

GENEVA TOWNSHIP

ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH 31, 2007

GENEVA TOWNSHIP
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

MARCH 31, 2007

8:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order - Special Meeting
- Pledge of Allegiance**
2. Open Budget Public Hearing
Review of Budget
2007 Millage Rates - .7852 Operating; 3.000 Roads
Close Budget Public Hearing
3. Call to Order - Annual Meeting
4. Minutes of Annual Meeting - April 1, 2006
5. Treasurer's Report - As of March 23, 2007
6. Appointment of Township Depositor - West Michigan Savings Bank
- Fifth-Third Bank
7. Board Meeting Date & Time - Second Tuesday of Month - 7:00 p.m.
Except May 10, 2007 due to election
8. Annual Meeting Date & Time - March 29, 2008 8:00 a.m.
9. Road Plan for 2007
- 10.
11. PUBLIC COMMENT
12. Adjourn Annual Meeting
13. Re-Open Special Meeting
2007 Millage Rates - .7852 Operating; 3.0000 Roads
Adopt 2007-2008 Budget
14. Adjourn Special Meeting

THINK SPRING

GENEVA TOWNSHIP LISTING

3/24/07

Supervisor

Nancy Ann Whaley
63133 16th Avenue
Bangor, MI 49013-9661

Phone & Fax 269-427-7607
email - geneva8009@yahoo.com
S.H. Area Emergency Services Representative

Clerk

Bridgette Gumpert
19881 CR 687
South Haven, MI 49090

Phone & Fax 269-427-7422

Treasurer

M. Jeffery Primmer
61159 CR 384
Bangor, MI 49013

Phone & Fax 269-427-8588
email - treasprimmer@genevatwp.org

Trustees

Norman Funk
14739 62nd Street
Bangor, MI 49013

Phone 269-427-7276
SEXTON

Audrey Krader
00653 CR 681
Grand Junction, MI 49056

Phone 269-253-4221

Assessor

Manning Professional Services
Hal & Sue Manning
1447 Clarke Place
South Haven, MI 49090

Phone 269-637-0421
Fax 269-639-0917

South Haven Community Hospital Representative

Clare Olney

Phone 269-637-3506

South Haven Area Senior Services Representative

Linda Primmer

Phone 269-427-8588

South Haven Regional Airport Authority Representative

David Orr

Phone 269-427-2521

Building Inspector

Charles Moore
19624 CR 687
South Haven, MI 49090

2000 Michigan Building Codes
Phone 269-427-8328
Fax 269-427-8753

Electrical Inspector

Richard Burrows
10311 68th Street
South Haven, MI 49090

State of Michigan Electrical Codes
Phone 269-637-3203
Fax 269-637-9413

Mechanical Inspector

Walter DeVisser
63165 CR 380
Bangor, MI 49013

State of Michigan Mechanical Codes
Phone & Fax 269-427-7543

Plumbing Inspector

Phyllis Centers
63421 CR 380
Bangor, MI 49013

State of Michigan Plumbing Codes
Phone 269-427-7890

Well & Septic Permit Information

Department of Public Health

Phone 269-621-3143

57418 CR 687
Hartford, MI 49057-9634

Driveway Permit

Van Buren County Road Commission	Phone	269-674-8011
319 James Street P.O. Box 156	Fax	269-674-3770
Lawrence, MI 49064		

June 12, 2007

July 10, 2007

August 14, 2007

September 11, 2007

***May Meeting changed due to Election.**

March 29, 2008 - 8:00 A.M. - Annual Meeting

December 11, 2007

January 8, 2008

February 12, 2008

March 11, 2008

GENEVA WEBSITE
www.vbco.org/geneva.asp

Site includes Geneva Township Information

Directory; ALERTS on Breaking & Entering & and criminal activities; Cemetery Information; Ordinances & applications on certain ordinances; Road Information; Minutes synopsis; Contact information; Tax collection dates, during tax season; Election Consolidation and any election announcements; Transfer Station Operation, Free Dump Day Information; Calendar; Annual Report; other items of importance as they occur.

