



# Newsletter

## CLERK'S CORNER

JULIE KRIEVALDT, TOWN CLERK

### Election Information

The General Election will be held on November 4, 2014, 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. The in-person absentee voting will be October 20 to October 31, 2014 (ending at 5:00 PM that day). I'm anticipating there will be many in-person absentee voters in November. Please be patient.



If you need an absentee ballot mailed to you, the request must be in writing. The Government Accountability Board has a form GAB-121 online that can be filled out and mailed to the Clerk. If you don't have access to the internet, you can write a note containing your name, address in Erin where you would like it mailed (if different than your address), your signature, and that you request an absentee ballot for the November 2014 election. REMEMBER: You must be a registered voter in the Town of Erin before you can request an absentee ballot.

(More from the Town Clerk on Page 2)

### New Website

If you haven't been on the [erintownship.com](http://erintownship.com) website for a while, please check it out. It has been updated and redesigned, and more information has been added. Below are just a few new items.

There are buttons just under the pictures of Erin:

*Forms* includes the Dog License application and Hall Rental form. As more forms become available, they will be added.

*General Code* contains the chapters of the Erin Code. You can read or print what you need.

*Town Calendar* can be used to see when meetings or other Town events are occurring.

There are Menu items along the left side of the page:

*Board and Committees* brings you to the Agenda or Minutes page for each board, commission, or committee.

*Zoning* has checklists if you are building an accessory structure (garage or shed), new pool or fence, or are looking into a property split.

*Building inspection* has PDFs of applications for electrical, plumbing, HVAC, or building permits.

*Election information* has dates for the current year elections and more. New information will be added and updated to the website as needed.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Town Clerk.....	1	Committee Reports.....	4
Town Chairman.....	2	Community News .....	6
Veterans' Memorial.....	3	School News .....	11

# NOTE FROM THE TOWN CHAIRMAN

DENNIS KENEALY

You may have noticed that the Town is undertaking some much needed repairs to the Hall. We have a new cement entrance, a new mobile cooler, and we have removed some office walls. We will be repairing the roof, replacing the floors and fixing some of the interior areas (including installing new lighting). These and more repairs will occur this year and next – they could no longer be put off. They will make the use of the Town Hall more energy efficient and safe.



Planning is proceeding for the 2017 US Open Golf outing. There will be more information in 2015 as the time approaches for the event. At this stage most of the planning is preliminary and will need to be revised, but all parties are starting to meet and present proposals regarding traffic, lodging, transportation, etc.

Finally, the Executive Committee and Town Board began the budget process at their October meetings. There do not appear to be any unusual items on the horizon so I anticipate a budget much as we have had the past few years; however, that is a preliminary thought – we will not know of all the needs and requests until then.

## Town Clerk *(continued from Page 1)*

I've received many calls on trash pickup. The Town of Erin does not have trash pickup and each resident has to contract with either Advance Disposal at 262-367-6040 or Waste Management at 262-251-9560. The Town of Erin joined together years ago with the Town of Hartford for recycling. The Town of Hartford recycling center is open Thursdays from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM and Saturdays from 8:00 AM until Noon. The address is 3370 County Road K. There you can take tin or aluminum cans, glass, plastics and more. Please stop by their recycling center and they can give you a handout to explain what recyclables they will take.

I've had calls regarding how to dispose of furniture. There is not a lot out there. If it is in good shape Goodwill will take it. Otherwise I have not found another place; you will need to contact your trash pickup company for that.

Electronics such as TVs, computers and computer components, VCR/DVD or Blu-Ray players and more cannot be thrown into the trash. A complete list of which electronics must be recycled can be found on the DNR site: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ecycle/>. Goodwill in West Bend will take them for free whether they work or not. The TVs cannot have broken tubes or glass. As always, call before you go to make sure nothing has changed. Best Buy also takes electronics, but call to find out the fee.

## Scheduled Town Meetings

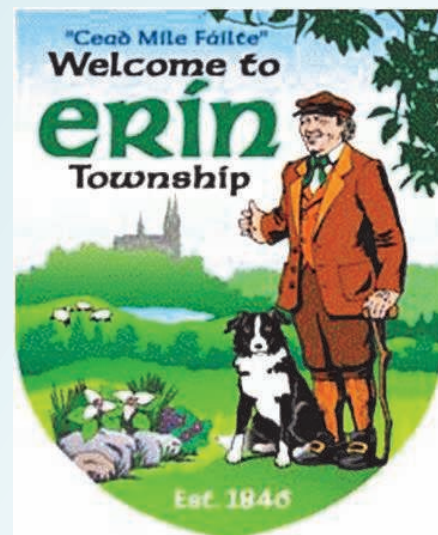
Executive Committee—As Posted  
Usually second Monday of each month

