

Volume 7 Issue 2

August, 2007

# Superior Scenes

**3040 N. Prospect Road, Ypsilanti, MI 48198**

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Kay Williams	Clerk
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**On the Web:**

[www.superior-twp.org](http://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

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### Inside this issue:

News from our Superior Utilities	2
News from our Superior Treasurer	3
Our Superior Roads	4
New Solid Waste hauler	4
Our Superior Fire Department news	5
News: A Superior Sister City— Hwasung, Korea	6

## From our Superior Supervisor . . .

Many of the residents in Michigan, Washtenaw County and Superior Township are experiencing difficult times because of the economic instability. Foreclosures are occurring in every neighborhood and family budgets are stressed. While all problems cannot be solved, there is some good news. This Newsletter will provide some positive news about Township activity. The Township has and continues to be successful working with the County Parks and Recreation acquiring grants for non-motorized trails. A new trail will be on the North side of Clark going east from Prospect to Devon. A new CVS Pharmacy is being built on the northwest corner of Clark and Prospect. The non-motorized trail will allow many residents the opportunity to use the new Pharmacy without driving a vehicle. It is good for the environment and health of residents making that effort. Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation



**William McFarlane, Supervisor**

purchased approximately one hundred and fifty acres at the southeast corner of Ford and Prospect Roads. This passive park will be open to the public and protect the very heart of Superior Township in a natural state.

The services that the Township provides will not be interrupted because of cash flow. During the more prosperous times the Township saved for the rainy days. It now appears the

*Continued on page 4*

## Superior news you can use

### Brenda McKinney says:

◆ Very nice Park Benches will be installed along MacArthur Blvd near each bus stop from Clark Road to Stamford Road. These benches will be paid for with funds that were left over from the \$20.00 Side Street Maintenance Special Assessment Fees that our residents in Oakbrook and Washington Square Subdivisions pay each year.

### Kay Williams says:

◆ The Superior Branch of the Ypsilanti Library at Harris and MacArthur is a great success. Since the Library opened in February 210 residents have been issued new library cards at the Branch, checking out 6,474 materials. That is with the Branch being open only 16 hours a week! M & W 4-8 p.m. Tues. & Sat. 10-2 p.m. but the hours may be extended.

# From our Superior Utility Department

Rick Church/Diana Ravis

## SUMMER WATERING CAN BE VERY COSTLY

If you are planning on laying sod and/or planting new landscaping, or if you believe you will be doing a lot of outside watering for any reason, we highly recommend that you consider purchasing a sprinkler meter in order to help reduce your water/sewer bills by up to as much as one third. Contact us at 734-480-5500 for additional information on sprinkler meters.

## 2007 UTILITY DEPARTMENT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The following are Utility Department construction projects scheduled for this year. Some may cause minor traffic delays for our residents:

- We will be conducting a water and sewer replacement project on Clark Road between Devon and Clark Drive. Work will be required within the road right-of-way of Clark Road and Clark Drive.
- The Township is proceeding with another non-motorized trail project. The new trail will be located on the north side of Clark Road from Prospect to Devon. There may be some minor delays at intersections along Clark Road in this area.

The Township will be conducting smoke testing and manhole investigations in late August and early September. We do not anticipate issues with traffic as part of this work. But residents should be aware that you may see smoke coming from vent stacks on buildings or holes in the ground. This smoke is harmless.

Thank you, in advance, for your patience during these improvement projects.

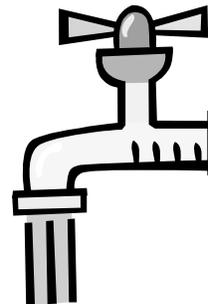
## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### What are my payment options?

We currently can only accept payments by check, money order or cash. We will soon have the ability to accept credit card and bank account (checking and savings) payments through the internet. Please check the Township's website ([www.superior-twp.org](http://www.superior-twp.org)) for updates regarding the availability of this feature.

### What do I do if I have water coming up through the floor drain in my basement?

If you have water coming up through your basement floor drain, it may be an indication that there is a sewer back-up in front of your house. Call us anytime, day or night, at 734-480-5500 and we will check our sewer line for blockages. We will then let you know if the problem is in our line, which we will take care of, or if it is a blockage within your house line, which you will need to contact a plumber or repair service to address.