LINKS to: South Haven Area Emergency Services; South Haven Area Senior Services; South Haven Community Hospital; State of Michigan website; State Representative, Tonya Schuitmaker, State Senator, Ron Jelinek; U.S. Representative Fred Upton; Cities of South Haven and Bangor; Van Buren Cooperative Extension Service; Van Buren County Government; Kal-Haven Trail; Black River Heritage Trail; etc.

Maintenance: Site is updated as information is ready for site. with more information being added as it occurs.

Contact: Nancy Whaley, 269-427-7607 or **geneva8009@yahoo.com**. Feed back is appreciated.

ELECTION CONSOLIDATION

All Geneva Township Voters will be voting on ALL elections at the Geneva Township Hall. This includes Bangor and South Haven School Elections. If you live in Geneva Township you will be voting in Geneva Township Hall, 62127 CR 380, Bangor. Please feel free to contact Bridgette Gumpert at 269-427-7422 with your questions on voter registration, voting process and absentee ballots applications.

Bangor Schools will have election issues on Tuesday, May 8, 2007 and South Haven Schools election will be on November 6, 2007.

Exercise your right to VOTE.

South Haven Area Regional Airport Authority

South Haven Regional Airport is located at 73020 CR 380, South Haven. David Orr, 269-427-2521, represents Geneva Township on Airport Authority Board SHARA Authority was formed in 1983 with Casco, Covert, Geneva & South Haven Township's and cities of Bangor and South Haven. Dave Johnson serves as Manager of airport - 269-637-7343. Geneva supports this authority with .25 mill annually based on taxable value and this .25 mill comes out of the .7862 operating millage.

Thank you Dave for giving of your time to the Airport and Geneva Township Boards.

OTHER: Mead & Hunt Engineering firm hired to perform a new study on tree removal on surrounding properties. Terrorism Risk Insurance procured. Five year plan reviewed. National Geodetic Survey crew updating records of properties in vicinity of airport. Lawn sprinklers installed. Hangers are full with 13 on wait list and review of additional hangers being completed.

Annual Fly-In 8-13. Rotary pancake breakfast served 1800; Plane rides given to 86 adults and 96 children. Proceeds from Fly-In are being used for a new PA system.

South Haven Community Hospital

South Haven Hospital Board representative is Clare Olney, 637-3605. **Thank you Clare for giving of your time to keep Geneva Township informed of activities at the Hospital.**

Services Available: Annual Heart to Heart Screening annually in February; Yoga, Tai Chi, skin care, Reiki & Massage therapy; Pulmonary & Cardiac Rehabilitation programs; Better Breathing Tele-Health Presentations; CPR classes; Flu Clinics. Call 269-639-2720 for more program information State of the art 64 slice CT scanner installed and certified by State of Michigan.

Water birthing option available for mothers-to-be and growth in births are being realized with 443 in 2006; 397 in 2005 and 326 in 2004. Call 639-2720 for more information.

SHCH Home Care Service provides traditional care ordered by a physician and Private duty service provided at client expense. Call Traditional home care 639-2888; Private Duty 639-2882. Lifeline personal response system available by calling 639-2888.

Screening Mammograms offered at special price in October each year, National Breast Health Awareness Month. Mammography program passed the all Federal & State guidelines with no infractions for third year.

South Haven Community Hospital continued

Volunteer Recognition Volunteers assisting at Hospital total 22,000 hours in last year utilizing 100 volunteers. Hospital Auxiliary holds book fair in Hospital lobby twice annually as a fundraiser. "Make a difference in someone's life and be a Volunteer". Volunteers are always needed, call Hannah Schlecker 637-5271 #2203 for more information. Auxiliary Annual Scholarship of \$1000 to Students that stay in medical field are: Kylie Williams & Jennifer Empson, Bangor School; Sarah Pfaff, S.H. School & Geneva Township resident.

