

Dafter Community Garage/Yard Sale and Fire Department Fun Day



Again this year, Nancy McDermott will be coordinating the Dafter Community Garage Sale to be held on June 27, 2015. This is a great day to have your garage sale and get a lot of FREE advertising! There is no charge to participate, you just need to contact Nancy at (906) 253-9572 or suzyq55@charter.net to be added to the list of participants. The event will be advertised in the paper and lists of all the garage/yard sales participating will be provided to customers as well as advertised on the Dafter Township website and other social media all at no cost to you! Please contact Nancy to let her know if you will be participating or for more information!



On the same day, the Dafter Fire Department will be holding a Family Fun Day at the Town Hall and parking lot with games and food, along with an opportunity to check out the new rescue truck. This will be a fundraising event to help the department purchase much needed additional rescue equipment. We will have a dunk tank where you can dunk either Fire Chief, Henry Lowes, or Supervisor, Bob Brown. It will be a competition to see which one of these guys will raise the most money! There will be games with prizes, along with food and drinks for sale. We will also be having a 50/50 raffle throughout the



day for a chance to win some cash! Take a break from the garage sales and stop by to support the Dafter Fire Department. Fun for all ages! We will be there from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call Jodi Hunter at 906-440-1154 for more information.

Millage Proposal to Support Emergency Services at August Election

The Township has been working hard for a number of years to continue to provide ambulance service to the Township without asking for a millage from our citizens. Unfortunately, with the increased costs to provide emergency medical services, the Township is faced with asking our citizens for your support. Currently, Dafter Township is one of only a few that does not have a millage for these services. In order to continue to supply ambulance service to Dafter Township, we are asking that residents support the millage proposal that will be on the ballot during the August election. The proposal will be requesting 2 mills levied for a period of six years. This means that for every \$1,000 of taxable value, an additional \$2 in taxes will be collected to be used for emergency services. An estimate of the expected levy is \$77,500 for 2015. The current ambu-



lance contract is \$45,000 for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, and the estimated expenditures for the fire department are in excess of \$30,000, without considering that the fire department is in need of additional rescue equipment and a new pumper truck. The millage proposal will cost each taxpayer only a small amount, yet provide the much needed funds to continue to provide emergency services to the Township. All of us hope that we never need to use emergency services, but if you are ever in need, this millage will help ensure that emergency services will be on their way and will have the necessary equipment. Please support this millage and ask others to as well. Township board members will be happy to answer questions regarding this proposal, please feel free to call if you have questions.

Fire Chief Update

Its been a long cold snow winter. I'm sure residents are waiting to get started with their spring cleanup. But before you do please check out

the DNR burn permit web site (www.michigandnr.com/burnpermits) It is updated everyday after 8 am and provides information on open burning for the day. Also, while burning yard waste is allowed, construction materials and building are not. Any questions may be directed me at 440-3301, or the local DNR office at 635-6161.

Henry Lowes, Fire Chief



TOWN HALL RENTAL		Township Contacts			
RESIDENT RATES		Supervisor	Bob Brown	906-630-5363	dafterzoning@yahoo.com
Whole Hall—\$150.00		Clerk	Jodi Hunter	906-440-1154	daftertownshipclerk@aol.com
Basement—\$75.00		Treasurer	Kareen Brown	906-632-8917	daftertwpresident@yahoo.com
NON-RESIDENT RATES		Trustee	Joyce Engelhardt	906-632-0121	
Whole Hall—\$300.00		Trustee	Bob St. Peter	906-632-9012	
Basement—\$150.00		Assessor	Luanne Kooiman	906-495-5756	
For rental information,		Fire Chief	Henry Lowes	906-440-3301	dafterfire@yahoo.com
contact Dan Fox at		Maintenance	Dan Fox	906-440-2144	
(906) 440-2144					

It is time for Dafter Township



The coupon below
provides the first \$15.00
towards charges at
Dafter Landfill on
May 15-16 & May 29-30

Landfill hours are: Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 P.M.
Saturday 8:00 A.M. To 12:00 P.M.
No appliances, tires, or hazardous waste accepted .
All loads must be covered
Please cut out the coupon below and bring it with you.
One coupon per resident.



