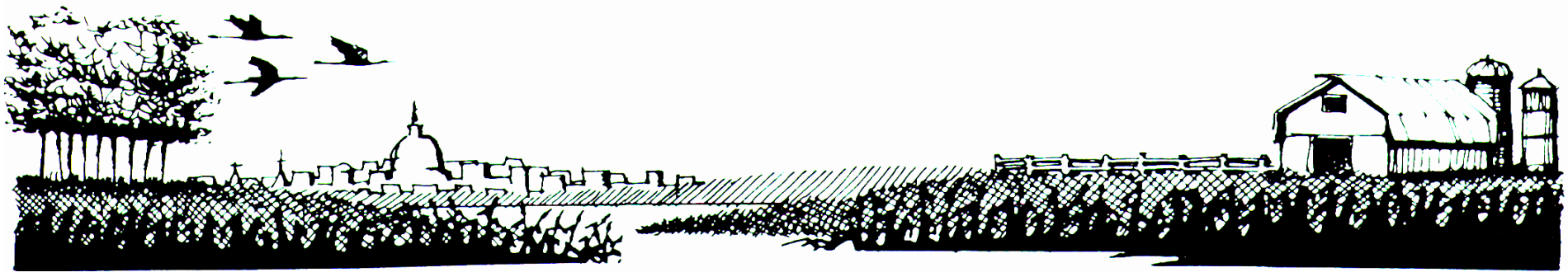

The Official **TOWN OF DUNN NEWSLETTER** Spring 2013

Town Phone Number: 608-838-1081 Town Website: www.town.dunn.wi.us

Farming through the Generations

by Edmond P. Minihan, Dunn Town Chair

Hauling Hay at Fred Gunderson's farm on the southeast corner of HWYS AB and MN, Date: pre-WWII. Photo courtesy of Dale Marsden, President of McFarland Historical Society

Events You Won't Want to Miss

Tuesday April 2nd 7AM-8PM: Spring Election

Tuesday April 16th 7 PM: Annual Town Meeting

Thursday or Friday April 18th or 19th: Extra Curbside Pickup (date follows your normal trash pick up day)

Saturday April 27th 4 PM-6 PM: Arbor Day Celebration

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The music of the cranes grace our soundscape once again, as it has for generations. Christian Uphoff heard the same musical call more than a century ago when he returned from the Civil War to begin farming in the Town of Dunn. His great-grandson, Bob, heard it as he left the house this morning. But he won't be doing chores today. Christian's great-great-grandsons will have to help out because Bob is headed out to teach other farmers how to use his nationally acclaimed soil practices so our Yahara chain of lakes are better protected and the water quality is improved.

Across town, Jim Manson's great-grandfather was not as lucky. He did not make it back from the Civil War to hear the cranes welcome the Spring. An Irish immigrant, he gave his all for his new country. Jim is the retired road foreman for the Town and he married Betty, the daughter of a prominent farm family, the Schneiders. Betty's Uncle Milo heard the crane song when he used to walk the ecological treasure he was instrumental in preserving, known today as Hook Lake. Milo was a state and national leader in the Wisconsin idea of land conservation. Milo's daughter and her husband heard the cranes the morning they decided to permanently protect the farm.

Down the road, Bill Gausman heard them on the morning he left for Vietnam; and again this morning just before first light as he came back from the morning milking. Bill's early education was in the small school that the Schneider family helped build and finance. His wife, Roz, was a longtime Clerk/Treasurer for the Town. She and Bill are having specialty cheeses made from their pastured milk; unique products made from the milk of grass fed cows.

This Spring, Lorraine Hawkinson sat for while on the back porch just to hear them, as she did every Spring during her 69 years of marriage to her husband Kelly. Together they worked side by side to tend to the land. Lorraine was instrumental in the early Town planning efforts, and one of the first farmers to permanently preserve her farm.

Margaret Lalor was a kindred spirit to Lorraine. A lover of the land and a renowned first grade teacher for decades, she was the very first farmer to protect her farm. The cranes call from the wetland part of her land, near where the spring-fed milk house once stood (the foundation is still there). She was a stalwart in creating the Town Purchase of Development Rights program. Her father was one of the early town chairs, as was her brother. Tura Olson

(continued on page 2)

TOWN OF DUNN ANNUAL MEETING

TUESDAY APRIL 16, 2013
7:00 PM

A G E N D A

I. Minutes – Special Town Meeting of November 20, 2012

II. Announcements and introductions by Chairman Minihan.
- A. Swearing in of Town officials
- B. Comments by Chair Minihan
- C. Donations, if any.

III. Reports
- A. Building Inspector Report
- B. Cemetery Report
- C. Land Trust Commission
- D. Parks Commission
- E. Plan Commission
- F. Police Report
- G. Tree Board report

IV. Financial Report
- A. Sanitary Districts - financial reports.
- B. Treasurer's report - review 2012 audit.

V. New Business
- A. Any new business from the floor allowed under Wis. Stats. Ch. 60.10.
- B. In order to meet the requirements of the general storm water permit (and section 216.07(2) of State Admin. Code), there will be educational material on storm water management.
- C. Present the Noxious Weed Notice.
- D. Adjournment.

Cathy Hasslinger,
Clerk Treasurer/Business Manager, WCMC
Posted: March 6, 2013

US 51 Corridor Study

Submit comments to:
Jeff Berens at 608-245-2656 or jeff.berens@dot.wi.gov

View the latest maps at:
http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/projects/swregion/5139901218/
(link is on our website - www.town.dunn.wi.us)

Next Public Hearing: Summer 2013
(watch our website for updates on the exact date)

Town of Dunn
4156 County Road B
McFarland, WI 53558

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The Town of Dunn Newsletter is edited by Ben Kollenbroich, Administrative and Land Use Coordinator.

