Spring 2011 Issue May 2011



# Ephraim Update

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#### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT... John Cox

One night after I came home from a recent Ephraim Planning Committee meeting, I was thinking about the earlier discussions that evening and I recalled a statement that a wise, successful, longtime Ephraim resident and business owner said to me a number of years ago. It went something like this: Ephraim creates rules (zoning) to preserve Ephraim like it was when it didn't have any rules. When I and others look at the 142 page long Ephraim Chapter 17 zoning code, we ponder how this lengthy, convoluted document came to be. Over the years, all the well intentioned people (some are actually still alive and/or actually living in Ephraim) that participated in growing Chapter 17 likely never thought they might be creating a document that today has become difficult for the average person to use. The Plan Committee members that navigate Chapter 17, and our Zoning Administrator who uses it on a day-to-day basis, have adapted to its size and scope. It is unfortunate that Chapter 17 has become this way. I and others believe that the zoning ordinance needs a good housecleaning. Now before some of you jump out of your chair and say "what is he up to now?", I don't really advocate much, if any change in the code. We would just like to make it easier to use.

The Ephraim taxpayers that wish to improve or maintain their properties should be able to answer simple zoning questions themselves without having to search high and low through a zoning ordinance where answers may be difficult to understand or possibly addressed in several different locations. There are several places in the code that old or outdated language, which was eliminated or amended over the years, has not been removed. One example is old language which still resides in the code and is written in italics. The language should have been removed, but still remains or was left in deliberately. I cannot tell you why. It just remains. Consider-

ing the lengthy list of conditional uses and special exceptions, I have heard several comments around town that a more efficient, user friendly method that leaves less to the "who you are or what you stand for" method, to stronger, more solid, time-tested guidelines and rules which reflect our longstanding Ephraim traditions.

A recent public comment at a Plan Committee meeting questioned the wisdom of former Plan Committees imposing standard side and rear yard setbacks on properties in the downtown area. Many of those properties have structures that are non-conforming. As you may guess, the rules were created long after those buildings were originally erected. This often requires the owner to jump through difficult hoops or to apply for a difficult to attain variance to the code, to make simple improvements and adjustments to their properties. In the upcoming months the Plan Committee will start a process of reviewing the many sections of Chapter 17, comparing it to the Smart Growth comprehensive village plan and potentially streamlining and/or amending the ordinance where appropriate. Procedurally, the Village Board always has the final say on all ordinance changes. Of course, there will be plenty of opportunity to have input this summer and on if you choose.

Speaking of summer, an Ephraim summer is sure hard to beat. The list of activities is lengthy. Shelley and I look forward to the concerts in the park, taking walks downtown, boating, and reconnecting with friends and neighbors that we have not seen for months. Whatever your Ephraim passion is, please have a wonderful, safe summer season. Enjoy Ephraim! As always, if you have a comment or concern, I can be reached through the village office or by phone @ 421-0100.

# CHARITY BUHR- ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK

It is time to begin another wonderful summer in the Village of Ephraim. We are working diligently to continue to keep Ephraim the jewel on the Door County peninsula. There are a few items that have come up over the past few months that we would like to bring to your attention.

- There have been many close calls on German Road and we would like to ask everyone to please slow down and pay special attention for pedestrians.
- The Village will be continuing the shoulder pruning it began in 2010, if you have any questions or concerns regarding the right of way adjacent to your property please contact the Village Administration office.
- There are many volunteer opportunities available in Ephraim, if you are interested in serving on a committee or becoming an election worker, please contact the Village Administration office. There are currently openings on the Physical Facilities and Utilities Committee and the Library Committee.

If you get a chance I encourage everyone to stop in the Administration office and meet the staff that you work with all year round. It's always helpful to put a face with a name. Have a great summer!!©

#### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Dave Albert's- Treatment Plant Manager

Colder temperatures and even a snowstorm - it feels like winter not spring. The melting of snow and April rainfall can bring excessive infiltration and inflow to various regions of the Village including the public sewer system. The Ephraim Wastewater Facility has spent a considerable amount of time and budgeted funds for addressing this issue as it affects the collection system. What can you do to prevent and reduce infiltration and inflow? Make sure the cap to any cleanout is secure and has not been damaged. Reroute sump pump discharges from your basement to the outdoors\*.

