

# 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 2007/08



**Timothy J. Braun,**  
Saginaw Township Supervisor

## A Quality of Life We Value and Enjoy

*As Saginaw Township citizens we value and enjoy a very special quality of life, and we are proud to call Saginaw Township our home. We live in a safe community with neat, clean, and attractive neighborhoods. We are thankful to have our children and grandchildren attending outstanding schools with access to an excellent library. We also enjoy a wide variety of recreational opportunities. Your Township Board is honored to serve you and lead a well-run, efficient government that works every day to provide you with the high quality services and programs you deserve. Yes, our community is a special place to live, work, and raise a family.*

To maintain and enhance the quality of life we have always enjoyed, our first commitment is to keep Saginaw Township a safe community. Over the past several years your Township government has been a good steward of the tax dollars you have provided us for public safety, carefully managing those dollars. As a result, we have been able to add four additional officers to our Police Department this year, bringing our total force to 47 full-time positions. This has provided us three additional road patrol officers and a detective specializing in fraud investigations. *Saginaw Township will continue to be a safe community.*

Our fire fighters are highly trained and are continuously upgrading their skills. The meeting room at Fire Station One on Shattuck Road near Lawndale serves as our primary training center. Voters in the northwest part of the Township also use this room every election day. This summer, we doubled the size of this room and added a "hands on" training building directly behind the station. *Our fire fighters are proud to serve you and keep you safe.*

All across our community, so many of you are making improvements to your homes and thereby reinvesting in the future of your neighborhoods and our community. As I travel around our neighborhoods I see so many homes with new roofs, windows, siding, or landscaping. I am very proud of what is being accomplished through your efforts. In addition, all of the streets in Lathrup Park and Vean Miller Subdivision petitioned the Township to have us assist them in having their neighborhood streets resurfaced this summer. Additional neighborhoods are currently petitioning the Township to have their streets resurfaced next year. *All of this reinvestment will keep our neighborhoods beautiful.*

*Our citizens enjoy a wide variety of recreational and leisure-time opportunities here in our community.* So many of our residents enjoy walking, biking, jogging, and rollerblading. For years, people of all ages have been exercising on 60 miles of sidewalk that has been built across our community. Our residents are also enjoying the various segments of the Saginaw County Trail System located to the south and north of us. With this in mind, we constructed our first mile of pathway this summer from Shattuck to McCarty Roads within the Consumers Energy right-of-way. This pathway also connects to a trailhead behind Center Courts. We will be applying for a State grant to help us continue the path to Tittabawassee Road and connect it to Kochville Township.

We are also fortunate to have Center Courts, which provides us so many indoor opportunities year-round. Our Parks Commission is dedicated to promoting our parks, and our Recreation Department administers an array of recreational activities for us to enjoy. I also want to acknowledge and thank all of the parents who are so dedicated in organizing and running the programs at the Soccer Complex and the North and South Little League fields. *Our quality of life is enhanced by all of these recreational opportunities.*

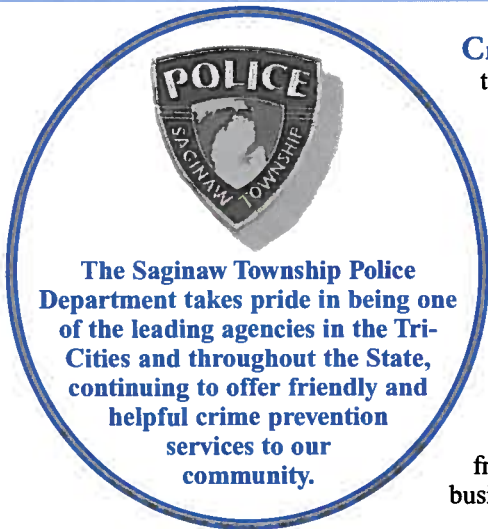
*The values we commonly share as citizens here in Saginaw Township are the foundation on which our community was built. As a result, we take great pride in our quality of life, a quality of life we all value and enjoy.*

Our employees here at "town hall" are happy to serve you. They, too, are proud of the quality of life we are blessed to have in our community, and in this issue they will be sharing new programs and services they are providing you and your family. *I hope you enjoy this edition of The Township Update.*

**Timothy J. Braun**  
Saginaw Township Supervisor

## PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES THAT BENEFIT US

### Saginaw Township Police Department



**Crime Free Multi-Housing** Over 30 apartment and mobile home communities participate in our Crime Free Program, which partners Crime Prevention Officers with managers, landlords, and property owners in an effort to reduce and prevent crime on their respective properties. Officers hold annual training classes with property managers on topics such as tenant selection, performing background checks, documenting problems, eviction process, and laws that pertain to property management. Officers also work hand-in-hand with management on any problems that occur, as well as meet regularly with residents to share crime prevention information.

