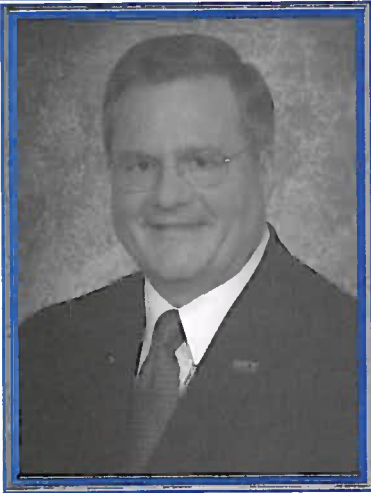


The Township Update

MISSION STATEMENT

To establish innovative, effective and efficient public policy and funding for services, fiscal management, community planning and development; to encourage internal and external communications.

Fall/Winter 2005/2006



Timothy J. Braun,
Saginaw Township Supervisor

OUR NEIGHBORHOODS & FAMILIES COME FIRST!

TO PRESERVE & STRENGTHEN THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY. THIS IS MY FOCUS.

On my way to becoming your Township Supervisor last fall, I had the opportunity to walk through the Township's neighborhoods. I knocked on the doors of many residents of all ages living in single family homes and our fine townhouse development complexes. When I had the opportunity to talk with you, many times I was asked.... "What can the Township do to maintain and enhance our neighborhoods? How can we (the Township) keep our appeal as a first rate suburb in order that people will continue to choose to live here?"

Your concerns became my focus once I was elected. To sum it up in one phrase, we are talking about the "Quality of Life" in Saginaw Township. This was the underlying theme in my State of the Township Message entitled "New Horizons" which was given earlier this spring at a meeting of the Saginaw Township Business Association. Since then, our Township Manager and staff have implemented numerous initiatives to improve

and protect our Quality of Life in the Township....from increasing code and property maintenance which will address potential blight nuisances; to dealing with major traffic issues encountered at our intersections, on our local neighborhood roads, and in our commercial districts. This year, we hope the traffic improvements to be installed north, south, and immediately in front of the Heritage High School complex will help solve the traffic conflicts we have seen in previous years. In this issue of *The Township Update* you will also read about various actions we are putting into place such as Cardinal Square, speed tables for safer neighborhoods, more responsive measures at controlling blight, and increased use of new traffic management techniques with the help of the Saginaw County Road Commission.

Throughout this issue of *The Township Update*, you will see how your various Township departments are working to improve our Quality of Life. While much of this weighs heavily on our Community Development, Fire, and Police Departments; all departments are working toward this common goal. Some say we now are part of the "inner ring" of suburbs surrounding the City of Saginaw. That expression serves to emphasize to each department how important it is to preserve all that is good about Saginaw Township and to make it even better.

SAFE, WELL MAINTAINED, GOOD FAMILY RAISING ENVIRONMENTS - THIS IS WHAT DRIVES MANY OF OUR PROGRAMS TODAY.

Two Township residents summed up their Quality of Life expectations and agreed to share their views....

"My family moved to Saginaw Township in 1988. We have enjoyed the amenities of the community, including its services and its people. The neighborhood atmosphere is apparent not only in the tree lined streets and well kept houses and properties, but also among the businesses where one is served by friendly personnel of whom many are your neighbors. Quality of life, including a safe environment has been foremost in the Township's short and long range plans. This in itself is a motivating factor to reside in Saginaw Township."...Eugene Hamilton, 2005

"Communities are considered favorable when there is exceptional QUALITY OF LIFE elements. Good neighborhoods are one of those elements and Saginaw Township has many. What makes our neighborhoods good? They are safe, well maintained, good family raising environments with easy access to neighborhood schools and shopping...and always supported by our community's volunteers, and its civic and public leaders. The Saginaw Township Business Association is a firm believer that good neighborhoods foster strong community and economic vitality. It is important that we keep our neighborhoods free of blight, and safe; have good pedestrian and traffic maintenance programs; and be able to offer quality shopping, leisure, and recreation amenities for all ages within a close proximity. Keeping our identity as a first rate, dynamic community is crucial such as the Township's efforts in promoting Cardinal Square."...Edward Dornseifer, STBA member.

As your Township Supervisor I am enjoying the opportunity to work on behalf of you, your family, and neighborhood.

Timothy J. Braun

CODE ENFORCEMENT, PROPERTY MAINTENANCE, & YOU - WHAT IS CODE ENFORCEMENT?

