

Summer 2010



Sumpter Township



Sumpter Township

Board of Trustees

- **Johnny Vawters,**
Supervisor
- **Clarence J. Hoffman,**
Jr., Clerk
- **John W. Morgan,**
Treasurer
- **William Hamm,**
Trustee
- **Alan D. Bates,**
Trustee
- **Linda L. Kennedy,**
Trustee
- **Peggy Morgan,**
Trustee

From Supervisor Johnny Vawters

Dear Friends,

I would like to update you on some things that are going on in the Township, since the last Newsletter.

Tuesday August 3rd. Election Day Update: Please don't forget to Vote this August 3rd, there are some very important issues that could impact Sumpter Township & it's residents for years to come. Not only will you be voting on State issues, you will also see on your ballot the **Police Millage Renewal Request.** This request is just a renewal of the current Millage with **No Increase on your Taxes.** Your Vote will be very important in deciding the future of Sumpter Township.

Township Property @ corner of Sumpter & Willis Update: On Thursday June 10th. We closed on the Corner Property with Joe Nassar with the Property Sale Agreement in place. The Agreement states

Mr. Nassar has 1year to have all Permits and Plan Reviews in place and be under Construction, or the Property reverts back to the Township and a \$7,500.00 fee will be deducted from the \$40,000.00 he paid at the closing.

Demolition of Dangerous Buildings / Homes Update: So far this year we have Demolished 5 Structures & are planning on demolishing another 5 by fall. These Dangerous Buildings Demolitions were funded by the Community Development Block Grant, therefore no cost to the taxpayers.

Library Update: Trustees Bill Hamm, Alan Bates, & I has entered into discussions with the Library Board concerning the possible Construction of a Satellite Branch of the Library or the possibility of building the Main Library on the property we purchased from Wayne County (closed medical bldg.) I will have more to report on



Summer is here, school is out, watch for kids.

this later.

Noxious Weeds Update: We are trying to get a handle on getting the grass cut at all the Abandoned / Foreclosed Homes in the Township, Please be Patient we are trying to get to them all. If you are aware of any Abandoned / Foreclosed Homes & the Grass needs cutting please call Deputy Supervisor Craig

Moody at (734)-461-6201 ext. 226.

I hope this Information is useful & as always my door is always open to listen to your concerns.

So until next time,

May God Bless Sumpter Township & It's Citizens.

Sincerely, Johnny Vawters

July Board of Review

The Sumpter Township July Board of Review

Will be held on July 20, 2010

10:00am - 12:00pm

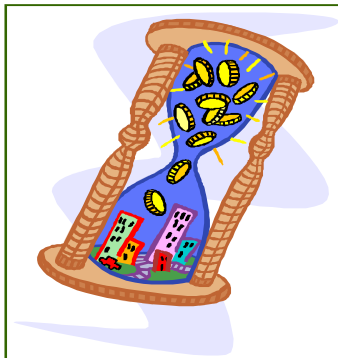
Located at the Sumpter Township Hall

This meeting is for Clerical Errors, Principal Residential Exemption

And Mutual Mistakes.

For more questions regarding this meeting contact Denise Komora

734-461-6201 ext 229



From Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr., Clerk

The primary election is August 3, 2010. At this election your vote will narrow down the Republican and Democratic offices of Governor, Representatives in Congress for the 15th district, State Senator for the 7th district, Representative in State Legislature 23rd district, County Executive, Delegates to the County Convention and Sheriff. Also on the ballot is a renewal of the Sumpter Township Police millage. It is important to make your vote count.

If you are interested in voting absentee for the upcoming elections and

fall under the state requirements you may call the clerks office for an application sent to you. 734-461-6201 ext. 222 or 221.

If you are interested in being an election worker for the upcoming election applications are available in the Clerks Office.

Landfill passes are a thing of the past. There are 2 days per month you can take your non-toxic items to the landfill located at Clark & Oakville Waltz. Wednesday afternoon from 2 pm till 4:30 pm. and Saturday morning from 7:00 am till 1:00

pm. You must have a current drivers license with a Sumpter Township address.

