



The Official **TOWN OF DUNN NEWSLETTER**

Fall 2016

Views From the Town Chair

Edmond P. Minihan, Dunn Town Chair



New sign at Dunn Heritage Park. Local metal artist, Don Schmidt, created the sign, donating part of the costs. Schmidt and local volunteers have also worked hard at seeding the Park and restoring it to a prairie landscape. The photo was taken by another Town volunteer, Mark Jung. More information on Jung can be found on page eight.

The cranes are grouping up and getting ready for their Southward trek. The colts are adult size now and doing their practice flights to strengthen them for the journey. Our crane population has grown over the years that we have protected their habitat. We know because of volunteers who go out at early hours in whatever weather to count them. Volunteerism is vital to those environmental efforts that local and state governments cannot afford to do.

We in the Town of Dunn have been blessed with many citizens who step up to better their community.

The examples are numerous and are a litany of those who care. If you have read any of these newsletters, you are well aware of all of the commission members who serve without compensation to guide the policies of the Town. They do a great deal of difficult work. But there are other sources of volunteerism that make our Town a great place to put down roots.

Neighborhood groups have formed organizations to better and protect their area. The West Waubesa Preservation Coalition is a fine example. It has been instrumental in

Events You Won't Want to Miss

Monday, October 10th to Saturday, November 5th 2016:

Early Voting by absentee for Fall General Election (hours listed on page 3).

Tuesday, November 8th 2016 from 7 AM to 8 PM:
Fall General Election

Tuesday, November 15th at 7 PM:
Budget Hearing Followed by Special Town Meeting at the Town Hall.

staving off attacks on the residents and environmental resources of the West Waubesa corridor. Friends of Lake Kegonsa (FOLKS) has worked tirelessly to protect the lake and its environmentally sensitive areas. The Burmeister Woods/Waubesa Heights group is a good example of what neighborhoods can do to enhance the quality of life of their friends and neighbors.

Boy Scout troops have helped with the seeding of our prairies. We have had several Eagle Scout projects and will have more in the future. The sign at our Burying Ground was done (please see Views from the Chair on page 7)

**TOWN OF DUNN
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
Tuesday November 15, 2016, 7:00 PM
Dunn Town Hall; 4156 County Road B**

Special Town Meeting called pursuant to Wis Stats. 60.12(1)(c).

I. Introductions and Announcements

- A. John Herm, Poet Laureate
- B. Public Budget Hearing

II. Business

- A. Approve minutes of Annual Town Meetings on April 19, 2016
- B. Approve minutes of Special Town Meeting on September 19, 2016.
- C. Approve the 2016 tax levies for the General Fund, Debt Service Fund and Rural Preservation Fund for 2017 operating budgets.
- D. Set wages for elected officials for the next two-year term from April 2017 to April 2019 as allowed by 60.10(1)(b) Wis. Stats.
- E. Presentation of stormwater education information.
- F. Additional business from the floor as may be allowed by 60.1 Wis. Stats.

Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer/Business Manager, WCMC; Posted September 21, 2016.

Town Meetings are the forums at which major issues and Town policy are decided. The residents of the Town are the decision makers. Every resident of legal voting age present casts a vote. Contact the Town at 838-1081 or townhall@town.dunn.wi.us in advance if you need to request assistance to participate in this meeting due to disability.