Dafter Township

4171 W. 10 Mile Road
Dafter, MI 49724



DAFTER TOWNSHIP SPRING CLEAN-UP

May 15-16 and May 29-30, 2015

Resident Signature_____

Supervisor Update

Happy spring everyone, as you know, I was appointed Township Supervisor last December by the Township Board. We have been very busy since then working on several projects. One of the most recent developments is the property on the corner of 10 Mile and Mackinac Trail. This property was donated to the Township from Wells Fargo Bank along with \$10,000. The Board will soon decide what the future holds for the structure and property. At our March meeting the Board passed our annual budget and we agreed to a contract with Kinross EMS to serve our Township for the next two years, at a rate of \$45,000 per year, along with Kinross EMS holding some clinics for the residents at our township hall. To put it in perspective, when calculated at the end of February, we have had 62 runs to the Township this fiscal year. As Wayne stated in the last newsletter, In order to continue to

provide fire and EMS services and maintain equipment, we are forced to ask for a 2 mills increase at the August election. We will be sending more information closer to the election. The township will have a couple of road improvement projects this summer. We are also resurrecting the idea of having a community get together to gather local historical information. I think this will be a great opportunity to share pictures and tell stories of the past.

Additionally, so that you are aware, MDOT will be replacing two large culverts on I-75 approximately 2.5 miles south of the M-28 intersection starting in May thru July. The detour will be Gaines Highway, M-80, M-129 and M-28.

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve you and looking forward to

working with everyone. If you ever have any questions, concerns, or just want to chat, please feel free to contact me. After 5:00P.M works best for me during the work week. Have a great spring.

Bob Brown, Supervisor and Zoning Administrator



Robert (Bob) Brown, Supervisor

Treasurer's Update

Hello everyone! Please be reminded that if you have an address change, please make sure to change it with either Chippewa County Equalization Department or contact me to update your mailing address to ensure timely receipt of your tax information

Kareen Brown, Treasurer



Kareen Brown, Treasurer

Clerk's Update

Hello everyone! It has been only a few short months since being appointed clerk and it has been very busy! We have had one election so far and three more coming up. Don't forget to come out and vote! We have an election in May for the statewide proposal, and another election in August that will include the millage proposal for our Township. Since being appointed, I have learned a great deal about the inner workings of the township, and if anyone has ques-

tions or wants to discuss the emergency services millage, please call me and I will be happy to answer your questions. The Board is continually looking for ways to cut costs. One way is to provide the newsletter electronically in the future. If you have an email, please send a request from your email to: daftertownshipclerk@aol.com to be added to the electronic mailing list. Our revised website will also be up and running in the coming months provid-

ing links to community events and other announcements. Also, please come out and meet your Board Members at the Fire Department Fun Day on June 27 and help raise funds for rescue equipment while having fun trying to dunk our new Supervisor, Bob Brown or our fantastic Fire Chief, Henry Lowes. Games for all ages and lots of fun. Hope to see you there!

Jodi Hunter, Clerk



Jodi Hunter, Clerk

Trustee's Update

To the Residents of Dafter Township: I have had the pleasure along with Kareen Brown and Joyce Engelhardt to appoint two new members to our board since the resignations of Wayne Trepazier and Rachel Hartranft on January 1st, 2015. The new members are: Supervisor Robert Brown and our Clerk Jodi Hunter, fellow residents of Dafter Township. We are very pleased they have accepted these positions. They have eagerly and energetically delved into learning the rules and regulations of the operations of the township and the governing board. Jodi has already successfully managed a school election in February. We look forward to serving with our new members.