9th Annual Harvest Food Drive Added 10,537 pounds of non-perishable food items We Care food bank. In 9 years of Food Drive, 46,183 pounds of non-perishable food items have been collected from hospital personnel for food pantries benefiting many families through We Care, I.N.C.

Shoreline Wellness & Rehabilitation Center being constructed in the former Village Market complex and plans to be open by November, 2007.

New: Dr. Maura Buckingham, general surgeon, call 639-2893; Karen Warner, RN - Inpatient Director & Brian Reitz, AART, Radiology Director. Joanne Urbanski is Interim CEO of South Haven Community Hospital and is a Geneva Township resident.

VOLUNTEERS truly are the "Heart of America"

South Haven Area Senior Services

Executive Director - Jennifer Carver

South Haven Area Senior Services coverage area includes Arlington, Bangor, Columbia, Covert, Geneva & South Haven Townships & Cities of South Haven and Bangor. Linda Primmer, 427-8588, is Geneva representative on the SHASS Board, which meets the third Wednesday each month at 4:30 p.m. at the Warren Center. **Thank you Linda for your time and effort you put in to enhance the quality of life for our Seniors.** South Haven Area Senior Services - call **269-637-3607** for information on programs and locations of events.

SHASS Board Officers: Pastor Jeffrey Dick, President; Alesia Webb, Vice President; Sally Watson, Secretary; Cheri Brenner, Treasurer. Other Board Members include City of Bangor - Rosemary Insidiosio; Arlington Township - un-represented; Bangor Township - Alice Reissmann; Columbia Township - Dick Curtis; Geneva Township - Linda Primmer; Covert Township - Dennis Palgen; South Haven Township - Marcy Cloclough; Members at Large - Cathy Green; non voting: Nancy Whaley.

SHASS Senior Sentinel contains monthly information on programs, services, fun activities, meals, and is included in the South Haven Tribune last Sunday of each month. **Special Events:** Check Senior Sentinel calendars for these or check website at **www.shass.org**

Senior Assistance: If you know Seniors that need assistance or would benefit from SHASS programs have them contact Senior Center at 637-3607 or Geneva Township representatives.

Senior Millage - Four year renewal of .25 mill passed August 8, 2006. With this Covert Township voters approved millage and Covert Township Board has contracted with SHASS for service.

Geneva residents take advantage of the many programs and activities for Seniors offered at the Warren Center in South Haven, including meals, trips, computer training. There are many Geneva Seniors that spend time volunteering and helping others. Services include but are not limited to: Employment assistance;

equipment loan rental; exercise; food programs; health programs; prescription assistance; hospice; housing; legal services; Medicare/Medicaid assistance; tax form assistance; transportation; home delivered meals; Community caring, Care Watch; computer classes and numerous other activities.

3rd Annual Seniors Day is scheduled for June 6, 2007 at Lawrence Conference Center. Transportation is available. Sponsored by grant from Michigan Sheriff Association Program "Safe Sound & Secure" with emphasis on Senior issues involving identity theft, fraud, etc.

Transportation - Providing much needed transportation to all areas continues to be challenging due to limited transportation funding as well as vehicles and drivers. Transportation committee continues to look for ways to enhance this area of Senior Services.

South Haven Area Senior Services - continued

Tax Form Assistance

2007 to date: Tax help for 150 seniors. Home heating credit estimated results in savings of \$22,500; Homestead property credit estimated results in savings of \$52,500, telephone one time credit estimated at \$4,500 for a total estimated savings to Seniors of \$79,500. **Thanks to Ray Giegerich, Arles Odette and Dick Curtis for providing this service to Seniors.**

Growth & Budget: Growing pains continue as efforts are being taken to get Seniors in all areas involved in Senior Services and take advantage of the many programs provided. Office facilities and programs are being provided in Bangor, Columbia, Arlington, Bangor City and Covert to enhance the outlying coverage areas. SHASS rent at Warren Center increased this year from \$25 a month to \$450 per month. Providing services within budget constraints is challenging.