### Sidewalk Replacement Program.

If you have received a letter concerning replacing sections of your sidewalk in accordance with Ordinance 150, the deadline to replace the damaged flags of sidewalk is September 10. If you are fixing the sidewalk yourself, be sure to call the Township afterwards so that it can be inspected to meet code. You do not need a permit.

After September 10 the Township will request bids from contractors to fix the remaining walks and the property owner will be billed for the work.

Be sure to mark your calendar, time is flying fast!

# News from our Superior Treasurer

Brenda L. McKinney

## What You Should Know About Your Taxes

- ◆ As you know, Summer Tax Bills were mailed July 1, and payable through September 15 without penalty. If you did not receive your summer tax bill, please contact the Treasurer's Office at (734) 482-6099.
- ◆ Winter Tax Bills will be mailed on December 1<sup>st</sup> and will be payable through February 14th. Just a reminder that Tax Deferments are good through April 30<sup>th</sup>, for those residents who have deferred their summer and winter taxes.
- ◆ In regards to escrow payments, if you recently refinanced your mortgage and now have a new taxpaying agent or no longer have an escrow, please contact the Treasurer's Office to update our records.
- ◆ To pay taxes online, please visit our website at [www.superior-twp.org](http://www.superior-twp.org). There is a \$15.00 fee per \$500.00 for credit card use only and **NO FEE** for using your Checking or Savings accounts. Be sure to get confirmation number!
- ◆ Just a reminder, a drop-box is located inside the double doors of the Township Hall for those of you who wish to drop off tax payments after hours.
- ◆ Beginning December 1st, dog licenses may be purchased from the Treasurer's Office until February 28<sup>th</sup>.
- ◆ New homeowners, please make sure to fill out and return your Principal Residence Exemption forms in order to receive the 100% home-  
stead exemption.



**Our Treasurer  
Brenda L. McKinney**

# News from our Superior Clerk

Kay Williams

The Michigan Supreme Court ruled that a 1996 law which requires voters to present photo identification in the polls when applying for a ballot is constitutional. This means that in order to vote in person on election day, **you must have photo ID with you.** It is unclear at this time what constitutes photo ID, but a **driver's license, valid passport, or state ID is acceptable.** Whether student ID, employee ID, or any other such photo ID is acceptable has not yet been determined by the State of Michigan. This does not apply to obtaining an absent voter ballot. However, if you are voting for the first time and have registered by mail, you still must vote in person or apply for an absent voter ballot in person and show photo ID the first time you vote. If you have questions about this, or any other election matter, please feel free to call or e-mail me at 734-482-6099 or [kaywilliams@superior-twp.org](mailto:kaywilliams@superior-twp.org).



**Kay Williams, Clerk**

We do not have any elections in Superior Township in November. The next possible election might be the Presidential Primary in January or February. At this time that election has not been set, if held at all. Stay tuned to your TV, radio, newspaper, etc. They'll let you know.



*(Continued from page 1) Supervisor*

rainy days are here. Superior Township will not have to make cuts to fire and police. The key is to also enhance service without additional cost. A prime example is working with neighbors to save money but maintain our own identity. The recent collaboration with Ypsilanti Township and Ypsilanti City regarding selecting the most cost and service efficient trash hauler was very successful. Ann Arbor Township and Superior are again collaborating use of Sheriff Deputies. The Fire De-

partment continues to use mutual aid of neighboring fire departments for responses requiring support. The Township staff has been cross trained regarding different work assignments to assure fast, friendly service. Superior Township will continue to manage growth that is acceptable and compatible.

Our goal continues to be: Residents proud to say "Our Township is Superior".



## Our Superior Roads

### The Roundabout-

The Roundabout at Geddes and Superior and Intersection Improvements at Geddes and Leforge will not be started until Spring of 2008. Difficulties with moving utility lines, acquiring land easements, and securing funding have put the projects behind schedule. Some preparation work may be accomplished this fall, but road closures will not happen until early 2008. Detours will be posted if full road closures are needed.