As residents of Dafter Township, you know for many years, this township has never asked for millage for any reason. We have kept expenditures to a mini-

mum and yearly balanced the budget. However, we are now in need of additional funds for a very important reason. That reason is: "AMBULANCE SERVICE FOR THIS TOWNSHIP!" At the present time, we contract with Kinross Twp. to provide this important service. As the years went by, our costs grew, and now our contract with Kinross Twp. costs our township \$45,000 per year. The major reason for this expenditure is based on runs to the township in a given year. Dafter Township is averaging 55 to 65 ambulance runs each year. The average run is approx. \$800 per run. The Soo Ambulance is also \$800.00 per run. Our board is asking for two (2) mills over a 6-year period to cover this emergency ambulance expense. Fellow residents, ... we need this millage. As residents, we never know when this service may be needed. To be without it, could be

disastrous to you or a loved one. We, the Dafter Twp. Board, are asking for your support for this very important millage request. A portion of this millage will also go to the Dafter Fire Department Service.

I wish past Supervisor Wayne Trepazier and Clerk Rachel Hartranft all the best in their retirement. We certainly appreciated their time, efforts, accomplishments, and devotion given to our township over the past several years.

My wish for our township residents is as follows: A year of good health, a warm, sunny spring, and a long summer we can all enjoy doing all the things we love to do.

Yours in township news,
Bob St. Peter
Trustee, Dafter Township



Bob St. Peter, Trustee



Joyce Engelhardt, Trustee

April 2015

*The place where
people are from
both sides of the
tracks!*

Mark Your Calendar for These Important Dates:

- Dafter Community Garage Sale and Fire Department Fun Day—June 27, 2015
- Election for Statewide Proposal 1—May 5, 2015
- Spring Cleanup—May 15-16 and May 29-30, 2015
- Election for Emergency Service Proposal for Dafter Township—August 2015
- Township Board Meetings are held the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall



The New Year Brings New Board Members

As many of you may already know, our former Supervisor, Wayne Trepanier, and Clerk, Rachel Hartranft, decided to retire at the end of 2014. The entire Board would like to thank both of these dedicated individuals for their many years of service to Dafter Township and wish them well in their retirement.

The retirements prompted the appointment of two new members to the Dafter Township Board. Robert (Bob) Brown, was appointed as Supervisor. Bob has also been serving as the Zoning Administrator for the Township and was a natural choice for appointment due to his familiarity with the Board operations and having experience in public government service. With Brown being such a common last name, it is rather comical that we actually have

two completely unrelated Bob Browns now serving Dafter Township. Kareen Brown is our treasurer and her husband, Robert (Bob) Brown, serves as our Deputy Treasurer. We may have to come up with nicknames to keep them straight!

Jodi Hunter, CPA, CMA, CFM was appointed to the Clerk position. Jodi is an accounting professor and brings many years of governmental accounting experience to the Board. Many of you may know Jodi more from driving by her farm on 10 Mile, Hunter's Ridge, with the unique Belted Galloway (Oreo) cattle.

The Board is pleased and fortunate to have these two qualified and competent individuals join us in serving the residents of Dafter Township.

Dafter Township Board

Dafter Fire Department Obtains Much Needed Rescue Truck

Dafter Fire Chief, Henry Lowes, poses with the rescue truck that the Board voted to purchase last November from Olcott Fire Department, who sold the truck at a great price of \$25,000. Similar trucks in this condition are typically much more. The truck will better prepare the department to handle emergency situations in the 47-square mile area in which the department covers. One advantage is combining equipment from two trucks into one, and truck has an on-board generator which can power the lighting system at emergency scenes providing much needed visibility in dire situations. Additionally, the truck came with a



cascade system, which allows the firefighters to recharge their oxygen tanks on scene and eliminate the risk of running low on oxygen on large fires. The truck also includes a walk-in box, which allows firefighters and others to get out of the weather and warm up periodically, which is particularly beneficial with the cold experienced here in the U.P. Although the truck is a 1989 International, it is in excellent condition and only has

13,000 miles on it. Henry believes the truck will last the department at least 10 years and probably even longer. The Dafter Township Fire Department now includes a brush truck, fire engine and tanker in addition to the recently added rescue truck. The fire department consists of a 21-member volunteer crew, which responds on average of 3 calls per month including structure fires, grass fires, and vehicle accidents. The firefighters all have training in first aid and can assist in a first-responder capacity as well even though ambulance service is provided by another department. The department is always looking for members and any Dafter Township resident interested in joining can contact Henry at (906) 440-3301.