

ADMINISTRATION

Twp Hall - 668-0270

Cemetery
Clerk
Information
Manager
Supervisor

Assessing - 669-6494

Building - 668-0278

DARA - 482-5117

Fire - 669-0071
Administration

Planning/Zoning
669-6576

Police - 669-6578
Administration

Treasurer - 668-1411

CLINTON COUNTY

1-888-224-2450
Toll Free

**POLICE & FIRE
ASSISTANCE**

Fire - 9-1-1
EMT/Ambulance
Police - 9-1-1
State Police - 322-1911

TOWNSHIP BOARD

Supervisor
Rick Galardi
Clerk
Diane Mosier
Treasurer
Phyllis Daggy
Trustees
Jeffrey Baumann
Max Calder
Steve Musselman
David Seeger

Manager
Matt Kulhanek

www.dewitttownship.org

COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN APPROVED

Following a busy year of visioning sessions, joint meetings by the Planning Commission and Township Board to hear public comments, town meetings, and a public hearing, the updated Comprehensive Development Plan has been approved. We sincerely appreciate the time that residents, business owners, and others interested in the development of the Township have given to the creation of this vision for the future.

One of the key features of the new Plan is a new Future Land Use Map. The map is intended to provide for an appropriate balance and mix of uses in the Township. For example, it illustrates those areas that will be preserved for agricultural use, where new commercial and residential development is expected to occur, and the areas where the Capital City Airport is planning future expansions. The map is accompanied by a series of policies that will assure development will occur in appropriate locations and be adequately served by utilities and roads.

The Plan also includes a list of actions that the Township expects to undertake over the next several years. These include conserving existing neighborhoods and encouraging new development along the Business-27 corridor in the southern portion of the Township; making necessary amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, including expanding access management regulations along the Business-27 corridor to assure the safe movement of vehicles; and planning for future new commercial development along the northern part of the Business-27 corridor.

The Plan can be viewed on the Township's website, www.dewitttownship.org. Copies of the Plan are also available for purchase in the Planning Department. If you have any questions or would like additional information about the Plan, please call the Planning Department at 669-6576.

TOWNSHIP WELCOMES KOKA, JAPAN

DeWitt Charter Township, the City of DeWitt and the City of Koka, Japan are preparing the final documents to enter into a Sister City Community Agreement to promote goodwill and understanding between our communities. The City of DeWitt previously had a Sister City affiliation with the Town of Konan, Japan. A new Agreement was necessary when Konan merged with its neighboring communities to create the new City of Koka. In early October, an advanced delegation from the City of Koka was in DeWitt to meet with local officials to complete discussions on the new relationship. The relationship encourages student exchanges and other cultural opportunities for residents of the three communities. The new Agreement should be formalized at an official signing ceremony in November.

ELECTION DAY – November 8, 2005

November 8th is a scheduled Election Day for all DeWitt Township voters except those living in the East Lansing School District. The November 8th election ballot will contain the following ballot question for all DeWitt Township voters living in DeWitt, Bath, and St. Johns School Districts.

CLINTON COUNTY
PROPOSAL

SPECIAL EDUCATION MILLAGE PROPOSAL
(RESTORATION OF “HEADLEE” REDUCTION)

(Clinton County school districts, which includes Bath Schools, DeWitt Schools, Fowler Schools, Ovid-Elsie Schools, Pewamo-Westphalia Schools and St. Johns Schools)

This proposal requests additional millage to permit the continued levy by the intermediate school district of the maximum mills for special education previously approved by the electors.

Shall the current charter limitation on the annual property tax rate for the education of persons with disabilities in Clinton County Regional Education Service Agency, Michigan, be increased by .2393 mill (\$0.2393 on each \$1,000.00 of taxable valuation), for a period of 20 years, 2005 to 2024, inclusive (this increase will allow the intermediate school district to levy the maximum rate of 2.625 mills previously approved by the electors which has been reduced as required by the Michigan Constitution of 1963); the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2005 is approximately \$372,351 from local property taxes authorized herein?

Yes

No

CANDIDATES TO APPEAR ON
DEWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP Pct. 03B, 04B, 05B, 06B & 07B BALLOTS

LANSING SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION

VOTE FOR THREE – 6 Year Term

HUGH B. CLARKE JR.	3800 COLCHESTER	LANSING MI 48906
JACK DAVIS	3010 STATEN UNIT #6	LANSING MI 48910
DANIEL DILLINGER	618 LESLIE ST	LANSING MI 48912
KEN JONES	3026 SUNDERLAND ROAD	LANSING MI 48911

ABSENTEE BALLOTS are available at the Clerk's Office. If you are sixty years of age or older, or expect to be absent from the community on Election Day, you qualify to vote by absentee ballot. Voters on the Automatic Absentee Application list have already received their application for absentee ballot for the November 8th election. Make arrangements to get an Absentee Ballot by calling or visiting the Clerk's Office.