Celebrating 28 Years with Stanley Solheim

For the past 28 years, residents have looked forward to seeing Stanley Solheim at Town Board meetings as he carefully considers the information presented at each board meeting. Town residents are, above all else, our neighbors and he takes each issue to heart thinking about the long-term effects and fairness of each decision. On April 16, Stanley will complete his term and will step aside to encourage another person to become involved at the town board level. He is pleased that Jeff Hodgson is running for office and confident that he would serve the town well.

Stanley's introduction to the town was in the 1940's when his family owned a lake lot on Tower Road that had been part of the Mahoney farm, which was still operating and raising sheep at the time. Stan eventually started serving on the town Parks Commission and one of the first projects was the bicycle plan and bicycle tour booklet. Much has changed in the Town over the years. Stan fondly recalls campaigning at the Town dump before curbside trash pick-up was the norm. Stanley has lived in the Town of Dunn for 41 years and was elected as Town Board Supervisor in 1985 and re-elected every 2 years after that with an overwhelming majority of the vote. He has been a hard-working and involved Board member. He has been instrumental in the Town's conservation efforts, fire and emergency services, parks and open space, and various other Town endeavors.

He has long served the Oregon Area Fire/EMS district and was instrumental in combining the fire department and EMS into a joint service and in building the new fire house during his time as Chair. He serves as an ex officio board member on the Lake Waubesa Conservation Association. Some Town residents know Stanley best in his role as a long-time volunteer for the Meals-on-Wheels program delivering nutritious meals and friendly conversation to any Town of Dunn residents participating in the program.

His work as Town Board Supervisor over the past 28 years involved challenges and achievements including the battle to stop the Libby Landfill on Lake Waubesa, the restoration of the Burying Ground, the creation of the Rural Preservation Program, the designation of Rustic Roads, the creation of parks, reconstruction of roadways and the varied activities of the Town. Stanley has been a part of crucial Town Board decisions that have been the foundation for the preserved prairies and beautiful landscape we enjoy in the Town today. Less time spent on Town Board business will free up more time to enjoy our beautiful natural surroundings and to enjoy all the Town has to offer.

A proclamation honoring Stanley Solheim will be presented at the Arbor Day Potluck event on April 27 at 4:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share and enjoy this great opportunity to meet Town of Dunn neighbors in a celebration of our trees, our environment, and those who work to preserve them!

Annual Arbor Day Celebration

EVENT: Arbor Day Celebration

WHEN: Saturday April 27th, 2013
4-6 pm

WHERE: Dunn Town Hall
4156 County Road B

Mark your calendars for our Arbor Day Celebration on April 27th, 2013! This annual event will take place from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Town Hall. Stan Solheim will receive the 2013 Stewardship Award for his work on lake preservation. Ed Minhan will be our guest speaker and will talk about the history of the Town.

We also will be having a pot luck dinner after our presentations. Paper plates, napkins, eating utensils and beverages will be supplied. Come meet other residents and share in this fun, family event. Bring your favorite dish to pass and enjoy your community. Also, you can get a free tree!

Call Mary at 838-1081 ext 201 for more information.

Generations

(continued from front page) Graber heard them this morning as she planned what she was going to plant in her garden tomorrow. Her father and mother were well-known farmers. They both went to college with classmates they grew to know. One was a guy named Spencer Tracy. Another, a tinkerer of his motorcycle when they knew him, was Charles Lindberg. Tura's son Jay heard the cranes this morning as he worked on plans to establish yet another detention basin to protect the lakes as part of his duties as the Director of Public Works for the Town. Tura's land has been permanently protecteded too. Hers is typical of the land ethic held by generations of farmers.

Loraine Kopke was a copy of Rosie the Riveter in World War II, making airplane wings for bombers in Rockford to support the war effort. She farmed with her husband, Merle, for decades. Her son, Gordon, heard the cranes this afternoon as he worked on the stock orders for his well-known greenhouse business located just down the road from his family's farmland. Her daughter, Merlane has been working hard to ensure that the family farm is preserved and will continue to be farmed. Less than a half mile away, Ione Gustrowsky, worked with her husband Floyd to preserve their acreage for future generations, just as the Ace family was making the same decision for their farm.

These are only a few of the dozens of stories of our long-standing farm families who have been cultivating a life in the Town of Dunn. These are the descendants of immigrants. They are Irish, German, and Norwegian (with some Danes sprinkled into the mix).

We think of farmers as some guys on tractors, but they are also women and couples working together. Our farmers are educators. They built and supported our first schools. These folks are also environmentalists and conservationists. Many are important civic leaders. Our sustenance comes from the workers and stewards of the land. They supply our food. We consider small business the backbone of the American economy. Every one of our farms is a small business. They are soldiers, and protectors of our way of life. They work in one of the most dangerous occupations in the country. And they work hard at that profession. Think of milking cows at 15 degrees below zero or working in a farrowing barn when it is 95 degrees, and that is the easy part.

The cranes announce the start of the planting season. We won't hear them much after harvest, but they will call again next Spring to herald the continuation of the cycle. Thanks to the combined efforts of these dedicated farmers, they will return to these preserved acres for many generations to come.

The next time you see a farmer, wave to her or him. If you get to talk to farmers, thank them for what they do for our quality of life.

© 2013 Edmond P. Minihan

Open Book With the Town Assessor

Property owners may meet with the Town Assessor to review their property record, correct any errors and ask questions about their assessment during our next open book. If you have any questions or concerns about your assessed value, make an appointment or stop in for this important opportunity. It is the Town's goal for all properties to be assessed accurately at 100% of the fair market value. Property owners can improve the accuracy of assessments by reviewing the information and correcting any errors.

