

# BANKS TOWNSHIP NEWS



April 2022

## Clean Up Day May 14, 2022

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 **7111 Essex Road**, the former site of the Drenth Brothers gravel plant. 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. 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. This year, tractor or large truck tires will be accepted until the trailer is filled. Please call the Supervisor with questions.

**It's Pig –Nic Time!!! Saturday, June 17 & 18!!!** The 2022 Pig Roast is arriving soon and it will be better than ever! This year, a band & food truck will be added to Friday's giant waterslide event! Bring the kiddos & your lawn chairs & be prepared to enjoy the fun! Saturday will hold many of the usual goings-on with the Geezer Band (aka Pine Lake Winds) serenading while the kids bungee jump & do crafts, the horses pull, the kayakers glide & we all eat! Plan to attend the Pig Roast to support the festival with your presence or order some meals for take away! Follow us on Facebook for the Ellsworth/Atwood Pig Roast's up to the minute schedule!

**Fireworks Sunday, July 3, 2022** Display will be over St Clair Lake. Good viewing area from Ball Fields. The fireworks committee, a 501.c.3 Non Profit Organization, is again raising the necessary \$10,000 to put on the show! The giant thermometer will go up at the launch site on East Jordan Road on Memorial Day weekend and the fireworks golf outing will take place in June. The 15th Annual Freedom Salute, honoring those who fought for our freedoms, will start at 5 PM, and is held prior to the fireworks display. 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. Come celebrate our freedom with friends and family on beautiful St. Clair Lake in our typically **Loud and Proud American Way** on Sunday, July 3!

**Elections 2022** On Tuesday, May 3, voters will go to the polls to vote on 5 proposals that effect the area's school districts. All Banks Township voters will be eligible to vote in one of three districts. Char-Em is asking for two Area Career and Technical Education Millage to continue the .75 mills be increased by .25 mill for 4 years. These proposals are on all ballots. Ellsworth and Central Lake Schools are both asking for Operating Millage increases, Ellsworth for an increase of 1 mill for 3 years, Central Lake to continue to not exceed 18 mills for 10 years along with a Sinking Fund Millage continuations of .4892 mills and an increase of .0108 totaling 5 mills for the construction and repair of buildings. Absentee ballots are available from the Township Clerk.

**Tuesday, August 2 and Tuesday, November 8**, voters will return to the polls for the primary and general elections.

**Banks Township Park** After several modifications to the drainage system at the Banks Township Park on Lake Michigan, the Board is hopeful the drainage issues have been solved! The park will be re-seeded this spring, repairs to the charcoal grills will be made, and the park will be open for visitors! Along with the Antrim Creek Natural Area, this park has the most scenic lake views in the Township!

**New Zoning Administrator:** Please note, Banks Township has a new zoning administrator: Kurtis Busman. His phone number is listed above and contact information is available 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 Kurtis Busman 231-676-2414

Hall Reservations Jan Rasmussen 231-497-4248

**Website: [bankstownship.net](http://bankstownship.net)**

**Email:**

**[bankstownship@bankstownship.net](mailto:bankstownship@bankstownship.net)**

**Banks Township  
6520 Center Street  
P.O. Box 68  
Ellsworth, Michigan 49729**

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## Citizen of the Year 2021

Congratulations to Jan Rasmussen on her selection as Citizen of the Year 2021. Jan has been manager of the Front Porch Restaurant since it began. She serves as rental officer for Banks Township Hall. Jan was instrumental in developing the Pickle Ball court for the Village and soliciting funds to provide equipment to be loaned out to persons interested in playing! Jan's support of the community has been a blessing since she moved to the township while still in Elementary School! Thank you, Jan, for your devotion to Banks Township and the Village of Ellsworth!

## COY Nominations for 2022

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!

## Fire/Rescue Dept Recruitment

Our Banks Township

Fire/Rescue department, once with over 30 volunteers, is in need of some new faces! Currently, the roster includes 14 active firefighters & EMTs with an average age of 57. The need for individuals to step up has never been greater. "We need willing participants, truck operators and medically trained firefighters. We need more trained personnel to assist our growing community," said Volunteer Firefighter Nathan St. Pierre. Over time, a lot of our members have reached retirement age. They still serve strong but the adage "you aren't getting any younger" is a stark reality; combined with the growing needs of our community, it is alarming. A goal of recruiting ten new volunteers may seem farfetched in our little community, but St. Pierre is determined to meet the challenge. "For me, being a firefighter is a way to serve my community. I know for a lot of guys, it's a way to learn a new skill set and get some training under their belt," he said. The time to relieve some who have been serving our community for decades, allowing them to step back and know that what they have done for years will be taken care of by the next generation, is approaching. Please consider joining the Banks Township Fire & Rescue Department. An open house and opportunity to tour the Ellsworth Fire Hall and see the equipment, is planned for this summer.

## New Township Flag Available!

Watch for it flying outside the township hall! Flags will be available at the Township Office for purchase.