IF YOU PLAN TO VOTE IN THE POLLS: Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Precincts 1 & 2 vote at Herbison Woods School. Precincts 3 & 4 vote at the Herbison Road Fire Station. Precincts 5, 6 & 7 vote at the Community Center on Brook Road. If you do not know your precinct, please call the Clerk's Office.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE NOVEMBER 8, 2005 ELECTION:

Oct 11 th	Last day to register and qualify to vote in the November 8 th election
Oct 19 th	Absentee Ballots must be available for issuance to voters
Nov 5 th	Last day absentee ballots can be mailed out. Clerk's Office open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Nov 7 th	Absentee voting in the Clerk's Office until 4:00 p.m.
Nov 8 th	ELECTION DAY

ALL ELECTION AND VOTER REGISTRATION INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE. See the first page of this Newsletter. For assistance call 668-0270.

NEWS BITES

THANK YOU to Jean Heathman, Helen Parker, Ethel Baldwin, Richard Rollis, Chuck & Molly Ruble, Frieda Felzke, and Ilse King for their help labeling and sorting the Newsletter. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Our **DROP BOX** is located around the corner to the right of the main entrance. You may drop payments off after hours. Please be sure to pay by check/money order. Do not deposit cash.

INTERNET ACCESS – On-line property information can be accessed through the Township's website, www.dewitttownship.org. Click on "Assessing Dept," then "Property Records." Follow the link that says "Go to Property Records." You no longer have to enter a username or password. You are able to browse basic record information, such as sale information, assessment and taxable value data, legal descriptions, and general tax information. Parcel information is now updated daily to reflect the most recent transfers and current sales.

WELCOME ABOARD to our new employees: Jose Gomez, Jr. – Maintenance Department; Charles King, Chad Parkinson, Tiffany Paseka, Jamie Schleicher – Fire Department.

FAREWELL to Heather Wright – Police Department; David Haywood – Planning Department; Sheila Mead – Assessing Department; Dennis Boutwell, Lauchlin MacGregor – Fire Department.

DRINKING + DRIVING = DISASTER

With the holidays quickly approaching, it's an appropriate time to remind residents that drinking and driving don't mix. During the holiday season, many local police agencies increase patrol to enforce operating while impaired laws. Make the holidays safe and happy for everyone....**Don't Drink and Drive.**

THINKING OF BUILDING?

If you are planning any kind of building project, the first thing you should do is contact the Township's Building Department at 668-0278. By working with the Building Department from the beginning, potential issues may be avoided, expediting your project.

Listed below is information that is required to be submitted when completing your application for a building permit:

- What is your property zoned? Zoning regulations will be verified.
- Do you have a current survey showing your property's boundaries and buildings?
- If not, then you will need to develop and provide a drawn site/plot plan to include:
 - Field measurements for property lines
 - Electric power line locations
 - Drain easements
 - All existing and proposed structures and their sizes
 - Location of wells
 - Location of septic systems
 - Location of all underground utility lines i.e. natural gas, sanitary sewer and water
 - Flood plains

The Building Department is available to help you with this information or direct you to the appropriate agency. Obtaining the above information is usually not difficult. By working with the Building Department early in the process, extra steps, problems, and delays may be avoided. It is a lot less frustrating and a lot less disappointing when issues are determined and faced early in the planning stages of the project.

FLU SHOTS
Wednesday, October 26th
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
DeWitt Township Community Center
16101 Brook Road, Lansing
High Risk Only*

*High risk are persons 65 years of age and older; residents of long term care facilities; children 6-23 months of age, their caregivers and household contacts; pregnant women; health care workers providing direct patient care; persons 2 to 65 years of age with a health condition that puts them at risk for serious complications from the flu. Medicare Part B and Medicaid will be billed for this service; all others will be charged \$25.

ATTENTION: SNOW BIRDS

Here it is, the start of fall, and soon we'll be seeing snow. We know that there are many residents who are packing up at this time to head off to warmer climates. We also know that it is sometimes difficult to get tax and sewer bills to these "snowbirds" at their correct warm address. So, here are our mailing dates for the upcoming winter season. If you are going to be somewhere other than your DeWitt Township address, let us know the alternate address so we can redirect your mail right from the start. For your convenience, mail this in or drop it off to our offices and we will take it from there. Mail to DeWitt Charter Township, ATTN: Treasurer's Office, 1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI 48820. We are also always willing to take sewer payments in advance, so you don't have to bother with the notices at all. Wherever you may be heading, have a safe trip and warm winter season. We'll be thinking of you as the snow piles high this coming winter.