\*NOTE: Connections of sump pumps to the public sewer system are not allowed by wastewater Village ordinance.

Another issue concerning the treatment of wastewater is pharmaceuticals. In the past the practice was to get rid of your remaining pharmaceuticals was to flush them down the toilet. **DO NOT DO THIS!! This has an adverse affect on the collection system.** The Justice Center in Sturgeon Bay does take unused pharmaceuticals. For more information please call (920) 746-2400.

The Ephraim Well Water Testing lab is gearing up for another great year. We offer a variety of state certified tests for public and private well testing. Stop by to pick up a sampling kit or give us a call if you have any questions at (920) 854-4991.

We provide septage service for all holding tanks within the village. For conventional septic or mound systems on a three year inspection schedule with the Door County Sanitarian Department, we can provide a competitive service. Call to set up an appointment today (920)854-4991.

Enjoy Beautiful Ephraim

## COMMUNITY PROTECTION

Jane Olson-Committee Chair

The CPC has been made aware of a potential safety issue in the village. A number of residents are concerned that they are unable to see pedestrians walking on village streets during summer evenings. Please make yourself noticeable to motorists as they cannot see you and are not expecting you to be in the road walking. Wear light colored clothing and carry a flash-light and please if you can avoid it do not walk in the middle of the road. For even more visibility use a reflective vest or a small blinking light which can be attached to the back of your jacket, these lights cost less than \$5 and will alert a driver to your presence on the road.

Also we want to take this opportunity to request that you take a few minutes to make certain that your fire numbers are visible from the road. Be sure that no brush is blocking it from view; all numbers are present, etc. If there is a missing fire number or a faded number, you can get replacements from the Administrative office.

Have a safe and fun filled summer.

#### ASSESSORS OFFICE

Mike Walker Ephraim Assessor

The property exterior inspections which I began during the latter part of last summer are almost complete. There has been (and will be) left at each residence a yellow card advising of my premises visit and whether or not an interior inspection will be necessary. If I have been inside the home in the past few years and see no visible evidence of change since that time, then I do not intend to ask for an interior inspection. If, however, the exterior inspection indicates deterioration of any sort <u>or</u> in the very few cases of not ever having been inside the residence, <u>or</u> the premises inspection indicates improvements with or without permits, I will be asking for an interior inspection. If I have checked the box that indicates that an interior inspection is necessary please call Susan at the Administrative office who will assist you in scheduling an appointment for a Saturday morning between 8:30 and noon. Overall, given the current market conditions of the present, I am not seeing a great upheaval of valuations. But I will be able to tell you more after I am able to evaluate the current sales in Ephraim and the vicinity.

# ZONING/BUILDING

Brent Bristol-Zoning Administrator and Building Inspector

Construction again is up just a little bit in Ephraim so far this year. I have issued two permits for new homes to this point in 2011. While numbers are still down when compared with permit numbers from 4-5 years ago I can say that I am seeing an increase in the average size of the building projects. Simple repair/replacement permits from last year are being replaced by permits for additions and renovations. It is good to see and I hope it continues.

From a code and enforcement standpoint I would like to take a moment in this newsletter to speak on camping, campers, and travel equipment. I have noticed over the years a good number of campers/travel trailers on properties in the Village of Ephraim. Camping on public or private property with or without the use of tents or similar shelters is prohibited in the Village of Ephraim. Travel trailers, campers, and coaches can be parked in garages and driveways on a permanent basis and can be parked on other portions of a lot on a transient basis; however, no travel equipment may be used for living or housekeeping purposes regardless of where it is parked on the lot. If you have any questions regarding this ordinance please give me a call.