Park Board—As Posted  
Usually last Tuesday of each month

Plan Commission—First Monday of each month,  
7:00 PM

Road Commission—As Posted  
Usually second Tuesday of each month

Town Board—Third Monday of each month,  
7:00 PM



# VETERANS' MEMORIAL

## NOTICE TO VETERANS OF THE TOWN OF ERIN:

If you or anyone you know would like to have a name enrolled on the Erin Veterans' Memorial Monument, please get in touch with one of the committee members:

Beverly Schroeder, 262-628-1961  
Franklin Tennes, 262-673-2723,  
Michael Eggleston, 414-651-0875

To be eligible, you must be a resident or former resident of the Town of Erin and also have a copy of DD-214, Honorable Discharge, or deployment orders by the Federal Government documenting your military history.



This Memorial is only one of many areas in the Park that needs regular care and attention. If you have time, materials or any resources to contribute, Jeff Nienhaus, Park Superintendent, is always looking for volunteers. Please contact Jeff at 262-327-0970 to discuss how you can help!



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# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

BRADLEY BAUTZ, DIRECTOR

By the time you receive this, the Town will be well into budget planning for 2015. I expect some increases in our fire contract costs. The largest part of my budget by far is the contractual fire amount to the three fire departments.

We are still looking towards June 2017, when the US Open comes to Erin Hills. They expect perhaps 50,000 spectators daily. The Wisconsin DOT has been working on traffic plans and roadway improvements. What will be done will depend on whether there will be parking in the area of the course, or if there will be remote off-site parking lots and shuttles bringing people in. A decision on that should come next year. It is all part of the planning process.

All Town residences should have received an address sign by now. If you were somehow missed or need a replacement, please contact me.

### REMINDER

While the Town has discontinued brush pickup, I encourage you to recycle or make use of the brush drop-off at the Town's dump site.

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 here are the main points:

- 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 found on the Town's posting boards and on the website.
- Open fires must be attended



- The jurisdictional fire department or preferably the Sheriff's Office must be notified of any bonfire in excess of 10 feet in diameter or if a large area of grass is burned (i.e. over ¼ acre).
- Fires can't be started on the roadway surface, and only leaves and grass can 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 because they pose a health hazard to residents.

Have a safe and happy fall.

## ERIN HILLS UPDATE

As Erin Hills prepares to close its ninth season, it wishes to thank its neighbors in Erin for their support. Next year, several staff members of the United States Golf Association will move to Wisconsin to start the focused work on the 2017 U.S. Open at Erin Hills – the first U.S. Open to be played in Wisconsin. In 2015, look for the opening of Volunteer Registration and more details about the U.S. Open.



# COMMITTEE REPORTS

## PARK BOARD

### 2014 Summer Update

It doesn't feel like summer should be over but cooler temps are right around the corner. That means fall colors are coming our way. The summer was a mild one, but that didn't slow down Park activities. The Baseball Club filled both fields nearly every night of the week, while fans enjoyed the beautiful views of the Park and Holy Hill.

With the summer temps on the cool side and above-average rainfall, the Park grass grew faster than normal and the Park stayed a gorgeous dark green all summer long. Extra thanks for the special care provided by our Park Superintendent, Jeff Nienhaus, and mowing teams, as they balanced mowing the Park in sections to stay on top of an already busy maintenance season.

You may have noticed a new face around the Park. Patty Stewart has been putting in a number of hours maintaining the larger plantings around the Park. If you see her, give her a wave or say "Hi" – she is doing a great job.

If you like the colors around the main entrance flower beds, you can thank Brian Maresh. Brian has added fall colors to the main entrance for a number of years now, and it is a warm welcome to our Town Hall for visitors.

We want to welcome Kevin Kerrigan to the Park Board as the newest member and Baseball Club representative. Jeff and Kevin worked together to provide a low-cost plan to procure and install new scoreboards on both the north and south baseball fields. Their creative cooperation of labor and volunteers, along with net-zero budget planning, allowed for this significant improvement to the Park with no impact to Park or Town spending.

The walking paths and sport court areas received a facelift this summer with a new sealcoat and fresh painted lines. Come try out the newly painted full-size basketball court on the north end of the Park.

Not all Park projects are performed by contactors or vendors. Many of them are carried out by volunteers and local organizations. The Girl Scouts help out in the Park every year with volunteered hours and beautification projects. We are always looking for new Park project ideas and are willing to help organize a community project around a great idea. The Park and Town Boards have created a simplified process to collect ideas and donations for specific projects to be carried out in the Town. A special line item has been added to the Town budget and accounting process to allow individuals, or groups, to specify a unique project and a predefined budget and funding schedule.