**Business Watch** Crime Prevention Officers conduct training programs for area businesses throughout the year on topics such as shoplifting, internal theft, check and credit fraud, physical security, and personal safety. Saginaw Township's Shoplifter Task Force works directly with retailers in an effort to reduce shoplifting from area businesses. Officers also offer security surveys and risk assessment to area businesses at no charge.

**Neighborhood Watch** Currently we have over 25 active groups throughout Saginaw Township. These groups meet at least once a year, but most meet several times. The goal of Neighborhood Watch is to become active within your neighborhood and get to know your neighbors. Crime Prevention Officers offer numerous safety presentations and residential security tips to help improve the safety and quality of life in the group area. Free residential security surveys are available to our citizens.

**Police Explorers** Area high school and college students who have an interest in law enforcement have an opportunity to learn more through our Explorer program. Police Explorers train with officers in areas including use of force, hand cuffing, crime scene investigations, traffic stops, and the numerous laws that officers enforce daily. Explorers compete with other groups throughout the state in various law enforcement events. The Police Explorer Program provides an excellent insight into the criminal justice profession for students who might be contemplating a career in law enforcement.

**Citizen's Police Academy** Annually, the Police Department holds an academy for Saginaw Township residents to learn the "inner-workings" of our agency. Participants learn about the various programs and services in place to keep our community safe on a daily basis. Tours of the Saginaw Township Police Department, Saginaw County Jail, Central Dispatch, as well as a ride-along with a Saginaw Township Police Officer are part of this informative course, which is free.

To contact the non-emergency Business office of the Saginaw Township Police Department, please call (989) 793-2310, or to contact the Administration office call (989) 791-7225

Donald F. Pussehl, Jr., Chief of Police



The Neighborhood Watch Program and the Citizens Police Academy are two examples of services the Saginaw Township Police Department provides to the Citizens of Saginaw Township.



## KEEPING OUR FAMILIES SAFE

### Saginaw Township Fire Department



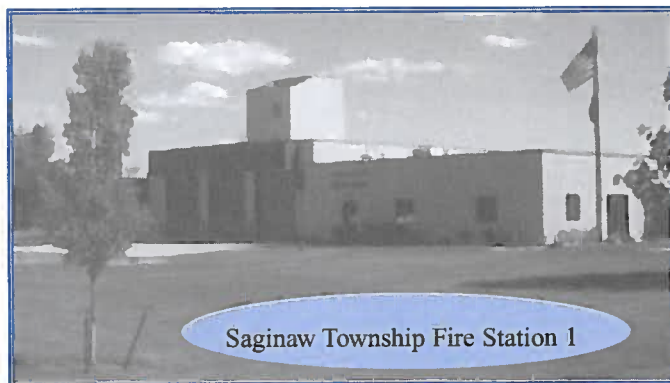
**The Saginaw Township Fire Department will continue to find new and improved ways to better serve the community through educational services, advanced fire safety training, and investing in the latest technologies.**

**The Saginaw Township Fire Department has taken on a new look, and that new look belongs to Fire Station Number One at 6171 Shattuck Road.** Federal and state mandates are directing fire departments to conduct more and more classroom trainings. Our fire fighters are continuously training, and the meeting room in this station was expanded to meet the classroom training needs of our Fire Department for years to come. Saginaw Township also uses this room to host the annual Saginaw County Fire Chiefs Fire Academy class. This class brings together approximately 50 fire fighters from around the county to train and prepare them for State fire fighting certification. Other updates to the station include more office space, an updated radio room, an enlarged day room, and a new station facade.

The meeting room at the station is also used for a variety of community purposes. Our Clerk's office uses it to house Precinct 15 voters every election day. The enlarged room will provide voters now, and in the future, with the space needed to conform to a rapidly growing precinct. In addition, this room is now large enough to accommodate many non-profit organizations and groups who use our facility for meetings and training sessions.

A training facility with much needed storage space has been added behind the fire station. This practical training area will allow our fire fighters to participate in real life scenarios using artificial non-toxic smoke. This training gives them excellent fire fighting experience that ultimately makes them better fire fighters. The facility has a crawl space of tile tubing that is 60 ft. in length and 24" wide. This will provide our fire fighters a facility for confined space training, air pack training, and other practical training exercises. The building will prove to be an invaluable resource for our Saginaw Township fire fighters.

**Our Fire Department facilities are a professional representation of what our residents have come to expect from us, and we are proud to serve you.**



Saginaw Township Fire Station 1

### HOME FIRE SAFETY TIPS

**Fire prevention and keeping you and your family safe is the primary goal of our Fire Department.**

**We hope the following fire safety tips will keep you from having a fire in your home.**

**SMOKE ALARMS** - We urge you to test your smoke alarms once a month and change the batteries every six months. A good reminder is to change your batteries when you change your clocks with the time change in the spring and fall. Never borrow a battery from a smoke detector. Smoke alarms should also be replaced every ten years. If you cannot remember how old your smoke alarm is, then it is probably time for a new one.