Fewer Open Book Notices in Mailboxes

The Town is not conducting a revaluation for 2013 and many real estate assessments will remain the same as last year. A revaluation of real estate assessments was done in 2010, 2011, and 2012 to reflect the declines in values in the real estate market. Most property owners experienced changes in their assessed values and received a notice of change by mail at some point during those years. For 2013, the Town has contracted with the assessor for regular maintenance, but not a full revaluation. As a result, most property owners will not receive a notice of change by mail.

Dates for open book will be posted on the Town's website (town.dunn.wi.us). If you wish to contact the new Town Assessor or schedule an appointment for the open book, please contact:

Associated Appraisal Consultants
Phone: 800-721-4157
Web: www.apraz.com
Email: info@apraz.com

If you have questions, please contact the Municipal Clerk Treasurer, Cathy Hasslinger, at 838-1081 ext 204. The Wisconsin Department of Revenue has a helpful Guide for Property Owners on their website at http://www.revenue.wi.gov/pubs/slf/pb060.pdf

Olson Family Names Larson House Room

by Meg Nielsen

Tura Olson Graber, a member of one of Dunn's oldest families, is the latest donor to purchase naming rights for a room in McFarland's historic Larson House. Tura has named the master bedroom, which overlooks Arnold Larson Park after her father, Hartman Olson, and her great-grandfather, Tollef Olson Fossheim.

Tura's gift is especially appropriate since her grandfather Tollef purchased the house from E.N. Edwards in 1901 when he and his wife decided to move off the family farm in the Town of Dunn. The Olson family's tenure in the house was short, however, as Tollef's wife Ingeborg died in 1903 and the following year Tollef moved to Stoughton to live with his daughter, Tilla. In 1911 the house was sold to John Larson, whose family members owned it for the next 100 years.

Tollef came from Fyresdal, Norway, in 1848 as a young man of 17. He married Ingeborg Lavrantson at her home in the Town of Dunn. Along with Ingeborg's parents, the couple lived and farmed on that homestead between Lower Mud Lake and Lake Kegonsa for 40 years. Tollef eventually dropped the surname "Fossheim," preferring to be known simply as Tollef Olson.

When he died in 1910, Tollef was known as one of the most prominent farmers and stock raisers in the Town of Dunn and one of the wealthiest men outside of Madison, owning nearly 1,000 acres of farmland in Dane County.

Tura's father, Hartman Eugene Olson, was the second son of Theodore and Gena Olson and Tollef's grandson. Always a hard worker, Hartman continued the family tradition of farming the homestead in the Town of Dunn. In 1924 he married Marjorie Heckler whom he met while both were attending Ripon College. After Ripon College, Hartman attended UW-Madison. When he took over the operation of the farm in 1939, Hartman continued his contacts with UW agricultural experts and became the first area farmer to implement conservation techniques like contour and strip farming and planting windbreaks to stop soil erosion. He received the DNR's Forestry award in 1960.

When Hartman semi-retired from farming in 1950, he continued to help the farmers who rented his land, but he also became very active in McFarland community affairs. He was a member of McFarland Lutheran and a founding member of the McFarland Historical Society, which he served for a time as president. He was elected to the Dane County Board of Supervisors and was Dunn Town Chairman from 1959 to 1971. One of the issues about which he was most concerned was the poor water quality of Lakes Waubesa and Kegonsa caused by sewage effluent from the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District.

At a recent combined meeting of the McFarland Historical Society Board of Directors and the Larson House Planning Committee, planning committee chair Jane Licht expressed her thanks to Tura for her gift. Of the eight rooms originally available for naming, five have been purchased and another one claimed. Naming rights can be purchased for $10,000, which includes a plaque containing family history and the possibility of donated items of furniture, art works or memorabilia (subject to approval by the committee).

In addition to naming a room Tura has donated several items of furniture. Some will be used in other rooms of the house.

For more information about the Larson House or to Buy A Board to support its restoration, visit www.mcfarlandhistorical.org.

Plan Commission Update

by Jim Molloy, Plan Commission Chair

The Plan Commission is served by Tim Andrews, Lorraine Gardner, Steve Greb, Dean Hein, Jim Molloy, Bob Uphoff and Vicki Wangerin. In 2012, we upheld the Town's progressive land use plan in all of our decisions and recommendations. The Plan Commission usually meets at 7:00 PM on the second Monday of each month and welcomes the public to its open meetings. To be placed on our agenda, please contact Erica Schmitz at the Town Hall at 608-838-1081, extension 205 at least two weeks prior to a meeting.

Occasionally a vacancy occurs on the Commission. If you are interested in serving your Town as an uncompensated member of this Commission, please indicate your interest to Cathy Hasslinger, Town Clerk, by calling 838-1081 extension 204.

132 Acres and Nearly 3,000 Feet of Shoreline Permanently Protected

by Erica Schmitz, Land Use Manager

The Town Board and Land Trust Commission are pleased to announce the permanent protection of two very special properties through our Purchase of Development Rights Program and collaborative efforts with many valuable partners.

The Severson property, off of Schneider Drive, was permanently protected. The dedicated landowners have undertaken significant habitat restoration efforts on the property which has been in the family for generations. The beautiful property includes about 1,460 feet of wooded shoreline on Hook Lake in addition to the CRP and cropped acres. The permanent protection of this unique property comes at a minimal cost to Town taxpayers, as staff was able to secure matching grants from the State of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture's Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements program and the USDA's Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program for the entire cost of the purchase of development rights. The Town's ongoing partnership with the Natural Heritage Land Trust helped make this very important conservation project possible. As with nearly all lands in the Purchase of Development Rights program, the land remains in private ownership and no public access is granted.

