

St. Patrick's Day Parade - 2009

Nothing is more appreciated or unpredictable than the weather on March 17th. Thankfully, Mother Nature blessed us with record high temperatures, sunny skies and gentle breezes as the Town of Erin hosted the 29th Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Thirty-seven entries on a Tuesday is a very good showing, and no doubt the weather was an incentive to participate.

Many thanks go out to many people:

First and foremost, to Washington County Sheriff Dale Schmidt, Sergeant Chad Beres, Lt. Bruce Theusch, and all the deputies who handled the record crowd with tremendous professionalism and dispatch.

Then, to our volunteers, who helped with traffic control and parking: Mike and Kerri O'Dell, Volunteer/ police coordination, entry alignment, general road supervision; and Barb and Joe Kohler, Barb and Greg Leach, Sue and Dennis Rosplcok, Steve and Ann Finnessy, Greg West, Brian Fick, Larry Barikmo, Mike Whelan, Mark Truse, and Paul Basslor.

To all who helped with the clean-up.

To Jeff Kraft, Parade Committee Chairperson; Jeff Millikin, Town Liaison.

To Dave Lofy and Jeff Brandner of the Town of Erin Road Crew, who handled the barricades, garbage drums and pickup, and all the miscellaneous tasks required to make the Parade happen.

To our financial backers, whose donations make the Parade possible: Mark McCune, Erin Inn, Ox & Cats, Leffler's Pack 'em Inn, Tally Ho, Down Slope Pub, Bear Trap and Woody's.



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Chairman's and Committee Reports

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

**DENNIS KENEALY,
TOWN CHAIRMAN**

Notes from the Chair

The most recent election has brought numerous complaints regarding the placing of flyers inside and on top of mailboxes. I know there were complaints about this activity this past Spring. I am spreading the word so as to eliminate the complaints and protect people from some potentially serious consequences when they perform this activity.

I have talked several times with the Postmaster. She has received numerous complaints about this practice again this year. The Postmaster has asked that we inform the people of Erin that it is illegal and a serious offense to use the mailboxes, in any manner, to place flyers of any kind.

People are worried about identity theft as one example and do not wish their mailboxes to be used by anyone who is not authorized to do so. The Postmaster will take these complaints to prosecution if the offenders can be identified. The message she wants to convey is to simply stop using the post boxes for this activity. Instead, mail the item or deliver it personally.

CLERK'S CORNER

**BRENDA KLEMMER,
TOWN CLERK**

Report from the Town Clerk's Desk

The Spring Election brought only one change to the Town Board. We welcome Dan Coffey as Town Supervisor. Gene Eggert was re-elected as Town Supervisor and Dennis Kenealy as Town Chairman. Jenny Horner will continue as Town Treasurer. Congratulations to all!!!

I would like to thank all the election workers who put in long hours each election. Things ran very smoothly for the most part, and because of all your hard work we were able to complete all the paperwork in a timely manner. Thanks again for your time and dedication.

Open Book and Board of Review were also held this spring. We had many inquiries during the open book process. Hopefully the Assessor was able to resolve any questions you had.

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

Park Board News

The Park Board is seeking input from Erin residents regarding the current park facilities and how they are used. Suggestions and ideas are always encouraged. Please contact any Park Board member with your comments. The board would like to especially support ideas and volunteers to help with community events in the Park this summer and fall.

(continued on next page)

Committee Reports (cont.)

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Soccer and baseball are in full swing, and don't forget about the nine-hole disc golf course. First tee is to the left of and behind the War Memorial. Watch for the large boulders - they mark the tees. Bring a Frisbee and enjoy a stroll through the park!

ENJOY the summer!



Dan Goodreau, President
628-2433

Joel Janz, Vice President
673-7873

Roxanne Betts, Secretary
673-0615

Sharon Loga, Treasurer
673-9322

Jeni Kastner, Promotions
644-0779

Baseball Update

Mondays through Fridays our Erin Town Park sees lots of action. Bats are cracking, catchers are catching, and runners are sliding into home plate for that winning run. Our concession stand offers peanuts, popcorn and cracker jacks. Green jerseys are scattered over the fields. Kids are cheering, parents are clapping, neighbors are enjoying the camaraderie. Yes, ladies and gentlemen, it's time for baseball!

