



MAGIC

Mishicot Area Growth & Improvement Committee

NEWSLETTER

Volume 10 Issue 1

Winter 2009

A Message from the President

Village President Bernie Samz

It's hard to believe that it's almost two years since I've been elected Village President. But with the help of the Village Staff and the Village Board, it's been an easy transition for me to go from Trustee to Village President.

As you are all aware, the Village has requested that all Water Utility customers begin running water 24 hours a day to avoid the possibility of a frozen water service. A faucet should run with a pencil lead thin stream of water and be left on until further notice from the Village. Your account will be credited for consumption above that of what you used the same period of 2008.

The Mishicot Village Park Advisory Committee has been busy putting together a list of improvements to be done on the park building. This includes windows, roll-up serving windows, overhead and entry doors, insulation and new wall coverings estimated at \$6500 which will be funded through Magic and Riverfest. These upgrades are expected to be completed by mid April of this year. To date the following improvements have been completed. New tables, upgraded electrical system, ice makers, sink and faucets, two 35 cubic ft coolers, electric range, and a new score board for our second ball diamond. Thanks to all who worked so hard on this project by donating money, time or material. **KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK...**

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation is looking to redo Hwy 147 in the next year or two. They will be responsible for the cost of placing necessary wheelchair sidewalk ramps, replacing curb and gutter if needed, concrete pavement repairs and diamond grinding within the driving lanes. The Village will be responsible for the cost of the pavement repairs in the parking lanes estimated at a cost of \$26,000.

I am looking at starting a Community Grant Committee to assist the Village in writing and applying for grant money from the State and Federal Government. This money could be used to purchase various items throughout the Village. I am looking for people willing to join this committee. Meetings would be scheduled as needed throughout the year. If interested or for more information, please contact the Village Hall @ 755-2525.

As a reminder, regular Village Board meetings are at 7:00pm the first and third Tuesday of each month held at the Village Hall and are open to the public. Hope to see you there.





A Message from another President _____

MAGIC President Don Kaderabek _____

My name is Don Kaderabek. I am currently serving as the President of the Mishicot Area Growth and Improvement Committee. You may remember me when I worked in the Mishicot branch of Shipbuilders Credit Union. Let's look back on MAGIC's work in 2008. The year started with Christmas at the Museum which extended the holidays into the New Year during the Norman Rockwell weekend. It was good to see all the faces enjoying the local musical talent and huge tree at the Museum. Spring brought a cold day for our Two Rivers/Mishicot canoe trip. We used our new sound system to address the participants and spectators for the event. In May, the Village-wide Rummage Sale saw us set up our book sale tent. This is one of the ways MAGIC raises funds to continue our work in Mishicot.

In 2008, Mishicot celebrated two business open houses: US True Color Alpaca Store N More and the Mishicot Country Store. We, unfortunately, also saw the closing of two businesses: Country Vines "N" Berries and Sweet Creams. The weather cooperated most of the summer for our Outdoor Concert series and Farmers' Market which were both well attended. Riverfest drew big crowds to Mishicot and the Village Park. Along the Riverwalk, there is a beautiful flowerbed, thanks to the Eagle Scout project of Nathan Golding. Pumpkinfest was blessed with good weather and big crowds again this year.

Some changes occurred this year during our fall festival. The fire department hosted the pumpkin decorating and carving competition as well as a magic act, children's fingerprinting, and other activities. The Native Americans performed their dancing and drumming in the Village Park. The pumpkin pancake breakfast and vendors were in the Mishicot High School to accommodate bigger crowds and appetites!

I would like to introduce another new development for MAGIC. A new coordinator was hired part time for the MAGIC office. Virginia Parlato is in the office every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. to help keep MAGIC on course. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to find out how to volunteer, do not hesitate to stop by the office, call us at 755-3411, or email us at magic@tm.net.

Christmas at the Museum finished our year with a beautifully decorated building, live music, and wonderful refreshments for all who stopped in. None of these things could have happened without the help of our many good friends and volunteers. Thank you very much for all that you did to make 2008 such a good year for our Village. With your help we can make 2009 even better! Help us live up to our vision statement: MAGIC will provide support and leadership for the growth of the Mishicot area. The program will work to promote Mishicot's cultural heritage, improve community pride and revitalize the downtown area.





Another Presidential Message

The Change President Obama is Asking for Must Begin Locally

The Mishicot Area Growth and Improvement Committee (MAGIC) was started in order to improve the village and area 26 years ago and now our new U.S. President reminds us that we all need to get involved to help bring about the change that is needed.

What can you do?

Consider.....