Fundraising events are ongoing to enhance the programs of SHASS. Annual Give from the Heart Campaign has a \$6,000 goal for 2007. United Way Funding remains but at lower levels of help for seniors than in past. Making and selling pasties in September is a fundraiser which requires lots of volunteer manpower but has matching funds from Thrivent through Peace Lutheran Church. Donations of time and monetary are always welcomed.

Website: Visit SHASS website at www.shass.org or connect to link on www.vbco.org/geneva.asp Site is updated on any new events and campaign results by Ted Martin. **Thanks Ted for all your work on keeping this site updated with "Great Photo's" and information.**

It's exciting - check it out.

South Haven Area Emergency Services Authority

Randy Van Wynen, Director 269-637-5151 or 269-637-1813

LIFE SIGNS could SAVE A LIFE or your HOME.

Life Signs available from South Haven Area Emergency Services Authority - contact any one at the South Haven Fire Complex 637-5151 or 637-1813. Signs are installed by Authority personnel at a cost of \$13. Posts are \$4.00 additional.

Please check SMOKE DETECTORS monthly and replace the batteries twice a year or when you change your clock for daylight savings time.

Think Fire Safety - Drive Safely

2006 Firefighter of the year is Jim Lindemulder

Authority Board meets first Wednesday each month at Station 3, (South Haven Fire Complex). Representative on S.H.A.E.S. Board is Nancy Whaley - phone 427-7607. **Website - shaes.org linked to Geneva Township**

site at www.vbco.org/geneva.asp Geneva was able to reduce Fire and Ambulance millage levy from 3.75 mills to 3.10 mills due to County Wide ambulance millage of .6 mills put in place in 2005 by voters. Geneva Township Board is working to keep this reduction in place for term of County Wide Millage for Ambulance Service.

SERVICE: Authority total calls for service in 2006 - 1,639 calls, 1,152 ambulance, 487 fire. Geneva - 260 calls - 181 ambulance, 79 fire. Casco - 244 calls - 151 Ambulance, 93 Fire; South Haven Township - 423 calls - 302 ambulance, 121 fire; South Haven City - 684 calls - 506 ambulance, 178 fire; Mutual Aid - 28 calls, 12 ambulance, 16 fire. Mutual aid included, Ganges, Bangor, Columbia, Covert, Coloma Ambulance.

2007 SHAES Budget: Adopted 2007 Budget at 3.41% overall increase with largest increases in benefits due to Health Insurance & part-time employees increase in hourly rate because of the difficulty in getting paid on call volunteers. Health care costs rising 17% for 2007 of this 17% - 30% is being paid by the employees. Many budget line items have remained constant without any increases in the last five years. Geneva contribution for fire and ambulance service is \$201,293 an increase of 1.26% for 2007. Van Buren County Ambulance Millage renewal of .4 mill passed, paid is on taxable value and returned to SHAES by population. SHAES Authority loss is an estimated \$35,000 due to this millage formula.

South Haven Area Emergency Services Authority - continued.

Continuing Education & Ongoing Training includes: CPR & Defibrillator; SCBA; Confined Space Rescue with supplied air/air pack donning and filling; five year non-destructive tests on all the aerial apparatus completed; vehicle extrication with jaws, saws and mechanical and on-mechanical means; NIMS 700 certification; Thermal imager and fire fighting operations; pump operations, large caliber fire streams and hose lays; Water filtration to test capacities of water intake; Rope rescue and pulley systems; Drafting from port-tanks and river; Drilled at DSM using three evolutions of fire suppression, confined space rescue and medial treatment; EMS response to taser patients; practiced intubulations and combi-tube use and insertions; New stair chairs and patient transport; rescue utilizing pneumatic air bags for lifting vehicles and heavy objects. SHAES has three air bags 1 at 24 ton; 1 at 21 ton; 1 at 8 ton.

