

the Cannon Communicator

Published by the Cannon Township Board, Kent County, Michigan

Spring 2009

From the Desk of the Supervisor

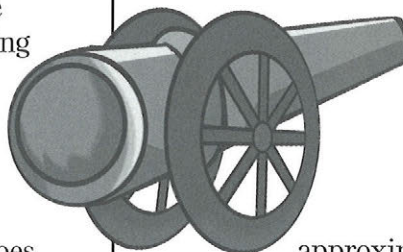
*Budget Time – Fiscal Year
2009 - 2010*

I read in the newspaper today that the City of Wyoming has put together a task force to study the option of creating a new city income tax to help with their \$1.5 million “structural deficit”.

We continue to read articles like this and hear comments in the media that all governmental bodies are threatened by dwindling revenue to operate their communities. Local governments receive the bulk of the revenues and service from the County and State. These

resources, which are declining or dissolving altogether, may have an affect on Cannon Township in the near future.

Cannon Township does not have a structural deficit and has spent under budget in the last two fiscal years. The Township’s fiscal year is from April 1 to March 31. The General Fund budget revenue total is approximately \$1.6 million. In addition to the General Fund there is the Fire Department budget revenue at \$600,000, the Recreation budget revenue at \$325,000 and the Sewer budget revenue at \$740,000. The Cannon Township Board is responsible for a budget totaling (all funds)



approximately
\$3.3 million.

In the short term, Cannon Township’s economic outlook is strong and stable. The Board has cut \$40,000 off our yearly healthcare expense and is preparing a new “zero-based” budget for this next fiscal year. Our Board continues to maintain a strong reserve balance of at least \$1 million. This reserve will prepare the Township for the near future when services provided to our community, (currently for little or “no charge”

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Cannon Township

The Cannon Communicator, Spring 2009

Supervisor, continued from page 1

from the County or the State), begin to get charged back to our Township. I don't foresee this happening in the next two fiscal years, but the fiscal year 2011-2012 will show striking changes in the relationship between the County and the Township.

There are vital services that the Township Board feels strongly about maintaining and we must continue to fund these items even if the County begins to charge additional fees for these services. A few of these "services" that could affect future Cannon Township budgets include fire dispatching, sheriff patrol and road repair. Currently, the County does not charge us or provides us with supplemental support for these services. Since Lansing continues to be in desperate need of revenues, they continue to pass on unfunded mandates and funding responsibilities to the counties. There will be a breaking point soon and that's when, like everything else in these bleak economic times, the costs get passed on down to the lowest factor - Township citizens.

Public health, safety and welfare, as well as quality of life, continue to be the main budget priorities of our Board. It is also the goal of our Board to best prepare Cannon Township financially for the future. Even with the dismal outlook, our current Board will NOT be putting together a task

force to study the option of creating a new tax to solve a structural deficit.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our annual budget, feel free to contact me or any other Township Board member.

The budget is available to anyone who wishes to review it. A copy can be obtained online or from the Cannon Township Center. I can be reached at **874-6966** or email

pmacgregor@cannontwp.org.

**Best regards,
Peter MacGregor,
Cannon Township
Supervisor**

**The
Historical Museum
in Cannonsburg will
be open every
Sunday beginning
May 3rd from
2 p.m. until 4 p.m.**

"Where Did Our 2008 Taxes Go?"

Jim LaPeer, Treasurer

The Township Treasurer's Office has just completed 2008 tax year collections. As provided for in State law, the Township may act as the collecting and disbursing Agency for property tax millage collections that are approved by voters. The list below shows Tax Millages collected, and disbursed, by the Township Office. The Disbursement (payment) is to the respective Taxing Authority shown. Additionally, other funds were collected and disbursed such as Assessment for Weed Control, Lake Level control, Lighting Districts, etc.

