

Ephraim Update

Winter 2009

10005 Norway Road - PO Box 138 - Ephraim WI 54211
Phone: (920) 854-5501 - Fax: (920) 854-2072

Website: ephraim-wisconsin.com
E-Mail: office@ephraim-wisconsin.com

A Word from the President...John Cox

Greetings everyone,

Over the course of the last year, I've often wondered about where our village would be without all the wonderful organizations that proudly call Ephraim their home. We as a community are truly blessed. Organizations such as the Hardy, the Foundation, the Ephraim Yacht Club, Peninsula Preschool, American Folklore Theatre, Peninsula Music Festival, the Ephraim Business Council, Ephraim Moravian Church, Bethany Lutheran Church, Unitarian Church, Ephraim Firefighter Association, Ephraim Men's Club... Did I miss one? No doubt. It is quite a list. It amazes me how many different groups our small but mighty village support and how they in turn support all of us. Think about it, the countless hours of time that the staff and volunteers of these organizations put forth are staggering.

Here are some mentionable events from the last summer.

*The Ephraim Yacht Club's hosting of the North American Championships went off without a hitch. Some of the out-of-town participants stated they loved our community and hoped to come back every year. Some of those visiting sailors went as far as to say that the EYC should host this event every year.

*I have to mention the Firehouse Museum run by the Firefighters Association. Although the building is complete, the interior is still a work in progress. The Museum is already starting to become self sufficient. If you haven't stopped in yet, the next time you see the doors up, pull over and walk in. Scott will be happy to have a chat with you and show you around.

*How many of you attended the concerts in the park on Monday nights? This weekly summer event was held at the Harborside Park gazebo. It has become very popular with residents and visitors alike. My only wish is that it wasn't competing with Village of Ephraim meetings that also are scheduled on the second and fourth Mondays of the each month. Well, at least the two concerts per month I could attend were enjoyable. It was great to see everyone there.

*This year's Fyr Bal was another huge success. The weather was incredible, the crowds were happy, the food was excellent, and the chieftain ceremony was wonderful. Thanks to the Ephraim Business Council, its staff, and the village maintenance crew for their thorough planning and solid effort.

Speaking of the Business Council, I would like to visit the subject of room taxes. As you know, the village along with most of the rest of Door County enacted a room tax back in 2007. With support from Ephraim's innkeepers, the village saw the tax as a way to fuel our main economic engine by providing the Ephraim Business Council with much needed monetary resources to promote Ephraim tourism. The EBC presents a budget to the Village Board every year and in my estimation the EBC has used the money appropriately. It hired a tourism administrator, staffed its visitor center adequately, raised its promotional budget, and has initiated new events throughout the year for residents and visitors. The village provides 50% of the room tax it receives to the Business Council for their use and the remaining 50% goes into a fund that is used at the discretion of the Village Board for specific projects. I consider this to be a windfall and as long as the village continues to participate in room tax collection, it will perpetually realize the windfall. The present room tax fund balance exceeds \$130,000 dollars. The EBC budget is available for review at the village office.

I wish I could take the opportunity to individually mention all the great people who work behind the scenes to make our community the special place it is, but that would be nearly impossible. Whether you work with an organization, sit on a committee, or staff our village departments, your endless hours of diligent work are greatly appreciated by all of us. Each one of you makes up the backbone of our village. It really shows.

Happy Holidays,

John Cox

Dog Licenses

If you have a dog over 5 months of age, please license him or her with the Village. Not only is it the law, but if your dog is ever lost, the person who finds it will have a much easier time finding its owner. The form is available on the website www.ephraim-wisconsin.com

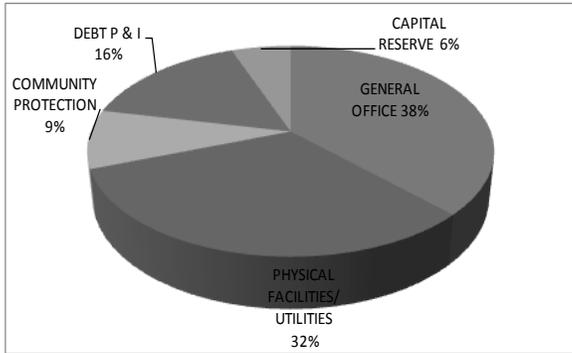
Room Tax Notice: Any innkeeper or other property owner offering transient rental (less than 30 days) must obtain a permit and collect 5.5% room tax (per WI State statute, local ordinance, and the Door County Tourism Zone Intergovernmental Agreement). For a permit application, call 920-854-6200 or e-mail dtourismzonecommission@gmail.com.