This means if you believe in a project you would like done at the Park and specify the tax-deductible donation, it cannot be used for anything else. Some of the special project "wish list" ideas may include, but are not limited to: badly needed new playground equipment, remodeling the Snack Shack, enhancing the Park entrances, a "Welcome to Erin" sign on the corner of Holy Hill Road and Hwy 83, adding lights to the baseball fields, and extending the walking trails. If you have any questions or ideas, contact any of our committee members listed in this article.



Sample playground equipment project idea  
(estimated value \$35K)

The annual Leah Fenney Memorial

Soccer Tournament took place on October 5<sup>th</sup> this year. Great food and record teams meant record crowds. The maintenance teams and soccer volunteers showed off our beautiful Park to the 3000-plus visitors from the surrounding communities. Truly an exciting time to be here!

So, come on down to our Park and enjoy the walking trails, take in some breathtaking fall colors, or simply relax at a picnic table and let life's problems fade away. The Park is waiting for you.

Joel Janz - Erin Park Board Chairman  
Tim Zignego - Erin Town Supervisor

## PARK BOARD MEMBERS

Joel Janz—Chairman

Tim Zignego—Supervisor

Jeff Nienhaus—  
Park Superintendent

Jim Wright—Member

Brian Maresh—Member

Tony Balistreri—Member

Kevin Kerrigan—Member

## Hartford Public Library

The Jack Russell Memorial Library at 100 Park Avenue in downtown Hartford would like to invite all Erin residents to visit the Library to check out the variety of materials and programs that are available for users of all ages. The Library is open to the public the following business hours: Monday through Thursday from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Fridays from 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM, and on Saturdays from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

Library cards are issued free of charge to Erin residents by providing a photo ID with current address. Children ages 5 through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade may obtain a card with parental approval. The process takes about five minutes, and you can borrow materials right away. The Library's website, which contains all the up-to-the-minute information concerning programs and other special activities, can be found at [www.hartfordlibrary.org](http://www.hartfordlibrary.org), and emails can be sent to [hartfordpl@hartfordlibrary.org](mailto:hartfordpl@hartfordlibrary.org). The Library's telephone number is 262-673-8240.

The Friends of the Library have an exciting line-up of programs for adults in the Hartford area this fall. On October 15, author Clark Kidder discussed his grandmother's experiences as an Orphan Train rider in "Emily's Story."

Vesper guitar designer Neal Van Slett will be at the Library on November 12 to explain the production of his custom hand-made, one-of-a-kind instruments in Germantown.

On December 5, four self-published female authors will talk about how they were able to get their works released without using a major publishing house. All programs are held on Wednesdays beginning at 7:00 PM in the Library's community room. Early arrivals will get their choice of seats and enjoy refreshments.

The Youth Library has also put together a variety of programs for the children. There will be special craft sessions involving Halloween, Winter and edible treat themes. Help the Library build a giant Lego tower by reading. Three Legos will be awarded for each book read, and you will get add them to the growing tower. See how big it can get before 2015 rolls around.

Weekly bedtime story hours are on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM, and preschool story sessions are on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM. There will also be a series of family movies on select Saturday mornings and special teen films on Monday nights. "Let's-Go-Lego" building days are the first Tuesday of the month at 3:30 PM, and you are invited to read stories to the Library's new therapy dog, Arthur. Sign-up is required to read to Arthur, and reservations can be made by calling the Youth Library at 262-673-8247. Calendars listing all events can be picked up at the Library.



*Arthur the Therapy Dog*

The Jack Russell Library offers users nineteen Internet workstations and is WI-FI-accessible throughout the building. There are three study rooms available which can be reserved for specific dates and times. Groups are also welcome to use the Library's community room for meetings and activities with prior reservations.



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Erin Historical Society—Erin/Monches History Hunters

With everyone's busy schedules, the Erin Historical Society is finding it hard to hold regularly scheduled meetings, so the idea has come up to create a Facebook page to share the pictures and stories of the Township.

We also realize that in the past, many of Erin's residents looked to Monches for their needs for goods, doctoring, schools and church services. To that end, we have also decided to change our name to "Erin/Monches History Hunters." We'll post interesting historical facts about the two communities and invite others to share their family stories and photos. If there is enough interest for meetings, resuming them will be considered at a future date.



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## St. Patrick Preservation Group Tribute to Nancy Henke



It is with much sadness that we report the passing of Nancy Collins Henke on September 11, 2014. It could easily be said that Nancy (with the help of her husband, Evarist) was the Queen of all things historical in the Town of Erin and the surrounding communities. For those of us who have visited Nancy and Ev over the years, you could spend weeks

paging through 250 binders full of information – from churches and cemeteries to dance halls and taverns – in Erin, Hartford, Richfield, Ashippun, and Polk, to name a few... Their collection of historical information has often been on display at special events, and the Henkes have donated some of these treasures to the History Room at the Jack Russell Memorial Library in Hartford.

