

BANKS TOWNSHIP NEWS



April 2016

Clean Up Day May 14, 2016

Once again the Banks Township Board is offering an opportunity for taxpayers to dispose of hard to get rid of items at no charge. However, please make a note of a change in the drop-off site. This year's clean up day will take place at 9516 Main Street. That's the old Howes Building across from the elementary school, now occupied by Preferred Waste II. Collection begins at 8 AM and the site will close at 11 AM.

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 be careful driving through the site as pedestrians are present.

Township Hall Renovations

Renovations to the Banks Township Hall which stands as a focal point in downtown Ellsworth since the mid 1930's are nearing completion. Along with improvements to the heating and electrical components of the building, new light fixtures in the grand room upstairs, a new staircase in the front of the building and a handicap lift have been added. The work was done with a great deal of care to preserve the historical integrity of the building and the new interior doors leading to the grand room give the entryway a look of colonial elegance. The project proceeded with slightly less than the \$150,000 needed as the township has been unsuccessful in securing a capital improvement grant yet. We are still hopeful to receive more grant funding and have continued to apply. Contributions are welcome.

The township has also received a Michigan Recreation Passport Grant to make improvements at the Day Park on Lake Michigan. The matching grant requires a \$15,600 investment from the township and supplies the rest of the \$60,000 in park improvements. Work should start this summer with a completion goal of fall 2016. Included are ADA accessible pathways through the park and to the water's edge, ADA accessible picnic tables, benches and grills, solid surface parking for motorcycles and bicycles, additional picnic tables, and improved parking and bathhouse facilities.

Banks Township Officials

Township Hall 231-588-6126

Township Fax 231-588-2079

Supervisor Thomas Mann 231-676-3800

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 Andy Veenstra 231-599-2647

Hall Reservations Jerry Rasmussen 231-675-2828

Email:

bankstownship@bankstownship.net

Website: bankstownship.net

SMART911

- Smart911 is a new addition to the emergency dispatch that allows citizens to provide the additional details that a dispatcher may need in order to assist them in an emergency.
- You can create a safety profile that attaches your information to your phone number. Go to www.smart911.com.
- When an emergency call is made from a phone registered with your Safety Profile, the 9-1-1 system recognizes it and automatically displays your profile on the screen of the dispatcher.
- At a time when you may be panicked, or unable to communicate, or it could be unsafe to communicate, Smart911 ensures that the details needed to help are immediately available.
- This is a nationwide service now available in Antrim County.

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

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Citizen of the Year 2015

The 2015 Citizen of the Year is Shirley Tornga. She grew up on the Sitzema family farm on Doctor Road in rural Banks Township. She attended Ebenezer Christian School then Ellsworth High School graduating in 1958.

Shirley married her husband Bud on July 15, 1960 and the couple have lived on Atwood Road ever since. They have 2 adopted daughters, Lynn and Joanne, 2 granddaughters, Brittany and Megan and 2 grandsons, Benjamin and Cameron. They also have a great-grandson Noah and great-granddaughter Ruby Dawn.

As an active member of the Historical Society she has spent countless hours hosting at the museum, identifying historical sites, serving as an officer, researching, organizing and documenting many historical items of the township and organizing the Pig Roast Trolley Rides. She is also a member of the Breezeway Task Force, Ellsworth Wesleyan Church and a hospice volunteer to name only a few of her volunteer endeavors.

Congratulations Shirley!!

Nominations for 2016.....

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 things happen in Banks Township!



More Local News.....

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Banks Township website.
Check it regularly for an-
nouncements and news-
worthy articles contribut-
ed by local writers.**

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