Taxing Authority

Taxes Collected & Disbursed

Rockford Public Schools	\$989,270	(Operating Millage.)
Rockford Public Schools	\$5,066,926	(Debt Service Millage.)
Lowell Public Schools	\$18,404	(Operating Millage.)
Lowell Public Schools	\$88,750	(Debt Service Millage.)
Forest Hills Public Schools	\$3,099	(Operating Millage.)
Forest Hills Public Schools	\$26,580	(Debt Service Millage.)
State Education Tax	\$ 3,325,759	(Statewide Millage.)
Kent district Library	\$480,648	(County Millage.)
Kent County Jail	\$431,104	(County Millage.)
Kent County Seniors	\$177,166	(County Millage.)
Kent County	\$2,372,524	(County Millage.)
Grand Rapids Community College	\$990,221	(County Millage.)
Kent Intermediate School District	\$2,599,786	(County Millage.)
Cannon Township	\$457,704	(Operating Millage.)
Cannon Township	\$513,421	(Fire Department.)
Cannon Township	\$205,351	(Recreation Millage.)

Recreation Plan Update

Several months ago, the Cannon Township Recreation Committee began working on a recreation plan update. The previous plan was created in 2002, but “expired” in 2007. What this actually means is that the State of Michigan requires a plan update every five years. Current Recreation Plans, approved by the State, are required in order to obtain DNR grant funding.

The first step in the process was to hire a professional, Cornelisse Design Associates, to assist us in writing the plan. Pat Cornelisse has been working with the committee since December. In January, a public input meeting was held at the East Rockford Middle School. All residents and property owners were invited and several area leaders were given personal invitations. The results of this meeting were compiled and reviewed by the committee.

At this point we’re looking at creating goals and objectives for the next five years. Once these are developed, the committee will

enjoy spring!

prioritize them and come up with a proposed schedule of completion. Once the plan is in draft form, a public hearing will be held so that everyone can voice their opinions.

Please watch the Advance and the Cannon Township website for the date of this Public Hearing. I will also be placing information on the website as it is developed.

The Recreation Committee is truly interested in any input from the people of Cannon Township. You are welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings – the third Monday of the month from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. You may also write, call, or email me with your concerns. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Bonnie Blackledge,
Township Clerk
bonnies@cannontwp.org

16th Annual Christmas Lights Committee Pancake Breakfast...

The Cannonsburg Christmas Lights Committee will kick off the 16th Annual Bear Creek Waterfest on **Saturday, April 25th** with an awesome pancake breakfast.

The breakfast will be served from **8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.**, unless the food runs out first. The meal will include: pancakes, link sausage, juice, and coffee. **The cost is \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for kids under 12 years old. The top price for a family is \$15.00.**

All proceeds from the breakfast will help pay for the outside Christmas lights in the Village. With past proceeds we have put up some beautiful new street decorations.

After breakfast enjoy the rest of the festival. There are a lot of neat things for everyone to see and do!

**Don Kurylowicz,
Honey Creek Inn**

Township Roads

During the month of March the Township Board will be busy preparing our Township budget for the fiscal year beginning April 1st 2009. During this budget process we will be carefully reviewing every expense item because of these difficult economic times.

One of the areas that will be reviewed will be the condition of our roads. At this time we will be reviewing the following road projects for 2009.



These are:

- repaving of Wildermere
- crush and shape the first mile of Sunfish Lake Avenue south of M 44
- new limestone surface on Dursum
- complete the cape seal finishing of Bella Vista

The estimated cost to our Township would be approximately **\$240,000**. This compares to this year's budget of **\$285,000**.

We are also working with the County to repair **Cannonsburg Road from Myers Lake east to 5 Mile Road**. (This would be funded by the County and State without any costs to the Township.)

Dick Davies, Trustee and Road Chairperson

On-line Reporting Service Now Available To Citizens

Kent County Sheriff Lawrence Stelma has announced an on-line reporting service for citizens of Kent County, which includes the residents of Cannon Township. This service is for specific incidents where there are no suspects or there is a property loss value of less than \$1000. The incidents which may be reported on-line are: Destruction of Property, Larceny from an Auto, Lost Property and Misdemeanor Theft or Vandalism.

Sheriff Stelma also states that if you wish to speak with a Deputy personally, even for any of the listed incidents, you may still call the Sheriff's Department and a Deputy will be dispatched to your location.

