



SENIOR CONNECTIONS

73943 E. LAKE STREET – COVERT, MI 49043

PHONE: 269-764-8986

WEBSITE: WWW.COVERTTWP.COM

SUPERVISOR'S CORNER



Greetings fellow Covert Township residents and Happy New Year! I am happy to introduce myself as your new Covert Township Supervisor. As supervisor, I have a number of statutory duties that include moderating board meetings, developing the township budget, and performing as the township's legal agent. I bring to our community 9 years of public service experience in a wide variety of roles, including serving on two economic development boards.

I truly enjoy bringing people of diverse backgrounds together for a common goal, and finding solutions to complex problems. When I am not at the office or in a meeting, you'll find me spending as much time as possible with my family – usually out in the garden with the chickens, or baking something new in the kitchen. I am so grateful for the support and faith that I have received from my hometown, and look forward to serving each and every Covert resident to the best of my ability.

Daywi Cook
Covert Township Supervisor
O: (269) 764-5137 C: (224) 616-8179
Coverttwp.com

Senior Services of Van Buren County Opportunity



Senior Services of Van Buren County will now offer services to Covert Township residents.

In August 2022, Covert Township voters approved a 1 mill proposal to fund services for Covert residents age 60 and over. This millage will be used to continue chore and home repair services from the Township, as well as provide residents access to all that Senior Services of Van Buren County has to offer. This includes FREE access to South Haven's new facility offering a place to gather, learn, eat, play, and exercise. Covert Township will also have a dedicated Care Coordinator to assist individuals who would benefit from in-home assistance or community services and resources. Tax assistance is also available if you qualify. Stop by their facility, located at 8337 M-140, South Haven (Hours: 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.). To see the full list of services offered by Senior Services of Van Buren County visit <https://www.seniorservices-vbc.org>, or call 1-866-627-8904.

Commodities "Free Food"



Covert Township has teamed up with Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency to distribute Senior and TEFAP Commodities. Pick-Up at Covert Township Department of Public Works (the old fire station) from 12:30 PM. to 2:00 PM.

Senior Pick-Up: **January 27** **February 24** **March 24**

TEFAP Pick-Up (anyone in the Township): **February 24**

A Senior Commodity application is enclosed in this newsletter. Complete and bring to one of the dates listed above.

If you would like to volunteer and volunteers are always needed, please call Laura at 764-5138.

Property Taxes

Winter Tax bills are due February 28, 2023. On March 1, 2023 they will be turned over to the Van Buren County Treasurer in Paw Paw where additional penalties and interest will be added. After March 1, 2023 you will not be able to pay at the Township Hall.



Poverty Exemption: This exemption provides a property tax exemption for the principal residence of persons, who by reason of poverty, are unable to contribute toward the public charges.

Disabled Veterans Exemption: This property tax exemption applies to a disabled veteran who was discharged from the armed forces of the United States under honorable conditions or his or her unremarried surviving spouse. This is filed annually with the supervisor or assessing offices any time after December 31 and before, or until the conclusion of, the December Board of Review.



All future newsletters will be coming to your home from Senior Services of Van Buren County. If you know of any senior who has not received this newsletter, please have them call 1-866-627-8904 to be added to the mailing list.

Watch for changes happening at the old medical building next to the library to benefit area seniors.



Chore & Home Repair Services

These services will continue to be handled through Covert Township

With Spring approaching, be thinking about projects around your home you would like to have done. Our current fiscal year ends June 30, 2023. If you are having any Chore or Home Repairs done before June 30, 2023, you will need to submit your Quotes and Invoices to the Township office by July 15, 2023 in order for funds to be paid out of the 2022-2023 budget.

Library Happenings



Cover to Cover Book Club

Meets monthly to read and discuss a specific book and enjoy an evening of conversation and snacks. This year we will be focusing on books that have been made into movies. The movie will be shown the week after Book club. It is always fun to compare and contrast the two interpretations of the same work.

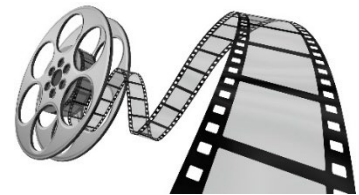
February 20 @ 5:30

March 20 @ 5:30

Movie Night at the Library @ 5:00 P.M.

February 27

March 27



Cardio Drumming Tuesdays @ 5:30 p.m.

Using the exercise ball and the floor as your drum, mixing in fun moves, cardio drumming turns keeping a rhythm into a workout you won't want to stop.

Around the World

We will be exploring some of the countries that make up the diversity of our community in this program. Come learn about the culture, history & food.

January 6 @ 5:00 Mexico

March 14th @ 5: Liberia

More countries will be coming in the upcoming months, so watch for announcements.