New Equipment: Replaced 1986 Pierce Fire Engine #2 with new Spencer Class A Pumper Fire Engine cost \$409,988 Funds from capital replacement funds of SHAES. Training and operation of unit completed.

Spencer Mfg. Company donated the painting of the 1923 LaFrance truck, which will be housed at Liberty Hyde Bailey museum.

Fire Prevention Week - October 9 - 14 - Visited nine schools, pre-school through 4th grade covering 1,105 students. Fire Safety Night at Station 3 had 350 attend. Paul Quinn did an excellent job overseeing the prevention program again this year with a cost of \$3,000 and \$5,140 in donations received. Firefighters installed 400 smoke detectors provided by a grant by BlueCross BlueShield of MI, Lowe's Home Center, United Way of Southwestern MI and Public Safety Education Program

Director Retiring: Randy Van Wynen, Director, has served SHAES since January 1, 1996 with the utmost professionalism and his replacement is being sought. Qualifications and job description took many hours of board time to complete. **Geneva Township Thanks Randy for all the time and commitment he has put forth for our residents and for South Haven Area Emergency Services. Randy's job performance has been outstanding with a well run Authority that benefits all of us.**

SHAES Paid On Call Volunteer Association - SHAES "Honor Guard" represents SHAES at parades, meetings, funerals and 911 events. Fundraising activities of the Paid on Call Volunteer Association are used to support activities and events of SHAES. **HELP SUPPORT Paid on Call Volunteer Fundraisers.**

Thank you to each and every employee & volunteer of South Haven Emergency Services for their dedication to all of us in the service area, as well as visitors to our community. We are fortunate to have the expertise of each of you.

Burning permits are required for ALL OPEN BURNING.

Call 269-637-1813

AL - VAN HUMANE SOCIETY

The Mission of the Society is to meet the needs of our pets and community by promoting the humane and responsible care of pets and animals. Al-Van Humane Society is a tax exempt corporation serving surrounding townships and working closely with Van Buren County Animal Control. Facility located at 73303 8th Avenue, South Haven - phone 637-5062. Open Noon to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, Noon to 4 p.m. on Saturdays. Closed Sunday. Funding is through donations and contributions. Send your donation to Al-Van Humane Society, P.O. Box 421, South Haven, MI 49090. Geneva contracts annually for service to residents.

Van Buren County District Library System

FREE Library Services are available through Van Buren District Library, at Bangor Branch, 420 Division Street, for Geneva Township. Geneva Township contracts service at a cost of \$1,000 per year and penal fines generated through the court system earmarked for Library services. Many programs are offered throughout the year for all ages and you can obtain information from throughout the District Library system at the Bangor Branch. Bangor Branch hours are Monday & Wednesday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Tuesday 12 to 5 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Thursday - CLOSED. Phone 427-8810.

Van Buren County Public Transit

V.B. Public Transit millage request of .25 mill passed on the August 8, 2006. Service is available by calling 269-427-7921 or 1-800-828-2015. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 24 hours notice is appreciated for long trips within Van Buren County. Outside County service is available for medical appointments, at an additional charge.

Cemetery Information

Burial Records available on website - www.vbco.org/geneva.asp

Geneva Township has three cemeteries - Monks located at 62nd Street & CR 380; Chambers at 66501 CR 388; Lacota at 60601 Baseline Road. Grave sites are available in all three cemeteries. Many hours are spent in the upkeep of these burial grounds and your help is needed in complying with the rules for the planting of shrubs, trees. **Contact Township Sexton, Norman Funk**, 269-427-7276 before placing any shrubs and or trees on any grave site or for any issues regarding Cemetery operations.

CEMETERY RULES

All flowers, wreaths, and decorations of any kind must be placed at the head of the graves.

NO trees, bushes, shrubs or foundations shall be placed WITHOUT APPROVAL of the Sexton or the Cemetery Board.

NO motorcycles, motor bikes, horses or snowmobiles permitted in cemetery.

The Cemetery Board reserves the right to remove trees, shrubs and bushes without notice.

