



**From Your Village Manager – Adam Umbrasas**



Greetings,  
I know it's boring to talk about the weather but how about this weather? Two feet of snow to 80 degrees in a week, WOW. With the warm snap I'm sure everyone is ready for the splash pad to be turned on, the bathrooms opened and irrigation turned on at the Village parks. We are going to err on the side of caution and hold off turning these items on to avoid freezing lines as it is only March.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Village DPW crew for another great winter season of keeping the roads cleared and passable. When everyone hunkers down inside because of the bad weather these guys go out into the storm to ensure safe roads for Village residents, guests and passersby. A big thank you to Terry, Jeff and Todd!

I'm sure most of you know we changed the Village tax and utility software this last year. The Village Treasurer did a great job managing the software transition with a minimal interruption to the billing process. Great job Deb!

Another important task took place recently; the Village adopted the annual budget. I know this doesn't sound like anything fantastic however, to have a balanced budget while maintaining levels of service and making capital improvements in a declining economy and less revenue from the State it is just short of a miracle. Great job to Karen Send, Village Clerk for all her hard work on the budget, as I said it is far from easy to do. I would also like to thank the Village Council for their commitment to providing the residents with top quality services and facilities.

This spring we will see some nice improvements to the Village in terms of park improvements and activities. The Village will be expanding the splash pad at Brownson Park with some new spray devices. We will also be moving forward with the Memorial Park and begin to make improvements slowly and as money allows. The Grove Park will also be improved with a rustic trail this spring for walking and enjoying the majestic trees. Improvements to the park system are of critical importance in creating a sense of place. They provide residents a free outlet to enjoy nature, be active and congregate. Speaking of congregating, the Village is working with local farmers and artisans to move forward with a Farmer's and Artisan's Market this spring. The Market will take place at the Pedestrian Square at Brownson Park. We plan on having weekly live entertainment, craft displays and of course, plenty of fresh produce and locally made crafts. Once the plans are finalized we will be sure to get the information out as best as possible. If you are interested in selling locally grown or made goods please contact Village Hall and we will have a form available for you or you can download one at the Village website [www.villageofkingsley.com](http://www.villageofkingsley.com). Markets like this help keep money in the local economy which makes the community stronger as a whole. Please be sure to support the local market and your neighbors. It will truly be a top notch market.

There have also been some new businesses opening up in the community. It is imperative that we support our local economy to continue to grow our business community. Please consider shopping at one of our local merchants before making the trip out of town. We are working on a business directory and linking websites to the Village website.

Let's continue striving for a better community!  
Have fun, be safe and shop local!

**Want More Information?**

Do you want to be more connected to what is happening in the Village? If so, send us your email address which will be used for sharing Village information with you! Please send your email addresses to [kvtreasurer@villageofkingsley.com](mailto:kvtreasurer@villageofkingsley.com). We will send out updates on upcoming events and any other news that would be beneficial.



**News from your Treasurer – Deb Nickerson**

The Village implemented a new billing software package last September. With all things new, it takes a little while to work out all the "kinks".

If you see any mistakes on your bill, please let the Village office know by either calling, emailing, or just simply write the correct information on the bill and return it to us. We are still working with the software support company on setting up the ability for you to make your payments online.

Meter readings were done this month and will be reflected on your April bill. If you think that the reading is incorrect, please call the office at 263-7778 or email at [kvtreasurer@villageofkingsley.com](mailto:kvtreasurer@villageofkingsley.com).



**News from your Clerk – Karen Send**

Isn't the weather amazing? One day we have no power & more snow than we know what to do with & within days it's 80 degree. The gentle winter was gentle on the Village budget for winter maintenance.

Our big snow managed to hold off for the new fiscal budget year 3-1-2012 to 2-28-2013.

The new budget was approved at the February 29, 2012 Village Council meeting. We budgeted \$2,371,967.00 within the General Fund, Water Fund, Sewer Fund, Local Streets, Major Streets & Equipment.

Village Council meetings are held the second Monday of each month with the exception of February. We would love to see you there.

Happy spring to each and every one of you.



**From the DPW Supervisor – Terry Almquist**

Thank you to everyone for your cooperation this past winter; it was really feast or famine with the snow. This year we formalized the winter maintenance operation with a standard operating procedure for snows. It is important to note that each snow fall is different and snow removal methods must be adjusted for each snow. The Village will plow the major streets first and local streets after the major streets are cleared. The major streets are:

- North Brownson Ave
- South Brownson Ave
- Fenton St
- Clark St – between Fenton St and M-113
- Blair St – between South Brownson and Clark St.
- Elm St – between M-113 and Blair St.
- Whipple St – between Fenton St and M-113
- Pearl St

When there is excessive snowfall or snow build up the DPW will knock snow banks back, this process accomplishes two main things. First, it allows for new snow to be "rolled" off of the street. If banks are too high, the snow is difficult to remove from the street. The second result is creating better sight vision. High snow banks can cause safety hazards as drivers cannot see over them.



### **Zoning Corner**

With spring upon us I'm sure many of you are ready to make some improvements to your property which may include fences, sheds or other additions. To be sure you don't need a permit or for help through the process, please call the Village Zoning Administrator.



Be sure to "like" the Village of Kingsley on Facebook. It is a great forum to see what is happening in the Village and also connect with your neighbors.

### **Writing Contest**

First Annual *Floyd Milton Webster Prize for History*  
Sponsored by *The Kingsley Friends of the Library* & Dennis and Jeanne Webster

Authors are encouraged to submit writing based upon original historical research related to a person, place, event, object or time period of the Kingsley area. Two cash prize categories.

The deadline for submission of manuscripts is midnight, June 16th.

For more information please call (231) 263-7270 or visit [www.tadl.org/kingsley](http://www.tadl.org/kingsley) for contest details and manuscript submission entry form.



### **Band Shell**

The new band shell will be available for concerts, plays or any appropriate event. If you are interested please contact Village Hall at 263-7778.



The Village wide garage sale is scheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup> thru 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **2012 Frostbite Food Drive Propels a New Food Ministry at Kingsley Baptist Church**

We would like to start by saying thank you Kingsley! The Kingsley Community alone was responsible for raising well over 5k in food and cash contributions for the 2012 frostbite food drive. With the support of our friends at the Father Fred Foundations & Northland foods, we are set to open a new food Ministry at the Kingsley Baptist Church (KBC) this spring. KBC has recognized a growing need in our community for support through these tough economic times. In our modern society we have undervalued the importance of community unity. Our thoughts at KBC... Why not help a neighbor in need? Many honest, hardworking neighbors have suffered the loss of a job due to downsizing and an unstable economy; this could happen to any of us. As responsible citizens, the very least we can do is show financial support. If you would like to donate or know of a family in need please contact us at (231) 263-5650 or stop in and visit us (7511 Blackman Rd).



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