

Eureka! The News

A Publication of Eureka Township, Minnesota

2nd Quarter – Spring 2015



Eureka Township Supervisors

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

- Seat 1 Brian Budenski, Chair
952-292-6028, term thru 3/17
- Seat 2 Cory Behrendt, Vice Chair
952-985-5411, term thru 3/17
- Seat 3 Carrie Jennings
952-469-4976, term thru 3/18
- Seat 5 Kenny Miller
952-469-4803, term thru 3/16
- Seat 4 Dan Rogers
952-469-3739, term thru 3/18

Eureka Planning Commission

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

- Lucretia (Lu) Barfknecht,
952-469-3513, term thru 4/16
- Philip (Phil) Cleminson
952-985-7240, term thru 4/17
- Fritz Frana
952-469-3576, term thru 4/17
- Donovan Palmquist
507-645-9868, term thru 4/18
- Nancy Sauber
952-469-5146, term thru 4/18

Township Contact

- Clerk** – Mira Broyles
Deputy Clerk – Cheryl Murphy
Treasurer – Marcia Wilson
952-469-3736, Fax 952-469-5525

Town Hall Office Hours:

Tuesdays and Thursdays
10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Address: 25043 Cedar Ave. S.,
Farmington, MN 55024

Drop Box – Items may be placed in locked
drop box near the Town Hall front door.

E-mail: eurekatn@frontiernet.net

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

Phone: 952-469-3736

Township Roads:

Dan Rogers 952-985-5411,
Brian Budenski 952-292-6028

Building Officials: 952-469-3736

**Emergency/non-emergency authorities –
all contacts - 911** (ambulance, police, fire)

Official Notices - posted on the bulletin
board on the south (parking lot) side of the
Town Hall and published in Sun ThisWeek
and Dakota County Tribune newspapers.

Editor: Jody Arman-Jones, 651-463-2876
jodyarmanjones@gmail.com

2015 Town Board Supervisor Election Results

40% of the 1004 registered voters cast their ballots.

385 voted at the Town Hall, 19 voted absentee, 404 total votes cast.

Supervisor #3

Carrie Jennings 229

Mark Ceminsky 172

Supervisor #4

Dan Rogers 252

Pete Storlie 151

Annual Meeting - 2016 levy was set at \$435,655, up \$655 from 2015.

The 2016 Annual Meeting is set for Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 8:15.

2015 – 2016 Town Board Assignments

Attorney Contact – Kenny Miller, alternate Brian Budenski,
Town Zoning Administrator, Town Clerk

Lakeville & Farmington Fire – Dan Rogers

North Cannon Watershed – Carrie Jennings

Vermillion Watershed – Carrie Jennings

Weed Inspector – Dan Rogers

Allina Ambulance – Dan Rogers

Roads – Dan Rogers and Brian Budenski

DNR/Wetlands – Carrie Jennings

Airlake Airport – Dan Rogers

Town Hall – Kenny Miller, Town Clerk

Dakota County Contact – Kenny Miller

Sheriff Contact – Dan Rogers

Compliance Officer – Cory Behrendt

Building Inspector – Kenny Miller

Official Newspaper – Sun ThisWeek, Dakota County Tribune

Official Bank – Castle Rock Bank

Attorneys – Kelly & Lemmons, P.A., Chad Lemmons

IT Consultant – Buds & Bytes - Cory Behrendt

Professional Services Consultants – TKDA - Brian Budenski

Planning Commissioners Appointed

The Town Board appointed three people to the Planning Commission at their April 13th meeting. Returning to the Commission is Fritz Frana, who was selected to complete the remaining two years of Carrie Jennings's term (Carrie was recently elected to the Town Board). Fritz lives in the northwest quadrant of the Township. Donovan Palmquist is new to the Planning Commission and was appointed to a three-year term. He lives in the southwest quadrant of the Township. Nancy Sauber lives in the northwest quadrant of the Township and returns for a three-year term on the Commission. She also has experience on the Town Board and several committees and task forces.

