

# SUPERIOR SCENES

CHARTER TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER



## OAKBROOK PLAY STRUCTURE



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## FROM OUR SUPERVISOR

BY KENNETH SCHWARTZ, SUPERVISOR

### SALEM SEWER

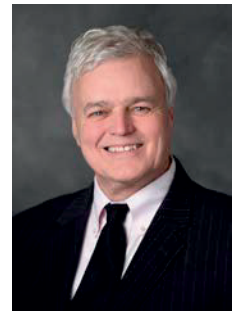
In the fall edition of Superior Scenes, I informed you about Salem Township’s application for a permit to construct a sewer line on Gotfredson Road from M-14 to the YUCA treatment plant – a total of 10.5 miles. I received so much feedback on this issue it deserves a quick update.

In October 2019 the Superior Township Board received a written request from Salem Township for a permit to construct a sewer line in a road right of way. In consultation with our attorney we scheduled a meeting with the Salem Township attorney and the township supervisor. At the meeting we agreed to review the application but demanded that Salem first post an escrow for engineering, planning and legal review.

So far Salem has refused to post any escrow and has made demands such as compelling Superior to complete all reviews in 60 days, restricting Superior’s review solely to engineering; and if an agreement cannot be negotiated, then mandating binding arbitration. These demands are totally unacceptable. Superior did not desire this sewer, is not a party to the grant contract and must put Superior residents first.

The permit review cannot be restricted only to engineering. We must consider the impacts on our master plan and zoning, how it will affect residential development and ultimately what impacts we could foresee with police and fire services, budgeting, roads, parks and land preservation.

SUPERVISOR continued on Page 10



**KENNETH  
SCHWARTZ  
SUPERVISOR**

**NEWS FROM OUR SUPERIOR CLERK**

BY LYNETTE FINDLEY, CLERK


**LYNETTE  
FINDLEY  
CLERK**

I want to express how thankful I am to have been serving as your Township Clerk for close to four years now. As I stated in my very first newsletter, it is my pleasure getting to know our many residents. Just as important, it is my honor to serve you in my position as Clerk. My service to you continues to be a great experience. Election day is my favorite day as I watch our residents, including the younger generation, exercise their right to vote.

The Big Election Year is upon us! As we prepare for a busy election year, I want to personally thank our temporary volunteer election workers who put in long days to ensure our elections run smoothly. Undoubtedly, the March 10th Presidential Primary was the Township's most successful election as we implemented the changes necessitated by Proposal 18-3. The number of absentee ballots that were sent out increased by 107.19% (751 in 2016 vs. 1,556 in 2020) from the Presidential Primary in March 2016. We are anticipating a similar increase for November's General Election.

In order to have successful elections, the Clerk's office leans on the dedication and commitment of the temporary election workers. I value the work and commitment of all my election inspectors. We continue to seek election inspectors that represent all party affiliations at the polls for elections to run in a fair and secure way. If you are interested in becoming an election inspector, please complete an application which can be found on <https://superiortownship.org/departments/clerk/>. We are specifically looking for those who identify with parties other than Democratic, but welcome anyone who is willing to apply. Thanks again to our wonderful temporary staff that work long days and make processes run smoothly.

**ELECTIONS 2020**

August 4, 2020 – Primary

November 3, 2020 – General

The Clerk's Office will provide the following services for each election:

- Open the Saturday prior to Election Day from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm.
- Voter registration on Election Day.
- Voters registering on Elections Day may obtain an absent voter ballot or vote in person at their proper precinct.
- Extended hours the week before Election Day to accommodate our residents with absentee voting.

Due to the passing of Proposal 18-3 in November 2018, we had a substantial increase in voters registering on the day of the election in March. To accommodate our residents, the Clerk's Office plans to extend hours leading up to the General Election. Our goal is to have several evening hours the week prior to Election Day to make it easier for our residents to vote.

Registered voters can request an absentee ballot without having to state any reason. The following benefits of being on the permanent absentee voter list:

- You will automatically receive an absent voter application in the mail for every election.
- If you chose to return the application, a ballot will be sent to you as soon as it arrives in the clerk's office.
- You will avoid potentially long lines at the polling locations.
- You can take your time studying the ballot and vote from home when you are ready.
- By being placed on the permanent absent voter list, you will be automatically notified of all elections in the Charter Township of Superior, including special elections.