Code Enforcement, Property Maintenance, and You

For the last decade Saginaw Township, through the Department of Community Development, has had a strong and responsive program in place, and in action, for the preservation of neighborhoods, for controlling blight, and assuring our quality of life.

However, with the elections in 2004 there is a "new Captain at the helm" and his name is Tim Braun, Supervisor. Along with the Township Board, Mr. Braun has given the necessary support, direction, and resources to not only maintain current levels of Code Enforcement and Property Maintenance but also to increase patrols, shorten compliance times, and increase the level of response to the concerns of the Community.

As an example, from January 2004 to September 2004 the Ordinance Enforcement Officers completed 1,180 cases. Since Mr. Braun has taken office the number of cases has increased to 1,911 in that same time period in 2005. The period for compliance has changed from 30 days to 10 days with consideration for the specific circumstances of the violation. Attention to violations of cars being parked on the grass has also been increased. The goal and intent of these changes is to keep the quality of our neighborhoods at a high level.

The code enforcement/property maintenance process is based on the Enforcement Officer's judgment of the specific situation as it relates to the adopted Ordinance, Code, and Departmental Policy's. These judgments are made while the Officer's complete their enforcement routes throughout the Township. It takes a two to three week period for the two Officers to cover every road in the 30 square miles of Saginaw Township.

While nobody enjoys receiving enforcement letters it is important to keep in mind that these efforts are being applied across the Township without regard to which neighborhood that you may live in or who your neighbor may be. Most people on the receiving end of an enforcement letter feel that they are being "picked on", "singled out", or "harassed", when ultimately the fact is that a violation exists and simply needs to be addressed. Many times, a person in defense of their violation will suggest a list of properties about the Township with similar offenses. Typically, these violations are already being addressed or the enforcement staff has not completed their routes. Sometimes certain situations are being watched. All of this is not to say that 100% of all of the violations are found 100% of the time.

The very best thing that anyone who receives an enforcement letter can do initially is to call and speak with the Ordinance Enforcement Officer that sent the letter and establish a mutually agreeable plan and timetable for compliance. The very worst thing that you can do is ignore the letter.

The bottom line is that if enforcement personnel, including Police Officers, Fire Fighters, Fire Inspectors, Construction Inspectors and Code Enforcement Officers are successful, then property values will continue to increase, businesses will continue to locate here, and Saginaw Township will continue to be one of the best places to live, work, and raise a family.

By: Matthew Reno, Director of Community Development

What is Code Enforcement? One of the many basic services the Township provides is to ensure that our neighborhoods are orderly, clean, and free of public nuisances. For those purposes the Township has adopted various ordinances and policies that promote compatible land uses in our neighborhoods while providing orderly and desirable development over time. Examples include:

- ▶ Ordinances that regulate the use and development of land through the establishment of zoning districts and permissible uses within those districts; and
- ▶ Laws that regulate nuisances within the Township, such as unsafe buildings, junk and abandoned vehicles, accumulations of objectionable material, and yards that are not maintained properly.

Having these regulations however, is not enough unless they are effectively enforced and uniformly applied. By enforcing these regulations, the Code Enforcement Department promotes and protects the public health, safety and welfare of our community.

Code Enforcement in Saginaw Charter Township is based upon six distinct and important objectives:

1. Whenever possible, work to achieve compliance without the need for formal enforcement proceedings. This saves time and money while fostering a positive relationship with residents.
2. Prioritize needs and focus on quality. We can all agree that certain situations must be dealt with quickly for the safety of the community. Other situations while not unsafe, involve quality of life issues and/or aesthetics.
3. Work to inform all involved parties rather than process a large number of complaints quickly with little or no personal contact. Comprehensive notification and communication is vital to positive public relations.
4. Ensure open and effective communication with the public and other township departments.
5. Work to educate the general public about the role of code enforcement and various ordinance requirements.
6. Take the time necessary to conduct general surveillance of the Township as well as review ordinances and develop projects and initiatives that will address areas of concern identified by the Township Board.

How does code enforcement work? Our enforcement officers, who patrol the Township every day, initiate many of the code enforcement actions. A citizen can report a complaint by calling the Code Enforcement Division at **989.791.9865**. A staff member will take information regarding the location and nature of the violation.

Article continued on page 3.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

How Does Code Enforcement Work? *Article continued from page 2.*

The officer assigned to the area will conduct an inspection of the property as soon as possible, typically within 24 hours of the complaint. If it is determined that a violation exists, the officer will send a correction notice to the property owner asking for compliance within 10 days of the date of the letter. If the property owner does not comply with the officers request, or does not contact the officer to make other arrangements, a Notice of Violation, which carries a \$95.00 fine, will be issued. At the same time, the Township Attorney will file the necessary documentation for a hearing before a Circuit Court Judge requesting injunctive relief.