The Erin Baseball League is off to a great start this year! We have around 150 of the best baseball players from our area! Boys and girls can start playing ball with us at five years of age and play until they're 14 years old. Our coaches are dedicated and skilled volunteers who we appreciate greatly! This year's coaches include: Jodi Anderson, Tony Resch, Kevin Lipske, Mark Hlava, Kim Schmitt, Jeff Kennedy, Dennis Kenealy, Dave Dean, James Schwalbach and Don Pridemore.

You can check out our web site at www.erinbaseball.org for tons of information and schedules. Come on down and catch a great game!



School Updates

ERIN SCHOOL

Contact: Kieth Kriewaldt,
Administrator
kriewaldt@erinschool.org
673-3720

Erin School News

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

- As we close out the year, we have assembled an Erin Crisis Plan to assist school personnel in the event of an accident/event.
- The district is checking into writing an energy grant to help reduce the school's future energy costs.
- When the school year ended, we had assembled our summer cleaning crew and identified several projects to be completed:
 - There will be waterproof lighting fixtures installed for the flag and the school sign. Three outdated electrical panels and breakers will be updated along with creating a schematic map of all the breaker boxes located within the school.
 - Additional wood chips will be added to the playground so it complies with code and keeps our students safe.
 - There will be some work done with the down spouts around the building to keep water from penetrating our tunnel walls.
- Besides the projects, the whole school will undergo a thorough cleaning for the 2009 - 2010 school year.

Athletics, by Andrew Andress, Athletic Director

- The boys' basketball season finished in March with all teams doing well in their respective conference tournaments. The 8th grade boys turned in an extremely impressive performance, winning the consolation championship of the AMSAC tournament.
- On March 18th, Erin hosted a one-night volleyball clinic put on by Marquette University. Currently, there are six Erin teams competing in 6th, 7th and 8th grades. Two boys' teams and four girls' teams are all working hard and making improvements. The teams culminated their seasons in mid-May at the conference tournament held at Arrowhead High School. Way to go, Roadrunners!

District Secretary/Assistant

During the summer months the administrative assistant will be at the school from 8 AM to 12:00 noon on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. So, if you get new neighbors, please let them know when to stop in at school for a visit. Summer registration is planned for Tuesday, August 4th from 1 PM until 4 PM and Monday, August 10th or Thursday, August 14th from 3:30 PM until 6:30 PM. Parents will be asked to update their family information, students will receive their schedules and information packets, and fees will be collected at that time. Open House is scheduled for Wednesday, August 26th from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM. Student pictures will be taken that day from 4 PM to 7 PM. Please plan to attend. We hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable summer vacation.

Erin School News *(continued)*

District, by Kieth A. Kriewaldt, District Administrator

With pre-registration completed, it appears Erin School District will again lose resident students for the fifth year in a row. The declining enrollment has and will continue to place hard financial burdens on the district and area taxpayers. While the actual number of students has increased slightly because of open enrollment students entering our district, the number of students for whom we receive revenue has declined. Due to less state aid, the taxpayers pick up the difference. Another reason for this is because the Erin School District is considered to be a property-wealthy district. The district and school board will continue to work hard to provide the community with a school system that provides a high quality education at a reasonable price. Saying this, the next three years are going to bring some big changes to education. The financial situation will determine how we will address most of them. It appears there will be more rigorous standards coming out of Washington for our students and schools. The Erin Staff will meet these challenges and do everything in our power to make sure our students have the best education possible. While most of the details have not been released, it appears a national assessment will be rolled out along with new learning targets for our students. Again, the staff will work hard to ensure these changes are reflected in the district's curriculum and daily lessons.

Volunteer Coordinator, by Sue Lisko

ERIN SCHOOL WANTS YOU!

Erin School is offering a volunteer opportunity for all members of our community. Volunteers will help with classroom projects, sewing, making treats for special occasions, reading to children, and addressing other daily needs to help our children excel. By volunteering your time and talent, you will be enriching the lives of our students and making a difference in the community. If you have a special talent you wish to share with the school, we'd love to have you! Our schedules are flexible to accommodate your busy life; you can volunteer at school or work on projects in your home. For more information or to sign up, please contact Sue Lisko at Erin School: 262-673-3720 ext. 4509 or LISKO@erinschool.org. Remember, no matter how big or small, the talents we all have can make a difference!