Nancy and Evarist's 54<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (and Ev's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday) was September 10, and Nancy's last wish was that her cancer would not take her before then. The good Lord granted her request, and she passed away peacefully at Kathy's Hospice in West Bend the following morning, with Evarist by her side.

Nancy was born on March 6, 1936, one of nine children of James and Erna Collins. In 1938, the family moved to a 160-acre Town of Erin farm overlooking Druid Lake. Nancy's parents were actively involved in St. Patrick's Church of Erin, holding many positions, and Nancy's mom, Erna, played the organ for almost 30 years. Nancy would reminisce years later that "a lot of Sundays the parishioners visited longer outside the church than the actual Mass lasted." This love of

St. Patrick's and the church community lasted Nancy's whole life. In 1955, she volunteered to type the St. Patrick's Ladies Altar Society Cookbook over her lunch hour at work and was given a Rosary for her work. The cookbook was reprinted in 2005 for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Patrick's Church.

Upon graduation from Hartford High School, Nancy was employed as a secretary. She worked as an Executive Secretary at West Bend Aluminum for Hartford resident Paul Quick, who would say years later that she was one of the most conscientious and hard-working secretaries he had ever had. She also was an Executive Secretary at Wacker Industries. After her children were grown, she put her gardening expertise to work and was employed as a "transplanter" at Black's Nursery.

On September 10, 1960, Nancy Collins married Evarist Henke at St. Patrick's Church of Erin. Daughter, Mary, was born in 1961 and son, Michael, was born in 1965. In 1969, Nancy and Evarist built a home on Highway 83 in Erin (also referred to as Thompson), a short distance from St. Patrick's Church. Nancy followed in her parents' footsteps – volunteering her time and talent as Treasurer, Vice President and President of the St. Patrick's Ladies Altar Society beginning in 1979. She also held positions on the Parish Council in 1972 and 1973 and from 1979 through 1981, and served as the Secretary-Trustee of the Parish Council from 1982 through the church's closing in 1999. She received a crucial liver transplant in the spring of 1999, which saved her life. Shortly thereafter she, along with Trustee Frank Weber, was called by then-Archbishop Weakland to a mandatory meeting regarding the closing of St. Patrick's Church. There were concerns as to whether Nancy was well enough to attend the meeting. No concern was needed as Archbishop Weakland discovered what parishioners knew – Nancy's strength, courage and wit was unmatched when it came to her beloved St. Patrick's Church. Some of us still laugh when we recall Nancy's response to the Archbishop's request to turn over the bank account of the St. Patrick's Ladies Altar Society to the Milwaukee Archdiocese . . . in the end, Nancy prevailed.

*-Continued on next page*



## St. Patrick Preservation, *cont'd*

In 1996, the Town of Erin celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> year of existence. An almost 300-page historical account of Erin Township was printed and Nancy compiled much of the information. After the closing of St. Patrick Parish in 1999, a group of parishioners formed a 501(c)3, the St. Patrick Preservation Fund, in 2000. Its mission was the historic preservation of the church, cemetery and grounds. Nancy served on the Board of Directors and as Secretary from 2000 until her retirement in 2005.

In 2005, St. Patrick Church of Erin (although defunct as a parish but still allowed to celebrate special occasion Masses) celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Nancy and daughter Mary Hasslinger worked for two years on a beautiful history book of St. Patrick's from its founding in 1855 until its closure as a parish in 1999. Nancy was also instrumental in planning the 150<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick Church Celebration, which included Mass at St. Patrick's and dinner at the Erin Town Hall, with almost 200 people in attendance (because that is all the Town Hall could hold!). In 2008, she was instrumental in planning the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the St. Patrick's Ladies Altar Society, with a dinner at the Hartford Golf Club.



Nancy and Ev's wedding day  
St. Patrick's Church  
September 10, 1960

Even as her health deteriorated, Nancy, with the help of her husband, Evarist, and daughter, Mary, continued her pursuit of gathering historical information on Erin Township. In November 2005, she became a founding member of the Erin Historical Society.

The St. Patrick Preservation Group will be forever indebted to Nancy, for without her passion, perseverance and hard work, the history of our beautiful Erin community, historic St. Patrick Church and surrounding areas would not have been documented for future generations. What a blessing and gift she was, and what a legacy she leaves to all of us . . . Godspeed Nancy Collins Henke . . .

