

Focus on Phelps from Mayor James E. Cheney August, 2008

Sauerkraut Festival

Don't forget the Sauerkraut Festival July 31 – August 3 at the Firemen's Field on Ontario Street. Thanks to the small group that works so hard to make it happen.

Returning this year are activities downtown on Saturday morning of the Festival. It is being called "Krautin' Around Downtown". There will be all kinds of family and children oriented activities. Please stop down and support our local organizations and businesses.

Redfield Commons

The Chamber of Commerce's project at Redfield Park is progressing on schedule. The building has two bathrooms and a small kitchenette for concessions. Not only has the Chamber, as an organization, been extremely generous in this project, but many local businesses or individuals are donating time and/or materials at their cost to provide a facility they hope will benefit the greater community. The Village crew has been working with them on installing utilities and on site work. Thanks to everyone involved.

Most people have heard by now about the vandalism to this new facility. While we don't want to minimize the problem, we also don't want to blow it out of proportion. For the most part, we are very fortunate and have seen very little vandalism compared to many other neighboring communities. Things like this are going to happen periodically. While an isolated incident, it is very disappointing and frustrating. When we were younger, we probably all did something we're not proud of. The difference is that this was not random fun that got out of control. This was intentional damage that cannot be completely undone without a very large expense. So, we're taking it very seriously, with the police following up on leads and chasing down those believed responsible. But, we also don't plan any major changes in how we operate.

HELP WANTED:

We need a member for each of our Village Zoning Board of Appeals and our Historic District Commission. We also need alternates for the ZBA and the Planning Board. If you're interested in helping, please contact the Village Clerk's Office.

The new facility does bring new challenges, however, and raises many questions. It is our intent to have the bathrooms open while the park is open, basically dawn to dusk. A security system, with cameras, was planned at the suggestion of the neighbors of the park during the design stage. The kitchenette will be available with reservations on a first-come, first-serve basis for a fee to people wishing to rent it out for gatherings, with a reduced rate to not-for-profit organizations.

The gazebo is always available, as well. However, if the electricity needs to be turned on, that will have to be reserved through the Clerk's office also.

The board has reviewed the recommended policies, made some revisions and expects to adopt the amended policies and procedures at our August 11 meeting, which starts at 6:00 pm. Copies of the proposal are available at the Clerk's office. Once the policies and procedures are approved, any questions for reservations and use should be directed to the Clerk's office.

Community Picnic in the Park

August 17th
Noon – 4:00 pm
Redfield Commons

Bring your lawn chair. You can also bring your own lunch or we will be selling hot dogs, snacks and beverages.

12:30 The Clyde-Saxton Band will be playing in the gazebo

1:00 Old Fashioned Baseball with the team from Genesee Country Museum vs. Phelps All-Stars

1:00 Horseshoe Contest

3:00 Old Fashioned Games, such as tug-of-war and three legged races

Much more fun ** Don't miss our surprise contest at 2:30 – you'll have to see it to believe it!

If you don't know the story on Redfield Commons, as it is formally known, it is a very interesting story that the Historical Society would be happy to share. When Lysander Redfield donated it, he left some very specific instructions to the people of Phelps about what his intentions were.

No. 47

VILLAGE TIDBITS

August 2008

If you have tenants, **PLEASE** pass this Village Newsletter along. Extra copies are available at the Village office.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETINGS: Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at the Phelps Community Center, 8 Banta St., Village Meeting Room; Phelps and convene at 6:00 p.m. These are open meetings and may be attended by anyone. Please attend and see what is happening in the Village.

ATTENTION DELINQUENT WATER/SEWER USERS!! Delinquent accounts are turned over to the County each April to be included on your subsequent Village Tax Bill. These amounts are not taxes and cannot be claimed as such on your personal income taxes.

WATER BILLS ARE SENT OUT QUARTERLY
January, April, July, and October 1st - Payable by the 20th.

SEWER BILLS ARE SENT OUT QUARTERLY
February, May, August, November 1st - payable by the 20th.

THE VILLAGE IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR NON-DELIVERY OF THE MAIL!! If you do not receive a bill please contact the Village Office and we will send out another.

WATER AND SEWER BILLS are sent to the property owner of record, including any final readings. There is a \$15.00 charge for water readings requested at times other than the regular quarterly billing times. A Charge of \$30.00 is added if the water is turned off for **ANY** reason. These charges are in addition to any water charge due, including penalty, if applicable.

DO YOU REALIZE that a leaky faucet or a leaky toilet can **REALLY** add to your water bill? It could cost you less to have it repaired than the amount added to your water bill if it is ignored.

LAWN MOWING: Please do not mow or rake trimmings into the streets, it clogs the storm drains. **Also: according to Village Law, it is unlawful to allow grass to grow in excess of 8 inches.** Each Village parcel shall be kept free of poison ivy, poison sumac, ragweed, goldenrod and other harmful weeds and rank or noxious vegetation. (Chapter 57 of the Village Code.)

OUTDOOR FIRES: Outdoor fires are prohibited by the Village Code **except** a barbecue fire or a fire for cooking of food and only then if in a fireplace or other fireproof container or barbecue pit and shall not be located near or adjacent to any inflammable material or structure so as to cause a fire hazard.

The Village Office will be **CLOSED** on Monday, September 1, 2008 in honor of Labor Day. We will reopen on Tuesday, September 2, 2008. Our regular hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

FIREWORKS: If you are planning a fireworks display, a permit is needed, per Chapter 89 of the Village Municipal Code.

PHELPS TRANSFER STATION: The Village/Town Transfer Station is open Wednesdays from noon to 7 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for your convenience. Refuse Cards are sold at the Village Office during regular business hours. The cost is \$45.00 per Card with 26 punches. **RECYCLABLES** are currently accepted free of charge. Cards are available by mail. Brush may be taken to the Transfer Station at **NO** cost.

THE VILLAGE OFFICE has installed a Drop Box to better serve the Residents of Phelps. Payments received on the 20th of the month will still need to be at the Office by 4:30 p.m. at the close of business to avoid the 10% penalty.

GARAGE/YARD SALES: PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS. Parking can be disruptive to the traffic flow, consider this when planning or attending a sale.

SWIMMING POOLS: Both above ground and in-ground pools require a permit. The permit is available from the Zoning Officer. The office is located at the Town Hall on Main St.

OLD FASHIONED BASEBALL IS BACK
The baseball team from Genesee Country Museum will be back on August 17 12:00 – 4:00 to play the Phelps All-Stars (if you're interested in playing, please contact team captain Dave Clark at 548-4045 – we could use a few all-stars). We will have old fashioned prices on hot dogs and beverages served up by the Village and Town Boards and employees. We also will have a band playing in the gazebo. Mark your calendars and come join the fun!