

CALEDONIA NEWS 2016

Town of Caledonia, Columbia County
Caledonia Town Hall
N5479 Beich Road, Portage, WI, 53901
Phone: 608-742-4801
Fax: 608-745-1261
Email: caltown@caltown.org
Web Site: www.townofcaledonia.org

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ELECTORS

Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 7pm, Caledonia Town Hall

TOWN OFFICERS

Stephen J. Pate, Chair 963-2684
John Exo, Supervisor 745-1940
Robert Loeffler, Supervisor 493-3425
Stephanie Brensike, Clerk 617-4154 or 742-4801
Mardell Krejchik, Treasurer 742-3364

All meetings are open to the public & held at the Caledonia

Town Hall:

Office Hours: Mondays 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Monthly Meeting: 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.

Plan Commission Meeting: 1st Wednesday of each month,
6:30 p.m., Caledonia Town Hall.

FIRE WARDENS

Prentice Creek Hair Salon hm 493-2824/wk 493-3029
Countryside Automotive 608-742-5470

Burning Permits are required for all burning from the time the snow melts in the spring until May 31 and are effective for the entire year. Permits can be obtained from the fire wardens or on line at dnr.wi.gov/burnpermits/.

You are required to contact the DNR web site or phone # for burning details and daily restrictions, **every time you burn.:**

1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876)

ALSO: Call the **Columbia County Sheriff at 742-4166** and the **Portage Fire Department at 742-2172** one half-hour before you burn, **even if you have a burning permit.**

Residents who live in the **Merrimac Fire Service Area** should also call **Sauk County** dispatch at **355-4495** before burning.

FOR EMERGENCIES CALL 911

Fire Call & Emergency Response

Per ordinance 05-08-96A, the Town of Caledonia charges back fire services to the recipient of those services. If 911 is called, there will be a full emergency response by the fire department. **For non-emergencies, please dial (608)742-4166.**

Please note that the **individual taxpayer** is responsible for **all costs** of a fire response to your property. Check with your insurance company to verify coverage for such costs.

Know & Maintain Your Fire Number Sign so that it is clearly visible. For information on Emergency Fire Number placement and maintenance, please go to the Columbia County web page at www.co.columbia.wi.us or contact your local municipal town government official.

NOTE:

See Town Web Site for updated newsletter information.

PLAN COMMISSION MEMBERS

Eric Anderson, Chair 608-742-2572
Ralph Bauch, Vice Chair 608-742- 6633
Jeff Konkol, Secretary 608-445-7810
James Ramsay 608-742-4552
Randy Hollander 608-742-3533
Lee Geymann 608- 355-0283

REFUSE SITE HOURS

<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
5-7pm	10am-6pm	noon-6pm

The Town of Caledonia provides waste disposal services at the **Refuse Site** on Potter Road. You may be asked to show your Refuse Card to the Supervisor on duty. Refuse cards are available from the Clerk or Treasurer. Certain items are not allowed to be dumped, such as large appliances, furniture, building materials. For more recycling disposal information in Columbia County go to:

www.co.columbia.wi.us/ColumbiaCounty/solidwaste/

WASTE COLLECTION

Columbia County Solid Waste, 742-6651, provides waste collection service at the Town of Caledonia Refuse Site on Potter Road.

If you prefer, you can contact a waste disposal service in the area to pick up waste at your door on an individual basis & at your own expense.

TAX COLLECTION DATES/TIMES FOR 2015-2016 AT THE CALEDONIA TOWN HALL

December 19, 2015	10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Saturday
December 29, 2015	4-7 p.m. Tuesday
January 16, 2016	10:00 am.-1:00 p.m. Saturday
January 30, 2016	10:00 am.-1:00 p.m. Saturday
<i>Real Estate Taxes: ½ or more by January 31, 2016</i>	
<i>Personal Property Taxes: Total due by January 31, 2016</i>	

Mailing your tax payment is a secure way to pay your taxes.

Checks Payable to: Caledonia Town Treasurer
W10806 Krejchik Road, Portage, WI 53901
NSF Checks will be returned to maker.

If you require a receipt, include a **self-addressed stamped envelope** when **mailing** payment. Otherwise, your cancelled check is your receipt.

