

# SUMPTER COUNTRY TIMES

SUMMER 2017

## *From Your Township Supervisor—John W. Morgan*

Sumpter Township was saddened by the death of Township Clerk, Clarence J. Hoffman, Jr. Mr. Hoffman leaves behind a nearly 40 year legacy of involvement in Sumpter politics and served in every position on the Township board at various times in his political career.

Mr. Hoffman was more than a politician. He was a community activist and played a vital role in many improvements in Sumpter Township over the past three decades. He also served as a police officer in Sumpter Township where he served with honor and distinction. Mr. Hoffman will certainly be missed as this Township Board expresses its deepest sympathy to the Hoffman family.

The state of Sumpter Township continues to be excellent. The Township's finances continue to be solidly in the black and our bond rating is tops in the area.

All Township departments are operating at a high level of efficiency and are all operating within their budgets. Negotiations with all employee unions are settled with the exception of the FOP, however, negotiations are amicable and a settlement will be forthcoming.

Sumpter Township has completed its conversion to LED street lighting; saving over \$8,000 per year. The Township also received a rebate of over \$3,600. The police department appreciates the brightness of the new street lights.



tax rolls.

A facelift has begun on the front entrance of the Township hall and surrounding grounds. Old fencing was removed along with dead trees. The front entrance will soon be graced with 3 flag poles flying our United States Flag, a Michigan Flag and a Sumpter

Township Flag. The old flag pole will be recycled and moved to Graham Park.



Our ordinance officer is doing a great job of getting compliance on blighted Township properties, however, there is still much to be done. Remember, we all benefit when our surroundings are free of blight. Our property values remain steady and our neighborhoods are refreshed and revitalized.

The present Township Board works very hard daily to serve the needs of all of our citizens and to provide these services cost effectively and with the utmost courtesy and respect to the citizens who put their trust in us and depend on us to provide the leadership that ensures that Sumpter Township will remain the crown jewel of the tri-community area and will continue to be a great place to live.



We invite all of our residents to attend our board meetings the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. We also encourage our citizens to visit our Township offices or to write us and let us know what you think about issues or just to let us know what's on your mind. Our board meetings start at 6:00pm and our phone number is 734-461-6201.

### **Important Numbers to Remember**

Emergency: 911  
Dispatch: (734) 461-4833  
Sumpter Police: (734) 461-4833  
Republic Waste: (877) 264-5544  
Wayne County Roads: (888) 762-3273  
Wayne County Forestry: (734) 941-1020

## From Your Clerk—Esther Hurst



### WELCOME!

Please join us in welcoming our new Clerk, Esther Hurst and her Deputy Clerk Dawn Hadyniak to the Clerk's office! WELCOME ESTHER & DAWN!!!

#### The Clerk's Office provides the following services:

Notary Service (Free)  
Garage Sales Permits (\$2.00)  
Business Licenses  
Elections  
Registration of Voters  
Trash Complaints (877-264-5544)  
Cemetery Plots (\$300.00)

Zoning/Master Plan Questions  
Planning Commission Requests  
Freedom of Information Requests  
Fire Reports (\$3.00 each)  
Notifications/Publications for Residents  
Rentals of Community Center and Parks  
Recycling (Saturday's 9 am to 1 pm)  
Assist Citizens with various questions, topics & subjects.

**The Regular Board Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm. Planning Commission Meetings are open to the public and are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 7:00 pm. These meetings are open to the public.**

## Sumpter Township Parks & Recreation

Wow, we are halfway through 2017!

The Parks and Recreation Commission has been working hard for you this year, we hope you have had a chance enjoy some of the events that have been held.

The Easter Egg Hunt was Saturday, April 8th went off without a hitch beautiful weather and lots of participants! The children young and old had a blast searching through the straw for the Easter treasures.

The Sumpter Country Festival was held Memorial Day weekend and was terrific, a lot of family fun, great music, carnival rides, parade, terrific food. So many extras to participate in like the baby contest, silent auction, car show, bingo and children's entertainment. The track events like the demolition derby and the mini horse pulls are always a terrific attraction along with the fireworks!

Family Fun Day was held on July 15th and also full of fun, lunch was provided, very cool games as well as the waterslide, Police and Fire Department and Swift Trucking allowing the kids to get in the semi truck to see what it looks like inside. Smiles were glowing from the participants.

The Parks and Recreation Commission welcomed some new members, and is excited about some changes, Sharon Pokerwinski has been named the grant writer for the Com-

mission. She will write and administer all grant activity.