- Recycling, picking up litter, car pooling, conserving resources, plant a vegetable garden, plant a flower garden, read a book, learn to value simple things
- start a journal, work on your family genealogy, visit our museum
- attend the summer concerts with your neighbor, do something for someone you don't know, introduce yourself to a stranger, visit someone in a nursing home
- shop locally, volunteer at MAGIC

We are all in this together. We are all needed to make Mishicot-- and the world-- a better place.

Featured Volunteer

In an effort to thank all volunteers, we will feature a special volunteer in each newsletter.

Gale Kronforst

Thank you for restoring and pulling the Great Pumpkin in Village parades and for all your work for the Historical Museum.



Volunteer Opportunities

- ✓ Greet visitors at the historical museum
- ✓ Deliver meals to senior citizens
- ✓ Plant flowers in the Village
 - ❖ Weed the flower beds
 - ❖ Water the flowers
- ✓ Join a MAGIC committee
 - ❖ Board
 - ❖ Design
 - ❖ Economic
 - ❖ Organizational
- ✓ Help with a Village Events
 - ❖ Decorate for the Holidays
 - ❖ Summer Concerts
 - ❖ Riverfest
 - ❖ Pumpkinfest
 - ❖ Christmas at the Museum
- ✓ Become an Emergency Responder
 - ❖ Ambulance Services
 - ❖ Fire Department
- ✓ Help Keep the Village Safe
 - ❖ Join a Neighborhood Watch Program
 - ❖ Become a McGruff House

Call the MAGIC office for more information:

920- 755-3411

Mishicot Police Dept information: 755-4041

Mishicot Fire Dept. information: 755-4438

Ambulance Service information: 755-2525

Mishicot Senior Center information: 755-2505

VOLUNTEER

Please consider sharing your most precious gift — your time. MAGIC offers many opportunities for residents to help make our community an even better place to live. No matter what your talent, we can put it to good use. Whatever you can spare — an hour, a few hours, a day or two — we can use your help.

Can you help keep the MAGIC happening in Mishicot?
 Thank you for your response to our Contributors' Drives! Please consider joining this year's drive. To make a contribution, please complete the form below and send it along with your donation to: MAGIC, 511 E. Main Street, Mishicot, WI 54228.

Through my/our contribution, I/we would like to support the mission of MAGIC.			
Suggested Contributions:			
Individual	\$25	Business	\$ _____
Family	\$35	Organization	\$ _____
Senior & Student	\$20	Institution	\$ _____
Name: _____			
Address: _____			
City/State/Zip: _____			
My employer matches non-profit contributions--name of company is _____			
<i>MAGIC, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Your donation may be tax deductible.</i>			
<i>Contact a tax professional for advice.</i>			

Mishicot Area Growth & Improvement Committee

MISSION STATEMENT:

MAGIC will provide support and leadership for the growth of the Mishicot area. The program will work to promote Mishicot's cultural heritage, improve community pride, and revitalize the downtown area.



Mishicot Briefs

Library Drop Boxes

The Lester Public Library in Two Rivers has placed two drive-up drop boxes behind the Mishicot Village Hall at 511 East Main Street. One box is for audio-visual materials and the other is for books. Any materials checked out from the following library locations may be placed in the Mishicot drop boxes: Two Rivers, Manitowoc, Kiel, Chilton, Brillion, and New Holstein. The scheduled pick up days for the Mishicot boxes are Tuesdays and Thursdays each week.

Powwow Bus Trip

The Mishicot Historical Museum is sponsoring a bus trip to Hannahville, Michigan again this year. The public is invited to learn about and participate in a traditional Native American Powwow. Come and enjoy Native American foods, a Powwow dance and drumming event, tour the Potawatomi Tribal Center, and visit the gravesite of Chief Mishicott. The trip is scheduled for June 27.



Earl Meshiguad, great-grandson of Chief Mishicott, speaks with participants on the Historical Museum Bus Trip.

Museum Boardwalk

Help support the Mishicot Historical Museum by honoring someone with a boardwalk plank engraved with their name. Over 80 spaces remain on the walk which was created as a means of financial support for the museum. The donation for each board of \$50 helps to support the museum.



Boardwalk outside the Mishicot Historical Museum

Donation Boxes

It's hard to miss those big red boxes sitting next to the Family Market. Once the snow melts, they will be even more visible. The boxes are available to residents to make donating gently used clothing, shoes, and linens easy and convenient. Just place clean items in a plastic bag, tie the bag up tight, and drop into one of the big red boxes. For more information about the boxes check the sponsor's web site at www.usagain2.com.



Bins are available for clothing, shoes, and linen recycling.

Mishicot Briefs continued

SAGBRAW Rest Stop

Eric and Kathy Schramm have once again chosen Mishicot as a rest stop for the Schramm's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Wisconsin. The tour group will stop in the Village Park for rest and refreshments on August 6. Mishicot was voted the best rest stop for this tour by the bikers the last time around. Let's try for the same distinction again. The Schramm's presented a sturdy bike rack to MAGIC in recognition of our "best rest stop" status. If you would like to help with our efforts, please contact the MAGIC office at 755-4824 or magic@tm.net or Evie Sustman at 755-3317.