Thank You for Your Service

A grateful Township expresses its appreciation for the years of service and tireless work on behalf of Eureka Township and its citizens. If you have the opportunity, please personally recognize **Mark Ceminsky** and **Steve Madden** as they leave the Town Board after three years of service each. Mark has also served on the Planning Commission and was recognized as Town Board Leader of the Year by Dakota Electric Association in 2014.

Leaving the Planning Commission are **Butch Hansen** and **Allen Novacek**. Butch has served the Township in many capacities over the years -Planning Commission, various task forces and committees. Allen served a three-year term on the Planning Commission. Many thanks to all of you!



Dakota County Helps with Spring Clean – Up Ditch Your Hazardous Waste

The Recycling Zone, 3365 Dodd Road, Eagan, accepts recyclables and electronics from residents during all open hours.

If you have questions, please call 651-905-4520 before bringing items to The Recycling Zone.

With the exception of holidays, residents may recycle hazardous materials as follows:

- Wednesdays, 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.
- Thursdays, Noon – 8 p.m.
- Fridays, 9 a.m – 5 p.m.
- Saturdays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.



The Recycling Zone will accept items your trash hauler may not, such as:

- Yogurt, pudding and fruit cups
- Margarine, cottage cheese and other plastic tubs
- Produce, deli and take-out containers
- Plastic bags
- Phone books
- Snow blowers, lawn mowers, bicycles
- Packing peanuts
- Holiday lights and extension cords
- Cartons (milk, juice boxes, soup, broth, wine)
- For a complete list of recyclable items, please go to



<https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/RecyclingZone/Residents/Pages/materials-accepted.aspx>
or call 651-905-4520.

Additional service at The Recycling Zone:

- **Get money for your aluminum cans**
Gopher Resource Corporation buys aluminum cans from residents and businesses at The Recycling Zone. Call 651-905-4520 for can redemption prices.
- **Buy a compost bin**
Gopher Resource Corporation sells backyard compost bins. The bin fits in any car. Call 651-905-4520 for availability and price.
- **Exchange your lead sinkers**
Detoxify your tackle box. Bring in your lead sinkers and exchange them for free non-toxic sinkers. One package per customer.
- **Exchange your mercury thermometer**
Make your home safer. Exchange your mercury fever thermometer for a digital one.
- **Pick up free products**
The Recycling Zone makes products brought in for disposal—such as paint, cleaners, fertilizers and solvents—available for free to visitors if they are still useable.

Township Updates

Agri-Tourism Task Force – The Township is no longer considering an agri-tourism ordinance.

“Mining” Ordinance Text Amendments – The requested text amendment was approved by the Town Board as follows: Ordinance 6, Chapter 7, Section 2.K, Accessory Uses: third sentence, delete the words, “or ready-mix concrete production plant,” as seen in red in the following:

*Accessory uses must be identified in the permit. Accessory uses not identified in the permit are not allowed. The accessory uses of a concrete block production plant **or ready-mix concrete production plant** or asphalt production plant, shall be strictly prohibited. A concrete recycling plant and an asphalt recycling plant are also prohibited, except as stated in Chapter 7, Section 1 (B). The storage, stockpiling, sale, and mixing of materials that have been excavated off-site are strictly prohibited, except for the mixing of materials as provided in Chapter 7, Section 1 (B). Accessory uses will terminate when the principal use terminates.*



Visit the Township Website

The Township website has been redesigned. Check out the new look at <http://eurekatownship-mn.us/>

Find information on meetings, agendas, land use and building zoning, calendar of events, the newsletter, ordinances, helpful links, contact information and much, much more!

Fire Danger is High Throughout the State – Restrictions in Place

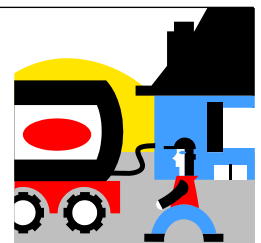
The vast majority of the State of Minnesota, including Dakota County, was under a burning ban issued by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, for the most of this spring. On April 28, 2015, the ban was changed to “Restricted Burning - Variance Permits Required.” Variance Permits may be obtained for special circumstances:

- prescribed fire projects
- approved agricultural practices, if an economic hardship exists
- construction projects, if an economic hardship exists
- Grass fires greater 1 acre
- Brush piles greater than 20' x 20' x 20'
- Variance permits may only be issued by individuals designated to do so by the DNR Commissioner

For the most up to date information, please go to <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/forestry/fire/questions.html> Scroll down the page to the map of the State to determine current burning status in any area of Minnesota.

