

The Township Update

“ UNITED WE STAND ”

SAGINAW TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT NEWSLETTER

SPRING/SUMMER 2002

STATE OF THE TOWNSHIP MESSAGE

AN ABRIDGED REPORT ON THE COMMUNITY FOR THE YEAR 2001



For every American, the Year 2001 will always be remembered by “September 11th.” It is sad to acknowledge that one tragic day of that particular year has over shadowed all the good memories and events we have of 2001. That one date will likely stand out as one of the most infamous events in world history. But as President George Bush has stated, “*We must move on!*”....and we have!

In spite of a difficult war now being fought against terrorism here and abroad....in spite of heightened security at our Nation’s airports and other transportation centers....in spite of 11 reductions in the interest rate by the Federal Reserve Board....and in spite of shaken consumer confidence, Saginaw Township is doing fine, services are being provided and we are moving forward!

George L. Olson, Supervisor

Highlights of the Community

When Saginaw Township is challenged, it is amazing to see what we can accomplish. Our biggest challenge was raising money to build the Center Courts, our future community recreation/fitness center. As we went searching around the Community and beyond for funding, we were elated to learn of our grant award of \$750,000 from the State’s Clean Michigan Fund.

We were also very humbled by several area foundations and local individuals who stepped forward and generously donated (or pledged) large sums of money. I want to recognize the Frances Goll Mills Memorial Fund, the Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation and Mr. Harold R. Stern (formerly of Saginaw Township) for their contributions of \$50,000 each. I also want to recognize the Arnold & Gertrude Boutell Memorial Fund, the Alden & Vada Dow Family Foundation, the Wickson-Link Memorial Foundation, the Wolgast Corporation, the Spicer Group and the Saginaw Community Foundation for their individual donations of \$10,000 or more.

There are many more people to whom we owe our thanks, but space does not permit us to mention them all. However, we were especially moved by the many bricks that people in the Community have purchased from our Buy-A-Brick campaign. This is a true indication of community wide support. Thus far, 160 bricks have been purchased and there is still room for more.

I am pleased to report that ground was ceremonially broken last October. A contract for construction was awarded on February 25, 2002 to Wolgast Construction with building to begin in mid March 2002.

For the Year 2001, the Department of Community Development recorded a total of 393 building permits with a valuation of \$36,278,385. Of the number of building permits, 119 or slightly more than one fourth of these permits were for new single family homes. Another 82 building permits were issued for commercial structures totaling about \$14,926,179 in value.

Even though the Department was quite busy during the 2001 construction season with reviewing plans for future developments, actual permit activity was less than the year before. (Prior year recorded 512 building permits issued.) This is a reflection of the general market slow down being felt across the country. However, the growth in new valuation from building permits was very similar to last year because the fewer projects represented larger commercial investments. Furthermore, staff reports that there are development activities or inquiries in nearly every one square mile section of the Township.

Commercial activity continues to be our key symbol of prosperity and regional prominence as commercial goods and services tend to locate where people settle. Fashion Square Mall, under its new ownership, continues to stand out as our flagship of the region, and Bay Road still maintains its strong regional presence.

(An Abridged report from the State of the Township Message continued on page 2.)

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.



An abridged report from the State of the Township Message continued from page 1.

Our other commercial corridors, namely State Street and parts of Tittabawassee Road are also growing in stature by offering new commercial opportunities for those seeking new investments.

In the Year 2001, the planning phase of the Bay Road Corridor Study was completed. A number of recommendations have been developed and staff plans to work on implementing them in 2002, as well as follow up on various recommendations from the previous Tittabawassee Road corridor study that was done earlier. Also for 2002, a third corridor study is anticipated for State Street.

Other Highlights

While much attention was centered on the field house project, the Township was also involved with other items and issues, both locally and regionally. As a member of the Saginaw County Event Center Advisory Board, created in 2001, we have been meeting monthly. Besides OHL Hockey, you can expect some other exciting things to come to the Event Center in the near future. Furthermore, a number of our key department heads and township officials are actively involved with County wide Vision 2020 effort.