The clean up of the Cemeteries will be April 1st each year, which includes flowers, wreaths and decorations.

The Cemetery shall be in a neat and orderly condition at all times.

GENEVA TOWNSHIP SEXTON REPORT												
by Norman Funk, Sexton												
BURIALS	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	TOTALS	
Chambers Cemetery	11	6	11	11	8	18	12	10	12	13	112	
Lacota Cemetery			1	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	7	
Monks Cemetery	18	16	19	19	9	16	10	15	14	16	152	
Total Burials	29	22	31	31	17	34	22	26	29	30	271	
Veterans	8	5	11	6	3	11	3	7	5	6	65	
Ashes	8	3	6	9	3	9	5	8	6	8	65	
Funerals												
Calvin's	5	7	11	5	2	2	2	0	0	0	34	
D.L. Miller	16	13	17	12	5	12	6	8	12	8	109	
Family	7	2	1	3	0	5	5	3	2	1	29	
Filbrandt				6	9	15	6	11	14	19	80	
Other	1	0	2	2	0	0	3	2	1	2	13	
Total Funerals	29	22	31	28	16	34	22	24	29	30	265	
Footings												
Installed	15	17	22	21	21	27	22	17	19	16	197	
			21 Installed									
Lots Sold	8	4	4	7	15	12	16	9	11	10	96	
	(2 burials) burials)								(6 burials)			
AVERAGE BURIAL AGE	76	78										
Female			72	60	73	76	70	67	71	67	70	
Male			62	64	64	67	75	71	61	71	67	
Hours Mowed			108	150	148	138.8	108.8	147.8	111.5	130.8	1043.7	

1999 Goals: Maps - Plotting new areas - Chambers & Monks. Water line in Monk's with two new faucets; Purchase 9.3 acres adjoining Chambers Cemetery.

2000 Goals: Chambers - new well & three water faucets added. Additional area cleared. Graveled roads in Chambers, Lacota, Monks; Clean up all cemeteries. Burial records computerized.

2001 Goals: Lacota 3 acres purchased; New mower purchase/sold old mower. Clean up all Cemeteries.

2002 Goals: Chambers - land worked, seeded, new drives; Lacota land lease; Clean up all cemeteries. One dis-interment in Chambers Cemetery.

2003 Goals: Chambers - New addition opened, Lacota - trees removed. Clean up all cemeteries with trees removal, flag poles fixed.

2004 Goals: Lacota - New addition open; Brush clean up all Cemeteries; Chambers Pine Tree removed; Purchased: John Deere 335 mower; 2 Stihl trimmers; Snow Blower - Hall & Cemetery Usage

2005 Goals: New Signs in all Cemeteries. Trees removed in Monks. Clean up all Cemeteries.

2006 Goals: Land purchased - Monks Cemetery; Crushed Concrete Chambers Drives; Clean cemeteries;

Special Thanks to Cemetery Workers: - Norman Funk, Jasper Empson, Eugene Sorenson, Peter Sorenson.

Ordinance Code Enforcement

Van Buren Sheriff's Department: Ordinance Code Enforcement Officer, Deputy Jason Stasienko, voice mail 427-6085 or 637-7089. If you have questions or complaints, contact Jason or any board member. Blight, Nuisance, Junk Vehicle & Dilapidated Building ordinances are being actively enforced. If your property does not comply with ordinance, you will be visited by officer. Building Maintenance Code enforcement of dilapidated and unlivable buildings is being actively pursued. If unsafe conditions are not addressed and taken care of by property owners, legal action will be pursued to bring property into compliance.

Take advantage of **FREE DUMP DAY May 5 and September 8, 2007**

Building, Electrical, Mechanical, & Plumbing Codes Enforced.