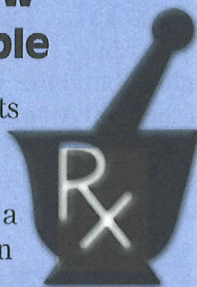
A quick link has been provided on the Cannon Township homepage, www.cannontwp.org if you wish to use this service.

The Men's Club at Bostwick Lake Congregational Church will be holding their annual fertilizer sale on the Saturdays in April and May. They have several phosphate free products that meet the criteria of the Cannon Township Fertilizer Ordinance. You can also find phosphate free fertilizer at many local stores.

To see a copy of the fertilizer ordinance, go to www.cannontwp.org – Watershed – ordinances.

Prescription Discount Cards Are Now Available

All residents of Kent County are eligible for a prescription discount card. You can register for this card by going online to www.accesskent.com/OnlineServices/rxcard.htm. This card is accepted by most major chain pharmacies. By using this card, you could save up to **35%**. For more information you may call **616-988-5081** (leave a message and you will receive a call back) or ask your pharmacist about it.





16th Annual Bear Creek Waterfest

Saturday, April 25 from 8 - noon

Townsend Park

And don't forget...

The
Rubber
Ducky
Races!

- Prizes,
- Bake Sale and a
- Pancake Breakfast

Featuring Children's Activities:

Creeky Critters, Fish Pond, Mini-Aquifer, Hat Making, Microscope Magic and much more!

This is a fun way to learn about the Bear Creek Watershed

Musical Group Hawks & Owls will perform

All activities are **FREE** except the pancake breakfast (see related article.)
The Bear Creek Waterfest is sponsored by Cannon Township

The Historical Society is having a baked goods sale at the Annual Waterfest on April 25th at Townsend Park from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Get there early before the goodies run out!

News From The Fire Department...



2008 Year In Review

2008 saw a slight increase in the number of calls we served. By the end of last year, the Cannon Township Fire Department responded to 466 calls compared to 455 calls in 2007.

Our average in-Township emergency response time increased from 4 minutes and 56 seconds, to 5 minutes and 14 seconds. These statistics include calls outside our Township as well.

Here is a breakdown of our calls:

Fires..... 23

(Grass fires, Structure fires, Chimney fires, etc.)

Rescue & Emergency Medical Service calls 290

(Accidents, Ice rescues, EMS calls, etc.)

Good Intent Call 43

(Disregarded after dispatched, Authorized burning, etc.)

Service Calls..... 44

(Unauthorized burning, smoke investigation, lock outs, etc.)

Hazardous Conditions (no fire).....40

(Carbon Monoxide calls, Gas leak, Power line down, etc.)

False Alarm.....26

(Malfunctioning alarm system, CO detector, etc.)

Our average response time is calculated based on when Kent County dispatches the department to when the department arrives on scene. Sometimes our delayed arrival is the direct result of not being able to find a street address.

Please take time to make sure that your address is clearly marked at your mailbox and/or the house numbers are visible from the street. If necessary, clear away any brush or tree limbs that may obscure your house numbers or prevent us from accessing your driveway.

As a service to the public, the Cannon Township Fire Department is still offering reflective street signs for \$10.00 per sign. Call 874-9725 or stop in our fire station on Belding Rd., next to the Township Offices, during normal business hours.

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OPEN BURNING ORDINANCE REMINDER...

The Cannon Township Open Burning Ordinance is the result of a collaborative effort between the Township Board, the Fire Department and the Township's attorney.

With the upcoming months of dry, hot weather, it was necessary to find a way to ensure the safety of our residents. We on the Department, feel strongly that this ordinance helps reduce the amount of nuisance calls and allows the Township to recover the expense of providing fire suppression efforts to those individuals and businesses that do not adhere to the same rules as the rest of our residents. So please take a moment to read this new ordinance and remember that burning permits are free. To see the Open Burning Ordinance, go to www.cannontwp.org and click on "Fire Department." To obtain a permit, call 874-9725 during normal business hours.

Until next time, stay safe.

