

Spring 2007



9955 N Haggerty Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
(734) 453-3840
www.plymouthtwp.org

Charter Township of Plymouth

Tile mural community art project is completed

The next time you stop in to Township Hall, you will notice the addition of a large piece of art in the front entrance area. The colorful tile mural of an abstract aerial view of the Township was created through the cooperation of three area non-profit groups.

In early 2006 The Village Potters Guild was approached by Pewabic Pottery who wanted to get more involved in community projects. Joined by the Plymouth Community Arts Council, the three groups cooperatively used grant money to create the mural. Plymouth Township officials welcomed the idea of a mural for the new Township Hall.

Members of The Village Potters Guild created the design which includes several historical and current landmarks and points of interest. It is truly a community project as over 420 individuals helped create tiles, including residents of the community as well as groups of scouts.

Village Potters Guild members created special landmark tiles illustrating major points of interest which were sponsored by individuals and community businesses. The mural is made from terracotta clay which was donated by Pewabic Pottery.

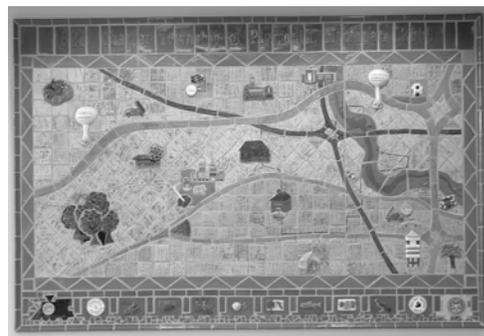
The completed mural includes over 500 individual tiles. The entire project was funded by grants and donations from the community.

The public is invited to meet the artists at a reception at Township Hall on Sunday, March 25, 2007 at 1:30 pm when the mural will be officially dedicated.



Over 500 tiles were used to complete the mural which was a cooperative effort of The Village Potters Guild, Pewabic Pottery and the Plymouth Community Arts Council.

The mural will be officially dedicated at a "Meet the Artists Reception" on Sunday, March 25 at 1:30 pm. Everyone is welcome!



The tile mural was installed in the front entrance of Plymouth Township Hall earlier this year.

Township and City Police launch "Plymouth Community Safe Citizens" Program



Plymouth Township and the City of Plymouth Police Departments are teaming up on a new program called "Community Safe Citizens." The program was created to assist people who have a family member who may walk away from their home and be unable to communicate their name or address to authorities. This would include individuals of any age with a physical or mental impairment.

The Police Department will maintain a file that contains a photo and a list of emergency contact information for each participant. In the event the person becomes disoriented or lost, authorities will have the information to identify the person so that they may be returned to their home.

If you have a loved one living in the Township or City of Plymouth and would like to participate in this program you will need to complete a "Safe Citizen Form." The form asks for name, address and physical description of the person, along with the type of impairment or medical condition. The form is available at both Police Departments or on the Plymouth Township website at

www.plymouthtwp.org or the City of Plymouth website at www.ci.plymouth.mi.us.

Once the form is completed, attach a recent photograph of the person and drop it off at either location below.

Plymouth Township Police Department
9955 N. Haggerty Road
Plymouth, MI 48170
Contact: Officer Jamie Senkbeil, 734-354-3243

City of Plymouth Police Department
201 S. Main St.
Plymouth, MI 48170
Contact: Renee Revels, 734-453-1234

Participants in the program will be asked to inform the police if the person moves out of the area or no longer

Announcement!

The Plymouth Township Police Department is now accepting applications for the next Citizen Police Academy, scheduled to begin in September, 2007.

This is a 10-week program where participants meet one evening a week for 3 hours to learn about topics such as patrol operations, accident investigations, criminal law and procedure, and special operations, to name just a few.

Contact Officer Jamie Senkbeil for more information:
jsenkbeil@plymouthtwppd.org
734-354-3243

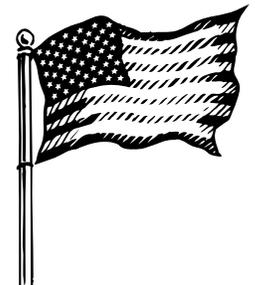
Resources for veterans

Veterans and their families can take advantage of several resources available to them at the county, state and federal level. Contact information is provided below for your convenience.

Wayne County Veterans Affairs
Grand Park Centre Building
28 W. Adams
Suite 1710, 17th Floor
Detroit, MI 48116
313-224-5045
www.waynecounty.com

Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
3411 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Lansing, MI 48906
517-481-8000
www.michigan.gov

Veterans Administration
Veterans Benefit Section
McNamara Bldg.
477 Michigan Ave., 12 Floor
Detroit, MI 48226
800-827-1000
www.va.gov



Parents: What you may not know about under age drinking



A message from the Plymouth Township Police Department. This information is in response to the questions we have received from parents concerning host liability when teenagers consume alcohol or drugs in their home.

