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New senior citizen transportation van in service

A brand new van, dedicated to transporting senior citizens in the Plymouth Community, is now in service. This new vehicle is the long overdue replacement for a van that had been in service for 10 years. The senior transportation program is a cooperative effort between Plymouth Township, the City of Plymouth and the Plymouth Community United Way.

According to Supervisor Steve Mann, "The replacement of this van is just the beginning. Another new van is expected to be in service shortly. This second vehicle will help to satisfy the demand for transportation and make trips to Ann Arbor area medical facilities possible."

The service is available to any senior citizen (60 years of age or older), or handicapped person living in the City of Plymouth or Plymouth Township and provides rides to any destination within the City or Township, area medical facilities, shopping centers and other locations such as Meijer, Westland Mall and Old Country Buffet. The service is free, however, reservations are required and should be made at least 48 hours in advance.



Getting the new van underway are (from left to right): Ron Discher, senior van driver; Bernice Rudick, Plymouth Community Council on Aging; Supervisor Steve Mann, Plymouth Township; Mayor Bill Graham, City of Plymouth; Marle Morrow and Howard Behr, Plymouth Community United Way.

Between the hours of 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM, one of the vans will be used exclusively to transport seniors to and from the Wayne County Nutrition Site located at Tonquish Creek Manor.

Hours of Service
8:30 AM to 4:00 PM
Monday through Friday
(excluding holidays)

For additional information and reservations:
Phone: (734) 459-8888
TDD: (734) 455-1888

Plymouth Township recognizes "National Public Safety Telecommunications Week"

When you dial "911" in an emergency, the first person you speak with will be a Telecommunicator; a professional trained to gather information, determine what type of help is needed, and dispatch the appropriate units to handle your emergency. The members of the Plymouth Community Communications Center are truly the lifelines that connect our citizens with the emergency services of Police, Fire, and EMS. "Without their conscientious effort and professionalism we would not be able to offer the prompt and competent level of service that we do" says Township Supervisor Steve Mann.

The Board of Trustees will honor these professionals at their meeting on April 9, 2002 by issuing a proclamation in recognition of National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, April 14–20, 2002.



Kristina Clark is one of eleven Telecommunicators who serve the Plymouth Community. Plymouth Township and the City of Plymouth combined dispatch services in November 2000.

Important Phone Numbers:

General Twp. Government Number: 453-3840

Police, Fire, EMS Emergencies: 911
 Police (non-emergency): 354-3249

Supervisor 354-3201
 Clerk 354-3224
 Treasurer 354-3214

Trustees:
 Kay Arnold 455-2683
 Charles Curmi 455-9658
 Ron Griffith 455-1083
 Abe Munfakh 459-7547

Household Hazardous Waste Day to be held May 18

We all get the spring cleaning bug when the weather turns warm and not everything we find is safe for regular curbside trash collection. Here's your chance to clean up and clean out the proper way. Plymouth Township residents can drop off common household hazardous wastes from **9:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Saturday, May 18, 2002, RAIN or SHINE!** Collection will take place at the Division of Public Services Building located at 46555 Port Street. To get to the Public Services building take Beck Road to Port Street, north of M-14 and south of Compuware Arena. Turn east on Port Street. The Public Service building is approximately .2 miles down on the south side of the road. Please note that a driver's license or other proof of residency is required at the drop-off site. Businesses and non-residents may not participate.



Bring your household hazardous waste to the Public Services Building on Saturday, May 18 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM

Enter the line of vehicles and drive through the building where volunteers will remove the items for you (you don't even have to exit your vehicle!)



Items will be sorted and disposed of properly!

The following materials will be accepted and must be in their original container:

- Adhesives
- Aerosol cans (up to 12 inches tall – no cylinders or fire extinguishers)
- Automotive fluids (any type including used motor oil and antifreeze)
- Batteries (all types)
- Drain openers
- Driveway sealer
- Gasoline
- Hobby chemicals
- Laboratory chemicals (silver nitrate, hydrochloric acid, etc.)
- Lawn and garden products (fertilizers, herbicides, all types, formulas and brands, includes dioxin compounds).
- Medications (prescription and over the counter)
- Mercury
- Paint and stain products (including latex)
- Pesticides (all types, formulas and brands includes DDT)
- Polishes (furniture and metal)
- Pool chemicals
- Propane cylinders
- Reactives (stump removal, water treatment compounds, peroxides, elemental metal-sodium potassium)
- Resins
- Solvents
- Wood preservatives
- Items labeled: acid, flammable, caustic, poison, caution, toxic, danger or warning.