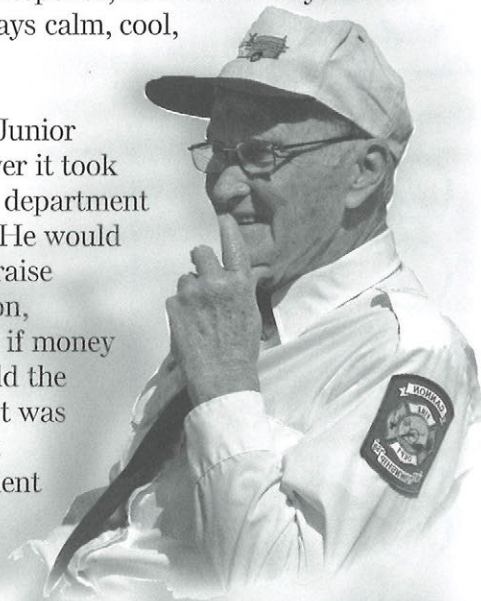
Tribute to Cannon Township Fire Chief Harry Morris Jr. 1925 – 2009

By Lonnie Herrington

Harry Morris Jr. spent 55 years serving the people of Cannon Township as a firefighter. The last 39 years were as Fire Chief. He was one of the founding members of the Fire Department. To those of us who knew him, he was known as Junior.

From the beginning, his dedication to the job, the community, and the members of the department were unmatched. Junior led by example. You knew when the tones went off that he would be there. Regardless of what he was doing, who he was with or the consequences of his response, he would always answer the call. He was always calm, cool, and in control.

In the early days Junior would do whatever it took to help build the department he would later lead. He would not hesitate to help raise money, build a station, purchase equipment if money was available or build the equipment himself. It was his thrifty spirit that allowed the department to continue to grow through tough times.



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Tribute continued from page 9

Cannon Township

When the Township started growing, he made sure that the Fire Department grew with it, always making sure that what was done made sense for the future of the Department and people he served. This progressive style has made the Cannon Township Fire Department what it is today, lacking nothing we need and leaving little we want.

Junior's dedication also included the men and women who served with him. He built and managed a department that can only be described as a family. We worked together, raised our families together and made friendships that will last a lifetime.

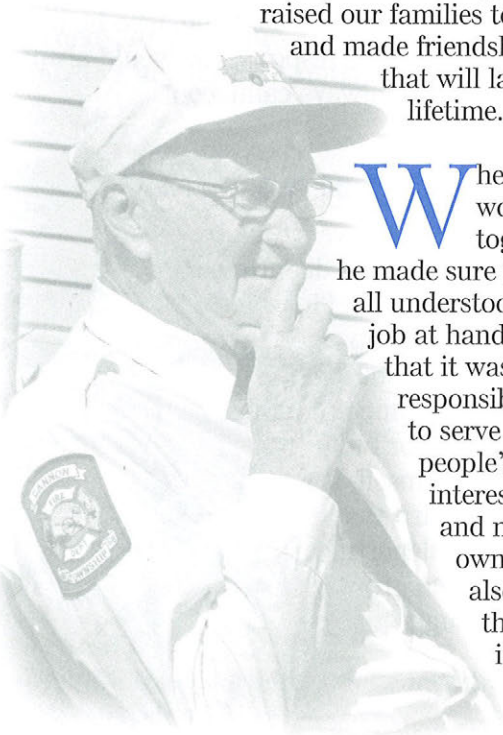
When we worked together he made sure that we all understood the job at hand, and that it was our responsibility to serve the people's interests and not our own. We also knew that if we made a

mistake it was OK. He was never critical, always fair.

As firefighters we were always sheltered from the winds of politics. Junior made sure not to allow the politics of a community to affect the jobs we do. At those times, when politics crept in to our department, he made sure it was the people we served who came first, and we also knew he was standing with us and for us.

No one who has ever known Junior can deny his compelling sense of humor. Over the years no one was immune to his practical jokes and jestful jabs to lighten the day. We all fell prey to more than one of these jokes. I could tell countless stories of how he made fun of his own misfortunes or of ours. But ultimately he was the greatest story teller and the best always started with "This is the honest to God Truth".

From his early days to the last, Junior was forward thinking. He made sure every event led to the next. Through



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Tribute continued from page 10

his dedication and skillful leadership we as a department were always prepared for what was coming. Most importantly he made sure we were prepared for today. So, in his honor, we can continue to provide the highest level of service.

