

Message from the Director of Emergency Management

Flood Disaster Assistance 2008

The Town experienced its worst natural disaster in recent memory in June. Due to the heavy rains, the water level at Druid Lake was the highest it has been in over 100 years. As a result, a number of residences were severely flooded and suffered severe damage. The water level rose much faster and higher than anyone expected. Once I found out the extent of the flooding, I notified county emergency management and the sheriff's department, and they both assisted me and the Town in helping the disaster victims. I spent a great deal of time up around the lake talking to residents, coordinating the emergency response, the utility crews, and the health department.

While the flood waters overtook many of the residences on the north end of the lake, I had a few more days to prepare for flooding on the south end of the lake. The Town provided over 3000 sandbags and sand to residents on the lake. I also want to send out a big THANK YOU to the members of Hartford Fire and Rescue, who came out and spent the day helping residents sandbag. Their assistance was greatly appreciated by the residents and me.

The Town did spend money on disaster response. We also had to spend money fixing culverts, and road and shoulder washouts as well. The Town also had a part in the debris removal. As part of my job, I am currently going through the process with FEMA to receive financial reimbursement to the Town. That process is ongoing right now, but I hope to have a majority of the expenses covered. I am also looking at possibly getting some federal or state funds to deal with the old Druid Lake Road bridge, which was restricting the flow of the Ashippun River and the outflow of the lake. This, of course, would be thoroughly studied first and would be in consultation with the Druid Lake Rehabilitation District.

So far I have put around 100 hours into the disaster response and flood-related issues. I did have some complaints, but please remember that I am only one person, and the EM Director position is volunteer; I am doing the best I can.

(continued on page 4)

♣ EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Brad Bautz, Director
224-1497

Important phone numbers

Police

Emergency: 911

Washington County Sheriff:
262-335-4378

Fire

Emergency: 911

Ashippun fire: 920-474-4223

Hartford fire: 262-673-8290

Richfield fire: 262-628-1601

Stone Bank fire: 262-966-2414

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Chairman's and Committee Reports

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**DENNIS KENEALY,
TOWN CHAIRMAN**

PLAN COMMISSION

Dennis Kenealy, Chair
966-2148

John Bergen, 966-3604

Kim Dunn, 670-6135

Tammy Kennedy, 966-7045

Steve Metz, 920-889-2263

Dave Millen, 673-2000

Dave Schippers, 673-2211

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dennis Kenealy, Chair
966-2148

Brad Bautz, 224-1497

Mike Connell, 966-1864

Maureen Fitzsimmons-
VandenHeuvel, 670-0975

Henry Kohl, 966-2005

Pat Landon, 673-2130

Dean Schober, 673-1999

CLERK'S CORNER

**BRENDA KLEMMER,
TOWN CLERK**

Notes from the Chair

We start our annual budget process this month. As everywhere, our costs have gone up, and we incurred some extra expenses with the Spring floods, including unexpected road repairs. We were aided by volunteers from the Hartford Fire Department, with some sandbagging and other duties at Druid Lake during the floods. They performed the work voluntarily, and I would like to thank them for their help.

Plan Commission

The Plan Commission has been involved in cleaning up some discrepancies in our zoning map and land descriptions. That has been taking some time, but we are close to being up to date after going through many old files and zoning requests. With the old conflicts being cleared, we are moving along with the routine requests at a better pace. One area the Commission will be reviewing is the request from Washington County to add its emergency response equipment to our Town tower, to provide better coverage for this area of the county.

Executive Committee Report

We have combined the Administrative Committee and the Emergency Government Committee into one new committee, the Executive/Emergency Management Committee. We had difficulty finding people to serve on Emergency Management, and we had some extra time on the Administrative Committee Agenda, so it was best to combine these two committees and have the one committee handle both areas. The first meeting of this new committee will be in October, to start the budget review process.