Covert Crafters

If interested, we meet on Saturdays at Covert Library, right now from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. You can work on anything that interests you. Currently we are making baby burp cloths, baby layettes and quilts. If interested, please contact Elaine Holmes, at 269-363-7571 or 269-764-6011.

Virtual Painting Class March 23 @ 4:00 P.M.

We provide the theme and instructions; you provide the artistry.



COVERT COMMUNITY

Garden Club



All Gardening Abilities Welcome!

Please call the library or stop by to check on dates and times for **Garden Club** and to register for the class. Call the library at 764-1298 or check them out on Facebook.

Van Buren Conservation District

WWW.VANBURENCD.ORG

The VBC Conservation District does electronic recycling at the Senior Center in South Haven.

Tree Seedling Sale: April 13-15, 2023

Order forms will be available in the VBCD office & on-line January 2023.

Pre-order by April 7, 2023



Covert Township Board Members

DAYWI COOKSUPERVISOR

Email: supervisor@covertwp.com

NAOMI BARNES.....CLERK

Email: clerk@covertwp.com

MARILYN RENDELL.....TREASURER

Email: treasurer@covertwp.com

JEAN HARTMANN.....TRUSTEE

Email: trustee1@covertwp.com

LONZEY TAYLOR.....TRUSTEE

Email: trustee2@covertwp.com

March Board of Review

Necessary forms can be found on our website at www.coverttwp.com
Meeting dates and times are printed on your annual property assessment notice.

Two ways to Appeal

- 1. In-Person: By Appointment ONLY** held at the Township Hall. Call Laura at 269-764-5138 to set up an appointment. Appeals heard on:
Monday March 13, 2023 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. & 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 18, 2023 from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. & 1:00-4:00 p.m.
- 2. By Letter:** The 2023 March Board of Review must receive your appeal letter and all accompanying documents by **Thursday, March 16, 2023** at 4:00 p.m. Deadline also appears on your assessment notice.

Poverty Exemption: In addition to your proof of income and other financial documents required, you will need to complete the application for a Poverty Exemption. All documents must accompany a completed and signed application at the time of your Board of Review hearing. Necessary forms can be found on our website at www.coverttwp.com

Disabled Veterans Exemption: In addition to your annual Veteran's Administration statement showing that you are a disabled veteran, you will need to complete the Disabled Veterans Exemption Affidavit. Necessary forms can be found on our website at www.coverttwp.com

Taxpayers must protest first to the March Board of Review in order to protect your rights To appeal further to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. Appeals of property classification must also be appealed first at the March Board of Review before you can appeal further to the State Tax Commission.

To appeal a decision of the March Board of Review, you must Petition to the Michigan Tax Tribunal. The appropriate appeal form can be found on the Tribunal's website at: www.michigan.gov/taxtribunal.

Consumers Energy is providing \$7.25 million to help customers pay heating bills. The funding is going to eight Michigan nonprofit organizations that will help people directly. If you know of any residents struggling to pay their Consumers Energy heating bills, please



share this information. Customers should call 2-1-1 if they are facing hardship or are trying to access the new funding. The 2-1-1 service is a free resource that connects Michiganders with nonprofits to find help with basic needs, from energy bills to food and shelter. Consumers Energy customers also should call 800-477-505 if they are facing challenges with your bills.



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Important Phone Numbers

- All Emergencies.....Dial 911
- Police (non-emergency) . 269-764-8100
- Fire Department.....269-764-1768
- Township Hall 269-764-8986
- Post Office..... 269-764-1518
- Library 269-764-1298

Small & Large Socialization

All small and large socialization activities sponsored by the Covert Township’s Senior Millage will be suspended until April of 2023. Stay cozy this winter and we will see you in the Spring!

SCHEDULE OF MEETING

All meetings are held at the Township Hall except, where noted. *Please confirm dates and times before attending*

January 2023

10	TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES	6:00 PM
12	SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE	4:00 PM
18	PLANNING COMMISSION	6:30 PM
18	SH AIRPORT AUTHORITY AIRPORT TERMINAL	7:30 PM
19	PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE	5:30 PM
26	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	6:30 PM

February 2023

9	SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE	4:00 PM
14	TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES	6:00 PM
15	PLANNING COMMISSION	6:30 PM
15	SH AIRPORT AUTHORITY AIRPORT TERMINAL	7:30 PM
16	PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE	5:30 PM
23	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	6:30 PM

March 2023

9	SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE	4:00 PM
14	TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES	6:00 PM
16	PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE	5:30 PM
15	PLANNING COMMISSION	6:30 PM
16	SH AIRPORT AUTHORITY AIRPORT TERMINAL	7:30 PM
30	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS	6:30 PM

COVERT TOWNSHIP HALL WILL BE CLOSED

January 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February 20 President’s Day