How to Avoid Code Enforcement Action and Be a Good Neighbor

- ✓ Repair rotted wood, broken or missing boards and siding on your home or structures.
- ✓ Keep your home and property safe, sanitary, in good repair and maintain all pest control measures.
- ✓ Make sure that house address numbers are mounted in a highly visible location and are a minimum of 3 1/2" in height and contrast with the color of the building.
- ✓ Garbage should not be placed at the curb prior to the night before scheduled pickup.
- ✓ Consistently maintain your lawn. Grass/weeds cannot exceed a height of 10 inches.
- ✓ Inspect to insure that debris such as plastic containers, used tires, building materials, non-operational vehicles and other materials that impact the appearance of your yard are not present.
- ✓ Vehicles of any kind, whether they are Recreational Vehicles, your own personal vehicle, or any vehicle that you are trying to sell, are not permitted to be parked on the lawn.

Are there things that Code Enforcement can't control? Yes. Code Enforcement cannot resolve matters such as property line disputes, drainage problems, tree branches or limbs hanging onto your property, subdivision covenants and deed restrictions. These types of issues are best handled by your attorney as they tend to be civil matters.

Other items such as mailboxes, street signs, and roadway clear vision areas that are obscured by overgrowth or other such items are handled through the Saginaw County Road Commission. They can be contacted by calling **752.6140**.

Complaints or concerns regarding, noise, including barking dogs, should be referred to the Police Department. They can be reached by calling **793.2310** Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

What to do if you receive a notice of violation

- ▶ Call the Code Enforcement Officer who sent you the letter. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE.**
- ▶ Find out how to correct the problem and do so promptly.
- ▶ Suggest a plan and reasonable time table for compliance.
- ▶ You can ask for additional time provided you are making progress on the violation(s). Some problems are serious and correction must not be delayed. Remember to get the proper permits that may be required for some repairs.
- ▶ If you are unwilling to take prompt action to correct the problems, you may face fines and be required to appear in Circuit Court.

Let us know about a violation in your neighborhood If you believe that there is a violation in your neighborhood or near your business that you have not been able to resolve by discussing it with the responsible person, call **791.9865** and ask to speak with a Code Enforcement Officer. When you phone in your complaint, we will ask if you have contacted the responsible party. Be willing to be accountable for your concerns. Most people want to be good neighbors and are cooperative once the issue is brought to their attention.

Remember, the Code Enforcement team is here to help. Working together will help prevent blight in our neighborhoods and further influence and enhance the quality of life in our Township. You can reach the Code Enforcement Division at **791.9865**, during normal business hours Monday thru Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. *By: Rob Grose, Assistant Director of Community Development and Bridget Smith, Planner - AICP*



The Sandhill Playground is one example of families working together to improve and strengthen their neighborhood. The Neighborhood Association organizes annual picnics in the summer & winter. Photo by: Kim Browning, Sandhill historian & Sandhill newsletter editor

Creating Safer Neighborhoods through Traffic Calming

During the course of the last several years, many residents have voiced their concerns to the Township over vehicles traveling at high rates of speed through their neighborhoods. Usually when this occurs, residents request the Police Department to patrol their neighborhood more frequently so as to provide a deterrence to speeding motorists. A greater police presence may be effective in the short term, but it does not provide a long term solution. Once the police leave an area motorists again revert back to their old habit of speeding.

Other options commonly associated with achieving slower speeds include the installation of traffic signals or stop signs. The Saginaw County Road Commission, along with the Michigan Department of Transportation has adopted national standards relative to the installation of traffic signals and stop signs. **In order to have these types of devices installed, the roadway must first meet several criteria related to a minimum number of vehicles traveling the roadway within a 24 hour period and a minimum number of accidents occurring over a three year period.** These standards are relatively easy to meet on major roadways, but are very difficult to meet in residential neighborhoods. *Article continued on page 5 of this newsletter.*

LOOKING OUT FOR OUR FAMILIES & NEIGHBORHOODS

Saginaw Township Police Department Our Commitment

To Work Closely With Our Citizens & Businesses

The Saginaw Township Police Department is committed to working closely with our citizens and businesses in order to provide a safe environment for everyone to enjoy this great community. Preventing crime is key in maintaining a safe environment. Larceny or theft of property seems to be the most prevalent type of criminal activity.

