

**The Gibraltar  
Town Board**

Brian Merkel, Chairman

Supervisors:

Richard Skare

Steven Sohns

Brian Hackbarth

Karl Stubenvoll



## Introducing our New Fire Chief

Hello, Town of Gibraltar. My name is Caleb Whitney and I'd like to introduce myself as your new Fire Chief. I am a 17-year veteran of the Northern Door fire service with five Wisconsin State Certifications in fire training. I have worked very closely with Gibraltar Fire/Rescue for many years and as such, was best suited to step into the Chief's position allowing Chris Hecht to bring his interim position to a close. Thank you to Chief Hecht for setting us on the road to becoming a more progressive fire department!

The department was busy working toward a higher level of professionalism this winter with the completion of three State Certifications in Driver/Operator of Fire Apparatus, one Emergency Medical Tech-

nician and one newly licensed Emergency Medical Responder.

Are you willing and able? Your community needs you! The department provides paid training, paid response and exciting work! Test your mettle and be part of something greater than yourself! Call (920) 421-4331, email [chief@gibraltarfirerescue.com](mailto:chief@gibraltarfirerescue.com) or check us out on Facebook.

Or help us help you, in one of four ways! First, service your smoke alarms and CO detectors with a new set of batteries. Second, if you have an alarm system, make sure your address, contact information and key holder numbers are current with your alarm company. Third, get a burn permit if you're burning anything outside of a burn barrel. Even if

you are using a barrel, make sure only clean paper and wood are being burned and there is a screen on top. Keep the area around the barrel free of debris. Permits can be taken out for free at the Gibraltar Town Office. Call (920) 868-1714. Fourth, consider a donation to the Gibraltar Fire Association (501c3). This year we hope to raise \$20,000.00 in order to purchase eight new defibrillators. The old ones will soon be out of compliance, making new ones necessary. The improved versions will be easier and more reliable to use. The life you save, may be your own! Finally, a huge thank you to Keith Mueller of Keith's Automotive for his rapid response and excellent service to the department in a variety of ways this last few weeks.

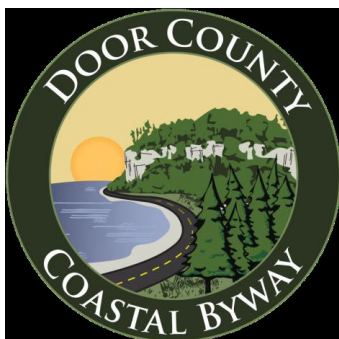


*Coming Soon to Fish  
Creek Park  
Door County Coastal  
Byway Kiosk!*

## Fish Creek Town Dock Launches Website Open for the Season

The Harbor Commission has been busy readying the Dock for the upcoming season. This past winter, dredging was completed and repairs to the launch ramps were made. New for 2013, is the creation of the Fish Creek Town Dock website which can be visited at [www.fishcreektowndock.com](http://www.fishcreektowndock.com). Transient space reservations are now being accepted and can be made through the website or by calling (920) 868-3476. Parking in the dock lot is by permit only available to slip and mooring holders. Trailer parking is available with the purchase of a launch pass and is located on Highway 42 behind the Town Office. The Dock Staff will also be monitoring VFH channel 16 this season.

*We are looking forward to another wonderful and safe boating season!*



## Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport

*The Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport is unique in many ways. It is also a tremendous asset to Northern Door County. We invite you to visit the airport, talk to the pilots who are always happy to share their flying experiences with you.*

### Electronic Recycling Day

**Saturday, July 13th**

**8 a.m. to Noon**

**Gibraltar Recycling Center  
W3626 Gibraltar Rd.**

**Free to Recycle:**

Computers, cell phones, air conditioners, exercise equipment, stereos, dehumidifiers and misc office and mechanical equipment etc...

**Fee to Recycle:**

Monitors	\$10
TVs	\$10
Over 30"	\$30
Console TVs	\$30

Volunteers are needed during the event. For more information call (920) 868-1714.

In 1943 the Fish Creek Men's Club and the Ephraim Men's Club proposed the purchase of property to build an airport. The purpose of the airport was to promote tourism to the Door County area to pilots who were fortunate enough at the time to be able to fly.