If you have a large item to be picked up you must call Republic Waste at 877-264-5544 to arrange for the pick up.

The township wide yard sales will be the last weekend in August 28 & 29, 2010 no permit necessary.

The township will be closed on the following holidays July 5, 2010 and September 6, 2010.



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Parks & Recreation

Summer Events

Banotai Park & Sherwood Pond: The Beach is open. The pond is tested weekly by the Wayne County Health Dept. Last year the Beach scored in the top 2 all summer as one of the cleanest beaches & Lakes in the County.

Family Day - Saturday July 17th. @ 1:00P.M. **Graham Park** Family Games, Free Hot Dogs, Chips, Drinks. Adult Horseshoe Tournament with Trophies Awarded. Children's Tug-of-War. Softball Game featuring Sumpter Police & Fire vs. Belleville Police & Fire!!

Don Rochon Memorial Car Show - Sunday Septemember26th. @ Sumpter Fairgrounds: Registration begins at 10:00am. Judging begins at 2:00pm. **U.S.A. ENDOURO / DEMOLITION DERBY @ 5:00PM.** Last Race of the Season!!

The New Graham Park Playground is now OPEN!!! The new Playground was paid for out of a Grant from the Wayne County Parks Millage, at no cost to Township Tax Payers. More Improvements are to come this summer. If you would like to **Reserve a Pavilion at**

Banotai or Graham Parks
Please contact the Clerks Office at (734)-461-6201 ext. 243
Thank You,
Craig Moody, Chairman
Peggy Morgan, Liaison

Sumpter Police Dept. Sponsors

Belleville Little League Team



The Sumpter Police Department sponsored and coached two baseball teams through Belleville Area Little League (BALL). BALL is an organization that is located in Van Buren Township however has a strong showing from Sumpter Township. The Belleville Dodgers are 11 and 12 year olds, and the Belleville Beach Bums are 4 through 6 year olds.

From Treasurer John W. Morgan

During the first week of July 2010 the Summer Tax Bill will be in the mail. The Summer Bill this year is canary yellow. The Treasurer's office is using canary yellow for summer bills, and blue for winter bills. Residents can pay their tax bills at the Treasurer's office and at the PNC Bank branch in New Boston. You have until September 14, 2010 to pay your taxes without penalty. After that date 1% interest charge will be added monthly. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call the Treasurer's office at 461-6201 ext. 239.

Senior citizens, disabled people, veterans, surviv-



ing spouses of veterans and farmers may be able to delay paying summer property taxes. **Eligible** taxpayers can apply for a summer tax deferral with this office. This means that the due date would be extended to the end of February without penalty charges; but the full amount of the tax bill must be paid by the end of February.

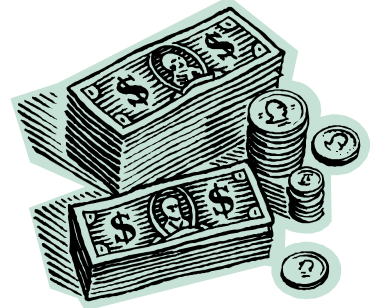
Currently there are several programs in place to assist low-income persons with their property taxes. Senior citizens, veterans, surviving spouses of eligible veterans and disabled persons may be eligible

for larger tax relief. Contact the Wayne County Department of Human Services – DHS for further information. 313-224-6105.

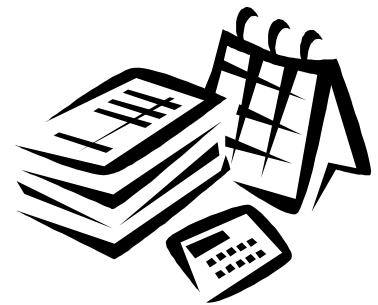
The Township offices will be closed Monday, July 5, 2010 in observance of the 4th of July holiday.

The staff in the Treasurer's office and myself wishes everyone a safe and happy summer.