Pump Your Septic System Every 3 Years

Please remember to pump your septic system every three years. **IF** you have received a notice of non-compliance, please send a copy of your pumping receipt to the Township to save both your time and money, as well as the Township's!



Road Construction Update

Dodd Boulevard - Dakota County Road 9 (Dodd Boulevard) is closed to through traffic from 259th to 250th until early June. Traffic is being detoured using Scott County Road 46 and Dakota County Roads 5 and 70. Work this year will include the reconstruction of Dakota County Road 9 and Scott County Road 2 east of the new roundabout. The reconstructed roadway will be a little wider than the existing roadway, but it will still be a two-lane road. Turn lanes or bypass lanes will be added at intersections and the shoulders will be paved. During the week of April 27th, the following tasks are expected to be completed: private utilities are continuing to relocate their facilities, continue grading for the new roadway, place aggregate for the new roadway, remove fence along the roadway, install pipe culverts along the roadway.

To receive email updates for this project, email Stacy Reilly at stacy.reilly@co.dakota.mn.us. Please include "CP 09-46 Updates" in the subject line. More information may be found at <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Transportation/CurrentConstruction/CR9/Pages/default.aspx>.

County Road 86 (280th St. W.) - bituminous resurfacing from the western Dakota County line to County Road 23 is scheduled to be completed by July 31, 2015, though no date has yet been set to begin the project. No work will be occurring on July 3 or 4, 2015.

Additionally, a series of projects are scheduled for the next few years to the east of County Road 23. The section in Eureka Township will begin with the design and right of way acquisition in 2016 and 2017, and project completion scheduled for 2018. Please see contact John Sass at 952-891-7130 for more information or <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Transportation/PlannedConstruction/CR86/Pages/default.aspx>.

County Road 80 (255th St. W.) - between Highway 3 and County Road 23 (Cedar Ave.) – design and right of way acquisition will be completed this year in order to expand the road to two paved lanes of traffic and paved shoulders. The project includes remodeling or replacing the railroad bridge just east of Denmark Ave. in 2016. The entire project is expected to be completed sometime in 2016. Watch for public comment meetings to be announced soon. Contact Tom Anton at Tom.Anton@co.dakota.mn.us or 952-891-7000.

County Road 78 (235th St. W.) – extend the road from Denmark Ave. through to Highway 3. Design is expected to begin in 2017, right of way acquisition phase in 2018, and project construction to be completed in 2019. Contact Tom Anton at Tom.Anton@co.dakota.mn.us or 952-891-7000 for more information.

Remain Vigilant, Lock Your Doors

As is common with the arrival of nicer weather, the Dakota County Sheriff's Department reports an increase in burglaries in rural areas, particularly during daylight hours. Residents are advised to lock their doors, at all times (even when home, but especially when away), and remove keys from parked vehicles. Remain vigilant and don't hesitate to call 911 to report any suspicious activity.



Scams Continue

At the April 13, 2015, Town Board meeting, the Sheriff's Department reminded citizens that a number of phone and e-mail scams continue. They include demands from the IRS, collection agencies or vendors for unpaid bills, and demands for payment of toll and/or EZ pass fees. Protect yourself, do your homework!

ATVs and 4-Wheelers – Not For Roadways

An increasing amount of inappropriate use of ATVs and 4-wheelers has been noted, along with damage to roadways. A reminder that it is not legal to operate "on the inside slope, shoulder, and roadway of State and County roads." Eureka Township further prohibits their use on Township roads and rights of way. The vehicles may be used only on private property (with written permission) or designated trails, though there are some exemptions for those vehicles registered for agricultural use.

