

# Sumpter Country Times

Winter 2018



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

Dear Township Residents:

It is with great pleasure that I report to you that Sumpter Township continues to thrive and its finances are in excellent condition.

Our previous Finance Director for the last 11 years retired in November. The position has been replaced with Scott Holtz, who brings a wealth of experience to the position and has already implemented changes that will bring cost-saving improvements to that position.



A study of Township owned properties was done. These properties were received over the years either from the DNR or from not selling at the Wayne County tax sales. The first round of sales involved parcels that were too small to build on. The 19 parcels were offered to neighboring parcel owners that touched Township owned land. 12 parcels were sold in the total amount of \$30,551, thereby putting these parcels back on the tax rolls.

The next round of parcels were larger parcels and were advertised in the newspaper and on our website for over one month. Sealed bids were due by October 31, 2017. On November 3, 2017, the sealed bids were opened and 12 parcels out of 12 were bid on. At the December 12<sup>th</sup> board meeting the Township Board accepted the highest bid on each parcel for a total amount of \$91,705, also putting 12 parcels back on the tax roll.

The total assessed value that will be put back on Sumpter Township tax roll is over ½ million dollars.

The Township Board has been discussing at great length, the issue of marijuana in our Township and its impact on the quality of life in our neighborhoods if the Township Board decides to “opt-in” under the provisions of the MMFLA. Under the MMFLA, huge mega marijuana grows will be allowed in the Township in locations to be determined by the Township Board, but could be subject to change by the State Legislature at any given time. Marijuana industry lobbyists are working hard to open up more zoning areas

for these facilities.

Sumpter Township currently has 15 licensed marijuana grows. These are small growers that grow for up to 5 patients. However, there is no limit on the number of grows under the MMMA of 2008, regardless of the size of a municipality and the list is growing in Sumpter.

Those who promote these mega grows in our Township base their argument on the availability of medical marijuana for those who need it. That is really not the issue since there are marijuana dispensaries all around us with locations in Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Wayne, Inkster and soon to be Carleton. These huge, industrial grows will, in my opinion be a drain on Township resources by requiring our police and fire departments to hire additional personnel and buy additional equipment. They will also, because of greed and the incredible sums of money to be made by the owners, attract a criminal element to our neighborhoods that will eventually change the face of our Township in a dramatically negative way.

Having talked to all the Township residents over the last 40 years as an elected official in this Township I have learned a few things. The residents of Sumpter Township want this Township to retain its rural character. They want their property values protected from anything that would negatively impact them. As Township Board members our residents trusted us with that responsibility and I personally feel that I’ll be derelict in my duty if I don’t live up to that trust.

All Township departments are operating at a high level of efficiency and are doing so within their budgets.

Please remember that our Township Board meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month. Meetings start at 6:00 pm. We encourage you to attend these meetings or they can be seen on channel 12 at the following times: 10am, 2pm, 7pm, 11pm, 3am.

We welcome your thoughts and suggestions. Please feel free to stop by or call the Supervisor’s office at any time. The number is 734-461-6201 ext. 2207.



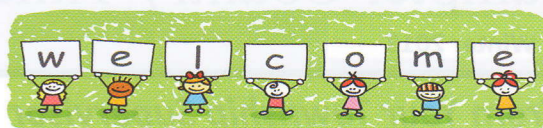
**From Your Clerk — Esther Hurst****The Clerk's Office provides the following services:**

- Notary Service (Free)
- Garage Sale 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.**

**WELCOME!**

Please join us in welcoming our new Financial Director Scott Holtz to the department. Mr. Holtz comes to us from the Calhoun County Treasurer's office where he was the Fiscal Manager. We also welcome Roxanne Bardell back to the Clerk's office. She has been with Sumpter Township for the past 18 years in our accounting department, which is located inside of our building department. **WELCOME SCOTT & ROXANNE!!!**

**Election Workers Needed:**

If you are interested in becoming an election inspector, please stop by the Clerk's Office to fill out an application or visit our website at [www.sumptertwp.com](http://www.sumptertwp.com). Township hours are Monday thru Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

**Business Licenses - We plan on going live on February 21, 2018!**

In an effort to protect the health, safety, and welfare of everyone, Sumpter Township has revamped the business licensing program to include more inspections for commercial businesses. Businesses within our Township that are classified as commercial businesses are now required to have four (4) inspections (building, mechanical, electrical, and plumbing), every other year. The process for businesses that are classified as home-based businesses has not changed. They are required to have one (1) building inspection annually. Striving to make the inspection process more efficient, we will be working hard in January to transfer to a new computerized system that is compatible with our building department.