A partnership between Dunn, the Natural Heritage Land Trust, Dane County, and DNR, has successfully protected the largest remaining undeveloped land along Lake Waubesa. The Anderson family has retained private ownership of the eastern 13 acres of the property, which are protected through the Purchase of Developments Rights program. This portion of the property is privately owned and no public access is granted. The remaining 39 acre (western), portion of the property was purchased by the Natural Heritage Land Trust. It has been transferred to Dane County for long-term management and will be open immediately to the public for hiking, hunting, and other outdoor recreational activities (although boundary signs have not been installed yet).

This 39-acre purchase protects wetlands, uplands, and roughly 1,200 feet of shoreline on the lake and has also been protected by a conservation easement jointly held by the Town of Dunn and the Natural Heritage Land Trust. In addition the permanent protection of the property itself, this property adds to the Waubesa Wetlands State Natural Area and provides access to the eastern portion of the preserve for the first time.

Funding for this project came from the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, Dane County Conservation Fund, Town of Dunn Purchase of Development Rights Program, donations from Dunn Residents, Lake Waubesa Conservation Association, and the members of Natural Heritage Land Trust.

With the addition of these protected lands, the Purchase of Development Rights program has now permanently protected over 3,000 acres in the Town, representing over 16% of the land area of the Town.

Please contact Land Use Manager Erica Schmitz at (608) 838-1081 ext. 205 or eschmitz@town.dunn.wi.us with any questions regarding these properties or the Purchase of Development Rights Program.

Photo credit: Aari Roberts

Shared Table Free Community Meals

McFarland's Shared Table Free Community Meals welcome residents from the Town of Dunn. Meals are served every Thursday from 5 to 6 pm at McFarland Lutheran Church, 5529 Marsh Rd., McFarland. New volunteer groups are always welcome. Visit www.sharedtablecommunitymeals.com for more information.

Town of Dunn's

Curbside Recycling

Recycling is collected every other week on your normal trash pick-up day. **You do not need to separate recyclables and may place all recylable material in your blue cart**. For questions about recycling, please contact Pellitteri Waste Systems at 257-4285 or visit www.pellitteri.com.

Expanded Paper Recycling
- Cardboard (empty)
- Catalogs, magazines & phone books
- Cereal & cracker boxes (empty)
- Computer & office paper
- Envelopes & junk mail
- Holiday gift wrapping paper (no foils)
- Newspapers
- Paper egg cartons
- Paper grocery bags
- Paper milk and juice cartons or boxes
- Pizza boxes (no food or grease)
- Shredded paper (place in clear or transparent plastic bag and tie shut; a full bag should be smaller than a basketball)

Expanded Plastics Recycling
- All plastic bottles (no motor oils or gasoline)
- Plastic containers/cups #1-7, including #1 deli
- Plastic bages (grocery, newspaper, dry cleaning, etc. - no black or brown bags) - place clean, dry bags into a clear or transparent bag and tie shut; a full bag should be smaller than a basketball

Recyclable Metal & Glass
- Aerosol cans (empty)
- Aluminum cans & aluminum pie plates
- Glass bottles & jars (clear, blue, brown or green translucent glass)
- Metal pots & pans
- Small metal appliances (toasters, blenders, etc.) - nothing larger than a basketball
- Small metal plumbing fixtures & pipes (faucets, valves, pipes 2" - 12" long)
- Tin & steel cans

Non-Recyclable Items
- Brake rotors/drums
- Deli containers - except #1 plates
- Frozen food or microwave dinner plates
- Glassware & ceramics
- Metal items heavier than 10 pounds
- Mirrors & windows
- Motor oil & gasoline containers
- Plastic film, wrap & Styrofoam
- Misc.: Carpet, clothing, diapers, fishing line, food, hoses, ropes & shoes

Thank You to Roadside Pickup Volunteers

A big thank you to the volunteers involved with the adopt-a-highway program. Participants included Ackerland LLC, Waubesa Beach Neighborhood Association, Covenant Lutheran Youth, the University Physical Science Laboratory, Christ the King Church in McFarland, Sled Shed II, McFarland Lutheran Church, Waubesa Beach Neighborhood Association, Inc., and Waubesa Snowbird's snowmobile club. Call Mary at the Town Hall at 838-1081 if you'd like to adopt-a-highway in the Town of Dunn.

Goodwill Industries Pick up

2013 Goodwill Industries pick-ups are scheduled for:

Saturday, April 13th from 9 AM to 12 PM
Saturday, August 3rd from 9 AM to 12 PM
Saturday, December 7th from 9 AM to 12 PM

in the Town Hall parking lot.

Goodwill will provide the staff to help unload, give receipts and provide tax deduction information.

The town will only accept donations during the scheduled drop-off dates/times.

Big Change to Automated Trash Pick-up Services

When the Town's contract for trash removal expired at the end of 2012, it was apparent that a big change was on the horizon as future service would likely be based on automated trash pick-up, not the manual process we were accustomed to. Whether we changed vendors, or not, automating was going to bring change.

These pages provide helpful information on our new service with Pellitteri Waste Systems and reminders that will help us do a better job picking up the trash and recycling.

Town of Dunn Transfer Site

4030 County Road B, ¼ mile east of the Dunn Town Hall

Leaves and grass clippings - Put any compostable material in the compost pile at the Transfer Site, or compost them yourself at home.

Brush and Wood - We take brush and limbs that are free of soil. We cannot take stumps, lumber, or wood furniture. **Dane County's landfill will take tree stumps, construction material and many other large items. Call 838-9555 for information.**

Holiday Trees - Pellitteri will not pick up trees left at the curbside. Trees without tinsel, decorations, or stands can be taken to the Town Transfer Site.