Our Parks System continues to serve not only our residents, but citizens from the greater Saginaw area according to our enrollment figures for planned recreation league activities. Olson Recreation Center, the Wading Pool, the Soccer Complex, the Playscape Park and Harvey Randall Wickes Park are well known Saginaw Township landmarks. Last year, Recreation programming was expanded, due mainly to our taking over some of the recreation sports programs and clinics previously run by the School District's Community Education.

In 2001, Saginaw Township Parks and Recreation played host to well over 400 organized teams in various outdoor and indoor sports. This amounted to over 3,900 people of all ages. In a year from now, we expect to see these numbers increase as we accommodate more teams, walkers and fitness enthusiasts when the Center Courts is operating.

The Fire and Police Departments performed overall in admirable fashion. Perhaps the most recent display of Fire Department capability was the Special Rescue Team's work in saving the life of a worker who was trapped in a trench cave-in. This rescue was shown on Detroit area news casts. The Special Rescue Team is comprised of both Saginaw and Thomas Township fire fighters trained for unique types of rescues.

In 2001, the ability of our Police Department was significantly improved with the redeployment of resources and manpower. In his new program called "Forward to Basics," Police Chief Stephen C. Renico has effectively redesigned the Township into three districts. Each of the three districts have a full complement of police talent. Personnel are assigned to them on a longer rotation. This concept is designed to allow the patrol officers and investigators expanded time and opportunity to "become more intimately involved" in their district.

At Township Hall, staff is always working on ways to serve the public better through technology. Today, our computers do more than just compute. They are now our communications link throughout the organization as we are currently "on-line, plugged in and in touch" with everyone through the local area network. Likewise, the public is now linked to us through our website: www.saginawtownship.org In addition, we also introduced a new generation of computerized technology at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

A new feature of the network is our brand new records/permitting system in Community Development. Director Matt Reno is overseeing the implementation of this system which will coordinate building plans and the permitting process. Other departments will be able to query records through the network. Together with a new appraisal & records system being installed in the Assessing Department, the retrieval and storage of data at Township Hall will not be as tedious to a citizen who wishes to know what is happening with his or her property.

Fiscal Condition

From a fiscal point of view, Saginaw Township is like any other community in Michigan which relies on State Shared Revenue. Not many people realize that of the revenues needed to carry on all our community services, the local General Property Tax provides less than 44%. (Of the General Fund, local property taxes account for less than 16% of the budget.) The balance comes from user fees, fines and State Shared Revenues. The problem is that our allotment of State Shared Revenues have been declining over the last few years. In spite of this, we are managing well through wise planning and prudent, cost effective uses of our resources.

Looking Ahead

In order to remain a viable community to live, recreate and shop, we owe it to our citizens to make every effort to preserve and enhance this place we call home. Currently, the Township is pursuing an effort to establish a downtown development authority for the Bay Road area and part of Tittabawassee Road. It is hoped that this authority will stimulate new investment in this area by planning and improving streetscapes, coordinating improved highway access with MDOT, and working on the future road extension of Fortune Blvd which would provide a second parallel road with Bay. (You can read more about this concept on pages 3 & 4, [Improving the Appearance of our Commercial Corridors](#) by Rob Grose, Assistant Director of Community Development and Planning.)

In Conclusion

As you can see, 2001 was a very productive year. Saginaw Township remains fiscally strong and a great place to live, work and play. I must emphasize that the Township's success comes largely from the leadership from the Township Board and its Manager, the efforts of all its staff, and from support shown by the citizens who make up this great community. We remain dedicated to leading, as well as serving you. Have a Great Year, 2002!

Call, go on-line or visit Saginaw Township Hall for an unabridged [Report On The Community For The Year 2001](#).

Improving the Appearance of our Commercial Corridors

Reported by Rob Grose, Assistant Director of Community Development and Planning

During the course of the last few years, the Township has completed two planning studies that dealt with improving the physical appearance of Bay and Tittabawassee Roads as well as enhancing the manner in which these roadways function. This emphasis reflects the fact that commercial corridors tend to have a major influence on shaping perceptions of a community. In the past, many communities believed that economic development solely entailed working with businesses that were interested in locating to their community. Attitudes are slowly changing. Some communities, such as Saginaw Township are now looking at ways to not only attract new businesses, but to retain its existing ones.

