

# the Cannon Communicator

Published by the Cannon Township Board, Kent County, Michigan

Fall 2009

## From the Desk of the Supervisor Cost Shift

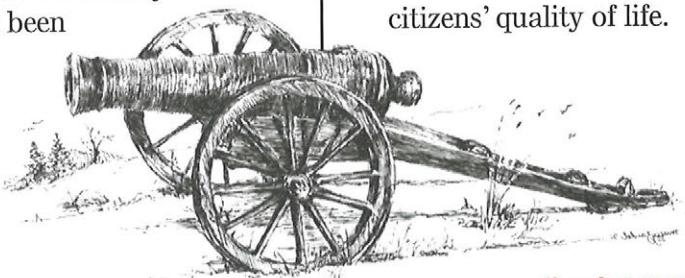
Come the latter part of the year, our Township Board will have to make some challenging and difficult financial decisions to balance our next year's budget. To say it is going to be a complicated process is an understatement.

Cannon Township lost all of its State Statutory Revenue Sharing funds a number of years ago. The impact of that loss, reduction of State Constitutional Revenue

Sharing Funds (i.e. sales tax) and the deterioration of real property values will impact our Township's budget for years to come. Recently there has been discussion on the County charging the townships for fire dispatch as well as other services.

The Cannon Township Board is especially concerned with the burden the County will be shifting on to the townships due to their budget constraints. For the past couple of years the County has been

burdened by many unfunded hits by the State and now can no longer maintain that burden. The reality is that townships are the lowest common denominator and we're next. Whatever costs the County decides they can no longer afford will be shifted onto the townships. Townships can't pass this problem onto anyone else. This burden to our Township may come in multiple forms; services cut, increase in fees and basic overhead reduction. Each may have a direct or indirect effect on our citizens' quality of life.



**continued on page 2**

# Cannon Township

The Cannon Communicator, Fall 2009

continued from page 1

## From the Desk of the Supervisor Continued

Our Board will strive to maintain all essential services (law enforcement and fire protection) and consider cuts in non-essential services to start. Our Township Board expects that the County Board of Commissioners carefully weigh the impact of their proposed cuts in services and respectfully expects that essential services be their Board's priority to protect and maintain. There will be a time to look at replacing funds for the non-mandated services and new initiatives, but now is not that time.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me or any other Township Board members at 874-6966 or email [pmacgregor@cannontwp.org](mailto:pmacgregor@cannontwp.org).

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

**New Zoning Ordinance –**  
Cannon Township recently updated its Zoning Ordinance. You may check it out on line at [www.Cannontwp.org](http://www.Cannontwp.org)

## Historical Museum

The Cannon Township Historical Museum will **close** for the season after

**Sunday,  
September 27th**

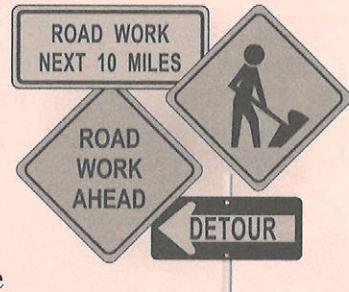
when it will be open from

**2 to 4 PM**

## Review of Roads - 2009

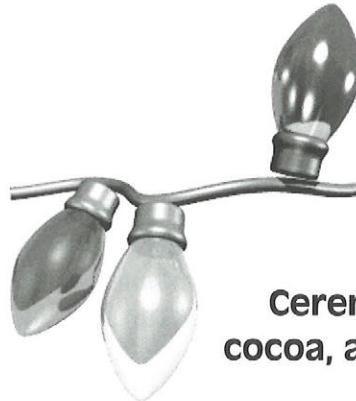
Dick Davies Trustee and Road Chairperson

**A**s we wind down the repairs and resurfacing of our roads in Cannon Township this summer, we soon will start making plans for next year. This year we crushed and shaped the first 5000 feet of Sunfish from M44 south, and all of Wildermere Drive. We also resurfaced 1.6 miles of Bella Vista streets and had limestone spread on Dursum and Giles (B.J. St to 6 Mile Rd). The total cost for these projects was \$502,000 of which Cannon Township's share totaled \$253,750 and the balance of \$248,250 was paid by the County.