CLERK continued on page 5

**NEWS FROM: BRENDA L. MCKINNEY,**  
OUR SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP TREASURER SINCE 1996



*Treasurer's Mission Statement*

*The Superior Township Treasurer is committed "to provide prompt, courteous, and efficient service to the public." The Treasurer is committed to handling public funds with the highest degree of integrity and accountability.*

**BRENDA  
MCKINNEY  
TREASURER**

**Thank You for Your Continued Support!**

We are now a year round drop off point for donations of food pantry items and toiletries for the Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti. You can obtain information about their programs and services at: [www.thehopeclinic.org](http://www.thehopeclinic.org).

**What You Should Know About Your Taxes**

Total property taxes billed for 2019 were estimated at \$30,457,543.81. The estimated total amount of property taxes collected as of February 29, 2020, were \$29,725,206.37 from 6,240 parcels. As of this date, Superior Township has collected 97.59% of the estimated taxes billed.

- The 2019 Summer & Winter Tax Collection ended on February 29, 2020. Beginning March 3, 2020, all delinquent 2019 real property taxes are now payable to the Washtenaw County Treasurer, with additional interest and penalties as prescribed by law. Please contact the Washtenaw County Treasurer at (734) 222-6600 with any questions.
- New homeowners, please be sure to complete and file your Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) Affidavit forms with the Assessor in order to claim the exemption from school operating taxes on your property tax bill. Filing deadlines are on or before June 1st for a summer PRE and on or before November 1st for a winter PRE.
- Deferment applications will be mailed June 1st. Please sign and return completed applications by September 14th. Eligible persons are 62 years of age or older, including the unmarried surviving spouse of a person who was 62 years of age or older at the time of death, Paraplegic or Quadriplegic, Eligible Serviceperson, Eligible Veteran, Eligible Widow or Widower, Blind, or Totally and Permanently Disabled. Having a deferment allows homeowners to pay taxes until April 30th without penalties or interest charges. Please contact my office at (734) 482-6099 with any questions.
- Partial payments in any dollar amount will be accepted during the property tax collection period from July 1st – February 28th; however, summer taxes unpaid by September 14th will be subject to a statutory one percent per month interest fee unless a deferment has been granted. After February 28th, any unpaid real property taxes must be paid to the Washtenaw County Treasury with additional interest and penalties as prescribed by law.
- Credit and debit cards can now be accepted for tax payments at the Treasurer's office. All credit and debit card payments are subject to a 3% vendor fee (minimum \$2.00). Credit and debit cards accepted for payment at the Treasurer's office include: MasterCard, Visa, Discover, and American Express.

Continued on page 4

**SUPERIOR TREASURER Continued from page 3**

- Cash payments in the exact amount are appreciated as the Treasurer's office has only a limited amount of cash on hand to make change for large bills. Thank you for your cooperation.
- Online property tax payments can be made through the Superior Township web-site at: [www.superiortownship.org](http://www.superiortownship.org), through Point & Pay. From the home page, click on Departments/Treasurer to "Pay Taxes Online." The online tax payment portal will be available July 1st – February 28th. Summer property tax payments must be made by September 14th to avoid a 1% per month interest fee. Winter property tax payments are due February 14th. Credit and debit cards accepted for online payments include: MasterCard, VISA, Discover, and American Express. There is a 3% vendor fee (minimum \$2.00) for payments by credit or debit cards; there is \$3.00 vendor fee for payments made from a checking or savings account, using an electronic check.
- Homeowners who escrow their taxes should have their lender contact my office with their request for your tax bills and their correct mailing address. If you no longer escrow your taxes, please contact my office so your tax bill will be sent to you.

**HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER!! – Brenda McKinney**

**THE BENEFITS OF BUILDING PERMITS**

RICK MAYERNIK

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) publishes Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) for Superior Township and other communities that participate in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Private Citizens, insurance agents, and brokers use FIRMs to locate properties and buildings to determine their flood risk and whether flood insurance is required or recommended. Community officials use FIRMs to administer floodplain management regulations and to mitigate flood damage. Lending institutions and Federal agencies use FIRMs to locate properties and buildings in relation to mapped flood hazards, and to determine whether flood insurance is required when making loans or providing grants following a disaster for the purchase or construction of a building.

Prior to 2012, the mapped floodplain in Superior Township was limited to the Huron River located in the southwest portion of the township. In 2012, FEMA updated their mapping. Areas adjacent to the Fleming Creek are now mapped as well.

The Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) are available for review on FEMA's website: <http://msc.fema.gov> or at the Township offices. Floodplain mapping layers are also available on Washtenaw County's MapWashtenaw GIS website.

If you believe your property or buildings are shown in the floodplain by the FEMA FIRM in error, you can request a letter of map change. The most common method is a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA) which effectively establishes that a property or structure is not located in the floodplain. A LOMA can only be issued by FEMA and involves an application to be completed by your engineer and submitted to FEMA.

Please contact the Township Building Official at (734) 482-6099 if you have any floodplain questions.



## OUR WETLANDS BOARD

### WHY PROTECT OUR WETLANDS?

JIM MCINTYRE

As spring arrives in the township, so do the migratory birds that abandoned us in the fall for warmer climates. Many of the areas where these species nested, as recently as last year, now have a dramatically different look and are no longer suitable for these birds to use for nesting, shelter, or as food sources. The geese, ducks, eagles, and cranes returning to the area now have to adapt to a very different environment than the one they left.

We live in a time where property values are on the rise. The rush to develop every available parcel puts enormous pressure on numerous species, especially those that need large swaths of contiguous space to survive. Many species of migratory birds make their summer homes in Superior Township and the surrounding areas; as developed areas grow, the space available for these birds continues to get smaller. Working to manage development with the needs of wildlife is a difficult task, and we've worked for years to maintain a balance that encourages new construction and community growth while protecting the Township's natural areas.

Healthy wetlands provide critical food, shelter, and nesting areas for numerous species, including migratory birds. For many years, Superior Township has made a conscious effort to ensure that our wetland areas are allowed to thrive and remain shielded from development...allowing these species a safe haven. As residents, we have the added bonus of being able to experience a rich diversity of wildlife and open space that our friends in neighboring communities sorely lack. This spring, take some time to visit some of the Township's wetland areas and preserves, and see for yourself how important these resources are for the community.

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You can be added to the list by completing the absentee ballot application, which can be found on the local Clerk's web-page at [www.superior-twp.org](http://www.superior-twp.org). Please return the application via email to [lynettefindley@superior-twp.org](mailto:lynettefindley@superior-twp.org) or drop it off at the Township Hall.

A reminder of the following changes which were also implemented as a result of Proposal 18-3:

- The Secretary of State's Office will automatically register voters.
- Voters can also register anytime at the Clerk's Office with proof of residency which includes (1) Michigan Driver's License or State ID card, (2) current utility bill, (3) bank statement, (4) paycheck or government check, or (5) other government document.
- The voter's right to a secret ballot is protected.
- Michigan voters may vote straight party.
- Military members and overseas voters have the right to have an absent voter ballot sent to them at least forty-five (45) days before an election.
- All registered voters can vote absentee.
- The Constitution provides for the auditing of election results.

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## SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP UTILITIES DEPARTMENT (STUD)

### Water/Sewer Monthly Billing Cycle

Superior Township water/sewer has officially changed its residential water/sewer customers over to a monthly billing cycle. Residential customers are now billed every month. This plan will be beneficial in many ways including earlier detection of water leaks, lower bills due to frequent invoicing and better management of household budgets.

### Bill Payment Options:

STUD offers customers the ability to pay water/sewer bills through **Automated Clearing House (ACH)**. With this service, customers can have their bill paid automatically on the due date from their checking or savings account. By choosing ACH, customers will save time, money and avoid late fees while never having to write a check. To sign up for ACH, go to our website at [www.superior-twp.org](http://www.superior-twp.org) or call the Utility Department at 734-480-5500 to request an ACH application.