State of Michigan Building Codes, include building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, plan review are enforced. Building Inspector, Charles Moore, 427-8328; Electrical Inspector, Richard Burrows, 637-3203; Mechanical Inspector, Walter DeVisser, 427-7543; Plumbing Inspector Phyllis Centers, 427-7890. **Property numbers are required on permits.** Address questions on permits to inspectors. Sanitation permits required to obtaining building permits from Van Buren County Department of Public Health Permits at 269-621-3143. Driveway permits are required from Van Buren County Road Commission before any work can be done in the road right of way, at 269-674-8011.

The **Geneva Township Board, Chuck Moore and Jason Stasienko** would like to **THANK** all residents that are working to comply with the ordinances.

GENEVA TOWNSHIP					Single Family Dwelling Information				1/4/07
YEAR	Building Permits	Electrical Permits	Mechanical Permits	Total Permits	Housing Site Built	Housing Manufactured	Housing TOTAL	% Housing VS Build Permits	
2006	120	102	77	299	9	29	38	31.7%	
2005	100	74	50	224	3	19	22	22.0%	
2004	100	85	51	236	5	27	32	32.0%	
2003	103	69	54	226	10	16	26	25.2%	
2002	88	83	44	215	7	25	32	36.4%	
2001	115	85	58	258	4	24	28	24.3%	
2000	80	83	46	209	4	14	18	22.5%	
1999	117	90	42	249	3	24	27	23.1%	
1998	96	79	65	240	14	18	32	33.3%	
1997	79	85	55	219	16	22	38	48.1%	
1996	104	109		213	17	23	40	38.5%	
1995	74	100		174	8	31	39	52.7%	
1994	101	79		180	8	23	31	30.7%	
1993	105	95		200	5	33	38	36.2%	
1992	88	76		164	8	31	39	44.3%	
1991	94	76		170	6	25	31	33.0%	
1990	108	88		196	6	28	34	31.5%	
1989	99	73		172					
1988	92	58		150					
1987	81			81					
Totals:	1944	1589	542	4075	133	412	545	28.0%	

Geneva Township has adopted a **Subdivision/Site Condominium Ordinance #32** and Private **Sewer Ordinance #33**. The continuing growth in Geneva Township your board is working to have some continuity in

our community. Copies of these and other ordinances affecting you are available by calling Supervisor: Nancy Whaley, 269-427-7607 or on Geneva website at [**www.vbco.org/geneva.asp**](http://www.vbco.org/geneva.asp)

Set back Ordinance #15 and Housing Ordinance #17 could affect your property as to building sizes, placement on your property, pre-inspection of buildings being brought into the Township. Contact Building Inspector, Charles Moore, 269-427-8328 for more information.

Transfer Station & Recycling Center

Transfer Station & Recycling Center is located at 70000 CR 384 or 4 miles west of the 62nd Street. Open Saturdays 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. You must have your dump sticker for identification. **RECYCLE.** Recycling bins are available at the site every Saturday. There is no charge for using recycling. **HELP SAVE THE ENVIRONMENT.**

GENEVA Free DUMP Days

May 5 & Sept. 8, 2007

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Use of Transfer Station, for disposal of normal household refuse only; one (1) trip only; One (1) appliance per household, **NO REFRIGERATORS**

Dump passes are issued to property owners with property tax bills. Passes are good for two years and the 2007-2008 pass was included in your tax bills, December, 2006. If you do not get a pass they are available from the Supervisor, Clerk, & Treasurer.

FREE DUMP DAYS

GENEVA TOWNSHIP Property Owners

SATURDAY May 5, 2007 and September 8, 2007

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Disposal of NORMAL HOUSEHOLD REFUSE ONLY. ONE (1) TRIP ONLY;

One (1) appliance per household. NO REFRIGERATORS.

NO FREE DUMPING of Construction materials, commercial dumping or tires.

RECYCLING - FREE - Save the Environment.

LOCATION: CR 384 - 1 mile east of M-43 OR 1 Mile west of 68th Street - North Side.

TRANSFER STATION PASS REQUIRED.

Road Side Clean Up

Geneva Township road side clean up is **April 6** with V.B. Cty Sheriff Department Work Crew for road side clean in the spring. Report areas of road sides that need clean up to any board member. Striving to keep our community clean and safe is **EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.**

DON'T BE A LITTER BUG!!!