By practicing a few simple tips, many thefts can be prevented

- ▶ **Remove valuable items from view within your vehicle.** Cell phones, laptop computers, CD's and cameras are hot items that crooks like to steal. Lock these items in your trunk or take them with you.
- ▶ **Close garage doors.** Thieves love to cruise neighborhoods looking for open garages and items to remove.
- ▶ **Motion sensor lights are a great deterrent.** Crooks would rather work in the dark.
- ▶ **While shopping, lock your purchases in the trunk.** Thieves like looking through car windows to see if there are items inside which are easy to steal.
- ▶ **Always lock your vehicle.** Unlocked car doors make for easy access.

District Resource Officers The police department's District Resource Officers provide crime prevention seminars and materials to citizens and businesses on a variety of topics. Please feel free to contact the District Resource Office at **797.7231** to learn more about these programs.

Crime Information Hotline The Saginaw Township Police Department offers a Crime Information Hotline **791.7233**. Citizens can call this number on a daily basis to learn where criminal activity or suspicious situations might be occurring. Citizens are the police department's "eyes and ears" in the community. If you see something suspicious, call **911**. By working together, we can deter criminal activity and apprehend those responsible.

Citizens Police Academy On August 31, 2005 the 6th annual Citizens Police Academy met for its first training session. The citizen volunteers will participate in 13 sessions in order to learn more about the Saginaw Township Police Department and what various assignments the officers perform. During the eleven week program, the academy attendees will meet on Wednesday evenings for three hours and for two Saturday morning sessions. The training will consist of lecture and hands on activity. Previous Citizen Police Academy graduates have found the experience to be worthwhile and enjoyable. For more information or to sign up for next year's academy, please contact the Investigation Division at **791.7226**.

Give Us a Call The Saginaw Township Police Department is committed to working closely with our citizens and businesses. If you have a question or want to learn more about preventing criminal activity, give us a call **793.2310**. We look forward to hearing from you. **Have a safe year!**

By: Donald F. Pussehl, Jr., Saginaw Township Chief of Police

Saginaw Township Fire Department Our Focus

To Prevent Fires Through Enforcement & Education

"The mission of the Saginaw Charter Township Fire Department is to enhance the quality of living in our community by preventing or minimizing injury and loss of life or property resulting from fire or other emergencies, natural or man caused, that may occur within the jurisdictional boundaries of the charter township we serve".

The Fire Department is Proud to Serve - The members of Saginaw Township Fire Department recognizes that the community is the reason for our presence. We appreciate the faith and trust our citizens have in us and continually work to deserve their confidence through our conduct and accomplishments.

The fire department is always ready and willing to serve. And, although our members thoroughly enjoy demonstrating their abilities, we truly hate to see someone's home or business destroyed by fire. With the cooperation of our citizens, the Township experiences very few devastating fires. Our concerted effort to prevent fires and enhance public safety through fire safety education, fire inspections and code enforcement practices has proven to reduce the number of unfriendly fires. Fire inspections, our sophisticated emergency equipment, readiness training, our record keeping practices and the Township's water supply system has significantly lowered the fire insurance risk rating for both our business and bedroom communities.

The fire department strives for excellence in everything we do, believing that honesty, fairness and integrity cannot be compromised. We believe lives are more valuable than property and the safety of the public is of paramount importance, followed closely by the safety of our members. Our continuous training and improvements in equipment enable us to provide our citizens with the latest technology in fire extinguishment, vehicle extraction, specialized rescue, hazardous materials mitigation and fire investigation for arson prosecution.

Our Fire Prevention Bureau is staffed with fire safety specialists trained and certified by the State of Michigan and the National Fire Protection Association. The Prevention Bureau assists developers in providing building access for emergency rescue, maneuverable roadways, adequate fire hydrants for fire suppression activities and proper site identification for rapid emergency response. Our fire inspectors assist the business community in providing fire safe environments for our citizens to work, shop and relax with routine fire inspections. Inspectors perform random occupant capacity inspections at our public assembly buildings to prevent horrific tragedies like the Rhode Island nightclub fire from occurring in the Township. To protect our young citizens, fire, home and life safety training programs are held in our elementary schools and childcare centers and juvenile fire intervention programs are available to children who exhibit fire-starting behaviors.