With that in mind, it has become increasingly apparent that the Township needs to be more proactive in developing an overall plan to address these issues. We feel it is important to learn from the successes and failures of other communities. Identifying key issues that may have led to their successes or failures may yield some positive results for Saginaw Township. Maintaining our strong economic presence in the Saginaw, Bay, and Midland region is key to our future.

Efforts must be made to visually enhance the appearance of our commercial corridors through landscape and streetscape improvements. These types of improvements will help us to develop a sense of place. Creating an identity or sense of place for the business community will ultimately **set the Township apart** from other communities and provide our residents and businesses a reason for investing in Saginaw Charter Township.

In recent years, many communities have begun to think of roadways as more than just transportation conduits. When planning for new growth and development along major roadways, they have recommended the clustering of retail and commercial uses at or near major intersections. New sign codes have been drafted to better control the spread of billboards and signs along the roadside. Communities have enlisted the services of landscape architect and other design professionals to devise requirements for landscaping and screening adjacent to the right of way. Highway departments and public works offices have been asked to set a better example for private landowners by designing and installing public improvements that enhance the appearance of the roadways.

Commercial corridors have been the subject of criticism for decades, yet the features that characterize these areas have not changed much over the years. All corridors share a number of common components. Among the characteristics that have come to typify the common commercial strip are:

- Numerous large freestanding and portable signs;
- Little or no landscaping of public or private property;
- Large expanses of unscreened surface parking;
- Few or no pedestrian improvements;
- Above ground utilities and overhead lights;
- Numerous poorly delineated and closely spaced driveway access points; and
- A generally uncoordinated approach to the design, location, and planning of various public and private improvements.

Visually, commercial corridors often lack a sense of organizational structure, and this confusion reflects poorly on the community. Often, the development that occurs within a commercial corridor bears no relationship to a community's natural setting or the architectural styles present in the rest of the community. Moreover, commercial corridors often contain all the same national fast food franchises, gas station chains, and large retail stores, making one community's commercial corridor indistinguishable from the next. Visitors may be left with an impression that the community does not care about its appearance.

Increasingly, however, communities are using corridor zoning districts, overlay controls, site planning requirements and other techniques to promote greater continuity in the design of commercial development along major roadways. The goal of all of the approaches is to create a more attractive, cohesive, and safe roadway environment.

Strip commercial corridors are an outgrowth of our nation's reliance on the automobile as the dominant form of personal transportation. Not surprisingly, the signs and advertising devices used by the business establishments that line urban roadway areas are oriented to the street and directed at motorists. In their competition for the attention of the motoring public, merchants continually push the roadside visual envelope to its breaking point by erecting bigger, taller, and brighter signs. The clutter generated by these signs is one of the worst features of the typical commercial corridor.

As with many elements of the corridor, the private side of the sign control equation is only part of the problem. Public road signs and traffic control devices also contribute to roadside visual problems. Forced to compete for valuable roadside space and the attention of motorists, these publicly owned corridor accessories are likely to be as poorly designed and overused as their private counterparts.

The early origins of the highway commercial area development pattern can be traced, at least partially, to the need for large sites and conveniently located parking areas to support business establishments. Parking lots can require great expanses of land. Indeed, when surface parking is used, it often consumes from 50 to 75 percent of the project site. Given these kinds of proportions, it is no wonder that well-planned strategies for improving the appearance of parking areas along commercial roadways can be one of the most effective methods of improving the overall aesthetic quality of a road corridor. *(Commercial Corridor article continued on page 4.)*

Commercial Corridors article continued from page 3. Many planners and designers believe that the best solution to the design of off-street parking areas is to eliminate them or at least shield them from view from adjacent roads. While off-street parking is essential for all but the smallest of commercial projects, screening and buffering techniques can be used to effectively hide such areas and soften the visual effects associated with vast wastelands of asphalt.

Besides providing a visual buffer between the roadway and its often harsh and unappealing surroundings, landscaping and screening techniques can also lend a sense of identity and unity to project sites. When employed effectively, landscape features can greatly increase motorists ability to determine where one project ends and another begins. By delineating the edge of a project and its critically important element, the driveway, landscaping actually serves to increase a projects visibility and hence its viability in the competitive setting of the corridor.