John W. Morgan
Treasurer



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News From Your Water Department

To all of our valued customers:

As you may or may not know, Sumpter Township is currently negotiating with the Detroit Water and Sewer Department. As part of the contract, in order to get a break on the proposed rates, we needed to institute a couple of new policies.

First, we are adopting a new emergency water usage ordinance. This ordinance will limit irrigation,

swimming pool filling, car washing, etc. in prolonged periods of very high heat or drought.

Secondly, we are asking residents to spread out their water usage. Normally our highest usage has been in the 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. time frame each day. We need to even out our flow rates throughout the day. To do this we could wash clothes, dishes, cars, etc. at different times of the day. We could irrigate in the

morning or after dark. Anything we do with water that could be done prior to 6 p.m. or later than 10 p.m. would help.

In closing, thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours truly,

Marvin Drews,

Superintendent

Sumpter Township

Water and Sewer Department

Sumpter Township Police Department Millage Renewal Request

By now most are aware of the police millage renewal vote scheduled for August 3rd, 2010. However, what may not be fully visible are the ongoing sacrifices that the Sumpter Township Police Department has made to continue its commitment to provide police services to its community. Some of those sacrifices include enduring officer layoffs, pay freezes, low manpower issues, the elimination of the ordinance department, higher Township employee expenses for health care coverage and maintaining mandatory training on a very limited budget. These cutbacks have been made in order to maintain police services to the community.

The consequences of the millage renewal not getting approved will be devastating to the Township residents and the Police Department. In the event the millage renewal does not pass there have been discussions with regard to how the Township would provide police protection to the community. At this point depending on the services of the Michigan State Police or the Wayne County Sheriff's Department are not viable options. Here's why.

In 2009 over 100 Michigan State Troopers jobs were eliminated due to a \$304M budget cut in cuts ordered by Gov. Jennifer Granholm. \$41.4 million was lopped from revenue sharing, which pays for police and

fire protection and other municipal services. The number of local police officers is down more than 2,000 equating 9 percent since 2002. Besides the layoffs, some State Police posts will trim back on patrol shifts and troopers will be forced to cut miles, perhaps by as much as 40 percent as they did in 2007, likely slowing response to calls.

(Source: Mark Hornbeck and Charlie Cain / Detroit News Lansing Bureau
From the Detroit News: <http://detnews.com/article/20090506/POLITICS02/905060364/Michigan-budget-cuts-hit-police-ranks#ixzz0pRT7I2JQ>)

Up to 700 county employees in Wayne County, Michigan faced temporary layoffs during Memorial Day and other holidays during 2010. Wayne County, which includes the city of Detroit, is running a \$100 million budget deficit. The county estimates that the temporary layoffs will save \$1.5 million.

(Source: <http://www.employmentspectator.com/2010/05/wayne-county-workers-face-layoffs/>)

Neighboring communities such as Augusta Township have felt the sting of relying on the State and the County to provide police protection acting in a purely reactive report writing function as described by this resident:

"I'm a resident of Augusta

Township. In recent years while under the current contract we needed police service. The first incident was when someone ran into our car. We called the county police and two hours later they still hadn't responded. We gave up and settled the issue ourselves. The police never did come out. The second incident involved someone breaking windows on my garage. I was assured the police would be out before lunch. I wound up needing to take the entire day off of work. The officer never came. A state trooper eventually showed up a day later to take the report. By then, the case was stone cold. The county sheriff's office and the state troopers argue over who is responsible for us and in the mean time residents get nothing even though they already were paying for service."
http://blog.mlive.com/a2politics/2008/08-police-millage-defeated_in_aug.html

Learning from other community's experiences would be beneficial to the residents and business owners of Sumpter Township. An upcoming vote for a millage renewal in order to maintain the level of public safety in Sumpter Township is a matter of life and death for the police department and the well being and quality of life for the community.