The department's willingness to serve goes beyond firefighting and prevention. Our volunteerism attitude is evident by our obvious presence in and around the community. Look for us on street corners collecting for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, at our Pancake Breakfast Open House every October during fire prevention week, at our blood drives, the August National Night Out in the Wal-Mart parking lot, handing out candy in residential neighborhoods on Halloween, during training sessions the first and third Wednesday of every month or at one of our three fire stations. When you see us, please stop, say hello and let us brag about our ability to help you! By: Linda Schluchter, STFD Supervisor of Fire Prevention, Inspections, Code Enforcement

IMPROVING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS WITH SERVICES & SAFETY

Department of Public Services Families Can Make a Difference Please Recycle!

The Brush Site The Brush Site (5790 W. Michigan) will be open weekends from September 3rd thru October 30th, 2005, Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The site will accept brush and tree trimmings only and nothing larger than 6 inches in diameter. This site is open to Saginaw Township residents only.

Yard Waste Curb Side Pick Up Yard waste pickup will continue thru Tuesday, November 29, 2005. Yard waste includes grass clippings, sod without dirt, twigs (less than 2" in diameter), leaves, etc. No root balls or stumps. Yard waste must be in Kraft paper bags or containers marked yard Waste. Yard Waste stickers are available at the Township offices. Brush is limited to one bundle per week. Bundles may be no larger than 3' x 4' in size.

Recycling "If You Can Rip It You Can Recycle It" Recycling has never been easier than it is now. Lets support the campaign to reduce our waste and future costs by recycling paper along with plastic bottles, glass jars, and metal food cans. Recycle bins are available for purchase at the Township Hall for \$7.00. The Loop Guide which gives tips for recycling along with other tips for handling various refuse materials can also be obtained at the Township Hall or by calling the Mid Michigan Waste Authority at **781.9555**.

Sewer Backups All sewer backups should be reported immediately to the Department of Public Services. Please call **791.9870**. Department personnel will provide assistance in determining the cause and possible solutions to your problem.

By: Herb "Sonny" Grunwell, Director of Public Services

Clerk's Office

ADA Compliance at Polling Places The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) has money earmarked to ensure each polling place is ADA Compliant by January 2006. In Saginaw Township there are only a few minor improvements needed. A few locations need handicap signs and/or parking lots stripped for the maneuvering area. The improvements may be completely funded by HAVA through a written grant request; otherwise each jurisdiction will need to match the money the State provides.

State Grant Money for New Optechs The State has another grant program initiated through HAVA to receive new optical scan voting systems. Saginaw Township has been in the forefront of Michigan as we purchased optical scan machines back in 1993. HAVA has money earmarked for each municipality throughout the State to receive new voting machines. Since the Township purchased the machines prior to the year 2000 we will also receive new machines. The new optical scan voting systems will work exactly like the old ones except they will be lighter and quieter. *Clerk's Office News continued on page 6.*

Creating Safer Neighborhoods Through Traffic Calming

Article continued from page 3 of this newsletter.

Using traffic calming techniques to reduce speeds along public roadways have become very popular in urban communities. Some of the more common traffic calming improvements include the installation of traffic circles and speed tables. When done correctly, traffic calming reduces traffic speeds and lessens the severity of crashes. And though it's difficult to measure, traffic calming often improves the quality of life in neighborhoods. Various speed studies have shown that proper installation of traffic calming devices will reduce speed by five to ten miles per hour.

In Saginaw Township, we have two experimental examples of traffic calming. The first is a mini-traffic circle, located at the intersection of Plymouth and Baines. This intersection has a relatively high traffic count for a residential area. However, it does not meet the minimum criteria established by the Saginaw County Road Commission to warrant the installation of a four way stop. Based upon interest from the immediate neighborhood, an experimental traffic circle was installed last year for the purpose of slowing vehicles and reducing cut-through traffic.

Traffic circles are raised islands, generally placed at intersections, around which traffic circulates. This traffic calming device requires drivers to slow to a speed that allows them to comfortably maneuver around it. Large vehicles may find traffic circles difficult to get around and may have to turn left in front of the circle. Landscaping needs to be designed to allow adequate sight distance and ease of maintenance.

The second type of traffic calming underway in Saginaw Township is something called speed tables. A speed table is a term used to describe a very long and broad speed bump, or a flat-topped speed bump. Earlier this year the Township purchased two temporary speed tables for use within residential areas. The temporary nature of the speed tables allows the Township (at the request of neighborhoods) to move them from place to place so that residents can evaluate them for their effectiveness at reducing speed. After an evaluation period, residents must decide whether or not to have permanent speed tables installed. Costs associated with the permanent installation of speed tables will be assessed back to the affected property owners through the establishment of a special assessment district.

