

Lake Township News

On the Sandy Shores of Lake Huron from Gagetown Road to Oak Beach County Park

Summer

June 2006

Firemen's Memorial

On your next trip into Caseville, don't forget to take a moment to stop at the Caseville Area Fire Hall and visit the Fireman's Memorial. Our volunteer firemen and women raised several thousand dollars through fundraising efforts and donations in order to build this memorial. It is something our community can be proud of and we commend the Caseville Firemen's Association for their hard work.

Also, Ben Willenberg is our new Fire Chief following the retirement of Ken Hill. We appreciate his commitment to our fire department. □

Lake Township Website is a Hit!

If you haven't already found it, the Lake Township staff encourages you to check out our website. Since www.laketownship.net was launched in January of 2005, it has had over 2000 visitors. The following is list of some of the information available at your fingertips:

Zoning Ordinance - Minutes of Boards & Commissions - Meeting Agendas - Change of Address Forms - Applications for Garage Sales - Boat Hoists - Temporary Use Permits (i.e. Campers) - Important Notices - Newsletters

If you can't find what you're looking for, please let us know. You can email us at info@laketownship.net. □

Zoning Ordinance

The Lake Township Planning Commission is completing work on the Shoreline Protection Project which was funded through a Coastal Zone Management Grant. With the assistance of the Michigan Sea Grant Program through the University of Michigan and Michigan State, the Planning Commission sought public input on key issues within Lake Township. Using the results of last year's survey, the Planning Commission is currently working with Land Design Collaborative, a landscape architectural firm, to finalize the Interim Zoning Ordinance. It is anticipated that public hearings on the Zoning Ordinance will be held later this summer. □

2006 Elections

Our County Commissioner, Mike Gage, is retiring from public office this year. There are several candidates running for the District 7 County Commissioner seat. Also on the August Primary ballot will be a renewal proposal for the Lake Township Road/Gypsy Moth millage. The primary will be held on August 8th and the General Election will be held on November 7th. If you are interested in receiving an Absentee Ballot, please contact our Clerk to request an application. For new residents, registration deadlines are 28 days prior to election day. □

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From our Zoning & Building Department...

Surveys are required for most construction projects on lakefront properties. Surveys must show all existing improvements and also include the Ordinary High Water Mark, which for Lake Township zoning purposes is the Federal Regulatory line of **581.5'** above sea level.

Land Use Permits and most Building Permits require some form of plan review. For construction projects in excess of 150 square feet, and all construction projects on lakefront properties, site plan review is done by the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission holds regular monthly meetings the 4th Wednesday of the month.

If you are anticipating a construction project, plan ahead in order to allow enough time for the plan review.

Our Zoning Administrator, Arnie Russell, is available at the Township Hall on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10 AM to Noon to assist you in the site plan process.

Our Building Inspector, Tory Geilhart, is available at the Township Hall on Wednesday and Friday from 10 AM to Noon to assist you with building code concerns.

Please take advantage of their expertise with your zoning and building questions.

Boat Hoists ID Tags ...

Don't forget to **register your boat hoist and dock** with the Township. Registration applications are available at the Township offices or at the township website. Failure to register may result in unnecessary fees and costs.

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Our recycling program is run by volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the Township Hall at 989-856-4867.

Reminders...

Recycling at the Township Transfer Station is available to all township residents, even if you have curbside trash pickup. There is no cost although we request items are clean and sorted. Please help us to reduce and reuse!

Please notify the township when your primary **mailing address** changes, whether you have moved or changed to a post office box. Address changes must be in writing and signed. Address change forms are available at the township website.

Gypsy Moth caterpillars ... Check out our website to verify what type of pest you have. There are other common oak defoliators in Michigan that look similar. If you do have gypsy moth caterpillars, please contact our office and provide your address. Based on last fall's scouting by MSU Extension affiliates, it was recommended that no spraying be done for 2006.

**As printed in the December 2005
Newsletter:**

Neighborly Advice

Getting along ...

Those of us working at the Township Hall have noticed an increase in complaints over the past several years. Although we are here to serve our residents and assist with problems that may arise in our community, we would like to emphasize the importance of communication with your neighbors prior to asking the Township to get involved. Many situations can be amicably resolved if the parties involved discuss the issue among themselves. If you need your neighbor's primary address in order to make contact, this is available at the Township Hall.

If all else fails, please feel free to contact our offices and request our assistance. Please remember, though, that we cannot assist residents in civil disputes. □

A series of informational meetings were held at the Lake Township Hall during the week of May 8th, 2006 concerning the issues listed below. Agendas summarizing these issues and questions posed to residents are posted on the township website (www.laketownship.net). If you do not have internet access, please stop by the Township Hall to pick up a copy.

