

# EUREKA! THE NEWS

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF EUREKA TOWNSHIP, MN.

JULY, 2007



## CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY

*by Dan Rogers, Town Board Chair*

It has been a busy summer in Eureka Township. People who believe volunteerism is a thing of the past should come to our community and see how it works here! The most noticeable project has been our Town Hall---if you have not been to the Town Hall lately, you should make a trip.

- Our national and state flags are flying proudly 24 hours a day. This is due to the individuals who donated their time and money to purchase and install the lights that illuminate these reminders of our freedom.

- You will notice that the landscaping around the Town Hall is also nearly complete. Again, one of our Township residents took it upon himself to make this happen. The rock, the shrubbery, and the plantings were all donated or purchased with donations from members of our community. The labor to plant the shrubs and lay the rock was also donated (on a very hot day I might add).

- We are not quite done with landscaping however. The next project is a rain garden to help improve water quality from parking lot water runoff. To help fund this landscaping effort around the town hall parking lot, Eureka Township has submitted an application to the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District's "Community Cost-Share Program" for the proposed rain garden project. Rain gardens are bowl-shaped gardens designed to collect and absorb runoff from a roof, parking lot, or other impervious surface. By capturing runoff, rain gardens prevent polluted storm water from entering our rivers, ponds and lakes. They also help replenish our aquifers and groundwater-fed rivers and ponds by recharging rainwater into the ground. The rain garden would be designed to be both attractive and low-maintenance. If you are interested in helping with or making a donation to this project, please contact planning commissioner Mike Greco.

- Another project to be completed this summer is to install parking curbs in our parking lot and to stripe the parking stalls. Material will be purchased by the Township for this, but we will be looking for volunteers to help with the installation and striping

- Routine cleaning for our Town Hall is also donated by volunteers. Individuals come in twice a month to clean the rest rooms, vacuum, dust, and clean the windows.

It is through the efforts of the citizens in our community that we have a Town Hall and a Township, of which we can all be proud. We help plan it, build it, decorate it, maintain it, and envision it's future. Thank you to all the people in Eureka Township that have shown "I care".



John Strunk, his Strunk Greenhouse employees, and Dan Rogers have installed a landscaping facelift of the Town Hall, drawn up by Dan Cross. Plants, bark, mulch, edging and rock mulch were donated by Cross Nursery, Bachman's, Strunk Greenhouse, and Eureka Sand and Gravel. Existing shrubs were utilized within the landscape.

### Eureka Township Supervisors

Meet monthly, 2nd Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Dan Rogers, Chair  
952-469-3739, term to 3/09

Jeff Otto, Vice Chair  
952-469-8561, term to 3/10

Cory Behrendt, term to 3/09  
952-985-5411

Gloria Belzer, term to 3/08  
612-202-5821

Brian Budenski, term to 3/08  
952-292-6028

### Eureka Planning Commission

Meet monthly, 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Mike Greco, Chair  
952-469-8418, term to 4/08

Sharon Buckley, Vice Chair  
952-469-2290, term to 4/09

Kenny Miller, term to 4/10  
952-469-4803

Ken Olstad, term to 4/08  
952-985-7248

Nancy Sauber, term to 4/09  
952-469-5146

### Township Contact, Clerk/Treasurer

Nanett Champlain, 952-469-3736  
fax: 952-469-5525

Monday, 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

At other times, calls transferred to voice mail; all calls are returned.

- for general information
- to get on meeting agenda
- for building, etc. permit info.

E-mail: [eurekatn@frontiernet.net](mailto:eurekatn@frontiernet.net)

Website <http://eurekatownship-mn.us>

- official meeting minutes
- ordinances, calendar, etc.
- permit applications

### Township Roads:

Brian Budenski, 952-292-6028

Jeff Otto, 952-469-8561

Emergency 911-ambulance/police/ fire  
(non-emergency 651-437-4211)

Official Notices posted on bulletin board outside the Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave., and published in *This Week Life and Times* newspaper.

Editor: Carolyn Papke, 651-463-8546  
Mailings by George Molitor

## CURRENT TOWN BOARD INFORMATION

*The Town Board is continually in the process of making decisions about Building Permits, Split Lots, Non-Conforming Use Permits, Conditional Use Permits, and issues that are not in compliance with our Ordinances.*

*For specific information, refer to the minutes of Town Board Meetings on our website.*

### • **Actions**

- Approved Otte Excavating for winter snow plowing, and summer road maintenance
- Phase I of Ordinance recommendations and changes will be ready for public hearings this August. The specific date will be posted on the Township calendar. Proposed ordinance changes are online at the website at [http://eurekatownship-mn.us/Proposed\\_Ord\\_Updates.pdf](http://eurekatownship-mn.us/Proposed_Ord_Updates.pdf).
- A permit has been requested for Windmill Gravel Mine which will be operated by Kenny Miller and located approximately 1/4 mile west of Denmark on 235th Street. This is the first gravel mine to be requested under the new Eureka Mining Ordinance (page 102). After an environmental review is completed, a public hearing will likely be held late summer, as part of the Ordinance procedures.