**I**n addition to these major projects the County repaired many pot holes and spread gravel on many roads (at no cost to the Township).

**S**everal years ago before the economic downturn our road budget was approximately \$500,000 when we were involved with paving gravel roads. Because of the expected reduction in revenue sharing which we receive from the State and our program of reducing expenses we are probably looking again at a lower budget figure of approximately \$250,000 per year instead of \$500,000 for the next few years.



## Christmas Celebration In Cannonsburg

Remember to mark your calendar for the last Monday in November, the 30th, at 6 PM when the Annual Christmas Lighting Ceremony will be held in Cannonsburg. Coffee, cocoa, and cookies will be served at the Museum.

# Recreation Plan Update

**Bonnie Blackledge,  
Township Clerk  
bonnies@cannontwp.org**

The Cannon Township Recreation Committee has been working on a plan update since January. Although this might seem like a long time, the Committee has chosen to do a thorough job and is updating the Township Trail Plan and the Township Center Park Plan along with the Recreation Plan itself.

By the time you read this, a draft of the trail plan and of the park plan should be available on line. There is still time to comment on these plans if you would like to give input.

The Committee decided to focus on some "trail" goals and use these goals to guide where trails should be constructed in the Township. Some of these goals are connecting public places, connections to other trails within the Township and neighboring townships, and building trails in areas where safety is needed.

The Township Center Park Plan is similar to that designed several years ago. Included are some multiuse trails, many of which will just be mowed pathways. There will be a shelter with picnic tables that could be used by area residents and a small play area geared towards young children. Nearby would be a cleared area great for games like Frisbee or kicking around a soccer ball.

The northeastern corner of the property would be set aside for the development of a Little League practice field that could also double as an area for soccer or football practice by area teams. This area would include a parking lot and a future rest room area.

Of course, at this point, this is all conceptual and has not yet been approved by the Board. Please check out the trail and park concept plans on the website [www.cannontwp.org](http://www.cannontwp.org) and comment on them if you wish.

## Burning Dates –

**C**annon Township adopted an ordinance in 1995 regulating the burning of leaves and grass clippings. Because of the size of our population (over 7500), the State of Michigan required us to adopt an ordinance to allow open burning of grass clippings or leaves or it would otherwise be prohibited. Although some people see burning as an efficient way to dispose of leaves, some people have allergies or medical conditions that are affected by the smoke from these fires. In consideration, only a limited number of days are designated as “burning days.”

### The Designated Burning Dates This Year Are:

- Thursday, October 22
- Friday, October 23
- Saturday, October 24
- Thursday, October 29
- Friday, October 30
- Saturday, October 31
- Thursday, November 5
- Friday, November 6
- Saturday, November 7
- Thursday, November 12
- Friday, November 13
- Saturday, November 14

**T**he Board often will vote to extend the dates due to weather conditions. Please watch the website under “Breaking News” or check the meeting synopsis in the Advance Newspaper to see if additional dates are added.

**B**urning is permitted only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and must be supervised by a responsible person over the age of 18. You must also obtain a permit from the Fire Department by calling 874-9725.

**Composting is a great alternative to burning leaves.  
Watch our website for information on composting.**

## Fall Cleanup

Cannon Township has again hired J & S Service to conduct a trash pickup on the Township Center property at 6878 Belding Road for our Township residents. You may bring your junk to the Township Center on the following days:

### **Wednesday,**

*September 30th from 9 am to 6 pm*

### **Thursday,**

*October 1st from 9 am to 6 pm*

### **Friday,**

*October 2nd from 9 am to 5 pm*

### **Saturday,**

*October 3rd from 8 am to 1 pm*

### **Please Note These Rules Apply:**

- All tires must be cut in 4 pieces.
- No shovel offs or loose trash allowed.
- Small items must be in a bag, box, or barrel.
- Fencing must be folded.
- Barrels must have one end open or be full of holes.
- Propane and Fuel Oil tanks must be cut in half.
- No liquids (paint, oil, etc.), hazardous waste, or yard waste.
- No cement
- No brush

### **We accept the following items:**

rubbish, furniture, lumber, metals, appliances, units with Freon (freezers, air conditioners, humidifiers, etc.), and batteries.