Another Option: Pay taxes online—See details on page 3

2016 ELECTIONS

Spring Primary—February 16, 2016

Presidential Preference – April 5, 2016

Partisan Primary—August 9, 2016

General Election—November 8, 2016

Polling Hours: 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Polling Location: Caledonia Town Hall

N5479 Beich Road, Portage, WI 53901

For elections info: www.gab.wi.us

VOTER REQUIREMENTS

In the State of Wisconsin, you now need to show an acceptable photo ID- such as a Wisconsin driver license, U.S. passport, military ID, or a free Wisconsin state ID card- before casting a ballot in any upcoming elections. Voters who choose to vote absentee, by mail or in-person, also need to show photo ID. If you have questions about the Voter Photo ID law, including a list of other acceptable forms of photo ID for voting purposes, please visit bringit.wi.gov or contact Stephanie Brensike, Town Clerk at caltown@caltown.org.

ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS

Requests for Absentee Ballots must be made **in writing** to the clerk. Find the Absentee Ballot Request Form and deadline information at: gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/voters/absentee

Contact the clerk regarding elections information: 742-4801 or 617-4154, or email: caltown@caltown.org

LEGAL POSTING LOCATIONS

- Hohl's Farm Supply, Hwy 33
- Refuse Site, Potter Drive
- Caledonia Town Hall, Beich Road.
- www.townofcaledonia.org

CHS (Caledonia Historical Society)

(Jennifer A. Blau, President)

The Caledonia Historical Society meets every other month starting in January, generally at the Town Hall, the second Tuesday of the month, at 7pm. Watch the Portage Daily Register and the town's website for exact dates, locations and speakers. Typically, after a brief business meeting, we have a program featuring a segment of Caledonia history. Everyone is welcome! Our mission is to preserve and document the history of Caledonia Township. For more information on the organization, please contact Jennifer at 608-697-0279 or jenablau@hotmail.com.

CIRCLE HCE

(Home & Community Education Club)

(Jane Ziehmke, (608) 617-7221, jziehmke@gmail.com)

You are always welcome at Circle Homemakers...a group of approximately 12 members meet once a month at member's homes or the Town Hall. Education opportunities are offered through the UW-Extension office and support is provided through members' camaraderie and friendship. In October, our members invite our Caledonia friends to join our fall banquet and fund raiser. Monies raised go to local Portage area charities. To join us, call/email Jane.

ASSESSOR INFO

Accurate Appraisal LLC

PO Box 415

Menasha, WI 54952

Phone: 1-800-770-3927

www.accurateassessor.com

OPEN BOOK & BOARD OF REVIEW

The Open Book & Board of Review Meetings are held in conjunction with the Assessor. The dates are to be determined by June 2016. Look for notices at the 3 Legal Posting Locations &/or on the town's website: www.townofcaledonia.org

BUILDING INSPECTIONS

To comply with the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code, all new single and two-family homes, and additions to such homes built after 1980, will require building inspections for all building permits issued. The Town of Caledonia has contracted General Engineering Co. of Portage, to perform these inspections. It is the owner's responsibility to contact General Engineering, telephone #608-742-2169, after obtaining a zoning permit from the Columbia County Planning & Zoning Office, and before beginning construction.

TOWN HALL RENTAL NOTE

The Caledonia Town Hall may be rented by Town residents for a fee of \$50 per day, plus a \$50 refundable deposit. No smoking or alcoholic beverages are allowed. For more information or to reserve the Town Hall:

Call the clerk at 617-4154 or 742-4801.

DURWARD'S GLEN 4-H Club

(Joy Considine, 742-1027; Kevin Blau, 697-1599)

The Durward's Glen 4-H group meets the second Monday of the month at 7 PM at the Caledonia Town Hall, and focuses on youth activities that encourage kids to explore, to create and to participate in their community. Children ages 5 and up are encouraged to join at any time! Please contact Joy Considine or Blau, Youth Leader, for more information and to join this energetic group! For more information at the county level visit www.columbia.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/.

Sponsor of Free Community-wide Game Day:

Where: Caledonia Town Hall

When: Sat, February 20, 2016; 1-4 p.m.