**Avoid Long Lines on Election Day
Early Voting at the Town Hall**

Hours for Early Absentee Voting

October 10 to October 28

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

October 29

Saturday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

October 31 to November 4

Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 5:30 pm

November 5

Saturday 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

More info about early or absentee voting can be found on page 3



Town Contact Information

Town Webpage: www.town.dunn.wi.us
Town Email: townhall@town.dunn.wi.us
On Facebook: Search "Town of Dunn"
On Twitter: @TownofDunn
Phone Number: (608) 838-1081

**Town of Dunn
4516 County Road B
McFarland, WI 53558**

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Sample Ballots for the November Election

Voter ID Required at the November 8 Election

Below is a Sample Ballot for all Town of Dunn Voters

General Instructions	Congressional	Legislative and State (Cont.)
<p>If you make a mistake on your ballot or have a question, ask an election inspector for help. (Absentee voters: Contact your municipal clerk.)</p> <p>To vote for a name on the ballot, fill in the oval next to the name like this: <input type="radio"/> To vote for a name that is not on the ballot, write the name on the line marked "write-in" and fill in the oval next to the name like this: <input type="radio"/></p>	<p>United States Senator Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ron Johnson (Republican)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Russ Feingold (Democratic)</p>	<p>District Attorney Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Ismael Ozanne (Democratic)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
	County	
<p>Federal</p> <p>When voting for President and Vice President, you have one of two choices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vote for candidates on one ticket, or - Write in names of persons on both write-in lines. <p>A write-in vote for only a vice presidential candidate will not be counted.</p>	<p><input type="radio"/> Phillip N. Anderson (Libertarian)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p> <p>Representative in Congress District 2 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Peter Theron (Republican)</p>	<p>County Clerk Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Scott A. McDonell (Democratic)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Karen McKim (Nonpartisan, Professional Public Administration)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>
	<p>President / Vice President Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump / Michael R. Pence (Republican)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Hillary Clinton / Tim Kaine (Democratic)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Darrell L. Castle / Scott N. Bradley (Constitution)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Gary Johnson / Bill Weld (Libertarian)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jill Stein / Ajamu Baraka (Wisconsin Green)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Monica Moorehead / Lamont Lilly (Workers World Party)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Rocky Roque De La Fuente / Michael Steinberg (American Delta Party)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in (President)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in (Vice President)</p>	
	<p>Legislative and State</p> <p>State Senator District 16 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Mark Miller (Democratic)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p> <p>Representative to the Assembly District 47 Vote for 1</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Jimmy Anderson (Democratic)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Adam Dahl (Bernie Sanders Independent)</p> <p><input type="radio"/> write-in:</p>	

A Provisional Ballot can be issued to voters without ID on Election Day, but voters must provide ID by Friday, November 11th for the vote to be counted.

At the time of this printing, most voters will show a Wisconsin driver's license or other government issued photo ID at the polls and will vote a regular or absentee ballot. Voters who don't show an accepted ID will vote a provisional ballot and their vote will **not** count in the election night totals. If the provisional voter provides accepted ID by the Friday after the election, the provisional ballot will be included in the final totals for the election.

Dunn voters without a Wisconsin driver's license should contact the Municipal Clerk's office at the Town Hall as soon as possible at 608-838-1081 or

access information on the MyVote website at <https://myvote.wi.gov/>. Town staff will be happy to provide information about other forms of ID that are accepted or about how to obtain a Wisconsin ID from the Department of Motor Vehicles for voting purposes. If you need an ID, please don't delay.

Dunn voters who are elderly or disabled may consider applying now for a permanent absentee ballot by mail, which does not require photo ID.

More detailed information is available on the Wisconsin Elections Commission website at gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/photo-id.

For a list of acceptable photo identification cards for voting, please see *Acceptable IDs for Voting* on page 5.

MyVote Website for Voter Information

Visit the new MyVote website at myvote.wi.gov to look up your voter record and view the following:

- **Am I registered?** See voter registration status (active or inactive)
- **Where do I vote?** See polling place address.
- **Did my vote count?** See absentee and provisional ballot status.
- **Who are my representatives?** See current elected officials for local, congressional and legislative offices.
- **What is on the ballot?** See the next election date and ballot.
- **Can I vote early?** See early voting by absentee dates.