Junior's greatest asset has always been his family. Even if you met Junior later in his life you knew his true love would always be his late wife Pat. Together they made sure the fire department was always prepared often times enlisting the help of the whole family. Pat would be there making phone calls, supplying refreshments and providing support to other wives who would call worried or concerned. As it was told to me, Junior would put out the fires and Pat would do the rest.

The fire department is definitely a family affair starting with Junior and continuing with his four sons, son-in-laws, grandson and

nephew. Together they supplied the base for what our department would become and still is. It is no wonder the Morris name is synonymous with The Cannon Township Fire Department.

Thank you to the family for allowing us to be blessed with his presence for all these years. And also, thank you for allowing all of us to feel a part of your family for so long. He was more than our chief, he was a friend, mentor and second father.

The Township Board has appointed Deputy Chief, Jim Morris as the "Acting Chief" until a permanent Chief has been hired. The Township Personnel and Fire Committees have decided to search for qualified candidates within the department to fill the position of Chief for the Cannon Township Fire Department.

Algoma Township

is constructing a memorial that will include bricks that will honor the names of veterans that have served during war or peace. They do not have to be Algoma Township residents. A brick can be purchased for \$50 which goes towards the construction of this monument. For more information, call Julie or Judy at 866-1583.

**Cannon
Township's
Website is
www.cannontwp.org
Please make
us one of your
favorites.**

Spring Watershed News

Kim Sapkowski,
Watershed Administrative Assistant

Governor Granholm has urged State legislatures to hand over regulation of Michigan's wetlands to the EPA in order to cut spending on what she termed as **"duplication of services."** Others want to do away with Michigan's wetlands permitting process in order to remove roadblocks for business expansion.

On the surface this seems like a good idea. Why have a state program in place that does exactly what the EPA already does? On closer inspection, it becomes clear that the EPA wetlands regulations are not the same as Michigan's. Here's why:

Currently, Michigan law regulates the permitting of wetlands that are five acres or more and/or are contiguous to a body of water. That body of water could be a lake, a stream or a seasonal stream. The EPA, however, only permits wetlands that are adjacent to navigable waters. That leaves thousands of acres of **"stand alone"** wetlands, those that are not adjacent to navigable water, unprotected. Anyone could fill in and dig up their wetlands without a permit. So, what's the big deal? It's their property so who cares? Well, the big deal is that by filling in a wetland, we are shutting down a crucial part of nature's function. Wetlands provide floodwater control by allowing run off to slowly soak into the earth, they filter water that eventually fills up

aquifers (that you and I draw our water from), and they provide a critical home for hundreds of species of birds, amphibians, insects and mammals. And then there's the recreation wetlands provide humans: fishing and hunting, for example.

When we fill wetlands, we jeopardize our health and economic well being. Loss of wetlands means poor water quality, flooding and the property damage that goes along with it and the loss of wildlife such as Bald Eagles, the gray wolf, turtles and a host of plants that are unique to wetlands and essential for certain animals' survival.

Other states that must rely on the EPA to permit wetlands complain of months and years of waiting before a permit is processed. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, who permits current Michigan wetland regulations, has a permit process of 90 days with the average permit process taking 60 days. The

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MDEQ has staff throughout the state who have established relationships with private property owners and local business and knows the local ecosystems. The EPA does not have this type of staff or capability.

We all want business to thrive in Michigan.

We all want to cut wasteful government spending. But by abandoning our protection of wetlands, we set ourselves up for future problems that will cost us and our children heaps of money down the road in the way of water filtration systems, flood damage, and loss of recreational revenue. It is unlikely that these problems will attract new business and will only burden taxpayers with costly fixes.

To learn more about how wetlands function and their benefits, visit the Cannon Township Website at www.cannontwp.org and click on the Watershed pages. Or visit <http://groups.google.com/group/michigan-wetlands?lnk=srg&hl=en>

Cannon Trail Volunteers 2009



Would you like to be a volunteer for the Cannon Township Trail? You can join more than 20 volunteers this season to help keep the trail clean. As a volunteer you will be scheduled to go out on the trail about once every three weeks where you will work on a one mile section of the trail. Volunteers pick up litter and other

debris. Supplies are given to volunteers by the Township. The Cannon Township Trail Volunteer season runs from April 1 through October 31. If you would like to join, call **Kim Sapkowski** at **874-6966**.