**CARBON MONOXIDE** - Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas created when fuels such as gasoline, wood, natural gas, and propane oil burn incompletely. Never run vehicles, generators, or barbecue grills in an attached garage. They produce dangerous levels of carbon monoxide. Install CO alarms in a central location outside sleeping areas for early detection. If your CO alarm sounds, immediately move to a fresh air location and call us for help.

**CANDLES** - Keep candles a safe distance from curtains and combustible materials. Make sure candles are in proper secure holders that will not tip over. Extinguish candles before leaving the house or going to sleep.

**COOKING SAFETY** - Never leave cooking food on the stovetop unattended and keep a close eye on food inside the oven. Never pour water on a grease fire and never discharge a fire extinguisher directly into a pan, as it can spray hot grease around the kitchen, spreading the fire. Keep a potholder, oven mitt, and lid handy. If a small fire starts in a pan on the stove, put on an oven mitt and smother the flames by carefully sliding the lid over the pan.

To contact the non-emergency number for the administrative office of the Saginaw Township Fire Department, please call **(989) 792-9691**

**Jim Peterson, Saginaw Township Fire Chief**

## PROVIDING QUALITY OF LIFE AMENITIES

### Beautifying Our Neighborhood Parks

Visit Harvey Randall Wickes West located off McCarty Road and see what we have added!

The Department of Public Services and Recreation Departments work collectively with the Parks and Recreation Commission to replace outdated playground equipment within our parks. **One of our large scale projects for 2007 involved the installation of the Mega Tower Play Structure at the Harvey Randall Wickes West complex located off McCarty Road.** Each year this complex receives an estimated 35,000 visitors ranging from graduation parties to family reunions. This project was completed in July and is now open to the general public. The estimated cost of this project was \$78,000. with \$56,000 received in grant money and donations.

- ❖ \$30,000 Grant – Herbert H. and Grace A. Foundation
- ❖ \$25,000 Grant – Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation
- ❖ \$ 1,000 Donations – Local businesses.



*The mega tower play structure is one example of Saginaw Charter Township's commitment to providing quality of life opportunities for our residents.*



**Phase I of the Pedestrian Pathway Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**  
**September 27 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**  
(Behind Center Courts at Center Road)

**Bank Drafting for Water Bills** Has there been a time when you have forgotten that the water bill was due and received a penalty? Then you are a good candidate for bank drafting. Sign up today and your water bill will be taken out of your checking or savings account when it is due. You will still receive a water bill with all your information but it will indicate the amount will be drafted out of your account. Applications for bank drafting are available at the Treasurers office or the Water Department. **For more information please contact the water department at (989) 791-9880.**

**Yard Waste Curbside Pickup** Yard waste pickup at curbside will continue through Tuesday, November 27, 2007. 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 3ft x 4ft in size.

**Recycling** Jump on the recycling bandwagon and become one of "us". Recycling has never been easier. Red recycling bins and information are available at the Township Hall. There is also information on how to prepare your trash and get rid of other odd ball items. For further information you can call the Manager's office at **(989) 791-9800**, or the Mid Michigan Waste Authority at **(989)781-9555**, or visit the Authority website at [www.ggg3.org](http://www.ggg3.org)

**Brush Site Hours** The Brush Site will be open every weekend beginning September 15th and running thru October 28th. This site is located next to the Waste Water Treatment Plant at 5790 W. Michigan Ave. The hours are 10 am to 6 pm Saturdays & Sundays. The site will accept brush and tree trimmings only. But please, nothing larger than 6 inches in diameter. This site is for Saginaw Township Residents only.

To contact the Department of Public Services office, please call **(989) 791-9870**  
Herb "Sonny" Grunwell  
Director of Public Services & Recreation

**Sewer Backups**  
**Report immediately to the Dept. of Public Services**  
**(989) 791-9870**  
Township personnel will provide assistance in determining the problem and possible solutions.

# MAINTAINING A PROFESSIONALLY WELL-RUN, EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT

## Assessed Value Changes

Each year the Assessor's Office adjusts assessed values based on the previous two year's sales data. During the past number of months the residential dwelling sales market has become somewhat stagnate due to many economic factors. As in past years, our office will conduct an analysis of sales and adjust assessed values for the upcoming 2008 year. It is important to note that the annual assessed value adjustments are not based on the direct study of the market and do not necessarily reflect actual market conditions.

Annual changes of assessed values occur as the result of study of assessment performance. Assessed values of homes are compared to the prices of homes sold. When the average ratio of the assessed value divided by the sale price is below 50% (the statutory level of assessment), values are adjusted upwards. When this ratio is above 50%, the values are adjusted downward. An increase or decrease of assessed value does not necessarily mean that a correspondent market value change has occurred, but rather, it indicates that the average level of assessment differed from the mandatory 50% ratio.

The taxable value (the value used to calculate taxes) change for the upcoming tax year will be adjusted to conform to the requirements of the State Constitution. In most cases, last year's taxable value will be multiplied by the current Consumer Price Index; and please note that this index does not reflect a connection to local real estate market conditions.