For the latest news -check out the Village website... There you will find highlights of this years activities, minutes from committee meetings, ordinance changes, and the new Community Comprehensive Plan.

ephraim-wisconsin.com

Ephraim Administrator – Charity Forsch

It has been a wonderful summer here in Ephraim and a beautiful fall. There are a few projects that have been completed that I would like to bring your attention to. This past summer we improved the beach by adding new sand and it has made a big difference. We haven't noticed the water pooling on the beach and the sand hasn't been blowing around as much, we also placed silt fencing up for the winter and hopefully we won't lose as much sand as we have in the past. The remodel of the Village Hall kitchen and bathroom has been a success. People have complimented the remodeling and it has been utilized all summer long. The new tennis courts opened in July and there has been a lot of people enjoying them. The major project for the winter/next



spring is the remodel of the Smith Garage to accommodate a year-round quarters for the Business Council. I am happy to report that on November 9, 2009 the Village Board passed the 2010 Budget. There will be no increase in the mill rate this year. We were able to be cautious with our expenses and ensure that we will be able to provide the same level of service. The mill rate will be \$3.28 per \$1,000, the same as 2009. I have included a breakdown of the expenses that make up the budget. If you are out and about and notice an area that you feel needs attention, please do not hesitate to give me a call at (920) 854-5501. We look forward to comments, whether they are positive or negative.

Have a wonderful winter and we look forward to seeing everyone in the spring.

Zoning/Building: Brent Bristol

November is here again, this time marking the three year anniversary of my arrival to the Village of Ephraim. For a person who loves the outdoors I can't tell you how fortunate I feel to have landed here.

Construction for the most part is still down in Ephraim, though, knock on wood, it is showing renewed signs of life. I have issued two permits for new homes this year with a third on the way.

The bulk of my time over the past year has been spent gaining experience as a residential building inspector, and, with the help of the plan committee, completing the Village of Ephraim's Comprehensive Plan. The completion of the comprehensive plan marks the end of a 5 year community project intended to map the direction the village wants to go over the next 20 years. The comprehensive plan can be viewed on our website, at the library, or upon request at the village administrative offices.

With winter around the corner and thoughts of next spring's building projects on the mind, please don't forget to give me a call. It is my job to work with you throughout the permitting process, and I strongly encourage anyone planning any building related activities to contact me as early in the process as you can.

Brent Bristol

Zoning Administrator/Building Inspector

bbristol@ephrain-wisconsin.com

Treasurer's notes:Introducing our new Treasurer—Erin Flottman

Born and raised in Door County. Erin graduated from St. Norbert College with a degree in Education. An experienced world traveler Erin has visited India and Africa, Erin is happy to be home in Door County near her family and friends.

As Treasurer, Erin will deposit, record and reconcile all financial transactions, manages bank and State Pool accounts and loan transactions, and assists in annual budgeting. As Administrative Assistant, researches, manages and troubleshoots all Village insurance policies and workers comp claims, submits Fire Department claims to the State, and handles other administrative duties.



Just a reminder: The first half of your taxes are due no later than January 31, 2010 and your check, along with your tax stub should be mailed to: Jay Zahn, Treasurer County of Door

421 Nebraska Street
Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

The Ephraim Business Council is excited to partner with the Ephraim Historical Foundation and the Ephraim Library Committee for the planning of Christmas in the Village on December 5. A notable addition to this year's event is a live reindeer display in Olson Park. Two adult reindeer, one baby reindeer, two elves, Santa and his sleigh will be on hand from 2:30-4:30pm. Activities in the Village Hall go from 1:00-4:30pm and include: Christmas storytelling, holiday crafts and cookie decorating and a Christmas Family Sing-A-Long. Holiday open houses and an ADVENTure at the Ephraim Moravian Church will put everyone in the Christmas spirit. Ephraim's 10th Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in Harborside Park completes the day at 4:30pm. Thank you to Ephraim businesses and community members for their donations to make the reindeer display possible! Visit the event online at www.Ephraim-DoorCounty.com



Library News : Linda Malmgren, Librarian

Now that the Door County pace is a little slower, we hope you'll visit your library more often. Our hours through Memorial Day are: Mon. 4:00-7:00, Tue. 10:00-2:00, Thur 2:00-5:00 and Sat. 10:00-2:00. Check out some of the new items on display that we purchased with Philip and Martha Cherry Estate Funds – books for children, teens and adults, as well as some DVDs and books on CD. A complete list is posted on the bulletin board. We did our best to include authors and types of materials that you mentioned on our 2008 library survey and we also purchased a wireless laptop computer for in-library use.

