

FRIENDSHIP TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

June 2021

ROAD UPDATE – In 2020 we wedged a portion of Welsheimer Rd, Wressel Rd west of State Rd, portions of Fisher Rd and a portion of West Stutsmanville Rd near West Townline Rd. This year North Terpening and Troup Roads are receiving a 1 ½” asphalt cap. Friendship Township will receive \$15,491 in road commission allocation to use toward road projects. The allocation is part of the new road funding measures put in place at the state level.

TOWNSHIP HALL / WI-FI - There is free wireless internet service available at the township hall. You can access it in the parking lot. No password required. Also, there is a water faucet on the south side of the building for use for cemetery watering. It will be useable during the warm months only.

Stutsmanville Chapel offers free Truestream internet in their parking lot.

LIBRARY – The Township contracts with the Alanson Area Library for library services for township residents. The library offers a robust collection of materials including current best sellers, juvenile and young adult collections, large print materials, CD-audio books, magazines, a Michigan section, DVD and VHS movies, interlibrary loan program, free access to ancestry.com on library computers, free downloads of e-books and audio-books to personal devices using Great Lakes Digital Library link (don't need to go to library—just need library card). Normally they also offer a variety of programs and classes for children and adults spring through fall. Check it out. Their website is www.alansonlibrary.org

RETIREMENT - Marie Ward has been our township treasurer since September 1995. She has decided that after 25+ years she would like to retire. So, effective July 1, 2021 she will begin her much deserved retirement. Her daughter, Kati Negley, who has been Marie's deputy treasurer for many years, will take over as treasurer and Marie will become her deputy. Welcome, Kati, to the Township Board. Kati's appointment is until the next General Election in 2022 at which time she will have to run for the office.

YOUR TAX BILL - Tax bills are sent out by the Emmet County Treasurer's office. Summer taxes are due September 14 and **winter taxes are due on or before Monday, February 14, 2022. This means your payment must be in the treasurer's hand by the end of day February 14. The treasurer does NOT go by postmark date.**

The township treasurer does take **partial payments from December 1 until February 28 for the winter tax bill and July 1 until February 28 for the summer tax bill.**

If that would be of help to you please contact Treasurer Kati Negley at (231)242-8752 or email at treasurer@friendshiptownship.org for more information.

CEMETERY and NEW SEXTON/ CARETAKER- As many of you know Wilbur Kurburski took care of our cemetery and grounds for many years. We lost Wilbur last October. We miss him and his expertise on all matters of the cemetery and township and offer condolences to his family. David Van Divner has taken over as sexton and caretaker. You can contact him regarding cemetery matters at 231-526-6410. There are just a few spaces left to purchase in the "old" cemetery. The township has created a new cemetery just south of the fire hall on the west side of Beacon Hill Lane. It is known as Friendship Township Cemetery West. Lot pricing for either cemetery is as follows: if land owner or resident \$80 per grave space, limit 2; if not owner or resident then \$1,000 per grave space, limit 2.

ELECTION - Thank you to all our election workers for their great commitment to our elections last year. I would like to recognize our election chair, Kelly Compton, who has served on elections here since August of 2000. Kelly is moving and we wish her and her family the best. But we will certainly miss her calm guidance and expertise at our township hall on election day!! Thank you, Kelly.

SPRING CLEAN UP - Just a reminder that Friendship Township no longer does a spring clean up. Friendship Township residents have access to the Emmet County Transfer Station and an extensive recycling program. For metals, appliances, cars, etc. you can contact Jesse Hadix at Stutsmanville Salvage at 231-838-2183 to make arrangements for pick up or drop off. Also note that Great Lakes Energy will pay \$50 cash and pick up old refrigerators or freezers that are in working condition.

MIDDLE VILLAGE PARK ACCESS – High water levels over the past few years have caused step structure damage at our park. We are glad to see water levels recede and are in the process of making the beach accessible. Hopefully the beach will be open by the first of July. The platform viewing deck is open now. Also, please note that dogs are NOT allowed at this beach. We want to keep the beach clean and safe for our little ones.

OPPORTUNITIES - We have openings on the Friendship Township Planning Commission and on the M-119 Tunnel of Trees Committee. If you are interested in serving your community in this way please contact our supervisor, Fred Troup at (231)526-6918.

The RFC Fire and Rescue Firefighters Association is always interested in adding new recruits to their team. Contact Trustee Marty MacGregor if interested in the Fire and/or Rescue at (231)-838-4879.

We hope everyone has a wonderful summer!

FRIENDSHIP TOWNSHIP BOARD

Fred Troup, Supervisor
Janell Van Divner, Clerk
Kati Negley, Treasurer

Michael Cullip, Trustee
Marty MacGregor, Trustee