One of our biggest hurdles has been getting over losing Treasurer Alan Bates. Alan absolutely loved Parks and Recreation and our Township to the highest level. It is the duty of this Commission, not only to serve its residents but to also carry-on Alan's dedication to the Parks and Recreation. Alan will be cherished by this Township and our Commission for years to come and we are dedicated to the challenge of mirroring his dedication.

#### We do hope to see you at our next events.

**Don Rochon Memorial Car Show & Demolition Derby—September 17, 2017**

**Turkey Shoot—October 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd**

**Sumpter Childrens Christmas Party—December 13th**

Also we are always looking for new members! This is a great way to volunteer in your community and see direct results! Please feel free to come to one of our meetings and meet our commission you will see how much fun you will have while serving your community! Our meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month.





## *From Your Treasurer - Peggy Morgan*

During the first week of July 2017 the Summer Tax Bill was sent in the mail. The Summer Bill is pink. The Treasurer's office is using pink for summer bills, and blue for winter bills. Payment must be received by Sumpter Township Treasurer's office only. We accept cash, checks and money orders. You have until September 14, 2017 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. 2239.

New to the Treasurer's office is that tax bill amounts and water bill amounts only can be accessed online at [www.sumptertwp.com](http://www.sumptertwp.com) under the

Treasurer's department tab. You will be directed to a link BS & A website. You can set



up your account and have access to your amounts due. This is for information only, not payments. You can make payments through your own bank and they will send a physical check to Sumpter Township.

Senior citizens, disabled people, veterans, surviving spouses of veterans and farmers may be able to delay paying summer property taxes. **Eligible** taxpayers can apply for a summer tax deferment 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.

For your convenience if the Township hall is not open, there is a drop box located to the right of the double doors on the front of the building. This is a secure location right in the Treasurer's office.

Just a reminder the Treasurer's office is open 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday and open late on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month 8:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Monday, September 4, 2017, Sumpter Township will be closed for Labor Day.

The staff in the Treasurer's office and I wish everyone a safe and happy summer.



## *From Your Fire Department - Chief Joe Janusyk*

Hello Residents of Sumpter Township!

Here are a few reminders from The Sumpter Township Fire Department:

Please be sure to have your address marked visible from the Street so we can find you in case of an emergency. We are currently offering "Life Signs" for \$20.00 per address and are available through the clerk's office.

As the cooler days are coming, it'll be that time to turn on those furnaces. Be sure to



change the batteries in your smoke detector and your Carbon Monoxide detector.



It's that time of year again... The Annual Chicken Broil will be held on Sunday, September 10, 2017 from 12p.m.-5 p.m. at the Sumpter Township Fire Department located at 20550 Sumpter Road. Tickets will be available to purchase for \$10.00 per ticket.

As always, PLEASE BE SAFE!

We are proud to serve you!

*From Your Police Department - Eric Luke , Chief of Police*

## Blight Enforcement is Ramping Up

Most residents take pride in the appearance of their property. Keeping everything clean and tidy benefits everyone, from increased property values, both monetary and aesthetic, to better relations between neighbors. Unfortunately, some



who don't meet the community's expectations just don't care. More times than not though, those who fall short just

need a little help. Either way, the Sumpter Township ordinance department is ramping up enforcement efforts throughout the township.

For the past month or so, the ordinance officer has been out and about talking with residents and assisting property owners who need help. He is also using the legal power of local ordinances to push the less receptive residents to clean up their property. The township has been broken down into four quadrants and the ordinance officer spends one week in a quadrant, documenting issues, talking with residents, etc. before moving on to the next. Once he has completed the cycle and is back to the first quadrant, he will take the next steps necessary in dealing with the previously documented issues involving specific addresses and deal with any new issues he finds in that area.

The normal process is that once the ordinance officer identifies an issue contact is made with the resident to discuss what needs to be done. A 14-day window is given and if noticeable progress is made we will continue in that manner to get the property up to standards. In the event that progress is not made during that time, an ordinance violation citation will be issued and the resident will be summonsed to appear at the 34th District Court. While the case is making its way through the court process the ordinance officer will continue monitoring the property and report back to the court with any progress, or lack thereof. Please remember though, our goal is compliance for the betterment of the township, not a misdemeanor conviction.

If you have a neighbor whose property is in need of help, or are the owner of the property in question but don't know how to begin the cleanup process, please don't hesitate to contact the ordinance department at 734-740-0059, or via email at [ordinance@sumptertwp.com](mailto:ordinance@sumptertwp.com). We have several avenues available to assist in the cleanup.

We appreciate your effort and cooperation in making Sumpter Township a cleaner and more attractive community for all to enjoy.