### • **MinnCan Info**

The Minnesota Pipe Line Company (MPL) system transports Canadian crude oil to Minnesota refineries. In June the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission approved all of MinnCan Pipelines proposed routing requests and permit applications for the new 304 mile crude oil pipeline from Clearbrook, Mn. through southern Dakota County to Rosemount that will affect Eureka Township. The Minnesota Pipe Line Company (or MPL) will now begin contacting all landowners along the approved route to negotiate for right of way in preparation for construction. Landowners may access information from <http://eurekatownship-mn.us> or call the project's toll-free line at (877) 796-7846 or visit [www.MinnCanProject.com](http://www.MinnCanProject.com) for more information.

### • **Town Hall Use Committee:** Ken Olstad, Bernie Woods, Gloria Belzer, Ray Swedeem.

The group has met several times; their minutes are posted on the Township website. A draft has been composed for Town Hall use and procedures. It will be reviewed by the committee, presented to the Board of Supervisors, and then be reviewed by the Township attorney.

## DID YOU KNOW ABOUT EUREKA ORDINANCES

### • **Lot Split Information** (Ord. 3, Ch. 3, Sec.1 (A), p. 42):

Lot splits and building right clusters approved by the Eureka Town Board are not final until recorded by landowner with Dakota County. In addition, a lot split or building right cluster must be approved by the town board **and** recorded with the Dakota County Treasurer-Auditor's Office **and** the Dakota County Recorder's (Property Records) Office **before** applying for a building permit on the property. It works this way:

• For Building Right Clusters – after board approval, the town clerk will submit to the County Recorder's Office the application form and township resolution approving the building right cluster, along with any other documents (such as a certificate of survey) referenced in the resolution or application. The cluster is considered complete when the clerk receives notification from the County that the document has been recorded.

• For Lot Splits – The landowner must submit to the County Treasurer-Auditor's Office **and** the County Recorder's (Property Records) Office the application form and township resolution approving the lot split, along with any other documents (such as a certificate of survey) referenced in the resolution or application. The lot split is not considered final until the Treasurer-Auditor's Office assigns a new Property Identification Number (PIN) to the parcel (which generally takes 1–2 weeks if there are no delinquent taxes on the parcel). Notice from the Treasurer-Auditor that the parcel has been split, as well as a receipt from the County Recorder's Office showing the document has been recorded, are required by Eureka Township as proof that the documents have been properly recorded and filed.

For more information, please contact the Eureka Township Clerk at 952-469-3736 or access the Eureka Township Website.

### • **Recording Conditional Use Permits with Dakota County**

Minnesota State Statute 462.3595 and Eureka Township Ordinance #3, Chapter 4, Section 13 - Conditional Use Permits, C-14, p. 66 requires all granted Conditional Use Permits to be recorded at the Office of the Dakota County Recorder. The Town Board is now in the process of updating and recording all Conditional Use Permits (CUP) which have not been recorded with the County.

The County requires a Certified Copy of each Conditional Use Permit which will include the legal description of the property and all conditions imposed by the Town Board. The following permits have not been recorded with the county per Eureka records as of this newsletter printing: Charles Hansen & Mark Hansen - Airstrip; Charles B. Hansen - 2nd dwelling; Mark Eide - airstrip; Mount Olivet Retreat Center; Mark Nelson - Airstrip; Dick Wagamann - Gunsmithing; Wat Lao; Chub Lake Feed; Spirit Ranch I; Spirit Ranch II; Eureka Enterprises -Tractor Repair; AT&T - Public Utility Building; AT&T - Public Utility Building; MCI - Public Utility Building; John Storlie - Gravel Mine; Barton Sand and Gravel/Gravel Mine; Madden Gravel Pit/Gravel Mine; Sauber Gravel Pit/Gravel Mine; Ignor Freda & Diane Piper - horses private kennel; James Pepera - Shoreland Cup for housing pigeons, chickens, pheasants, horses, cows and machinery items; Charlene Adelman - Beauty shop; Douglas and Karen Osterman - housing animals; Country Side Kennel, Boarding, grooming, breeding dogs; Steven Zender - Christmas Tree Lot. Letters will be sent to the above property owners who have been granted Conditional Use Permits which have not been filed with the County. Please contact the clerk with current information. If anyone who is not listed above has an active CUP or a CUP that is no longer active, please contact the Township Clerk at 952-469-3736.

