

Gibraltar News

UPCOMING ELECTIONS!!

Gibraltar Town Board

Chairman

Merrell P. Runquist

Supervisors:

Myrvin Somerhalder
Richard Skare
Brian Merkel
Steve Sohns

Town Office Hours:

Monday-Friday
10:00 a.m. to
3:00 p.m.

Phone Number:
920-868-1714

Fax Number:
920-868-9425

The Town of Gibraltar will have two elections this fall. The first will be Tuesday, September 9, 2008 which is the Partisan Primary.

The second will be the General Election on Tuesday, November 4, 2008.

As always the fall elections are the busy elections. So please allow extra time in case

there is a line or a need to complete another form for some reason.

At the General Election in November we will have an area in the hall where the school children can experience voting. I think it's very important to have the children interested in voting at an early age. Please take the time to talk with your children regarding issues and parties. We hope to make

this a good experience for the children, so if it gets a little crowded or loud please bear with us for the promise of more future electors!

Gibraltar Town Board meetings are held every first Wednesday of the month in the meeting room of the Gibraltar Town Center.

Town Office Report

Just a note to let you know that we really enjoy our new office space. I don't think there's a week that goes by that a comment isn't made about how nice we have it. We get a lot of compliments from other communities regarding

our facility. We also have another phone line for the office. This allows one line for the fax and two for receiving calls. We have voice mail as there are times when we are on the phone or talking to a customer at the counter

and cannot answer. This allows you to leave a message and we'll get back to you as promptly as we can. Again, we would like to sincerely thank the taxpayers for our beautiful facility.

Sharon and Beth

Plan Commission Continues Work

Pursuant to Wisconsin's "Smart Growth" Statute, the Town of Gibraltar's 20-Year Comprehensive Plan was adopted by ordinance by the Town Board in July 2004 after four years of preparation by the Plan Commission and subcommittees comprised of more than fifty citizens. This plan represents the Town's commitment to the long-term planning needs of the community and provides the Town with a framework for preserving its character and natural resources while allowing for controlled, orderly development.

The Planning Commission and Town Board have worked since then to implement this plan. Accordingly, the Town has been rezoned, Blossomberg Cemetery has been expanded, an historic character preservation district and recommended design standards within it have been established, engineering of the official Town map has started, and best practices for lighting within the Town have been adopted. Work continues on ground and surface water protection, the Town map, storm water runoff, affordable housing, and designation of future parks and roadways. The Plan

Commission also reviews and advises the Town Board concerning all conditional use and zoning variance applications.

David Boyd, Linda Merline, Jim Jauquet, Andy Coulson and Tom Birmingham presently serve on the Plan Commission. The Commission meets at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday at the Town Center. Your participation is welcome and encouraged.

EPHRAIM GIBRALTAR AIRPORT NOW AND THEN



The small building on the right is the old airport building that was acquired in approximately 1995. It served us well for thirteen years. However, this year a new office/storage building was built including public restrooms. The airport office is the front window area on the left. The right side of the building is used for storing the large tractor that is used for removal snow at the airport. The Town of Gibraltar is very proud of all the renovation that has been done in the town over the past few years.

. . . .from your Parks and Lands Committee

Our community is growing with each passing year and our parks are accommodating more and more activities and visits from our tourists. Plans are under way to build a kiosk in the Fish Creek Park similar in materials to the beautiful gazebo donated by the Pat Spielman family.

This kiosk will include a map of the park, along with the history of the land, and space for information on invasive species and environmental topics.

Invasive species is a problem in this township as well as elsewhere and we all need to be vigilant helping to identify and eradicate the invaders. Invasive species are extremely detrimental. They reproduce at an extremely rapid pace and overtake all other plants, thus choking out the wild flowers and plants that sustain animal habitat and that we have come to know and enjoy.

This spring we have a large infestation of garlic mustard at

Sunset Beach Park. Each plant produces thousands of seeds and if not eradicated it is as good as reseeding for 7 years hence. We need volunteers to help us with this problem. If you can, please call the Town Office and arrangements will be made to accept any offer of help. It is always satisfying to know that you have been a part in caring for the environment.