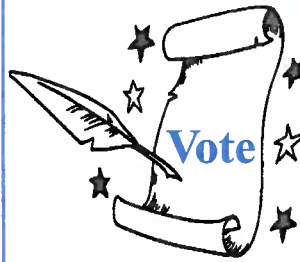
You may have noticed an increase between the 2006 and 2007 July tax statements. The increase is the result of two factors; taxable values were adjusted 3.7% as is required by the State Constitution, and, 2007 was the final year of a three year transfer of the county operating millage from the December statement to the July statement (one third each year or about 1.62 mills each year).

To contact the Assessor's office, please call (989) 791-9810  
David Kern, Director of Assessing

## Saginaw Township Clerk's Office

**Special School Election** The Clerk's Office will run Saginaw Township Community Schools election held on November 6, 2007, for a bond proposal of \$39,895,000. For more information on the proposal please contact the Board of Education at (989) 399-8044.

**Photo ID Required at Future Elections** The Clerk's Office would like to remind you to take your drivers license or personal ID card with you to the polls for all future elections. The Michigan Supreme Court ruled 5-2 on July 18th that voters will be required to present photo identification in the polls. If you don't have accepted ID with you, simply sign an affidavit swearing to your identity and then vote. This ID requirement is designed to preserve the purity of elections and to help prevent fraud.



**Change in Polling Location for Precinct 12** - Precinct 12 has a new location for voters. The Center Courts facility (3320 N. Center Rd.) is the new polling place for those who used to vote at Bethany Lutheran Church. Precinct 12 includes persons living north of MaCarty Rd. and south of Tittabawassee Rd. between Lawndale Rd. and Bay Rd.

**Should 17-year-olds be able to vote?** There is a proposal that would allow 17-year-olds to vote in a primary if they turn 18 before the November general election. The proposal would have to be approved by a two-thirds vote in the House and Senate in order for the amendment to be placed on the November 2008 ballot.

**Mark your Calendar** The 2008 Presidential Election cycle is right around the corner so mark your calendar with these dates:

- ❖ Presidential Primary – January 15, 2008
- ❖ School Election – May 6, 2008
- ❖ Primary – August 5, 2008
- ❖ General – November 4, 2008

Check out the Clerk's website at:

[www.saginawtownship.org/clerk/index.html](http://www.saginawtownship.org/clerk/index.html)

for links to review your ballot and where you vote.

To contact the Clerk's office, please call (989) 791-9830

Shirley M. Wazny, Clerk

Lori Vondette, Deputy Clerk

## Saginaw Township Soccer Complex Expansion Project

The Saginaw Township Soccer Association is looking forward to a spring 2008 groundbreaking at the Saginaw Township Soccer Complex on McCarty Road. The planned expansion will add six fields and parking for 210 cars. The current soccer complex consists of 15 fields on 55 acres, a concessions building, indoor restrooms, a roofed pavilion, and paved parking for 416 cars. An abutting 20 acres became available in the summer of 2006, and the Soccer Association purchased the property subject to a mortgage. They then began the planning process to add six additional large tournament fields, parking for an additional 210 cars, and major infrastructure improvements.

The cost of the 2008 Expansion Project has been estimated at \$1.3 million by Wilcox Engineering. The STSA has received financial commitments from the Wickes Foundation, Citizens Bank Managed Foundations, Wixon-Link Foundation, Dow Chemical Company, and Saginaw Charter Township.

(Please turn to page 8 for more information.)



## OUR CORE VALUES - OUR VISION, OUR MISSION

### Recreate State Street

With a corridor flush with redevelopment opportunities, the Township decided now was an opportune time to develop a specific plan for "Recreating State." In order to ensure that this plan is realistic and produces results, staff roughed out an action plan which includes specific actions aimed at gateways, and streetscape/beautification efforts. Most of the action items are short term in nature and will be complete within a year. It is the Township's intent that individuals and representatives who are directly impacted by the redevelopment of State Street get involved. Those involved will create a detailed recommendations formal report which may provide a "grass roots" impetus for pursuing the formation of a Downtown Development Authority, Corridor Improvement District, etc.

The committee will be single in purpose and time limited, with total commitment being about one year from start to finish. The Township Board will officially create and appoint a committee later this year.

The primary purpose of this plan is to improve the overall appearance of the State Street Corridor. In the 60s and 70s many local residents referred to State Street as the Golden Mile. Our discussions and conversations with local residents, business managers, owners, and local leaders have yielded the need for a focus on systematic improvements to State Street. This simple task oriented plan is designed to help State Street achieve its original appeal, while being focused on achieving measurable, and timely results.

We have outlined a 5 Point Plan – which so far involves the following:

- ➡ **Goal 1: IDENTIFY IT** – Create and sustain an image for the corridor that communicates to State Street travelers the significant, and economic strength, and community spirit of the area.
- ➡ **Goal 2: DESIGN IT** – Improve the visual appeal of the corridor.
- ➡ **Goal 3: SWEEP IT** – Ensure that the State Street Corridor is neat and clean.
- ➡ **Goal 4: CREATE IT** – Implement the concepts identified in Goal 1 and designed in Goal 2. This is the "building" part of the program.
- ➡ **Goal 5: CELEBRATE IT** – Recognize the commitment of everyone involved and award the commitments made and fulfilled.

