

THE PROFILE

*PLAINFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXVII NUMBER 3

PHONE 364-8466

AUGUST 2002

The July 4 edition of the *Grand Rapids Press* reported that the Plainfield Township Board is considering changes in our sewer billing method that will more fairly allocate the costs of providing customers with public sanitary sewer service. How does the sewer billing system work now, and what is wrong with the present method?

For the past thirty years, Plainfield Township has billed residents based on a Residential Equivalent Unit (REU), where a single family home, an apartment unit, and a mobile home unit **each pay the same amount, currently \$50**, every three months. Businesses, churches, schools, and other non-residential customers pay based on how many REU's are assigned to them according to a published "Table of Unit Factors" contained in the Township's sewer ordinance. For example, a certain large retailer on Plainfield Avenue is assigned 35 REU's, and their quarterly billing is $35 \times \$50 = \$1,750$.

If every single-family home, apartment, or mobile home contributed the same number of gallons of wastewater to the sewer system, there would not be a problem of allocating costs. But consider this: Does a family of six in a home with 2+ bathrooms use the same amount of water (and sewer) as a small home occupied by one person – or a home vacant

during the winter months? Obviously not. How do we deal with this? Many communities charge for **sewer service** based on how much *water* they use.

If all metered water went down the drain into the sewer system, sewer rate making would be very easy. But some water is used to sprinkle grass and gardens. How do we account for that? There are many ways to recognize that some metered water does not go down the sewer. The best way would be running that water through a separate meter. For customers that use large amounts of water for irrigation, installing a separate meter would make a lot of sense. The cost would be recovered in avoided sewer charges very quickly. Those who use a little water for irrigation purposes would not be affected much. They could watch their consumption and water their garden efficiently.

Staff recommends that the Township Board establish a sewer rate with both a *base charge* (to cover fixed costs) and a *consumption charge* (to cover variable costs). How will such a change in sewer rates affect the Township's sewer customers? With the proposed \$21 quarterly **base charge** and the proposed \$1.80 per 1,000 gallons **consumption charge**, residential customers who use less than

Township
Board
Reviewing
Sewer Rate
Structure

continued on page 2

Township Board Reviewing Sewer Rate Structure *continued from page 1*

16,000 gallons per quarter would pay the same or less than the \$50 they are paying now. BASED ON 2001's WATER CONSUMPTION: Of the 5,679 single family residential customers in our system now,

- 2,595 would pay less than \$50 per quarter,
- 1,176 would pay about the same,
- 1,323 would pay 25% more, 293 would pay 50% more,
- 265 would pay double, and
- 27 would pay triple.

To get an idea of what your quarterly sewer bill would be under the proposed \$21 base charge and \$1.80 per thousand gallons consumption charge, check your water-sewer bill(s) and look for the line on the right side of the INVOICE that reports "Usage." To the right of that, it shows "x Gal." The number on your bill that "x" represents is the *thousands* of gallons of water that has gone through your meter during that billing period. If it is "10," then you have used TEN *thousand* gallons. Multiply 10 x \$1.80, and you get \$18. Add the \$21 base charge to that, and that quarter's sewer bill is \$39. Below are some examples:

<i>Thousands</i> of GALLONS USED	CONSUMPTION CHARGE	+	BASE CHARGE	TOTAL SEWER BILL	
12	x \$1.80 =	\$ 21.60	+	\$ 21	\$42.60
15	x \$1.80 =	\$ 27.00	+	\$ 21	\$48.60
18	x \$1.80 =	\$ 32.40	+	\$ 21	\$53.40
21	x \$1.80 =	\$ 39.24	+	\$ 21	\$60.24
24	x \$1.80 =	\$ 43.20	+	\$ 21	\$64.20

PLEASE NOTE: These rates are **PROPOSED**. The Board may eventually establish a *different* base charge and a *different* consumption charge.

The Township Board's Finance Committee considered several ways of establishing sewer rates based on consumption, and the Board itself is now reviewing the information received from that committee. The Committee proposes that the new rates should become effective this fall, after the heavy summer lawn-sprinkling season is over. The purpose of this article is to inform you, the Plainfield Township sewer customer, about this discussion and to encourage you to consider how a new sewer rate based on consumption would affect you, so you can plan for next year. October's *Profile* will have more information on this.