Clark Park should look beautiful this year as a sprinkling system has been installed. The extreme drought last year made us acutely aware of the need. Tourists and citizens have sat on the park benches and enjoyed the beauty of nature since the early 1900,s.

A man of great vision and generosity, George M. Clark donated the land as park to the Fish Creek community.

The Town is having the stonewalls at Clark Park and Sunset Beach repaired. This will be a three year process.

We hope all of you have time to enjoy the parks our Town provides. If you see any need or have concerns, please let us know by contacting the Town Office.



WATER TESTING KITS

Water testing kits for testing your well water are available at the Gibraltar Town Office. Office hours are 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday. These kits are to be taken to the Ephraim lab Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The samples must be received no more than 24 hours after the test is taken. The cost for the analysis is \$23 each.

Gibraltar: Fish Creek,...Juddville,...Maple Grove.....150th Sesquicentennial Calendar of Events

- “Picture Show” Series. Starts 1/2/2008 ends 12/31/2008
- The First “Picture Show” Starts 1/31/2008 ends 1/31/2008
- A Fish Creek Photo History Review. Starts 2/1/2008 ends 2/29/2008
- Fish Creek Winter Fest Starts 2/8/2008 ends 2/10/2008
- Walking Tour, Self-guided, Fish Creek Starts 2/8/2008 ends 12/31/2008
- Picture Show: “Seven Generations and Beyond” Starts 3/27/2008 ends 3/27/2008
- Robert K. Clark Exhibit, Fish Creek Starts 4/1/2008 ends 5/1/2008
- Gibraltar Town Meeting - Government in Action Starts 4/8/2008 ends 4/8/2008
- Preview: 150th Calendar of Events Starts 4/8/2008 ends 4/8/2008
- A Painted History of Fish Creek Starts 5/3/2008 ends 6/14/2008
- Noble House Tours, Circa 1875. Starts 5/12/2008 ends 10/18/2008
- “The Life and Times of Jessie Thorp” Starts 5/13/2008 ends 5/13/2008
- Gibraltar Schools Concert / 150th Starts 5/20/2008 ends 5/20/2008
- Postal Services 150 Starts 6/1/2008 ends 6/30/2008
- “A Night At The Museum”, Noble House. Starts 6/1/2008 ends 10/31/2008
- Civilian Conservation Corps, Grt Depression Starts 6/10/2008 ends 6/10/2008
- Paddle Fest - 2008 Starts 6/14/2008 ends 6/14/2008
- Sesquicentennial Store-Nan & Jerry’s Starts 6/21/2008 ends 6/21/2008
- Heritage Day - 150 Signature Event Starts 6/21/2008 ends 6/21/2008
- Rural Scenes by Mary Blotti-Anderson, Artist Starts 6/21/2008 ends 6/21/2008
- Newtonburg Brass Band Concert Starts 6/21/2008 ends 6/21/2008
- Summer Solstice Sunset Serenade Starts 6/21/2008 ends 6/21/2008
- 150th Pie Shoppe, and Exhibit Hall Starts 6/21/2008 ends 6/21/2008
- Noble House Education Center Dedication Starts 6/21/2008 ends 6/21/2008
- Dock House Dedication Celebrations. Starts 6/21/2008 ends 6/21/2008
- Fish Creek GUIDED Walking Tours Starts 6/27/2008 ends 9/24/2007
- **July Events:**
- Baileys Harbor 4th of July Parade Starts 7/4/2008 ends 7/4/2008
- Egg Harbor July 4th Parade Starts 7/4/2008 ends 7/4/2008
- 5th of July Fireworks Starts 7/5/2008 ends 7/5/2008
- Historical Exhibit / Commemorative Sales Starts 7/5/2008 ends 7/5/2008
- “The Lure and Lore of Gibraltar” Starts 7/8/2008 ends 7/8/2008
- “Cedars of Door County” Gallery Exhibit. Starts 7/12/2008 ends 7/12/2008
- Antique Show - 34th Annual Starts 7/24/2008 ends 7/26/2008
- Hay Fever - Peninsula Players Birth Starts 7/25/2008 ends 7/25/2008
- Civil War Singers Starts 7/26/2008 ends 7/26/2008
- Historical Exhibit & Commemoratives Sale Starts 7/26/2008 ends 7/26/2008
- Cherry Land A’s Auto Show...the ’30s. Starts 7/26/2008 ends 7/26/2008
- “A House in Mourning”, Noble House Display Starts 8/1/2008 ends 10/31/2008
- “Whad’Ya Know” - live radio at its best. Starts 8/2/2008 ends 8/2/2008
- “Talking Tombstones” Starts 8/5/2008 ends 8/5/2008
- Sesquicentennial Barn Dance Starts 8/9/2008 ends 8/9/2008
- “The Tales of Twin Lighthouses” Starts 8/13/2008 ends 8/13/2008
- “A Painted History of Fish Creek - Encore! Starts 9/5/2008 ends 9/30/2008
- “Radio Stories” & GHA Annual Meeting Starts 9/9/2008 ends 9/9/2008
- 150th Concert - Curly’s Vacation Home. Starts 9/13/2008 ends 9/13/2008
- “Native American Heritage” - pending. Starts 10/14/2008 ends 10/14/2008
- Noble House: “Thanksgiving” Starts 11/28/2008 ends 11/29/2008
- Christmas, Noble House. Starts 12/26/2008 ends 12/27/2008