ATV Operators - State law requires persons 12-15 years old and anyone born after July 1, 1987, who is 16 years or older to successfully complete ATV Safety Training before operating an ATV on public lands, frozen waters, public road rights-of-way, or state or grant-in-aid trails!

More information? http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/rlp/regulations/ohv/ohv_regs.pdf

This newsletter, Eureka! The News, is now digital! If you wish to receive a copy (e-mail or hard), please contact the Town Clerk at 952-469-3736 or eurekatn@frontiernet.net . There will no longer be a blanket mailing to property owners and residents. The newsletter is also available for viewing on the website <http://eurekatownship-mn.us> .



2015 Eureka Township Calendar

Events held at Eureka Town Hall, 25043 Cedar Ave., unless otherwise indicated

May 4	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
May 11	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
May 14	Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board and Planning Commission Round Table Meeting
May 28	Thursday	noon	Applications due for June Planning Commission Meeting
<i>June 1</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting</i>
<i>June 8</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting</i>
<i>June 25</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>noon</i>	<i>Applications due for July Planning Commission Meeting</i>
July 6	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting
July 13	Monday	7:00 p.m.	Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting
July 23	Thursday	noon	Applications due for August Planning Commission Meeting
<i>August 3</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Planning Commission Meeting, Special Board Meeting</i>
<i>August 10</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Town Board Meeting, Special Planning Commission Meeting</i>
<i>August 27</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>noon</i>	<i>Applications due for September Planning Commission Meeting</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 Uniform Building Code and Eureka Township Ordinances. If you are in doubt about whether a project requires a permit, please contact the Town Hall at 952-469-3736 or eurekatn@frontiernet.net .***

Also, please check Shoreland/Floodplain Zoning. PLEASE NOTE - Beginning March 1, 2015 Eureka Township will be managing the permitting process for VRWJPO permits.

Eureka Township Ordinances are available from the Town Clerk at \$5 for a CD disk or can be accessed on the website, <http://eurekatownship-mn.us>, or at the Dakota County libraries in Lakeville and Farmington, the Eureka Town Hall and the Dakota County Law Library.

Eureka History Highlights

“In 1855 a wagon train of settlers from Muskego, Wisconsin, arrived in Eureka Township in Dakota County, Minnesota. Martin Ruh, who would later become a pastor, wrote of that land, “The first thing we had to do was to clear away the almost impenetrable underbrush so as to make room for the wagons and the other things we had brought along. The covered wagons were our only shelter until far into the fall. We had traveled past far better areas, boundless plains where the land could be cultivated with much less work than the one we now took possession of.”

If Pastor Ruh and his fellow settlers were to visit the site today, they would be amazed at what has grown up in the midst of woods, wetlands, prairie grasses and “impenetrable underbrush.” The land, which at first seemed so inhospitable for farming, now serves as a perfect environment for trails and gardens, a comfortable space for personal growth, and a congenial place for meeting and fellowship: The Mount Olivet Conference & Retreat Center.” <http://mtolivetretreat.org/about-us/history>

The land now occupied by Mount Olivet Retreat Center, overlooking Chub Lake on the west side, just south of 257th St. W. and east of Highview Ave., was held by the same family for over 100 years. Originally homesteaded just prior to the Civil War by Elling (Ellend) Severson (born 1829 in Aurland, Sogn og Fjordane, Norway, died 1887 in Lakeville, Minnesota), and his wife, Gunilda Atlesdatter Severson, (born 1830 and died 1917 in Dakota County, Minnesota). Mr. Severson began building his log home prior to his Civil War military service and completed it upon his return. The original cabin was later incorporated into a much larger farm home as the kitchen area. On this homestead, the couple raised nine children including daughter, Martha Severson Olson, who was born in the log house in 1862 (died 1923 in Ottertail County, Minnesota) and lived on the farm until she married. Her son, Lewis O. Olson (1901 – 1983), made his home there and raised three sons and a daughter on the farm whom, along with grandchildren, fondly remember fishing, skating, skiing, tobogganing, and picking wild raspberries on the property.

In 1964 the property was sold to fellow Eureka resident, Walter Harmer.