The very first neighborhood using these temporary speed tables and currently circulating a petition for their permanent installation, are residents along Golfview Drive. Prior to the installation of the temporary speed tables, a speed study was conducted and found that 85 percent of vehicles traveling this street were traveling at 37 miles per hour. The speed limit is 25 miles per hour. After installation of the speed tables, a second speed study was conducted which found that 85 percent of the vehicles traveling this street are now traveling at 27 miles per hour.

Additional information regarding traffic calming measures is available online at www.walkinginfo.org If, as a township resident, you are interested in additional information regarding traffic calming, or if you are interested in seeing if you can have the speed tables temporarily installed on your residential street, contact the Department of Community Development at **791.9865**.

By: Rob Grose, Assistant Director of Community Development & Bridget Smith, Planner - AICP

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

OTHER TOWNSHIP SERVICES

Zauel Memorial Library

Fall Booksale The Friends of Zauel Memorial Library have scheduled their fall booksale for Saturday, November 12th 9:00 am-5:00 pm.

Summer Reading Program The 2005 Summer Reading Program was a resounding success at all of the Public Libraries of Saginaw. At Zauel, a total of 3,165 children, teens and adults registered, up from 2,720 in 2004. The completion rate increased from 60% to 68%.

Wireless Internet Access The Zauel Library now offers wireless access to the Internet. Laptop users have the option of connecting to the Internet either by cable at 4 designated work stations or wireless anywhere in the library building. This is in addition to the 20 adult/teen and 4 children's Internet stations we now provide.

Book Shelving Changes We have begun a long-range project to rearrange shelved books in the adult areas. For both convenience and safety, the height of the top shelves will be lowered and that of the bottom shelves will be raised. There will be minor changes in the location of parts of the collection, such as talking books and new books. We are weeding the collection in order to eliminate materials that are either worn out or untimely. As always, new material will be added to the collection on an ongoing basis.

New Computer Classes Zauel Library will be offering two new computer classes in the meeting room this fall and winter. Brenda Rodammer, Information Technologist with the Public Libraries of Saginaw, will be teaching *Microsoft Word - Basics and Beyond* on Thursday, October 13, 2005, 2:00-4:30 p.m., and on Thursday, January 19, 2006, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Kate Tesdale, Reference Supervisor at Hoyt Library, will be teaching *Life after the Internet, or How I Found Information for my Report Without Using Google* on Thursday, January 19, 2006, 2:30- 4:00 p.m.

New Library Book Return Box For your convenience there is now a drive-up library book return box located in front of the building on the west side. This gift from the Friends of Zauel Library is in addition to the walk-up return box located in front of the building on the east side.

Adult Programs Cathy Macomber, who is with the Alzheimer's Association, will present two programs, each at two different times, at Zauel this fall. *The Facts About Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias*, is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 3:00-5:00 p.m. and Wednesday, October 19, 7:00-9:00 p.m. *Understanding Behaviors* will be presented on Tuesday, November, 29, 3:00-5:00 p.m. and Wednesday, November 30, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Children's Programs

Preschool Story Time Story time for children 3-5 years of age, featuring stories, songs and fun for all. Scheduled for Friday mornings, 10:30-11:00, October 2005 through March 2006. No registration required.

Mother Goose Times Story time for children 18 - 24 months of age, and a loving adult, featuring stories, songs, puppets, flannel board fun, rhymes and fun for all. Scheduled for Tuesday mornings, 10:30-11:30, November 1 through 22, 2005 and February 7 through 28, 2006. Registration is required. Call the Zauel Children's Department at 799.2771.

TLC Playgroup Activity time for toddlers, 1 1/2 - 3 years of age, and a loving adult. Each week a different resource person provides information and answers to parents questions about their child's development, speech & language, movement, nutrition and literacy. Toys, puzzles, music and art are included in the festivities. Scheduled for Tuesday mornings, 10:00-11:00, March 7 through April 4, 2006. Registration is required. Call the Zauel Children's Department at 799.2771.

Saginaw Township Treasurer's Office

Winter 2005 Tax Bills Winter 2005 tax bills will be mailed on November 30, 2005. They are all mailed on the same day, but it may take several days for the postal service to make all the deliveries. If you do not receive a bill by December 15, please phone our office at 791.9840. Persons who recently moved or changed their mailing address should be especially alert. We try to forward tax bills that are returned to us, but we do not send second notices.