Perhaps more than any other single roadside feature, trees can define the character of a roadway corridor. Brilliant site plans and architectural designs for individual projects can be lost in the clamor of corridor wide development activity. Lush plantings and landscape features will improve the appearance of selected points along the corridor, but they do little to lend a sense of cohesiveness to an entire stretch of roadway. By providing scale, texture, and color to the entire length of the corridor, trees can unify the diverse elements that make up the corridor visual experience.

Since commercial corridors evolved to accommodate the automobile, it is not surprising that the pedestrian amenities are virtually non existent within the typical commercial roadway corridor. Some people do still walk, bike, and take the bus, however, and the importance of accommodating these groups and encouraging these types of travel should not be overlooked.

The need for pedestrian improvements and street furnishings will differ among corridors. A common design theme for all street furnishings is another attempt to tie together particular elements of the roadway corridor. The recommended location and arrangement of items such as benches, trash receptacles, news paper racks, pedestrian lighting, planters, and bike racks, varies.

Although sometimes lost in the visual chaos of the roadside, buildings themselves constitute a major component of the corridor. Some communities regulate building design elements within the corridor in an attempt to showcase local architectural and cultural traditions. It should be noted, however, that building design guidelines and architectural standards are not as prevalent as other aesthetic control measures within corridor areas.

Some roadways serve as primary entrance routes to a community or as gateways to an entire region. These streets and roads have a special place in the hierarchy of urban corridors due to their important role in conveying first impressions to visitors and in shaping community identity for local residents. In rural areas, entry ways provide an area of transition between country and city; in urban areas, they help to mark the boundaries between communities whose differences might otherwise go unnoticed. Entryways also provide information to motorists by directing them to areas of interest and by providing insights into the historical, cultural, and economic foundations of the area.

The Township is in the process of developing strategies to address all of these issues. It is extremely important that both the residents and business community recognize the weaknesses that exists along our commercial corridors and support our efforts to rectify them.



DEPARTMENT BY DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Saginaw Township Police Department News...

Reported by: Stephen C. Renico, Chief of Police

Larcenies from autos continue to be a problem in Saginaw Township. We ask that you bear in mind a basic premise - thieves won't steal what they can't see.

The best way to protect your car and your personal valuables is to lock your car - **always** - and remove valuables from sight. Store items in your truck or take them in your house but do not leave them in your car.

Recent thefts occurred in parking lots of churches, funeral homes, schools and restaurants. Thieves know that motorists will be in these locations for a period of time and they take advantage of the situation. **Remember to store your valuables out of sight and lock your car.**

Crime Information Hot Line

Do you want to know what criminal activity took place in Saginaw Township? Are you curious about what happened in your neighborhood? If so, call the police department's **Crime Information Hot Line** at: **989.791.7233** Information on criminal activity and crime prevention tips are provided on a daily basis with a weekly wrap-up each Friday. You can also leave a message or anonymous tip at the end of the message.

Do The Right Thing

Do The Right Thing is a program that recognizes good behavior and good citizenship on the part of young people. A program is held each month at Fashion Square Mall honoring that month's winners who receive a variety of prizes ranging from fast food coupons to gift certificates.

If you know of a young person (school aged) who has "done the right thing" and would like to see him/her get recognized by the police department, call **989.791.7226** and request a nomination form. You can also make your nomination on-line by contacting our website at www.saginawtownship.org and clicking on the police department link.

Traffic Survey Team

The department's civilian traffic survey team has been busy but they are still looking for more. If you have a traffic problem (speeders, etc.) in your neighborhood and would like the survey team to give the problem some attention, call: **989.793.2310** The team will schedule your neighborhood as time allows. While in your neighborhood, they will monitor the speed of all vehicles for a specified time and violators will receive a warning letter from the department. A visit from the traffic survey team is sometimes followed by a visit from a traffic radar car that then tickets violators.

Crossing Guards Needed

Flexible hours, good pay and a chance to help your community. Apply by calling the police department: 989.793.2310

Saginaw Township Fire Department News...

Reported by: Richard Powell, Fire Chief

BURN SAFETY FOR OLDER ADULTS**DID YOU KNOW?**

Each year, approximately 260,000 persons in the United States age 65 and over suffer burn injuries. Of those seriously burned, half die from the burns or complications that are a direct result of the burns! The changes that often occur with advancing years, such as decreased sensitivity to temperature, leave the older adult more susceptible to being burned. Recovery from these injuries is not promising.