“In 1975, the United States was in the middle of an oil crisis. As gas prices skyrocketed, Pastor Paul Youngdahl, then Senior Pastor of Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, was concerned that it would no longer be possible for the church to bus hundreds of children each summer to Cathedral of the Pines Camp on the shores of Caribou Lake in Northern Minnesota. He appointed a committee to search for land to purchase near the Twin Cities, where Mount Olivet could continue to provide the inspiration of God’s creation and faith-building camping experiences to its youth and adults. The committee found the Lewis Olson farm, 151 acres of land curling along the bank of Chub Lake and just 30 miles south of the church – the very land that Pastor Ruh described 120 years earlier.

The first building constructed was the Ruth Youngdahl Lodge, dedicated in January 1977... This building houses the Trillium Dining Room and four main conference rooms. At that time, there were no guest sleeping rooms. If a group wanted to spend the night, they brought their sleeping bags and slept on the conference room floors. It quickly became apparent that although this might be an adventure for a youth group, sleeping rooms were needed to attract adult retreats and conferences.

...the Ruth Cornell House was added to the campus in 1980. The building comprises 18 private bedrooms and 4 dormitory style rooms, sleeping up to 112 guests. In addition, there are two spacious lounge areas for informal socializing, as well as an indoor swimming pool and whirlpool, sauna and game room. This addition provided the expansion of business for overnight retreats and conferences.

Pastor Paul Youngdahl’s vision for the Retreat Center had at its heart a chapel for spiritual growth and renewal – a multi-functional space for worship, meeting, prayer and meditation. In 1999, that vision became reality with the completion of the Center’s chapel overlooking Chub Lake.”

Additional amenities include:

- *An outdoor chapel*
- *A play yard for children (1977)*
- *Five miles of well-marked hiking trails through the woods and prairies, including an annotated nature trail through the woods (1982)*
- *Prayer Chapel in the Youngdahl Lodge (1982)*
- *A tennis court (1985)*
- *A marsh walk for nature study (1987)*
- *A wildflower garden and nature display cabinet (1990)*
- *A gazebo for outdoor gathering (1998)*
- *A prayer labyrinth for meditation (2001)*
- *A low ropes challenge course to facilitate team-building activities (2004)*
- *A rainwater garden to filter parking lot runoff (2005)*
- *A scenic overlook of the prairie Butternut Hill (2008)*
- *New lobby and dining room renovation (2012)*
- *Outdoor patio and fireplace (2014)*

For more information about Mount Olivet Retreat Center, 952-469-2175 or <http://mtolivetretreat.org/>



Eureka Sand & Gravel

5100 West 235th Street
Farmington, MN 55024
651-460-4700
www.eurekasands.com

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

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Business Ads by Residents and/or Landowners in Eureka Township.

No endorsement of products, services or business status is implied. Eureka landowners and/or residents who wish to advertise their businesses in this newsletter, may place a "business card ad" for the price of \$35.00 per quarter or \$125.00 per annum which will help defray costs of this newsletter. Thank you for your support.

South Cedar Garden Center

1.5 miles south of Hwy. 50 on the west side of Cedar Ave.



\$5.00 OFF

Purchase of \$25.00 or more

Valid April 25 – June 30, 2015
Not valid with other offers

Coupon

Town Hall Site Photo Contest



Periodically, the Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT), publishes brochures that include photos of the various Town Hall sites around Minnesota. In an effort to update the Eureka photo, shutterbugs are invited to digitally submit their photos to the Town Clerk at eurekatn@frontiernet.net. The new storage building is complete, and the winter snow is providing a beautiful landscape backdrop.



Township Road Committee – Volunteers Needed

The Town Board is forming a new Road Committee, expected to include the two road supervisors, a road contractor, one Planning Commission member and up to three citizen volunteers. The entire committee will be volunteer and meet 4-6 times a year. Work would include creating a detailed road budget, capital improvement projects, road maintenance and general road planning. Any interested applicants should submit a brief letter of interest to the Town Clerk. Applicants would need to attend a Town Board meeting, to be interviewed and appointed. The term would last for one year and applicants may re-apply for additional terms.