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

- Smoke detectors
- Tires
- Radioactive materials
- PCB containing materials
- Explosives including ammunition and fireworks
- Medical waste

Call the Solid Waste Department at 453-8131 ext. 33 for information on proper disposal of these items and for general information.

A note about disposal of medicine:

A common method used to dispose of expired or unused medicine is to flush it down the toilet. But this could be adversely affecting our waterways. Instead, please dispose of it at the Household Hazardous Waste Day on May 18 or contact your pharmacist or physician to determine the acceptable disposal of your specific medication.



Solid Waste Notes: Compost collection season begins April 1

Spring is here! As you start to think about getting your lawn and gardens prepared for this summer please keep in mind the basics for putting your yard waste to the curb for pick up:

- ❖ Branches, sticks, etc. can be no longer than 3 foot in length and must be bundled and tied with string or twine – no wire or plastic ties.
- ❖ Leaves, and grass clippings can be put into paper Yard Waste bags available from various retailers, or in a 35 gallon or less container that is CLEARLY labeled YARD WASTE or X or C.
- ❖ Roots are not collected as yard waste.
- ❖ Compost is collected on the same day as your trash and recycling.

As with all of your trash, recycling and yard waste:

- ❖ Items must be to the curb by **7:00 am** on the day of your collection.
- ❖ Cannot weigh more than **fifty (50)** pounds.
- ❖ Container/can size cannot exceed **35 Gallons**.



DID YOU KNOW...

Approximately 45% of paper used in the U.S. has been recovered for recycling?

OR THAT...

Plymouth Township residents recycled 44% of their waste in 2002?

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! Refer to your “Guide to Trash, Compost, Recycling and Household Hazardous Waste” for further information or call the Solid Waste Department at 453-8131, ext. 33.

Home security: Lighting systems play an important role

It is a recognized fact that good lighting is a deterrent to crime. Lighting lets you, the homeowner, see the pathway you take from your vehicle to the house. It permits you to see as you stop at the door to use your house keys. Effective lighting also forces a potential intruder to work in an area where he may be exposed and reported to the police. Outdoor lighting is also helpful to children who walk to school before sunrise.



Here are some guidelines to consider when assessing the outdoor lighting needs at your home:

Around the house: All sides of the home should be protected by security lighting that is located high out of reach and is vandal resistant. The best possible location for exterior residential lighting is under the eaves of the house. Such lighting should ideally be controlled by photo-electric cells that will activate them during times of darkness.

Over entry doors: Each door should be equipped with a light that provides quality illumination in the vicinity of the door, including either side of the door and porch.

Carports and garages: Lighting in carports and garages is critical. For garages, an automatic garage door opener is the best choice. Almost every garage door opener made today has a light that comes on when the opener is activated, lighting the interior of the garage. In carports, it is recommended either to leave the light on,

have the light on a timer, or have a light connected to a motion sensor or photo electric cell.

Light controls: Security lighting should be automatically controlled by photocell. Unfortunately, many exterior light fixtures are controlled by an interior switch which can be—and often is—turned off by an occupant or simply never turned on in the first place. Photocell bases which screw into the bulb socket are available at minimal cost. The bulb is then screwed into the photocell base. From that point on, the light will illuminate automatically as the sun goes down.

Motion lighting: Motion detection lighting is strongly encouraged, particularly in areas where lighting may be considered intrusive to neighbors. Such units are often direct replacements for existing fixtures and can be selectively aimed to detect motion of an approaching intruder and cause the light to activate. This does two things: first, the sudden presence of the light startles the intruder, leaving him exposed to view; and second, the light provides a friendly means to light pathways as the homeowner returns in the evening. While there may be a concern that dogs, cats or birds will trigger the sensor and cause the lights to come on, if you set the sensitivity of the sensor correctly, this should not be a problem.

More information on home security and crime prevention is available from the Plymouth Township Police Department, Community Resource Officer Jamie Senkbeil at 354-3243.

From the Office of Emergency Management: Tornado Safety Tips

The following information and tips are provided to help keep you safe during the tornado season. Please clip and post them for reference during a storm.

