

Volume 6 Issue 1

March, 2006

Superior Scenes

3040 N. Prospect Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Superior Township Board of Trustees

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On the Web:

www.superior-twp.org
734-482-6099
734-482-3842 Fax

Water & Sewer Services

575 E. Clark Road, Ypsilanti, MI
734-480-5500

Office hours 8:00 AM until 4:30 PM
24/7 Emergency Service
For Water & Sewer Emergencies

Superior Township Fire Department

7999 Ford Road
Ford and Prospect Roads
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
734-484-1996

In Emergency dial 911

Fire Station #2

Corner of Harris and MacArthur
Dial 911 for Emergencies

Parks & Recreation

575 E Clark Rd, Ypsilanti, MI
734-480-5502

Nancy Caviston, Editor
C/O 3040 Prospect Road
Ypsilanti, MI 48189

734-482-6099 or 734-455-8120

education@superior-twp.org

From our Superior Supervisor . . .

Superior Township was successful in providing facts to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), which were used to deny a discharge permit for a surface-water-discharge community sewer application for a proposed Rock Ridge (1,950 unit) manufactured housing community. This development was proposed for the area of Superior Road north to Cherry Hill Road. The Township spent approximately \$42,893.00 preparing and presenting the rationale for denial. The MDEQ decision for denial is being appealed. Therefore, the Township Board has authorized our attorneys to file a motion to intervene and help the MDEQ defend their decision. It is unknown what the final cost for this appeal will be, but could well be similar to the initial cost paid to



William McFarlane, Supervisor

provide facts for denial.

The Biltmore Company paid for a sewer capacity study as part of the background study for their proposed Regency Woods Development north of Geddes in the area of LeForge Road. The preliminary results indicated that there was not sufficient capacity in the sewer pipes

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Superior news you can use

The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy (SMLC) is offering an exciting summer program for high schools students 14-18 years of age, that will include in-depth studies of local plants and animals in their natural habitats. In the program, students will accompany a professional naturalist in exploring the LeFurge Woods Nature Preserve in

Superior Township, observe and identify a variety of wildlife, develop nature observation skills, and make a difference in protecting local wildlife.

To find out more about the program, visit the SMLC web site at www.landconservancy.com/summer2006, or contact SMLC President Rick Simek at (313) 583-6371.

From our Superior Utility Department

Diane Ravis

New Utility Department Maintenance Facility

The Utility Department Maintenance building that is under construction is expected to be completed in July of this year. This new facility will be located at 9699 MacArthur Boulevard, near Wiard Road.

This parcel of land was previously the site of an apartment complex called Woolman Oval, which was abandoned in the late 1970's. The clean-up of this brown field site was a part of the construction process.

The new facility will be approximately 12,500 square feet in size and will be used to house our service trucks and equipment, such as generators, a back-hoe dump truck, a sewer vacuator and Utility Department related tools. It will include offices and work areas for our Maintenance staff as well as a workshop, a wash-down room and an area for servicing our trucks.

New Water Booster Station

The Utility Department has a water booster station currently under construction at 810 Clark Road, which is at the northwest corner of the intersection of Clark and LeForge Roads. This water connection is between the Ypsilanti Community Utility Authority (YCUA) and Superior Township and is necessary in order to provide both domestic water and adequate pressure for fire protection for our current and near future residents.

SUMMER WATERING CAN BE VERY COSTLY

Some of our residents had extremely high water usage last spring, summer and fall, which resulted in their having very high water bills (\$700 and up). We attribute this high usage and the subsequent large water bills to new sod being laid

and/or new landscapes being planted and/or lawn sprinkler systems being installed.

If you are planning on any of the above, we highly recommend that you consider purchasing a sprinkler meter in order to help reduce your water bills. If a sprinkler meter is installed, we can measure the amount of water you have used for your outside watering. You would then be charged only for the water portion of the total rate, which would cut this portion of your bill approximately by one half! Your house (inside) water usage would continue to be billed for water, sewer and waste treatment.

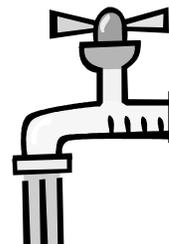
Please contact our department at 734-480-5500 for additional information on purchasing and installing sprinkler meters.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What are the department's hours and where are you located?

We are located at the corner of Prospect & Clark Roads. Our office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday (closed government holidays). Payments are received through our drive through window, which is open from 8:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Our payment drop box, located on the east side of the building, is available 24 hours per day, seven days per week for water bill payments (checks or money orders only).