Who: Family & Friends of Caledonia and beyond

What: Board games, cards games for all ages

Snacks and drinks will be provided.

DURWARD'S GLEN HCE

(Home & Community Education Club)

(Kay MacLeish, 608-493-2651)

The Durward's Glen HCE Club meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the homes of our members. A dessert or fruit is served at 6:30 pm with the actual meeting starting at 7pm. HCE is sponsored by the UW Extension, their mission being to offer educational programs to help strengthen the community. We welcome new members! Contact Kay for more information.

TAX COLLECTION NOTE

Four days have been set aside for tax collections at the Town Hall this year—please check the dates and times on page 1 of this Newsletter. **Be sure to bring your tax bill(s) with you when paying in person at the Town Hall.** Owners with multiple parcels require more time to receipt because a half-page receipt is printed for each parcel. To reduce the waiting time when paying in person at the Town Hall, if you have multiple parcels, please call **(608)-742-3364** 24 hours in advance with the **check number, date coming, amount of the check,** and the **numbers of the parcels** being paid. I also encourage you to pay by mail, if waiting in line is a problem for you. **Please include the payment portion of your tax bill(s), when paying by mail or in person.** Thank you in advance for your cooperation, as we try to serve you better.

View and Print Real Estate/Personal Property Tax Bills On-Line: www.co.columbia.wi.us

Click **Tax Parcel Data Search, Municipality: Town of Caledonia**; Enter your tax parcel #, or name & address; following the directions on the screen.

DOG LICENSES (Dog License Application Form is on the back of page 3 of this Newsletter.)

All dogs 5 months old & older must be licensed.

Male or Female	\$12.00 per animal
Neutered Male	\$ 6.00
Spayed Female	\$ 6.00

***Complete Application Form** on back of page 3 of this Newsletter. Send/bring completed form with payment by January 31, 2016. Application form is also available at www.townofcaledonia.org. **Proof of Rabies Vaccination is required at time of licensing.**

***Multiple Dog License Application**, also on the back of page 3 and on the web: Licenses up to 12 dogs for \$35.00. A list of: name, breed, color and rabies information, for **each** dog, is **required**.

***When mailing Dog License Application:**
Include a **Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope**

Note: *Because the Town of Caledonia does not require licenses for cats, it is **NOT** responsible for the cost of abandoned cats. Contact Columbia County Humane Society for pick-up of stray cats. All costs are the responsibility of the person requesting pick-up.*

ONLINE OPTION TO PAY REAL ESTATE AND PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

Residents of the Town of Caledonia can pay Real Estate and Personal Property Taxes online December 15, 2015 through January 31, 2016. The *Town of Caledonia* has contracted with Official Payments, a leading provider of electronic payment solutions, to offer payment processing over the Internet at www.OfficialPayments.com or townofcaledonia.org.

Visa, Discover and MasterCard debit and credit cards are accepted as well as electronic checks. This service offers payers a fast, easy way to pay online so they can reap the benefits of convenience, cash management and credit card rewards.

Simply go to our website townofcaledonia.org and click on either **“Real Estate Tax Online Payment”** or **“Personal Property Tax Online Payment”**. On the next screen, follow the following instructions:

1. Enter \$ Amount, Choose Continue
2. Read Terms, Choose Accept
3. Enter Payment Information, Choose Continue
4. Review Information, Choose Submit
5. Receive Confirmation Number (print for your records)*

*Your Confirmation Number acts as your receipt. If you do not get a confirmation number, your payment was not processed.

There is a nominal fee for the online payment service.

1. If you use a Visa Debit card or an e-check, there is a flat fee of \$3.95.
2. All other debit and credit cards listed above require a fee equal to 2.6% of the payment amount (\$3.95 minimum)

Please note that this online payment service is **for current 2015 Real Estate Tax and Personal Property Tax payments ONLY**. All **delinquent** Real Estate and Personal Property tax payments **MUST** be made to the **Columbia County Treasurer**.

Official Payments (Nasdaq: OPAY), is a leading provider of electronic payment solutions for the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS), 23 state governments, the District of Columbia, more than 3,000 local and municipal government agencies, more than 350 colleges and universities, and other public and private interests in all 50 states. Using Official Payments is convenient, fast and secure.

[Should be page 3]

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