Check the 150th Web Site for details, updates and changes: www.Gibraltar150.org

DOCK RENOVATION



The Gibraltar Town Board and the Fish Creek Harbor Commission has been working for several years with the DNR to preserve and rehabilitate the boathouse at the Fish Creek Dock that is used as the Dock Office. The boathouse has been remodeled inside and looks beautiful. The restrooms at the back of the building have been remodeled to meet the ADA standards. New windows, siding and roof complete the building rehabilitation and will allow for many more years of service. The Harbor Commission in looking toward the future had the gasoline capacity increased from twenty-five hundred gallons to ten thousand gallons and a ten thousand gallon diesel tank has been added.

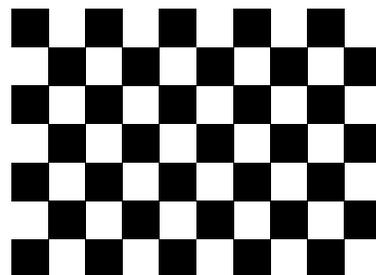


In addition, the Harbor Commission has reconfigured the fuel dock to accommodate vessels up to 60 feet in length and allow two boats to fuel at the same time.

A special thanks to John Young for overseeing the renovation.

The dedication of the boathouse was held on Saturday, June 21, at 1:00 p.m. A good time was had by all!

Stop by to see the fruits of the hard work and enjoy the beauty of the harbor.



Water Tower Place: A Sustainable Neighborhood That Works

*Submitted by: Becky Kerwin
Door County Habitat for Humanity Director
Chair of the Water Tower Place Ad-Hoc Committee*

The Village of Sister Bay and Door County Habitat for Humanity (DCHfH) have a big vision for a little field of dreams – affordable and sustainable homeownership. This Village-owned property is the current site of the baseball field, six -acres of flat and treeless land located behind Johnson's Park on North Highland Road. It is also the site of the Village's water tower, thus the name Water Tower Place. After the baseball field moves to the sports complex for the 2010 playing season, the Village and DCHfH envision housing that is affordable to the working backbone of the northern Door community.

In an unprecedented partnership to provide affordable housing for people who work, or want to work in the Gibraltar School District, the Village has partnered with DCHfH to create a sustainable development plan. This property is already zoned to encourage affordable housing, with the requirement that any homes built there must be for people who work in the Gibraltar School District.

Since the summer of 2007, DCHfH and the Village have been formally meeting to discuss the need for affordable housing, long-term affordability issues, and sustainability concepts. Described below is the next step we will be taking this summer to publicly kick-off the project. Finally, we offer responses to more basic questions you may be wondering about regarding the benefits and need for affordable housing in Door County.

