

Town of Canosia Newsletter

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Fall 2016

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TRAIL SURVEY COMING SOON!

The last town resident survey, conducted in 2014, identified an interest in expanding the hiking and biking trails in our township. Over the past several months there has been a small group of volunteers, assisted by the Metropolitan Interstate Council (MIC), working to gather and discuss hiking & biking trail ideas. The group's goal is to help our township assemble a long term trail development plan. The plan will provide details on trail routes, trail types, development options, estimated costs and potential funding sources.

Trail types and routes discussed so far range from hiking paths through the woods between points of interest in the township; to loop trails on a designated 40 acre tract of land; to gravel or paved bike trails, on or off road, connecting with existing trails.

Input from all town residents is needed to create a plan that will meet the recreational and transportation needs & wishes that fit our township.

More details on the initial hiking and biking trail plan ideas will be shared at a public meeting. The meeting will be held at **6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 3rd** at the Canosia Town Hall to present the range of trail types & development options, answer questions, and introduce a survey to gather ideas to shape the trails plan. Please take some time to help us in the planning for future trails by attending the public meeting and taking the survey. If you are unable to make it to the meeting, the survey will be available on the Canosia Township Website at <http://canosiatownship.qwestoffice.net> starting on October 3rd. A paper copy of the survey can also be obtained by calling Susan Krasaway at 590-6746.

By Kurt Brooks, on behalf of the Trails Planning Group

CEMETERY REMINDER

Please remember that all baskets, planters, vases, etc. are to be removed from the cemetery by September 15th each year. Any items left in the cemetery after that date will be removed at the fall clean up and disposed of after two weeks.

Live or artificial flowers and plants in regulation cemetery baskets or vases are allowed on the gravesites again starting May 20th. Solar lights or other decorative articles are not permitted.

TOWNSHIP RECYCLING HOURS

Tues. & Thu: 5 - 8 p.m.
Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For a detailed list of acceptable recyclables, visit the township website www.canosiatownship.qwestoffice.net

**Is your yard covered in fallen leaves?
See pg. 5 for info on WLSSD's compost site.**

ROAD REPORT

As we move into autumn, we have experienced a summer to remember. From a Cool Spring to some very Hot and Humid summer days, we also managed to have a summer storm to remember.

From downed trees, broken power poles, loose power lines, and blocked roads, we witnessed Mother Nature unleash some of her fury. We can all be thankful there were no serious injuries. It was also wonderful to see neighbors helping neighbors with property clean up. It says a great deal about the folks in our community.

A huge thank you goes out to the Canosia Fire Department members who were out insuring that we were protected from going where it may have been dangerous. They also controlled traffic and were able to get folks out that had a need to get out. Great Job, Gentlemen! In the end, the township had about \$23,000 in storm-related expenses. We are hoping to get a significant portion of that reimbursed from disaster funding through the county.

This spring and summer, Canosia began its Road Improvement and Maintenance Program. This program was in partnership with the St. Louis County Public Works Department. This a three-to-four year program which will bring our asphalt roads to a condition which will add 6-8 years of additional life to them.

The Lindahl Road and Kehtel Road were repaired this year with the crack filling and crack sealing done by St Louis County as part of our agreement. Both the transverse and longitudinal cracks were repaired.

Dubla Drive was also improved this year with a process called a "Scrub Seal".

Pike Lake Place will also be done this summer, and it will be done with a "Chip Seal" process. This process is used when it is determined it can be used instead of the "Scrub Seal".

We will also be continuing our gravel road maintenance with input from Gary Oswell, Canosia Road Foreman, and myself, the supervisor assigned to this program. This summer we improved the Christianson Road, adding a new culvert and adding 700 yards of Class 5. We will also be adding 350 yards of Class 5 to the Tomak Road.

Our gravel road grading is done by St Louis County with direction from Gary Oswell.

We also completed two new asphalt approaches on Alder & Town Line Roads. This will assist in starting and stopping in the winter, as well as preventing "washboarding" of the intersections that occurred with a gravel approach.

The Town Board is very committed to see this program through to its completion. The 2017 Schedule includes "Scrub Seal" of Pike Lane, Dunaisky Lane, and Vaux Road.

We are also committed to our ongoing Gravel Road Maintenance Program. The Town Board is also pleased to remind our residents that this program, and our maintenance program, is being planned to be completed without any projected levy increase. We will do our best to keep the residents informed of the timeline for these projects. Check the Canosia Website and the Canosia Facebook Page.