To contact the Planning Department  
call (989) 791-9865  
Bridget Smith, Saginaw Township Planner

### Your Efforts are Appreciated

The actions of the Code Enforcement and Property Maintenance programs are philosophically guided by the Township's second Core Value.

#### Promote a Neat, Clean, Attractive Community with Beautiful Neighborhoods.

What was sometimes, and unfortunately, overlooked in the daily march of enforcement work was the care, time, and commitment that a great number of residents put into their properties on a regular basis.

In the spring of 2006, a new program was put into place to recognize property owners throughout the Township that have shown an effort to beautify their homes and yards, and by extension, to beautify our community.

In the course of their routines and regular schedules, the Code Enforcement and Property Maintenance Officers keep an eye out for properties throughout the Township that are deserving of recognition. Many of our neighbors and friends take great pride in their homes. Their feelings are reflected in the care that they put into their yards.

History has shown that there is a definite and direct relationship between our efforts and maintaining property values within the community. Our own Township Assessor has indicated that ongoing physical maintenance has a positive effect on property values, not only to your property, but also to your neighbors. It is only right, therefore, to recognize and commend all those who continue to keep their homes and yards neat, clean, and attractive.

Since May of 2006, 76 property owners in Saginaw Township have received a letter of appreciation from Supervisor Timothy Braun and a certificate showing "Before & After" photographs.

We Thank You for helping our community continue to be the place that people want to live, work, and raise a family.

### Township Recognized for Reducing Flood Insurance Rates

A little more than a year ago, Saginaw Township was accepted as a participating member of the Community Rating System (CRS) of the Insurance Services Office (ISO).

This means that staff efforts, with the support and direction of the Township Board secured a 5% reduction in flood insurance premiums for the citizens of Saginaw Township.

While this may not seem like a lot of money, any reduction in our personal expenses is a positive step. The added benefit is that the Township's involvement in the CRS and the savings to our residents were achieved without the expenditure of any additional tax dollars.

The goal of the CRS is to reward the citizens of a community through a reduction in their flood insurance premiums for the efforts of their local officials in doing more than meeting the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program.

At the September 24, 2007 regular meeting of the Township Board, Supervisor, Timothy Braun, was presented with a plaque in recognition of this achievement by Joy Brooks, P.E. of the State of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality Land and Water Management Division.

The Community Development Department has submitted documentation to ISO for recertification and is working to further secure additional savings for the people of Saginaw Township.

To contact the Community Development office call (989) 791-9850  
Matthew Reno, Director of Community Development

## EFFICIENTLY KEEPING YOUR FINANCIAL RECORDS

### Saginaw Township Treasurer's Office

**Good News About Winter 2007 Taxes** Now that your summer taxes are paid, it is time to think about the winter taxes. The good news is that the Saginaw County allocated tax has all been transferred to the summer bill, so the winter bill is reduced. Prior to 2005, the summer and winter tax bills for most homeowners were nearly equal. Now the winter bill is about half the summer amount. In other words, the summer bill represents about 68% and the winter about 32% of the 2007 taxes. Note that in addition to taxes, however, there are special assessments such as trash pickup, street light fees, paving, etc. which always appear on the winter bill (never on the summer bill).

**Deferment of Summer Taxes** Qualifying township citizens may defer payment of summer taxes from the September 14 deadline to February 14th. Applications must be filled out and returned to the Treasurer by September 15 each year. **Deferment is an option for residents whose gross household income did not exceed 40,000 in the preceding calendar year and are:** 62 years of age or older; paraplegic or quadriplegic; eligible service-person; veteran; widow or widower; blind, or totally and permanently disabled. The form will be mailed to housebound citizens upon request. Simply call the Treasurer's office at (989) 791-9840. This form is also available at the Treasurer's office or may be downloaded from the township website.

### Drop Boxes Expedite Payment of Taxes

**& Water Bills** For our customer's convenience, a drop box is located at the front door of the Township Hall, facing the intersection of Shattuck and Center Roads, for payment after hours. Additionally, there is a payment slot at the Treasurer's office counter that allows for fast, efficient payment. Simply attach the small side of the bill (stub) to your check with one of the paper clips also available at the counter. Your cancelled check serves as a receipt. We value your time and strive for efficiency!

To contact us, please call (989) 791-9840

William J. McQuillan, Your Township Treasurer

### From the Office of Fiscal Services

Changes are on the horizon for the Fiscal Services Office to improve efficiency in our department. Recently, the Township Board of Trustees authorized the purchase of new accounting software from BS&A Software. Located in Bath, Michigan, BS&A is a municipal software provider that focuses on customer service and coordination of new product development. Their "Equalizer" programs are said to be the most widely used and recognized software for government in the State of Michigan. Nearly 1,300 governmental units have implemented one or more of the Equalizer products.