## St. Paul's United Church of Christ

495 St. Augustine Rd.  
Colgate, WI

Sunday School - 9:00 AM

Worship Service - 9:30 AM

### Upcoming Events

#### *Chili Dinner & Homemade Candy Sale*

*Sunday, November 9, 11:30 AM to  
5:30 PM*

*Great all-you-care-to-eat chili, beverage and  
delicious homemade desserts (ham/buns also  
available)*

*Adults—\$6.50 Kids—\$4.00.*

#### *Cookie Walk*

*Saturday, December 6  
9:00 AM until sold out*

*Fill your own box from our large selection of  
homemade Christmas cookies. Come early -They go quickly!  
\$7.50/lb*



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Erin Soccer Club

by Barbara Bielmeier, President

Erin Soccer Club is off to a stellar 2014/2015 season as we have a Club registration of 92 eager players and a new Club Organization Committee! This year, we would like to thank and welcome newly appointed Vice President Bridget Hubing, Treasurer Marilyn Litts, and Concession Chairperson John Friedl. Positions continued to be held are President Barbara Bielmeier, Secretary Marilyn Litts, Referee Coordinator Teri Sippel Schmidt, and Director of Fields Devan Janz.



The new soccer season is bringing exciting changes for the Club that numerous players, parents, fans and the community will enjoy and benefit from! Emergency Management is a huge Club focus this year to ensure players and fans are safe and secure. CPR has been taught to coaches, managers and Club position members so that they'll be readily prepared in the event anyone needs CPR or first aid assistance and/or requires usage of the Defibrillation resource.

Effective coaching is another focus this year as all the coaches attended workshops this summer to ensure that fair playing, skill level methods and team concepts are implemented into our new season! GO ERIN!

The league would like to thank all of our volunteer coaches, managers, and families who spend numerous hours each week practicing, participating in Club meetings, and attending games each weekend. Your time and dedication to your players, families and the Kettle Moraine Soccer League is priceless to the success of our league and to the community!

The Leah Fenney 22<sup>nd</sup> annual tournament was held on Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> with once again record-breaking KMSL teams and players. Thank you to all the families, referees, committee members and sponsors that made this event possible!

New and exciting this year, the Club will be donating a portion of profits to the *Make-A-Wish Foundation*. What a great organization to partner with to bring life's enjoyment to others who are less fortunate.

Check out our new and improved website: [www.erinsoccer.org](http://www.erinsoccer.org)! A huge thank you to John Schippers for his creative and inventive new website for the Club! *Let the games begin!*

The Erin Soccer Club  
Barbara Bielmeier, Bridget Hubing, Marilyn Litts,  
John Friedl and Teri Sippel Schmidt



## Erin Baseball Club

Yes, it's almost time to start thinking about the holidays, and baseball! If you played with us in the last few years, watch your email for registration information coming soon for the 2015 season. If you're new to the area or are interested in joining us for the first time, we would love to have you! Check out our website, [www.erinbaseballclub.com](http://www.erinbaseballclub.com), or to contact us, send an email to [erinbaseballclub@gmail.com](mailto:erinbaseballclub@gmail.com). We look forward to another great season!

Please see the flyer below regarding an upcoming fundraiser at Town Hall for the Heimermann family. 16-year-old Adam suffered a massive head injury during a Hartford football game.



PosterMyWall.com

# SCHOOL NEWS

## HUHS

### The Oriole Life

by Jana Danay

This year we are documenting the lives of our students as they navigate their way through the halls of Hartford Union High School. Our new blog "The Oriole Life" presents a side of high school that many may not see. We are taking you behind the scenes, around the campus and into the lives of our students.

We have four featured writers who will share their experiences at HUHS throughout the entire academic year. Hartford Union High School is a great school, and there are so many opportunities available to all



students. A student's perspective will show the community all sides of the high school experience, from the academic experiences to the social issues and everything in between.

Check out: <http://www.theoriolelife.blogspot.com>



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262-673-9900





Erin School District, Hartford WI 53027

## District

by Kieth A. Kriewaldt, District Administrator

Erin School's enrollment has continued to climb over the last few years. This year we are projecting to have 349 students in our classrooms compared to 344 for the 2013-14 school year. In 2012-13 we had 338 students and in 2011-12 we had 333 students. Erin School District is becoming a destination school. We are seeing more parents choose to send their children to our school through the open enrollment option. When questioned, many parents stated how impressed they were with the educational programming our students receive. Others like the idea of a small K-8 feeling and knowing their children will be in one building for their entire K-8 experience. Still others talk about how welcomed they felt when they toured the school. At Erin School, the staff strives to provide the best curriculum for our students in a caring and nurturing manner. We strive to build a relationship with each family as their children pass through the grade levels. Our focus is to keep the class sizes smaller while providing a larger range for our students to grow.