Eric and Kathy Schramm and a bike tour participant present MAGIC representatives Mary Berken and Evie Sustman with a bike rack and plaque acknowledging Mishicot as the "Best Rest Stop" on the SAGBRAW tour.

Farmers' Market

While we can only dream about planting gardens now, but it isn't too early to consider becoming a vendor at our Wednesday morning Farmers' Market in downtown Mishicot. The season runs from late May to Pumpkinfest in October. The number and variety of vendors has been growing each year. The time is 7 to 11 a.m. in the Village Hall parking lot.



Jim Sustman uses the new sound system to address the participants of the Two Rivers/Mishicot canoe trip last year.

Mishicot /Two Rivers Canoe Trip

Join us in the water as a participant in this now annual event; or join us on land to help send off the boaters. Canoes and kayaks will be setting off from our Village Park to paddle to Two Rivers following the winding path of the East Twin/Mishicot River. Boaters will gather the morning of May 9 at 9 a.m. Launch time is 10 a.m. MAGIC will be there with coffee, food, and music. Hope to see you there.



Canoes and kayaks prepare to cast off during last year's Mishicot to Two Rivers annual river float trip.



MISHICOT'S Business News

Business Opportunity

Sweet Creams, a seasonal April to October ice cream shop, owned by Darlene and Jim Brace of Cato is now up for sale. Any individual or family interested in this business opportunity is asked to contact Jim or Darlene at 920-775-4148 for more information. This would be a wonderful business to keep open in the upcoming season. The Braces thank their many friends and patrons for their past business, but are unable to continue operating the shop. If you are unable to reach the Braces, interested parties wanting more information should call the MAGIC office at 920-755-3411.

Business Closing

U.S. True Color Alpaca Store N More owner, Marilyn Nate has also announced she will be closing her shop at the end of March. Marilyn will relocate the shop to her alpaca farm in Reedsville, where she lives. The time and expense of travel and our slow economy has made it too difficult for Marilyn to continue in her Main Street location. She also thanks her friends and patrons and leaves with sadness. However, she promises to return to Mishicot with her alpacas to participate in our village parades. We appreciate all the time and effort you put into decorating your store inside and out. We'll look for you in the parades!



An alpaca that walked in a Mishicot parade.

Shop Locally

We all are aware of the economic problems the entire country is experiencing, but we may not realize how much it affects small town businesses including those right here in our village. Therefore, we are urging all of our readers to please remember your local businesses and patronize them as much as possible. Your support is necessary for the welfare of the entire community.

Decorating

The Design Committee wants to thank everyone who did special decorating at Christmas. We especially thank the many businesses and homes on Main, State and Randolph Streets for all the white candle lights in the windows. Many visitors commented how welcoming and unified the village looked.

Memorial Trees and Flowers

Spring may seem a long way off, but now is the time to consider trees and flowers for planting and decorating the village either as memorials or in honor of someone still living. Last year, four memorial trees were planted to beautify the village and help the environment as well. Contact the MAGIC office at 755-3411 for more information.



Mark Your Calendar



2009 Calendar of Events

<i>Mishicot Music Department Pops N Pasta Concert</i>	<i>March 1</i>
<i>MAGIC Banquet</i>	<i>March 8</i>
<i>Friends of the Museum Night</i>	<i>March 17</i>
<i>Mishicot Middle School Musical</i>	<i>March 20</i>
<i>Mishicot Department hosts Solo/Ensemble Contest</i>	<i>April 4</i>
<i>Elementary School Spring Concert</i>	<i>April 22</i>
<i>High School Vietnam Veterans Program</i>	<i>April 29</i>
<i>Mishicot Sportsman's Park Archery Tournament</i>	<i>May 3</i>
<i>Mishicot/Two Rivers Canoe Trip</i>	<i>May 9</i>
<i>Mishicot Sportsman's Park Archery League begins</i>	<i>May 10 & 11</i>
<i>Mishicot High School Art Show Reception</i>	<i>May 11</i>
<i>Mishicot Spring Band Concert</i>	<i>May 11</i>
<i>Mishicot Spring Choir Concert</i>	<i>May 12</i>
<i>Village Rummage Sale Weekend</i>	<i>May 15-16</i>
<i>Memorial Day Parade/Program</i>	<i>May 25</i>
<i>Summer Concert Series begins</i>	<i>May 27</i>
<i>Farmers Market begins</i>	<i>Wednesdays throughout summer</i>
<i>Powwow Bus Trip</i>	<i>June 27</i>
<i>Riverfest</i>	<i>July 23-25</i>
<i>SAGBRAW Bike Tour Rest Stop</i>	<i>August 6</i>
<i>Mishicot Sportsman's Park Fall Archery Tournament</i>	<i>August 22 & 23</i>
<i>Pumpkinfest</i>	<i>October 17</i>
<i>Christmas at the Museum</i>	<i>December 14, 15, 16, 29, 30</i>

Clip and Save.