Taxpayers who have financial institutions pay their taxes (escrow accounts) will still receive the original tax bill. Each taxpayer should retain this copy for income tax purposes and their personal records. The escrow agent receives a copy of the tax bill and pays the taxes for you. If you want to ensure that they have received the correct tax amount due, please contact them directly. The Treasurer's office will not be able to verify this information.

When paying in person please bring the entire tax bill so that the top half can be stamped paid and handed to you for your records. **A service fee will be charged for looking up the amount due in addition to the charge for a duplicate copy.** If you mail the payment and do not need a receipt, please enclose only the small bottom portion of the bill and keep the upper larger portion. There is also a drop box by the front door (facing the corner of Center and Shattuck Rds.) for depositing payments after hours.

WE DO NOT ACCEPT PAYMENT BY CREDIT CARD

The deadline for winter tax payment is Tuesday, February 14, 2006. Beginning at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 15, 2006, a 3% penalty will be added to the bill. The taxes will be turned over to Saginaw County Treasurer on March 1, 2006. For any additional information, please feel free to phone our office at 791.9840. Most importantly, please call our office if you do not receive your tax bill by the middle of December. We welcome you to look up taxes on our website.

www.saginawtownship.org

By: William J. McQuillan, Saginaw Township Treasurer & Kathy Metropoulos, Deputy Treasurer

Clerk's Office News continued from page 5.

Business License Renewals Business licenses must be renewed by December 15th every year at a cost of \$10. If you do not receive your renewal by the beginning of December please call the office at 791.9830. Also, if there is a change in ownership or address for the business in Saginaw Township a new business license application must be filed with the Clerk's office.

Check Out Our Website for printable forms

www.saginawtownship.org

By: Shirley M. Wazny, Saginaw Township Clerk & Lori Vondette, Deputy Clerk

RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

Saginaw Township Parks & Recreation

Fall is Fun and Winter is Cool At Center Courts!

Summer has now ended, students are back to school and Saginaw Township Recreation has shifted gears to our fall schedule. Fall is a great time to get involved in the various activities we have to offer for all ages! Also, if you are looking for a place to walk indoors check out our indoor FREE walking track. Here are some of the programs that we have to offer:

Center Courts Fall Hours

Track

Monday - Friday 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Open Gym

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. (18 & Over)

Monday - Friday
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Open to students 18 & under who live or attend a school in the Saginaw Township community)

Saturday 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Family Day)

Sunday 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Family Day)

Youth Programs

Center Courts Playgroup: This fun playtime is for toddlers ages 3 and under. Work on your child's grasping skills with the many colorful balls or test their balance on our balance beam - this is a great time to spend with your child and meet new friends! This session meets both Tuesday and Thursday 10:00-11:00 a.m. Cost is \$2.00 per visit or with a 15 visit punch card for only \$24.00!

Sporties For Shorties This Sports influenced class is to introduce your 3-5 year old to the wonderful world of sports. Students hone their large motor skills while learning to play Basketball, T-Ball and Soccer! Class meets both Tuesday and Thursday 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Kids Sports Zone This FUN class is designed as a continuation of Sporties For Shorties. Children will work on their large motor skills while emphasizing their interest in sports. Class meets both Tuesday and Thursday 5:00-6:00 p.m.

Youth Basketball This league is for 3rd-6th grade boys and 3rd-8th grade girls. Teams will be formed by draft and play in a 10 game season on Saturday's at Center Courts. REGISTRATION: October 3rd-21st cost is \$25 per participant.

Music For Munchkins You and your child can sing their hearts out in this music program that is an exciting and fun educational program which fosters creativity, awareness and social skills. Ages 18 months-Pre-K.

Karate For Kids Master Howard Hannon will lead this Martial Arts Class that is geared toward building self-esteem and self discipline. Beginning classes are held on Thursday's and Advanced classes on Tuesday's. Cost is \$42 per session.

Adult Programs

Get To The Core This class will provide you a variety of balance, core training, strength and flexibility exercises with the use of stability balls, 3-8 pound hand weights, and a variety of resistance bands. Join Jerilyn Schwarz, NETA Certified Instructor Tuesday's and Thursday's 6:30-7:30 p.m. Cost is \$75 for 25 classes or \$40 for 10 classes.

Basic/Intermediate Pilates Join NDEITA Certified Kristine Schaeffer, for these great Pilates classes. Classes are Monday mornings; Intermediate 8:30-9:25 a.m. Basic 9:30-10:25 a.m. Cost is \$40.