## Landfill permits are available at the Clerk's Office.

You must have a current driver's license with a Sumpter Township address. You will be able to take your non-toxic items to the landfill twice a month located at Clark & Oakville Waltz on Wednesday afternoons from 2:30 pm until 4:30 pm and Saturday mornings from 7:00 am until 12:30 pm.



### Recycling

The Recycling Center is open Saturdays , 9:00 am until 1:00 pm, behind Sumpter Township Hall. Tires are accepted, both on and off rims, for a small fee.







## ***Sumpter Senior Center—Maryann Watson Senior Specialist***

**23501 Sumpter Rd.**

**734-461-9373**

**HOURS**

**9AM TO 4PM**



### **Senior Liaison**

**Trustee Esther Hurst**

### **Senior Advisory Board**

Karen Mickens

Margaret Rochon

Barbara Thomason

Joe Wilson

- Free and low cost transportation & travel
- Daily lunch served at 11:45
- Focus Hope /TEFAP food available to qualifying individuals



- Computer Lab, WIFI,
- Upholstery class, Quilting, Crafts
- Arthritis Foundation Exercise free to members
- Cardio Drumming Class—Free to mem-

bers

- MICAFAE
- FOOT DOCTOR

Loan Closet-walkers, bath chairs, wheelchairs

Diabetic lancets, etc. Call 734-461-9373 for more info

### **Upcoming Highlights**

DETROIT PRINCESS    SEPTEMBER 15  
CRAFT SHOW    NOVEMBER 4  
CHRISTMAS PARTY/  
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE    DECEMBER 12

### **Wayne County Nutrition**

Manager—Barbara Thomason

734-461-1186

Lunches served daily

Monday through Friday

at 11:45 please RSVP 24 hours in advance by noon.

Homebound Meals on Wheels call

734-727-7357

\$3.00 suggested donation for 60 and older,  
\$5.00 for clients under 60.

### **WIC Program**

Wayne County Health Department has a WIC Office located at 23501 Sumpter Road. (Corner of Sumpter and Dunn Rd.). If you are pregnant or breastfeeding, or have a child up to the age of five, you could be eligible to receive healthy food and nutrition education to help your money go further. Call 734-461-6419 and make an appointment to see if you are income eligible for services WIC has to offer. No walk-ins.



### **HELP! HISTORICAL Information wanted!**

Sumpter Township Clerk's Office is looking for any historical information and photographs of/about Sumpter Township for the years of 1910 to 1935. If you, or someone you know, has any historical information or photographs that Sumpter Township could copy and possibly display, please contact the Clerk's Office at 734-461-6201 ext. 2222. Thank You!

## Water & Sewer Department Ken Kunka, Superintendent

### Water Customers:

It's important that our customers receive accurate bills for the amount of water consumed by their household. Thus it is imperative that when Township Water Department leaves a notice at your property requesting access to our metering equipment, that an appointment be promptly scheduled with the water billing department at (734) 461-6201 ex 2242.



### Water testing:

Sumpter Township Water Department working with GLWA and MDEQ routinely tests the Township water to insure that a high quality product is delivered to your homes. In addition Township employees routinely check and provide necessary maintenance to over 1100 fire hydrants in the township.



### Sewer Customers:

The Environment One grinder pump is capable of accepting and pumping a wide range of materials. However certain materials can cause damage to your pump and might result in you being charged with costly repair bills.

Please **DO NOT** introduce these materials plus any similar materials into your system.

**Kitchen grease, Glass, Cotton swabs, Metal, Aquarium gravel, Seafood shells, Personal / cleaning wipes and sponges, Plastic objects (toys, utensils, etc.), Sanitary napkins or tampons, Diapers, socks, rags or cloth, Disposable toothbrushes, Kitty litter, Cigarette butts, Syringes, Latex / Vinyl items, Dental floss.**

Caution: Kitchen garbage disposals do not keep grease/oil out of the plumbing system.

**In addition you must never introduce into any sewer: Explosives, Flammable material, Strong chemicals, Gasoline, Lubricating oil and/or grease.**

**IN PERIODS OF DISUSE:** If your home is left unoccupied for longer than a couple of weeks, perform the following procedure on your grinder pump system.

**PURGE THE SYSTEM:** Run clean water into the unit until the pump activates. Immediately turn off the water and allow the grinder pump to run until it shuts off.

