SEYMOUR CHRONICLE

Town of Seymour, 6500 Tower Drive, Eau Claire, WI 54703 www.townofseymour.org (715) 834.4999 Office Hours Mon -Fri 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Town Board Chair

By Douglas Kranig

Greetings Fellow Seymour Residents,

It has been a tough winter - cold and lots of snow - so I trust that you, like I am, are looking forward to an early spring and warmer weather. I will not be complaining about the "hot" weather this summer when the temperature hits 90 plus degrees. My plan is to get a bunch of large cardboard boxes or large plastic bags and put the hot air in them and store them in my barn to use next winter. Hope it works!

You will find a flyer enclosed with information about the Town's Wildfire program. Please read it and take action to avoid personal disaster related to wildfires.

In the last newsletter, I talked about the Town's obligation to keep our road right-of-ways free of obstructions/encroachments. Please remove any trees, material and/or items that are in the right of way at your property. Also we have a number of smaller trees and branches that fell onto the road or in the ditch after the heavy snow in late February. If you have trees or branches in the ditch please remove them when possible.

Our road crew put in a lot of time this year with plowing snow and sanding the roads due to icy conditions. The additional plowing also takes a toll on the trucks as we have had additional repair costs this year. It appears that we will have enough salt sand to get through this year but we have used more than usual. All of these added costs affect our budget but we will not have to borrow to get through the year. We may be looking to replace one of the trucks this fall with a new one.

As always if you have questions, concerns or comments, please contact a Town Board member. Think Spring!

TOWN OFFICIALS

Douglas Kranig, Chair	(715)877.2899
Sheila Running, Supervisor	(715)832.9686
Gary Schulenberg, Supervisor	(715)835.0938
Miranda Kuhn, Clerk Treasurer	(715)834.4999
Fred Hankel, Building Inspector	(715)577.7983
Roger Koski, Assessor	(715)835.1141
Douglas Kranig, Co. Board Rep	(715)877.2899
Robin Leary, Co. Board Rep	(715)832.3711
Paul Lokken, Co. Board Rep	(715)834.3762

Roads Report

by Supervisor Schulenberg

It has been a long tough winter for our roads and all reports are showing that the frost is very deep under the roadways. As of the writing of this article, the road bans for weight limits have not yet gone on, but we are anticipating that they will go on soon and once on, they may be on longer than usual. Please watch for the posting of the signs. We realize this can be a great inconvenience for persons in the process of constructing homes, etc., however, heavy vehicles can easily damage the roads during this period and the most costly item in our budget is road repair. So please be patient.

This year we are planning on paving about 1.8 miles of road including portions of Wild Rose, St. Bridget Dr, Fuller Ave, Winget Drive, Bayview Drive, Leeds Ct and Lochwood Ct. Several other roads will be cracksealed. We anticipate all of the roadwork will be completed by the end of September.

Graduation time is coming soon. Have you booked a place to hold your party yet? If not, remember the Town of Seymour's hall is available for rent as well as the park pavilion. Please call to reserve, as the calendar is quickly filling up!

Clerk's Corner

By Miranda Kuhn

Important Dates

The Spring Election is Tuesday, April 1, 2014. Polls are open from 7:00 am until 8:00 pm. Seymour residents vote at the Town Hall located at 6500 Tower Drive, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

In person absentee voting goes from March 17, 2014 to March 28, 2014 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Friday at the Town Hall. The office will be open from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on March 28, 2014. If you have any questions about voting absentee or have any other questions, please contact me as soon as possible! You can also visit https://myvote.wi.gov for more information.

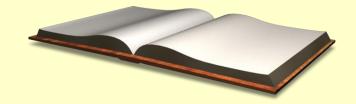
The Annual Meeting is Tuesday, April 15, 2014. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm and lasts about 30 minutes. There will be short presentations from: Roger Koski, Assessor; Jack Running, Township Fire Chief; Jan Froelich, Auditor. We also update you on 2014 Road projects. Please consider attending this year!



LETS GO PAPERLESS!!

If you would like to go "paperless" and receive future newsletters and other correspondence via email, please email Seymour.town@att.net and we will start an email list as a way to further save taxpayer dollars.

Board of Review in early summer... Our "Open Book" meetings are held with Bowmar Appraisal assessors. These meetings are open to the public to view and discuss any property values within our Town. Approximately two weeks after Open Book meetings, we hold a two hour meeting for anyone wishing to contest their values. This is called "Board of Review". At this meeting you are required to "prove" why your property should be at a lower (or higher) value. Anyone interested in these meetings should contact me as soon as possible.



Township Fire Department

By Kerry Parker, Battalion Chief, Seymour Station

As you may recall we were approached by the Wisconsin Dept of Natural Resources about participating in a nationwide wildfire educational program called "Firewise". The program was developed to educate the populace about ways to protect their properties from wildfire. We are working on the next phase. When training is completed we will be able to do an evaluation of your property and make recommendations to make your home more likely to survive a wildfire. Please take the time to review the "Wildfire Safety Spotlight" insert.

Santa visited our Firefighters again this winter. The Firefighters asked me to extend a thank you. Our Christmas party was enjoyed by all.