McFarland School District Referendum Question #1

QUESTION 1: DISTRICT-WIDE FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS

Shall the School District of McFarland, Dane County, Wisconsin be authorized to issue general obligation bonds pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes in an amount not to exceed \$65,150,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of district-wide capital improvement projects consisting of: renovations and additions to, or replacement of, the K-2 Elementary Campus; additions to Waubesa Intermediate School; renovations and additions to Indian Mound Middle School; renovations and additions to McFarland High School, including replacement of the McFarland High School auditorium, pool and certain athletic facilities?

Yes

No

McFarland School District Referendum Question #2

QUESTION 2: OPERATIONAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH EXPANDED FACILITIES

Shall the School District of McFarland, Dane County, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, on a recurring basis by \$100,000 beginning with the 2017-2018 school year and by \$132,000 beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, such additional revenues to be used for the operational costs associated with expanded facilities operated by the School District of McFarland?

Yes

No

McFarland School District Referendum Question #3

QUESTION 3: OPERATIONAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH MAINTAINING CURRENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Shall the School District of McFarland, Dane County, Wisconsin be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, on a recurring basis by \$437,000 beginning with the 2017-2018 school year and by \$397,000 beginning with the 2018-2019 school year, by \$270,000 beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, such additional revenues to be used for the programmatic costs associated with maintaining current 4K-Grade 12 instructional and operational costs operated by the School District of McFarland?

Yes

No

Oregon School District Referendum Question

Shall the Oregon School District, Dane, Rock and Green Counties, Wisconsin for the 2016-2017 school year and thereafter be authorized to exceed the revenue limit specified in Section 121.91, Wisconsin Statutes, by \$1,500,000 a year, for recurring purposes consisting of paying employee compensation for teachers and other educational staff?

Yes

No

Emailed Updates of Town Meetings

Residents may now sign up to receive automatic updates of new meeting agendas through email. If you would like to sign up for this service, please visit dunn.civicweb.net/Portal/Subscribe.aspx

Early Voting at the Town Hall



A sign in front of the Town Hall will remind you to stop in!

Dates	Days	Time
Oct. 10 to Oct. 28	Mon to Fri	8 am to 4 pm
Oct. 29	Sat	9 am to 12 pm
Oct. 31 to Nov. 4	Mon to Fri	7 am to 5:30 pm
Nov. 5 <i>*Registered voters only on this day</i>	Sat	9 am to 12 pm

VOTING IS PROHIBITED ON MON, NOVEMBER 7

Wait times for voting in the town in the last presidential election peaked at about 30 minutes. Changes since that election will contribute to longer wait times during the upcoming presidential election. There will be several Referenda questions on some ballots, poll workers will be checking photo identification and expiration dates, and the voting machine is significantly slower. We do our best to keep lines moving, but compared to four years ago, voting in person on Election Day takes longer. In the same way a traffic jam develops, small delays in voter lines can add up to long wait times. The good news is, wait times for early voting are minimal and we have expanded the hours for early voting.

If you would like to avoid a long wait time, please come in for early voting and voter registration. Make use of early voting conveniences like:

- Voting available on the main floor so you don't have to navigate the stairs or elevator.
- Curbside voting, which allows us to bring a ballot to your car. Please call ahead for curbside options. 608-838-1081 ext. 201

More Options Available

If the Early Voting Hours above won't work for you, please give us a call at 608-838-1081 to schedule a more convenient time.

*Voter registration is not allowed from Saturday, November 5th through Monday, November 7th. Registration is available at the polls on Election Day; November 8th. The MyVote website, myvote.wi.gov has helpful information about what is on the ballot, where to vote, your voter history, and voter registration.

Tax Impact of Four Referendum Questions

NOTICE: Disclosure Required by Town of Dunn Resolution 2012-5 is available at the Town Hall or on the Town's website at town.dunn.wi.us

Referenda have become an essential process for funding improvements for schools and local government. The Town has pledged to provide, for every referendum that involves authorizing spending or debt, specific information on the amount of tax dollars needed to fund the referendum. Tax increases or decreases from a prior year will vary based on the overall levy for the district which may include reductions or increases not related to the referendum.