Commodity Distribution Dates

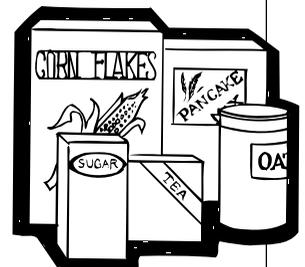
Commodities will be distributed to qualified low income persons on the following date, time, and place:

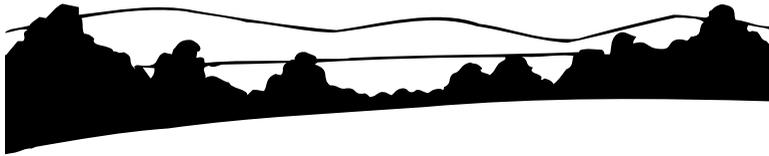
Date: September 5, 2002 (Future dates will be announced.)

Time: Between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Where: 6156 Belmont Avenue – across from the township offices

New families wishing to qualify for food may call Jim or Peg Granzotto at 784-5249, or come to our distribution site on September 5th.





TRAIL UPDATE

SUMMER 2002

By Dick Granse,
Friends of the White Pine Trail

Plans for more pavement on the trail this season are progressing as scheduled. By the delivery date of this *Profile*, a contract will be in place to pave the trail from West River Drive to North Park Street this season. This will extend the trail south almost 4 miles and will link it to the Riverside Park Trail System in Grand Rapids. We expect pavement completed to Fifth Third Ball Park in the month of September with the rest of the section done before the paving season ends in late Fall.

Department of Natural Resources officials have made this project a priority and deserve a great deal of credit for moving the project along this spring and summer in the face of early retirements and staff shortages. The completion of this section has also been strongly supported by local and county officials as well as State Representative Doug Hart and State Senator Ken Sikkema and other legislators.

The trail bypass around the Wolverine Plant in Rockford is slated for completion in the fall as well. The DNR will shortly apply for pre-paving engineering funds for the trail section from Russell Road in Algoma Township north to Sand Lake. The Friends of The White Pine Trail are assisting the DNR in raising local matching funds for the actual paving. Hopefully this project will get underway in 2003.

Perhaps you have heard of personal assistive mobility devices – “Segways.” These are 80 pound, electric powered vehicles capable of speeds of 20 mph, originally designed for com-

muting around large industrial complexes. They are not designed or intended for the physically challenged. If these vehicles were on the White Pine Trail, they would raise serious safety concerns as well as profoundly altering the non-motorized trail experience.

Yet, our State Senate passed a bill allowing this to happen. Only quick action by Representative Hart, local trail groups, the Kent County Township Association, and others prevented this. Hart introduced an amendment in the State House of Representatives allowing the DNR and local governments to maintain control of the use or prohibit these vehicles on trails, pathways, and sidewalks under their respective jurisdiction. The House and Senate passed the amendment and the bill is expected to be signed by the Governor shortly.

While this is a major victory for non-motorized trails such as the White Pine Trail, the story is not over. Federal legislation is pending that could potentially over-rule the State’s authority. The Friends of the White Pine Trail will monitor this in the weeks ahead. Interested individuals who wish to become involved in this issue or desire an update may contact us at the number below.

The Friends of the White Pine Trail are a local volunteer group working to facilitate trail development. To learn about membership, how you can help, activities, or possible donations for the Sand Lake paving call 866-8464 or attend the monthly meetings.

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MEETING SCHEDULE: *all meetings start at 7 pm*

- | | | |
|--------------|-----------------------|--|
| August 14 | • Pierson Township | • Just off 131 at Pierson exit. |
| September 11 | • Algoma Township | • 10531 Algoma Ave. (<i>tentative place</i>) |
| October 9 | • Plainfield Township | • 6161 Belmont Avenue |

What's Happening with the North Kent Sewer System?

CHAPTER 7

This is the seventh in a series of informational pieces on the subject of the sewer system that serves Plainfield Township. Last year, I reported the following:

The North Kent Sewer Authority (NKSA) communities were invited to sign a 30-year agreement with the City of Grand Rapids to provide for the continued transport and treatment of our wastewater. We thoroughly analyzed the agreement and found major flaws, which were detailed in April 2000 *Profile*. We have been attempting to negotiate an acceptable agreement, while also exploring the option of building and operating our own "Clean Water Treatment Facility." Grand Rapids indicated that our objections and their unwillingness to address them made it necessary to end negotiations and to leave us to deal with the issue when our current agreement expires in 2008. Be assured that we do not intend to wait until then to resolve this matter.