Antifreeze - Used antifreeze that is free of oil is accepted.

Motor oil - Used motor oil that is free of other liquids is accepted. You can recycle plastic motor oil containers and oil filters at the transfer site.

Automotive Type & Rechargeable Batteries - Household batteries are not accepted.

Tires - We charge a fee based on our costs for disposal. At the time of this publication, auto tires were $3 without rims and $4 for tires with rims. Semi truck tires cost $7 for disposal and tractor tires cost $25. Tires (rims removed) can be taken to the Dane County Landfill for a small fee.

Appliances - We accept all appliances **EXCEPT FOR** TVs, electronics, water softeners, and dishwashers.

Scrap metal - Scrap iron, steel, copper, and other metals are accepted. We only accept motors after the gas and oil has been drained.

Questions? Call the Town Hall at 838-1081 extension 201

DANE COUNTY COMPOST SITES OPEN APRIL 1st

Yard wastes are banned from disposal at all landfills in the State of Wisconsin. To provide a method of recycling yard waste, Dane County operates three yard waste compost sites. All sites are available for Dane County residents to bring non-woody yard waste. All material must be removed from bags prior to dumping. There is no charge for dropping off material. They do not accept brush, dirt, rocks, food waste, Christmas wreaths or garlands (because of the metal wire), or trash of any sort. Finished compost is available to the general public for a fee. For more information on the Dane County compost sites, call Robert Regan at 266-4139.

WESTPORT SITE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 7:00 am - 3:00 pm, Saturday from 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Located at 5254 STH 19 (Across from Sparby's Garden Center and Christmas Barn).

VERONA SITE HOURS: Monday through Saturday 7:00 am - 3:00 pm, Saturday from 7:00 am - 11:00 am. Located adjacent to the old landfill at Badger Prairie Park.

RODEFELD SITE HOURS: Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. – 2:45 p.m. Saturday, 8:00am – 10:45am. Located at 7102 Hwy. 12 & 18, one-half mile east of I-90.

2013 Recycling Guide

Automated Pick-up Works Best When You Follow the Guidelines Below

1) Place bin at the end of the driveway, not in the road.
2) Place bin at least 6 feet from mailbox.
3) Place bin so lid opening is facing the road.

What's wrong with these pictures?

Placed too close to the mailbox and in road

Placed in the road

Lid opening is not facing the road and in road

Extra Curbside Garbage Pick-up

Thursday, April 18th
(for residents with normal Thursday garbage service)
&
Friday, April 19th
(for residents with normal Friday garbage service)

Planning on cleaning out the garage or basement this spring?

Wondering how to get rid of large items?

Pellitteri is offering extra curbside garbage collection on Thursday, April 18th or Friday, April 19th (depending upon your normal trash pick-up day). This extra garbage pick-up comes at no additional charge for residents, but there are some restrictions. Appliances, tires, liquids, computers and construction materials may not be left at the curbside. Call Pellitteri at 257-4285 for details.

Spring Roadside Clean-up - As the snow melts and spring winds blow, the litter that accumulated over the winter becomes more visible. This is a great time to tidy up the yard. We encourage everyone to participate in picking up a section of road before April 18th. The trash picked up on the roadside can be left out during the Extra Curbside Garbage Pick-up Day.

Clean Sweep Wisconsin

Clean Sweep is a free place to bring hazardous household materials like paints, pestisides, and rechargeable batteries.

It will open on May 1st with the following hours:

Tuesday-Friday: 7 am - 2:45 pm

Saturdays: 8am - 10:45am

Closed Sundays, Mondays, and Holidays

Located at 7102 US HWY 12

Volunteer Opportunities

McFarland Senior Center
Volunteer Drivers

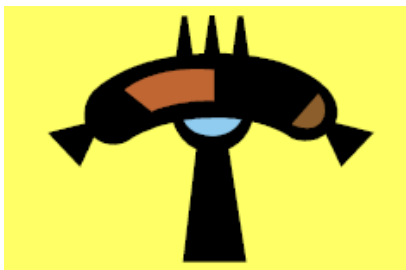
McFarland Senior Outreach Services Deptartment is looking for responsible volunteer drivers for the driver escort program. The drivers take older adults to vital medical appointments in McFarland, Stoughton and Madison. Schedules for driving are flexible, so volunteers can designate which days and times they are willing to drive. Mileage is reimbursed for this program. Interested drivers should contact the Outreach office at 838-7117.

McFarland Senior Center
Home Delivered Meals Driver Substitutes
Substitute drivers are needed for the home delivered meal program of McFarland. Meal deliveries are typically between 11:15 am - 12:15 pm, depending on the route (in town and out of town). Substitutes can indicate which days they are most available. Mileage is reimbursed. Call 838-7117 for more information.

McFarland Senior Center
Sewing Volunteers
Volunteers are needed to assist in sewing projects that support battered women and other vulnerable citizens. Sewing groups meet the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month and meet at the Homestead Apartments at 5910 Anthony Street (across from the Municipal Center). Please call 838-7117 to RSVP or to find out more information.

McFarland Senior Center
Bocce Volunteers
Volunteers are needed to supervise the bocce court and assist with setting up and putting away the bocce materials. Schedule varies. Please contact Ingrid at 838-7117 for more information.

Oregon Senior Center
Annual Brat Bash Fundraiser
Friday, May 10th from 10 AM - 2 PM
$3 for brat & chips, $2 for hot dog & chips, $1 for soda or bottled water
Oregon Area Senior Center
219 Park Street, Oregon
(608) 835-5801
Come see members of the UW Marching Band at noon!