However, the majority of burn accidents take place in the home, and most burn injuries are a result of the victim's own actions. It is estimated that at least 50% of them need not occur if simple prevention principles are put into practice.

YOU CAN PREVENT BURN INJURIES**Cooking**

Cook only on back burners. Cooking on front burners increases the risk of hot contents being spilled on you.

Never reach over a lit front burner.

Turn handles of cookware inward to prevent accidentally "bumping" pots and pans and spilling their contents.

Use potholders to lift or move hot pots and pans.

Be sure to turn burners OFF after cooking.

If frying food catches fire: TURN OFF the burner. Slide a lid over the flames. Use baking soda, salt, or an ABC-type fire extinguisher to smother the flame. DO NOT USE WATER! Call 911 and ask for a fire department response to check for fire extension and to have yourself checked.

Smoking

NEVER smoke in bed or when sleepy.

Use large, deep ashtrays placed on flat, non-flammable surfaces.

Bathing

Set your hot water heater temperature to 120 degrees F.

Run cold water first, and then gradually add hot water until desired temperature is reached.

In General

When using heating pads and electric blankets - follow directions provided.

Keep space heaters and vaporizers away from beds, curtains, newspapers and other loose materials.

Place a smoke detector on the ceiling or high on the wall in the hall or landing of each level of your house. Change the batteries twice each year, when you change your clock in the spring and fall.

In the Event of Fire

Post emergency numbers on or near the telephone.

Plan an escape route, and alternate escape route, and a place to go after you are outside. Practice them!

If you live in an apartment, do not use an elevator to escape - use the stairway.

Saginaw Township Parks & Recreation News...

Reported by: Linda Buska, Assistant to the Director of Recreation

Registration will begin April 1, 2002 for the following Spring/Summer programs:

- ▶ Golf Clinics - youth & adult
- ▶ Tennis Clinic - 5 yrs. through 17 yrs.
- ▶ Basketball Clinics - boys & girls
- ▶ Girl's Softball - ages 7 - 14 yrs.
- ▶ Men's/Women's/Coed Softball
- ▶ Beach Volleyball
- ▶ Senior Shuffleboard
- ▶ Horseshoe League
- ▶ Men's Morning Softball
- ▶ Stan Musial/Connie Mack/Mickey Mantle Baseball

Amusement Park Tickets

Discount tickets to the following amusement parks will go on sale beginning in mid-May:

Cedar Point	Six Flags Worlds of Adventure
Michigan Adventure	Kings Island

Pavilion Rentals

We are now accepting reservations for the pavilions in Harvey Randall Wickes Recreation Complex, located on McCarty & Hospital Roads and Olson Park, located on Center Road. These pavilions are great for family reunions, graduation parties, birthday parties, etc.

Spray Pool

The spray pool in Gotto Park will open in early June. The pool hours are 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. seven days a week - weather permitting. Admission is free. **Children must be 4 ft. tall or under to enter the pool.**

Visit our Web Site

www.saginawtownship.org Our site was designed to provide you with the most informative and up-to-date information on our programs and parks in Saginaw Township. This web site includes registration dates for upcoming programs, program schedules, standings, rules, team rosters, park locations, pavilion rentals, amusement park ticket information and much more. You can also e-mail us at recreation@saginawtownship.net with your comments or suggestions to help us maintain and improve our programs.

Contact Us For More Information

For more information on any of our programs please call the Saginaw Township Recreation Office at: **989.791.9860** or visit us on the web.

Support the Can-Amara Games!

The Can-Amara Games will be held in Saginaw Charter Township on the weekend of **August 9, 10 & 11, 2002.**

Tryouts begin May 1. Schedules will be available at the schools and the Township Recreation Office, 4870 Shattuck Road.

For information contact Michele Gadd at the Saginaw Township Hall at: **989.791.9820**



Zauel Memorial Library News...