Police Protection

The subject of the first of three informational meetings held at the Lake Township Hall on May 9th, 2006 was police protection. Some questions posed to residents were:

Does the community want full-time or part-time police protection?

Does the community feel it is necessary to have police patrol during the summer months, only?

How many hours per week and what time of day would residents like to see police patrol?

Fourteen township residents attended this meeting to ask questions and express their concerns.

The Township has contracted with the Huron County Sheriff's Department for a patrol car to service the township for the three summer holiday weekends and the two Cheeseburger weekends in August. Following the Memorial Day Weekend, the township received positive feedback from some residents who witnessed the increased police presence.

If residents are in favor of increased police presence on a regular basis within the Township, a millage proposal will be necessary to fund this service. The deadline for placing a ballot proposal on the November ballot is mid August. □

Library Services

The second informational meeting held on May 10th focused on library services. The Pigeon District Library has informed the Lake Township Board that in order to continue to provide service to Lake Township residents, the Township will need to either become part of the district and pay the district millage rate or offer to support the library via a millage of .2 mills.

Caseville Superintendent Dan Tighe also offered the idea of a Caseville District Library connected with the Caseville School, although no proposed costs were presented.

In 2004, Township residents turned down a .2 mill library millage in a tie vote. □

Township Cemetery & Township Hall

The last of the three meetings focused on a township cemetery and township hall expansion.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, Trustee Rose Ann Remer has advocated the need for a township cemetery. Many residents have expressed their support in this endeavor. The township is looking further into this idea.

Also discussed was the fact that the township staff is outgrowing our current facility and we are looking into options for expansion. □

If you were unable to attend any of these meetings and have any opinion on any of these issues, your township officials want to hear from you. Please call the Township offices, talk to your officials, mail us your thoughts or email the township at info@laketownship.net.

TOWNSHIP SCHEDULE

OFFICE HOURS

THE TOWNSHIP HALL OFFICES ARE OPEN **MONDAY – FRIDAY FROM 10:00 AM UNTIL 2:00 PM.** OFFICIALS' OFFICE HOURS VARY. IT IS BEST TO CALL AHEAD OR MAKE AN APPOINTMENT IF YOU NEED TO SPEAK TO A TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL.

TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETINGS – TOWNSHIP HALL

TIME – 7:30 PM (6:30 PM DECEMBER – FEBRUARY)
DAY – THIRD MONDAY OF THE MONTH – LAST MONDAY IN MARCH

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS – TOWNSHIP HALL

TIME – 7:00 PM
DAY – FOURTH WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH EXCEPT NOVEMBER & DECEMBER
WORKSHOP MEETINGS MAY BE SCHEDULED AT OTHER TIMES AND POSTED.

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – TOWNSHIP HALL

TIME - 7:30 PM ON WEDNESDAYS UPON APPEAL APPLICATION

FIRE BOARD (CAFFA) MEETS EVERY FIRST & THIRD WEDNESDAY AT 7:00 PM AT THE FIRE HALL IN CASEVILLE.

TOWNSHIP BOARD

SUPERVISOR/ASSESSOR – CLAY KELTERBORN

CLERK - VALERIE MCCALLUM

TREASURER – DOROTHY FISCHER

TRUSTEES – ROBERT HYZER
ROSE ANN REMER

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR – ARNOLD RUSSELL

BUILDING INSPECTOR – TORY GEILHART

SECRETARY/DEPUTY CLERK – KAREN SIENKIEWICZ

LAKE TOWNSHIP HALL

PHONE: (989) 856-4867

FAX: (989) 856-9710

WEBSITE: www.laketownship.net

LOCATION ADDRESS: 4988 W. KINDE ROAD
CASEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48725

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 429
CASEVILLE, MI 48725-0429

TRANSFER STATION HOURS

DAVE KING, ATTENDANT

MAY – OCTOBER SATURDAY & SUNDAY 9 AM TO 4 PM

NOVEMBER – APRIL SUNDAY 9 AM TO 4 PM

(EXCEPT CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS' DAY)

Burning permit - Call 856-9198

2006 Recycling Schedule

The following dates are on Sundays from 10:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M.

Please make sure that all recyclables are clean. **CLEAR GLASS ONLY – BROWN OR GREEN GLASS NO LONGER ACCEPTED.** A list of acceptable items is available upon request at the Transfer Station or on our website at www.laketownship.net.

Please **DO NOT** drop off recyclables at the Transfer Station on any dates other than the following:

July 16th

August 20th

September 17th

October 15th

November 19th

December 17th

Leaves, grass and tree trimmings are accepted at the Transfer Station during regular hours at no charge.