By Supervisor Kevin Cornick, on behalf of the Canosia Town Board

RECREATION AREA REPORT

The Canosia Recreation Area has undergone some updates recently, and it looks great! The safety issues with the playground equipment and the tennis courts were repaired last year; however installation of nets and painting of the tennis court were delayed by the contractor until early July. With the completion of the court surface, we now have outstanding courts and a strong resurgence of play. This project was done by Canosia Township with a sizable contribution from the Proctor School District and other smaller donations. We want to thank everyone that provided financing. Although people had to find alternative sites to play tennis for a short time, the courts will be in great shape to play for many years.

We have another big project for this year: repair and replacement of our dugouts. The small dugout that is canted to the back will be leveled. The main baseball dugout currently attached to the concession stand suffers a lot of movement and damage due to frost. With the help of a lot of volunteer work, we plan to tear down and rebuild this dugout with an attached storage area.

Pickleball is becoming a fast-growing paddle sport created for all ages and skill levels. We have added a pickleball court at the request of some of our residents. It is in the front of the area next to the garage. Usage has been limited so far, but it is still getting discovered. As our residents learn about the court and the game, it may develop into a well used attraction.

We have seen the recreational area get used a lot this year. It continues to be a very active area with baseball in the summer and soccer in the fall. It also has the availability for events at the pavilion and unorganized activities such as playing on the playground, playing volleyball, tennis, basketball or going for a walk into the school park area which extends into the forested area between the back soccer field and baseball field. These are all great areas which deserve some time to enjoy.

By Supervisor Dan Golen & Recreation Director Mike Ellingson



TENNIS COURTS



PICKLEBALL COURT



DUGOUT

Historical Society : A look back at the 2008 Election Day at the Town Hall

By Millicent O'Connell, Historical Society member and former election judge

Wednesday, Nov 5th, 2008, Election Day

On this day, history was made by the people of these United States. We elected a real representative of this country. A man who represented the melding of all the areas of this land and people. A mix of races; religions; and our wide-spread states, from islands in the Pacific Ocean to crowded cities in the center of the country. But the real story was played out right here in Canosia Township.

From early in the morning when we election judges readied for the day of election by taking an oath, counting all the ballots to be sure everything was correct at the beginning of the day, to counting them again at the end, so that all would balance – so that each vote cast by our townspeople was counted and verified.

What impressed me – all day long – was the varied health and dedicated effort made by each person who came to vote.

The working people came first – standing outside the Town Hall one-half hour before the polls opened. Thank God it turned out to be a lovely clear November day. From 7 a.m. to about 9:30 a.m. the hall was full, then steady all day long and into the evening. Each person was verified to be a qualified, eligible voter before being given a ballot to vote. Some stood at their voting booth, others sat at a table provided in the hallway, some even used our handicap video screen to hear or see better, before inserting their ballot into the ballot box.

Children of all ages accompanied their parents or grandparents. They each received an “I Voted” sticker. Some clung to the legs of their moms or pops as their parents dutifully marked their choices by filling in the oval with ink or adding a write-in name. A wheelchair, several canes, feet or arms encased with medical wraps of all kinds were evident as each made their way through the process necessary to cast their vote.

An old bench, made about 100 years ago, was provided and used to rest on until the voter before them was finished.

One young boy, very tall, stood in the middle of the room, gazing at all the old pictures and displays hung on the walls as he waited for his father to complete voting. What a marvelous example for this boy; to witness his dad fulfilling his obligation as a citizen.

Lightning, thunder, and rain showers came toward evening – so there were no more neighbors standing in the parking lot visiting after voting.

Our old Town Hall had a kitchen attached at the far end from the entrance, that has a pass-through window. We removed the board that closed it off, so that it provided a large opening. The Town Clerk received permission to use that room to register new voters. Over one hundred eighty citizens registered that day! Adding that extra space made traffic in the main room easier.