You might be interested in joining the book discussion group that meets once a month in the library on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. On December 1st, they will be discussing *Freedom at Midnight* by Larry Collins, a narrative about the independence of the Indian subcontinent in 1948. Also, **Big Read** is back for its third year. January 11- February 14, 2010, countywide we will be reading and discussing *My Antonia* by Willa Cather, an American classic that tells the stories of several immigrant families who move out to rural Nebraska to start new lives in America. Door County Library director, Becca Berger, will lead a discussion at the Ephraim Historical Foundation on February 3 at 11:00 a.m. Pick up a free copy of the book at any Door County Library.

If you have preschool or younger children, please let the librarian know so their names can be added to the library's birthday book program. A bookplate with the child's name will be put in a library book we've purchased in honor of their birthday each year until first grade.

Happy Reading to all of you!

WWTP: Plant Manager Dave Alberts

There is no better place than Ephraim to appreciate the beauty of the fall colors and the scenic surroundings. With winter just over the horizon the wastewater staff has been working diligently to prepare for the cold and snowy days ahead. If you are winterizing your home or business, please do not use ethylene glycol (automotive antifreeze) in your pipes. It has a negative effect on the wastewater system. RV antifreeze is a better choice.

If you have concerns regarding the water you drink, consider having your well water tested at the Ephraim Well water lab. Our proud staff can help you with all your well water testing needs.

Happy Holidays from
Dave, Brad & Russ

The Fire Chiefs Corner: by Niles Weborg

Do you have an Alarm System?

If you have an alarm system on your home, and especially if you are a seasonal resident and away from your Ephraim home on a regular basis, consider getting a Knox Box for the outside of your home. A Knox Box is a locked box that can only be opened by the Fire Department after starting up a fire truck and getting the code from the Com Emergency system. If you have a keyed alarm system, your key for the alarm would be inside this Box, retrievable only when there is an emergency call to your home. If you have a punch-key entry, the code would be inside this Box. Please contact our Fire Chief, Niles Weborg, at 854-4047 to ask more about this safety feature!

A seasonal few safety facts:

- 🔑 Turn Off all Holiday Lights when not attended.
- 🔑 Clean-out your chimney prior to first use.
- 🔑 A Burning Permit may be obtained only when there is snow on the ground.
- 🔑 Check the water level on your holiday tree twice per day.
- 🔑 Watch for Plows when entering or exiting a street.
- 🔑 Never leave your fire place burning when you leave your home.
- 🔑 If the weather is bad don't hit the roads if you don't have to.
- 🔑 Never ever use your stove to heat your house.
- 🔑 Check the batteries in your smoke detector and install a carbon monoxide detector.



Marina : Harbormaster Keith Lindstrand

The Marinas are closed for the season, but this year has been financially very good! The weather though has not been great.

You will notice some construction at Firehouse Marina by Port-A-Pier to help eliminate winter damage and stabilize the fingerling piers on the North Pier. Don't be surprised to see the finger piers in the parking lot (I have approved their overnite parking). Have a great winter.

The Village Office.... By Sue Shallow

Well it's that time of the year again... At the time we think about family, friends, shopping, and Holiday parties it's hard to remember the little things please make sure we send your sewer bills and tax statements go to the appropriate places, give us your winter (or new) address. Beginning in January 2010 Sewer bills will look slightly different, instead of the gray on gray perforated cards they will be a light yellow and white.