Report from the Town Clerk's Desk

The Clerk's office is currently busy trying to prepare for the Presidential Election on November 4, 2008. It has been hectic trying to close out the September Primary Election and get November's election going at the same time. The Presidential Election has our office and election workers feeling a lot of anxiety, and we are going to try some new things that will hopefully help the election process run more smoothly. We are going to try and organize the hall differently to help improve the flow of people, and we will also have a check-in person who will have a poll list and be able to tell people if they are registered or not; this will eliminate having people standing in the wrong line. Things are going to be very busy, and there are going to be many lines, so please be patient and use common courtesies while waiting to cast your vote. The poll workers can only take care of one person at a time, and we all want to move people through as fast as we can. Also remember you will need to

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Committee Reports (cont.)

(continued from previous page)

clearly state your name and address for the poll workers when you check in to receive your voter number. There will be observers who are listening for the names and addresses, so please speak loudly so they are not interrupting the workers to repeat things. With all your help, we can have a successful Election Day!!!!

The Clerk's office has also been working on the budget process. The committees met with the Executive Committee to present proposed budgets. The annual budget meeting will be held sometime in November, probably before the scheduled Town Board meeting, so please watch the paper, website and posting boards for more information.

As we approach tax collection time, please remember that the Treasurer processes your taxes!! The Treasurer will let you know which days she is in the office collecting tax payments and processing receipts. Many of you like to drop off your payments in the office, which takes a lot of time out of our work day. There will be a box available in the hall for you to drop off your payments in. They will be collected and date stamped at the end of every day and left for the Treasurer to process. The Clerk's office cannot issue receipts; if you need a receipt, please include a self-addressed stamped envelope so that when the receipts are processed, they can be mailed back to you in a timely manner.

Erin Park News Fall 2008

The regularly scheduled Park Board meetings used to be the first week of each month. This year, the Park Chairman has held meetings about once each quarter, on Saturday mornings, in the concession stand. This change allows the board to focus on the concerns and challenges that come up concerning the Town Park and save some money at the same time. If you have ideas or input that concerns the park, please contact the chairman, Dave Millen, or any other member of the board to express your thoughts. Any written communication should be sent through the Town Clerk's office.

We have had to remove a piece of playground equipment because it was damaged beyond repair. We hope to replace it soon with another. The dry August has caused some browning of the green in the entire Town. On a good side, it has saved the budget some funds because the grass didn't need to be cut as often.

The Park Board would like to sponsor more community events in the future and would like to hear from you about them. We would love to support ideas and volunteerism from the community involving an activity in the Park. Please write us a letter about your idea.

You are encouraged to take advantage of some of the opportunities for recreation and relaxation in your Town Park. There is still lots of time to enjoy a game of basketball or volleyball, nine holes of disc golf or a picnic on Gazebo Hill, and soon sledding or cross country skiing will be back.

PARK BOARD

David Millen, Chair
673-2000

Gene Eggert
920-474-7684

Steve Leinberger
673-2658

Pam Millen
673-2000

Don Pridemore
673-7218

Ralph Roskopf
920-474-7001

Jim Wright
673-7131

Committee Reports (cont.)

Burning Ordinance

* No burning permits are required.

* When fire danger is high, very high, or severe, all outdoor burning will be banned (this includes fireworks) by order of the Emergency Management Director, or Town Chairman. Outdoor cooking (i.e. grills) is an exemption. For such a ban I will notify the Sheriff's Department and local radio stations. Notices will also be placed on the Town posting boards, and on the website.

At any time of year:

* Open fires must be attended.

* The fire department or preferably the Sheriff's Department must be notified of any bonfire in excess of 10 ft in diameter or if a large area of grass is burned (i.e. over ¼ acre).

* Fires may not be started on the roadway surface, and only leaves and grass may be burned in the right-of-way.

* The burning of garbage, plastics, rubber, treated wood, petroleum products, or anything that emits noxious or toxic odors is PROHIBITED. The DNR already bans the burning of these items as they pose a health hazard to residents.

Emergency Management *(continued from page 1)*

Address Signs

The Town began its address sign program back in October, 2003. To date, several hundred signs have been installed. At that time, all new construction was required to purchase a sign and the Town would install it. These can be seen around the Town as the white-on-green reflective signs that have "Town of Erin" at the top, and the address below. The area south of Hwy 167 and east of Hwy 83 is still in the process of having the signs installed. I appreciate the patience of the residents. The signs are being installed whenever the highway department workers have spare time. In the past month or so, the northern areas of the Town had signs installed. It is my hope the the last section of the Town can be done next year, which is all of Hwy 83, the Thompson area, and all of Ashippun's fire district.