• **Trees, Shrubs & Roads :** The township Zoning Ordinance provides that "No trees, shrubs or hedges shall be planted closer than 20 feet back from street or road right-of-way" (Ord 3, Ch. 4, Sec. 1(e) p.46). The purpose of this ordinance is to reduce obstructions to visibility and lines of sight from driveways and at intersections, prevent interference with overhead and underground utilities in the right-of-way, and avoid impeding maintenance of the right-of-way. On Township (gravel) roads, the right-of-way ends where the township stops maintaining the ditch; on County roads, the right-of-way varies with the property (contact the County Transportation Department at 952-891-7115 to determine the location of right-of-way on your property).

• **Reminder:** the prohibitions of ATVs from roads, right-of-ways and ditches are for purposes of safety, noise reduction, damage to gravel roads and ditches, as well as persons and property. The Sheriff's Department will follow up on complaints if they are called in right away.

# BUSINESS ADS BY RESIDENTS and/or LANDOWNERS IN EUREKA TOWNSHIP

*This is not meant as an endorsement of products, services, or business status by Eureka Township.*

Eureka landowners/residents, who wish to advertise their businesses, can place a "business card ad" by the quarter at \$35 or annually for \$125. Any revenue would be applied to the cost of printing & mailing the newsletter. Contact Eureka Newsletter Editor at 651-463-8546.

Carol S. Cooper, Attorney at Law  
26437 Galaxie Ave., Farmington, MN 55024

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## EUREKA STRATEGIC VISION CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE.....by Sharon Buckley

*Note: The CAC has taken steps to improve its information sharing via the website in a more timely manner.*

*Please keep in mind the Strategic Vision draft is a working document and is truly a work in progress.*

*Comment forms for your input are also available at all meetings as well as on the website.*

The Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) has continued to work toward developing a Strategic Vision for Eureka Township since August 2006. As previously reported, a well-attended Town Forum was held on February 20.

In April, a joint meeting of the Town Board, Planning Commission, and CAC was held to discuss the progress to date and future directions. The CAC felt there was more work to be done, even though the contracted time of planning consultant Bill Weber had been exhausted. A CAC meeting was held to reorganize and continue research and discussions without Weber's involvement. Membership has declined due to busy schedules, with remaining members as follows: Jody Arman-Jones, Sharon Buckley, Atina Diffley, Carrie Jennings, Ray Kaufenberg, Jeff Otto, Jim Sauber (acting as chair), Glen Shirley, John Storlie, Pete Storlie, and Ray Swedeen.

The CAC is scheduled to meet twice monthly through August. All meetings are held at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall and are open for public observation. Dates, topics of discussion, and contact people are as follows:

- July 10 (Tuesday) - Pipelines and other utilities crossing Eureka (Atina Diffley); Land Use: generation of housing rights (Jeff Otto and Ray Kaufenberg)
- July 25 (Wednesday) - Land uses requiring a rural location, Conditional Use Permits (Jody Arman-Jones); Annexation Issues (Ray Kaufenberg and Jeff Otto)
- August 14 (Tuesday) - Transportation/Public Safety (John Storlie, Pete Storlie, Jody Arman-Jones, and Jim Sauber); Commercial/Industrial (Ray Kaufenberg and John Storlie)
- August 29 (Wednesday) - Land Use: application of housing rights, density issues (Ray Kaufenberg and Jeff Otto)

**What's next?** A second Town Forum will be held in the fall. This will be a different format than the first forum. There will be a more formal presentation of the Strategic Vision, along with time for questions and discussion. The date of the Forum will be posted on the website and at the Town Hall, and a post card will be mailed to landowners and others who have requested to be on the township mailing list.

Upon completion of their work, the CAC will turn over the document outlining the Strategic Vision for Eureka Township to the Planning Commission, which will then recommend a plan for final approval of the Town Board. The approved plan will then be the foundation for updating the Eureka Township Comprehensive Plan due in 2008, which is required of all communities in the 7-county Metro area.

### 2007 INFORMAL EUREKA WILDLIFE SURVEY

#### Water Birds:

Bittern, American.....Ducks: Mallard, Wood, Blue-winged Teal.....Goose, Canada.....Hérons: Great Blue, Green.....Swan, Trumpeter

#### Birds of Prey:

Eagle, Bald.....Northern Harrier.....Kestral, American  
Hawks: Red-tailed, Sharp-shinned, Broad-winged  
Owls: Great-Horned, Bard