**Landfill Permits are Available at the Clerk's Office**

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 (not to exceed a five (5) cubic yard maximum per month). The landfill is 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 on Saturdays from 9:00 am until 1:00 pm. The center will be closed on holiday weekends, to see a current 2017-2018 calendar you can visit our website at [www.sumptertwp.com](http://www.sumptertwp.com). There is no fee to recycle except for the recycling of tires. The fee schedule for recycling tires is listed below:

\$ 1.40 passenger and light truck tire	\$ 2.80 passenger and light truck tire on rim
\$ 5.60 semi-truck tire	\$11.20 semi-truck tire on rim
\$21.00 tractor tire	\$42.00 tractor tire on rim



**Thank you again!**

**Troop #231  
Troop #508  
Troop #243  
Troop #71957  
CSC**





## From Your Treasurer — Peggy Morgan



JUST A REMINDER....tax payments were due by February 28, 2018. After March 1, 2018 all unpaid taxes were turned over to Wayne County Treasurer and are considered delinquent.

The Treasurer's office is open daily 8:30am-4:30pm and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday from 8:30am-7:00pm; for payment of water bills or taxes.



Your home is the most important investment that you'll have. If you need help, don't delay, call Wayne County Taxpayer Assistance Department (TAD) today. They can assist you with legal assistance, financial resources and help you in obtaining a hardship extension if needed. Telephone number is 313-224-6105.

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 for further information, 313-224-0810.

In February, taxpayers should have received a new assessment from Wayne County. This is not a bill, but an assessment on your property. If you have questions about this assessment there will be a Board of Review in March during the week of the 12<sup>th</sup>. The Supervisor's office will be setting the hours, their phone number is 461-6201 ext. 2229.

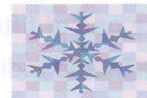


Dog clinic days are March 3rd and March 10<sup>th</sup>, the first two Saturdays in March. Hours are 1:00pm – 4:00pm. Location is at the barn across the street from the Township Hall. Cost is \$16.00 for 2 year rabies shot and \$28.00 for combo-distemper shot. Dog licenses can also be purchased that day. \$5.00 unsexed dogs and \$7.00 female dogs.

The Township Hall will be closed March 30, 2018 in observance of Good Friday; and re-open on Monday, April 2, 2018.

Have a blessed Easter everyone!

## From Your Fire Department—Chief Joe Janusyk



### Reminders from your Fire Department

#### Hello Residents of Sumpter Township!

Be sure to have your address marked visible from the street so we can find you in case of emergency. We are currently offering "Life Signs" for \$20.00 per address and are available through the Clerk's Office.



Also, as the snow continues to fall and those furnaces are running, be sure to change the batteries in your smoke detector(s) and carbon monoxide detector(s).



# Welcome

Please join us in welcoming our new fire fighters! David Behrendt, Elizabeth Blackburn, Kobe Gary, Sonya Ingle, and Derrek Smith.

**WELCOME!**

### Equipment Update!

Our fire department has added two (2) new Brush trucks to our fleet this past October. They are replacing two (2) older model trucks.



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## From Your Police Department—Eric Luke, Chief of Police



### STAY INFORMED, JOIN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Do you ever wonder what types of crimes are happening in your area? Are you interested in getting important alerts from the police department? Do you just want to be in the know as much as possible? If so, following the police department on our online and social media sites is for you. We utilize these five sites to get information out to the public. They're all FREE, so please take a few moments to become a better-informed citizen.



Use your computer to stay informed!

**FACEBOOK** - This is our main day-to-day information outlet and the one we recommend if you only choose one. You can find us at [facebook.com/sumpterpolice/](https://www.facebook.com/sumpterpolice/). Once you're on our page make sure to "like" it to start seeing our posts in your feed.



**NIXLE** - This is a notification service used by many police departments across the country. You can choose to receive the alerts via text or email, or both. Go to [nixle.com](http://nixle.com) to sign up and start receiving important information from police departments based on your zip code.

**CRIME MAPPING** - This service receives daily information from our reporting system. Go to [crimemapping.com](http://crimemapping.com) and follow the instructions to sign up for personal email alerts any time one of fifteen different types of crime occurs within a designated radius around your address. From homicide and assault to auto theft and DUI, the service will send you an

email each time one of these crimes occurs near you. You can also bring up an expandable map pinpointing where these crimes occurred, whether in Sumpter Township or any other area in the country whose law enforcement agency take part in the service.

**TWITTER** - For those who like to tweet, follow us at [@sumpterpolice](https://twitter.com/sumpterpolice). While we are not super active on this specific media site, it's still another resource to receive alerts from us.

**WEBSITE** - If you're looking for general information about the police department, need to send an email to the department or a specific officer, need to download a form or other document, want to see the calls we've taken over the past month, or are just curious about helpful links we supply, go to our website at [sumpterpd.org](http://sumpterpd.org)

Stay in the know, please join us!

## Sumpter Township Parks & Recreation Commission



Our first event for 2018 will be the Easter Egg Hunt which will be held on **March 24th**, starting at **12 noon**.

Bring your children out to **Graham Park** for the hunting of the Easter eggs, pictures with the Easter Bunny and a surprise.



Come and join us at Sumpter Country Fest!

The Sumpter Twp. Parks & Recreation Commission is in the planning stages of our 2018 Sumpter Country Fest. Dates for this year festival are May 25, 2018 – May 28, 2018. We will soon be advertising this event and all the activities. Come out and see what it is all about!