McFarland School District Question #1				
Amount of borrowing	\$65.15 million			
Amount of interest	\$33.39 million			
Total Amount to be repaid	\$98.54 million			
Term of borrowing	22 years			
Borrowing initiated over 4 year period				
YEARS	2016	2017	2018	2019-2038 Averaged
Loan Payment, in dollars	921,875	1,378,750	3,540,813	4,635,016
Equalized Value (tax base)*in millions	1,229	1,260	1,292	1,691
Tax impact for \$250,000 property	\$187.47	\$273.56	\$685.14	\$685.25

*The McFarland School District projects equalized value to increase 2.5% per year. Tax increases will be less due to retirement of existing debt.

McFarland School District Question #2		
Tax Levy Increase 2018		\$100,000
Tax Levy Increase 2019 and beyond		\$132,000
2015 Equalized Value (tax base) in millions		\$1,229
Tax impact for \$250,000 property	2018	\$20.34
	2019 and beyond	\$26.84

McFarland School District Question #3		
	Increase by year	Cumulative increase
Tax Levy Increase 2018	\$437,000	\$437,000
Tax Levy Increase 2019 and beyond	\$397,000	\$834,000
Tax Levy Increase 2020 and beyond	\$270,000	\$1,104,000
2015 Equalized Value (tax base) in millions		\$1,299
Tax impact for \$250,000 property	2018	\$88.87
	2019	\$169.60
	2020 and beyond	\$224.51

Tax increase will be offset as other debts are retired in 2016 and 2017

McFarland School District Estimate of Tax Increase			
	2017	2018	2019
Estimated tax increase for all three questions combined for \$250,000 property	\$163	\$275	\$370

More information at mcfarland.k12.wi.us

Oregon School District Question	
Amount of Tax Levy Increase	\$1,500,000
2015 Equalized Value (tax base) in millions	\$2,040
Tax impact for \$250,000 property. Continues in all future years.	\$183.82

Taxes will not increase by the full amount of the referendum because the Oregon School District is anticipating an increase in state equalization aid. An additional \$600,000 in state aid will partially offset the tax increase.

Oregon School District Estimate of Tax Increase	
Estimated Tax Increase for \$250,000 property	\$112.50

More information at oregonsd.org

TOWN OF DUNN PROPOSED 2017 BUDGET

2017 Budget Highlights

By Cathy Hasslinger, Clerk Treasurer/Business Manager

The public is invited to a public hearing on the budget on Tuesday, November 15 at 7pm at the Town Hall. This is a great opportunity to learn more about how town funds are budgeted and to provide input. After the budget hearing is closed, eligible town electors will take action to set the tax levy.

The annual budget reports financial information on the prior year, the current year, and forecasts the upcoming year. The Town's financial strategy over the past few years has included reducing overall indebtedness and refinancing existing debt at lower rates. The 2017 proposed budget proposes no new borrowing. Designated reserve funds will provide for spending on road infrastructure, upgrading equipment, and maintaining target fund balance of about \$345,000 in the general fund.

The Proposed Total Tax Levy for 2016

The proposed increase in the Town's total levy is 2.46% for 2016 to fund the 2017 budget. This increase will result in a 2.21% increase in the local assessed value mil-rate from last year. The equalized value mil-rate will decline by 2.73% as compared to last year.

Levy Detail

The Town's tax levy includes a general fund tax levy, a debt service tax levy, and a Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) levy. The general fund levy is proposed to increase by 1.37%. The debt service levy is increasing by 4.16% for payments on the Town's debt. The PDR levy is calculated at 50 cents per thousand of equalized value. This year, that equates to an increase of 5.33% over the 2015 PDR levy. The mil-rate for the proposed total local levy on all three funds is \$2.83 per thousand of assessed valuation. The equalized mil-rate is \$2.51 or \$251.00 tax for a \$100,000 property value. The local levy amount could change based on decisions made by the electors attending the budget hearing and special Town meeting on November 15, 2016. A more detailed version of the draft budget will be presented at the budget hearing and will be posted on the Town website after the hearing. Visit our website at <http://town.dunn.wi.us>.