Reported by: Alice Houlihan, Zauel Librarian

Introduction to the Internet

Beginning in May, Zauel Library will be offering a one and a half hour computer course for Internet beginners. The class will be given once a month from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Class participants will get "hands-on" experience with the computers, learning basic skills such as how to get connected to the internet, how to use a mouse, how to scroll, how to use search engines, how to type a web address, and other skills that will help users get started. Alice Houlihan and Bill O'Brien, reference librarians at Zauel, will teach the class. There is no charge to sign up, and advance registration is required. Patrons can begin registering for the class in April. Class size will be limited to ten (10) per session. For further information, or to register, call Zauel Library at: **989.799.2771**

Special Services Offered for Nursing Homes

Zauel Library is now offering a special service for nursing homes in our area. Librarians at Zauel will, upon request, choose a group of books for nursing home residents. A representative of the nursing home can pick up the books at the library, and return them for a new supply on a monthly basis. Librarians can tailor their book selections to any special interests made known by nursing home residents. By offering this service the library hopes to make the pleasures of reading more easily available to those who cannot visit the library. Please call the library for further information.

Zauel Library's Children's Department

Our Children's Department offers a variety of programs for the children of Saginaw Township during the spring and summer months. Mother Goose Times, for children 18-24 months of age and a loving adult, will be offered May 7-28 and August 13-September 3, Tuesday mornings, at 10:30 a.m. Stories, nursery rhymes, songs, puppets and lots of fun make up this story time for toddlers. Registration is required, and may be done in person, or by calling the library.

Preschool Store Time is an ongoing story time presented each Thursday night at 7:00 p.m. and Friday morning at 10:30 a.m. Children three to five years of age are welcome to attend along with a loving adult for stories, songs, finger plays and lots of fun. This is a "drop in" story time, so come one, come all!

Each year, Zauel presents its Summer Reading Program. This summer we invite children preschool age and older to "Join the Winners Circle-Read!" between June 10 and July 27. Children receive incentives for reading or being read to, a total of 10 hours over the 7 weeks, for children of all ages. We hope you and your family will join us in the winners' circle this summer.

Community Development News...

Reported by: Matthew Reno, Dir. of Community Development & Planning

HOUSE MAINTENANCE AND PERMITS

Home maintenance occupies a large portion of our time and resources. From a basic paint job to full scale remodeling and construction we spend our hard earned dollars and innumerable hours correcting problems of wear and deterioration due to the passage of time and the ravages of our Michigan Climate.

Big box Do-It-Yourself retailers such as Lowe's, and Home Depot flourish as we seek the appropriate materials and tools for the job. Construction (Continued on next column.)

(Continued from bottom left.) professionals such as Plumbers, Electricians, and Mechanical Contractors, stand ready to provide services and advice to the homeowner looking for a less hands on experience.

An important and often forgotten piece of the project is the required permits and inspections. Prior to the commencement of any work, the single-family homeowner, or licensed contractor should apply for and obtain a permit for the proposed work followed by the appropriate inspections and approvals.

For example, the furnace in your home will eventually need to be replaced. Typically, a licensed Mechanical Contractor, sometimes called a heating and cooling contractor, should apply for and obtain a permit for the replacement of the old furnace. Upon completion of the installation, an inspection by Saginaw Township's Mechanical Inspector should be requested and conducted. This process is required by State law and is in place to help assure that the work was completed in accordance with the state standards.

Another common replacement item, one that is often taken for granted, is your water heater. An inspection of the unit installation will include scrutiny of the vent or exhaust method and materials as well as the pressure/temperature relief valve.

There are many other examples that span the scope of the construction trades. You can easily find out if a permit is required by contacting the Community Development Department at **989.791.9850** and speaking with an Inspector.

Finally, you should receive from your contractor at the time of final payment some type of assurance that the proper permits, inspections, and approvals have been secured. These items can also be verified in the Community Development Department.

Saginaw Township Treasurer's Office News...

Reported by: William McQuillan, Treasurer & Kathy Metropoulos, Deputy Treasurer
Summer 2002 tax bills will be mailed on or about June 28, 2002.

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 June 15, please contact our office. 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. Failure to receive the bill does not exempt a property owner from paying late interest charges.

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 either a computer disk, printout, or copy of the tax bill. If you want to ensure that they have received your tax amount due, please contact them (by phone or by mail) personally. The Treasurer's office does not have this information.