It is important to enter the Township property from the Myers Lake Avenue entrance and exit on Belding Road to keep the flow of traffic moving. Be aware that there could be an emergency call while you are in line, so make sure you are not blocking a fire truck or other emergency vehicle.

Cannon Township sponsors this yearly event to help keep our Township clean. You may be asked to provide proof that you are a Township resident, so bring along a copy of your voter ID card, tax bill, or sewer bill. Please do not abuse the rules!

Often people get upset when they come too late on Saturday to dump their load. If you are in line before 1 pm, you will be allowed to dump your trash. If you come later than that, you will be asked to leave.

**If you have any questions, please call the Township Center**

**874-6966**

during regular office hours.

# Crime Prevention- A Partnership

This summer Cannon Township, in collaboration with the Kent County Sheriff Department, has instituted additional overnight dedicated patrols. The goal of the additional patrols is to take a proactive approach to overnight law enforcement issues in Cannon Township in order to reduce and effectively respond to incidents that have occurred in past summers. This is being accomplished by citizen street contacts, traffic stops, property checks, surveillance, and a more rapid response to citizen calls for service.

The additional patrols are a positive step for the safety of the citizens of Cannon Township, however we are only truly half of the solution. As a law enforcement agency, we rely on the citizens of Cannon Township to assist us with everyone's ultimate goal – crime prevention.

So, how can you help?

Report suspicious activity. It is an all too common occurrence for one of our officers to be taking a report, only to have a witness state "I saw a suspicious subject there last night, but I didn't call". If you need to report a non-emergency situation to the Sheriff Department please call 336-3113. For any emergency situation, of course call 911.

Make your property a "hard target". This can be accomplished by – locking all doors and windows to your residence, locking your vehicles,

closing your garage doors at night, and if you are financially able to keep your lights on outside overnight do so. The vast majority of criminals are not targeting a specific location; rather it is simply a crime of opportunity.

To date the overnight patrols have been very successful, however I continue to receive reports from the deputies working the overnight shift of many "soft targets" of opportunity. The Kent County Sheriff Department is dedicated to provide a continued high level of law enforcement services to the citizens of Cannon Township, but we need your help, because crime prevention is truly a partnership effort.

**Lt. Scott L. Brown**  
North/Central Patrol Commander,  
Kent County Sheriff Department

## KENT COUNTY SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

Lawrence A. Stelma – Sheriff  
701 Ball Avenue, N.E. • Grand  
Rapids • Michigan • 49503

## News From The Fire Department...



### Thank you

I would like to offer my appreciation to **Alan Graham** for his past 25 years of service on the Cannon Township Fire Department. We wish him well in his future endeavors and want to thank him for his service to our community.

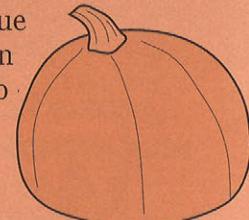
### Thank you Alan.

### Training

In addition to our regular monthly training session and recertifications, the personnel on the fire department have been very busy this summer with specialized training.

In June, the Michigan Propane Gas Association was brought in to present an LP (liquid propane) gas training forum for our department. During the training, our firefighters were subjected to mock training scenarios using LP gas. The training was exciting and extremely beneficial for the understanding of how this commonly used material behaves when released into the air, and when it is ignited. While these scenarios may have been for training purposes, the fire was quite real and our personnel took turns in learning how to extinguish these blazes, which at times shot 25 feet into the air.

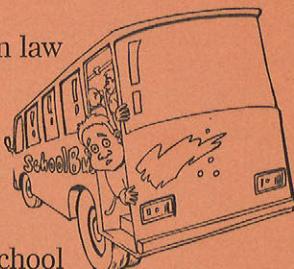
Then during the warm part of July, our department took part in a day long open water rescue and safety training that consisted of classroom and practical training. During the classroom phase, our instructors presented the principles of open water rescue and how to safely execute a water rescue in both open water and rivers. After a quick lunch, the department was able to put these lessons into use as we ventured outside to practice our safety line throws. We then went out to Lake Bella Vista with our hovercraft and an inflatable pontoon rescue boat to further our learning with hands-on water rescue training. Each of our members took turns in both the victim and rescue personnel role, to better understand how to effectively carry out a water rescue. Although this was a full day of instruction and practical exercises, the instructors from Michigan Rescue Concepts did an outstanding job and made this training very enjoyable and successful.



continued from page 8

**B**ack to School Every year school bus accidents happen because many drivers forget about some school bus safety basics. Here are a few rules to follow when driving near buses:

Michigan law requires drivers to stop at least 20 feet from a school bus with flashing red lights. The red lights indicate that children are either loading or unloading from the bus.