**The modules being implemented include payroll, accounts payable, cash receipting, and general ledger and budgeting.** This conversion poses an exciting challenge not only for Fiscal Services but for the Treasurer's Office, too. The software we are currently using has served us well for many years; however, data entry isn't always user friendly and features are limited, such as the timeliness of reports and the types of reports we can generate. The replacement software provides better reporting capabilities and expedites data entry.

The Windows based programs are easy to navigate and provide a wealth of information at the touch of the keyboard. The cash receipts program will allow the Treasurer's Office to accept routine payments quickly using a bar code scanner and post payments to the appropriate application or directly to the General Ledger. This eliminates the need for staff to enter payments in the tax billing program and the ledger program at the end of the month. Deposits are posted in real-time, giving us current budget and account balance information on a daily basis. The programs retain an unlimited history which allows for multiple-year comparisons of balance sheets, income statements, budgets etc. The payroll program offers expanded deduction fields to ease reporting. Remittance checks are generated by the program and posted automatically, eliminating the need to hand type checks. The program tracks workers compensation information which reduces the need for us to keep detailed spreadsheets.

**We have targeted the first two weeks in October for installation, data conversion, and training.** Several departments in the Township Hall are already using BS&A software and they highly recommend the company. Other programs that are currently being used include: Assessing, Tax Billing, Delinquent Personal Property, Special Assessments, Building Permits, Business Licensing, and Alarm Permits.

With change, there is always a bit of apprehension. With the support from the BS&A staff we are anxiously looking forward to the challenge and opportunity to better serve our community!

To contact us, please call (989) 791-9820

**A Master Plan for the Township** - The Township is in the final stages of updating its Comprehensive Development Plan or Master Plan. This plan acts as a road map of sorts for future development and policies. The Planning Commission has been working on this project for the past 24 months. chances are you may have helped us by responding to a mailed survey asking for your views on development, growth and neighborhood preservation. In fact, 91.8% of respondents said that they expect to still be living in Saginaw Charter Township in five years.

**Throughout the update of the Plan, we have tried to identify some trends we have witnessed in the Township.** One of the items that we are attempting to address is how to encourage families to invest in their homes. Many older homes are missing some of the amenities found in newer subdivisions - like porches, additional living area, and attached two car garages. We have included text in the plan that should provide us with the opportunity to amend the zoning ordinance to make it easier for residents to make investments in their existing homes.

**Future Land Use, or the way in which land is planned to be used ten to twenty years from now, is an important component of the Plan.** Saginaw Township is substantially built out in many areas and there are not drastic increases in residential, or commercial land use. We are proposing to include two new future land use categories - one called "Mixed Use" and one called "Campus Business." These two new categories are designed to encourage more compact development that focuses on "form and performance" which means a variety of uses may be permitted as long as the buildings fit the character of the area, and they function so as to be an asset. This means that things such as noise, traffic, loading and unloading, do not negatively impact this area. **The Plan is undergoing a review stage and is available for public review during regular office hours at the Township.**

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE

### Zauel Memorial Library

Well, it's that time of the year again – back to school for the kids, and for library staff, back to helping the kids find materials to complete their homework assignments! It is equally gratifying when we are able to help an adult submit a resume and/or job application online, or as a service to our hundreds of avid readers, help to locate a book or magazine that can be borrowed from another library. Remember that you can always rely on our home page, [www.saginawlibrary.org](http://www.saginawlibrary.org), as a convenient gateway to many useful tools, including the library catalog, a wide variety of databases, calendars, program schedules, and community information. Through the library catalog you can request materials, renew checkouts, and check the status of your account with the library from home, work, or halfway around the world!

**Summer Reading Program** The ever-popular Summer Reading Program for children, teens, and adults again set records this year, both in terms of the number of people registered – 4,539, and the number of people who completed the program – 2,896! This year's theme was Get a Clue @ the Library. Entertainment for children and parents were provided by storyteller Jennifer Straus, comedian Jeff Wawrzaszek, juggler Joel Tacey, and the educational and uplifting performance of the two-person Acting Up Theatre Company. Special thanks to the 33 volunteers who assisted library staff in administering the program.

**New Databases** If you haven't already done so, next time you are online take a look at the large number of databases you can access through our home page. Click on the **E-Resources** drop-down menu and then the **Magazine Articles & Databases** link. We are pleased to announce the addition of a large assortment of legal forms and the **Small Business Resource Center**, including sample business plans, now available to you "at the click of a mouse!"

**Free Computer Classes** We will be offering free computer classes on Thursday and Friday, November 29 and 30. Instructor Brenda Rodammer will be here to introduce you to Yahoo Email, the Internet, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft Excel. Space will be limited so be sure and call us at **799-2771** after November 1 to register.