Yoga This class combines stretching and strength building in a relaxed atmosphere. Classes are Wednesday morning's 9:30-11:00 a.m. or Wednesday evenings 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Dancing For Fitness Come on into the gym and let loose as Sally Kipke leads you through a low impact fitness program featuring easy and fun dance routines for the 50 and over crowd! Class will meet for 6 weeks Monday's and Wednesday's 10-11:00 a.m.

Tai-Chi Tai Chi is a "meditation in motion" exercise of soft, gentle and continuously flowing movements that will relax you both physically and mentally. This class meets every Monday for 9 weeks from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Center Courts.

Adult Leagues

Men's Basketball Registration for this 5 on 5 league is \$275. Sign up October 24th-November 11th. League begins in December.

Woman's & Coed Volleyball Leagues: Women's Power League plays on Monday nights. Women's Recreational League plays on Wednesday nights. Coed plays Monday or Wednesday night. Registration will be held November 1st-11th Cost \$80 per team.

Old Timer Basketball (50 and older) A great league for those that what to hold on to their competitive edge. Games played Wednesday mornings 9-10:00 a.m. Register October 3rd-14th Cost \$20.

SPECIAL EVENT! SPECIAL EVENT!

2nd Annual Spooky Monster Magic Show!

Gordon Russ is back and ready to take over the gym at Center Courts on **Saturday, October 29th at 7 p.m.!** Come for a night filled with **GHOULS, SPOOKS and PRIZES!** Tickets are \$4 in advance and \$5 at the door. Tickets on sale now at Center Courts! Also it is not too late for you or your business to be part of this great show. Saginaw Township is still accepting donations for the show. Don't miss your chance to reach hundreds of families in the area!

For more information
call **791.9860**.



Visit Us On The Web At

www.saginawtownship.org

By: Linda Buska, Assistant to the
Director of Recreation









SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP
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-  - pg. 6. Learning Opportunities & Services
-  - pg. 7. Recreation Opportunities
-  - pg. 8. Facilities Calendar



Supervisor - Timothy J. Braun **Clerk** - Shirley M. Wazny **Treasurer** - William J. McQuillan
Trustees - Florence P. Connolly, Steven G. Gerhardt, Richard T. Neiderquill, Amy J. Seaver
Saginaw Township Hall - 4980 Shattuck Road, P.O. Box 6400, Saginaw, MI 48603
Phone (989) 791-9800 Fax (989) 791-9815
Website - www.saginawtownship.org **Email** - manager@saginawtownship.net
Township Manager - Ronald Lee **Editor** - Kimberly A. Stephan

SAGINAW TOWNSHIP HALL FACILITIES CALENDAR

This schedule is subject to change. Please telephone Township Hall (989) 791-9800 to confirm meetings.

A schedule of these meetings and other Township information is maintained on the Saginaw Township Website. www.saginawtownship.org

October	November	December	January	February	March
10/05 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	11/02 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	12/07 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	Twp. Offices closed 1/02	2/01 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	3/01 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.
10/10 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	11/14 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	12/12 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	1/04 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	2/08 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	3/08 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.
10/12 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	11/9 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	12/14 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	1/09 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	2/13 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	3/13 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.
10/17 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 5:15 p.m. Center Courts Conf. Rm.	11/21 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 5:15 p.m. Center Courts Conf. Rm.	12/19 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 5:15 p.m. Center Courts Conf. Rm.	1/11 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	2/15 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	3/15 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.
10/19 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	11/16 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	12/21 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	1/16 Twp. Offices closed	2/20 Twp. Offices Closed President's Day	3/20 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 5:15 p.m. Center Courts Conf. Rm.
10/24 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	Twp. Offices closed 11/24 & 11/25	12/27 Twp. Board Mtg. 11 a.m. Brd. Rm.	1/18 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	2/21 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 5:15 p.m. Center Courts Conf. Rm.	3/27 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.
Spooky Magic Show 10/29 Center Courts	11/28 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	Twp. Offices closed 12/23 & 12/26	1/23 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	2/27 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	

Assessor...791-9810 Building...791-9850 Clerk...791-9830 Fire Dept. Non-Emergency...792-9691 Police Dept. Non-Emergency...793-2310 Zoning/Code Enforcement...791-9865 Public Services...791-9870 Fiscal Services...791-9820 Recreation...791-9860 Treasurer...791-9840 Water & Sewer...791-9880

OUR VISION

A planned community identified with pride and excellence in living, medical care, regional/local shopping and recreational activities; where the quality of life is desirable and safe; where government is unobtrusive and economical yet effective and efficient in the management of land, infrastructure, services and recreation; which serves as a model for innovation and regional cooperation, welcomes diversity and focuses on the future.