### Town of Gibraltar

Spring/Summer 2014

# Gibraltar News

## **Gibraltar Parks and Lands**

Gibraltar Town Board

Chairman: Brian Merkel

Supervisors: Richard Skare Brian Hackbarth Steven Sohns Karl Stubenvoll

### Upcoming Events & Important Dates

Concerts in the Park June 17—Aug 19

Summer Festival & Fireworks July 5th

Inside Outside Sale Sept 26-28

Jack O'Lantern Days Oct 24-26

For more information, contact the FCCA @ (920) 868-2316 Hooray for spring! After one of the longest winters in history and snow shoves in Peninsula towering up to 40' high, it's nice to see open waters in Fish Creek. Parks and Lands have been busy keeping the ball rolling and finishing projects. The new trail maps and markers for Fish Creek Park are ready for installation. So take some time and stroll through the park and see what's new. The Sunset Beach wall has been restored and landscaping will be completed this spring to control water runoff.



Look for a new bench to watch those priceless sunsets. The wandering path thru Sunset Park has been re-barked and new trees are filling in the large area damaged by the storm a few years back. If you haven't strolled down past the Old Town Hall you will see our new white obelisk waiting for the clematis to take hold. Many of the gardens are just beginning to come alive with beautiful pink tulips dotting our parks. A stroll past Founder's Square will be a particular treat, as we added nearly a boatload of bulbs to our pocket garden. Soon, at the Town Center new pots will arrive to replace our very brittle one's. At the Chamber's Island Lighthouse, a new railing will be installed this summer. Hooray it is Spring Indeed!

# Greetings from the Fish Creek Town Dock

After a long, cold and snowy winter we look forward to the 2014 boating season. Due to the ice cover and abundant snowfall the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers estimates that lakes Michigan and Huron are 14 inches higher than this time last year. This should be a welcome relief for the boating community. We opened on May 15th and look forward to having Dock master Brian Holan and his staff back for the season. As a reminder, we now take slip and wall reservations. Please see our website at:

www.fishcreektowndock. com or call 868-3476 for more information on reservations or other dock questions. We are exited about the new season and hope to see you soon.

- Dave Harris for the Fish Creek Harbor Commission.



### 2014 Road Projects

The Door County Highway Department will begin several road construction projects the week of May 27, 2014.

These include the following in the Town of Gibraltar:

Maple Street – Cedar Court to Cottage Row Road.

South Highland Road – CTH F westerly 0.54 miles

Daisy Patch Road – STH 42 to the end.

Work will consist of pulverizing the existing roadway, re-grading, compacting and placing a new hot mix asphalt surface.

The roadways will be kept open to traffic during the construction.

Motorists can expect loose gravel, lane closures, and construction traffic in the area.

Please use caution if you are traveling on any of these roadways.

The construction work on the projects should be

completed by June 27, 2014.



# **Gibraltar Fire & Rescue**

Gibraltar Fire is proud to announce that Adrian Murre and Emmett Jacobs are now State Certified Firefighter Level I. As such, their training exceeds the minimum standard required by the State and instead now meets the national standards defined by the National Fire Protection Agency. Adrian also completed Entry Level Driver Operator this spring. The department itself hosted two specialty training courses over the winter – cold water/ice rescue and chain saw safety. Both courses consisted of full day hands on activities improving the skills of responders to increase response effectiveness and scene safety. The department welcomes new member Brandon VanDerLinden. He comes to the response district fully trained as a member of Sister Bay/Liberty Grove Fire, A significant portion of Gibraltar's membership, serve multiple agencies. Please consider joining their efforts to keep the community safe! If unable to join, there are many other ways to assist the department. Change

many other ways to assist the department. Change the batteries in your CO and smoke detectors to help prevent false alarms. Update your contact information and familiarity with pass codes and reset procedures; for your alarm system, to help shorten the length of false alarm calls. Finally, make sure your detectors have not exceeded their recommended functional life. Most are seven to ten years with compete replacement after the time specified by the manufacturer.

For those with Knox Boxes, please help the department update records. Over the course of the winter, the department has updated the lock cores, so it is imperative that all boxes are located. Identifying an updated box is as simple as looking at the front and finding a vellow dot shaped sticker. If your Knox Box does not have the yellow dot, please notify the department as soon as possible! Looking to the future, the **Gibraltar Fire Association** (501c3) has prioritized replacing the almost twenty year-old Polaris 6x6 with a newer and more capable model. The specifics are still to be determined but the average cost for such equipment is \$20,000 once all necessary lights, radios, tools, windshield and roof are mounted. The updated firefighting skid unit has been built over the winter using a Wisconsin DNR grant which cut the Township's cost of \$5500 in half. The department is working hard to make the most of available funds. The ATV will continue to be a vital part of the emergency medical response to the miles of hiking, biking, and natural areas throughout the Gibraltar area. Additional rescue equipment needs include 1800 feet of life safety rated



rope, climbing harnesses, a Hydrogen Cyanide gas detector, and "laundry list" of secondary equipment. Please consider making a tax deductible donation. Looking into the past, the department is working to honor former members and apparatus. If you have pictures, please contact the department. Images will be scanned and originals will be returned. Beginning with former chiefs and then working out from there, photos will be mounted in the hallways of the station as a way to recognize past efforts. Finally, keep your eyes on the road as the new pumper/tanker is scheduled to be delivered in September. Combining two pieces of apparatus on to one chassis improves the department's response capacity by putting more water directly behind the fire pump to facilitate a faster and more effective initial fire attack. Thank you for your support! Stay safe this summer! Sincerely. Gibraltar Fire Rescue