This year, the District is providing advanced opportunities to several of our students. We have over half of our 8<sup>th</sup> graders (26) taking Honors Algebra I, while two of our students are attending HUHS to take Honors Algebra II. We have several 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders this year bumping up a grade level for math. Several of our students are taking on-line classes to expand their learning outside our classrooms. All of these activities have a great reward for our students when they reach high school. On average, a majority of our students make honor roll or higher when they attend HUHS. Last year 75% of our students who were seniors were in the top half of their class.

As a community member, this is your school. Please stop in and see it. Feel free to walk through the hallways to see what is happening within the classrooms. Attend our basketball and volleyball games or numerous activities throughout the year. Feel free to bring the family to walk our track, shoot some hoops, or play on the playground.

## District Secretary/Technology

by Donna Runte

Many community members inquire about using the school building and equipment. School Board Policy 834—Temporary Use of School Facilities, and 834R—Temporary Use of School Facilities Rule will answer most of your questions. These can be found on the District webpage under “District,” “School Board,” and then “Policy.”

Home School parents should register your child(ren) at <http://dpi.wi.gov/sms/homeb.html>. Also, as a homeschool family, we invite you to consider joining Erin School afterschool activities. The District offers basketball and volleyball for both boys and girls, chess, Lego League (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade), and forensics (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>). Fees will apply and participation is based on whether there is room in the activity. Feel free to call for more information.

At the close of last school year and the start of this school year, Erin School has seen a technology transformation. The school has moved to wireless mobile Chrome carts for students in 3<sup>rd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The school has also added two wireless carts of laptop computers for middle school and the library computer lab for students. The main computer lab has also received new desktop units for all students to use. The school is also sporting SMART Board technology in each of the classrooms, library, and computer lab. The school is also blessed with new iPads from a technology grant. On top of this, our students continue to bring their own devices to learn. With our wireless network within and around the building, the children can pretty much connect anywhere. Please call if you have any questions.

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Volunteer Coordinator

by Sue Lisko

ERIN SCHOOL WANTS YOU! This was our theme for starting the Volunteer Program at Erin School five years ago. Now we are saying THANK YOU to all who replied. The program has met with great success and all who have volunteered are truly appreciated. We will again be offering this volunteer opportunity for the 2014-2015 school year. Volunteers will help with classroom projects, sewing, reading to children, helping with school events, and 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 Erin community. 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 or [LISKO@erinschool.org](mailto:LISKO@erinschool.org) (preferred).



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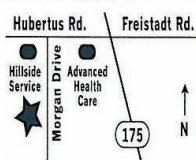
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## Athletics

by Andrew Address, Athletic Director

As we begin another year of school, there are many exciting challenges that come with the new beginning. Those challenges really are an opportunity from which to learn and grow. From an athletic perspective, students feel a sense of accomplishment and pride when they conquer those challenges. For parents, juggling schedules, practices, meals and rides and communicating with all parties is most challenging at times. Coaches find challenges with differing abilities, playing time, and generally trying to meet the needs of all with limitations that they may not have created. Whatever these challenges are, I am continually impressed that at Erin School our parents, teachers, coaches, students and administration all work together to consistently overcome these challenges in a positive way. I am thankful to work in an environment where teamwork is the norm and everyone is trying to do what is best for our children. The opportunity for each of us is to continue to demonstrate the strength and values that show why we truly have a top-notch school!

Girls' basketball started on September 29th. Boys' basketball starts on January 5, 2015, and volleyball starts in mid-March. Any questions regarding Erin Athletics should be directed to Mr. Address at [address@erinschool.org](mailto:address@erinschool.org). Have a great start to the school year! Go Roadrunners!

## Bookkeeper

by Cheryl Johrendt

The 2014-15 school budget was presented at the Budget Meeting and approved at the Annual Meeting which was held on Monday, September 22, 2014. The Erin School District has made every effort to maintain a safe and positive school environment for its students, staff and community while remaining fiscally responsible to the School District taxpayers. While the District continues to provide services as it has in the past, it can sometimes be a bit challenging. The District monitors the revenues and expenditures monthly and adjusts accordingly throughout the year.

New this school year, the District has begun a morning care program for students who need care prior to the start of the school day. Students can be dropped off at school any time after 6:15 AM. We continue to offer after-school day care which is available to both current students and any community families needing child care after school. The care is available until 6:00 PM Monday through Friday. In addition to the before- and after-school care, we offer an Extended Day program for our 4-year-old kindergarten students who need to have care in the mornings before afternoon classes. These programs are self-sufficient and not funded by District funds. More information on the programs can be obtained from the District office.