Parents—here are a few things to keep in mind when your son or daughter tells you they want to have a party in your home or they would like to attend a party at a friend’s house.

First and foremost, understand that it is illegal to permit, tolerate or allow minors to drink alcohol or consume drugs in your home or on your property. This may seem like a common sense approach to parenting; however, some parents may not share this view and permit teenagers to conduct unsupervised “parties” during which alcohol and drugs are readily consumed.

You, the parents, are responsible and can be held both civilly and criminally liable for the acts of your children or their friends if they have been drinking or taking drugs on your property. Plymouth Township Ordinance states:

- No adult having control of any residence or premises shall allow an open house party to take place at the residence or premises if any alcoholic liquor or controlled substance was in the possession of or being consumed by a minor at the residence or premises.

Report streetlight outages

If you notice a streetlight that is out, you may notify the Public Services Department at 734-354-3270. We will then submit an outage report to Detroit Edison.

Please report the following information:

1. A specific streetlight location.
2. The streetlight pole number (can be found near base of streetlight pole).
3. Whether the pole is wooden or metal (determines what type of repair crew will be dispatched).
4. Details about the outage (i.e., light off during the night, light turns on and off at night, light stays on during the day, etc.).
5. Any remarks that will assist the repair crews in locating the trouble location.

- And where the adult failed to take reasonable steps to prevent the possession at the residence or premises.
- Violation of this section shall result in a **misdemeanor** charge.

Another point worthy of mention is the fact that parents are still liable even if they are **not at home** when the underage drinking or drug use occurred.

You can be held liable for the acts of your children and their guest if:

- Someone is injured on your property.
- Someone is injured off your property after consuming alcohol or drugs on your property.
- Someone is injured as the result of a vehicle accident, fight, or disturbance and previously consumed or obtained alcohol or drugs on your property.
- If a person becomes sick from any substance they consume or obtain on your property.
- If your neighbor’s property is damaged by those attending a party at your home.

Above all, check up on your child. Do not feel you are prying into their personal life—teenagers do not realize the danger and the potential loss of life while engaging in high-risk behaviors.

Construction project to improve Ann Arbor Road at Ridge

This spring, residents of the area and travelers on Ann Arbor Road in the west end of Plymouth Township will notice the start of some much-anticipated road improvements.

MDOT will begin a project on Ann Arbor Road from just east of Pineview Drive to just west of Ridge Road. Road improvements include construction of separate lanes for right turn, left turn, and thru traffic in both directions on Ann Arbor Road at Ridge Road and Pineview Drive.

Also, a full traffic signal is planned for the Ann Arbor Road and Ridge Road intersection. This project is expected to be completed by Fall 2007. During construction, two-way traffic will be maintained on Ann Arbor Road.

Watershed wisdom: keep storm drains clean

What is a storm drain?

A storm drain is a steel inlet located in roadways (as pictured), parking lots and lawn areas.

What does a storm drain do?

A storm drain is designed to receive storm water (rainfall and snowmelt) and carry it from the area to avoid ponding and flooding.

How can storm water negatively impact our creeks?

The storm water that is received by a storm drain empties directly into our creeks, no filtration or treatment, taking with it everything it picks up along the way including: **fertilizers, pesticides, dirt and leaves, car fluids, pet waste, road salt, etc.**

What can we do to reduce and eliminate the negative impacts?

- Don't over fertilize your lawn! When spring comes, remember that grass can only take up so much fertilizer at any one time. The fertilizer not used by your lawn, or fertilizer that has been accidentally placed on a sidewalk or driveway, is washed into the storm drain causing pollution problems for the river including excess growth of plant materials. This excess growth uses up vital oxygen causing other



important species to die off.

- Spot treatment of pests helps to keep pesticide use to a minimum.
- Pick up any litter or debris that could get washed into a storm drain.
- When doing home repair on your car, keep excess fluids from entering a storm drain. Try placing an old piece of cardboard on the ground under your car while you work to catch any spilled fluids.
- Wash your car on the lawn. This keeps the soaps used from being washed into the storm drain (your lawn will thank you for it!). A commercial car wash is an option, too.
- Clean up that pet waste! Pet waste left on the lawn can contain bacteria and other pollutants that can quickly wash into a storm drain. Immediately pick up pet waste in a sanitary manner and put into the trash or simply flush down your toilet.