Plan Committee

John Cox
Jim Stollenwerk
Paul Flottman
Walt Fisher
Roy Elquist
Kathy Kirkland
Fred Bridenhagen

Historic Preservation

Norma Hager
Kathy Kirkland
Jim Stollenwerk
Niles Weborg
Paul Burton

Wastewater

Karen McMurtry
Marc Paulson
Gary Kiracofe
Joan Fitzpatrick
Tim Nelson

Physical Facilities

Sue Sherman
Jane Olson
Eric Kordon
Diane Kirkland

Airport Committee

Martin Franke
Mike McCutcheon
Arvid Munson

Community Protection

Jane Olson
Tad Dukehart
Keith Krist
George Reynolds
Mike McCutcheon

Coastal Management

John Cox
Steve Chomeau
Steve Sauter
Tim Nelson
Paul Flottman

Library Committee

Jane Olson
Diane Fardig
Windsor McCutcheon
Anne Van de Ven
Diane Kirkland
Linda Malmgren

Board of Appeals

Karen McMurtry
Doug Schwartz
Kate Houston
Debbie Eckert
Sue Sherman
Jon Kordon , Alt.
Doug Schultz, Alt.

A big thank you to those listed below who have offered their service on various Village Committees. If you are interested in serving on a committee, contact President John Cox at jcox@ephrain-wisconsin.com

Ephraim Business Council In The News: Rachel Willems

The Ephraim Business Council has kept busy in 2009! May-October Ephraim's waterfront Visitor Information Center welcomed over 15,000 visitors. The EBC continues to serve its visitors, members and the community with a temporary Winter Visitor Information Center at 10329 Water Street, open Friday-Sunday, November-April. This year's 45th Annual Fyr Bal Festival landed on the most beautiful of June days and saw better than ever attendance. This summer's Evenings in Ephraim promotional series was a hit, with Harborside Park concerts routinely drawing crowds of 200+ and 28 businesses open for late-night shopping, dining and activities in Ephraim. The EBC eagerly anticipates Christmas in the Village on December 5, and is working to make it a fun, family-friendly wintertime event. Please visit us online at www.Ephraim-DoorCounty.com

Foundation News: Kelli Torpey

“By popular demand, Ephraim Historical Society is hosting our annual Ephraim Holiday Potluck on Thursday, December 3, from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, at the Ephraim Village Hall.

Please join us to celebrate our community, the holiday season and great food and entertainment! Rsvp by Monday, November 30 is requested (for food & beverages) but please come, even if it's a last-minute decision!

For further information, email Kelli Torpey at ktorpey@ephraim.org. or call us (920) 854-9688.”

News From the Hardy Gallery: Melissa Ripp

As our days become shorter and the brilliant reds, oranges and yellows of the leaves on the trees give way to give way to the shimmering whites of winter, so too does the Hardy transition from a bustling destination to a time of reflection on the year gone by. It is now time to take stock of our achievements over the course of the last twelve months (a few that we'd like to share with you have been outlined below) and begin preparations for the 2009-2010 season. As an Ephraim resident, we hope you see the value of this one-of-a-kind “gem” that is the Hardy Gallery and the value of the work we do in the community and beyond! We...

- Welcomed 12,704 visitors this season, an 8.4% increase from attendance in 2008
- Presented three exhibits this season -- the annual Juried Exhibit, Collection Invitational, and *The Hardy Celebrates: A Century of Inspiration*, an exhibit dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of Peninsula State Park
- Organized the widely popular Community Mosaic Project, a community outreach program. We sold all 351 canvases and raised a net total of \$7336.70. Likewise, our “Hawaii on the Hardy” raffle raised \$9,940 -- with \$1,000 going to Door CANcer, Inc., a fellow local non-profit that helps families with cancer in their time of need.
- Organized Art Camp, a component of Gibraltar's Migrant Education Program, created to serve the education needs of ten migrant children as well as Exposure to Creativity (ETC), a series of workshops and mentor program that serve all Gibraltar High School students and aimed at exposing the students to potential arts-oriented careers with the help of Door County's own professional artists.
- Received numerous grants this season from a variety of local and regional granting agencies, including a \$20,000 Wisconsin Arts Board (WAB) grant as part of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act to support arts jobs in the state.

Happy Holidays from the Hardy!



Just a reminder about holiday hours for the Village Administration Office:

Thanksgiving—Office Closed

Day after Thanksgiving—Office Closed

Christmas Eve—Office Open 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

Christmas Day—Office Closed

New Year's Eve—Office Open 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

New Year's Day—Office Closed



The Village of Ephraim
P O Box 138
Ephraim, WI 54211