2017 Projected Revenues

A small decrease in total revenue of \$1,569 is projected for 2017, partly due to reduced intergovernmental Urban Forestry grant revenue. Revenue from fees and licenses is anticipated to increase by \$6,170 over last year. Shared revenue from the State of Wisconsin only declines by \$92 for 2017.

2017 Projected General Fund Expenses

The General Fund expenses cover our Fire and EMS protection, the town's contract with the Dane County Sheriff for law enforcement services, road maintenance, sealcoating, culverts and plowing, parks, land use planning, and civic contributions for senior and youth services. The 2017 budget includes an decrease in planning expenses due to completion of the comprehensive plan update and an increase in Public Works to fund more road repairs. The Town's contract with the Dane County Sheriff's Department will be maintained at 18 hours per week and civic contributions are maintained with a slight increase. Stoughton EMS had been generating enough revenue in its fees for services in previous years to fund its operation without municipal contributions. That is no longer the case, and our 2017 budget plans for a contribution of \$10,571 for 2017. Final numbers from McFarland Fire and EMS were not available at the time this publication went to press. The budget

GENERAL FUND	2015 Actual Year End	2016 YTD 10/7/2016	2016 Estimated Year End	2016 Adopted Budget	2017 Proposed Budget	Variance 2016 2017
REVENUES						
TOTAL Taxes	1,222,225	1,262,199	1,270,838	1,260,927	1,279,152	18,226
TOTAL Intergov. Rev	308,630	260,054	324,799	367,989	344,070	-23,919
TOTAL Lic./Permits	107,626	70,327	81,291	71,535	77,705	6,170
TOTAL Fines/Penalties	35,303	23,905	27,822	22,000	29,300	7,300
TOTAL Publ Charges	292,875	298,923	299,150	298,315	311,343	13,028
TOTAL Misc. Revenues	45,264	16,102	41,484	34,600	15,365	-19,235
TOTAL General Fund Revenues	2,011,924	1,931,511	2,045,384	2,055,366	2,056,936	1,569
EXPENDITURES						
TOTAL General Gov.	408,153	315,227	409,705	434,452	433,785	-668
TOTAL Public Safety	465,591	436,845	483,827	490,126	487,773	-2,353
TOTAL Public Works	754,806	594,867	811,338	817,508	851,852	34,344
TOTAL Health & Human Svc	50,153	54,653	54,653	54,653	52,800	-1,853
TOTAL Culture Recreation	58,777	21,444	40,143	44,937	41,183	-3,753
TOTAL Conservation & Dev.	48,114	59,899	85,214	85,700	57,034	-28,666
TOTAL Transfers	243,967	20,500	160,500	127,729	132,500	4,771
TOTAL General Fund Exp. & Transfer	2,029,560	1,503,434	2,045,381	2,055,106	2,056,927	1,822
BEGINNING GEN FUND BALANCE	362,112	344,475	344,475	344,479	344,479	0
REVENUES	2,011,924	1,931,511	2,045,384	2,055,366	2,056,936	1,569
EXPENDITURES	1,785,593	1,482,934	1,884,881	1,927,377	1,924,427	-2,949
TRANSFERS	243,967	20,500	160,500	127,729	132,500	4,771
ENDING GEN FUND BALANCE	344,475	772,552	344,479	344,739	344,487	-252
RURAL PRESERVATION FUND (PDR)						
BEGINNING PDR FUND BALANCE	1,412,584	618,125	618,125	618,125	415,796	-202,328
REVENUES	332,853	381,263	829,815	1,096,263	814,597	-281,666
EXPENDITURES	1,127,312	601,677	1,032,144	1,127,058	1,120,186	-6,872
ENDING PDR FUND BALANCE	618,125	397,711	415,796	587,330	110,207	-477,123
BURYING GROUND (BG)						
BEGINNING BG FUND BALANCE	40,116	49,411	49,411	49,411	51,041	1,630
REVENUES	14,907	5,238	7,125	13,600	13,600	0
EXPENDITURES	5,612	4,156	5,495	6,345	6,462	118
ENDING BG FUND BALANCE	49,411	50,492	51,041	56,666	58,179	1,513
DEBT SERVICE FUND (DS)						
BEGINNING DS FUND BALANCE	0	66,542	66,542	66,542	77,080	10,537
REVENUES	1,733,464	344,579	344,579	344,585	328,293	-16,291
EXPENDITURES	1,666,922	296,676	334,041	344,585	359,118	14,533
ENDING DS FUND BALANCE	66,542	114,445	77,080	66,542	46,255	-20,288
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND (CP)						
CAPITAL PROJECT REVENUE						
Grant Income State TRIP LRIP	0	0	0	15,388	15,388	0
Loan Proceeds - Capital Improvements	865,697	0	0	0	0	0
Loan Proceeds - Hwy Equip	176,003	0	0	0	0	0
Transfers in from Gen Fund	224,467	0	140,000	107,229	112,000	4,771
TOTAL CAPITAL PROJ. REVENUE	1,266,617	0	140,000	122,617	127,388	4,771
CAPITAL PROJECT EXPENSES						
Road Construction Expenditure	669,916	199,453	198,531	270,000	350,000	80,000
Dyreson Bridge	174,606	16,739	16,739	127,015	0	-127,015
Hwy Related Equipment Exp.	176,003	50,544	50,544	56,300	54,000	-2,300
Highway Garage Construction	0	103,138	120,439	129,000	0	-129,000
TOTAL CAPITAL PROJ. EXPENSE	1,020,525	369,873	386,253	582,315	404,000	-178,315
BEGINNING CP FUND BALANCE	323,408	569,501	569,501	569,501	323,248	-246,253
REVENUES	1,266,617	0	140,000	122,617	127,388	4,771
EXPENDITURES	1,020,525	369,873	386,253	582,315	404,000	-178,315
ENDING CP FUND BALANCE	569,501	199,627	323,248	109,803	46,636	-63,167