### New Lead and Copper Rule

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) has adapted new testing processes for the New Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). The goal is to minimize lead and copper levels in public drinking water systems throughout the State. The revised plan only affects a small portion of township residences and requires significant changes for testing water supplies. Some of the key changes that have taken place include:

- Lead and copper testing increasing to once a year.
- EGLE requires an increased number of participants for tap water sampling pools.
- A small sampling of properties built before July 1988 are required to be tested.

Superior Township is devoted to providing healthy and safe drinking water to its residents and will continue to meet all requirements issued by EGLE. For more information on the New LCR, please visit [www.michigan.gov/EGLE](http://www.michigan.gov/EGLE).

### Water Main Break Awareness

With the changing of winter to spring and the frozen ground beginning to thaw, the risks for water main breaks increase. Main breaks are not predictable and therefore we rely on the citizens of our community to be the eyes and ears for us. If you see water bubbling up from the ground or in the road it may be a main break. To report a water main break, please call Superior Township Utility Department seven days a week, 24 hours a day at 734-480-5500.

### Tips for Watering Your Lawn

With the sprinkling season approaching us soon, here are a few tips you may want to use for watering your lawn:

- Check your sprinkler system and if needed, have preventative maintenance performed on it such as cleaning of nozzles and sprinkler heads.
- Program your sprinkler timer and water your lawn for the correct number of minutes. Don't over water your lawn. Water your lawn just enough where 6-8 inches down is moist.
- Have a rain sensor installed on your system.
- Water in the morning instead of night, it's the best time because it's cooler and you will have less evaporation. Watering at night promotes unhealthy fungus growth on your lawn.



CLERK continued from Page 5

The voter should also be aware of the following:

- Within 14 days of an election, voters can only register in person at the local Clerk's Office.
- Registered voters may obtain an absent voter ballot via first class mail until 5 pm on the Friday prior to each election.
- Voters may obtain an absent voter ballot in person at the Clerk's Office until 4 pm the day prior to an election.

**MORE IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER PLANNED FOR OCTOBER – Lynette Findley**

#### THE WASHTENAW COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT REMINDS US:

- If you are in need of medical care, call ahead to your doctor.
- Minimize contact with others in your home whenever possible.
- Do not share items with your household members or pets such as dishes, cups, silverware, towels or bedding. After using these items, they should be washed with soap and hot water.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean your frequently used surfaces with a solution of ¼ cup bleach to a gallon of water or use disinfectant sprays or wipes daily. This includes “high touch” surfaces such as phones, tablets, keyboards, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, counters, tabletops and bedside tables. Wear rubber gloves if necessary and make sure the area is properly ventilated.
- ALL household members should practice self-monitoring.

#### SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



JOHN HUDSON

Welcome to your Superior Township Neighborhood Watch. We work with the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Department to maintain safe neighborhoods throughout the Township by sharing information about safety issues in the Township including crime information, traffic alerts, and weather alerts.

At our meetings we receive updates and information from Sheriff Representatives and discuss topics involving the Township and County.

Residents who join the Superior Township Neighborhood Watch email list receive bi-monthly crime summaries and year to year crime trends for Superior Township.

We meet on fourth Tuesdays every other month in the Old Town Hall building at 3040 North Prospect. Our Meetings begin at 7:00 PM and everyone in the Township is invited to attend and to share with their neighbors and friends any information from the meetings.

The meetings for 2020 are scheduled for March 24th, May 19th, July 28th, September 22nd, and November 24th. Please note the May meeting is scheduled for the 19th due to the Parks' Commission meeting taking place on May 26th following the Memorial Day holiday.