**Here are
Some
Important
Dates to
Remember –**

**April 6 –
Last Day to
Register to Vote**

**April 15 –
Absentee Ballots
available**

**May 2 at 2:00 p.m.
– Last day to apply
for absentee ballot
by mail**

**May 4 at 4:00 p.m.
– Deadline to vote
an absent ballot
in person**

On Tuesday May 5th, Cannon Township will administer an election that will elect school board members for **Rockford Public Schools, Lowell Schools, or Forest Hills Schools**. Also on the ballot are candidates for the Grand Rapids Community College school board.

The candidates are:

- **Rockford Public Schools** – Miles J. Postema sole candidate for one position.
- **Forest Hills Public Schools** – Duane Berkompas, Maureen Fischer, Tom Heintzleman, Susan M. Lenhardt
- two positions open.
- **Lowell Public Schools** – James Turner sole candidate for one position.
- **Grand Rapids Community College** – Robert C. Bennett, Ellen M. James, Nadine Renee Klein, Richard Ryskamp, Richard L. Schilo, Ken Smith, Richard W. Verburg, Milinda Ysasi - three positions open.

In addition, **Lowell School District** has an operating millage renewal proposal on the ballot.

Applications for an absentee ballot were mailed to all voters on our permanent list. If you would like an AV ballot, please contact **Nancy (874-6966)** or stop by the office.

April 2009

- April 1** Quarterly Sewer Bills Mailed to Residents
April 6 LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR SCHOOL ELECTION
April 13 Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
April 14 Planning Commission Meeting – 6:00 pm
April 20 Recreation Committee Meeting 4:00 pm
April 21 Zoning Board of Appeals – 7:00 pm
April 25 16th ANNUAL BEAR CREEK WATERFEST–TOWNSEND PARK
8:00 am - Noon
April 27 Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
April 30 QUARTERLY SEWER BILLS DUE

May 2009

- May 1** PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXEMPTION DUE
May 2 Office Open for Absentee Voting 8:00 am – 2:00 pm
May 5 SCHOOL ELECTION – Polls Open 7:00 am – 8:00 pm
May 11 Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
May 12 Planning Commission Meeting – 6:00 pm
May 18 Recreation Committee Meeting 4:00 pm
May 19 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting – 7:00 pm

May 25..... **MEMORIAL DAY – OFFICE CLOSED**

June 2009

- June 8**..... Township Board Meeting - 7:00 pm
June 9..... Planning Commission Meeting – 6:00 pm
June 15..... Recreation Committee Meeting 4:00 pm
June 16..... Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting – 7:00 pm
June 22..... Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm

Any changes or additions to the calendar can be found on our web site –
www.cannontwp.org under “Events Calendar”

Clerk's Corner...

By Bonnie Blackledge



As I read of other townships around us hiring a manager or superintendent to help run the daily business of those communities, I feel proud that Cannon Township has managed to operate using our elected board to the best of its capacity. Instead of hiring a manager making close to \$100,000 a year, we have been able to allocate duties among ourselves in such a manner that everything gets done efficiently.

The way we handle this is through committee assignments where each member of the Board is assigned several committees to chair and serve on so that all areas are covered by at least one elected official. Later on in this column I will give updates on the committees with which I am involved, but first I would like to list the existing committees and the Board member in charge. This information is also available on our web site in more detail.