Circle the notices you would like redirected:

- Dec. 1st – Winter Tax Notice (due Feb. 14th)
- Dec. 15th – Sewer Statement (due Jan. 15th)
- Mar. 1st – Assessment Notices
- Mar. 15th – Sewer Statements (due Apr. 15th)
- Your DeWitt Township service address:

Winter address to send the notices:

Your signature to authorize the Township to redirect your statements

Printed name

DARA RECREATION NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

The DeWitt Area Recreation Authority (DARA) is located at the DeWitt Township Community Center (DTCC), 16101 Brook Road, Lansing, MI 48906. Information regarding any event or program can be obtained by calling the DARA office at 482-5117. **You may register for programs in person at the DARA office (16101 Brook Road, Lansing, MI), DeWitt City Hall (414 E. Main Street, DeWitt, MI) or the DeWitt Township Hall (1401 W. Herbison Road, DeWitt, MI). Registration forms are also available on the Township's website, www.dewitttownship.org.**

Winter Preschool Sports Starter - Due to the great turnout in our fall preschool sports starter program, we have added a second program to prepare your 3-5 year olds for our summer and fall school-age programs. Winter preschool sports starter is a six week program that will teach participants the basic fundamentals and rules of t-ball, soccer and flag football. This program will be offered on Tuesday nights at the DTCC from February 21st through March 28th. The cost is \$28 per participant for DeWitt City and Township residents and \$33 for all others. Every participant receives a t-shirt and participation medal. Registration runs from January 6, 2006 - January 27, 2006 or until the program is full. Late registrations will be accepted through February 3, 2006 and will include a \$10 late fee. Space is limited so please register early.

25th Annual Arts and Craft Show - The 25th Annual Arts and Craft Show at the DTCC will take place on Friday November 4th from 6:00-8:30 p.m. and Saturday, November 5th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Over 50 booths are available for vendors or for shopping. The cost per booth is just \$25, including one 8-foot table. The cost to shop is FREE! Concessions are available throughout the show. Support our local recreation programs by purchasing a raffle ticket for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. A minimum of one prize per hour is awarded with a homemade quilt for the grand prize. Registration is on-going and booths will be awarded on a first come/first serve basis.

Drop Your Kids Off

Nights-Drop your kids, ages 4-12, at the DTCC for a night of fun and games. The next drop your kids off night will be held on November 18th from 6:00-11:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required, at least one week in advance. Kids will play gym games, complete arts and crafts projects, watch movies and have pizza and pop for dinner. The cost is \$15 for one child or \$25 for two children. Your kids will be supervised at all times and will not be allowed to leave the building.

All Day-Schools out and your kids need something to do? Drop your kids, ages 4-12, at the DTCC for an entire day full of programmed activities and games. All Day DYKO will be offered on January 27th when the DeWitt Schools are closed to students. Kids can be dropped off anytime after 7:30 a.m. and must be picked up by 5:30 p.m. Lunch and an afternoon snack will be provided. The cost is \$25 for one child and \$40 for two children. Pre-registration by January 24th is required.

Happy Holiday Craft Night - This program, for all 5-10 year olds, will allow children to create and take home 2 holiday (winter or Christmas) themed crafts. "Craft Night" will take place at the DTCC on December 5th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. A small snack will be provided to all kids and parents. Registration is limited and a parent must accompany five and six year olds. Registration runs from November 4th - November 30th. The cost is \$4 for DeWitt City and Township residents and \$5 for all others.

Dinner with Santa - Santa will be making an early appearance at the DTCC to have dinner and ask the kids of the DeWitt Community what they would like for Christmas. This program, open to all kids, will take place on December 12th from 5:15-6:15 p.m. (session 1) or 6:30-7:30 p.m. (session 2). All kids will receive pizza, a beverage and dessert for dinner before opening an early present from Santa. All participants will also receive a picture with Santa to take home. Registration is limited and runs from November 18th - December 7th. The cost is \$6 per child and \$2 per adult for DeWitt City and Township residents and \$8 per child and \$3 per adult for all others. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Youth Indoor Soccer - The youth indoor soccer league, offered to boys and girls in grades K-5 is back for a fourth season. This 5 on 5 league focuses on fun and skill development. Games will begin on January 7th and run for 6 weeks at the DTCC. The cost is \$28 for DeWitt City and Township residents and \$33 for all others. All participants receive a team t-shirt and participation medal. Registration runs from November 18th through December 9th. Late registrations will be accepted through December 16th with a \$10 late fee.