If you would like to begin receiving email information please submit an email request to John Hudson, Superior Township Neighborhood Watch Coordinator at: [jhudson300606mi@comcast.net](mailto:jhudson300606mi@comcast.net)

## NEWS FROM THE YPSILANTI DISTRICT LIBRARY (YDL)

MARY GARBODEN

8795 MacArthur Blvd  
(734) 482-4110, x1310  
Monday 12-8pm  
Tuesday 10am-6pm  
Wednesday & Thursday



**New library update:** Have you noticed the newly-installed sign at the new library location on Harris Road? Plans are moving along to break ground this fall. The library has submitted a proposed site plan to the Superior Township Planning Commission. Once the site plan is approved, our construction manager can begin to arrange construction contracts. We are excited to announce the receipt of a \$5,000 grant from the Ann Arbor Farm & Garden Club for building accessible raised garden beds at the new location.

**Electronics recycling:** The Whittaker Road location of the Library will host an electronics recycling event Saturday, April 25 from 10am-1pm. Bring your old phone, computer monitor, DVD player, and many other items. See a full list at [www.ypsilibrary.org/events/electronics-recycling](http://www.ypsilibrary.org/events/electronics-recycling). This event is limited to residents of Superior Township, Ypsilanti Township, and the City of Ypsilanti.

**Writing help:** Ypsi Writes continues to host weekly drop-in hours at the Superior Township location. Every Tuesday from 11am-1pm, a trained writing consultant is on hand to help you with your latest writing project, such as a job application, creative writing piece, poetry, or college essay. This service is free and no registration is required.

**Summer is coming:** Mark your calendar for the Library's Summer Challenge kickoff party, held at 3pm Saturday, June 13. See you at the library!

## SUPERIOR PARK NEWS

JUAN BRADFORD

Get ready for park improvements! This summer the Parks & Recreation Department will be working on three projects to improve the parks. Two of the projects are being paid for by Community Development Block Grant funds. They include a new \$33,000 play structure at Fireman's Park to go along with the existing playground equipment, and the restoration of the two tennis courts at Community Park. The third project is being funded through a Building Health Places: Creating Parks with Purpose Grant that the Parks & Recreation Department was awarded from the Michigan Recreation and Park Association (mParks). One of the goals of this grant is to increase access to parks. We will be using these funds to install a 6' wide sidewalk at Fireman's Park from the parking area to the new play structure. This will greatly improve ADA accessibility to the playground area. We will also be adding park benches with companion seating areas along the sidewalk, as well as a bike rack and informational kiosk.

Once again, we will be hosting the COME OUT & PLAY! Summer Camp held in conjunction with Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation. The program will run Mondays -Thursdays, June 22nd thru August 13th. Children will be in a safe, supervised, structured setting that includes recreation, academics, enrichment, crafts, and FUN! Breakfast and lunch are also provided. There is a \$10 registration fee, after that the entire camp is FREE! The last three years this program was at capacity and space is limited so contact Superior Township Parks & Recreation now to register.

Don't forget to check out the 2020 Special Events flier that is included in this newsletter. We would love to see you at one of the many family friendly events. If you would like additional information regarding any of our events or programs you can reach the Parks & Recreation Department at (734) 480-5502.



**Welcome to Superior Township!**

By Brenda Baker, Committee to Promote Superior Township

Do you reside in Superior Township? Or perhaps you operate a business here...

Whatever brought you here, did you receive any sort of general information about Superior Township, and living or operating here? This most likely would have come from Superior Township Hall when you stopped in to pay your taxes, get information, or just to say hello to some of our elected officials. If you purchased property, you might also have received something from the seller, such as information regarding utilities or waste collection and transferring these services from one occupant to the next. If you rent, you might have received information from your landlord. These items are necessary and useful. Newer residents should have received a welcome packet containing some of the items listed here:

Welcome and Introduction	Recycle & Yard Waste Calendar	Republic Services Reference Guide
Latest <i>Superior Scenes</i>	Brief History of Superior Township	Superior Township Fire Department
Superior Township Parks Commission	Superior Township Parks Map	Ypsilanti Township Compost Site (available to Superior residents)
Superior Township Utility Department		

There is no set makeup of the existing “welcome packet,” so it would be whichever of these the Township employee had at hand when you stopped in.

The Committee to Promote Superior Township believes that by enhancing and standardizing the New Resident Welcome Packet, the Township would put our best foot forward to new arrivals. In addition to providing needed information about services, we intend to include information about Township history, Township vision, Superior Places, and local businesses. Once completed, the New Resident Welcome Packet will be placed on the Township website, where it will be accessible to all residents as well as to the general public.