VALUATION	2015	2016	2017	% change
ASSESSED VALUATION	645,505,000	647,077,900		
EQUALIZED VALUATION	691,526,200	728,393,300		
TAX LEVY				
GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY	1,191,684	1,233,462	1,250,352	1.37%
DEBT SERVICE TAX LEVY	226,149	206,837	215,451	4.16%
PDR TAX LEVY	332,167	345,763	364,197	5.33%
TOTAL LEVY	1,750,000	1,786,062	1,830,000	2.46%
ASSESSED VALUE MIL RATE		2.77	2.83	2.21%
EQUALIZED VALUE MIL RATE		2.58	2.51	-2.73%
GEN FUND UNDESIG. FUND BALANCE	344,475	344,479	344,487	
		estimated	estimated	
Current year assessment ratio	88.84%			
Prior year assessment ratio	93.34%			

2017 Budget Highlights (continued)

numbers will be updated to show the 2017 proposed amounts and available prior to the public budget hearing on November 15.

2017 Capital Projects

The 2017 budget provides \$350,000 for road reconstruction for 1.5 miles on Lake Farm Road, a half mile on Alma Rd, and a half mile on Henshue Rd. No new debt is proposed. The road reconstruction spending is important to keep up with deteriorating roads. Equipment upgrades are planned for 2017 and include converting the town's skid

steer to a track system for \$23,000, trading in the 2011 Ford 550 truck for a newer model for \$21,000, and trading in the parks mower for a net cost of about \$4,800.