- **Budget** – Pete MacGregor
- **Roads & Transportation Issues** – Dick Davies
- **Professional Services Oversight** – Steve Grimm

- **Information Technology** – Jim LaPeer
- **Personnel** – Pete MacGregor (with Jim LaPeer serving as Office Manager for staff)
- **Sewer** – Jim LaPeer
- **Fire** – Pete MacGregor
- **Law Enforcement** – Pete MacGregor
- **REGIS (area wide GIS service)** – Deb Diepenhorst
- **Salary & Benefits** – Pete MacGregor
- **Finance & Purchasing** – Jim LaPeer
- **North Kent Sewer Authority** – Pete MacGregor
- **Cable & Utilities** – Dick Davies

Representatives on other Boards and Committees:

- **Planning Commission** – Rob McBrien
- **Zoning Board of Appeals** – Deb Diepenhorst
 - **Grand Valley Metropolitan Council** – Jim LaPeer
 - **Rockford Area Foundation** – Dick Davies

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The following committees are ones that I chair:

• **Cemetery Committee:**

We don't meet on a regular basis, but schedule meetings when we have something that needs to be accomplished. Our purpose is to make sure the cemeteries are in good condition. At this time, we're working on getting quotes to put up fencing in certain places at the cemeteries. In the past, we drafted the cemetery ordinance that is used today.

• **Facilities Committee:**

This is a new committee for me, but I'm finding that I enjoy it. The purpose of this committee is to be sure that the building and grounds are well taken care of. Dick Davies, Deb Diepenhorst, and Jim Morris also serve on this committee.

• **Risk Analysis**

Committee: Since I handle Township

insurance issues, this committee has been assigned to me. Our former Trustee, Diane Jones, remains on this committee and, since she sells insurance for a living, is a valued member.

• **Bear Creek Watershed Committee:** Beginning with the EPA Grant that the Township was awarded in 1992, I have been involved in some way with the Bear Creek watershed project. From 1998 through about 2007, the Bear Creek Ordinance Committee worked to develop some watershed protection ordinances and policies.

At the present time, Kim Sapkowski, Watershed Administrative Assistant, and I are trying to establish a permanent **Bear Creek Watershed Council**. Letters have been sent to individuals who were active in the past and others who represent groups that we believe should be included on the council. (If you have an interest in this area, we'd love to consider you as a council member. Please contact me or Kim.)

• **Elections:** Although heading up the committee and holding the Election Commission meetings take only minutes, the responsibility of running elections consumes much of my time. It's nice to have a year with only one election to administer, especially after having a year like last one with four elections.

Recreation & Parks: Chairing the Recreation Committee takes up a great deal of my time, but is truly an area that I enjoy. Being able to take the trail from a concept to actuality was a high point of my career. The biggest challenge of this position is trying to meet the needs of all the people in the Township with limited funds available.

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In addition to serving as chair on the committees listed above, I also serve on the Budget, Personnel, and Information Technology committees.

As you can see, our Board is busy with other responsibilities in addition to regular attendance at Board meetings (2nd and 4th Mondays). It makes for an efficient and cost effective way to administer Township operations.

Cannon Area Car Show

This year's second annual Classic Car Show is set for **June 6, 2009** from Noon to 4:00 p.m. The Cannon Area Business Association sponsors and puts on this event along with the Cannon Area Treasure Hunt each year. CABA is made up of the business owners in the local area that want to bring new customers and growth to the area.

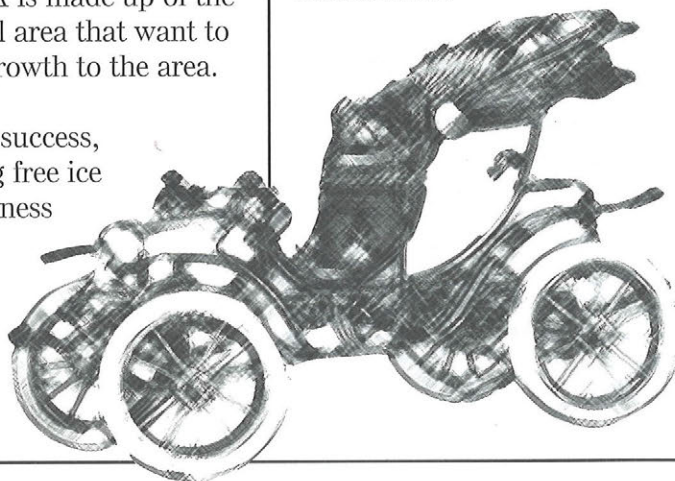
Last year's event was a big success, with over 500 people eating free ice cream, speaking to the business owners that set up booths and tents, enjoying the magic show, watching clowns and, of course, viewing the 74 Hot Rod

and Antique Cars that entered the show.