Please keep the signs visible for our emergency responders, and do not move or otherwise modify them. If they get damaged or need to be replaced, please contact me.

Reminder

While the Town has discontinued brush pickup, I encourage you to make use of the brush drop off at the Town's dump site, or recycle. If you need to burn, please keep the following advice in mind. Copies of the Town's burning ordinance are available from the Town, but the main points are summarized in the box at left.

2009 and Beyond

I am also working on the budget for 2009. There are a number of projects I would like to fund, but this will be dependent on things outside of my control. Finishing the address sign installation is one project. In 2009, the new county radio system is expected to come on line, and I am looking at purchasing some new radios for Emergency Management, and also to outfit the highway trucks with the new radios, so we will be able to communicate with our surrounding communities and emergency responders. Fire dues for Hartford should stabilize in 2010, as we will reach the 75% mill rate ratio as stated in the intermunicipal agreement.

Have a safe and happy fall hunting season.

Scheduled Town Meetings

Administrative Committee:	As posted (usually second Monday of month).
Emergency Management:	As posted.
Park Board:	As posted.
Plan Commission:	First Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
Road Commission:	As posted.
Town Board:	Third Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

Highway Department Report

We hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. The Highway Department had another busy summer with many projects and unforeseen issues that needed to be addressed. Brush and trees were cut on Donegal Road from CTH K west to Kanturk. The June rains forced us to take action with respect to water ponding on the roadway. Ditching was completed in July by Nick Savatski and Jake Weber. The road was then paved by Payne and Dolan, Inc. The washout on Waterford Road was shouldered by the Town's road crew. The ditch washed out on Donegal Road from Emerald Drive to the west. The Town's road crew completed these repairs in late August. Several washouts and leaking culverts needed to be repaired and/or replaced. These included culverts on Donegal Road, Shamrock Lane and St. Augustine Road. This was a joint effort by the Town's Road Commission, Engineer and Highway Department. Due to these issues, other projects had to be put on hold.

Paving projects for 2008 were completed on Galway Road from Garvey Road south to CTH O. The surface coat on Dublin Drive from O'Connell to Donegal was applied, and several smaller areas also got repaired.

This fall the Highway Department will again be getting after the dead trees around town. Please remember the Town has two people working in the Highway Department; things take time to complete, and they will not get to them all this year. If you want wood chips, please leave a message at 673-3702, with your name and address and a contact number. When chips become available, they will go down the list and deliver them.

Winter is right around the corner; keep your mailbox post clear of brush to prevent rotting and make sure the mailbox is securely fastened to the post. Heavy snow can damage your mailbox and/or post. It is in violation of law to push snow across the Town roadways. Also give snowplows plenty of room to do their job: It is unlawful to follow within 200 feet of a snowplow. It's for your safety and ours.

If you see missing road signs or downed trees, immediately call the Highway Department. Your comments or concerns are always welcome by calling 262-673-3702. Please leave your name and address to ensure prompt response.

ROAD COMMISSION

Gene Eggert
414-315-4156 (mobile)

Mike Connell

David Lofy

Steve Nachriener

David Schippers

Donald Strobel

2008 Fall Erin Recreation Association Update

Progress is being made, and we are moving forward on the groundwork to build a new Pavilion in Erin Park for all to use. We are a non-profit group, and part of our mission is to enhance the quality of life for all the citizens of Erin. Our main focus is to develop a building that the community will be able to use for many different interests. The possibilities are many, from outdoor weddings, family reunions and fund raising events to the Baseball and Soccer Clubs that would benefit from a new, modern facility.

More information to come on this as we get moving along. A website will be up shortly. If you have further interest, please contact Dan Goodreau at 262-628-2433.

Community and School Updates



HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

115 North Main Street Hartford,
WI 53027-1596
Phone: 262-673-8240
Fax: 262-673-8300
Email:
hartfordpl@hartfordlibrary.org

Read a good book lately?