Over the past 70 years the Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport has experienced tremendous change. From a single sod runway to dual runways (paved asphalt and turf) with a state of the art lighting system, a self-service fueling system, 29 hangars, a courtesy van, 8 courtesy bikes and rental cars, the airport remains in the business of promoting tourism. Pilots/crew flying into the Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport take advantage of the tremendous activities that Door County has to offer; we are considered a destination airport.

It could be estimated that all pilots are the potential customers of the Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport. Pilots chose their destinations based on a variety of services and activities. The Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport is unique. The services offered by the Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport include: 24/7 Self Service Fuel-

priced competitively, courtesy van and courtesy bikes, Free Wi-Fi, Free shuttle service to Fish Creek and Ephraim provided by local businesses and free shuttle service to Peninsula Golf Course.

The activities available to pilots/crew flying to the Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport include: golf, kayaking, sailing, fishing, swimming, shopping, restaurants, biking, hiking, theater/performing arts, art schools, art galleries, boat tours, concerts, Summer/Winter Festivals.

Six years ago several pilots who were interested in improving the airport, organized the Friends of the Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport. Since the inception of the Friends organization numerous improvements/accomplishments have been made to the airport.

Some of the improvements/accomplishments are:

Members of the Friends organization contributed \$4,500 for the purchase of the Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS). This contribution offset the amount of funds that the Town of Gibraltar and the Village of Ephraim would have had to pay.

The Friends of Ephraim-Gibraltar Airport committed to donate two scholarships to two 14-15 year old area students to the EAA/Air Academy Program. The cost to the Friends organization was approximately \$2,000.00. The EAA Air Academy offers young people the opportunity to meet and work with aviation professionals, while living and learning the arts, sciences, and lore of aviation in both classroom and workshop settings.

They join many other young people, ages 14-15, in this aviation program. Participants in the EAA Air Academy come from around the United States and several foreign countries. Academy activities will include flight experience, workshops, and classroom study.

On May 18th, the EAA Young Eagles Program, provided over 90 FREE 15-20 minute flights for youngsters, ages 8-17 years old. Volunteer pilots introduced many youngsters and their parents to the thrill of aviation. For most of the kids this was their first airplane ride. This annual event is great PR for the airport and the community. Pilots donated their time and all expenses for this event.

*Since 1992 EAA members have given more than 1.7 million Young Eagles flights worldwide. During 2012, more than 79,000 young people experienced the magic of a Young Eagles flight. This has all been possible because of EAA volunteers, pilots, donors, and sponsors.*



Photo Submitted by: Jon Neville

## Greetings from GHA!

Join us at the Gibraltar Grill for our "Annual Fundraising Dinner" on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$35 per person or 2 for \$60.

We have been working most of the winter compiling information and artifacts on Victorian Weddings and are pleased to announce that the Noble House will open June 8<sup>th</sup> with the show "Silken Memories". We have approximately 20 wedding dresses (many on loan from the Ephraim Historical Foundation) dating back as far as the 1860's, as recently as the 1960's . . . one hundred years of history wrapped in beauty and inter-

esting custom and tradition. The Noble House is open 7 days a week from noon to 5:00 p.m. with the last tour beginning at 4:30 p.m. Heritage Day will also take place on June 8<sup>th</sup>. This year we will have "Spring Planting" at Noble Square beginning at 11:00 a.m. Take a walk among the farm implements used at the turn of the century.

Additionally we have scheduled a whole slate of presentations for "Gibraltar Talks" ranging from early farming, to land preservation, to a Great Lakes songster, and on and on. Look for the schedule in the GHA Newsletter out soon.

These presentations are the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Town Hall. Also meeting at the Town Hall are the Historic Gibraltar Walks, on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 a.m.

The Old Town Hall will be a busy place as it is also the location for "Silk and Tea", a tea and style show depicting the wedding dresses on display at Noble House. Enjoy a lovely afternoon by stepping back in time for a cup of tea, socializing, and a beautiful style show hosted by GHA and Karin Kopischke.