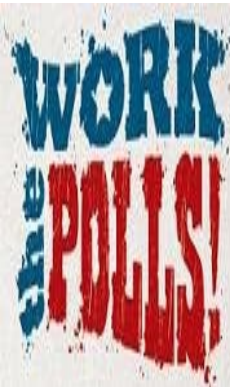
**DO NOT DISCONNECT THE POWER TO THE UNIT!**

**IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING A BROWN OUT OR POWER OUTAGE, SHUT OFF YOUR GRINDER PUMP UNTIL POWER IS RESTORED AND USE AS LITTLE AS POSSIBLE DURING SUCH TIMES.**



### Wanted: Election Workers

If you are interested in being on a list to work elections, please stop by the Clerk's Office and fill out an application. Township hours are Monday thru Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.



### Community Food Bank – "Nourishing Gardens"

If you are in need of food, please do not hesitate to come down. Nourishing Gardens is available to service small families as well as large families. If you have any questions, please give them a call at (734) 713-7715, or visit their website at [www.nourishinggardens.org](http://www.nourishinggardens.org). Hours of operation are Sundays 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. They are located at 24831 Sumpter Road (between Wear and Wil-low Roads).

## Things Are Looking Brighter - by: Trustee Don LaPorte

Hello again,

If you haven't noticed, things are looking much brighter as you drive down the streets of Sumpter Township, with the changeover of all of the old conventional street lights to the new LED lamps. The townships intersections and cross streets are much more vibrant. This will provide a huge cost savings for the residents over time. The payback stated by DTE is approx. 3 years to recoup the cost from the investment made.

### I HAVE NARCAN



I AM TRAINED TO HELP WITH AN OVERDOSE

PLEASE ASK FOR MY HELP!



Our police department has taken some lifesaving training on the use of the drug Naloxone (Narcan) which reverses the effects of an opioid drug overdose. All the officer's training was paid for by a grant from Wayne County Mental Health

Board; it covered not only the cost of the training but also the antidote kits for each police cruiser. This is great news for the residents!

The fire department is hitting on all cylinders. The 2 new brush trucks (Ford F-350) have arrived and are awaiting the installation of lights, sirens and radios, along with some firefighting equipment

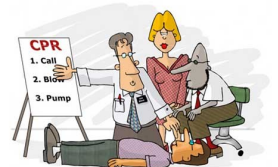


to suppress grass fires. These new trucks will replace our approximately 25 year old trucks, and can carry twice the personnel. These new trucks will be in-service no later than the end of September.



Training is also on the forefront with the fire department. Classes were held at Sumpter Fire Station and along with our department, 8 other agency's also

were in attendance. The class was presented by the DEA and our own Jamie Goode. This class covered Carfentanyl and how to deal with exposures to these types of drugs for the first responders on the scene, whether it is the police or fire department. Also, all Sumpter Township employees were trained for CPR AED. The classes were held in June and all received their Heartsaver CPR AED cards.



The township board, employees and volunteers are all working hard to make improvements in the community for our future. If you have the time and motivation, please stop in, attend a board meeting, join the Parks and Recreation Commission or check out the Senior Citizen Center, or even become a volunteer fireman.



## WAYNE COUNTY OFFERS ONE MORE HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION



Toxic

The final date for the 2017 Wayne County Household Hazardous Waste Collections will be Saturday, October 7 from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. at Wayne County Community College, located at 21000 Northline Road in Taylor.

This free event is open to Wayne County residents only and is an excellent opportunity to make your home and environment safe by properly disposing of waste. For more information or to obtain a **complete** list of what will and will not be accepted, please call 734-326-3936 or visit [waynecounty.com](http://waynecounty.com).

### Items that are accepted include:

household paints, stains, dyes

lawn and garden chemicals, pesticides, fertilizers

automotive batteries, dry cell batteries, propane tanks  
machines fluorescent light bulbs (standard and compact)

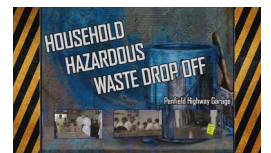
Pharmaceutical Waste (Non –controlled Substances only)

mercury containing thermometers, thermostats and elemental mercury

floor care items, furniture polish, bathroom cleaners

antifreeze, motor oil, gasoline

old computers, printers, scanners, TV's cell phones, fax  
smoke detectors, fire extinguishers







23480 Sumpter Rd.

Belleville, MI 48111

Ph# 734-461-6201

**ALL POSTAL CUSTOMERS**

**SUMPTER TOWNSHIP, MI 48111**

---

## Sumpter Township

### Board of Trustees

- ◆ John W. Morgan, Supervisor
- ◆ Esther Hurst, Clerk
- ◆ Peggy Morgan, Treasurer
- ◆ Don LaPorte, Trustee
- ◆ Matthew Oddy, Trustee
- ◆ Don Swinson, Trustee
- ◆ Sheena Barnes, Trustee