It's against the law to pass a school bus with flashing red lights in every one of the country's 50 states.

Be alert and patient around school buses and bus stops. Do not pass school buses in school zones, for safety's sake.

Pay attention to those people acting as crossing guards, and to the signs and instructions they use to keep children safe. Allow extra time for the drive from home to school.

## Daylight Savings Time Reminder

On Sunday, November 1, 2009, Daylight Savings ends so don't forget to turn your clocks back before you go to bed on Saturday.

This is a perfect time to take a minute to test and replace the batteries in all of your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors.

## Halloween Open House

October 31st falls on Saturday this year.

Make sure all of your trick-or-treaters have reflective material on their costumes or a flashlight if they are going to make their rounds at dusk or after dark. And when you're done, please stop by Station 2 on Belding Rd adjacent to the Township Hall or Station 1 on Cannonsburg Rd in Cannonsburg. We will be serving cider and donuts from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

## Fall Leaf Burning Leaf Burning dates are:

- Thursday, October 22
- Friday, October 23
- Saturday, October 24
- Thursday, October 29
- Friday, October 30
- Saturday, October 31
- Thursday, November 5
- Friday, November 6
- Saturday, November 7
- Thursday, November 12
- Friday, November 13
- Saturday, November 14

Burning is permitted only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. and must be supervised by a responsible person over the age of 18. You must also obtain a permit from the fire department by calling 874-9725. Burn

permits are free but required for Cannon Township residents.

**Until next time, stay safe!**

# Fall Watershed News

Kim Sapkowski,  
Watershed Administrative Assistant

## What Are the Characteristics of a Healthy Stream?

A healthy stream is a busy place. Wildlife and birds find shelter and food near and in its waters. Vegetation grows along its banks, shading the stream, slowing its flow in rainstorms, filtering pollutants before they enter the stream, and sheltering animals. Within the stream itself are fish and a myriad of insects and other tiny creatures with very particular needs. For example, stream dwellers need dissolved oxygen to breathe; rocks, overhanging tree limbs, logs, and roots for shelter; vegetation and other tiny animals to eat; and special places to breed and hatch their young. For many of these activities, they might also need water of specific velocity, depth, and temperature.

### Indicators of a Healthy Stream or River

Water pH is an important indicator of river and ecosystem health. Most species of game fishes prefer pH in specific, narrow ranges, although there are exceptions to this.

Temperature can be a good indicator to the health of a stream. Streams with healthy plant communities, including trees, along their banks will tend to have lower temperatures than streams that are open to sunlight. In general, streams fed by ground-water discharge will have lower temperatures than those fed primarily by surface runoff. Typically, the cooler the stream, the more likely it is to support a sport fishery. Most species of game fishes prefer cooler waters, although there are exceptions to this.

Conductivity is an indication of the amount of dissolved ions (i.e., salt, metals, toxins) present in the water. It is measured with a conductivity meter, which measures how easily electricity can flow through the sample water. At stream sites with high levels of development and impervious surfaces (roads, driveways, roofs), rainwater washes chemicals, such as fertilizers and pet wastes, from the developed landscape into the stream.

continued from page 10

**A**quatic Insects and Stream Habitat: Stream health can also be measured by the kinds of insects and in-stream habitat that are present.

**A**quatic insects such as mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies depend on stable flows, high water quality, and sufficient in-stream habitat for survival. These insects are particularly sensitive to factors that reduce oxygen or flow, or increase temperature or otherwise raise metabolic rates in a stream.