## Building and Grounds

By Deb Fenney, Director

Space design in schools should reflect and support the faculty's philosophies and learning styles. During the day, students collaborate on group assignments seated around tables, sharing materials and thoughts with each other. The teacher works with each group in turn, making sure everyone understands the concepts. Such teaching styles fit the learning styles of today's generation of students, who are dramatically different from their predecessors. The idea is to allow students to work collaboratively. During the summer we have retrofitted several of our classrooms to represent the new style of teaching, using existing furniture and purchasing a few newer pieces. Feel free to stop in and check them out.

The Building and Grounds Committee is looking for a few more members who have knowledge in the various building trade areas. If you are such a person and would like to be on our committee, please contact Dr. Kriewaldt at 262-673-3720. The Committee meets for about one hour, two to four times per year.

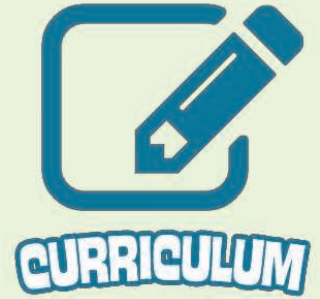


# SCHOOL NEWS

## Curriculum

by Joannie Kalina

In past newsletters we have highlighted high levels of learning, particularly in Math and English Language Arts. As a District, we continue to make great strides in this area. We have many indicators of success. One way we measure our student learning in-district is by using fall and spring Measures of Academic Progress (MAP®) assessments. This computerized test allows us to compare our students against their own growth and the scores of other students throughout the nation. Erin students continue to compete at high levels. Wisconsin also uses the School Report Card. We are happy to report that Erin School ranks as one of the highest in Washington County. At the state level, we scored in the category of Exceeds Expectations. All of these are indicators that we are preparing our students for future academic success.



In addition to academics, our teachers strive to help our students build strong character and develop life-long skills for success. This year our school-wide theme is *Growing Our Potential: Everyone's a Leader*. As part of this theme, our middle school students partner with elementary buddies. Together, they learn and model monthly themes. Some of our themes for the year include: *Respect Others, Show Responsible Behavior, Communicate Clearly, Encourage Others, Be Trustworthy* and *Solve Problems*. Strong academic successes along with opportunities to build strong character make Erin School a school of choice.

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## Washington County Humane Society

The Washington County Humane Society (“WCHS”) is nestled on two acres next to the Polk Town Hall on State Road 60, between Jackson and Slinger, caring for nearly 3000 animals annually. WCHS contracts with the County for stray dog services and with 12 of 20 municipalities for stray cats. Licensing fees pay a portion of the costs WCHS incurs to provide these services, but they make up only about 10% of its budget. The Shelter relies for the remainder of its income on animal services, donations and fundraisers.

When animals enter WCHS’s facility, they are immediately inoculated. Prior to being offered for adoption, all animals are medically and behaviorally assessed; all cats, dogs and rabbits are spayed and neutered. (Because WCHS has no veterinarian on staff, a visiting veterinarian performs spays/neuters, and several vets in the area provide low-cost services.) All dogs and cats are microchipped prior to leaving the Shelter, and WCHS provides follow-up and support for all adopters.

WCHS is fortunate in not having to euthanize for space – animals are euthanized only for aggression and serious, non-treatable illnesses. Because of its high adoption success, WCHS is able to routinely accept dogs from other crowded Wisconsin shelters. Dogs at WCHS are taken outside three times a day and enjoy long walks with Best Foot Forward volunteers. Volunteers provide lots of socialization, exercise and attention, and dog play groups in WCHS’s courtyard or training facility are a common sight. WCHS’s Canine Behavior Specialist works with individual dogs and trains staff in behavior modification techniques.

The cat population in Washington County continues to be a concern. WCHS provides incoming cats with places to hide and perch, depending on personality. Once moved to the adoption floor, they reside in communal rooms, cages or individual “condos.” WCHS’s Feline Intervention Program volunteers provide the kitties with individual grooming, playing and cuddling.

Two additional programs address the County’s serious cat over-population. WCHS has a Trap/Neuter/Release program for feral cats and educates cities and villages about the benefits of TNR. Additionally, the Shelter offers a low-cost spay/neuter program (Barn Buddies) for outdoor barn cats. Both services have been extremely well-received by county residents. Whenever possible, we offer these services to out-of-county residents.

Community outreach plays an important part in WCHS’s mission. The humane educator visits schools and daycares, and groups often visit the Shelter for birthday parties and tours. Each summer WCHS offers Romp with the Animals, a program designed to promote responsible attitudes and behavior toward animals and the environment. WCHS also presents to civic organizations and offers nursing homes and hospitals its Pet-A-Pet Therapy Program. Perhaps its most valuable service is its Safe Pets/Safe People program through which WCHS shelters the companion animals of abuse victims until they are in a safe environment.