**For more information on storm drains, local creeks and the Rouge River please contact:
Division of Public Services
734-354-3270 ext. 4.**

Household Hazardous Waste events coming soon

Household hazardous waste can negatively impact the environment if it is not disposed of properly. If you have hazardous products that you need to dispose of, you can do so properly at a Household Hazardous Waste Event.

Plymouth Township residents have two (2) opportunities to properly dispose of household hazardous wastes this spring!

When: **Saturday, March 31, 2007**
Sponsor: Wayne County Department of Environment
Time: 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
Where: Sumpter Township DPS
23501 Sumpter Road
Off Dunn Street behind the Police Station
More Info: Wayne County Department of Environment, 734-326-3936

A complete list of acceptable items for both events is located on the Township web page at

<http://www.plymouthtp.org/Community/SpecialEvents/HHWDay2.htm>



When: **Saturday, April 28, 2007**
Sponsor: Charter Township of Plymouth & City of Plymouth
Time: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Where: Compuware Sports Arena
14900 Beck Road
In Parking Lot
More Info: Plymouth Township Solid Waste Department, 734-354-3270 ext. 4

Supervisor's Corner: State of the Township



Richard Reaume

2007 will be a year of many challenges for Michigan that will directly affect Plymouth Township. At the top of the list will be the questions of reduced State Revenue Sharing, cable franchise fees and the state's economic plan. To address these potential reductions the Township continues to adopt prudent and conservative financial policies.

BUDGET

The Township was able to live within last year's budget and our 2007 budget seeks greater efficiencies in local government. The current budget finds administrative cuts in every single department and we will remain focused on the bottom line.

POLICE AND FIRE

Reductions in State Shared Revenue have been cause for fewer Police Officers and Fire/EMS responders statewide but your support for the local police and fire millage has allowed the Township to continue providing safe neighborhoods and act on any emergency. Our team of protectors remains intact and has been provided with new facilities and state-of-the-art equipment that provides for improved local communications and with surrounding communities.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

We continue to explore new ways to assist businesses so they are able to expand operations or open new facilities and create Michigan jobs right here in Plymouth Township. Karmann Manufacturing is expanding their convertible hardtop operations and Honeywell Turbo has opened a research and testing facility for their engine turbo chargers. AVL Powertrain has opened new engineering facilities with a dynamometer center and

Robert Bosch has just begun moving employees into their new campus facility at Five Mile and Haggerty. Our Downtown Development Authority has completed the first phase of Ann Arbor Road improvements and looks forward to working with representatives of the new Plymouth Towne Centre being built just west of Haggerty Road.

ROADS

MDOT and County Road Commissions are responsible for roads in Townships. MDOT (Michigan Department of Transportation) maintains the expressways, I-275 and M-14, and Ann Arbor Road (old M-14). All the remaining roads in Plymouth Township are the responsibility of the Wayne County Roads Division. Improvements, maintenance, speed limits, stop signs and traffic signals are under the control of these agencies. The Township has requested and MDOT has agreed to accelerate the intersection improvements and traffic signal at Ann Arbor and Ridge Roads. Wayne County Roads has recently begun the Sheldon Road underpass construction and, working cooperatively with the Township, has now completed the paving of the gravel portions on McClumpha Road.

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

As part of our services the Township provides sanitation services and currently is in the third year of a five year cleaning and inspection program. The Township has been divided into fifths and during this program every sanitary sewer in the Township will be systematically cleaned and then inspected with a closed circuit television camera. Any area identified will be repaired or improved as needed and inspected to determine if the repairs are holding up properly. The process will begin again at the end of the five years to insure that our sanitary system meets the needs of the community.

I indicated that 2007 will be a year of challenges but we are committed to address each and every one of them with sound solutions for our future. Your comments and concerns are important to me. Please feel free to contact me at reaume@plymouthtwp.org or call me at 734-354-3200.

Richard Reaume

Charter Township of Plymouth

People our Priority



Plymouth Township Board of Trustees

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Postal Carriers: Please deliver
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RESIDENCES ONLY.

Visit Plymouth Township government website at www.plymouthtp.org

Yard waste collection resumes in April

Yard waste collection will resume on Monday, April 2, 2007!

- Yard waste including leaves, grass clippings, vegetative pruning, garden waste, wood debris, and brush can be set out to the curb by 7:00 am on your regular collection day and no earlier than 6:00 pm the night before your collection.
- Brush and branches up to 6 inches in diameter must be tied with string or twine in bundles no longer than 3 feet in length (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 (maximum size) container identified with a compost sticker or marked clearly with 2 large "X"s or "C"s on the container. Yard waste stickers are available at Township offices. Take care to ensure that the label is facing the roadway.
- Filled containers should not exceed 50 pounds.
- Compost is collected on the same day as your trash and recycling.

