

BANKS TOWNSHIP NEWS



April 2021

Clean Up Day May 8, 2021

Once again, the Banks Township Board of Trustees is offering an opportunity for taxpayers to dispose of hard to get rid of items at no charge to residents and property owners of Banks Township. The drop-off site is at 9516 Main Street, the parking lot at Sommer Solutions, across from the elementary school. Collection begins at 8 AM and the site will close at 12 Noon.

Proof of residency or property ownership is required. Please be prepared to present this notice or some form of proof of ownership. No building materials will be accepted: shingles, insulation, drywall, etc. Examples of allowed items: Household items, furniture, scrap metals, tires, car type batteries, appliances, air conditioning or refrigeration units. Freon will be purged at township expense. Site supervisors and signage will direct you to the proper drop off containers. Please assist with unloading if you are able. Please be careful driving through the site as pedestrians are present.

Car tires may be dropped off in the semi trailer if they have been removed from the rims. However **NO** tractor or large semi truck tires will be accepted.

Pig Roast is Back!!! Saturday, June 19!!!

This year's Pig Roast Committee is working diligently to hold a safe event amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Current plans call for a food truck to serve the roast pork dinner. There will be a parade, and music in the park, and some safe games for the kids. The theme is "A Paddle Through Time" and recognizes the dedication of individuals who have served as leaders for the event over the past 40 years. Please plan to attend the Pig Roast to support the festival with your presence or order some meals for take away! Watch Facebook for the Ellsworth/Atwood Pig Roast's up to the minute schedule!

Fireworks July 3, 2021

Display will be over St Clair Lake. Good viewing area from Ball Fields. The 501.c.3 Non Profit Organization has provided "the best show in the North" for many years due to generous contributions from individuals. You can show your support by donating to the fund at Charlevoix State Bank or send contributions to EllClair Committee, PO Box 282, Ellsworth, MI 49729. A golf outing fundraiser is planned for June. Thanks to all that make this event possible!

Cemetery News

Banks Township received grant funding from the DNR and DTE Energy to plant 26 trees at the Ellsworth Cemetery on Eaton Road in 2020. These trees will provide much needed shade while enhancing the natural beauty of the Cemetery. We are hopeful to be able to have further restoration of cemetery historical markers in our cemeteries this summer as well.

Banks Township recently adopted a Cemetery Ordinance to establish regulations for management of the four cemeteries within the township. Complete ordinance, including burial permit applications, can be found on the Township's website.

Banks Township Officials

Township Hall 231-588-6126

Township Fax 231-588-2079

Supervisor Alex Busman 231-676-1075

Clerk Donna Heeres 231-588-7741

Treasurer Katy Postmus 231-599-3433

Trustee David Rasmussen 231-313-1327

Trustee Tom Cooper 231-588-6324

Assessor Amy Jenema 231-632-3529

Zoning Admin Dave Muladore 231-350-1624

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Citizen of the Year 2020

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Citizen of the Year for 2020 was not awarded. We take this opportunity to recognize the previous COY recipients: 2007: Chet Drenth; 2008: Mary Peterson; 2009: Joyce & Ed Petter; 2010: John Hastings; 2011: Irene Shooks; 2012: Donna Heeres; 2013: Lynn Spearing; 2014: Larry Essenberg; 2015: Shirley Tornga; 2016: Marilyn Ferweda; 2017: Hugh Campbell; 2018: Joni Wieland; 2019: Pastor Chris Wallace. These people, along with others not yet recognized, have provided the force to make good things happen in our Community!

COY Nominations for 2021.....

Are now being accepted! Please nominate a Banks Township Resident for this honor by describing his/her community involvement, civic contributions, and special contributions. Nominations must be written or typed, signed by the person or persons making the nomination and submitted to the Banks Township Clerk by May 15. Please join us in honoring the citizens who make the Banks Township Community a great place to live and play!

Supervisor's Corner..... Hello neighbors! Allow me

to introduce myself. My name is Alex Busman and I am the new Supervisor for Banks Township. I am a graduate of Ellsworth (2001) and am very happy to be back in my hometown after a 10-year hiatus that began as a 4-year stint in the Army. I am honored to be a part of our great board of trustees serving the citizens of Banks. I look forward to serving you over the next four years.

I'd like to inform you of some things that are happening in the township this spring. First, we have a community cleanup on May 8, where you can rid your property of unwanted items. Second, the Pig Roast is BACK! See related article. Third, a housing committee has been established and it has a housing survey circulating the community to better understand our housing needs. A copy of this survey is available at the Front Porch, Good Samaritan, or online at bankstownship.net. Fourth, we have a couple of ordinance items working their way through the planning commission. One is on Solar Farms and the other is on Accessory Dwelling Units. If you have an opinion on either of these, I encourage you to attend a planning commission meeting.

I also encourage you to take advantage of some of the benefits the board has secured for our citizens. We have agreements with both Central Lake and Charlevoix libraries that allow you to check out some great books and other media. We also will be expanding the WiFi capabilities at the Township Hall in the coming months. Access points will be installed to broadcast WiFi further into the parking lot and the community square on the West side of the hall for public use. We hope that this will be of some help to those who are unable to access broadband internet from home. The WiFi connection information can be found on the east side entrance door.