#### Gibraltar Historical Society Schedule of Events:

Fundraising Dinner June 5th, Gibraltar Grill

Glimpse of Fish Creek Style Show June 28th, Old Town Hall

Civil War Encampment July 11-13th, Fish Creek Park

2014 Gibraltar Talks Old Gibraltar Town Hall at 7 PM

June 19, Memories of the Fire of 1871

July 10, Life and Times of Ed Minor

August 18, Tales of Harbor Waters

September 18, School Days

October 16, Taking on the Timber

For more information, please visit the Noble House Museum, 4167 Main Street, Fish Creek (920) 868-2091

# **Fish Creek Watershed**

Vision: To have and maintain a healthy stream ecosystem that supports both the environmental and economic interest of the community.

In the interest of having clean water for both the present and future generations, volunteers have already completed the first round of testing of Fish Creek and its watershed for 2014. This work addresses some of the clean water protection goals found in the Town of Gibraltar's 20 Year Comprehensive Plan (2004). The data gathered gives a snapshot of the health of the creek and its watershed and can be used to improve the quality of the creek's water which flows both down into our drinking water and out into the recreational waters of our harbor.

Founded in 1998, this group has twice been the recipient of the University of Wisconsin-Extension's Volunteer Stream Monitoring Award thanks to the dedicated work of many volunteers. In 2013 we merged our efforts with that of the DNR's Water Action Volunteers (WAV), a group that collects data on many streams throughout the state. As a result our data can now be viewed on their website http:// watermonitor-

ing.uwex.edu/level2/ reportsbycounty/ index.html

If you are interested in learning more or giving an hour of your time to clean water, please contact Linda Merline at 868-3453.

# **Gibraltar Plan Commission**

It is the work of the Town of Gibraltar Planning Commission to move the vision of Gibraltar's 20 Year Comprehensive Plan forward. Citizen input created this plan and is still vital to this process! Please take the time to read over the goals and discussion topics we have set for 2014. We invite you to attend our meetings every 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM, at the Community Center and/ or to share your thoughts by phone - Linda Merline at 868-3453 or my email at

#### **New Goals**

-Support underground installation of electric and cable lines in village commercial

-Support the municipal effort for the establishment of a bulk head line

**Continued Goals** 

-Actively support <u>The Door</u> <u>County Housing Partner-</u> <u>ship's</u> affordable housing efforts

-Pursue the protection of ground and surface water including:

-Remediation of storm water on parking area behind the Town Center in conjunction with Hwy 42 resurfacing project

-Monitoring of the remediation of the sink hole in front of Gibraltar School in connection with Hwy 42 resurfacing project

-Support Park & Lands Committee in finding a solution to storm water runoff at the FC beach parking lot -Monitor the progress of the County's inspections of Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems -Monitor the work of the Fish Creek Watershed Study/ Water Action Volunteers

-Support the plan for future

public parking in conjunction with the Hwy 42 resurfacing

-Complete the revision of Gibraltar's comprehensive plan - maps and text updates

-Maintain the educational materials in the brochure rack in the Town Center

#### **Discussion Topics**

-Discuss current County zoning regulations regarding home offices, home occupations, home businesses, etc.

-Discuss recognizing and marketing the Town of Gibraltar as a Sustainable Municipality-Discuss the current storm water system in the eastern end of Town including its flow to the creek and the proposals for remediating the problem of storm water at the beach -Discuss current side yard setbacks in Village Commercial Zoning.

#### TOWN OF GIBRALTAR

PO Box 850 Fish Creek, WI 54212

(920) 868-1714

Office Hours: 10 AM to 3 PM Monday-Friday STD U S POSTAGE PAID FISH CREEK WI 54212 PERMIT NO. 5

# BOXHOLDER

Visit Us on the Web!

www.townofgibraltar.com

The Gibraltar Recycling Center: 3626 Gibraltar Road 1st and 3rd Saturday 8 AM to Noon

FYI: Brush can no longer be accepted at the Town Shop

Wood chips are available and free. Contact the Town office for more information.



Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport Currently does not have rental vehicles available for the 2014 season. Sorry for the inconvenience.

# Weed Watch: Wild Parsnip

Wild Parsnip is rapidly expanding along roadsides throughout Door County. This biannual invasive plant is an umbel, like Queen Ann's lace or dill, but is potentially hazardous to human health. If the sap of Wild Parsnip comes in contact with skin and is exposed to sunlight it will cause blisters and deep purple burns that

can last up to two years. Help curb the spread! Learn to identify Wild Parsnip and remove it. Watch for blooming plants in frequently traveled places at the beginning through the middle of July. Pull the tap root out at the base, place in a





garbage bag and dispose of it in the trash. **Be sure to wear disposable gloves and cover all exposed skin while working with Wild Parsnip.** 

Check out the DCIST webpage for more information about Wild Parsnip:

http://map.co.door.wi.u s/swcd/invasive/