The Washington County Humane Society recently celebrated its 46th anniversary. While it has accomplished much over the years and is proud of its cooperative relationships with shelters around the state, much work remains to be done. To that end, WCHS is evaluating its current space needs to better serve the County.

WCHS’s annual Festival of Trees will be held on December 6 and 7. For more details, visit <http://www.wchspets.org/>.



WCHS Festival of Trees December 6 and 7



# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Town Hall is Looking Festive!

The Town would like to thank the Wagner family of Highway 167 and the Rublee family of Hall Road for their generous contribution of fall decorations that are displayed outside the Town Hall office.

Erin Park Board member Brian Maresh says, "The Town and Park Board appreciate the many contributions our residents donate toward our projects in the Park, making it a more beautiful place for all to enjoy!"



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## Highway J Citizens Group

On May 20, 2014, the Highway J Citizens Group (HJCG) organized over 200 area residents to attend a town hall meeting in West Allis that was sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT). At this meeting, Secretary Mark Gottlieb informed the audience that the WisDOT is currently seeking substantial increases in state gas taxes and vehicle registration fees to obtain an additional \$680 million from taxpayers (beyond its current \$3 billion budget) for more highway-widening projects throughout Wisconsin.

In response, HJCG members told Secretary Gottlieb that instead of raising taxes and fees, the WisDOT should immediately cancel all wasteful and unnecessary highway-widening projects, adopt other more cost-effective, community-friendly and safety-enhancing options, and return the many millions in saved tax dollars to local communities for their road repair and maintenance needs. For example, cancelling the currently-proposed version of the Highway 164 widening project and implementing a proven-effective, 45 mph speed limit instead would save taxpayers over \$16 million (which then could be returned to local communities like Erin for road repair and additional property tax relief).

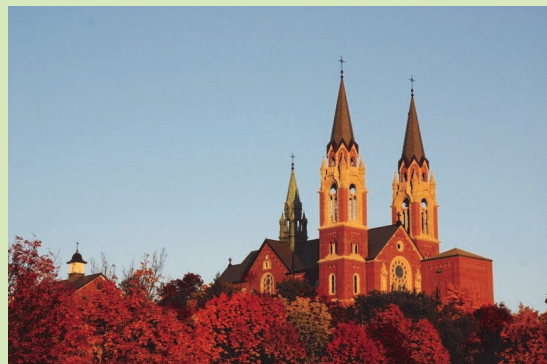
After this town hall meeting, several articles appeared in state and local news publications in which HJCG members strongly urged our state legislators to flatly reject the WisDOT's proposed gas tax and vehicle registration fee increases during the upcoming 2015-2016 legislative session.

To learn more about these community efforts, please call Jeff Gonyo at (262)-644-8334, e-mail him at: [jmgonyo164@core.com](mailto:jmgonyo164@core.com) or visit the HJCG website at: [www.hwyjcitizensgroup.org](http://www.hwyjcitizensgroup.org).

## Fall Colors Alive in Erin!



*Highway K*



*Looking northwest from top of Holy Hill*

*Photos submitted by Cornel Rosario*





## St. Mary's of the Hill Parish

By Mary Anne Urlakis

The Eighth Annual Holy Hill Friars vs. Kids Wiffle-Ball Game, sponsored by St. Mary's of the Hill Parish and its Pastor, Fr. Fred Alexander, was held in the field next to St. Mary's of the Hill Church on the Holy Hill grounds on August 20, 2014.

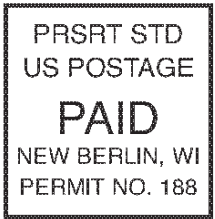
What a beautiful, warm, sunny evening to swat a few mosquitoes and "PLAY BALL!" After the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, kids, parents and Friars divided into two teams, and the fun began with the first pitch. In addition to a rousing 8-7 game, participants enjoyed hot dogs, popcorn and juice.

A great time was had by all. Thank you to all the volunteers, participants and the Community of Friars at Holy Hill.





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**[www.erintownship.com](http://www.erintownship.com)**

Meeting notices: published in the Daily News and posted outside the Town Hall, Erin Inn, and Erin School.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### TOWN BOARD MEMBERS

Dennis Kenealy, Chair: 966-2148  
Jeff Millikin: 673-7001  
Dan Coffey: 673-5840  
Pat Landon: 673-2130  
Tim Zignego

### TOWN TREASURER

Nicole Lipske: 966-0539

### TOWN CLERK

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Office: 673-3682  
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### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Dave Lofy: 262-673-3702  
Tree Emergencies: 414-750-9529

### ASSESSOR

Michael Grota  
Office: 253-1142

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Kathy Kobs: 673-3682  
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### BUILDING INSPECTOR

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