*Taken from [www.EPA.gov](http://www.EPA.gov) and [www.gtbay.org](http://www.gtbay.org) (Watershed Center of Grand Traverse Bay).*

## Nature's Sponge

**T**he removal of trees, shrubs and other protective vegetation to make room for the development of roads and houses has increased the amount of impervious area in the landscape. Native vegetation with its deep root systems and natural layer of dead plant material act like a sponge to hold storm water runoff and associated nutrients. Impervious

surfaces result in more storm water running directly into storm drains and eventually into rivers and lakes. Storm water runoff picks up non point source (NPS) pollutants like soil sediment, road salt and oil, fertilizers, weed killers and pet waste. NPS pollution that enters the watershed affects the nutrient balance of the water and creates a bottom habitat in lakes and ponds ideal for weeds to root. It can cover fish eggs and habitat as well. Re-vegetate and you will increase biodiversity, increase wildlife habitat and protect your property values.

*From the Center for Environmental Studies*

## Rain Garden Update

**W**e encourage you to visit the new rain garden at Cannon Township Center. It is located at the southwest area of the

parking lot. A rain garden is a special garden that collects storm water runoff. Rather than diverting runoff to storm drains and allowing the polluted storm water to enter our waterways, a rain garden will collect the runoff and filter the water through the roots of native plants and properly prepared soils. The filtered water then drains into the aquifer.

**A** team of volunteers gathered on a Saturday morning in June to plant Wild Blue Indigo, Marsh Blazing Star, Compass Plants, Bee Balm, Orange Butterfly Weed, Prairie Dock and more. These are native plants that adapt well to the local climate. The garden is already attracting birds and butterflies.

**R**ight now the garden is immature and will not fully bloom until next year. However, the new plants are settling in very nicely

continued on page 12

continued from page 11

by setting down healthy roots and building up strength in their stems.

**T**he purpose of this garden is to demonstrate that nature can provide a cost effective, safe and beautiful way of handling storm water. Stop by and take a look at the new rain garden!

Watershed Pages

## Rogue River Watershed and Purple Loosestrife-

**N**ow is the Moment for action! If you live within the Rogue River Watershed or in Cannon or Grattan townships it is the moment in time to report infestations of Purple Loosestrife on or near your property. You will find some of the areas where you have seen Purple Loosestrife no longer have the plant and that is because of the success of previous inoculations with beetles. One of the most outstanding success spots is the wetland east of Meijer's on Ten Mile Road. This 5 acre wetland three years ago was extensively invested with the loosestrife plant. Now there is none, absolutely no flowering plants to be seen.

**W**hy? Because the PL is a non native invasive plant that can alter the natural environment of the shoreline of a wetland, lake or stream.

## Purple Loosestrife is an unwanted

beauty in our midst. This statement so definitely describes the non-native Purple Loosestrife wetland plant in North America (read below).

**T**he Rogue River Watershed Council is in its third yearly effort of organizing volunteers to spread the PL control beetle (*Gallerucella calmariensis*) from beetle infested areas to un-infested areas. What is needed right now is the location of sites that are infested with PL and NOT infested with any beetles. Of course these sites are easy to locate now because the PL is in full bloom. Bob Stegmier of the Dwight Lydell chapter on the Izaak Walton League of America is working with the RRWC by

continued on page 13

continued from page 12

locating these sites and then co-coordinating the collection of beetles from infested sites and moving them to un-infested sites. Because a lot of the RRW area is in your "back forty" or "back yard" and not visible from a road and therefore unknown to us, your cooperation is extremely important in locating these areas and of course getting your permission for placing beetles in these sites. Please report these sites to:

**Robert Stegmier  
at 866-4769 or by  
email to [rstegmier@ameritech.net](mailto:rstegmier@ameritech.net).**

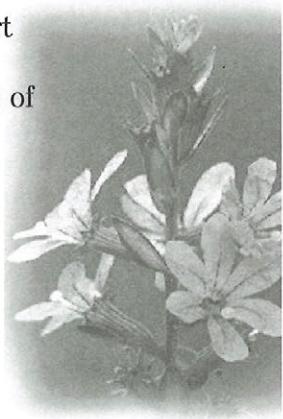
Giving your name, street address, phone number where it is located on your property.

**O**f course it is always appreciated if you say you are available to help next May is the collection and distribution of beetles. For sites in Cannon and Grattan please report them to Jim Biener of the Ike's at 361-1353.

