

Bridgewater Township Newsletter

July 2020

VOTING IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS

Absentee voting for the August Primary will start in Rice County on June 26, 2020. Due to COVID-19, Rice County election officials are urging voters to vote by mail to ensure the safety of voters and poll workers. Voters are encouraged to apply for an absentee ballot to be mailed to you for the upcoming election(s). Online applications are available. <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/ABRegistration/ABRegistrationStep1.aspx>

Local COVID-19 health conditions and the on-going remodeling of the Rice County Government Services Building present social distancing challenges to in-person absentee voting and may result in long voting times. For voters who do choose to absentee vote in person at the Rice County Government Services Building or Northfield City Hall, we ask that you bring your own pen and face mask and limit non-essential visitors accompanying you, including children, if at all possible.

If you are not registered to vote, you can register on-line at <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/register-to-vote/>. Rice County election officials are encouraging on-line registration to reduce voting time.

For questions, please contact the Rice County Elections Office at 507-332-6104 or rcelections@co.rice.mn.us

BUILDING PERMITS

Permits for roofing, siding, and window replacement are now available over the counter at the Bridgewater Town Hall Office. Permits for maintenance, remodeling and new building are required in the township. Permit applications are available online at our website: bridgewatertp.org. Building inspections are handled by Inspectron. If you need an inspection for a current building project, please call 651-322-6626 to set up an inspection time.

Planning and Zoning: Jim Braun – 1-800-851-3383 (or bridgewaterpermits@gmail.com)

Septic: Darrel Gilmer – 651-775-6118 (or dgilmerexc@yahoo.com).

Bridgewater Town Hall is located at 500 Railway Street, Dundas.

Office hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 am to noon.

Snow Removal and Mailboxes

We would like to remind Bridgewater Township residents that snow removal/sanding trucks will be out as soon as possible following a 2" snow event. The Township is not responsible for any damage resulting from snow thrown in the road right-of-way. Mailboxes damaged during snow removal operations will be evaluated on a case by case basis. Only those mailboxes located and installed in compliance with MN State Statute 160.072 and MN Rule 8818.0100, and damaged by direct contact with township equipment will be repaired at the Township's expense. By the end of September, the Town Board will develop a policy on replacing mailboxes damaged by snowplowing and on pushing snow from driveways onto town roads. If you have opinions on either, you can come to a meeting or convey your comments to the Clerk by email or phone.

Meetings

The Bridgewater Township Board of Supervisors meets on the second Wednesday monthly at 7:00 pm in the Bridgewater Town Hall at 500 Railway Street, Dundas. The Bridgewater Planning and Zoning Commission meets on the last Thursday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Bridgewater Town Hall. These meetings are open to the public. Any additional meetings will be posted on the bulletin board at the town hall.

Bridgewater Township Board – Contact Information

Glen Castore – Board Chair

Kathleen Kopseng – Supervisor

Thomas Hart – Supervisor

Tracy Jonkman – Supervisor

Email: board@bridgewaterntp.org

Frances Boehning – Clerk

Phone: 507-645-1656

Email: clerk@bridgewaterntp.org

Debbie Salaba – Treasurer

Email: treasurer@bridgewaterntp.org

Township Website: www.bridgewaterntp.org

Gary Robert Ebling – Current Bridgewater Township Supervisor

Supervisor Ebling was involved in a fatal farm accident on July, 4th, 2020

Gary was born December 29th, 1948 in Northfield Minnesota to parents Dorothy Virginia (Gilligan) and Robert Fern Ebling, who owned a family farm. It was this homestead that Gary would grow up on, and reside at until his death on Independence Day, 2020. Gary served in the Army National Guard in the Corps of Engineers Branch, and he attained the rank of Staff Sergeant. In 1978 he met Eelen Young McDonald, whom he would marry on January 1st, 1983. She and a daughter from a first marriage, Abby Stringer, moved down to the farm in 1980. Sons, Andy and John, would join them soon thereafter.

Gary's time as one of the Bridgewater Township supervisors was an eternal source of pride. Working in this elected position, he found infinite satisfaction in helping members of the community wherever he could as he worked alongside friends Glen Castore & Mike Groth, among many others. Gary always stuck to his scruples and fought for what he believed was the fair course of action for the parties involved - even when it was tough going. He leaves behind a legacy of a number of projects completed and a group that was ever dear to his heart. His church was the open sky and sun that he found so cathartic as he mowed road ditches. He labored toward an utmost goal to leave the land he touched better than when he found it.

He is lovingly survived by his wife, Eelen, of 37 years, as well as son Andrew and wife Katie, son John and wife Marie, and daughter Abby. Gary's most cherished legacy is his grandchildren: Andrew/Katie's sons August & Henry; John/Marie's daughters Ada & June, along with son Otto; and Abby's son Ari. He is also survived by younger siblings Kurt Ebling, and sister Nancy Sabin.

Memorial: The family requests that any memorials be made out to Bridgewater Township for donations to their Storm Cleanup Fund. Memorials may be sent to Bridgewater Township, P.O. Box 246, Dundas, MN 55019. The complete obituary can be found on the Bridgewater website.