**Banotai Park (24000 Sherwood Rd.) and Graham Park (24560 Sumpter Rd.), will be open on May 1, 2018 for full service. Any questions, please call the Clerk's Office, at (734) 461-4201.**

**We hope to see the township residents at all of our events!**



## Sumpter Senior Center—Maryann Watson, Senior Specialist

23501 Sumpter Road

(734) 461-9373

9:00 a.m.— 4:00 p.m.



- Free and low cost transportation & travel
- Weekly shopping & errands to Belleville
- Daily lunch served at 11:45
- Focus Hope /TEFAP food available to qualifying individuals
- Computer Lab, WIFI, Exercise Room
- Upholstery class, Quilting, Bible Study



- **Arthritis Foundation**  
Exercise free to members
- **Cardio Drumming Class**  
Free to members
- **MICAFE**
- **FOOT DOCTOR**  
Loan Closet-walkers, bath chairs, wheelchairs  
Diabetic lancets, etc. call 734-461-9373 for more info

**Senior Liaison**  
Clerk Esther Hurst

**Senior Advisory Board**  
Karen Mickins  
Margaret Rochon  
Barbara Thomason  
Joe Wilson



### Upcoming Highlights

- ◇ *Black History Celebration* February 23rd at 1:00
- ◇ *Sister Act:: The Musical* @Bonstelle — April 18th
- ◇ *King Lear* @Hilberry Theatre — May 2nd
- ◇ *Shipshewana* — May 30th
- ◇ ARKencounter Williamstown, Kentucky — September 27th

### WAYNE COUNTY NUTRITION SENIOR DINING

Enjoy a hot, **well-balanced** meal, with friends  
Monday thru Friday 11:45

**\$3.00 suggested donation**

For persons 60 years or older  
\$5.00 for Guests

Sumpter Senior Center  
23501 Sumpter Road  
Call 734-461-1186 to RSVP

For Meals on Wheels call Wayne County

### Wayne County Nutrition

Barbara Thompson, Manager (734) 461-1186

Lunches served daily—Monday through Friday  
At 11:45 a.m. Please RSVP 24 hours in advance by noon

**Home Bound Meals on Wheels (734) 727-7357**

\$3.00 Suggested Donation (60 years and older)



### Mission Statement (Condensed)

It is the expressed mission of the Sumpter Township Senior Center to do all within its restraints of time, funding and manpower to:

Provide a safe and enjoyable environment wherein seniors may congregate.

Act as a liaison between area seniors, social service agencies, Wayne Co. & Sumpter Twp. Admins. Create activities promoting health, recreation, education socialization empowerment. Open to suggestions Comply with all State of Michigan non-discriminatory precepts.



### Community Food Bank Nourishing Gardens

If you are in need of food, please do not hesitate to come down. Nourishing Gardens will be able to assist in providing food for all families. If you have any questions, please call at (734) 713-7715, or visit their website at [www.nourishinggardens.org](http://www.nourishinggardens.org). Nourishing Gardens hours of operation: Sunday 11:00 am – 12:30 pm. Location: 24831 Sumpter Rd., Belleville (Between Wear & Willow Roads).

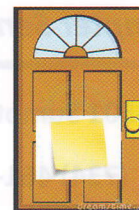


In Partnership with



**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 ext. 2242.



**Don't forget to  
schedule your  
appointment!**

**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.



**Caution**

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.

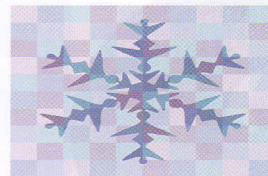
**PURGE THE SYSTEM:** Run clean water into the unit until the pump activates. Immediately turn off the water and allow the grinder pump to run until it shuts off. **DO NOT DISCONNECT THE POWER TO THE UNIT**

**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.**





## OTHER NEWS...



### WIC Program

Wayne County Health Department has a WIC Office located at 23501 Sumpter Road (Corner of Sumpter and Dunn). 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.

### Important Numbers to Remember

Emergency: 911

Dispatch: (734) 461-6898

Sumpter Police: (734) 461-4833

Republic Waste: (877) 264-5544

Wayne County Road: (888) 762-3273

Wayne County Forestry: (734) 941-1020

### Large Rubbish Items



© Can Stock Photo - csp9690446

**Call (877)  
264-5544  
before you  
set  
anything  
out beside  
your trash.**

If you have large items to throw away (furniture, sink, carpeting, etc.), you must call Republic Waste (877) 264-5544, for a "special pick-up", before setting it out at the roadside. Republic Waste will give you in-

structions on how you need to prepare your item for pickup.



### 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!**







23480 Sumpter Road  
Belleville, MI 48111  
Phone : (734) 461-6201

\*\*\*\*\*ECRWSS\*\*\*\*\*

Local  
Residential Customer

PRSRT  
STANDARD  
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ROMULUS, MI  
PERMIT NO. 34

All Postal Customers  
Sumpter Township, MI 48111

**Sumpter Township**  
**Board of Trustees**

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