Debt Service

The 2017 budget proposes no new borrowing. Designated fund balance amounts will be used to meet the budgeted costs for capital projects. The town's overall indebtedness at the end of 2017 will be about 1.7 million. This is down from previous levels of almost \$3.2 million in 2009.

Property Tax Collection News

Property tax bills will be mailed out around December 15th and residents should receive them within a few days of mailing. Extra copies of tax bills can be printed from accessdane.countyofdane.com or may be requested by email. Please remember to endorse the back of any mortgage company checks that are made out to you and the Town before mailing your payment. Return envelopes will be included with your tax bills for your convenience.

The Town Hall will typically be open Monday to Friday from 8 am to 4 pm. When schools close the Town Hall may close to reduce traffic and support snow removal. Call ahead if you are in doubt. The drop box outside of the Town Hall door may be used at any time during or after office hours. The Town will also be closed the following days:

Thursday, November 24
Friday, November 25
Monday, January 16

2016 Mil-Rate Chart

The chart below contains the latest information about the local mil-rates for some municipalities in Dane County as reported on the www.wistax.org website. The Town of Dunn's careful planning and long range view in decision making have likely contributed to the Town's consistently low mil-rate when compared to other municipalities with similar services and similar populations. The mil-rates for the cities and villages closest to the Town are also listed for comparison.

2015 Town Mil-Rates Comparison for Towns	Pop. (2014)	* Equalized Mil-Rate	Local Tax/\$100,000
Town of Madison	6,294	6.17	\$617.00
Town of Windsor	6,549	4.81	\$481.00
Town of Verona	1,973	3.74	\$374.00
Town of Cottage Grove	3,880	3.67	\$367.00
Town of Blooming Grove	1,816	2.98	\$298.00
Town of Dunkirk	1,944	2.96	\$296.00
Town of Rutland	1,986	2.78	\$278.00
Town of Sun Prairie	2,324	2.68	\$268.00
Town of Dunn	4,947	2.58	\$258.00
Town of Middleton	6,021	2.54	\$254.00
Town of Oregon	3,205	2.50	\$250.00
Town of Pleasant Springs	3,175	1.19	\$119.00

2015 Mil-Rate Comparison for Neighboring Cities and Villages	Pop. (2014)	* Equalized Mil-Rate	Local Tax/\$100,000
Village of Brooklyn	949	8.87	\$887.00
City of Stoughton	12,646	8.57	\$857.00
City of Fitchburg	25,465	8.13	\$813.00
Village of McFarland	7,876	7.21	\$721.00
Village of Oregon	9,343	5.72	\$572.00

*Tax Mil rate levied in 2015, collected in 2016. Information is from Wisconsin Taxpayers Alliance website at www.wistax.org

Acceptable IDs for Voting

These are acceptable for voting purposes, and can be unexpired or expired after the date of the most recent general election (currently, the November 4, 2014 election):

- A Wisconsin DOT-issued driver license, even if driving privileges are revoked or suspended
- A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card
- Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service
- A U.S. passport.

issued by Wisconsin DOT (valid for 45 days)

- An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian tribe in Wisconsin
- A photo identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college that contains date of issuance, signature of student, and an expiration date no later than two years after date of issuance. **Also, the university or college ID must be accompanied by a separate document that proves enrollment.**

These photo IDs are also acceptable for voting purposes, but must be unexpired:

- A certificate of naturalization that was issued not earlier than two years before the date of an election at which it is presented
- A driving receipt issued by Wisconsin DOT (valid for 45 days)
- An identification card receipt

Where can I get my Wisconsin ID?

The Department of Motor Vehicles at two of its locations. More information is available on their website dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/apply/idcard.htm.

Madison East Service Center
2001 Bartillon Drive
Madison, WI 53704

Madison West Service Center
4802 Sheboygan Avenue
Madison, WI 53705

Holiday Trash/Recycle Info

In a week that contains a Holiday, garbage & recycling pick up is delayed by one day. Please plan accordingly.