## RRWC and Purple Loosestrife Summary of Activity and Volunteerism. Background:

**T**he Rogue River Watershed roughly encompasses 7 Mile Road on the south, from Casnovia and Kent City on the west to Sand Lake and Myers Lake Ave. on the east and 120th street in Newaygo County. A watershed encompasses all of the water drainage that goes into a major stream like the Rogue River.

**W**e are now on the third year of volunteer efforts in collecting the *Gallerucella calmariensis* beetle and relocating the beetles to new areas that are infested with the non-native invasive wetland plant Purple Loosestrife. The very good news is that this volunteer effort is proving to be very successful. This beetle is a proven control (see below) of the non-native very intrusive Purple Loosestrife wetland plant and does NOT feed on any native plants. It continues to be very interesting of the number of folks that raise the question about the possibility of the beetle damaging native plants. So while it may seem redundant to repeat it, it is necessary to explain that the beetle only eats the Purple Loosestrife leaves and in the larvae stage they eat the



continued on page 14

continued from **Watershed page 13**

blossoms seriously damaging the plant seed production and on nothing else. Also that the beetles do not kill all of the PL plants but weaken the plant extensively and that allows native plants to maintain a healthy Michigan wetland system.

**T**his is one invasive species program that has rewarding results. It is one where we can at least see the light at the end of the tunnel. Also it is one that doesn't cost much money just some volunteer hours. These hours are spent in the neighborhood wetlands in May when the spring weather is pleasant and the sounds are soothing. One area that appears to have complete success is the wetland about one half mile east of Meijer's on the north side of ten mile road. When we put beetles in this wetland in the spring two years ago it had an extensive infestation of loosestrife and now there is not a single blossom to be seen. The native wetland plants have re-established themselves as one can imagine to the delight of native fauna. Other successfully inoculated spots are Barkley Creek & Lake Bella Vista Dam on Blakely Ave., in a road ditch (small stream coming from Silver

Lake (Cannon Township) at the SW corner of 9 Mile Rd and Myers Lake Ave., in an area NW of the intersection of

11 Mile Rd and Friske Dr.

**N**ow, last but not least, please seriously consider joining, as an individual, YOUR Rogue River Water Council for a small fee of \$10 a year. Join now and volunteer soon to protect the watershed you live in.

**Mail your contribution to  
Andy Bowman RRWC c/o  
Grand Valley Metro Council  
40 Pearl Street, Ste., 410  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503.**

Andy will also answer any and all of your questions.

*Bob Stegmier, RRWC and Dwight Lydell Chapter, Izaak Walton League of America.*



# Checked out Cannon Township's Website Lately?

If you haven't, you are missing a lot of valuable information. Here are a few of the features to pay attention to:

## Breaking News

**O**n the home page is a section in the middle of the page that has important announcements. Currently, there is information about closing a section of the trail for construction and a notice about a new feature we have that allows you to search minutes, agendas, and ordinances to find the information you seek. Sometimes we have so much we want to share that we can't fit it all on there. When that happens, click on the "more" link and that

will take you to a page with all the breaking news listed. Please note that all the headlines are links to more information.

## Survey

**A**lso on the home page on the right side beneath the list of calendar events you will often find an online survey. Click on that link and it will take you to a survey page with a question, several options for answers, and a place to make comments. At the present time there is a survey about the frequency of use of the Township Trail.

## Action Center

**T**he Action Center allows citizens to maintain an open dialogue with their community government. Citizens can fill out and submit forms online to report incidents, provide feedback, request tours and more. Your submission will be reviewed by the appropriate staff member

and handled accordingly. We hope to continue to add more forms to this page. You can get to the Action Center from the Site Tools option on the home page.

## Minutes on Demand

**T**his is the newest feature on our website. You can continue to find minutes and agendas from the Site Tools option on the home page. However, there are now links to this new feature from the Breaking News section, the left side of the home page under "Information and Services," and on the Clerk's page. Minutes on Demand allows you to search for a topic of interest in any of the documents – agendas, minutes, notices, ordinances – on this page.

**Cannon Township's Website is**  
**[www.cannontwp.org](http://www.cannontwp.org)**  
**Please make us one of your favorites.**

## Clerk's Corner...

By Bonnie Blackledge



## Millage Election

**I**t was a big surprise to me when I heard that Rockford Schools was going to hold a special election on **November 3rd**, since township clerks usually don't have elections on odd years other than the annual May one.