When paying in person, please bring the entire tax bill so that the top half can be stamped paid, and returned to you for your records. If you mail the payment and do not need a receipt, please enclose the bottom part of the bill for our records. There is also a drop box by the front door for depositing payments after hours. We do not accept payment by credit card. When making water bill payments, it is also very important to bring in the bill.

The Deadline for Summer tax payment is Monday, September 16, 2002. Interest charges will begin on September 17. For any additional information, please call our office at: **989.791.9840** Most importantly, please call our office if you do not receive your tax bill by the middle of July. Thank you.



Clerk's Office News...

Reported by: Timothy Braun, Clerk & Lori Vondette, Deputy Clerk

Precinct 16 - Something New Has Been Added

Saginaw Charter Township adopted an ordinance at the January 28th Board Meeting adding a 16th precinct. The new precinct voters will cast their ballots in all future elections at St. John Vianney Church located at 6400 McCarty. This year the Township is required to send out new voter ID cards to all residents because of various local, state, and federal district changes. The timely decision to add the new precinct at this time was made to save postage costs.

Red, White and Blue Buntings

Next time you drive by the Township Hall check out the new buntings hanging in front of the building displaying the pride we have for our Country.

Opening a New Business in Saginaw Township?

If you are opening a new business in Saginaw Township you are required to obtain a license for that business. The cost is only \$10 annually. A renewal form is sent out to all businesses the end of November every year. If there is a change in ownership or address of an existing business, an updated application should be filed with the Clerk's office. For additional information please call the Clerk's office at: **989.791.9830**

Check Out Our Website

The Clerk's office publishes Saginaw Charter Township Board meeting minutes on our website. The website also has information on business licenses, voter registration and election results.

www.saginawtownship.org/clerk/HOME.htm

Department of Public Services News...

Reported by: Jerry Francis, Director of Public Services & Recreation

Construction Updates on DPS Projects in Saginaw Charter Township:

- ▶ **Wieneke Road Water Main Replacement Project**-completing clean up, including road, sidewalk, and lawn repairs. Hoping to have all repairs completed in early spring, weather permitting.
- ▶ **Bay Road Water Main Crossing Project**-replacing four cast iron water mains crossing under Bay Road and replacing cast iron water mains under McCarty & Bay and Schust & Bay. Abandoning four other crossings between Shattuck and Tittabawassee. Project scheduled to start March 1st. and run through April 30th. Work being done at this time to coordinate with the Michigan Department of Transportation's road resurfacing project.
- ▶ **McCarty Road Water Main Replacement Project**-replacing an 8" A.C. water main with 12" PVC from Bay Road east to Fashion Square Blvd. Work scheduled to begin early summer and run through mid summer. Work being done at this time to coordinate with the Saginaw County Road Commission's road widening project.
- ▶ **Center Courts**-construction scheduled to begin late April or early May. Estimated completion will be late December 2002 or January 2003.



Assessing Office News...

Reported by: David Kern, Director of Assessing

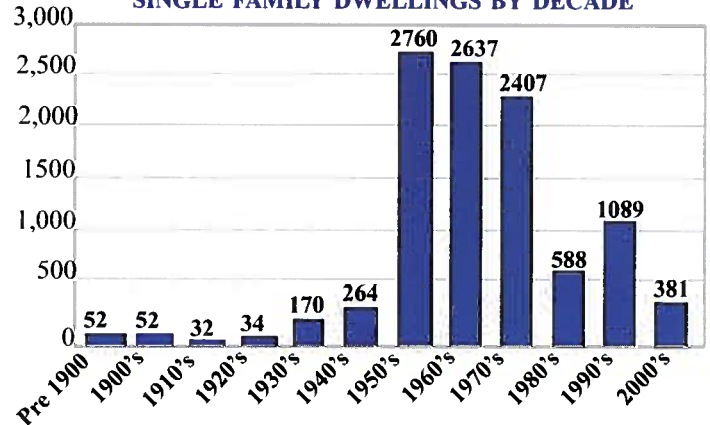
Wrapping Up Review

The Assessor's office will complete a Township-wide review and photography of residential properties this summer.

Homestead Deadline May 1st.