GENEVA Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch program is an inactive program in Geneva. A coordinator is needed to work with Neighborhood Watch program, contact Nancy Whaley, 427-7607. It is important that you get acquainted with your neighbors and area. Be aware of any activities that could be criminal in nature. Report to Deputy assigned to Geneva by voice mail 637-7089 or 427-6085 or Nancy Whaley 427-7607 will be helpful in efforts to

keep areas where problems are occurring alerted. Steps are taken as events happen to notify the residents by way of notices in the Reminder, South Haven Tribune, via e-mail's and fax. Provide e-mail addresses for Alerts.

EMERGENCIES CALL 911

Geneva Township & General Taxing Information

STATE EQUALIZED VALUE (SEV)

State Equalized Value should be 50% of the Market Appraised Value. We continue to see a rapid increase in the SEV on our properties, which is due in part to the increasing sales dollars sellers receive for their land and property in our area. This coupled with the state telling the county and they in turn telling the municipalities the amount of SEV they need to have for any given year.

TAXABLE VALUE (TV)

Taxable Value is number used to calculate property taxes. Formula is Taxable Value times the millage rate for your property. Millage rate is different in each school district, as well as whether property is exempt under Principal Residence Exemption or non-Principal Resident Exempt.

Increase in Taxable value is limited to 5% or the CPI for the current year. Formula used in figuring Taxable value is: example:

Current Taxable Value	\$10,000	
- Losses (if any)	\$ 1,000	If any occur, loss of building, sale of part of property.
Adjusted Taxable Value	\$ 9,000	
CPI Adjustment	X1.037	CPI - 2007 3.7%
+ Plus	\$ 333	
+ Adjusted Taxable Value	\$ 9,333	
+ Plus any Additions(if any)	\$ 2,000	If any occur, new building, additions to property.
Adjusted Taxable Value	\$11,333	Millage rate X Taxable Value = Tax Dollars owed.

STATE EQUALIZED VALUE (SEV) - TAXABLE VALUE (TV) CHANGES

When property changes ownership, the first year of new ownership the SEV now becomes the Taxable Value (TV) which could see adjustments up or down from the current SEV based on property and land values. **When buying property you cannot assume you will be paying the same amount of taxes of the previous owner.** Properties are "uncapped" when ownership is changed which normally sees an increase in Taxable value and **TAX DOLLARS**.

Taxable Value Rates of Increase

PROPOSAL "A" became effective in 1994 by vote of the people in Michigan. It changed the structure of value that taxes are levied against. In 1994 the State Equalized Value became the Taxable Value. Since 1995 significant raises have occurred in the State Equalized Value, however the Taxable Value can only raise with the following limits:

LIMIT: 5% or Annual Determination of the Detroit Consumer Price Index

TAXABLE VALUE INCREASES

2.6%	for	1995 Tax Year	3.2%	for	2002 Tax Year
2.8%	for	1996 Tax Year	1.5%	for	2003 Tax Year
2.8%	for	1997 Tax Year	2.3%	for	2004 Tax Year
2.7%	for	1998 Tax Year	2.3%	for	2005 Tax Year
1.6%	for	1999 Tax Year	3.3%	for	2006 Tax Year
1.9%	for	2000 Tax Year	3.7%	for	2007 Tax Year
3.2%	for	2001 Tax Year			

* Changes in ownership, addition or deletion of real property effects the Taxable Value in the year of the change. SEE Table of SEV - TV values attached in this report.

The table on Page 19 & 20 gives you the Actual Taxing Rates for Geneva Township for the years 1995 through 2006, 2007 is estimated and based on the 2006 millage rates, with known additional voted millages as of March 23, 2007. The 2007 rates will change if there are any additional voted millages approved before October 1, 2007 and some slight decreases will occur in standing millage rates based on the Headlee Amendment rollbacks.