Hard copies of the New Resident Welcome Packet can be supplemented with physical items as may be available from time to time. Some of these that may be available now include refrigerator magnets with Township phone numbers, bumper stickers (“My Township is Superior – We Recycle”), and a brochure about the Superior Greenway.

This project will take our volunteer Committee several months to complete, so there is ample opportunity for additions or changes. If you have any suggestions regarding the composition or style of the packet that introduces new folks to our beautiful Township, now is the time to let us know. Leave us a message at Township Hall (734.482.6099), or send an email to the Clerk’s office ([Lynette.Findley@superior-twp.org](mailto:Lynette.Findley@superior-twp.org)) and ask them to forward it to us.

We’d love to hear from you!

The Committee to Promote Superior Township meets monthly on the third Wednesday, 7:00-8:30pm at Superior Township Hall. Everyone is welcome.

SUPERVISOR KEN SCHWARTZ

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A project of this significance will undoubtedly cause unforeseen issues to arise that were not anticipated and of course there needs to be public hearings and meetings to gauge the sentiments of our residents.

In my opinion, for Salem to expect the township to review and decide this matter within 60 days will undermine the public trust in the Board. We cannot possibly explore all the facts and policy implications of this proposal in such a tight time period. After all, this is not an emergency for Superior Township, and the health, safety and welfare of Superior Township residents does not rest upon the installation of this sewer period.

The Michigan State Constitution, statutes and court cases have set forth a rule of guidance for the township. We are empowered to control the road easements within our jurisdiction. We can deny the use of these easements to Salem if and only if the denial is based on factors which reasonably relate to the welfare of the township. We cannot be arbitrarily or unreasonably in an approval or a denial. Our actions must be based on rational factors; however, we cannot even begin to explore these issues until Salem Township establishes an escrow and agrees to pay for the reviews. At this time, Salem wants Superior to approve the sewer plans, to issue contraction permits and to bear the costs of the necessary review. This is an absurd proposition.

### **SUPERIOR TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT NEWS**

In 2019 the Superior Township Board applied and received approval for a state revolving fund (SRF) loan for the replacement of the 1960's era sewer pump station in the road easement on Clark Road. This pump station has surpassed its useful life by over a decade. The new pump station will be located on Clark Road but out of the road easement. Working with the Washtenaw County Park Commission we were able to secure approximately 10,000 square feet of space on the new 55 acre nature preserve. At the time of construction, a small parking lot will be installed to provide a platform for our trucks and equipment to service the pumps. This parking lot will double as parking for people who want to use the new nature preserve. The land will be preserved in perpetuity and is the first land preservation effort in the township's urban service area. The county is exploring efforts to build a non-motorized path from Clark Road, through the preserve to connect with existing paths to open this section of the township to bikers and pedestrians.

### **NEW NON-MOTORIZED PATH**

In 2017 the township secured from the owners of the Fairfax Manor Independent Living facility a 14-foot easement across their entire frontage on Prospect Road at no expense to the township. The easement was necessary for the future construction of the non-motorized path down Prospect Road from Geddes to Berkshire. In 2018 the township applied for and received a \$37,500 grant to conduct the preliminary engineering for the construction of a new path down the easement. With the preliminary engineering in hand we applied for a Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) grant to help finance the construction of the path. On March 6, 2020 I was informed by SEMCOG that our application was approved in the amount of \$429,609.00 for the 2021 construction year. Believe it or not, that generous award is not enough to cover the total costs of the new path primarily due to the cost of building a bridge to take the path over Superior Drain Number Two. Your treasurer, Brenda McKinney, who sits on the Washtenaw County Park Commission will guide an additional request for funding through the Park Commission grant process. If approved, this grant should cover the great majority of the remaining costs of engineering, construction and inspection. With this improvement our trail system will be finally looped. Future plans include connecting this trail to a new proposed trail on the 55-acre nature preserve recently acquired on Clark Road.

Feel free to call me at 734-482-6099 if you want to talk about any other matter important to you.