This year the event will be even better - more cars, food vendors, a food eating contest, a bigger and better booth area for the businesses to set up, and much much more.

If you have an auto you would like to enter, please call **616-874-4444**.

At the time this newsletter went to print, the location for this car show was not yet determined. Please watch the Cannon Township Website or local media for more information.



Cannon Township

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS

As you're out on the trail this spring, please notice the following Eagle Scout Projects that were completed last year:

ALEX HERRINGTON:

designed and built the enclosure around the portable toilet at the parking area near the Township Center trailhead.

ANDREW HAYES:

built a picnic table and trash receptacle for the overlook area near Arch Creek between Sunfish Lake Ave and Ramsdell Drive.

COLLIN HAYES:

designed and constructed the landscaping and bench at the Cannon Center trailhead. The cost of his materials was paid by a grant from the Rockford Area Community Foundation using funds donated by Gabriele Blackledge.

Cannon Township will NOT

have "summer hours" as we've had in the past. The Personnel Committee made a decision to keep with our regular business hours of 8 am to 5 pm to avoid confusion.

Trail Rules

- No motorized vehicles
- No horses
- No alcoholic beverages
- Pets must be on a 6-foot leash
- No littering
- No hunting
- No climbing retaining walls
- No vehicles or other items can be placed in the path right-of-way.
- Stay within 5 feet of the paved trail.
- Use at your own risk.

Rules of Etiquette

- Obey all posted trail use rules.
- Use this trail in a safe and responsible manner.
- Keep to the right except when passing.
- Pass slower traffic on the left, yield to oncoming traffic when passing.
- Give a clear warning signal when passing; i.e. call out, "Passing on your left."
- Travel at a reasonable speed.
- Clean up after your pet.
- Get off the paved portion of the trail when you stop for any reason.
- No campfires or camping allowed on the trail right-of-way.
- Do not disturb vegetation or wildlife.

Approved by the Cannon Township Board
11/12/07

Clip and Save E-mail Addresses

Supervisor, Pete MacGregor:pmacgregor@cannontwp.org
 Clerk, Bonnie Blackledge: bonnies@cannontwp.org
 Treasurer, Jim LaPeer: jlapeer@cannontwp.org
 Trustee Deb Diepenhorst: ddiepenhorst@cannontwp.org
 Trustee Dick Davies: rrd8565@gmail.com
 Trustee Steve Grimm:steve@slgrimmpe.com
 Trustee Rob McBrien: Rj.mcbrien@helfmholdt.com
 Deputy Clerk, Nancy Popma:nancyp@cannontwp.org
 Deputy Treasurer, Milissa Soderstrom:milissas@cannontwp.org
 Zoning Administrator, Christine James:christinej@cannontwp.org
 Code Enforcement Officer, Bob Devereaux:zeo@cannontwp.org
 Administrative Assistant Sue Clarin: suec@cannontwp.org
 Watershed Assistant, Kim Sapkowski:ksapkowski@cannontwp.org
 Acting Fire Chief, Jim Morris: Chief@Cannontwp.org
 State Representative, Tom Pearce: tompearce@house.mi.gov
 Phone: 1-888-414-3684
 State Senator, Mark Jansen:senmjansen@senate.michigan.gov
 Phone: 1-800-774-1174
 Congressman Vern Ehlers: web site: www.house.gov/ehlers
 Phone: 202-225-3831
 Cannon Township Web Site: www.cannontwp.org
 Kent County Web Site: www.accesskent.com
 State of Michigan Web Site: www.michigan.gov



Township Board

Supervisor Pete Macgregor
 Clerk Bonnie Blackledge
 Treasurer Jim LaPeer
 Trustees Deb Diepenhorst
 Dick Davies
 Steve Grimm
 Rob McBrien
 Township Offices .. 874-6966
(Hours 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Mon – Fri)
 Fax 874-8940
 Fire Department . . 874-9725
 Emergency 911

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ROCKFORD, MI 49341
 PERMIT NO.1

Township Board Meetings • 2nd & 4th Monday, Monthly • 7:00 p.m., Township Hall

6878 Belding Road, NE • Rockford, MI 49341

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