What is a tornado watch?

This alert condition means that weather conditions in your area are favorable to produce tornadoes. Stay alert and informed by monitoring the weather in your area and keeping your radio or TV on.

What is a tornado warning?

This condition means that a tornado has been reported or detected on radar and that you should seek safe shelter immediately.

Where should I seek shelter at home?

A basement offers the best shelter. Seek shelter under a stairway or sturdy furniture. In homes without basements, seek shelter in the center of the home on the lowest floor, in a small room or closet, bathroom or interior hallway.

I live in a mobile home. Where should I go?

Go to a prearranged safe shelter. If there is no time, lie flat in a ditch or depression, upwind from the mobile home. DO NOT REMAIN IN THE MOBILE HOME.

What should I do if I'm in a vehicle?

If there is time, travel at right angles to the tornado's path. If there is no time to drive away, get out of the vehicle and into a safe shelter or a ditch or depression upwind from the vehicle.



What should I do at work or school?

Follow advance shelter plans to move into interior hallways or small rooms on the lowest level. AVOID AREAS WITH WINDOWS AND/OR LARGE SPAN ROOFS.

What about in the open country?

Take shelter in a sturdy building if possible or lie flat in a ditch or depression and hold on to something anchored in the ground. MAKE SURE YOU ARE UPWIND FROM ANY VEHICLE OR POSSIBLE DEBRIS.

Does Plymouth have a siren warning system?

Yes, three to five minutes of a steady siren tone means tornado warning during the tornado season. During the rest of the year, it means "alert". Tune to local radio and TV stations for information.

When are the sirens tested?

In the Plymouth area and most other areas, siren tests are conducted on the first Saturday of each month at 1:00 PM local time. The test consists of one minute of steady tone, three minutes of silence, then one minute of up and down tones. The test is then complete.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE POLICE OR FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR STORM INFORMATION DURING A WATCH OR WARNING. YOU WILL JUST TIE UP THEIR EMERGENCY TELEPHONE LINES. TUNE IN TO THE LOCAL RADIO AND TV STATIONS INSTEAD. WJR AM-760 OR WWJ AM-950 ARE TWO SUGGESTED RADIO STATIONS.

More information is available from the Plymouth Township Emergency Management Division, 354-3219.

The Plymouth Township Emergency Management Division is looking for severe weather spotters. Call (734) 354-3219 for more information.

Fourth of July festivities to include celebration of Township's 175th anniversary

This year the "Good Old Fashioned Picnic" at Plymouth Township Park on Independence Day will take on additional meaning. The Township plans to celebrate its 175th birthday in addition to that of our great country. Residents are invited to stop by and enjoy some birthday cake along with the 5-cent hot dogs, ice cream and pop that are normally served. Some of the activities planned for the children are the bicycle parade, fishing contest, and games.

Of course, the entire park with the playscape, fishing pond and nature trail is there to enjoy as well. Volunteers are needed for the 6th annual event which takes place on July 4, 11:00 AM—4:00 PM. Contact Treasurer Ron Edwards at 354-3214 if you'd like to help out or get more information.

Guy Louls with Chautauqua Express provides fun family entertainment.



Supervisor's Corner:



Steve Mann

Recently I had the opportunity to speak to the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce; sharing the podium with Mayor Bill Graham, County Commissioner Lyn Bankes and Plymouth Canton

Community Schools Superintendent Kathleen Booher. Appropriately the program was called State of the Community. And community it is.

For 175 years Plymouth Township and our residents have been at the forefront of carving out a community of which we can all be proud. We have played, and will continue to play, a significant role in defining the Plymouth community.

Having approved the Downtown Development Authority we are defining the gateway into Plymouth.

Having approved entrance markers for 11 gateway entrances we are defining the first impression people have when they visit or return home.

Having approved significant recreational projects; such as the spray scape and Lake Pointe Park soccer fields, we are defining the

image of a community concerned about youthful activities.

And having approved funding for a second senior van we are defining senior quality of life as needing to include mobility and transportation.

So, it was with good feelings that I represented the 27,798 Township residents who have given me the opportunity to serve as Supervisor. And with that the need to develop positive relationships with the overlapping units of government that provide us with services (Wayne County), education (schools) and a downtown to enjoy (Plymouth City).