For ticket information, call Barb at (920)868-9335

### Message from our Postmaster

Mailbox Improvement arrives in time for spring cleaning! Typical Items: replacing loose hinges on the door, repainting rust or peeling paint, remounting and replacing house numbers. Contact the Fish Creek Post Office for more information.  
Happy Spring!

### Fish Creek Watershed Update:

On April 9th, the Fish Creek Watershed Study completed its first water test for 2013 at three sites on the creek.

We were very pleased to see many suckers and a Northern Pike in the Creek.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer in this stream monitoring program call Kelly at the Town Office - 868-1714. No experience is necessary, just an interest in maintaining clean ground and surface water in Gibraltar.

## Road Brushing & Maintenance

The Town of Gibraltar's Public Works Crew has been busy brushing and cutting back trees and other vegetation located within the legal rights of way along roads within the Town of Gibraltar.

The Town of Gibraltar's practice is to cut back trees 21 feet from the centerline of the

road. This brings our roads up to the recommended standards that will allow for proper shouldering and ditch lines. If roads are not kept to the minimum width requirement by state statute; the General Transportation Aid the Town receives can be reduced, which could increase the Town

levy for maintenance of our roads.

This practice will not only help preserve and increase the longevity our roads, but will also create safer and more visible passage for emergency vehicles, automobiles, bicycles and pedestrians.

## Gibraltar Parks

The Gibraltar Parks and Lands Committee has been busy readying the Parks for the upcoming season.

This spring, we contracted to have the "Wall" at Sunset Beach repaired to protect it's structure and preserve it's history for many years to come. Please take notice during your

next sunset stroll.

The Committee also planted three Prairie Fire Crabapple trees; one in Fish Creek Park, Clark Park and Spruce Park.

Ongoing projects for Parks and Land include a storm water runoff and landscaping plan for Sunset Park, new signage along the Fish Creek

Park trails and the purchase of a recycling container for Clark Park. The gardens are coming into bloom, so take time to stop and enjoy the flowers.

*Fun Fact: Last week, Town staff planted 19,584 marigolds along the sidewalks of Fish Creek. The group managed to complete the planting in only 5.5 hours. Great Job Team!!*

### What's living in the Gibraltar Parks?

Learn about the small mammals that live in our town parks! Join us while we discuss the mice, moles and voles that are native to the area and their role in the ecosystem. Help set live traps **July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7pm** and come for a one-on-one as we release our furry friends **July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8am**. Meet at the gazebo in the Fish Creek Park.

*Hosted by: Marne Kaeske, Stewardship Coordinator for the Ridges Sanctuary*



## BOXHOLDER



### Beware of Garlic Mustard...

Garlic mustard is non-native, biennial plant. It starts from seed and grows close to the ground as a rosette during its first season of growth (shown in picture on top). These first-year plants overwinter and begin to grow again the following spring. The second-year plants (picture on bottom) flower in May or early June and produce large numbers of seeds that can remain alive in the soil for years. These sticky seeds attach themselves to animal fur, shoes, tires, etc. and can be readily spread by both animals and humans.

Within a few years, garlic mustard can become dominant in the forest understory, making it a major threat to woodlands.

This aggressive plant displaces our native vegetation and degrades wildlife habitat. In its presence we not only lose the intrinsic beauty of our trilliums, orchids and other exceptional flora, but wildlife species that depend on these early plants for their foliage, pollen, nectar, fruits, seeds and roots, are deprived of essential food sources when garlic mustard replaces them.

Management for garlic mustard requires a commitment to maintenance. As noted previously, seeds of garlic mustard can remain viable in the soil for five or more years. Control of garlic mustard is best achieved through an integrated approach – combining mechanical meth-

ods (i.e. hand pulling) with chemical. For large infestations where hand pulling would take a great deal of time, chemical treatment may be the best option for control. This approach would take place in the fall when most native flora is dormant, while garlic mustard basal rosettes remain green. To learn more about this plant or the resources to control it join us at **Sunset Park** (the end of Main Street in Fish Creek) **Wednesday May 29<sup>th</sup> at 6pm** or visit the Door County Invasive Species Team website for more information.