With the summer months approaching I am sure that many of you have building or maintenance plans for this season. I encourage you to contact me as early in the process as you can. Almost any land disturbance or building related activity within the Village of Ephraim requires a permit, and it is my job to work with you throughout the permitting process. The Village of Ephraim Zoning Ordinance along with other resources, codes, and forms can be found on our website www.ephraim-wisconsin.com.

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Your Maintenance staff has been hard at work this winter, the clean-up of the Village is well under way. The crew of Mike, Jim and Matt have been preparing

#### PHYSICAL FACILITIES / UTILITIES

Mike Mittermann-Maintenance Supervisor

the Village parks and grounds for the summer season and have placed the memorial benches and picnic tables out for your use. Street signs are being painted, plantings and mulch filled in and grass sown. If you see one of our decorative streetlights burned out, a pothole that needs taking care of, etc., give the administration a call at 854-5501! The crew will soon begin the season's brushing and cutting along the Village roads to allow for passage of emergency vehicles; the clearance field is 4' by 12' from the edge of the road, if you have concerns regarding the clean-up contact Charity Buhr at the Administrative office 854-5501.

#### ON THE WATERFRONT

Keith Lindstrand- Harbormaster

Spring will be here soon!? With that came the opening of the Marinas on May 15<sup>th</sup>. The water level is on its spring rise, but about 6+" lower than last year. For the first time in at least 10 years, there are two open moorings and no one on the waiting list. If you know of anyone that might be interested, please tell them to contact us.

Here's hoping everyone has a safe and wonderful boating season.

# 2011 Elected Trustees

On April 5th, 2011 the registered voters of Ephraim cast their ballots for the following residents, who will serve the Village until 2013.

John Cox—President Sue Sherman—Trustee Jane Olson—Trustee

# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

# Door County Waste and Recycling Center 1509 Division Road Sturgeon Bay, WI 54235 920-743-9472

		740-173-7714	
Fluorescent Bulbs	\$ .60/each		
Ballast	\$ 1.25		Free Recycling Items
Microwaves	\$18.00		Ink Cartridges
Car Tires	\$ 5.00		Rechargeable Batteries
Computer Monitor	\$20.00		Car/Truck Batteries
Complete Computer	\$30.00		Metal
Air Conditioner	\$30.00		Cell Phones
Televisions 27"/smaller	\$20.00		
Televisions Medium	\$30.00		
Televisions Large	\$50.00		
Electronics Small	\$ 5.00		
Electronics Large	\$30.00		

# **Ephraim Recycling Summer Schedule**

May-October 2011

Saturdays 9:00 am—12:00 pm

June, July & August Tuesdays 4:00 pm—7:00 pm Brush Dump—Saturdays 8:30 am—12:30 pm

The Ephraim Recycling bins are divided into two sections one for paper and one for comingled items, please pre-sort your recycling accordingly.



#### Recyclable Metal & Glass:

Aluminum cans and aluminum pie plates

Tin/Steel cans

Brown, clear and green glass beverage containers

#### **Expanded Plastic Recycling Includes:**

All plastic bottles (no motor oils)

Plastic containers #1-7

# **Expanded Paper Recycling Includes:**

Cardboard

Catalogs

Cereal and Cracker boxes

Computer paper

Envelopes

Holiday Gift Wrapping Paper

Juice boxes and other drink packages

Junk mail

Magazines

Newspapers

Office paper

Paper egg cartons

Paper grocery bags

Paper milk and juice cartons

Phone books

Clean pizza boxes (no food or grease)

## **Non-Recyclable Plastics:**

Deli containers

Frozen food containers

Microwave dinner plates

Plastic bags

Plastic film, wrap, or Styrofoam

#### **Recycling Tips**

Flatten cardboard boxes, cereal boxes and other large items.