Having received no indication that Grand Rapids would change its position that all communities using the Grand Rapids sewage treatment facility must sign the proposed Agreement, the NKSA proposed that Rockford, Alpine Township, Cannon Township, Courtland Township, and Plainfield Township take the next step toward constructing a Clean Water Plant of our own. That next step is for the five communities to pass a resolution giving *Notice of Intent* to enter into a contract with the North Kent Sewer Authority to pay for their respective shares of that sewage treatment facility.

Rockford, Alpine, Cannon, and Courtland have approved the resolution, but Plainfield has not.

Since the location of the proposed facility is in Plainfield Township, property owners in the immediate vicinity on Coit Avenue across the street from Coit Avenue Gravel Company's gravel processing facility have strongly objected. Several other citizens further removed from this location also expressed their concerns and objections. Objectors have encouraged the NKSA communities to negotiate with Grand Rapids and find an acceptable agreement to continue to send the NKSA communities' sewage to the Grand Rapids wastewater treatment plant.

Grand Rapids has already signed agreements with eight communities and has expressed no interest in changing those agreements or signing a different agreement with the five NKSA communities. We maintain that an agreement with the NKSA should be different because we are "wholesale" customers, unlike most of the communities that have signed. Their sewer systems are owned and operated by Grand Rapids. Individual

"Grand Rapids indicated that our objections and their unwillingness to address them made it necessary to end negotiations..."

homeowners get their sewer bills directly from Grand Rapids. The sewers in the North Kent system are not owned or operated by Grand Rapids, but **Grand Rapids wants to exercise controls and limitations on the development of our community through restrictions on**

sewer extensions and penalties on new sewer customers. Grand Rapids is receiving a lot more money from their captive customer communities than it would be receiving under the previous agreements. The NKSA communities would be paying a lot more if they had signed.

Why should Grand Rapids change the Agreement for the NKSA communities? We contribute a little over 10% of the total flow of wastewater into the Grand Rapids WWTP. Our financial contributions to Grand Rapids' system reduce the costs to the other customer communities, and they would reduce the cost to Grand Rapids even more under the new Agreement. Perhaps Grand Rapids believes that the North Kent communities will eventually capitulate

"I strongly encourage every Plainfield Township voter to grant the Board the authority to proceed ... in the community's best interests."

because we are not really serious or credible in our ability to build and operate our own plant. Perhaps Grand Rapids does not really care whether we go our own separate way. I doubt that. If Grand Rapids does care and really does want the NKSA communities to remain as customers, and **if the NKSA communities are seen by Grand Rapids as willing and able to build its own clean water facility, THEN THE NKSA COMMUNITIES MUST DEMONSTRATE THEIR CREDIBILITY** for Grand Rapids to negotiate an acceptable agreement.

What must be done to demonstrate that credibility? Each of the NKSA communities must pass the Resolution to issue the *Notice of Intent* and not have that *Notice of Intent* overridden by the voters in each community. Four of the five communities have already accomplished this. Plainfield Township has not passed the resolution. The Plainfield Township Board will consider approval of the resolution to issue the

Notice of Intent conditioned upon the voters' approval at the November general election.

If the Board approves this resolution and *if* the voters approve the authority to enter into a contract to pay for Plainfield's share of a NKSA clean water plant, we may have enough credibility with Grand Rapids to secure needed changes to the proposed wastewater treatment Agreement. If the authority is not granted in the November election, a NKSA clean water plant cannot be built — and Grand Rapids would have every reason to doubt that the NKSA communities have a credible alternative to signing the Agreement they find very unacceptable.

For me to write this *Profile* article before the Township Board decides what they are going to do is rather difficult. By the time the *Profile* is mailed, the Board will have decided. If they do not pass the resolution giving *Notice of Intent*, we are back to where we have been on this issue for the past three and a half years. Will Grand Rapids then agree to changes? Would you, if you were in Grand Rapids' position?