Our annual pancake breakfast will be on Father's Day, June 15, 2014. Bring Dad out for breakfast. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Please remember that if your spring cleanup involves any burning, you will need to call our Dispatch at 715-834-6868, even if you have an annual DNR permit. Over 90 percent of wildfires are caused by humans and about 30 percent of those are a result of burning debris. If you live east of Highway P you are required to have the annual DNR burning permit and you can obtain these at the Town Hall or you can also obtain a permit on the DNR website at www.dnr.wi.gov No burning on Sundays and burning barrels require a separate permit issued by the Town Office.

Have a fire safe spring.

Kerry Parker Battalion Chief Township Fire Dept. - Seymour Station

RECYCLING UP A STORM

"Recycling Up a Storm" (RUAS) offers FREE appliance recycling service at the Town Hall parking lot on the 2nd Saturday of each month from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. (note time change - previously was 9:00 am to noon). In case of inclement weather, they will cancel the service. This service is for electronics and appliances *only*. THEY ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTING TELEVISION SETS. If it is partially metal or ever had a cord on it, they will take it. This is open to anyone, no permit or proof of residency is required. DO NOT just drop your items off at the hall during hours other than those designated as that would be considered littering. RUAS will also offer home pick up service for larger amounts. For questions, please call RUAS at (715) 456-0750.

The employees at the Landfill wanted us to remind everyone that the free landfill service that is available for Town of Seymour Residents on Tuesdays and Saturdays <u>is only for household garbage</u>. If you have any questions on what is considered "household garbage", I suggest calling the landfill at 715-830-0263



As Spring comes, so does the construction season. Please remember that Building Permits are required for most projects, both permanent and temporary. In addition to Building Permits from the Town of Seymour, many projects also require a Land Use Permit issued by the County prior to the Building Permit being issued.

As of April 1, 2013 there are some changes in the State Electrical Code so be sure that any electrical work is done by a certified electrician. If you have any questions on permits or the Electrical Code changes, please be sure to call Fred Hankel, Building Inspector at 715-577-7983. For information on Land Use Permits you can call the Eau Claire County Zoning Inspector at (715) 839-1660 or visit the County website at www.co.eau-claire.wi.us

Hopefully 2014 will be another great year for new home construction in the Town of Seymour.

for more information.

DID YOU KNOW?

By Supervisor Running

- The Town of Seymour was formed in 1872 when the Eau Claire County Board added several sections of land to the Town of North Eau Claire and renamed it the Town of Seymour.
- The Town covers 32.2 square miles (about 1.1 square miles of that is water).
- The Township Fire Department (which today is one of the largest volunteer departments in the State) began in the early 1950's when a resident became concerned with the cost for the service that they were receiving from the City of Eau Claire. He personally bought a fire truck so that he and his neighbors would have their own protection. Soon the towns of Washington, Union, Pleasant Valley and Brunswick would join together with Seymour and Township Fire Department was officially formed in 1955. Today, in case you're in need of fire service, approximately 135 firefighters and 22 pieces of apparatus may show up at your door.
- That little neighborhood schools were scattered throughout the Town but that all came to an end when Seymour Central closed and Black and McKinley Schools were replaced by Northwoods Elementary.
- That since 1983 First Responders arrive at your door when an ambulance is called to help you until the ambulance arrives. Many of these responders (in most cases, they are your neighbors) carry Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) as well as other lifesaving equipment. These responders are all volunteers and are part of Township Fire Department.
- Our Town Hall now has air conditioning and a newly remodeled kitchen. It's a great place to hold your special events.
- Our ball fields/club served over 340 kids last year and current numbers show almost 400 participants for 2014.
- That your Town Board spends your tax dollars frugally each year and is always willing to listen to your concerns.

(Watch for more "Did You Know" next time. If you have any tidbits of history that you would like to share, please give me a call at 715-832-9686.)

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Seymour Ball Club News

Ball Season is right around the corner and the Ball Club has been busy with league sign up. Registration is now complete and teams should be posted by March 31st.

We are very low on sponsorships this year. If you have a business or know someone who has a business that is willing to sponsor either a team or a field sign, please contact Doug Richardson for more information at 715-715-933-0261

Seymour Ball Club will be hosting a local MLB Pitch, Hit & Run Competition on Saturday, April 26th from 1-3pm.

Do you have a DOG? If so, and it is more than 5 months old, it needs to be licensed within the Town of Seymour. Please provide documentation of current rabies vaccination from your veterinarian. The fee for neutered or spayed dogs is \$7.00 and for unaltered dogs the fee is \$18.00. Late fees of \$5.00 are charged beginning April 1st. Per ordinance #80-3, citations in the amount of \$50.00 will be issued after June 1st for any unlicensed dogs. Please be prompt with licensing your dogs. Anytime a mailing goes out (like dog licensing reminder letters) it is an expense to the town. If you have not already done so, please renew your tags for 2014 as soon as possible, and set a goal to renew your tags for 2015 in December of 2014 to avoid any late fees next year. If you would prefer not to stop by the town hall and see me, you can mail a check for the license fee, along with the certificate of rabies vaccination, and a self-addressed stamped envelope and we will send the tag and vaccination papers back to you. Please call us at 715-834-4999 if you no longer have a dog, so we can remove you from our "reminder" list. For stray dog pick-up call (715) 839,4972.