Rinse out plastic, glass and cans

Pre-sort paper in one box or bag and glass, plastic and cans in another box or bag

#### **Resident Recycling Card Required**

If you need a new card please contact Sue 854-5501

# Come to the Village Committee and Commission Meetings and Participate!

As always, watch for posted meetings at the Post Office, Visitors' Center, Village Office and on the Website

Village Board of Trustees-Second Monday, 7:00 pm

Historic Preservation Committee - Fourth Monday, 6:00 or 6:30 pm

Plan Committee- Fourth Monday, 7:00 pm

Physical Facilities Committee - As posted, 12:00 pm

Wastewater/Water Committee-As posted, 10:00 am

Library Committee-As posted

Coastal Management Committee-As posted

Community Protection Committee-As posted

Airport Commission-As posted

#### NOTES FROM THE CHIEF

Niles Weborg- Ephraim Fire Chief

#### Outside Grills The Wisconsin Fire Code

What: In March of 2008 the State of Wisconsin revised its Fire Code to adopt the 2006 edition of the Uniform Fire Code (NFPA). This code contained many changes to the fire code that was in place prior to March, included in the new code is a stricter requirement for the use of grills in and around buildings other than single or two family homes. Specifically the code states:



" NFPA 1(2006 ed.) 10.11.7 For other than one- and two-family dwellings, no hibachi, gas fired grill, charcoal grill, or other similar devices used for cooking, heating, or any other purpose, shall be used or kindled on any balcony or under any overhanging portion or within 10ft (3 m) of any structure. Listed electrical ranges, grills, or similar electrical apparatus shall be permitted."

What does this mean?: Basically, unless you live in a single family home or a duplex (two units), you can no longer use <u>any</u> gas grills (including those adapted for smaller 2 ½ lb LPG tanks) or charcoal grills within 10ft of the building. That means 10ft from any deck or balcony attached to the structure as well.

**Are there any exemptions?:** Apart from your living in a single family home or duplex, there are **no** exemptions. There is no grandfathering either. e.g. if you had a grill already in use prior to the new fire code taking affect, you still would have to abide by the new rule and remove your grill from any balconies.

What you can do: Apartment and condominium managers can designate safe areas that are a minimum of 10ft from the building as a place to grill, and may provide grills for use by the building tenants in this location. Individual tenants may also replace their gas grills with electrical grills provided they are listed (underwriters laboratories UL approved or other similar testing agency).

Why?: While we have not experienced them here in Ephraim there have been a significant number of fires occurring in apartment/condo complexes throughout the country due to the use and misuse of grills and the State has deemed the risk unacceptable.

What will happen if I continue to use my grill on my deck or balcony?: Two things. 1) The building owner / Association may be cited and fined for continued non-compliance with the State Fire Code. 2) You personally may be held civilly and in some cases criminally liable for any fires that occur and also may be financially responsible for any injuries or loss of property that are a result of a fire from your grill.

#### HALL HAPPENINGS

Sue Shallow

May began with the Door County 1/2 Marathon and Expo and culminated in the run in Peninsula State Park on Saturday May 7th. On May 8th Isadoora Theatre begins a 14 day run with their spring production, and the month ends with the long awaited wedding reception for Ephraim's own Erin Flottman and Brent Bristol.

**June** starts off with the Moravian Women's Lunch/Bake Sale and Crafts on June 4th. FYR BAL weekend arrives on June 17th/18th followed by the seasons first Sing Along at the Hall on Sunday the 19th. The Ephraim Business Council will begin the Monday evening concerts at the Gazebo in Harborside Park on Monday June 20th with rain dates to be at the Village Hall. Mary Lings & Steve Kuda will join hands on June 25th and the PGA will have their annual Pot-Luck dinner on the 29th.

**July** the Hall is booked solid, the Foundation History Speaks program takes place at the Hall on Tuesdays and the Library Summer Program on Thursdays. The Door County Folk Festival will hold it's annual Contra Dance on Saturday the 9th and the Door County Folk Alliance will hold a Barn Dance on Saturday July 23rd. The Fox River Opera rounds out the month on the 28th, 29th, and 30th.