Employee Survey and Northern Door Employer Forum

The first step in moving this project forward is to determine if there is sufficient interest and need for long-term homeownership. We will make that determination by directly surveying Northern Door employees. This employee survey will gauge whether there is a significant population of workers within the Gibraltar School District who qualify for and are interested in DCHfH homes. The survey will gather general information such as where workers live, general income information, age, and interest in the project.

DCHfH will be working with Northern Door employers to enlist their help in advertising this survey to their employees. Northern Door employers will be invited to attend an employer forum to be held in August where they can learn more about DCHfH and the Water Tower Place project. Topics will include the employee survey, long-term affordability tools, and what a sustainable neighborhood really means.

Why own a home rather than rent?

Homeownership benefits both the homeowner and the community. According to a report by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, homeownership can provide the following benefits:

- Homeownership is a critical factor in moving up the economic ladder.
- Homeowners experience significantly higher levels of life satisfaction than renters.
- Homeowners, who are less likely to move than renters, reduce residential turnover.
- Homeowners are more likely to maintain and improve their properties than renters.

Why Door County?

- The average annual income of Door County residents age 25 – 35 is reported to be about \$26,000. At that income level the top-end home one could afford, without carrying other significant debt, is less than \$100,000.
- In 2007, the median price of an inland home in northern Door County was \$212,500.
- In 2006, there were 4 homes listed for less than \$100,000 in northern Door County.

Why DCHfH?

- DCHfH offers a hand-up, not a hand-out, to qualified applicants - partners pay for their homes through sweat-equity and a mortgage.
- Partners pay property taxes and add to the tax base of the community.
- Building the homes with volunteer labor allows DCHfH to sell the homes for less than \$100,000, significantly less than conventional homes.
- DCHfH has built 26 homes in Door County - 5 are located in northern Door.
- DCHfH builds simple, decent, affordable Energy Star compliant homes. No fireplaces, Jacuzzis, and other bells and whistles.

Stay tuned to the Peninsula Pulse for monthly articles on Water Tower Place. Whether you have questions, concerns, comments, or suggestions about this project or DCHfH, we encourage you to contact the DCHfH office at (920) 743-2869.

NOBLE HOUSE REMODELING

Gibraltar Historical Association has organized a Capital Improvement Campaign to remodel the garage at Noble House. The garage/annex looks the same but just added onto the back for the two public restrooms. The front of the garage/annex has been remodeled into a meeting room/office area. It is a fine example of remodeling so it is hardly noticed. The public restrooms were needed in the village area. John Young oversaw the construction project and did a wonderful job. Please take time to notice this addition and see how beautifully it matches what was already there. The dedication of the annex was held on Saturday, June 21st at 1:00 p.m. A great job!

Our new Town Police Officer, Andrew Crowell, is standing by the back door of the annex. If you see him around town please stop and meet Andrew. He's really doing a super job of law enforcement in the Town of Gibraltar



RECYCLING INFORMATION

Paper & Cardboard

This includes newspaper, magazines, junk mail, office paper, container board, corrugated cardboard, catalogs, phone books, etc. All paper and cardboard products must be flattened, dry and free of food debris and restroom waste of any type. Styrofoam, plastic and non-paper shipping materials are prohibited. Tape and staples are permitted.

Plastic, Glass, Aluminum & Tin Containers

This includes unflattened, unbroken food and beverage containers made of glass, aluminum, tin and plastics #1 and #2 (the number that shows up on the bottom of a plastic container). These containers must have a neck smaller in diameter than the base. All items must be rinsed of food or liquids. Plastic soda, water and milk bottle caps are considered trash. Metal and tin lids are recyclable. Plastic bags used to transport recyclables (i.e. grocery store bags), caps and lids are considered regular garbage and not recyclables. No plastic sheeting or shipping material.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

By law, items that are considered recyclable and not contaminated with food debris and restroom waste may not be disposed of as trash.

Items Requiring Special Handling

Certain items require special handling and are not allowed to go in carts, such as the following items: hazardous waste, medical waste, tires, batteries, liquor waste, microwaves, freon units, florescent bulbs, e-waste (computers, printers), heavy rigid metal. If you are unsure about an item, please call the Going Office at 854-2114.



TOWN OF GIBRALTAR

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