

# EUREKA! THE NEWS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF EUREKA TOWNSHIP

SEPTEMBER 2001



## Eureka Township Supervisors 7:30 pm, 2nd Monday of Month

Beverly Topp, Chairperson  
952-469-4859  
Don Pflaum, Vice Chairperson  
651-463-3577  
Connie Anderson  
952-469-2355  
Kenny Miller  
952-469-4803  
Clark Smith  
952-469-3352

Oliver Leine, Town Clerk  
952-469-2294  
Nanette Leine, Treasurer  
952-469-3736

## Eureka Planning Commission 7:30 pm, 1st Monday of Month

Greg Gudbjartsson, Chair  
952-469-3963  
Paul Boyum  
952-469-3800  
Mark Malecha  
507-645-4015  
Francine Madden  
952-469-2958  
Calvin Pflaum  
651-463-3577

## Township Contact

**Nanett Leine**  
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## GOT TIRES! GOT MOSQUITOES!

**Here is an opportunity** to get rid of old tires (auto & agriculture) and reduce the hazards for our children.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has issued alerts of the danger of children contracting LaCrosse encephalitis through bites from the A. triseriatus mosquitoes which are carriers of a dangerous virus. This can result in a serious viral infection and can cause permanent damage to the central nervous system, and in rare cases, death.

Several cases of this disease have appeared in Dakota County, mostly in children under the age of 16. Our county is considered a most favorable breeding site for this and other mosquitoes

This mosquito is notorious for laying its eggs in the holes of trees but also will use containers such as tires, cans, buckets or anything else that can hold a small pool of water.

Eliminating breeding sites, like old tires and other water holding containers, represents the most effective control measure available in the battle against LaCrosse encephalitis.

The township in cooperation with Dakota County, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District has undertaken a disease prevention program focusing on the habitat of this mosquito. The program is providing funds for the collection and processing of old abandoned scrap tires.

**When: October 6, 2001 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**  
rain or shine  
**Where: bring tires to the Eureka Town Hall**  
**Cost: NO CHARGE FOR RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP**

This is a **ONE TIME** offer..

So between now and October 6th, search the roads, ditches, windbreaks and shelter belts for abandoned old tires. The town will gladly accept tires from back yards as well, but not from commercial enterprises, such as tire repair shops or salvage yards

You are needed to help process the tires at the town hall. Contact either Kenny at 952-469-4803 or Connie at 952-469-2355 for more information or to volunteer to help.

## MEET YOUR TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS

**Greg Gudbjartsson, Chair** - has lived in the township since 1980. He has been a member of the Planning Commission since the late 80's. He's married and has two high school aged boys. Owns a local septic tank pumping business which he started over 10 years ago. Special interest and hobbies: Motorcycles, traveling with his motor home, maintaining cars and trucks owned by the family and deep water sailing.

**Paul Boyum** - has been on the Planning Commission for about 10 years. He was born on a small dairy farm near Castle Rock and graduated from Northfield High School. Served in the navy during the Vietnam War. He is a graduate of Mankato State University, and has worked as a CPA in financial organizations and as Chief Financial Officer for Green Tree Financial. Returning to Eureka Township in 1987, he now farms on acreage in the township and in Rice County. He's married and has grown children, one who helps him farm. His hobbies include raising thoroughbred race horses, fishing and golf.

**Francine Madden** - she was born and raised in the township and attended the Lakeville schools. She works for Precision Fitting & Valve in Farmington. Does a little farming on the side, mostly as a hobby. She was appointed to the Planning Commission in 1998.

**Calvin Pflaum** - has lived in the township all his life and attended schools in Farmington. Pflaums have been in Dakota County since the 1880s. This is a third generation family on the same working farm. He and his wife have two sons and a daughter.

**Mark Malecha** - the newest member of the commission. Was appointed to it in 2001. He is a lifelong resident of the township; lives on the same farm that his parents farmed beginning in 1951. He works as a grain merchandiser for Farmers Mill & Elevator in Castle Rock and also does some farming and the raising of livestock. He and his wife have one son.

## MAINTAINING TOWNSHIP ROADS

Several large road projects have been undertaken this year.

Spot graveling was done prior to dust coating in June. A three inch limerock lift was added to 225th St., from Cedar Ave. to Essex Ave. The old (very narrow) box culvert on Highview Ave. by the airport, has been removed and replaced with steel culverts, providing a safe, regular width road surface. Highview Ave., south of the airport (by Cross Nursery), was "farmed" to firm up the road bed, and three inches of limestone lift will be added from the Lakeville border to 250th St.

The south ditch on the road through Chub Lake is currently undergoing a several step process to stabilize the ditch and to prevent erosion. The ditch was cleaned and the first of four or five dams with a sediment pond has been installed. As more fill material becomes available, the next level will be installed. A culvert will be placed under the road at the intersection of Denmark and 265th St. to improve drainage. A section of Fordham Ave. will have drainage tile added to prevent frost boils in the spring.

The road contracts with Mark Henry Excavating and Rud Construction Inc. for the fiscal year 2001-2002 have been approved

### SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

A public meeting, conducted by the County, will be held on **September 25, 2001** at the Town Hall starting at **7:00 PM** to receive comments on the proposed turn back of county road 27 (Essex Ave.) and county road 80, west of Dodd (that portion of 250th St. that was not surfaced and goes to the Scott County line.)