Youth Basketball - Grades 3-12 - This 8 week league is available to boys and girls in grades 3-12. Games begin on Saturday, January 7th (no games during Mid-Winter Break) and run through March 4th. All games will be played at DeWitt Elementary and Jr. High Schools. Registration runs from November 18th- December 9th. Late registrations will be accepted through December 16th with a \$10 late fee. The fee for DeWitt City and Township residents is \$38 for grades 3-6, \$45 for grades 7-8 and \$55 for grades 9-12. The fee for all others is \$43 for grades 3-6, \$50 for grades 7-8 and \$60 for grades 9-12. Participant fee includes a team t-shirt and game officials (5/6 grade league and older). 9-12 grade participants may register individually or as a team.

Youth Basketball Camp - A beginner skills camp for boys and girls ages 4-6 will begin on January 10th. Camp will be held on Tuesday evenings with a game/award day on Tuesday, February 7th. This 5-session camp will teach your child the basic skills of passing, dribbling, shooting, defense and team work. The cost for the camp is \$28 for DeWitt City and Township residents and \$33 for all others. Every camper will receive a camp t-shirt and participation medal. Registration dates are from November 18th - December 9th. Late registrations will be accepted through December 16th with a \$10 late fee. Registration is limited so sign up today!

Youth Floor Hockey - Hop over the dasher boards at the DTCC and get ready to play! Youth Floor Hockey leagues for grades K-5 begin on Saturday, February 18th and will run for 6 weeks through March 25th. This instructional league focuses on sportsmanship, rules of the game, and most of all FUN! The cost is \$28 for DeWitt City/Township residents and \$33 for non-residents. All participants will receive a team t-shirt and participation medal. Players are required to supply their own eye protection. Registration is open from January 6th - January 27th. Late registrations will be accepted through February 3rd with a \$10 late fee.

Slide & Glide 2006 - Build your own sled out of cardboard and take a maiden voyage down the Granger Meadows Park Sledding Hill. Slide & Glide 2006 is a competition of speed and creativity. Two-person teams will construct a sled out of cardboard, glue, tape and markers and compete for the fastest sled and fanciest sled of the day. Sleds must be constructed prior to the event. Cardboard will be available at the DARA office if needed. Other supplies must be provided by the participants. Official rules will be available upon registration. Slide & Glide 2006 will take place on January 28, 2006 (weather permitting-make up dates 2/4 or 2/11) from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Teams will be placed into divisions based on ages of the participants. The cost to participate is just \$10.00 per team and trophies will be awarded to the division champions and runners up. Pre-registration is required. Registration is open from December 16, 2005-January 20, 2006. Please call the DARA office for more information or to register your team.

DNR Hunter Safety Class - Back by popular demand, this DNR sponsored course will be offered in mid-February at the DTCC for those 12 years and older. Get a head start on the next hunting season by getting your certification now. The cost is \$10 per person which includes all required class materials. Register early because space is limited. Please call 482-5117 after December 1st for class dates, additional information or to register.

Open Volleyball - Open Volleyball is now available on Wednesday and Sunday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. for those age 18 and up at the DTCC. The cost is \$2 per person.

Dining Site - This year-round program is offered on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the DTCC. The meals are brought in through the Tri-County Office on Aging Meals on Wheels program and are always well-balanced. Prior to the meal, participants play shuffleboard, cards, exercise and socialize. After the meal, there is often bingo or special programming. This program is geared towards senior citizens, however everyone is welcome to participate. The cost of a meal is a suggested donation of \$2.25 for those over 60 years of age and \$4 for those 60 years of age and under. Please call 482-5117 to reserve your meal.

Community Center Reservations - The DARA office will be accepting reservations for the DTCC. If you would like to make a reservation, please call the office at 482-5117 to check on available dates and to request the necessary paperwork.

CHANGE YOUR CLOCKS; CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES

An average of three children a day die each year in home fires. You can help to prevent needless fire deaths and injuries by remembering to change the batteries in your smoke alarms when you change your clocks back to standard time on October 30. Once you've changed the batteries, be sure to test the alarms. This simple act will cut the risk of dying in a home fire nearly in half.

The DeWitt Township Fire Department earnestly shares this message with you and continues to offer free smoke alarms to any resident in need. Please feel free to call or stop by either Station in DeWitt Township if your home needs the protection of a smoke alarm.

DEWITT CHARTER TOWNSHIP
1401 W HERBISON ROAD
DEWITT MI 48820-7900

PRST STD
U S POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT # 66
LANSING MI

**TOWNSHIP
NEWSLETTER**