August- Yum - it's the Men's Club Pancake Breakfast on Saturday August 6th.

**Septembe**r Sunday September 25th thru Monday October 17th the Door Shakespeare Theatre will present their fall production in the Hall. The Moravian Women's group will close out the season with their fall Lunch/Bake Sale and Crafts show on Saturday October 29th.

**Nor Door Adult Day Services**-For adults with physical and cognitive disabilities and for those seeking social activity, in a safe and fun environment. **Where-**The Appel Newman Building, 10539 Applewood Dr, Sister Bay across from Scan, 920-495-2016 **Services**: A state certified adult day program including-socialization, daily indoor and outdoor activities, meals & snacks, exercise programs. **When-**Mondays & Wednesdays 11:30-4:30 and Fridays 8:00-4:30.

#### EPHRAIM BUSINESS COUNCIL

Rachel Willlems

The Ephraim Business Council looks forward to a great 2011. So far, we've welcomed seven new members: Bethany Lutheran Church, Cottage on Townline, Creative Transitions, Door County Publishing, Ephraim Moravian Church, Koepsel's Farm Market and Lardiere Gallery & Studio.

The 2011 Ephraim brochure is on stands now and includes the Ephraim Walk Path Guide as well as our new EBC logo. Ephraim's waterfront Visitor Information Center is open daily through October.

The EBC was a major sponsor of the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Door County Half Marathon, which attracted 2,000 participants, their families and friends to our area. The 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Fyr Bal Festival is June 17-19. We welcome the addition of amusement rides next to the Red Putter, as well as a Father's Day Breakfast in the Village Hall. Stop by the Visitor Information Center to purchase your Fyr Bal flags, caps, t-shirts, buttons, raffle tickets, to vote for Chieftain or if you're available to volunteer.

Evenings in Ephraim concerts feature talented Door County musicians in Harborside Park, as well as late-night shopping, dining and activities, Mondays June 20-August 22.

The EBC is happy to partner with the Village and Peninsula State Park in pursuit of certifying Ephraim as a "Bird City." Bird City Wisconsin encourages communities to implement sound bird conservation practices and gives public recognition to communities that protect and enhance habitat for bird life. Please visit our Bird City booth at Fyr Bal. Lastly, look for Ephraim and many other Door County businesses featured in Midwest Living magazine's "Best of the Midwest" issue, on newsstands through August. Visit the EBC on Facebook, Twitter, at <a href="https://www.Ephraim-DoorCounty.com">www.Ephraim-DoorCounty.com</a> or call 920-854-4989, year-round.

# EPHRAIM HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

Kelli C. Torpey—Program & Marketing Director

Although spring is taking its time arriving to Door County, we are not concerned. Our attitudes have been sunny as we prepare for this season: We have a new Assistant Director and Curator, Thea Thompson, who is knee-deep in research and preparation for two wonderful exhibits; we are partnering with the Moravian Church and presented our first Ephraim Moravian cemetery tour on May 17, 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm; and our 20<sup>th</sup> annual social will relocate to a different venue and will feature amazing talent (flamenco dancing and Spanish music) as well as an auction, cash bar and raffle.

Thea recently combed through our archives and vaults to research genealogical information for our new permanent, rotating exhibit at Anderson Barn History Center, titled "The Roots of Our Village: The Pioneer Families of Ephraim." Currently, five of Ephraim's earliest families will be displayed in this exhibit, but as this is an ongoing project, Thea will rotate the family trees – as further genealogical research is done – to include families from other time periods in Ephraim's history.

Our 2011 Anderson Barn History Center "Garments of our Foundation"\* exhibit will feature artistic renderings of 10 Ephraim women created by Kärin Kopischke, renowned costume designer. Narratives written in first-person by Paul Burton will accompany Kärin's artwork on display. The exhibit opening reception is Friday, June 17, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m, so join us to see which 10 women were chosen. Kärin will be available at the reception and Paul will sign a newly-published booklet titled "Some Women of Early Ephraim...as they might tell their stories", compiled and researched by Paul Burton and Thea Sophia Thompson.