**T**he ballot issue is a proposal to allow the school district to levy the statutory rate of 18 mills on all property except principal residence and other property exempted by law for a period of five years. This is actually a renewal of a millage that expires with the 2009 tax levy. This is the only issue on the ballot and is **only for our voters in the Rockford School District.**

**I**f you are on our permanent Absent Voter list, you should have received an application in the mail by now. If you would like a ballot, please return your signed application promptly. If you will be out of the community on November 3rd, please contact Nancy (874-6966) for an AV application.

**F**or more information on the millage question, check with **Rockford Public Schools.**

## Cemetery Fencing

**T**he Cemetery Committee recommended fencing on the north and west sides of the Old Bostwick Lake Cemetery and the east, south, and west sides of the New Bostwick Lake Cemetery. The Board approved the low bid and construction should begin in October. The purpose of this fencing is to designate the boundaries and keep motorized vehicles from entering the properties.

**F**or those who walk around Bostwick Lake, there will be openings in the fence to allow pedestrians to pass through. We are also hoping to clean up and enhance the area in the northwest corner of the Old Bostwick Lake Cemetery through an Eagle Scout project.

continued from page 16

## Records Management

Beginning this September, the Clerk's Office will be undertaking a monumental project. Using the State of Michigan's approved Retention Schedule for Townships, Cannon Township will be creating a system that will comply with State recommendations on how records should be maintained, stored, and destroyed. I am anticipating the project will take at least a year, but should result in a system that will be an efficient way to keep all records in a consistent, orderly manner. My goal is for easy retrieval of any record and to develop standard operating procedures that can be used by all departments.



## Trail News

**Trail Closing – Beginning Monday, September 21st** a section of the Cannon Trail will be closed for repairs. Please stay away from the section that runs west from Sunfish Lake Avenue to Dix Farms. Construction should only take two weeks. We appreciate your patience during this repair. We also ask you not to try to go around this section by trespassing on the neighbors' properties.

## 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

## September 2009

Sept 28 ..... Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm  
Sept 30 ..... **COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP** – Township Center  
9:00 am – 6:00 pm

## October 2009

Oct 1 – 3 ..... **COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP** – Township Center  
Thursday (1st) 9:00 am – 6:00 pm  
Friday (2nd) 9:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Sat. (3rd) 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Oct 1 ..... **Quarterly Sewer Bills Mailed**

Oct 5 ..... Last Day to Register for November 3 School Election

Oct 8 ..... Bear Creek Watershed Council Meeting – 6:00 pm

Oct 12 ..... Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm

Oct 13 ..... Planning Commission Meeting – 6:00 pm

Oct 19 ..... Recreation Committee Meeting – 4:00 pm

Oct 20 ..... Zoning Board of Appeals – 6:00 pm

Oct 22 - 24.. Leaf Burning with Permit from Fire Department

Oct 26 ..... Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm

Oct 29 - 31.. Leaf Burning with Permit from Fire Department

Oct 31 ..... Office Open for Absentee Ballots 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Quarterly Sewer Bills Due**

**HALLOWEEN TREATS**

(Both Fire Stations - 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm)

## November 2009

Nov 2 ..... Office Open for Absentee Voting until 4:00 pm

Nov 3 ..... **SCHOOL ELECTION – POLLS OPEN**  
7:00 am – 8:00 pm

Nov 5 - 7..... Leaf Burning with Permit from Fire Department

Nov 9 ..... Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm

Nov 10 ..... Planning Commission Meeting – 6:00 pm

Nov 12 – 14 Leaf Burning with Permit from Fire Department



Nov 17..... Zoning Board of Appeals – 6:00 pm

Nov 23..... Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm

Nov 26, 27.. **OFFICE CLOSED - Thanksgiving Holiday**

## December 2009

Dec 1 ..... Winter Taxes (2009) Mailed to Resident

2010 Dog Licenses at Township Office through March 1, 2010

Dec 8 ..... Planning Commission Meeting 6:00 pm

Dec 14 ..... Township Board Meeting – 7:00 pm

Dec 15 ..... Zoning Board of Appeals – 6:00 pm

Dec 16 ..... Board of Review – 10:00 am

Dec 24, 25... **OFFICE CLOSED - Christmas Holiday**

Dec 31 ..... **OFFICE CLOSED (AT NOON) New Year's Holiday**

(Drop Box Available for Payments)

