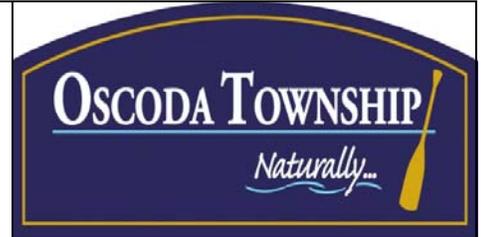


Charter Township of Oscoda Community Newsletter

110 S. State St., Oscoda, MI 48750 Telephone: 989-739-3211 Facsimile: 989-739-3344



Supervisor—Jim Baier **Clerk**—Christine Carrasco **Treasurer**—Jaimie McGuire
Trustees— Matthew Hinckley Rick Binkowski Mike Ballor Steve Pappas

As the fall colors fade and the air becomes crisp there is more than just the changing of seasons occurring -- we would like to make you aware of some exciting current and upcoming construction projects in our community!

WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT - A water main replacement project began in October in the area including the East side of US 23 from Michigan Ave along Lake St to Bank, Water, Evergreen and ending at Pack St. By the release of this newsletter the project will be well underway with a scheduled completion date of December 31st for construction and site restoration of sidewalks, roads and landscaping to be completed in the spring of 2012.

OBSERVATION/FISHING PIER—Due to unforeseeable circumstances the observation/fishing pier project was delayed until 2012. The project will be re-bid soon with a Spring 2012 construction start date. To date **\$711,500** has been secured in grant funding for this project from three agencies: Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund \$460,000, Michigan Coastal Management \$50,000 and the Great Lakes Fisheries Trust \$201,500 (just awarded in November). The total cost of this project will be determined through a bid process and will include local match from the General Fund- - now slated at \$290,000. The pier will extend from the waters edge over Lake Huron and offer barrier free access to this great recreational asset for our residents and visitors alike.

2012 MDOT US 23 PROJECT - Recent improvements were made to the turn radius from US 23 onto Evergreen and at Evergreen/Lake Street (northeast corner of Furtaw Field) to make way for the upcoming MDOT US 23 Reconstruction project that will begin in the Spring of

2012. The project will begin when the winter road weight restrictions have been removed and will be complete in the Fall of the same year.

As discussed at several Township board meetings, Lake Street will be used as a detour route for the downtown areas of Oscoda/AuSable between Mill Street and Evergreen in order to minimize the overall construction time period of the project. There will be a deadline of the last weekend in July (Canoe Marathon weekend) for the construction firm to have the work complete to the point that the detour route can be removed. During this time access will be maintained to all businesses along US 23, as well as Hull Island. Its important to note that each side street between US 23 and Lake St. will remain open as well as each street that crosses over US 23 to allow access to the West side businesses. During the project there will be no on-street parking along Lake Street, this restriction will be removed when the project is complete. This project will involve the removal of the road from the top asphalt to approximately 6' in depth in some areas, upgrading of roadway storm water drainage, water main upgrades/replacement and sidewalk upgrades to meet the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. Because the road reconstruction project will impact the current sidewalks, a streetscape enhancement project will be completed in concurrence with the project. The streetscape enhancement project will consist of new sidewalks from Division Street to the

intersection of US 23 & F-41 as well as landscaping, new light poles and the burial of overhead wires in the 5 lane section. Public meetings will be held in the month of December at which time a "tool kit" will be provided that will detail the project to answer questions & concerns of residents and business owners of the community. Please look for the dates of these meetings to be posted in the Oscoda Press, our Township electronic message sign, website and direct mailings.

It is important to note that although our downtown will be covered in a bit of construction "dust" for approximately 8 months we need our community to continue to support the downtown businesses. The Downtown Development Authority and the Oscoda AuSable Chamber of Commerce will be partnering in their effort to provide marketing support during this construction season and the theme will be... **Yes we're open for business!** Should you have any questions please feel free to contact Ann Richards, Community Development Coordinator at 739-6999 email ddadirector@oscodatwp.com.



Michigan's 2011/2012 Winter is being predicted to have above normal snowfall! Are you ready?