News from our Superior Treasurer

Brenda L. McKinney

If you have questions about Township, taxes and services please feel welcome to call my office or stop in to visit. We are here to serve you. We are proud of our fiscal efficiency and we believe that Superior Township consistently provides the best possible array of services while maintaining a relatively low tax base.

As of March 1, you must pay your unpaid 2005-tax payments and purchase your dog license to the Washtenaw County

Treasurer. For information on additional fees, call 734-222-6600.

Tax deferments are payable to the Washtenaw County Treasurer's office until April 30, without interest and penalty fees.

Your summer tax bill will be mailed July 1, 2006.



**Our Treasurer
Brenda L. McKinney**

News from our Superior Clerk

Kay Williams



Kay Williams, Clerk

Election Information from the Clerk's Office

The next Election is Tuesday, May 2. Other elections this year are on Aug. 8 and Nov. 7. Are you interested in working as an Election Inspector at any of these elections? If so, please call me, Kay Williams, at 482-6099 for more information.

Are you registered to vote in Superior Charter Township? If you are not sure, you can go to www.michigan.gov/sos and follow the links to check, or call me at 734-482-6099 or e-mail at kaywilliams@superior-twp.org, and I will check and let you know.

Absent Voter Ballots - If you are expecting to be out of the community on Election Day, are over 60 years of age, or disabled, you may apply for an Absent Voter Ballot. You may use a pre-printed form or send a letter requesting the AV Ballot. The law states that you must: 1. give the reason for needing the ballot; 2. state where you want the ballot sent; 3. sign the request (must be an original signature); and 4. date the request. Send the request to Kay Williams, Superior Township Clerk, 3040 N. Prospect, Ypsilanti, MI 48198 or come into the Township Hall before the Election and fill out an application

and pick up an AV Ballot at the same time. The Clerk's Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Office is also open for Absent Voter Ballot requests on the Saturday preceding each election from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Clerk's Office will automatically send **applications** for an Absent Voter Ballot before each election to registered voters who are over 60 years of age or on the Permanent Absent Voter list. If you are under 60 years of age and wish to be on the Permanent Absent Voter list, you must qualify for one of the above reasons for receiving a ballot. You must apply for the Absent Voter Ballot for each election.

Polling Places - Your polling place is listed on your Voter ID card. Precincts 1 & 5 vote at the Township Hall; 2 & 4 vote at Cheney Academy; 3 votes at the Fire Substation.

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May 2, 2006 Election Ballot

Candidates:

Ann Arbor Schools –

Elect 2 for 4 year terms - Susan Baskett,
-Deb Mexicotte

Elect 1 for term ending 6-30-07 -
Randolph J. Friedman

Ann Arbor District Library –

Elect 3 for 4 year terms - Adye Bel Evans,
Connie L. Greene, Barbara Murphy, Jan Barney Newman,
Prue Rosenthal

Plymouth-Canton Schools –

Elect 2 for 4 year terms - Mark G. Christenson,
Dianne Marie Gonzalez , Brandon Scott Hynes,
John Thomas Jackson, Larry Arthur Martin, Cheryl Lynn McKoy,
John Charles Nichols, Steven Michael Sneiderman

Willow Run Schools –

Elect 2 for 4 year terms - Clifford Smith,
Sheri Washington, Mark Wilde
Elect 1 for 2 year term - Dorothy A. Stewart,
Kristine L Thomas

Ypsilanti Schools –

Elect 2 for 4 year terms - David Bates,
Linda Snedacar-Horne, Eric Temple, Sr.

Two Ballot Issues for Entire Township:

Washtenaw County Proposal - 0.2 mills

Proposition to increase the tax limitation to provide funding to improve the County Enhanced Emergency Communications System by constructing additional towers, upgrading existing infrastructure and purchasing the necessary equipment. (800 MHZ)

Superior Township Proposal - 0.25 mills

Proposal to provide funds to defend and promote the Township Growth Management Plan by providing funds for legal services to defend the Growth Management Plan and to purchase development rights to further the goals of the Plan.

Two proposals for Plymouth-Canton Schools

- #1 - Bond \$95,415,000 for 25 years to build a middle school & Technical Ed. Center.
 - #2 - Bond \$24,765,000 for 25 years to build performing arts center, pool & gym.
- Total additional millage increase if both pass – 1.05 mills annually.

Our Superior Land Conservancy

Free Garden Plots Available

What could be more rewarding than knowing exactly where some of your food comes from, what went into growing it, and that it was grown in an environmentally friendly manner?