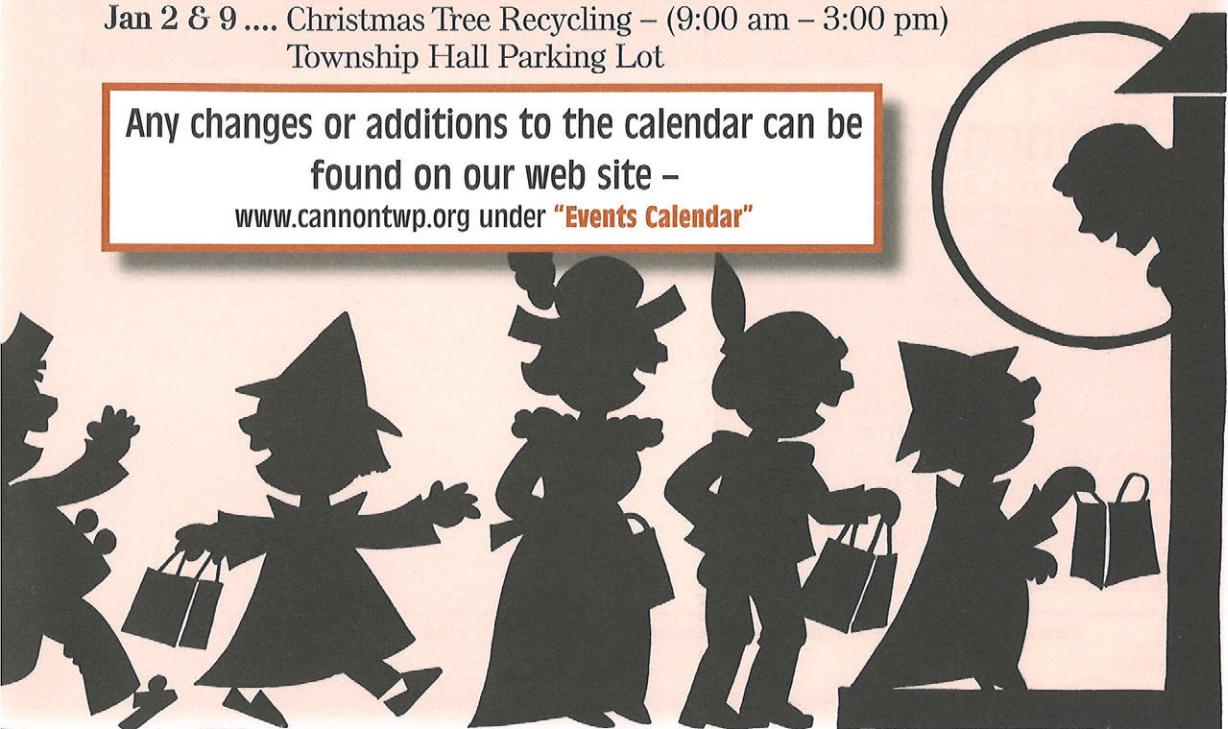
Jan 1 ..... **OFFICE CLOSED - New Year's Holiday**

Jan 2 & 9 .... Christmas Tree Recycling – (9:00 am – 3:00 pm)

Township Hall Parking Lot

Any changes or additions to the calendar can be  
found on our web site –

[www.cannontwp.org](http://www.cannontwp.org) under "Events Calendar"



## 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@hotmail.com  
Trustee Steve Grimm: .....steve@slgrimmpc.com  
Trustee Rob McBrien: .....Rj.mc'brien@helmholdt.com  
Deputy Clerk, Nancy Popma: .....hancyp@cannontwp.org  
Deputy Treasurer, Miliissa 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  
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

## Cannon Township

A Historic Rural Community

### 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

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ROCKFORD, MI 49341  
PERMIT NO.1

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

**Cannon Township**  
6878 Belding Road, NE • Rockford, MI 49341  
The Cannon Communicator, Fall 2009