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Inside this issue:
• Township names board to pursue community center upgrade
• Major road construction means program graphics

Shelby Township Supervisor's Report
Dear Residents:
This is the first of three articles in this report, but the most important program to that it includes a complete overview of the Township's operations, staff, programs and services. It is followed by three articles:
• In Shelby Township, we are proud of our staff and the work they do every day. It is a privilege to serve the residents of Shelby Township and to work with them to improve the quality of life in our community. I hope this report will provide you with a better understanding of the work that we do and the challenges we face as we work to improve the quality of life in our community.

Board of Trustees:
Rick Stathakis, Supervisor
Stan Guel, Clerk
Richard Olson, Treasurer

ROAD CLOSED

LOOK INSIDE:
For the latest Shelby Township Supervisor's Report

Explosion, house fire under investigation

BY SARAH WOJCIK
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SHELBY TOWNSHIP — At approximately 5 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 26, a loud explosion at a residence near 26 Mile Road and Van Dyke Avenue startled neighbors.

In a matter of minutes, flames from the explosion, which originated in a shed next to the garage, spread to the garage and then the house, although firefighters extinguished the flames before they could seriously damage the home's interior, Fire Chief Jim Swinkowski said.

"The fire spread to the garage, the cars, up into the attic and through the roof probably even before the 911 call was made," Swinkowski said. "Our guys got there and made an aggressive attack on the exterior, because the roof was so unstable. We were able to keep it more or less contained to one side of the house."

He said 14 firefighters were able to preserve most of the house, and that the homeowners were thankful to be able to go in and retrieve their valuables and belongings.

The homeowners were at a nearby shopping center at the time of the fire, Swinkowski said. He said that the family dog,



Photo by Sarah Wojcik

A Sept. 26 fire compromised much of a house and two vehicles in the 8000 block of East Pearson Street, near Van Dyke Avenue and 26 Mile Road.

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Board authorizes Community Center environmental study

BY SARAH WOJCIK
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FIRST PHASE IS TO TEST FOR ASBESTOS

SHELBY TOWNSHIP — Tasked with making some progress on addressing the Shelby Community Center within the

next year, the Community Center Advisory Board suggested an environmental study to evaluate the building's needs.

The Shelby Township Board of Trustees unanimously approved phase one of the environmental study, which is to prepare a

complete asbestos inspection and report, at a cost of \$2,100.

Trustee Paula Filar, who sits on the CCAB, also included in her motion that if the company hired to test the building

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Study

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for asbestos finds positive results, phase two of the environmental study would take place at a cost not to exceed \$6,500.

"If, during environmental testing, the company chosen finds that there is asbestos, by state law it will require another evaluation, and that one is more costly," Filar said.

Township Engineer Carol Thurber, also a member of the CCAB, said ASTI Environmental will test the building for asbestos, as well as file Freedom of Information Act requests to learn the history of the building and site on which the center rests in order to determine the feasibility of the building.

The CCAB, created during a Sept. 1 board meeting, also includes Department of Public Works Director David Miller, Township Engineer Fazal Khan, Trustee Doug Wozniak and Parks, Recreation and Maintenance Department Director Joe Youngblood.

In a Sept. 30 interview, Thurber said ASTI Environmental planned to start its inspection Oct. 2.

"We asked them for a three-week turnaround," she said.

Township Attorney Rob Huth recently drafted an agreement between Shelby Township and 41-A District Court Chief Judge Michael Maceroni to keep court cases in Shelby Township, as opposed to Sterling Heights, in return for progress on the building within 12 months.

"Everybody in the community said addressing the Community Center needs was most important — that's why it's No. 1 in the top 10 priorities," Shelby Township Supervisor Rick Stathakis said. "We've actually made a lot of progress this year."

The Shelby Community Center encompasses the senior center, the Shelby TV studio and offices, the library, and the 41-A District Court.

Call Staff Writer Sarah Wojcik at (586) 498-1029.