Senior Centers Welcome Dunn Residents

Seniors in the Town of Dunn will find a surprising variety of low cost or free services and events at area senior centers. While exact services vary from one Center to another, you can expect to find meals, social activities, transportation to medical appointments and shopping, crafts and hobbies, peer support, and outreach.

Dunn residents can contact the McFarland Senior Center for outreach services. Outreach Workers are available to assist senior citizens and disabled adults to secure resources which allow them to remain in their own homes. Outreach Workers can assist with finances (Medical Assistance, homestead credit/deferred loan, fuel assistance, Community Options Programs, Social Security and S.S.I.), housing, medical equipment on loan, meal programs, transportation, and adult day care programs.

Senior Centers welcome volunteers and financial support from the community. Residents interested in volunteering or making a donation to an area senior center may contact the senior center directly, or the Town of Dunn.

McFarland Senior Center
5915 Milwaukee Street,
McFarland, WI 53558
608-838-7117

Stoughton Senior Center
248 W Main St,
Stoughton, WI 53589
608-873-8585

Oregon Senior Center
219 Park Street,
Oregon, WI 53575
608-835-5801

Fitchburg Senior Center
5510 Lacy Road
Fitchburg, WI 53711
608-270-4290

Area Youth Centers
Youths are encouraged to call or visit our local youth centers. Adult supervision and activities are typically available for middle school students during the after school hours from 3 pm to 6 pm. Some programs may be available for non-school days. Contact the youth centers directly for more information:

McFarland Youth Center
5120 Farwell St., McFarland
608-838-3839

Stoughton Youth Center
567 E Main St., Stoughton
608-877-9980

Oregon Youth Center
110 N. Oak St., Oregon
608-835-0822

New Development Proposal Casts Shadow Over Shores of Lake Waubesa

A Guest Column by Dane County Executive Joe Parisi, County Supervisor Patrick Miles

Dane County has 61 distinctly unique cities, villages, and towns.

Through their business, schools, cultural attractions and natural resources, each one maintains an individual identity - something that draws distinction between them and their neighbors.

While it's true that each of our vibrant communities is different, they are all part of a close knit county and region that both succeed and face challenges as one.

Because our county has grown in recent decades, it's imperative that our communities carefully evaluate how public policy decisions they make today will affect their neighbors tomorrow.

Such is the case with a significant new development being proposed on the edge of the City of Fitchburg - shadowing the shores of Lake Waubesa.

Fitchburg city leaders are proceeding with the steps necessary to authorize hundreds of acres of new development and a new municipal well on lands near Highway MM. This area is adjacent to the Nine Springs E-Way and part of a sensitive watershed responsible for maintaining the quality of the waters of Lake Waubesa and its surrounding wetlands.

But an important question remains unanswered: How will this project impact Fitchburg's neighbors, including Lake Waubesa property owners and others in our area who enjoy using the lake for fishing, boating, and other outdoor recreation?

The developer of this proposal believes that although much of his project is on sloped, higher terrain - he has engineered solutions ready to handle run-off from significant rainfall events. Given what we're hearing about climate change and forecasts of higher frequencies of flooding rains, these solutions will certainly be tested.

Of even greater concern, however, is the potential impact a high-capacity well associated with this project will have on groundwater and drinking water. Professor Emeritus Phil Lewis has expressed concern that this well could result in the complete diversion of one spring which feeds into Lake Waubesa.

A recent geological survey suggests the aquifer, in which this high capacity well would be sunk, is connected to Lake Waubesa's waters. That raises public health concerns, should the well draw up water with pollutants from run-off events.

These impacts are harder to quantify and, to his credit, the developer admits this is an area where guarantees are impossible to offer.

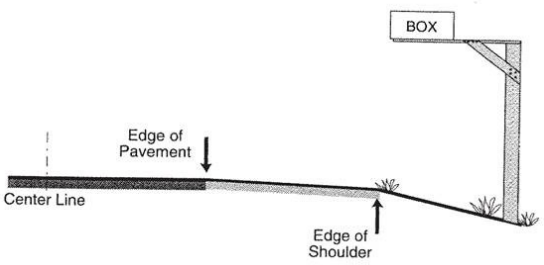
Impacting the water we drink and lakes we enjoy are high stakes - these questions need clarity before this project proceeds.

Others are asking questions about how such a development will be served by police, fire, and snow removal services. Those are cost benefit decisions and eventual investments that Fitchburg has to make.

There have been many spirited debates in the County in recent years about the best ways for us to grow, while at the same time preserving the quality of life that makes Dane County the fastest growing county in Wisconsin. It is critically important we strike that balance - and no, not all development is bad.

That said, if communities like Fitchburg have lands already available to be developed that don't bring a series of questions about impacts on their neighbors like the Town of Dunn, Village of McFarland, or natural resources as important as our lakes - shouldn't that conversation come first?

Prevent Snow Damage to Your Mailbox



To prevent snow damage to your mailbox, the Town recommends following our adopted guidelines, which conform to the rules and regulations of the US Postal Service. If you are installing a new mailbox, or replacing a support post for your existing mailbox, the guidelines are available at the Town Hall. The guidelines have dimension requirements for installation of your mailbox and support. Prior to permanent installation, the Town of Dunn, along with the local postmaster, will need to inspect and approve the location.

Also, in Wisconsin, snow removal operations frequently conflict with mailboxes. The Town of Dunn is not responsible for any damage that is caused as a result of plowed snow or the force of snow being discharged by the Town snow removal equipment.

Rising Waters – Dealing With the Spring Melt

Take a drive past a local creek during the spring snow melt and you will likely be amazed by the strength of water in an otherwise calm and trickling stream. Along the roadside, ditches turn to rivers and in nearby farm fields, channels appear, bisecting cornrows in two. Along some creeks, homeowners have converted their streamsides from turf grass to native plants and shrubs, a move that both stabilizes their yards and benefits the local ecosystem.

