Construction

The ½ mile of pathway along the south side of Mt. Hope Road between Maumee Drive and Okemos Road will be complete in the summer of 2017. This project closes the only remaining gap along the south side of Mt. Hope Road.

In 1974 the Pedestrian/Bicycle Pathway Millage was passed by voters to approve a greater walkable community. This project is fully funded through the Township Pathway Millage at \$227,000. Since the program began, Meridian Township has paved 76 miles of pathway across the Township, creating greater connectivity between businesses, neighborhoods, schools and the park system.



DON'T PUT A STRAIN ON YOUR DRAIN

NO Fats Oils Grease

Keep Pipes Clear

Pouring fats, oils and grease (FOG) down your drain can cause significant damage to the pipes in your home and the Township sanitary sewer system. When residents and businesses pour fats, oils and grease down sinks or floor drains, these substances can build up in pipes which can ruin plumbing and prevent wastewater from moving through sanitary sewer pipes to the treatment plant.

When wastewater is unable to move through sewer pipes, raw sewage can back up into homes or overflow into local streets and streams. FOG can also increase the cost of operating and maintaining sanitary sewer pipes and treatment plants.

When hamburger meat, bacon grease, oils, butter and other FOG products are poured down the drain, FOG can cool and accumulate on the inside of your pipes. Over time, this accumulation of FOG restricts water flow and causes blockages in the sewer which can result in overflowing manholes or basement backups.

How to Avoid Costly Clogs

- Don't put oil, grease or food scraps down the drain. Instead, place them into trash bins or covered collection containers like cans.
- Don't run hot water over greasy dishes, pans or fryers. Wipe the grease off with a paper towel before washing dishes by hand or in the dishwasher.
- Don't rely on a garbage disposal. Instead, use a strainer in the sink to collect excess food particles.
- Don't use chemicals to remove grease clogs; they can damage the piping system.
- Pour, scrape, or otherwise dispose of fats, oils, or grease into cans.
- Collect fryer oil and store in barrels for recycling.
- Do not put food (including liquid food) like milk shake syrups, batters and grease down the drain

Proper Disposal of Yard Waste

Promotes a Greener Environment

Meridian Township and Reclaimed by Design provides residents with a Trash & Recycling Center for dropping off yard waste and contributing to a healthier Meridian. Yard waste is not allowed in waste bins, trash bags thrown in waste bins or recycle bins. Disposing of yard waste in parks or land preservation property could be subject to a fine.

Rates:

- \$2.00 per 30 gallon bio-degradable brown bag
- \$15.00 per cubic yard (3ft x 3ft x 3ft)
- \$20.00 per typical level truck bed (6ft x 5ft 1.5ft)

Restrictions:

- Please **NO** building wood or trash
- Please trim limbs to at least 4 foot length and 10 inches thick
- Please pay **BEFORE** dumping
- Please dump in correct marked area (leaves/branches)
- **NO** plastic bags

Hours of Operation:

- Monday and Friday: 2pm – 6pm
- Tuesday – Wednesday: 10am – 6pm
- Saturday: 10am – 5pm

Location:

5976 E. Lake Drive, Haslett, MI

For more information:

517.703.4498



By putting fats, oils and grease down the drain...



FOG builds up inside pipes and can cause a complete blockage.



Clogged pipes overflow in your home and in the environment,



resulting in increased cost to residents due to repair and maintenance costs.



5151 Marsh Road
Okemos, MI 48864

Gus Macker Comes to Meridian July 14th - 16th

Meridian Mall
1982 West Grand River Avenue, Okemos



As part of Meridian Township's continued celebration of our 175th Anniversary year, for the first time, we are bringing the Gus Macker Tournament to the Township. Get Ready for a fun filled weekend and intense competition with Gus Macker's 3-on-3 basketball tournament! This weekend will be packed with good old fashion streetball competition, family-fun kid zone with inflatables, celebrity appearances and more.

Location: Along Central Park Drive between Marsh Road and Okemos Road, just north of Meridian Mall

- Celebrity Gus Macker Game:** Friday, July 14, 7 pm
- Tournament Game Dates:** Saturday, July 15 and Sunday, July 16
- Registration Deadlines:**
 - Mail in Registration due:** Friday, June 23
 - Online Registration due:** Monday, June 26
- www.macker.com/local/okemos-mi

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Haslett Public Schools and Okemos Public Schools Athletic Boosters. Proceeds will also benefit Meridian Township children in need. For questions or information on activities please contact the Communications Department at 517.853.4370 or visit www.facebook.com/MeridianCelebrates175Years



Tuesday, August 1, 6 - 9 pm
Questions: Contact your community police officer at 517.853.4800 or Asst. Chief Ken Plaga at plaga@meridian.mi.us

www.facebook.com/MeridianTwpPD
www.twitter.com/MeridianTwpPD

Meridian Township Police Offer Citizens' Academy 19th Annual Free Program Offers Hands-On Instruction

Each year the Meridian Township Police Department offers an academy for community members to participate and gain knowledge about the criminal justice system and the Department's role in the community. Topics include uniform patrol functions, criminal investigations and CSI, arrest law and use of force, traffic and OWI, accident investigations, narcotics, community policing and code enforcement, criminal law and the Michigan court system, K9 presentation, 911 Dispatch Center Tour and firearms training simulator.

Thursdays, September 7 - November 9
6:30 - 8:30 pm
Public Safety Building
5151 Marsh Road, Okemos

MERIDIAN FARMERS' MARKET

MAY 6 - JUNE 24
Saturdays only:
8 am - 2 pm
JULY 1 - OCTOBER 28
Wednesdays:
8 am - 2 pm
Saturdays:
8 am - 2 pm



Central Park Pavilion

www.facebook.com/MeridianTownshipFarmersMarket

MERIDIAN ARTS & CRAFTS MARKETPLACE

4TH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
11 am - 4 pm
June 25, July 23
Aug 27, Sept 24
CENTRAL PARK PAVILION



www.facebook.com/meridianartsandcraftsmarketplace



Be an informed voter by watching "Open Line: Meridian Township Police and Fire Protection Millage" LIVE Thursday, June 29th 7pm-8pm. Participate in the democratic process, call-in with questions 517.349.1232 or tweet @homtv

For all inquiries and to enroll contact Sergeant Scott Dawson at 517.853.4800 or policeacademy@meridian.mi.us