It is my continued hope that we work with our neighbors to enhance and maximize the dollars returned to our community. Dollars that mean road maintenance, recreational opportunities and savings realized through joint services. This return on investment can only happen through communication and cooperation— two goals that I have at the top of our community agenda.

As we open and maintain lines of communication I am able to share the successes we have had in the past year. Success stories like Sunshine Honda, now Victory Honda, opening a new beautiful dealership.

Or, New Liberty Bank breaking ground on the construction of a major new, locally owned banking center.

Communication that involves Detroit Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick's staff, and Northville Township Manager Chip Snyder in an effort to coordinate the sale of the former Detroit House of Correction property. Coordinate the sale so that we can maximize benefits to our community.

Additionally, we are very fortunate to have John Stewart as our State Representative who is always in contact with Township Officials. He represents us well.

I know how difficult it was to carve out a community 175 years ago. To build a community from scratch. I know the many footsteps that have preceded mine. But the job is not done, it is only beginning.

I encourage you, as I have over most of the past year, to continue your involvement. To take ownership of the town you call home. Your support and willingness to help build a recreation program, to work in our schools, to shop our businesses, and to be proud of our hometown, makes my job all the more easier.

Watershed wisdom

As the weather warms many homeowners will begin planning for this summer's lawn and garden care. Don't forget our River! The Rouge River is one of our most important resources. Before you begin your lawn care regimen consider these river friendly tips (provided by the Rouge Program Office):

- 1) Build fertile soils with organic matter such as compost or mulch. Use a mulch (shredded leaves, grass clippings or compost) around plants and on the soil to resist weeds and retain moisture.
- 2) Select a slow-release fertilizer to promote steady, uniform growth.
- 3) Reduce the use of insecticides, herbicides and other pesticides on your lawn or in your garden.



If you use a lawn service find out what practices they use and encourage them to utilize some of the practices mentioned above. For more information and alternatives you can

contact the Division of Public Services at 453-8131 ext. 33, try the community library, or go online!

Some sites to try:

www.therouge.org
www.rougeriver.com
www.plymouthtp.org

Watershed Happenings:

May 18—Plymouth Twp. Household Hazardous Waste Day
 May 18—Johnson Creek Day
 June 1—River Day

Plymouth Township government meetings:

Meeting times are 7 PM, unless otherwise shown.

April:

Thursday, April 4: Zoning Board of Appeals (5 PM)

Tuesday, April 9: Board of Trustees

Wednesday, April 17: Planning Commission

Tuesday, April 23: Board of Trustees

May:

Thursday, May 2: Zoning Board of Appeals (5 PM)

Tuesday, May 14: Board of Trustees

Wednesday, May 15: Planning Commission

Tuesday, May 28: Board of Trustees

June:

Thursday, June 6: Zoning Board of Appeals (5 PM)

Tuesday, June 11: Board of Trustees

Wednesday, June 19: Planning Commission

Tuesday, June 25: Board of Trustees

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on the Internet at plymouthtwp.org

Police announce plans for a Citizens Police Academy

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a Police Officer? Citizens who want to learn more about the law enforcement profession and their local Police Department will get their chance at the inaugural Plymouth Township Police Department Citizen's Police Academy.

This nine-week program begins on April 10 and will be held each Wednesday evening from 7:00 to 9:30 PM, through June 5. "Attendees will gain a better understanding of the how's and why's of police work", said Chief of Police, Tom Tiderington. "Classes will include lectures as well as hands on experience with the use of a firearm training simulator and defensive tactics scenario." There is also an optional "ride-along" with an on-duty officer.

Upon completion of the academy, each student will be recognized at a graduation ceremony attended by family, local dignitaries and academy instructors.

Applicants selected to attend this program must be 18 years of age or older and live, work or own a business in Plymouth Township. Application forms are available at the front desk of the Police Department, located at 42350 Ann Arbor Road, Building Five. Class size is limited to 25 people.

**For further information, contact the
Community Resource Officer at 354-3243.**

Second annual Youth Police Academy to take place in July

The Plymouth Township Police Department has announced their "Second Annual Youth Police Academy", scheduled for July, 2002. The inaugural academy, held last Summer, was very successful and fun-filled. The one-week academy is for youths between the ages of 13 and 15 years. **For more information, please contact Detective Bill Groff at 354-3245.**

**REMINDER: Daylight savings time begins April 7
Don't forget to change the batteries in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks ahead one hour!**