**Game Birds:** Pheasant, Ring-necked.....Wild Turkey

#### Song Birds:

Blackbird, Redwing .....Bluebird, Eastern .....Bluejay.....Bobolink.....  
Bunting, Indigo.....Cardinal, No. ....Catbird, Gray.....  
Chickadee, Blk-capped.....Cowbird, Brn H. ....Crow, Am.....  
Flicker, Northern.....Flycatcher, Gr. Crested.....Goldfinch, Am. ....  
Grackle, Common.....Grosbeak, Rose Br.....Horned Lark.....House Finch.  
Hummingbird, Ruby-thr.....Junco, Dark-eyed.....Killdeer.....  
Kingbird, Eastern.....Kingfisher, Belted.....Mourning dove.....  
Nuthatch: White/Red Br. Oriole, Baltimore  
Ovenbird.....Phoebe, Eastern.....Robin, American.....Starling.....  
Swallows: Barn./Tree.....Sparrows: American Tree, Chipping, House,  
Song, White-throated.....Tanager, Scarlet.....Thrasher, Brown.....  
Waxwing, Cedar.....Warblers: Blackburnian, Yellow-rumped.....  
Wood Thrush.....Woodpeckers: Downy, Hairy, Red-bellied, Red-headed,  
and Pileated.....Wren, House.

#### Mammals:

Beaver....Chipmunks....CoyoteS....Deer....Field mice....Fox....Ferral Cats....  
Mink....Opossum....Pocket Gophers....Rabbits....Raccoon....13 Lined  
Ground Squirrels....Skunk....Squirrels: fox, gray, red....Woodchucks.

### NOTES FROM THE TOWN CLERK

952-469-3736

- Volunteers needed to head up/organize a local recycling day in partnership with Dakota County in 2008. One effort would include a household hazardous waste collection--- keeping it out of landfills, ditches and ultimately out of our drinking water; other options are to be determined. In the past, old tires were collected and the results were very positive; perhaps this could be a separate Eureka project.

- Emergency responders report it is hard to find some township addresses, therefore it is strongly recommended that all residents have the green fire number rural address sign near the entrance to their property. They can be ordered from the Town Clerk for approximately \$15 each; price is determined by quantity printed. It takes several weeks and purchasers are notified when they are ready for pickup & payment.

- Volunteers needed for a three- person committee to develop an appropriate sound system for the Town Hall.

- Town Board ruling: Due to an expanded workload, the Town Clerk will only be available to the public during posted business hours of Monday and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.. Please do not expect to use her services during her other work periods.

**COME PLAY BALL!!!** Eureka Township youth are invited to come play ball (softball, kickball) at the Twin Church Ball Park, Tuesday evenings - 6:30 to 8:30 PM - until Labor Day weekend. The ball park is located about a mile west of Highview Avenue on 267th Str.

### THANK YOU...

- Gene Deitz for contributing \$1200 for the entire cost of lighting the flag pole and Gary Smith who helped with installation.
- Sue and Dan Rogers for cleaning the Town Hall.

Editor's Note: This is my last issue as newsletter editor. I am pleased to donate my logo design to the Township media, and to have had the opportunity to be of service. It's rewarding to join with so many other folks who contribute to the greater good of the community! Welcome to the new editor: Jody Arman-Jones --CRP



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*Your email address may be added to the list for current updates of monthly calendar, agendas, minutes, etc.  
Blind copies are sent, so e-mail addresses are kept private. Send the e-mail address to the clerk (eurekatn@frontiernet.net)*

**2007 EUREKA CALENDAR.....**events at Eureka Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave., unless otherwise indicated.

July 25	Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Eureka Strategic Vision Citizens Advisory Com. (CAC)
July 26	Thurs.	10:30 am - noon	<i>Completed building permit or land use applications due for August*</i>
Aug. 6	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Planning Commission Meeting
Aug. 13	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Township Supervisors Meeting
Aug. 14	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Eureka Strategic Vision Citizens Advisory Com. (CAC)
Aug. 23	Thurs.	10:30 am - noon	<i>Completed building permit or land use applications due for September*</i>
Aug. 29	Wed.	7:00 p.m.	Eureka Strategic Vision Citizens Advisory Com. (CAC)
Sep. 4	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Planning Commission Meeting
Sep. 10	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Township Supervisors Meeting
Sep. 20	Thurs.	10:30 am - noon	<i>Completed building permit or land use applications due for October*</i>
TBA	TBA	TBA	Fall Public Meeting by Strategic Vision Citizens Advisory Committee
Oct. 1	Mon.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Planning Commission Meeting
Oct. 9	Tues.	7:00 p.m.	Monthly Township Supervisors Meeting
Oct. 25	Thurs.	10:30 am - noon	<i>Completed building permit or land use applications due for November*</i>

*\*NOTE: All new structures, most types of remodeling (both interior and exterior), and some types of repairs require a building permit under the Minnesota State Building Code and Eureka Township Ordinances. If you are in doubt about whether a project requires a permit, please contact the Town Clerk at 952-469-3736.*

Eureka Township Ordinances are available from the Town Clerk at \$25 for hard copy, \$2 for CD disk, or can be accessed on our website, <http://eurekatownship-mn.us>, or at Farmington or Lakeville Libraries, or Eureka Town Hall, or the County Law Library.