The actual decision to proceed with construction of an NKSA plant would not be made until a design engineer is selected, plans are prepared, permits are obtained, and bids are received. The boards of the five NKSA communities have NOT decided to pull the trigger on this, but they cannot decide "yes" or "no" until Plainfield Township gets beyond the present uncertain circumstances. If the Plainfield Township Board sends this question to the November ballot, **I strongly encourage every Plainfield Township voter to grant the Board the authority to proceed as they, the elected representatives of the Plainfield Township community to decide what is in the community's best interests.** I have every confidence that your elected Township officials will decide in the best interest of the community if the voters allow them to do so.

Robert C. Homan, Township Manager

ELECTION NEWS -

Information for the August 6 Primary Election

NEW PRECINCTS: Two new precincts were created and one precinct was moved for voters north of the Grand River. Call the Clerk's office if you have questions.

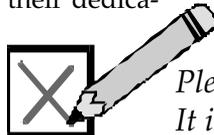
VOTER IDENTIFICATION CARDS: Twenty thousand voter identification cards were mailed in June. If you did not receive one, please call the Clerk's office as soon as possible at 364-8466 between 7:30 AM and 4:30 PM.

SPECIAL THANKS: Many responsible township residents have been hired to serve as election inspectors for the Primary Election on August 6. Being an inspector requires one day of training and a full day of work at the polls. If anyone is interested in being an inspector please call the Clerk's office, 364-8466, for an application. Our community thanks the people who will serve on August 6 for their dedication to the election process.

A PRIMARY ELECTION IS VERY IMPORTANT. The purpose of the election is to narrow down the candidates within each party or non-partisan race in preparation for the General Election scheduled for November 5, 2002. There are nine candidates for judge in the non-partisan race on the ballot for August 6, 2002. This number will be narrowed to four and these four will oppose each other in the General Election with two to be elected. If voters do not participate in the primary election process their favorite candidate may not even make it onto the general election ballot!! Primary elections are **very** important.

A copy of the ballot is available on our web page, www.plainfieldchartertp.org or you may pick one up in the Clerk's office. Each precinct has a different ballot because precinct delegates are being elected. Please be sure to review the ballot for your individual precinct.

Susan L. Morrow, Clerk



*Please vote August 6, 2002.
It is our right and our responsibility.*

Passport Fees to Increase

The United States Department of State has increased passport fees effective August 19, 2002. For individuals age 16 and over, the passport fee will be \$55 and the execution fee will be \$30, for total fees of \$85.

For those under the age of 16, the passport fee becomes \$40 and the execution fee will be \$30, for total fees of \$70.

Passports may be renewed by mail for a fee of \$55. You may qualify to use this form **only** if:

1. The issue date of your last passport was less than 15 years ago;
2. You were 16 or older when it was issued;
3. Your name is the same or you can submit name-change documentation (marriage certificate or court order);

4. You can submit this passport; and
5. It is undamaged.

For more passport information, visit www.travel.state.gov, or call the Plainfield Township Clerk's office at (616) 364-8466.

NOTE

The passport office at Plainfield Township will be closed on these days:

- Monday, August 5
- Tuesday, August 6
- Tuesday, August 13 – Friday August 16

Closure updates are posted at www.travel.state.gov

A Message from the Plainfield Township Water Department

Wasting Water

During the drought conditions of this summer, many people are watering their lawns. Scientific studies estimate that more than half of the people watering their lawns are actually wasting water. We are concerned about this because Plainfield Township's water system has a limited amount of water available each day. We can produce more water than needed for domestic consumption—what people use in their homes. We do *not* have all the water that people are able to waste. Many people probably think: "it's the other guy" who is wasting the water, but they should consider that more than half the people watering their lawns are truly wasting water. So, the chances are, if you water your lawn, you are probably one of the "wasters."

How can I tell that water is being wasted?

- Water sprinkler heads directing streams or spray into the street
- Watering the driveway or sidewalk
- Water running down the gutter
- Water stains on the street
- A broken sprinkler spurting straight up
- Sprinklers operating during hottest and driest hours of the day

These are obvious to everyone. Water running down the gutter is not a good idea. It is just wasted. A sprinkler system that isn't properly adjusted and maintained is wasting water. Watch your sprinklers. If you are responsible for any of the telltale signs listed above, you *are* wasting water.