The new voting machine was a marvel! Before the doors were open for voting, we all looked into the machine to be sure it was empty. Then we all checked to see the white paper tape that was to record the day's tally – to check that it began with all zeros. Then as each voter fed their ballot into the machine, it recorded the data from both sides of the ballot, whether the ballot was fed in either forward or backward, and totaled the number of ballots received on the small screen on top of the machine. Sometimes it spit a ballot back out and printed the reason why – even to the point saying that the mark wasn't dark enough to read. Amazing!! (contd on next page)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: ELECTION MEMORIES

(continued from page 4)

(contd. from page 4) All absentee ballots had been fed into the machine when time allowed during the day, in order to facilitate completing the voting on time. So the final tally was registered on the voting machine by the time the polls closed at 8 p.m.

I'm grateful to our township for supplying this new machine. It worked so well, and saved us workers (election judges) hours of time that we used to spend hand-counting each ballot.

The total was called in to the County Court House and all election supplies were boxed to be returned to the Court House by our Town Clerk. Then we election judges took in the flag, the notices posted on the doors and bulletin board, and tables; collected our coats, thermos bottles, and lunch supplies; locked the doors; and went home.

Millicent O'Connell, former election judge
Canosia Historical Society

ELECTION NOTES FROM THE CLERK

A big early THANK YOU to our great team of Election Judges who will be working a very long day on November 8! They do a wonderful job making everything run as smoothly as possible. An estimated 1,200 voters will pass through the town hall that day.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. If you want to avoid the lines, you can vote absentee ahead of time. You no longer need to provide a reason why you are voting absentee. Anyone can do it for any reason! Please contact the St. Louis County Auditor's office at 726-2385 for more information or visit the Secretary of State's website at www.mnvotes.org to request an absentee ballot.

Another big time-saving tip: If you are not already registered to vote, you have until October 18 to pre-register. You can do it all online as well if you visit www.mnvotes.org. This will save you the headache of bringing the necessary documents and filling out the form on Election Day.

Hope to see you all on November 8. I'm looking forward to another exciting history-making day at the Town

WLSSD COMPOSTING/RECYCLING OPTIONS

As you tidy up your yard this fall, please keep WLSSD's yard waste compost site in mind. From April to mid-November, they accept grass clippings and leaves free of charge on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Brush and branches are also accepted, but will cost you \$8 per cubic yard. The compost site is located at 27th Ave West & Courtland St. in Duluth. They also accept household hazardous waste (paint, chemicals, pesticides, etc) at that same location for no charge.

Appliances, tires, electronics, and scrap metal are all collected at the Materials Recovery Center on the corner of Rice Lake Rd. & Ridgeview Road. You can always call WLSSD at 722-0761 with any questions.

In store for you: Vintage, Painted & Log Furniture, Candles, Clothing, Purses, Jewelry, Aprons, Signs, Christmas Items, Baby Items, Honey, Syrup, Bread Mix, Greeting Cards and Much More!

Nana's Market Place

We showcase locally made.

Phone: 218-391-5665 and 763-567-0371

5614 Miller Trunk Hwy, Hermantown, MN
(Just before Midway Rd)

nanasmarketplace@gmail.com

www.nanasmarketplace.com

Find the UNexpected!

FIRED UP FOR THE NEW MINI-PUMPER!



Work has started on our new Mini-Pumper & Rescue vehicle! The township has given the go ahead for Midway Ford in the Twin Cities to order the cab & chassis portion.

When that's complete, it will be shipped over to Custom Fab & Body in Wisconsin. They will then assemble the body and all necessary fire-fighting, medical and car extrication equipment. A few of the firefighters will make the trip to Wisconsin this coming summer to pick up the finished product.

The total cost for the mini-pumper will be around \$220,000. It will be used for medical emergencies, grass fires and car accidents.

THANK YOU FOR THREE DECADES OF SERVICE!



Fire Chief Gene Stevens and Asst. Chief Clyde Mortinsen present Gary Hartranft with a plaque upon his retirement from the Canosia Volunteer Fire Dept.

Hartranft had 33 years of dedicated service to the CVFD and the residents of our township. The plaque was presented at a dinner on Sept 6th at the Cast Iron Grille.

2016 FIRE DEPT CALLS
(January to September)

- Township Medical: 59
- Mutual Aid Medical: 2
- Township Fires: 19
- Mutual Aid Fires: 14
- Service: 7

2016 TOTAL = 101
(Total for 2015 was 173)

PLANNING & ZONING ORDINANCE: UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Our five-member Planning and Zoning Commission has been working over the past year on updating the Planning and Zoning Ordinance for Canosia Township. The township has been in control of the zoning within the township and administering its own ordinance since 1976. Periodically the ordinance, rules that govern zoning in our township, must be revised and updated. The township's ordinance needs to be at least as restrictive as the St. Louis County's P&Z Ordinance. As the county updates their ordinance we also need to consider and adopt any relevant changes they make. The county ordinance was last revised in 2015 and changes are pending for 2016.