**Reminder - Watch Live Township Board Meetings on Cable Channel 3 & 98
2nd & 4th Mondays—7 PM**

Please note the Township Hall will be Closed the following dates
December 26th, 27th, & January 2nd

Community Newsletter

Winter - 2011
Page 2

Oscoda Twp. Police Department in cooperation with the DEA hosted the National Drug Take Back Initiative on 10-29-2011 from 10 AM to 2:00 PM. The program allows citizens to dispose of unused and unwanted medications. Locally, 40.5 pounds of prescription pills were collected for disposal. A total of 4756 pounds of pills were collected from the 189 participating sites in Michigan. The event raises public awareness about the growing concerns of pharmaceutical drug abuse as well as ridding homes of potential threats to public safety. The DEA anticipates holding another Take Back Day in the Spring of 2012. The public can check the DEA website for additional information. The Police Department welcomed 3 new officers on board to replace officers that left for other departments earlier this year. The new officers are Tyler Leslie, Kelsey Johnson and Jordan Wentworth. This restores our department to ten full time officers plus Chief Mark David.



Robert J. Parks Library –

Based upon years of teens asking for their own space in the library, you now have it! Local artist, Armando Calles, is adding some colorful splash to the teen walls. His current piece includes a figure from our large graphic novel collection.

Also, the library has been rearranged making space for twelve public use computers provided by the Iosco-Arenac District Library. Five café style tables have been added for those who bring in their own laptop computers utilizing our wireless capability.

Except in rare cases, if you cannot find a book on our shelves we can request books from other libraries at no cost to you. Also free for you is the ability to access downloadable audiobooks, anytime, anywhere. This feature now includes Kindle.

The Presidential Primary Election

will be held on February 28, 2012. Absentee ballots will be available after January 14, 2012. Please contact the Clerk's office if you would like an application for an absentee ballot sent to you or if you have any questions. The last day to register for the Presidential Primary is January 30, 2012.

Oscoda Community Center - Welcome back for another fantastic season!

We have expanded our hours of operation; we now open at 6:00 AM Monday-Friday. Come on in to check out the facility. We also have many new classes that have been added this year, as follows: Basic Aerobics, Simply Step/Sculpt/Stretch, Spinning, Men's Flexibility/Core/Balance, Beginner Yoga, Slow Flow Yoga, Fitness Boot Camp, Zumba, Ballroom Dancing (adults).

	<u>Single</u>	<u>Membership Prices</u> <u>Family</u>	<u>Healthy Hearts</u>
1 month	\$12.00	\$25.00	10 visits for \$5
3 month	\$35.00	\$70.00	
6 month	\$50.00	\$100.00	

In conjunction with the above activities, you will find monthly events that take place on a regular basis. Watch for youth nights on Friday evenings and monthly specials. Visit our web page at www.oscodatwp.com and facebook for updates and offerings or call 739-2251 for more information.

Credit/Debit Card Payments Now Accepted - Many of our residents have asked to pay by credit/debit card. We are happy to announce that you can now pay your taxes and water/sewer bills online through our website using electronic check, credit or debit cards. You can use your credit or debit card over the counter in our office or a toll free number (1-855-894-2402) exclusively for Oscoda Township. This service is being provided through Point & Pay, because this is a convenience service there are fees passed on to the users. The following fee schedule applies:

Property Tax: 3 % of tax bill with a minimum of \$1.50, e-checks flat \$ 3.00

Water/Sewer Bills:
 \$ 0.00 - \$ 50.00 = \$ 1.50
 \$ 50.01 - \$ 100.00 = \$ 3.00
 \$ 101.00 - \$ 200.00 = \$ 6.00
 \$ 201.00 - \$ 300.00 = \$ 9.00 .
 \$ 3.00 for each additional \$ 100.00

If you have any questions regarding using the internet/over the counter options please contact us at 989-739-7471 and we will be happy to help.

Visit us at
www.oscodatwp.com
Find us on Facebook
"Oscoda Charter Township"

Patricia Sherman Memorial
Writing Contest 2012
Deadline January 31, 2012
www.patriciasherman.org

22nd Annual Snow Box Derby
February 12, 2012
"Down on the Farm"