Wasting water costs everyone. If Plainfield Township cannot produce enough water to meet demand—with the required "safety mar-

gin," we will have to add capacity. That is expensive. Guess who will pay for it? Should the water rates be raised for all users, or just the water wasters? If water waste is stopped, if people don't water the street and over water their grass, we won't have to expand our capacity for many years. Check your sprinklers and adjust and repair them as needed. Get a soil moisture-activated sprinkling system. Have a rain shut-off sensor installed. Water during the evening and early morning hours. Don't leave your sprinklers on all day or all night. Safe, reliable, and conditioned water is a precious resource that we tend to take for granted. Let's not waste it.

Security, Terrorism, and Protecting Your Water Supply

Potential terrorism or other criminal activity against water systems isn't going away. New Federal requirements for water systems are on the way. The Plainfield Township Water Department has been adding security measures, and we will soon have more. We believe we are taking the appropriate measures to protect your drinking water. Suggestions for ways to improve system security are welcome, but don't expect us to discuss details of our security measures.

If you detect an unexpected change in the taste, odor, appearance or pressure of your water, CALL US IMMEDIATELY, day or night. It could be a sign of contamination, and we don't want to take any chances. Our regular number is 363-9660. Our after hours number is 257-8021. We will get the message, and we will respond. Be specific about the nature of the problem, where it is occurring, and when. Leave your name and a telephone number where you can be reached.

From The Fire Chief's Desk

While at a family event out of town recently, I was asked why a fire truck was driving around the neighborhood. While I could only presume the answer, I replied that it was probably for neighborhood familiarization. The Plainfield Fire Department has surveyed neighborhoods for the past four years trying to identify homes that are not adequately marked. We do this so that we can recognize a home quickly during an emergency. This year we are trying to simplify the process by leaving a letter that lists the problem at the home. By doing these surveys we accomplish two goals: we make it easier to locate specific addresses, and we increase our knowledge of the area. If you receive one of these letters, please correct the problem indicated so that if we or some other public safety agency is required at your home, we are able to find it.

The fire department has a new web address, www.plainfieldfire.org. We outgrew our other site and felt that by having a web address that people could actually find, more people would use it. Stop by and take a look at the site. We plan on keeping it updated regularly.

Here is a copy of our annual report. We have taken the position that brevity will make reading it more enjoyable.

PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT 2001 ANNUAL REPORT

It is the mission of the Plainfield Fire Department to provide those services, either proactive or emergency, necessary to protect and enhance the quality of life of the residents and visitors to Plainfield Charter Township.

Programs

- **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL** This program provides each of the seven grade schools in Plainfield Township with a firefighter who acts as a liaison between the department and the school.
- **TECHNICAL RESCUE** This team of five is trained in the different aspects of technical rescue. They are capable of working in those circumstances that exceed our normal level of training. This team will be part of a larger team comprised of members from Kent, Muskegon, and Ottawa counties.

- **LEARN NOT TO BURN** This National Fire Protection Association program is delivered to the grade schools as a partnership between the school, PFD, and the Sunrise Rotary. It provides a safety curriculum year round rather than just during fire prevention week.

- **FIRE SAFETY REVIEWS** The Department works hard to provide guidance to the businesses within the Township. Our Fire Safety Specialist makes Fire safety inspections on a regular basis throughout the Township. Additionally he surveys the businesses by mail to determine if there are any hazards to the firefighters in the businesses. We anticipate that next year we will be assisting businesses in doing self-surveys.

- **EMS QUALITY REVIEW** The PFD is one of the few departments in this area that does a review of all medical alarms. This review is intended to assure that the department is pro

viding the highest level of care possible, at our current level of certification.

- **EMS TRAINING** The Fire Department will provide, for minimal cost, CPR and First Aid training. The medical training is done by certified instructors, who are members of the fire department. The cost of the training is limited to the recovery of our expenses. In addition to having several licensed instructors, the department has a member who is licensed, by the State of Michigan, as a Medical Instructor Coordinator.

- **THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA** The Department has had a thermal imaging camera for several years. In addition to giving them the ability to find a person in a smoked filled room, this piece of equipment allows the firefighter to see fire through walls. This capability prevents the destruction that was necessary using older methods. It is no longer necessary for the firefighter to cut walls open when they suspect that there is fire hidden behind a wall. This also allows us to find fires that would have remained hidden in the past.