The shear quantity of water created by snowmelt is astounding, even for those of us who live in tidy subdivisions. Our ditches and culverts are working overtime carrying water away from our homes and we can see new lakes forming in the low points of our yards, parks and roads. Sometimes we build tool sheds, ornamental gardens or woodpiles within flood prone areas of our yards, only to watch them wash away like a sand castle at the beach when the waters rise. Other times, we stare in dismay as a perfectly good section of lawn rolls up and slides down a hillside in the yard. We can't prevent flooding, but we can make some changes in the ways we manage our yards to limit the negative impacts.

First, be aware of the areas in your yard that are prone to standing water or voluntary streams. Avoid putting any permanent structures in these areas and try to keep those parts of your yard clear during the Spring. Second, consider planting deep-rooted native plants or trees in flood prone areas to stabilize the soil and increase infiltration. The roots of turf grass extend only two to three inches into the soil, giving it little ability to hang on when the water flows. Native flowers and grasses, on the other hand, can have root systems four to twelve feet deep! These deep roots anchor the plants and keep soil from washing away. They also increase the amount of water the soil can absorb, meaning that more water sinks into recharge groundwater aquifers and less ends up in the storm drain.

If you live along a stream, wetland or lake, it is important to maintain a healthy unmowed buffer along your shoreline. A shoreline or stream bank planted in trees and native plants will hold the soil steady when flooding occurs. Buffers also catch and filter many of the pollutants found in melting snow and stormwater runoff. For information on native plants, or how to plant a shoreline buffer, visit www.BlueThumb.org.

Source: Clean Water MN

Neighboring Towns Bid Road Work Jointly for 2013

by Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer

In an effort to keep costs down, the Towns of Dunn, Dunkirk, Oregon, Pleasant Springs, and Rutland have coordinated an effort to bid out the 2013 road reconstruction work jointly.

Contractors providing road reconstruction services experience significant costs for moving heavy equipment and material to the job site. These costs can be minimized when the contractor can coordinate several nearby jobs to be completed at the same time. Joint bidding means that contractors seeking a contract for the road work are competing for a larger contract with reduced set-up costs and can pass savings on to the towns. It is too early to know the exact amount that the towns will save, but it is projected that joint savings will exceed $10,000 for 2013.

Spending Referendums

by Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer

Local governments, school districts, counties and vocational school districts have been operating under more restrictive levy limits over the past year and in some cases, experiencing reduced funding from the State. Municipalities and districts must pass a referendum on the ballot at an election to approve a tax levy if they exceed these strict levy limits.

Voters are likely to see more spending referendums presented on Election Day under the tighter levy limits. The referendums may be presented by different taxing jurisdictions with differing tax bases and financing arrangements. This can make it difficult to understand how the costs are paid and how long the financing period will be.

Referendums are likely to be an important tool for voters to direct how tax dollars are spent and they will be an important tool for funding important services, like education and local programs.

In 2012, the Town Board passed a resolution pledging to post information about spending referendums prior to the election in an effort to ensure that voters have access to specific facts about the costs and are directed to sources of information about the proposal and its benefits.

Our Town resolution states in part, that the Town will:

> "Provide for every county, vocational district, school district, and town referendum that involves authorizing spending or debt, specific information on the total cost, including financing costs, terms of any debt authorized, equalized value information for the district affected, instructions on where to obtain information on the proposal and its benefits, and total estimated tax amount apportioned from the tax liability on a sample property of $100,000 equalized value and a sample property of $250,000 equalized value to fund the total costs of the referendum over the time period affected, in the event that the referendum is passed."

There are no spending referendums on the April 2, 2013 ballot, but voters can look for referendum information for any future elections posted on the Town's website at http://town.dunn.wi.us

Dunn Joins Planning Effort with Stoughton and Area Towns

The Town of Dunn has joined the City of Stoughton and Towns of Dunkirk, Pleasant Springs, and Rutland in a joint planning endeavor to help shape the way the greater Stoughton area may grow in the future. The cooperative undertaking is called a Future Urban Development Area, or FUDA. FUDA is a collaborative, locally-driven effort among neighboring jurisdictions and the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission. The purpose is to protect vital natural resources, promote efficient development, and preserve farmland through cooperative planning for long-term growth. FUDA provides additional resources that local communities may use to update their comprehensive plans.

FUDA projects offer "scenario planning" activities to help local officials weigh the costs and benefits of alternative approaches to growth, and find the option best suited for each community. The intended benefits include:

- In-depth assessments of natural and agricultural resources and water quality at no cost to local municipalities
- Staff support for planning activities such as public engagement
- Intergovernmental cooperation
- Stronger, more harmonious local planning decisions
- A smoother process for expanding Urban Service Area boundaries by addressing issues and potential conflicts up-front

Through this process, several Dunn residents have been interviewed as stakeholders. The FUDA partners will be looking for your input as we develop possible future development scenarios. Please watch our website for opportunities for your voice to be heard.

NOXIOUS WEED NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 66.0407 that every person is required by law to destroy all noxious weeds on lands in the Town of Dunn which the person owns occupies or controls before the plants bloom. Noxious weeds include: Canada Thistle, Leafy Spurge and Field Bindweed (creeping Jenny).

Jay Hoel, Weed Commissioner

On the Road Again...

by Todd Klahn, Highway Foreman

Due to the cold and snowy weather, residents will find numerous pot holes this Spring as the road thaws. In addition to the pot holes, there are many large dips at culverts caused by roads swelling from the freezing water in the soil. During the installation of new culverts, gravel is placed around the culvert because it does not retain water and therefore does not expand like soil. The pot holes will smooth out as the frost leaves the ground. We will also be replacing five culverts on Schneider Drive and one on Sand Hill Road.