If this reflects your approach to gardening, consider reserving a plot at the Community Organic Garden at the Conservancy Farm on Vreeland Road, just east of Prospect. The Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy is offering these garden plots to anyone who would like to maintain a vegetable or flower garden. (Superior Land Conservancy is the local SMLC Com-

mittee which promotes the work of the Conservancy in Superior Township).

Garden plots are 20' x 20', or half plots are also available. We are very committed to gardening in a manner that is healthy for the land and ourselves. If you are interested in finding out more, a Garden Plot Registration Form and the Gardening Rules and Guidelines can be downloaded at www.landconservancy.com/gardens Or, better yet, stop by the farm, take a look around, and pick out your own garden plot.

Please call 734-484-6565 to arrange a tour, or contact Garden Coordinator Jay Schlegel at jayschlegel@earthlink.net to reserve a plot or for more information.

Supervisor (Continued from page 1)

to convey all of the sewage in the proposed development. The Biltmore Company has now indicated they are considering the preliminary capacity study results before continuing with their proposal. The development as proposed appears to be in jeopardy. The Township Board is not opposed to development that is complimentary to the Growth Management Plan and will continue to work with developers that consider our Growth Management Plan in submittals.

The Township Board has proposed a ballot question for voters on the May 2, 2006 election to consider supporting for three years 0.25 (1/4 mill) to help offset cost of defending the Growth Management Plan and Zoning Ordinance. The millage revenue for a 0.25 mill is approximately \$140,000.00 dollars. The taxable value (1/2 assessed value) of a home at \$100,000 dollars would pay approximately \$25.00 per year. If the funds are not needed for legal defense, the only other use would be for purchase of development rights. The millage would have a sunset (termination) date after three years.

Neighborhood Watch



We continue to seek ways to improve the effectiveness of Neighborhood Watch. Communication is primarily via email notification. If you are interested in receiving Neighborhood Watch information by email, contact me at the

email address below or contact our C.O.P.S. officer John Gorney, gorneyj@ewashtenaw.org. Meetings are held at 7:00 on the third Tuesday bimonthly. The next meeting is May 16th at the Westridge Clubhouse.

John Hudson Coordinator, Superior Township
Cell Phone: 734- 657-4001
Jhudson300606MI@comcast.net

Our Superior Parks Department

Superior Township will offer a fun-filled day camp this year for children ages **6 through 13** at the Old Township Hall Building located at 3040 North Prospect Road (at Cherry Hill Road). This program will begin Monday, June 26 and continue through Friday, August 11, 2006. There will be no camp on the 3rd & 4th of July. Camp hours will be from 8:30 a.m. through 3:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

For an additional fee of **\$16.00 per hour**, children may be left at camp until 4:30 p.m. Children will be picked up at Harvest Moon Park at 8:10 a.m., Community Park at 8:20 a.m. and Danbury Park Manor Office at 8:25 a.m. Children will be returned at 3:30 p.m. to their point of origin. These pick up and drop off times may change during the first week of camp in order to accommodate all of the enrolled children's schedules.

Superior Township Park and Recreation Department's Summer Learning Camp has daily planned activities. Our goal will be to ensure your child has a summer full of enriching activities. Breakfast and lunch will be provided free of charge each day. *Registration is required of all participants.* Cost per participant is **\$400.00**, payable in advance (no multiple children discounts). Scholarships of **\$340.00** are available per child to children from Danbury Park Manor, Sycamore Meadows & Harvest Lane/Wiard Road areas of Superior Township **ONLY**.

Events will take place at Community Park, Harvest Moon Park, Schock Park, and Oakbrook Park. On inclement weather days, all activities will take place at the Old Township Hall. There will also be several field trips and a weekly trip to Rutherford Pool for swimming.

News from our Superior Fire Department

FIRE CHIEF SMITH HONORED

Superior Charter Township and area fire departments are honoring Chief Garvin Smith for his long dedication to the Fire Service. Fire Chief Smith has served our community as a member of the Fire Department for over 50 years. He joined the Department when he was 19 years old as a volunteer firefighter and worked up through the ranks until he became Chief in October, 1985. Chief Smith's leadership was instrumental in bringing recognition as being one of the best fire departments in Southeast Michigan. Chief Smith's background includes being a teacher, coach, athletic director and principal of South Lyon High School. The residents of Superior Charter Township are fortunate to have a fire service leader of his

caliber and dedication. The Superior Charter Township Board recognized Chief Smith's contribution at the April 3 Board meeting and declared April 8, 2006, as **Garvin Smith Appreciation Day**. The local fire services are honoring Chief Smith with an Appreciation Dinner at the Ypsilanti Fire Museum.



Congratulations!



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Our Township is Superior!

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