Restoration vs. Renovation

Restoring Our History

If there's one thing that Mishicot has plenty of, it's history. The Potawatomi Indians, Daniel Smith and the mill, an historical Main Street, and turn of the century (20th century, that is) homes are all part of more than 160 years of our history. In fact, life around Mishicot once revolved around its thriving Main Street and businesses. Our current way of life, largely made possible by ease of travel and mobility, has diminished the vitality of downtown areas in rural villages and towns such as Mishicot. But we have opportunities to sustain – and even grow - our village and its businesses by taking advantage of our rich history to promote Mishicot as a destination. We see some examples of this today, particularly with The Old School, our Village Museum, and village promotions such as Pumpkin fest.

One key way to take advantage of our history is by preserving our historic buildings. In particular, preservation of the character of our historic Main Street buildings, combined with the recreational and cultural draws of our community, can be an important business development and tourism marketing tool to maintain and improve the local economy. Preservation of historic buildings is typically achieved through restoration.

Why is it important to be interested in the restoration of historic buildings instead of renovation? Restoration of historical buildings saves the structure, preserves its history, and can lead to marketing the buildings not only for their historic character/value,



but also for their new possibilities. The rehabilitation of historic buildings or historic districts usually increases residential and commercial property values. An historic property should be rehabilitated as a physical record of its time - to retain its historic character for a continuing or new use. This not only preserves the property itself, but also the past that it represents.

Some landlords and property owners may think that restoration is an expensive avenue to prepare a building for tenants; or that restoration will limit the modernization of the property. The truth is the difference between restoration and renovation is not black and white. Qualified contractors can perform most restorations for a reasonable price; and there are many historical buildings that have been refurbished and transformed into more modern facilities. As with any owner, the main focus is upon utilizing the space available to attract and maintain tenants for the building. Buildings can be restored to maintain their historical value and appearance while functioning in a manner to best serve the owner's and tenants' wants and needs.

Imagine what Mishicot's Main Street would look like if the best of our past were preserved and restored. Then imagine what Mishicot could be - today!





MISHICOT'S YESTERYEARS

THE ROCKWAY BRIDGE

One thing Mishicot has plenty of is history. We need to preserve it and share it. That is the purpose of our historical museum and this column in each MAGIC newsletter. Visitors to Mishicot tell us that one of our main attractions is our Covered Bridge. Yet few know the history of that bridge.

The village has three bridges over the East Twin/Mishicot River. The Main Street bridge was the first to be built, Rockway Street was erected second, and the third, the State Street bridge, was built in the spring of 1955. There was no road or bridge there before that time. A fourth bridge was also constructed across Johnson Creek located at the base of Saxonburg Hill but, with time, it was replaced with culverts.

The present Rockway Street bridge was built in 1925 and was made entirely of cement. Just what year the first Rockway bridge was built is still a mystery, but based on information on the Mishicot Brewery; we believe it was around 1865. The bridge was built to get to the brewery which was built across the river where Pietroske Salvage is now located. An early plat map of the village laid out by Daniel Smith, the founder of the village in 1844, shows he intended to develop the south side of the river. Julius Lindstedt purchased the brewery in 1868, further developed it, and later sold it to Joseph Scheuer (previous MAGIC newsletters provide more information on the brewery).

The first Main Street and Rockway Street bridges were made of logs placed across piles of stones that were held in place by frames of logs. Main Street was originally called Water Street because it paralleled the river. Rockway Street was named by Daniel Smith for his first grandson, Rockway. Rockway Smith was the son of Daniel's oldest son, Alfred, who helped him build the mills in town.

In 1995, the village board received a letter from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation saying that the Rockway single lane bridge was no longer safe for vehicle traffic. The village board decided to turn it into a covered walking bridge. The work for that project was done by members of the Wisconsin Conversation Corps and supervised by the village with Jim Froelich playing a major role.

The Magic Design Committee has been working on a plan to make the bridge more noticeable and welcoming and we hope that by spring we will have a design for the entrance to the bridge to present to the Village Board for approval. If you have any ideas or suggestions you would like to share or want to help with the project, please let us know. Contact MAGIC at 920-755-3411, magic@tm.net, or stop by during office hours on Wednesdays from 9 to 11 a.m.



The Rockway Street bridge from the past and today.