### TOWN HALL RESEARCH TASK TEAM

This task team is being formed to study and offer suggestions as to whether the existing town hall should be rehabed, a new hall built, a hall rented or other options that may develop out of group work. If you have any interest in helping in this, call John Strunk, at 952-469-5347. He is the chair of this task team.

## > CHAIR'S CORNER <

We are excited about the comments we have heard regarding the publication of the *Eureka! The News*. We hope it has helped you to feel more a part of things here and to learn more about your township government. I would like to bring you up to date on a few items your elected and appointed representatives are working on.

Summer is just about over and although the Planning Commission and Town Board continually work on township business, we are ready to intensify our process of **updating ordinances** and the **Comprehensive Plan**.

At the September 10th Board Meeting we approved the placement of the **proposed Mining Ordinance** at the public libraries in Farmington and Lakeville, as well as at the Town's business office at 24797 Highview Ave. The Document will be available for review during normal business hours of the libraries and at the hours of the Town's Business office as provided on the front page under the title Township Contact. Copies will be available at the Business Office at a cost of \$4.00 each. In addition, a public notice will be placed in the local newspapers and on the Town Hall bulletin board providing specific information on this matter, including the date for the public hearing.

**The public hearing will be held at the Town Hall on Nov. 5, 2001 at 8:00 PM.**

We have returned our attention to the question of how **commercial establishments** fit in our township. Check the bulletin board at town hall for the dates of all open public meeting.

There has been some confusion over the role of the recently formed **Envisioning Committee**. I want to emphasize that the work of of this group is to provide information that will help educate us on long term growth scenarios that we could face in the future. Their work has no relationship to our activities on any ordinances or the Comp. Plan. (See the followig article "Envisioning Committee " or more information.)

**About the roads:** It has been a busy summer for Clark Smith, Don Pflaum, Gary Smith and the road contractors. (See the article headed *Maintaining Township Roads* for additional detail.) Much upgrading and maintenance has been accomplished, and judging from your comments, most people seem to be satisfied with the general condition of our 36 miles of roads. A wet spring and then a dry summer made it difficult to maintain a good grading schedule that would do more good than harm. However, adding significant materials early in the summer seemed to help take us through the times when grading was just not a feasible option.

At a special meeting on August 28th, the board met to evaluate the Road Inspector position. After much discussion the board voted to eliminate the position. The work that Gary Smith did in the time he held the position met the expectations of the board. He did an excellent job of working with the contractors and developing and maintaining schedules.

Our decision was made on the basis of saving the township money by requiring town supervisors to oversee the condition and maintenance of roads in the township. Therefore, starting on November 1, Clark Smith and Kenny Miller will provide oversight for all township roads west of Cedar/Galaxie Avenue, and Connie Anderson and Don Pflaum for roads east of Cedar/Galaxie Ave, with Bev Topp 'at large'.

**On September 4, 2001 a Town Meeting** was held for the purpose of considering the effect of the new state law on the **loss of funding** to the township with the repeal of Local Government Aid and Homestead and Agriculture Credit Aid. After some discussion, the participants voted to approve an increase in the levy by the amount that would have been forthcoming under the Local Government Aid. This is approximately \$1700, and represents an increase in local tax on households in the township of perhaps \$3 to \$4 a year.

Call Bev at 952-469-4859 if you have any questions.

### ENVISIONING TASK TEAM

This task team is a discussion and educational group, not a policy making group; it has no power to make planning decisions for the township. The Town Board empowered the group to work with Dakota County and 1000 Friends of Minnesota by participating in a growth scenario study funded by the Minnesota Office of Environment Assistance.

The purpose is threefold:

- formulate and discuss a variety of growth scenarios for the township;
- learn about the potential impact of each growth scenario on such things as water quality, agriculture, wildlife, township infrastructure, and resident quality of life;
- inform the citizens of Eureka about their findings at the conclusion of their work.

Led by the chair, Mike Greco, the group consists of nine other volunteers: Jody Arman-Jones, Ray Kaufenberg, Kenny Miller, Amy Nielsen, Bob Papke, Pat Steege, Jerry Swedin, Bev Topp, and Randy Wood.

All meetings are held at the Eureka Town Hall and meeting dates and times are posted on the bulletin board outside the town hall building. All meetings are open to observers, and the group reserves limited time at the end of each meeting for public comment relevant to the discussion. The next meeting is scheduled for September 12, starting at 7:00 pm.

All meetings start at 7:30 PM  
in the Town Hall on old  
Cedar Avenue, a block south  
of 250 St. W.

Planning Commission  
October 1  
November 5  
December 3

Town Board  
October 9  
November 13  
December 10

Calendar of Meetings

Eureka Township  
24797 Highway Avenue  
Lakeville, MN 55044  
Tel: 952.469.3736

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Feedlot Registration

Owners of feedlots **MUST** register their feed lot with Dakota County by January 1, 2002, if:

- their feedlot is capable of holding more than 50 animals units
- their feedlot is capable of holding more than 10 animal units & are located within a shore land.

If owners were previously registered in the past, they **MUST** register again by the above deadline.

For additional information, call BRAD BECKER, Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District at 651-480-7782

## IMPORTANT NOTICE

- for general information
- to get on the Town Board meeting agenda
- to get information on the requirement for a township building permit

**CONTACT:** Nanett Leine  
Email: eureka@frontiernet.net

or at 952-469-3736

For immediate response on:  
Monday 8:00 AM to noon  
Thursday 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Other days & evenings, calls are transferred to Voice Mail.

All calls will be returned.