The libraries of Washington County would like to invite all residents of the Town of Erin to explore the resources and programs offered within your county. The five libraries in Hartford, Germantown, Slinger, West Bend and Kewaskum have combined holdings of almost 600,000 items covering a wide variety of interests and reading levels. In addition, the libraries are all members of a 44-library consortium called SHARE, which allows direct online access to, and daily van delivery of, materials from such libraries as Racine, Watertown, Whitewater and Beaver Dam. Each of the libraries of Washington County offers adult, juvenile and young-adult materials in a variety of formats: print, audio, video/DVD and downloadable. Each library offers a series of programming geared to children, with special sessions for adults. Public internet access on high-speed computers is also available. These services are all offered without charge simply by having a library card from one of the county's libraries. All that is required to obtain a library card is some form of picture identification providing your name and current address. Children may obtain cards with parental consent. Contact the library of your choice for more information on that facility's hours, services and materials.

Library service for the townships in Washington County is provided through a special library tax assessed to rural property. The libraries have had a contract with Washington County since 1987 to provide the same open access to materials that the City/Village residents have. Your tax dollars help provide the services and materials offered in these five libraries. We are aware that due to job situations and convenience, some residents of Erin are choosing to use the libraries in neighboring Waukesha County. While these libraries are providing access for you, please be aware that Washington County will be paying out \$71,621 next year to help cover the costs incurred by these libraries to loan materials to Erin residents. In 2009, the Town Hall Library in North Lake will receive \$14,326, the Menomonee Falls Library will get \$13,803 and the Pauline Haass Library in Sussex will be paid \$35,584. Various other payments will be going to Pewaukee, Waukesha and Hartland. These are funds that must come out of the general library budget for Washington County but will not be paid to the five public libraries. For both 2008 and 2009, the Washington County libraries will receive less money than was provided in 2007 because of these increasing cross-county payments.

We just want to make Town of Erin residents aware of this situation. The libraries of your county ask you to give us a chance to provide many of the same materials and services that you are crossing the county line to receive. We are not asking you to quit using these neighboring libraries, as there are valid reasons for using them. But consider some alternatives. Each time you borrow something from one of these libraries, between \$2.00 and \$5.00 PER ITEM leaves our county. Feel free to contact one of the Washington County libraries for more information on the payment process and how it impacts your local libraries. Thanks for your time, and keep on reading and using libraries!

2008 Erin Fall Soccer

By the time you read this Report, we should be close to winding down our Fall season. A couple of items I would like to pass along:

First off, we would like to thank all the 2008 Leah Fenney Memorial Tournament sponsors for their generosity. They donated supplies, raffle prizes and money for that great day in September. We also want to thank all the volunteers that made the event a success. In addition, a special thanks to Lori Horvate, Sharon Loga, Roxanne Betts, Laurie Stout and Joel Janz for their extra efforts!!!!

We always need help with the Club's functions and duties. If you would like to volunteer your time or have ideas for our Club, please contact Dan Goodreau to find out more. A small amount of your time helps our kids have an enjoyable season that they will remember for a lifetime. What a great opportunity to mentor our youth!

Please check us out on the web for more news and updates:

<http://www.erinsoccer.org/>

10/25/08	Final Game date for the Fall season
11/1/08	Reschedule date for Missed Games
12/1/08	Win/Loss records due to KMSL



Dan Goodreau, President
628-2433

Roxanne Betts, Secretary
673-0615

Christopher Dubey, Treasurer
673-2146

Jeni Kastner, Promotions
644-0779

Highway J Citizens Group Update

The Highway J Citizens Group U.A. (HJCG) continues its grassroots efforts to preserve and protect this beautiful Kettle Moraine area.

For the past three years, the group has been vigorously pursuing a "one-of-a-kind" federal lawsuit to stop the four-lane expansion of Highway 164 and other directly-related road expansion projects through the Holy Hill area.

On August 5, 2008, the HJCG received a favorable ruling from Federal Judge Lynn Adelman that allows its case to proceed rapidly on the substantive merits. By early 2009, the group hopes to have obtained an injunction that will stop such road expansions. It is the view of HJCG that this will save millions in tax dollars and protect the homes, families, natural resources and scenic rural landscapes in the Town of Erin and neighboring communities for many years to come.