Our proposed updated version of the Canosia P&Z Ordinance can be found on the Canosia website at <http://canosiatownship.qwestoffice.net>. Input on changes or improvements is always welcomed. There was a Public hearing on the proposed ordinance on August 10 to hear concerns from the public and answer questions. There will be a second hearing conducted by the Town Board later this fall when they are reviewing the new draft prior to approval. We look forward to hearing any potential concerns or questions from all residents.

By Kurt Brooks, on behalf of the Planning and Zoning Commission

The township is seeking Planning & Zoning Commission members for three-year terms, starting in 2017. The town board will be addressing these openings in December.

CANOSIA BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: RED GOOSE COFFEE!

When Domino's moved from their Four Corners location last year, all that was left behind were some old pizza ovens and a dusty storefront. But for Tom & Julie Wieczorek, all they saw was perfect potential. You see, they'd been scouring all corners of the northland (from West Duluth to Two Harbors and back again) searching for the perfect spot to open a coffee shop of their very own. When they came across the building on the corner of Hwy. 53 and Midway, "It felt like we were hit with a lightning bolt," says Julie. "I knew this was the place we'd been searching for."

After extensive renovations to the site, the Wieczoreks are the proud owners of Canosia's own Red Goose Coffee. While the shop has been open for the past six months, the planning actually began ten years earlier. As they raised their five kids (Hunter, Isiah, Kayla, Ian and Silas) and Julie managed other local coffee shops, the idea kept percolating in their minds as they waited for the time to be right. With their youngest just graduating from high school this past spring, the timing was suddenly "beyond perfect" and Red Goose Coffee was born.

Although the Wieczorek children are grown, you can still feel their presence at Red Goose. Their son Ian's handmade pottery is selling fast, and each of the kids has their own signature sandwich on the menu.

Tom and Julie also created the popular Pike Lake Panini which has turkey, ham, bacon, cucumber, swiss and cheddar on cranberry wild rice bread. They also serve a breakfast sandwich, as well as cookies (chocolate macadamia nut is the favorite) and lemon cream cheese pastries. The plan is to take individual Christmas cookie and pie orders this winter as well.

The Wieczoreks say business has exceeded their expectations this summer, thanks to travelers along Hwy.53 and a lot of repeat traffic from loyal locals looking for a cup of coffee and snack somewhere close by. For now, Tom and Julie are the only employees of Red Goose. The two of them are covering all shifts from open to close, seven days a week. Their only day off has been the 4th of July. However, it seems they couldn't be happier with their steadily growing business and the hearty welcome they've received from Canosia and our surrounding communities.



Canosia Township Newsletter

Canosia Town Hall
4896 Midway Road
Duluth, MN 55811

TOWN HALL

4896 Midway Road, Duluth MN 55811
Phone/Fax: 218-729-9833

Email: canosiatownship@yahoo.com
Website: www.canosiatownship.qwestoffice.net

Official Posting Places:
Town Hall and Intersection of Lavaque & Martin Roads

TOWN BOARD

Regular meeting: first Wed. of each month at 7 pm

Kevin Connick, Chair: 590-6473
Kurt Brooks, Supervisor: 393-0304
Dan Golen, Supervisor: 464-2365
Susan Krasaway, Clerk: 590-6746
Cheryl Borndal, Treasurer: 729-9833

PLANNING & ZONING

Regular Meeting: 2nd Wed. of each month at 7 pm

Tim Walburg, Director: 340-5924
Call for building permits or P&Z questions

PLAWCS

Phone: 729-9007 Fax: 729-9447
Email: plawcs@qwestoffice.net
Website: www.PLAWCS.com

FIRE DEPARTMENT & BURNING PERMITS

Gene Stevens, Chief: 729-6211
Emergencies: 911
Burning Permits: Tom Amendola 393-5533

OTHER

Rec Area: Director Mike Ellingson, 729-7428

Historical Society: 729-9833, Regular meeting on the
fourth Thursday of every month at 7 p.m.

Recycling: Tues/Thu 5-8 p.m., Sat 9 a.m. – 5p.m.