The 2013 roadwork bids are being considered. Due to state budget cuts, we will not be able to repair as many roads as we would like. We will be overlaying Goodland Park Road with about seven miles of seal coating. Seal coating can add ten years of life to the road. Our Highway Department is also working with highway departments in the surrounding townships to experiment with combining our road bids to be more cost-efficient.

A reminder to residents: road right of way is generally 33 feet from the center of the road. This area is used by the Town for road maintenance, snow removal, and water drainage.

In addition, road weight limits will be in effect on our roads through mid-April, limiting all truck traffic for about a month.

Dyreson Bridge Update

The Dyreson Bridge restoration project has been in the works in one form or another for a decade. Construction has been delayed and won't begin until 2015 or later on the restoration of this one-of-a kind truss bridge in the Town. We believe this bridge is the last of its kind in the State. If you have not seen the Dyreson Bridge, Spring is a great time to take a walk to view this unique historic area from one of our Rustic Roads. You will quickly see why the area has attracted artists and historians. The bridge was manufactured by the Milwaukee Bridge and Iron Company in 1898, and most likely erected by local farmers. The Town's plans for restoration would preserve the original construction.

Waubesa Beach News

by Jeff Hodgson,WBNA President

The annual WBNA Pancake Breakfast and Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, April 14th. This year's menu features the Grey brothers' gourmet pancakes, sausage, fruit, syrup, butter, milk, OJ, and coffee. A great bargain at $5.00 for adults and $2 for kids 12 and under (add $1.00 for specialty cakes). Pancakes will be served from 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. at the Waubesa Beach Community Center, across from Christy's Landing on Waubesa Ave. An Egg Hunt for the kids will start at 10:00 a.m. Get there early for a spot on the starting line. There will plenty of eggs and prizes for all who participate.

The Waubesa Beach Spring Clean-Up and Adopt-A-Highway event will be held on Sunday, April 28th. All volunteers will receive a complimentary barbeque lunch, prepared by some of the best cooks in the neighborhood. Clean-Up starts at 10:00 a.m. at the Community Center.

The WBNA is pleased to announce three new Board members, Brad Krause, Charlie Pierce and Shawn Healy. Welcome aboard!

For more info on these and other WBNA activities, check out our new web site at www.waubesabeach.com, or contact Jeff Hodgson at 608-445-4391. See "Association Forms" on the website to print and mail your 2013 membership application.

Farmers Seeking Land to Rent

by Cella Langer

The Farley Center for Peace, Justice & Sustainability in Verona, WI has developed a Southern Wisconsin Land Link program to help connect organic farmers seeking land to rent with landowners in the Madison area. Every winter, the Farley Center hosts a number of mixer events where landowners provide a description of their land, including amount of acreage, land use history, available resources, and their hopes for future use. This gives the farmers who are seeking land an idea of what is available to them, and they follow up with one-on-one conversations with the landowners to find a good fit for their farming needs.

Farley Center Land Link coordinators are now working to find landowners who are willing to rent out farmland for the 2013 growing season. Upon finding available land, Farley Center staff will contact the farmers who attended the recent mixer, and assist in matching them with the landowners who present their land.

For more information on the Southern WI Land Link program, visit the Farley Center website. Or, if you have farmland available, please contact the Land Link coordinators: farleycenterfarmmanagers@gmail.com or (608) 228-9097.

Tree Board Opening

Are you interested in volunteering on a Town Commission? The Tree Board is currently looking for a resident that would like to fill a vacancy. If you are interested in this position, please contact Hardy Krueger at 838-1081 for more information.

Sheriff's Report

by Mary Gross, Court Clerk

The Town of Dunn contracts with the Dane County Sheriff's office to work for the Town for approximately 18 hours per week. Deputies Jeff Thiel, Joe Carill, and Rob Ladik work for the Town under this contract. We also hold court once a month, and our elected Judge is Robert Schneider. Most of our ordinances are complaint driven. The most common violations, other than traffic, are dog, junk vehicles, and junk and waste on property. Please remember when a violation occurs to report it immediately to the Dane County Sheriff's office. If it happens during office hours, call the Town Hall. The Dane County non-emergency number is 266-4948.

Parks Update 2013

The snow is finally melting and the temperature is starting to rise. We are all looking forward to getting outside and enjoying our beautiful parks.

Spring is always a busy time in the Town. We will be trying to do some prairie burns during the short time slot that nature allows. Please remember to clean up after your pets in our parks and on our roadways per our ordinance. The complete ordinance can be found on our website.

We have two new residents joining our Parks Commission. Joe Kolk, who lives in Spartan Hills and Kathleen Murphy-Ende, who lives on Jordan Drive. We are looking forward to working with them.

We are still working on revising our Bike Tour brochure that was created in 1976. We would like to use some of that information to make a new Bike Tour brochure.

The Commission has recently been working on two of our parks. Dunn Heritage had been taken over with willow trees and reed canary grass. The park was sprayed in 2011 and the Town planted corn last summer and will do so again this summer to help eliminate stumps. Soybeans will be planted in the summer of 2014. In the fall and winter of 2014, we will seed plant native species to restore the area to a pre-settlement habitat. Kegonsa Manor has also been planted to prairie. Volunteers organized by Don Schmidt seeded the park last year. This whole process is very long, but soon it will be a beautiful prairie for everyone to enjoy!

Make sure to mark your calendars for the Arbor Day Celebration scheduled for April 27, 2013. Enjoy Spring!