### Clark Road Improvements-

After the work is completed by the Utility Department relocating the main in the right-of-way, an 8 foot wide non-motorized trail will be installed between Prospect and Devon on the north side of Clark. This trail is being funded by the Township, Washtenaw County Park and Recreation Commission and Washtenaw County Federal Urban County Funds.

## New Solid Waste Hauler

**Starting October 1, 2007**, Service with Republic Services begins as the Allied Waste haulers contract expires on September 30. The Township solicited bids from several solid waste haulers for our residential service. After analyzing the bids it was determined that Republic Waste Hauler Services was the most cost effective and would provide the highest quality service for Superior Township residents. Republic Services will collect residential solid waste, yard waste, and recyclables under a five year contract for a cost per household for

the first year of \$45.54 per quarter billed quarterly by Republic Services to each contracting household. The service is for weekly pick-up of unlimited cans/bags along with a 96 gallon curb-cart provided by contractor. You may call to arrange scheduled bulk item pickup with disposal. A bag/tag option of \$1.85 cost per bag is offered as well. The scheduled collection routes are on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday weekly with one-day delay for holidays. Republic Services will be contacting homeowners in the next few weeks to set up accounts and to provide more information about schedules and what is collectable. The phone number for Republic is 1-877-264-5544 (toll free).

## Our Superior Fire Department

Fire Chief J. Roberts



The summer has proved to be a busy time for the Superior Township Fire Department. After several meetings between Supervisor McFarlane, Chief Roberts and the Washtenaw County Hazardous Response Authority, it was determined that the county's newest Haz-Mat truck would be housed at Superior's station one.

As you can see from the accompanying photograph, the truck is large and carries large amounts of equipment for mass decontamination, shelters and materials to confine and eliminate hazardous materials as well as the county fire departments foam supply.

Our department currently has two members on the Washtenaw County Haz-Mat team, Captain Shaun Bach and Fire fighter Jeff French and two members on the Western Wayne County Haz-Mat team, Fire Fighters Jordan Braman and

Donny Sanford. All fire department members are trained in hazardous material response.

In addition to having members on Haz-Mat teams, Superior added two members to the Washtenaw County Technical Rescue Team, Captain Shaun Bach and Fire Fighter Barry Conklin and one member to the Western Wayne County Technical Rescue Team, Fire Fighter Jordan Braman. Both teams are trained in extreme rescue techniques such as rope rescue, confined space rescue, trench rescue, and building collapse rescue.

The benefits of being on two different county mutual aid associations are numerous. Should an incident involving Hazardous materials occur in Superior Township, your firefighters have the training, resources and equipment to ensure a level of protection to our residents that is just minutes away.



Superior Township Fire Department is proud to report that we now offer child passenger safety seat services to township residents. STFD firefighter Jeffrey Kujawa volunteered to attend some very lengthy classes and is now a certified technician.

Jeff will assist residents and make sure their children remain safe by recommending the proper car seat to purchase for the child's age and weight. He will also assist with installing car

seats and checking to make sure current car seats are installed properly.

The services are free and available by appointment only. For additional information regarding proper car seat installation, visit [www.superiortownshipfire.com](http://www.superiortownshipfire.com). To set up an appointment, contact Firefighter Jeff Kujawa at (734) 484-1996 or at [jkujawa@superior-twp.org](mailto:jkujawa@superior-twp.org). We look forward to meeting you.

# News: A Superior Sister City

**Superior Township will become a Sister City with Hwasung, Korea.**

The Township Officials have been invited by Hyundai-Kia to travel to Korea to meet the officials of Hwasung to promote international goodwill and economic development.

Supervisor McFarlane, Clerk Williams, Treasurer McKinney, Trustee Caviston, Trustee Lewis, and Fire Chief Roberts will leave September 9 and return September 15. County Commissioner Ken Schwartz will also join the tour. While there, they will tour the Hyundai-Kia R&D Headquarters and explore ways to bring additional jobs to Michigan. The officials will be paying their own airfare; Hyundai-Kia is providing the accommodations, meals, and transportation. No Township tax dollars will be spent on the trip. At a later date the officials from Hwasung will visit Superior Township in order to further

establish greater friendship and understanding between our two municipalities. The Township Official's goal is to expand employment opportunities in Superior Township.



**Superior Township, Michigan**



**Hwasung, Korea**

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## Our Township is Superior!

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