2001 was an unusual year for the Plainfield Fire Department. Several new programs were developed, it was the last year in a four-year relationship with the City of Rockford, and we watched the horror of September 11 unfold. The terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington D.C, and Pennsylvania caused a new sense of purpose for the citizens of the United States. It also raised the awareness of the job done by America's first responders: the EMS, Police and Fire Departments of our communities. We hope that the insanity of these terrorist acts do not occur in Western Michigan, but we are preparing for them nonetheless.

This is the first year of a new format for the Department's annual report. It is my hope that by adopting this condensed format we will be able to reach more people and provide them with information about what the Plainfield Fire Department has accomplished over the previous twelve months. The Fire Department also

has a web page that has recently been revised. We are constantly adding information to this web page and encourage you to visit it. The web page will be growing and changing as more information is developed and formatted for display there. We are now posting our monthly reports to the web page, as well as adding articles from the members of the department.

Staffing

The PFD has adopted a staffing method that, to the best of our knowledge, is new to Michigan. The PFD now has a three-tiered staffing system. It has 13 full-time staff members, 12 part-time positions, and 30 paid-on-call members. The department uses paid-on-call personnel from our own department and other departments in the western region of the state to fill the 12 part-time positions. The part-time employees must have the same entry level training as our full-time personnel. This method allows us to have two people at the fire stations, plus a supervisor, at all times. Previously, the department operated with only one person on duty at each station. The Township Board, Fire Chief, and the firefighters felt that this did not provide adequate service to our residents, or a safe working environment for the employees. By utilizing this staffing method, the Township provides a safer and more effective fire department.

The Fire Department is able to provide the high quality of work that it does because of the commitment of its employees. The Paid-on-Call, Part-Time and Fulltime employees spent a total of 4280 hours training to better protect the residents in 2001. This training ranged from basic firefighter to fire officer, it included hazardous materials, technical rescue and advanced medical training. The Plainfield Fire Department will remain committed to the philosophy that our residents deserve the highest level of training possible from their Fire Department!

If you have questions regarding the Fire Department's operations call me at 361-2895.

David R. Peterson, Fire Chief



LIBRARY NEWS

PLAINFIELD BRANCH LIBRARY

2650 5 Mile Rd. NE • Phone: 647-3930

The Plainfield Branch Library's annual **Ice Cream Social** is set for Thursday, August 15 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Our annual Book Sale is scheduled for Thursday, August 15 from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Friday, August 16 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Gently used books are always welcome donations.

The Plainfield Branch Library is once again offering a full slate of fall activities for all ages. Our ever-popular **Lap Time** (ages birth to 3) & **Story Time** (ages 3 to 5) begin on September 12 and run through October 31 at 10:00 a.m. Registration for these two programs begins on August 22.

There is also a special **Meet Corduroy** story time when the children will be able to meet Corduroy from Don Freeman's famous books. For school-aged children there will be a **Captain Underpants** program with fun and games. A special **Halloween Teen Café** will take place in the fall, and teens are encouraged to participate in the Teen Advisory Board meetings.

KDL is also sponsoring two programs for adults at the Plainfield Library. An **Introduction to Genealogy** will be presented on Saturday, September 14 at 1:00 p.m. On Monday, October 14 at 6:30 p.m., Larry Fill will discuss **antiques**. Bring in one item for discussion and appraisal. Limited to 25 participants.

Beginning in September and continuing through November, one-on-one tutorials will

be available from the Plainfield Library Staff. Call the information desk to register at 647-3935.

The Book Discussion group meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. We will read the following books this fall: September's book is *Motherless Brooklyn* by Jonathan Lethem, October's book is *Girl with a Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier, and November's book is *Hank & Chloe* by Jo-Ann Mapson.

The *Friends of the Plainfield Library* will sponsor its annual **Before the Snow Flies—Arts and Craft Show** on October 26th. It will feature Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and general gift items, a Bake Sale, Silent Auction and Door Prizes. A \$.50 admission fee will entitle you to one ticket for door prize drawings. The hours will be from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Silent Auction items will be on display one week before the show for bidding. If you would like to have a booth at the show, please call 784-7062 for information and an application. There will be many great gift items with something new for everyone! Proceeds to benefit the Library and help fund new and exciting programs for all!