Our regular programs and tours will be offered for members and the public, so visit our website at <a href="www.ephraim.org">www.ephraim.org</a> to download our 2011 brochure, view our calendar of events or visit us on facebook!

\*The Kopischke exhibit is supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, Women's Fund of Door County and the Raibrook Foundation.

# EPHRAIM LIBRARY

Linda Malmgren– Librarian

We're busy gearing up for the summer season, as are all of you, I'm sure. Registration for the Summer Reading Program, "One World, Many Stories," begins on June 13. All ages are invited to participate. Ages birth through 8<sup>th</sup> grade may read (or be read to) and earn Library Loot that may be redeemed for prizes. Teens and adults may participate in Reading Bingo and submit bingo entries for a chance to win a prize basket of books. The program continues through August 13.

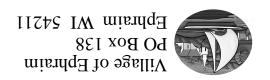
Special event programs on South East Asia, West Africa, Europe, and Antarctica will be held at Ephraim Library on Thursdays in July at 3:00pm More details are available on our website at doorcountylibrary.org.

The Summer Book Discussion Group, facilitated by Katy Ostrander, is excited to continue exploring Africa again this summer. Their first meeting will be on June 21 at 10:00am to discuss *Zenzele: a Letter to My Daughter* by J. Nozipo Maraire. All adults are welcome to listen or join in the discussion. Don't forget the annual used book sale during Fyr Bal on Saturday, June 18 from 9:00am-2:00pm. If you'd like to volunteer to help, call Linda at 854-2014.

We are continuing to purchase art related materials for the library collection through the Philip and Martha Cherry Estate Fund. New additions include 10 children's titles, 6 art appreciation and art instruction DVDs, and many more adult books on arts & crafts and art techniques.

If you are interested in borrowing digital eBooks, audio books or DVDs using your library card, look at our Digital Download Center on the infosoup.org webpage (located on the left just below the catalog search box), and for your convenience, library users may now pay overdue fines/fees over \$1.00 by credit card when logged into their library account on our infosoup.org website.

We're always happy to see you at the library. Hours after Memorial Day are: Monday 3-7; Tuesday/Wednesday 10-3; Thursday 1-5 and Saturday 10-2.



Below is a calendar of tentative meeting dates for the Village Board, Village Committees and other important dates. Please refer to the Village website for agendas and confirmation of meeting dates and times.

# www. ephraim-wisconsin.com

			May							June							July					
S	M	T	$\mathbf{W}$	TH	F	$\mathbf{S}$	$\mathbf{S}$	M	T	$\mathbf{W}$	TH	F	$\mathbf{S}$	$\mathbf{S}$	M	T	$\mathbf{W}$	TH	$\mathbf{F}$	$\mathbf{S}$		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	ww	3	4						1	2		
8	VB	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	$\mathbf{OC}$	5	6	7	8	9		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	VB	14	15	16	17	18	10	VB	12	13	14	15	16		
22	PC	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
29	OC	PF					26	PC	PF	29	ww			24	PC	PF	27	$\mathbf{w}\mathbf{w}$	29	30		
														31								
August							September															
S	M	T	W	TH	F	$\mathbf{S}$	$\mathbf{S}$	M	T	W	TH	$\mathbf{F}$	$\mathbf{S}$	Key VD. Village Board Meeting								
	1	2	3	4	5	6					$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}$	2	3	VB -Village Board Meeting PC - HPC/Plan Committee Meetings								
7	VB	9	10	11	12	13	4	$\mathbf{OC}$	6	7	8	9	10	WW - Wastewater Committee Mtg								
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	VB	13	14	15	16	17	PF - Physical Facilities Committee								
21	PC	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	PF	21	22	23	24	OC - Office Closed-Observance of Holiday								
28	29	PF	31				25	PC	27	28	$\mathbf{w}\mathbf{w}$	30		1	Tonua	y						