**Friends Book Sale** The Friends of Zauel Memorial Library will hold a semi-annual book sale on Thursday through Saturday, **October 25 – 27**. Many volunteers work long and hard to provide a wonderful opportunity for members of the public to purchase books and audio-visual materials at bargain prices. Friend's book sales raise funds that continue to be an important source of revenue for the library so that we can continue to offer our patrons a broad selection of current materials and timely programming.

**Preschool Story Time** This drop-in activity for children 3-5 years of age features 30 minutes of stories, songs, finger plays, and fun for all! It is held every Friday morning at 10:30 – **free of charge**.

**Mother Goose Time** Four weeks of fun for children 18-24 months of age and a loving adult. It features 30 minutes of stories, songs, puppets, finger plays, flannel board stories and rhymes. Fall dates are Thursdays, October 25 – November 15, at 10:30 a.m., with registration beginning October 4. Winter Mother Goose Time will be held on Thursdays, February 7 – February 28, at 10:30 a.m., with registration beginning on January 17. **All free of charge**.

**TLC Playgroup** For toddlers, 1–3 years of age, and a loving adult. This 5-week session features a different resource person each week to provide information and answers about childhood development, including speech & language, movement & music, and nutrition & literacy. Toys, puzzles, music and books are included in the hour-long program. To be held on Mondays, January 28 – February 25, from 10:00-11:00 a.m. Registration begins on January 7.

**Flu Shots** The Visiting Nurse Special Services Association will be administering Flu shots at the Zauel Library on Friday, November 2, 2007, from 9 – 12 p.m. Please call the Association if you require more information at **989-799-0828**, or toll free at **1-800-936-6326**.

To contact the Zauel Memorial Library, please call **(989) 799-2771**  
Thomas H. Birch, Head Librarian

### Saginaw Township Soccer Complex Expansion Project If Asked, We Hope You Will Support This Valuable Community Project!

The Soccer Complex is used by over 1,800 children and the complex has become the location of choice for many statewide soccer tournaments due to its excellent fields, related facilities, and easy accessibility to I-75. A circular walking track around the entire complex is also used daily by our citizens. A 21 field soccer facility with all the proposed related improvements will make the STSA complex the tournament location of choice within a tri-state area, and increase the ability to have larger tournaments. In 2006 seven major tournaments were held bringing 661 teams and their families to the community. These players and visitors filled area hotels, restaurants, and stores, and had a positive impact on the business community. **Michigan State University did an economic assessment study of the complex and estimated \$3.5 million was brought into our area communities in 2006.**

**Business owners and our Saginaw Township families will benefit from this investment into the future of Saginaw Township.**  
The STSA will begin community fundraising this fall. If asked, we hope you will support this valuable community project.

**DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.**

Call the Saginaw Township Soccer Association at **989-792-9600**, or visit us on the Web at [www.saginawsoccer.org](http://www.saginawsoccer.org)

## RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

### Saginaw Township Parks & Recreation

The leaves are falling and it is time to think about how you and your family are going to stay active during the long winter months. Saginaw Township Recreation and Center Courts have a number of programs for everyone in the family! Mom and dad can enjoy one of our volleyball or basketball leagues, while the kids stay active in our karate or sports classes. Whatever you are looking for we have it! Here are just a few of the many great classes and programs that we have to offer. Also, new to Center Courts this year is the St. Mary's of Michigan Walking Club. Each month come and enjoy seminars by local doctors on different topics regarding your health. Stop in and sign up today!

**Saginaw Township Recreation is proud to provide you with the following activities for the 2007/08 fall & winter seasons.**

#### Fall/Winter Center Courts 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 (Students)  
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Open to students 18 & under who live in, or attend a school in Saginaw Township)

Saturday - 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Family Day)  
Sunday - 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (Family Day)

#### YOUTH PROGRAMS & CLASSES

**Center Courts Playgroup** - This fun group is for toddlers under the age of 3. Work on your child's grasping skills with the many colorful balls or test their balance on our balance beam! Class meets both Tuesday and Thursday 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Cost: \$2.00 per visit or buy a 15 visit punch card for only \$24.00!**

**Kids Gym** - Supervised, structured, and FUN! This new and improved class lets your child burn off that extra energy while learning fundamental movements, through games and activities at the same time. Sessions are 4 weeks. Class meets both Tuesday and Thursday 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Ages: 4-6 **Cost: \$45.00 per child**

**Kids Sports Zone** - This FUN class is designed as a next step from Kids Gym. Children will work on their large motor skills while emphasizing their interest in sport. Sessions are 4 weeks. Class meets both Tuesday and Thursday 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Ages: 6-8 **Cost: \$45.00 per child**

**Youth Basketball** - This league is for 2nd – 6th grade boys and 2nd – 8th grade girls. Teams will be formed by draft and play in a 10 game season on Saturdays at Center Courts. **REGISTRATION:** October 1 – 19th. **Cost: \$32.00 per participant**