A special note to new property owners: May 1 is the filing deadline for filing changes and updates that affect the homestead exemption status of a dwelling. It is particularly important that owners occupying newly constructed homes file an affidavit by the May 1 deadline to be eligible for the 2002 exemption.

**SAGINAW CHARTER TOWNSHIP
SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGS BY DECADE**



Saginaw Charter Township experienced a single family dwelling construction boom in the 1950's which continued well into the 1970's. According to the U.S. Census, by the 1940's Saginaw Township had a population of 3,254. By the 1970 Census the Township had grown to 27,234 residents. Current Census figures place Saginaw Township's population at 39,657.

Department of Public Services News continued...

Sale of Recyclables keeps annual trash pick up fee at \$105 per household

The cost of picking up trash and brush has increased over the past two years. However, our resident's efforts at recycling are paying off by keeping the annual bill at \$105.

Cost to provide trash and brush pickup	\$123.00
Sale of recyclables	(18.00)
Annual bill to residents	\$105.00

Your efforts are paying off. Keep up the good work!

NOTICE*NOTICE***NOTICE***NOTICE***NOTICE**












Yard Waste Curb Side Pick Up will begin **Monday, April 1, 2002** and end **Tuesday, November 26, 2002.**

The Brush Site will open weekends beginning **Saturday, April 13th thru Sunday, May 19, 2002.** The hours are 10:00 a.m thru 6:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday. In addition the site will be open the third weekend of **June (15 & 16), July (20 & 21), and August (17 & 18),** then weekends beginning **September 7th thru October 27, 2002.**

Annual Alternate Day Lawn & Garden Sprinkling Program will begin **May 15, 2002** and extend to **September 15, 2002.**

**Saginaw Township
 Government Newsletter**

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

-  - pgs. 1 & 2 State of The Township Message
-  - pgs. 3 & 4 Improving Commercial Corridors
-  - pg. 4 Police Department News
-  - pg. 5 Fire Department News
-  - pg. 5 Parks & Recreation News
-  - pg. 6 Zael Library News
-  - pg. 6 Community Development News
-  - pg. 6 Treasurer's Office News
-  - pg. 7 Clerk's Office News
-  - pg. 7 Dept. of Public Services News
-  - pg. 7 Assessing News

Ask The Supervisor

A new column will appear in the Fall/Winter
 "Update" 2002/2003, entitled "Ask The Supervisor".
 Residents are asked to submit questions which may be
 informative for the general public.

Call: 989.791.9800

Administrative Assistants: Kim or Lynn

Email: supervisor@saginawtownship.net

Vision for the New Millennium

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.

Community Calendar

This schedule is subject to change. Please telephone Township Hall at 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

April	May	June	July	August	September
04/08 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	05/01 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	06/05 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	07/04 Twp. Offices Closed	08/07 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	09/02 Twp. Offices Closed
04/10 Brd. of Appeals 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	05/05 State of The Arts Show 2-5:00 p.m.	06/07 Art Show Ends	07/08 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	08/09 Can-Amera Weekend (Home)	09/04 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.
04/15 Parks & Rec. 5:15 p.m. Rec. Office	05/08 Brd. of Appeals 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	06/10 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	07/10 Brd. of Appeals 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	08/12 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	09/09 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.
04/17 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	05/13 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	06/12 Brd. of Appeals 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	07/15 Parks & Rec. 5:15 p.m. Rec. Office	08/14 Brd. of Appeals 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	09/11 Brd. of Appeals 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.
04/22 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	05/15 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	06/17 Parks & Rec. 5:15 p.m. Rec. Office	07/17 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	08/19 Parks & Rec. 5:15 p.m. Rec. Office	09/16 Parks & Rec. 5:15 p.m. Rec. Office
	05/20 Parks & Rec. 5:15 p.m. Rec. Office	06/19 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.		08/21 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.	09/18 Planning Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.
	05/27 Twp. Offices Closed				09/23 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.
	05/28 Twp. Brd. Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Brd. Rm.				

George L. Olson
 Supervisor

Timothy J. Braun
 Clerk

William J. McQuillan
 Treasurer

Barbara N. Ewend
 Trustee

Mark A. Schaeff
 Trustee

Steven G. Gerhardt
 Trustee

Richard T. Neiderquill
 Trustee