



August 22, 2014

Mayor Donald D. Lyons
City Council Members

Dear Mayor Lyons and City Council Members:

The following report has been prepared to provide you with an update on current issues or projects in progress:

Dowagiac Day of Energy

Efficiency United will be hosting a “Dowagiac Day of Energy Savings.” Stop by the Dowagiac City Hall, 241 S. Front Street, Dowagiac, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, September 8th, 9th, and 10th, from 9 AM to 5 PM to check out the energy efficiency and program offerings. Don’t miss out on this great opportunity!

Electrical Underground

The new City electrical underground will be energized this weekend. Crews can then start removal of poles in the new development lot.

Given no unforeseen problems with the transfer, it is anticipated that transfer of A.E.P. customers to City electric will begin on Wednesday, August 27. Once all customers are switched to City power, we can then begin to remove the A.E.P poles from the development lot.

Water-lines

Both the water break on East Division and along South Front St. have been repaired.

Street repave

In the next couple of weeks, E. Division St. will be paved.

Rudolphi Woods Nature Area

Work is nearly completed on the clean-up of Rudolphi woods parking area and walking trail. Staff is presently attempting to get a security light installed at the entrance of the parking-lot.

Dowagiac Area History Museum

The new fall lecture series line up has been announced. Special presentations will premiere the first Wednesday of each month. Join in, Wednesday, September 3, for “Patriots and Indians: How the Founding Fathers Engaged Native Americans.”

Under the Harvest Moon Festival

The fabulous fall festival will soon be here – Saturday, October 11. Make plans now.

Owners of vintage farm equipment are invited to place their tractors on display free of charge. For planning purposes, register in advance with the Chamber. Commercial, nonprofit, and craft vendors can reserve sidewalk, 10x12 booth, rental space for \$20. Call the Chamber to make your reservations or volunteer at 269.782.8212 or by e-mail at vphillipson@Dowagiac.org.

WNIT – “Our Town: Dowagiac”

Many times we do not know how our actions, words, or deeds ripple into the lives of others. The men, women, businesses, and organizations that have built, sustain, and continue to grow our community are all part of our story.

The WNIT television premier of “Our Town: Dowagiac” on Monday, August 18, opened a door for others to see inside what our community and her people have to offer.

Sixty minutes is not enough time to share all that is great about our community. However, it is plenty of time to invite visitors to stop by and encourage our neighbors to explore what may have been hiding or what we often take for granted.

Here are just a few of stories that came into Bobbie Jo Hartline’s path this week:

-A local resident came across six ladies who seemed in a conundrum, all pointing opposite directions, about which way they should go. He offered to be of assistance and found they were all from Indiana. They had seen “Our Town” the night before and came to explore. The sculptures, downtown, and lunch were on their list for the day.

-A local elementary teacher was excited to receive a DVD and share the stories with her students. She plans to use it to open lesson plans on history, architecture and art.

-Other locals commented on living in Dowagiac over a half century, and still learned things about their community from the videographers.

-Another resident mentioned his own struggles with “progress and change” and yet appreciates and takes pride in the moves and plans that have created this community.

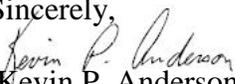
Dowagiac can also be proud of the contributions to the programming at WNIT Public television. August is membership month and the television program was aired as part of a membership drive event. Funds raised, met *triple* the goal set for the event.

If you missed “Our Town: Dowagiac” Catch an encore presentation Sunday, 8/24, 4 PM on WNIT, channel 34, 34.1 & 34.2.

Social Media

The “Our Town” premier and sponsor thank-you posts certainly generated a lot of buzz from the City’s Facebook page in the last week. More than 10,000 people read and followed the posts and its links, another 500+ shared it with their friends.

Sincerely,


Kevin P. Anderson

City Manager