**Music For Munchkins** - you and your child can sing your hearts out in this music program that is an exciting and fun educational program that fosters creativity, awareness and social skills. This class is a 4 week class for ages 1-3 yrs. October 23 - November 15. Classes are offered Tuesday and Thursday. **Cost: \$32.00 per child Call now for times!**

**Karate For Kids** - Master Howard Hannon will lead this Martial Arts Class that is geared toward building self-esteem and self discipline. Class is for beginners and is held Tuesdays 5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Cost \$44.00 per 6 week session**

#### ADULT PROGRAMS & CLASSES

**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 variety of resistance bands. Join Jerilyn Schwarz, NETA Certified Instructor Tuesday and Thursday 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. for this great class. **Cost: \$75 for 25 classes or \$40 for 10 classes**

**Beginning/Intermediate Pilates** - Join Peaks Pilates Certified Instructor Dianna Cramer for these great Pilates classes. Classes are Monday mornings: Intermediate 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Basic 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. & Wednesday evenings basic 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. **Cost \$42.00 - \$45.00**

**Yoga** - This class combines stretching and strength building in a relaxed atmosphere. Classes are (Monday 6:00 - 7:15p.m.), (Wednesday 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.), (Wednesday 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.) or (Thursday 4:00 - 5:00 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, Wednesday, & Friday 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Cost \$42.00 - \$56.00**

**Men's / Women's 5 on 5 Basketball** - Sign up October 22nd – November 9th. League begins in December. **Team fee is \$305**

**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 nights. Registration will be held November 1st – 13th. **Team fee \$92.00**

#### SPECIAL EVENTS!

##### 4th Annual Center Courts Halloween Show!



A new act will grace the gym floor this year. **The Amazing Clark** will bring his magical comedy act to Center Courts on **October 27th at 7:30 p.m.**



Come for a night filled with ghouls, spooks, and **PRIZES!** Doors open at 6:00 p.m. for fun games and giveaways. Tickets are **\$4.00 in advance and \$5.00 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 please call Saginaw Township Recreation at **(989) 791-9860**, or visit us on the Web at [www.saginawtownship.org](http://www.saginawtownship.org)











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## Saginaw Township Government Newsletter

**Your connection to: Government,  
Developments, Recreation, Planning...**

-  - pg. 1. A Quality of Life We Value and Enjoy
-  - pg. 2. Public Services That Benefit Us
-  - pg. 3. Keeping Our Families Safe
-  - pg. 4. Providing Quality of Life Amenities
-  - pg. 5. Maintaining A Professionally Well-Run, Efficient Government
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-  - pg. 10. Saginaw Township Hall Facilities Calendar



**Supervisor** - Timothy J. Braun **Clerk** - Shirley M. Wazny **Treasurer** - William J. McQuillan  
**Trustees** - Florence P. Connolly, Steven G. Gerhardt, James S. Kelly, 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** - <http://saginawtownship.org> **Email** - [manager@saginawtownship.net](mailto:manager@saginawtownship.net)  
**Township Manager** - Ronald Lee **Editor** - Kimberly A. Stephan [kstephan@saginawtownship.net](mailto:kstephan@saginawtownship.net)

# 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. <http://saginawtownship.org>

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH
<b>BRUSH DROP-OFF SITE</b> <b>9/15/07 - 10/28/07</b> 10/03 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 10/08 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 10/10 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 10/15 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4:00 p.m. Center Courts 10/17 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 10/21 Annual State of The Arts Show at Twp. Hall 10/22 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 10/27 HA! HA! <b>HALLOWEEN SHOW</b> Center Courts 7:30 p.m. <b>Trick-or-Treat hours</b> <b>6 - 8 p.m.</b>	<b>11/06 Election Day</b> <b>Don't Forget to VOTE!</b> 11/07 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 11/12 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 11/14 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 11/20 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4:00 p.m. Center Courts 11/21 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. <b>Twp. Offices Closed 22 &amp; 23 for Holiday</b> 11/26 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. <b>11/27 Yard Waste Ends</b>	12/05 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 12/10 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4:00 p.m. Center Courts 12/12 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 12/17 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 12/19 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. <b>Twp. Offices Closed all day on the 25th for the holiday</b> <b>Christmas trees will be collected during the month of January. Do not bag trees/no tinsel</b>	<b>Twp. Offices Closed all day on the 1st for holiday</b> 1/02 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 1/09 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 1/14 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 1/16 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. <b>Twp. Offices Closed all day on the 21st for holiday</b> 1/22 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4:00 p.m. Center Courts 1/28 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	2/06 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 2/11 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 2/13 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. <b>Twp. Offices Closed all day for holiday on the 18th</b> 2/19 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4:00 p.m. Center Courts 2/20 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 2/25 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm.	3/05 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 3/10 Twp. Board Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 3/12 Board of Appeals 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. 3/17 Parks & Rec. Mtg. 4:00 p.m. Center Courts 3/19 Planning Mtg. 7 p.m. Brd. Rm. <b>Twp. Offices Closed at 12:00 p.m. for holiday</b> 3/24 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.*