On May 10, 2008, the HJCG held a "grassroots citizens rally" at the Friess Lake School, where State Representative Don Pridemore was the keynote speaker and told the attendees about his "legislative plan of action" which would require the WisDOT to immediately implement a uniform 45-mph speed limit on Highway 164 to make this two-lane, residential roadway much safer. For further information, contact Jeff Gonyo at (262) 644-8334, e-mail him at jmgonyo164@core.com, or visit HJCG's website at www.hwjccitizensgroup.org.

Community Updates (cont.)

ST. PATRICK PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Contact: Joan Coffey
673-2193

St. Patrick Preservation Update

I am sure some of you have noticed a little bit of activity in Old St. Patrick Cemetery. Gehl Monument Company is in the process of straightening several headstones, thanks to the generosity of the Patricia Nickols' family in California, who donated a sizeable amount of money for the perpetual care of this historic cemetery. If you have loved ones buried in Old St. Patrick Cemetery, please also consider donating to this worthy cause. The more money available, the quicker the restoration work can begin and the greater the opportunity of saving these beautiful, old headstones for future generations. To donate to Old St. Patrick Cemetery, contact Father David LaPlante, Pastor, St. Kilian's Parish, 262-673-4831.

The yearly membership drive is under way for the St. Patrick Preservation Fund, Inc. Memberships are reasonably priced at \$5.00 single and \$10.00 family. These donations allow us to continue our preservation work for 153-year-old St. Patrick's Church. If interested, please contact President Maureen Fitzsimmons-Vanden Heuvel at 262-670-0975 or via E-mail at savestpats@aol.com.

We would like to thank David Millen of Millen Roofing for his generosity in donating his time and materials to fix the gutter issue at St. Patrick's—we are truly grateful!

We recently updated our website with current news and pictures, thanks to webmaster Joe Van Beckum. Check out the latest happenings at www.savestpatrick.com.

The 150-year-old St. Patrick's Altar Society is gearing up for another year. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of the month, September through May at 1 p.m. at the Erin Town Hall located at 1846 State Highway 83. If you would like to be a part of the camaraderie and spirituality AND enjoy some of the best desserts in the county, please drop in at the next meeting. If you have any questions, please contact President Joan Coffey at 262-673-2193.

If you are looking for a special Christmas gift for family and friends, please consider purchasing a copy of the 150th Anniversary History Book of St. Patrick's Church—suggested donation of \$25, or \$30 if shipping is required. This 187-page book is packed with memorable information, very interesting facts and over 250 pictures. To get your copy, please contact Nancy Henke at 262-673-5219 or E-mail Mary Hasslinger at mary.weddingday@att.net.

Again, we thank you for your support during the past nine years, as we continue our goal to preserve St. Patrick's, an important part of the history of the Town of Erin. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Erin Town Hall, 1846 State Highway 83—all are welcome. The Rosary is prayed prior to the meeting on the steps of St. Patrick's, May through October at 6:35 p.m., weather permitting.



Holy Hill Spires Undergo Historical Restoration

Like the infrastructure of twin launch pads at Cape Canaveral, the scaffolding surrounding the twin spires of the Basilica at Holy Hill spring out high above the Erin countryside.

The age of the limestone and brick, along with the cycles of freezing and thawing of water on the stones, has led to delamination, causing the stone to crack and fall out. This phenomenon has also been observed in older buildings located in Chicago, New York and other large cities.

The scaffolding used to access the higher reaches of the spires is a major expense in the repair process. With all of this metal in place, it became crucial that the workers try to locate and thoroughly repair all defective pieces. When the stone cannot be repaired, it has to be pulled out, remanufactured and reinserted into place. In other areas, bricks and mortar may also need to be replaced.

Workers are concentrating on the areas that can be accessed via the scaffolding towers. Other areas may need to be reached via crane.

Preventive measures will be instituted once the current repairs have been completed. A protocol has been developed that involves an annual visual inspection of the stones and bricks. Every three to five years, there will also be a thorough inspection, involving tapping the stones to reveal

potential problem areas not detected in the visual inspection.

During the current repair work, the contractor has discovered problem areas not listed in the original statement of work. Stones with even hairline fractures could, if not attended to now, become future failures.

SRI of Madison is the engineering firm overseeing the historical restoration project. The general contractor is Spray-o-Bond.