Community Updates

Hartford Public Library

The Hartford Public Library invites all area children to "Be Creative @ Your Library" this summer. The 2009 Summer Reading Club starts with registration week on Monday, June 8, and runs through Wednesday, August 5. A wide variety of craft programs and special guest performers will be offered during these eight weeks. A calendar of events will be distributed to all Erin Elementary School children during a special assembly on June 3, but copies of that calendar will also be available at the Library the first week in June.

A number of performers will be at the Hartford Library this summer. Geoff Akins, the "Bubble Man," will perform on June 17. The duo of Fox and Branch will perform a variety of folk-based children's songs on July 8. Magician Matthew Morgan will help wrap up the summer activities with a family show the evening of August 5. In between, preschool sessions will be held on Wednesday mornings starting at 10:30 AM for approximately 45 minutes. These programs are geared for children ages 3 to 5. Programs for the grade school children will start at 2:30 PM on Wednesdays and last roughly one hour. A special talent program for grades 5 and up will be held the evening of July 14. Show off your special skills to other children, and enjoy a night of fun, refreshments and entertainment.

The summer program features two specific categories. The Read-To-Me group is for the beginning readers who track the number of books they read, or have read to them by family and friends. The older children will keep track of the minutes they read during the program.

There will be special prizes awarded based on the number of books/minutes read, and the grand prize drawing will be held at the end of the summer for various gifts donated by area merchants. "Be Creative" this summer, join the reading club at the Hartford Public Library. Questions regarding the summer activities can be directed to the Youth Library staff by calling 262-673-8240.

The Hartford Public Library is located on the top floor of the Hartford City Hall at 109 N. Main Street in downtown Hartford. Parking is available in the back of the facility off Johnson Street. The Library's doors are open to all residents of Washington and Dodge Counties. Library cards are issued free of charge by just providing an ID with a current address. Children in Grades K through 8 may also get cards with parental permission. The process takes about five minutes. The Library offers a selection of over 115,000 books, almost 5,000 audio-books in both cassette and compact disc format, 1,500 DVDs and 3,500 videos plus many musical CDs for both adults and children. The Library offers six public Internet workstations that can be used for an hour per day. The Library's summer hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM until 8:30 PM, and Saturdays from 9:00 AM until 12:00 Noon. Access to the Library's database can be found at www.hartfordlibrary.org on the web, and staff can be emailed at hartfordpl@hartfordlibrary.org. The Library is part of the 44-library SHARE consortium, offering direct access to almost three million titles. Check out the current Library, and get more information regarding the plans for the new Jack Russell Memorial Library which is scheduled to begin construction within the next two years. Questions can also be asked by calling 282-673-8240 during regular business hours.



Highway J Citizens Group

Five State Legislators ask Gov. Jim Doyle to Make Hwy 164 Safer

For the past ten years, the Highway J Citizens Group, U.A. (HJCG) has been diligently working to stop the Wisconsin Department of Transportation's (WisDOT) four-lane expansion of Highway 164 through our communities in both Washington and Waukesha Counties and to make our existing two-lane residential roadway much safer by immediately enacting a uniform 45 mph speed limit.

The WisDOT originally promised to lower Highway 164's speed limit to 45 mph in the Fall of 2007 and then subsequently reneged on that promise. Since that time, there have been six fatalities and many serious injuries caused by accidents that could have been prevented had a 45 mph speed limit been in place. Most recently, on March 29, 2009, three local residents died and four others were seriously injured in a two-vehicle crash on Highway 164 in the Village of Richfield. Two of those who died in this traffic accident were children.

Immediately after this tragic accident, the HJCG contacted our area's state legislators about this ongoing traffic safety problem on

Highway 164. As a result, State Senators Ted Kanavas and Glenn Grothman and State Representatives Don Pridemore, Pat Strachota and Dan Knodl have sent a jointly-signed letter to Governor Jim Doyle asking that he tell the WisDOT to immediately lower Highway 164's speed limit to 45 mph which, if done, would make our roadway much safer and prevent future fatal accidents. We are still waiting for a response from Governor Doyle.

Finally, within the next month, we expect Judge Lynn Adelman to hold an "oral argument" on our federal lawsuit to stop the Highway 164 four-lane expansion. A favorable court ruling on this important, precedent-setting case will yield enormous benefits to our Kettle Moraine area communities (including the Town of Erin) for many years to come.