PLAINFIELD LIBRARY HOURS

Monday, Tuesday,	
Wednesday, Thursday	9:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Friday, Saturday	9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Hyser Rivers Museum

Celebrating 150 years
1852 – 2002

COMSTOCK PARK LIBRARY

3943 West River Drive • Phone: 647-3860

Seniors, parents and kids—everybody!—after a jaunt in Dwight Lydell Park or a ride on the White Pine Trail, stop in to cool off at the library! We have lots of books, CD's, videos, audiocassettes and computer games—enough to keep you entertained and informed all summer!

Our Fall **Story Times** (ages birth to 3) and **Lap Times** (ages 3 to 5) will resume on Mondays beginning September 9, continuing through October 28, both groups meeting at 10:30 a.m. and at 6:30 p.m. **Corduroy the Bear** will attend the evening session on October 7. On November 4, we'll have a **Pajama Story time** at 6:30 pm. Come ready for bed with your favorite stuffed animal. Then, for school aged children, on November 11 at 6:30 p.m., we'll be having fun and games at our special **Captain Underpants** program.

With **home schoolers** especially in mind, at 10:00 a.m. on October 2 and November 4, we will be offering two **Super Science** mornings, featuring amazing facts and experiments

For adults we have two free programs coming up this fall. On September 19 at 6:30 p.m., the library will be presenting "Using your **Herbal Harvest**," with Connie Hansen. On October 3 at 6:30 pm, we'll offer a class on "**Basic Feng Shui**." Please join us!

COMSTOCK PARK LIBRARY HOURS

Monday	9:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, Thursday	12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Wednesday	9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Friday, Saturday	12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Hyser Rivers Museum's 150th birthday celebration on June 30 was a gala event. The Historical Committee members outdid themselves by scrubbing the Hyser House from top to bottom for this special event and Wendell and Donna Briggs lent a canopy which provided much appreciated shade. Thanks to all who helped.

In August and September the museum, which is located at 6440 West River Road, will be open on Sundays from 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. September programs include:

September 15 **Kids' Old Fashion Crafts & Games**, 2:00 – 4:00, with hammering, whitening, folding, cutting, and surprises. Please call for Reservations, 784-7062 or 784-6783. This event is free.

September 29 **Historical Information Exchange Open House**, 2:00 – 4:30. Discuss Hyser House history and genealogy. Sue Irvine, member of the Hyser House Historical Committee Board and the W. MI Genealogy Society, will share tips on researching family history.

October/November The Hyser Rivers Museum is closed during the months of October and November but tours can be arranged by calling 784-7062.

December 8 **Kids' Old Fashioned Christmas Craft Day**, 2:00 – 4:00, adults welcome, too.

If you are interested in joining the Historical Committee, please call 784-7062 for more information. The Society meets the fourth Tuesday of the month, May through October, at 7:00 p.m., at the museum. All are welcome to join us.

TOWNSHIP/ OFFICERS

TOWNSHIP HALL SUMMER HOURS

7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 364-8466

TOWNSHIP BOARD

David Groenleer, Supervisor

Susan Morrow, Clerk

James Stover, Treasurer

Wendell Briggs, Trustee

Robert Heindrichs, Trustee

William Parris, Trustee

Charles Weldon, Trustee

MANAGER

Robert Homan

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS

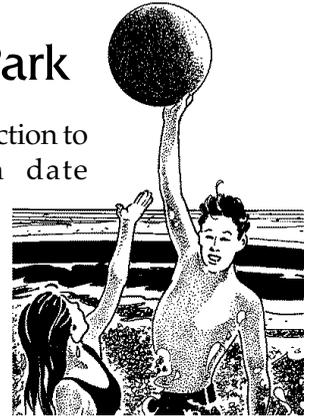
7:30 P.M.

First and Third Mondays

www.painfieldchartertp.org

Versluis Park

Please note a correction to the final beach date posted in the last *Profile*. The last day to enjoy the beach at Versluis Park will be **August 25, 2002.**



Annual Financial Report Available

The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for Plainfield Township is now on our website. In addition to the audited financial statements, the report contains information about your township government's structure, operations, and history. Access the document at www.painfieldchartertp.org.

THE PROFILE

Plainfield Charter Township
6161 Belmont NE
Belmont, MI 49306

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STANDARD
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GRAND RAPIDS, MI
PERMIT NO. 1