The restoration project started around May 1. Work on the scenic tower was slated to be completed by September 30, but bad weather may delay the re-opening date. The entire project is scheduled to be completed by mid-November.

The estimated cost of the project is expected to be about one million dollars. So far, about \$550,000 has been assigned to the project.

Submitted by Cornel Rosario

Community Updates (cont.)

Erin School News

Guidance by Michelle Sievers, School Psychologist

The Erin School District is committed to fostering the learning of all students. To support this commitment, all students are assessed in the beginning of the year to determine if they are either behind or beyond expectations for their grade. With the assessment information, we use a federal process called Response to Intervention (RtI). Response to Intervention encourages the implementation of intervention plans to meet the needs of all learners. Therefore, whether a student needs extra help to improve skills or needs extension activities to move beyond current expectations, the goal is that all needs are met.

Curriculum by Joannie Kalina, Director of Curriculum & Instruction

Students in grades 3-8 at Erin School District participate in the Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Examination (WKCE) each November. This series of standardized tests is a requirement of the No Child Left Behind federal law. Subject areas tested include reading and math for all students. In addition, science, social studies and language arts are tested in grades 4 and 8. The state has identified four categories for student achievement: minimal, basic, proficient, and advanced. Our students consistently score well above the state average in every grade level for every subject area. To access our school scores and compare our district to other districts go to: <http://dpi.wi.gov/> and click on WINNS or feel free to call the school at 673-3720 for a more detailed explanation. At Erin School we are committed to helping each student reach his or her full potential. We recognize that testing is just one important way to measure student achievement. We are proud of our outstanding test scores and continue to find new ways to help all students excel.

Technology by John Platais, Principal & Technology Coordinator

The Erin School District is dedicated to providing students with the 21st-Century knowledge and skills necessary to function in our highly technical world. Over the past year we have rebuilt our network infrastructure, integrated new software, and replaced the outdated machines in the lower elementary classrooms. With these and other changes in place, all of our students now have daily access to the hardware and software that they will need to be successful here at Erin School and beyond.

Buildings and Grounds by Debbie Priesgen, Director of Buildings & Grounds

This summer the district completed many projects to help maintain the life of our building, improve safety, and beautify the property. We finalized updating all the bathroom tile work and remodeling. Some bathroom tile was replaced, while other tile was re-grouted and brought back to life. With the proper maintenance, the restrooms should be good for 20+ years. The septic system was inspected and found to be in great working order. Some vent pipes were corrected to divert bad odors. Two exit doors were upgraded to meet code for emergency exiting. The gym floor was refinished and the warranty period extended another three years. The parking lot cracks were filled, and the lot was then sealed and striped. Tuck pointing on a courtyard wall was completed to stop further degrading of the wall structure. Over the next year, the Buildings and Grounds Committee will be taking a closer look at the roofing and put a preventative program in place.

District News by Kieth A. Kriewaldt, District Administrator

As we begin the new school year, we note that a leadership team of eight staff members attended the Leadership Academy in Madison over the summer. From this academy, we have developed this goal: “Erin School District will utilize Standards-Based feedback and reports to maximize student and staff learning for the 2008-10 school years.” Over the next three years, the district staff will be working on four specific areas to help our children be ready for the world beyond 8th grade. The board is in the process of developing a strategic plan for the district with the help of staff, parents, and community members.

How Can Parents Assist, Ensuring This Year Is a Success?

Always remember that you are your children's first and most important teacher. What you do at home is critical to their success. You affect the way they value education and, if you place a high priority on learning, it will make a difference in your children's attitude and motivation to learn in school.