For more information, please call Jeff Gonyo at (262)-644-8334, e-mail him at: jmgonyo164@core.com or visit the HJCG website at: www.hwyjcitizensgroup.org. Our local mailing address is: HIGHWAY J CITIZENS GROUP, U.A., P.O. Box 152, Hubertus, WI 53033.

Community Updates

♣ ST. PATRICK PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Contact: Joan Coffey
673-2193

St. Patrick Preservation Update

MAGNIFICENT is the only way to describe the weather on St. Patrick's Day 2009, as the luck of the Irish was on full display. We are so very grateful to Gay Griesbach and Kristine Walden of the West Bend Daily News/Times Press, for the wonderful articles on St. Patrick's Church and the Parade. As Kristine Walden described in her article, the church was full from front to back to hear Father David LaPlante's inspiring Homily AND to get a taste of his famous cookies. Former pastor of St. Patrick's, Father Wally Vogel, was also in attendance. Since Mass attendees did their part in consuming every last cookie, we can confidently mark our calendars for Mass at St. Patrick's on March 17, 2010.

This year saw some changes at parade time with our usual trusty, green pick-up needing some repair work. Many thanks to Supervisor Gene Eggert for the use of his trailer AND for doing an AWESOME job as St. Patrick - filling in for John Kaczor, who was feeling under the weather. Of course, we are grateful once again to Jeff Kraft for providing St. Patrick with his beautiful attire and to our "decorations crew" of Kayleigh Dlapa, Allie Vanden Heuvel, Cora Spuhler and Amanda Wiebelhaus. With the beautiful weather, the crowd was unusually large for a Tuesday and it was a real treat to be able to decorate our float minus the mittens. For those of you who missed the parade, you can visit our website: www.savestpatrick.com to see the articles and photos.

At the May 12, 2009, St. Patrick Preservation Meeting, elections were held for the coming year. Officers are as follows: President - Maureen Fitzsimmons-Vanden Heuvel, Vice President - Robert Schwengel, Secretary - Peggy Kenealy and Co-Treasurers - Margaret Van Beckum and Joan Coffey.

Now that warmer weather has arrived, the St. Patrick Preservation Group will continue our cemetery project of photographing and recording all gravestones in the Old St. Patrick Cemetery. It has been a long, slow process and we are hopeful to complete the process by the fall.

Have a birthday, anniversary or special occasion and in need of a unique gift? The 150th Anniversary History Book of St. Patrick's Church will bring hours of enjoyment especially for your favorite Irish relative. If you haven't already done so, please think about purchasing a copy - suggested donation of \$30 or \$35 if shipping is requested. The 187-page book 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.

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St. Patrick Preservation Update *(continued)*

For continued updates, please visit our web site at www.savestpatrick.com (don't forget - check out the latest photos and articles from St. Patrick's Day) or join us the second Tuesday of each month at 7 PM, at the Erin Town Hall. Coffee, dessert and catching up with family, friends and neighbors follow the meeting.

If you would like to become a member of the St. Patrick Preservation Fund, Inc. (reasonably priced at \$5/Single and \$10/Family), please contact Maureen Fitzsimmons-Vanden Heuvel at 262/670-0975 or E-mail her at SaveStPats@aol.com.

We again thank you for your ongoing support during the past TEN years, as we continue our goal to preserve St. Patrick's Chapel--an important part of the history of the Town of Erin.

(Please see photo gallery on page 10)

St. Patrick's Day Parade *(continued from page 1)*

To this year's Parade judges: Kerri O'Dell, Ann Finnessy and Larry Barikmo, Waste Management and Veolia for use of their dumpsters.

And finally, many congratulations to this year's Parade King and Queen: Ian Duncan and Becca Farago, and to the following parade entry winners:

	First Place	Runner-up
Animal entry	Nick' Trucking Horses	George Strobel Monches Critters
Antique entry	Ralph Roskopf 1944 John Deere Grader	Erin Auto Care 1926 TT Truck
Judges' Choice	Joshua's Dugot LLC Brewer's van	Hairy Lemon Truck / trailer

Community Updates

St. Patrick's Preservation Photo Gallery



SHARE NEWS OR ADVERTISE?

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

Please send questions and article submissions to Cornel Rosario 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.

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.

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

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
Gene Eggert
Home: 920-474-7684
Jeff Millikin
Home: 673-7001
Dan Coffey
Home: 673-5840

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