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The millage renewal will provide the Police Department with an operating budget that will allow Sumpter officers to patrol the Sumpter Township neighborhoods and to continue to provide excellent community centered policing services. Vote YES on the police millage renewal August 3rd! Vote YES on keeping Sumpter Safe!

For more information go to: <http://www.kssnow.info/>

Officer Lou Ann Hamblin

From Your Fire Department

Hello Again, since it is Tornado Season and the incident that happened recently, we thought a review of the siren protocol would be helpful. We all need to be prepared for an emergency if it was to happen here.

In the event of an emergency that requires the siren system to be used to notify the community this is how it would work.

In the event of bad weather (severe thunderstorms with possible winds of 65-70 MPH, large hail or Tornado warnings), the siren system will be set off one time. The community response to the first alert should be to seek shelter where you are at the lowest level, or inside a nearby building (if you are outside or mobile)

If no basement is available move to an interior area of the building and take shelter under sturdy tables or desks in an area with minimum windows.

If the weather gets worse the siren system will be sounded for a second time. Shelter should be sought in a stable building such as the Township community center or other designated site. Residents of the Mobile Home Communities should move to a designated shelter inside their park or the

Township Center if weather permits.

The sirens only signal for bad conditions the all clear will be announced over the Radio, TV, and emergency vehicle speakers.

If the siren system sounds and there is no apparent bad weather tune to radio, and TV for information on other emergency, Hazardous Material spills, Wild fires, or a problem at the Fermi Nuclear plant, to name a few.

Because of Our location in the South West corner of Wayne we also monitor the counties to our West to stay ahead of the storm.

The Siren System is tested the first Friday of each month at 12 noon.

Everyone should have a plan, a place where they can go and feel safe. If there is not a safe place near where you live, where is the closest one? The Community Center provides shelter but it is not equipped with the most comfortable accommodations. We all hope that this never happens here BUT what if? The Police and Fire Departments will do all they can to assist you after such an event but the more prepared you are the less severe the event might be.

Sumpter Seniors

Summer salutations!

Besides enjoying new carpet and a large screen HDTV made possible thru CDBG funding,

there is a variety of upcoming events along with regularly scheduled activities. Don't hesitate to contact the senior center office for details of the following:

The annual Wayne County Picnic/ Senior fest is Saturday, June 26, 11a.m-2:00p.m. rain or shine.

Special thanks to the men and women in blue: Sumpter's *Police Department* has been actively promoting and providing important senior safety related information/helps/ mini seminars etc. culminating with Champion of Elder Rights Special Guest Speaker former Wayne County Prosecutors Office Lawyer of the Year David McClorey

followed by an ice cream social Wednesday, June 16th.

Upcoming day trips include a historic Ohio canal boat ride and tours, travel & tour our state capitol, Tigers game. and more!

It's not too late to participate in the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics in August

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Sumpter Township

23480 Sumpter Road
Belleville, MI 48111

Phone: 734-461-6201
Fax: 734-461-6441

Country Living At Its Finest



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There are numerous ***non athletic*** and athletic events, so no excuses to represent your vibrant community. Sumpter is proud to be the Baking competition host site this year. Our numbers increase yearly, be a part of the excitement!

Non aerobic Stretch & Tone meets Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00.

Tuesday two stop shop enables non driving seniors to run errands and shop locally 1:00-3:00. 24 hr. reservation required.

Bridge card appointments and surplus food programs are available.

Wayne County Congregate meal program is a nutritious meal served at noon Monday thru Friday . 24 hr. reservation requested: 734 461-1186.

Telecare and Meals on Wheels is available to homebound seniors.

Quilting/sewing enthusiasts meet Tuesdays and Thursdays 11-4:00. Ceramics and Penny Pokeno meet Thursdays.

Computer and upholstery classes will be resuming this fall.

The senior center is funded in part by the Area Agency on Aging, 1-C, The Senior Alliance. Transportation is made possible thru a partnership with SMART.

This is just a part of what is going on at your senior center. Fun, food, fellowship, information and opportunity await!

Sincerely, Denise "DD" Drouillard, Senior Coordinator