**CORONAVIRUS DIRECTIONS****SELF MONITORING**

- Practice social distancing. (Keep 6 feet of space between people)
- Take and record temperature twice a day, once in the morning and once at night.
- Report temperatures of 100.4 degree F or above to your doctor.
- Report any onset of respiratory illness to your doctor. These include:
  1. Cough
  2. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  3. Chest pain
  4. Additionally, you could experience sore throat, muscle aches, chills, headache, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea

If you need medical care, call ahead to your doctor.

Others in the household should practice social distancing.

If you develop symptoms, you will then need to practice self-isolation.

**CORONAVIRIS - WASHTENAW COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE 3/17/2020**

On Tuesday, March 10th, the state of Michigan reported its first two confirmed cases of COVID-19 and at that time Washtenaw County had zero cases. At press time, seven cases were confirmed in Washtenaw County and a total of 54 cases were confirmed statewide. On Sunday March 15th, Washtenaw County announced all nonessential operations would be closed until April 6 to prevent further spread of the virus.

However, for the Washtenaw County Health Department, it's all hands-on deck.

Susan Ringler-Cerniglia, Washtenaw County Health Department communications manager, says the health department has been monitoring COVID-19 for weeks and gathering information to keep the public informed.

"We're trying to walk that line between providing timely information and information on what could happen without causing too much alarm. That's always a challenge," Ringler-Cerniglia says. "This is moving quickly and changing quickly, and we want to keep reiterating to check back to our site for official information."

In addition to providing information, the department is now monitoring cases and assisting with ruling out other illnesses, such as influenza, before sending samples to be tested at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Bureau of Laboratories.

Once a sample is sent for testing, patients are kept in isolation and asked questions to help the health department find a possible source if the test is positive. The MDHHS lab has increased its test batches to twice a day, and results are usually available within five or six hours, Ringler-Cerniglia says. The University of Michigan Health System has said it hopes to be able to take additional COVID-19 tests soon to increase the number of test results and the speed with which they're processed.

So far, most Michigan patients who have tested positive have been associated with domestic or international travel, or with someone close to them who has traveled recently. Ringler-Cerniglia says the business closures and social distancing ordered by state and local officials are a good start to prevent the virus from circulating more widely in the community. But she cautions organizations to be ready to keep these strategies in place for a while.

# SUPERIOR SCENES

SUPERIOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER  
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Brenda McKinney	Treasurer
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Lisa Lewis	Trustee
Alex Williams	Trustee
Meghan Winslow	Trustee

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[brendamckinney@superior-twp.org](mailto:brendamckinney@superior-twp.org)

### 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 Road, Ypsilanti,  
 MI 734-480-5502

## OUR SUPERIOR FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHIEF VIC CHEVRETTE

I am pleased to write this column and update you on what is happening within your Fire Department. With spring and summer approaching, it will be time to clean yards. As a reminder, burn permits are required to burn yard waste.

### Burn Permits

There are limitations to burning within the Township. There are specific restrictions based on where you live in the Township, size of lot you have, weather conditions, and type of materials to be burned. All details regarding open burning are found in Superior Township Ordinance 185: Burning Ordinance ([http://superior-twp.org/news/ord\\_185\\_burning\\_final.pdf](http://superior-twp.org/news/ord_185_burning_final.pdf)). The first step, is obtaining an application for Open Burning and Burning Ordinance. The Application for Open Burning Permit is at the Township Hall. After approval, you will need to notify the Fire Department at (734) 484-1996, prior to any open burning.

### Smoke Detectors

The American Red Cross offers free Smoke Detectors and Installations/ inspections. You can go to their website at [redcross.org/local/Michigan/home](http://redcross.org/local/Michigan/home)

The Fire Department also has free smoke detector and CO detector to install as well. You may contact the Fire Department at 734-484-1996 for smoke detector installation.

### COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

With the current State of Emergency at hand, the Fire Department will still respond to all Life Threatening Calls. Personnel will be dressed in Protective Gear in order to treat patients accordingly. Washtenaw County Sheriff Dispatch along with Huron Valley Ambulance will be screening calls.