- Be sure your children attend school every day they are well.
- Be positive with your children about school.
- Take every opportunity to recognize their accomplishments.
- Show support for what school staff are trying to do with your children.
- Communicate to your children in many ways that education is a high priority for your family.
- Set a designated study area and study times in your home. Doing homework and studying should become a routine that is rarely broken. The study area should be quiet and as free from distractions as you can make it. If your child doesn't have homework, that scheduled time can be used for reading.
- Be aware of your children's assignments. Set a check list for completing those assignments. When your children say for the third consecutive night that they have no homework, check it out for yourself. Most Hartford teachers post homework on a daily or weekly basis.
- Help your children develop good organizational habits. Create a place in your home where your children gather all of the materials and supplies to bring to school the next day. Discuss plans and activities for the next day.
- Encourage your children to get involved in before- or after-school activities or clubs. Students who are involved do better in school.
- Keep up on your children's progress by looking over papers, discussing important topics at the dinner table, and studying progress reports and report cards. Teachers post grades for assignments and quizzes, usually within a week of the due date. Attendance is also posted daily.
- Hold your children accountable for the decisions they make—both positive and negative consequences for those decisions. Set clear expectations and provide structure and support.
- If you sense your child is struggling and is lost on an assignment or preparing for a test,

contact the teacher as soon as you can.

- If you have a concern, please pursue it respectfully with school staff right away and before making a judgment. In doing so, you also model positive problem-solving for your children. Your child's teacher is almost always your first point of contact.

- Limit TV time. Many kids today watch too much television or spend an inordinate amount of time on video games or chatting with their friends on e-mail. Strike a balance, but place a high priority on education. Repeat the mantra, "School comes first in our home." School is your children's job. Everything else is secondary during the school year.

- As an adult, you realize that there will always be people who are taller, smarter, richer, poorer, less-skilled, and more athletic and musical than you are. The same principle holds true for all our students. Not every child can be #1 in everything—that's just unrealistic. Together, our job is to help shape your children into the best students that they can be.

- Stability counts. Today's students are easily influenced by the less-than-civil behavior of attention-getting rock stars, athletes, and others. That style may work for these individuals, but rude behavior of any sort does not work in our schools. Students who say, "Thank you," "Please," "Excuse me," "How may I help?" make the teaching and learning experience a good one for everyone in the school.

- Be an involved parent. Plan to attend back-to-school nights and parent-teacher conferences. Volunteer as much as you can—even if it is only one day during the year. Please regularly read all information that is sent home.

- Keep contact information up-to-date so that you receive important information in a timely manner.

- Please remember that it takes people at home, the student, and the teacher to make the year successful. Ongoing communication builds understanding.

Teachers will appreciate hearing from you, especially if something is working well for your student. Positive reinforcement always helps.

*Submitted by Michael L. Kremer, Ph.D.
District Administrator HUHS*

SHARE NEWS OR ADVERTISE?

The *Erin Township News* is published every 4 months. The deadline for getting articles to the editors for the next issue is **January 10, 2009**. The issue should be in residents' mailboxes by early the following month.

A new team has stepped in to edit and lay out the newsletter. They are Chris Cowles, Fran Kerrigan, and Cornel Rosario. Cornel is serving as the contact point, so please send questions and article submissions to him at Crosario08@aol.com. Please submit articles as electronic files, preferably in Word. Pictures are always welcome (digital if possible).

Business-card-size ads are also welcome, if space allows. The cost is \$30 per ad per issue. We prefer camera-ready art in jpg format or PDF. Refer questions on advertising policy to the Clerk's office.

Contact Information

The Clerk's office is open Monday and Tuesday 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00;
or by appointment.

phone: 673-3682 email: erintown@netwurx.net www.erintownship.com

Meeting notices: published in *Hartford Times Press* and posted outside the Town Hall, Erin Inn, and Erin School.
The Town Clerk must have agenda items at least two weeks before official meetings.

TOWN BOARD MEMBERS

Dennis Kenealy, Chairperson
Home: 966-2148
Brad Bautz
Home: 224-1497
Mike Connell
Home: 966-1864
Gene Eggert
Home: 920-474-7684
Jeff Millikin
Home: 673-7001

TOWN TREASURER

Jennifer Horner
Home: 966-9974

TOWN CLERK

Brenda Klemmer
Office: 673-3682
Home: 966-1838
Mon/Tues 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.
Wed/Thurs 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

EMERGENCY ROAD CONDITIONS

Dave Lofy, Roads Department
414-750-9529

ASSESSOR

Michael Grota
Office: 253-1142

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

Gene Eggert
Office: 673-3682
By appointment only.

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Scott Hussinger
490-8222
Tues/Thurs 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.



1846 State Hwy. 83
Hartford, WI 53027