Town of Dunn Transfer Site

4030 County Road B, about 1/4 mile east of the Dunn Town Hall

**Open the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month
8 AM to 4 PM**

**Also open Wednesdays
from 2 PM to 4:45 PM through November 2nd**

The Transfer Site accepts:

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 \$4 without rims and \$5 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

The Village Model: Independence Through Connections

We all continue to witness a changing landscape of services and living options for older adults regardless of what town or city we live in. Thanks to the creative thinking and grass-roots efforts of business folks, government agencies, boomers and their parents a few decades ago, we now have access to a plethora of home-delivered services, organizations offering volunteer support, and educational and social opportunities, including unique and carefully planned living options.

Another model for supporting healthy and active aging emerged ten years ago, called the Village model. The movement has expanded across the country since it began in 2001 with our nation's first "Village," Beacon Hill Village in Boston. Now there are 200 Village organizations nationwide with over 25,000 members. The idea is to leverage existing assets available in the community while members support one another in living safely and fully at home.

Villages recognize the need for members to purchase services to maintain their homes and well-being. They provide members with access to vetted, and often discounted, service providers. Member and community volunteers play an active role in assisting or connecting members with expert advice, transportation, social visits, light home chores, educational programs, and more. Villages help protect the independence of older adults by offering a concierge-like service model where members pick and choose services and resources that meet their individual and unique requirements. Members are at the heart of the Village and help create or arrange for the various benefits

offered. All are designed to prevent social isolation, reduce risks for falls, prevent scams and risks related to dishonest or incompetent service providers, and to assure knowledge and access to health services and wellness programs.

Madison has its own Village, Sharing Active Independent Lives (SAIL). SAIL was founded and is governed by Oakwood Village and Attic Angel Association. It began in 2005 as a 17-month Naturally Occurring Retirement Community (NORC) and was funded by the Administration on Aging and the Madison Community Foundation. Michael Hunt, a University of Wisconsin retired professor, was instrumental in coining the term NORC through his 1980s research of the Hilldale Mall and nearby neighborhood and was instrumental in the launch of what is now SAIL. SAIL has over 500 members living in or nearby Madison ranging from 55 years of age to 100.

SAIL is a charter member of the Village to Village Network (VtV), a national peer-to-peer network to help establish and continuously improve management of their own villages, whether in large metropolitan areas, rural towns, or suburban settings. The mission of VtV is to enable communities to establish and effectively manage aging in community organizations initiated and inspired by their members and to complement the many services and resources already in place.

If you are interested in learning more about the Village model and exploring what that could mean for older adults living in the Town of Dunn, please contact Ann Albert, SAIL Executive Director, at 230-4321.

Caring for Wetlands

Known by several names - bogs, marshes, swamps or ponds - wetlands are some of Wisconsin's most vital natural resources. Wetlands help to prevent flooding and also filter sediment and pollutants out of stormwater before they reach local lakes and rivers. They provide habitat for migratory birds, including ducks, herons and egrets and are home to several species of turtles, frogs and salamanders as well.

Although they sometimes stand alone, wetlands are part of their watershed and interact with both surface and groundwater resources. You can help to protect water resources by maintaining wetland buffers on your property and in your neighborhood.

Vegetated buffers protect wetlands from pollution, provide habitat for reptiles, amphibians and birds and add beauty to their surroundings. For this reason many watershed management organizations require a buffer of natural vegetation for all wetlands.

Here are a few ways you can protect wetland buffers in your community:

- Do protect wetland buffers by letting plants such as cattail, bullrush, willow and red osier dogwood grow and thrive.
- Do give buffers a helping hand by removing invasive species such as purple loosestrife, reed canary grass and buckthorn
- Don't mow within the wetland buffer. A small access path (less than 6 feet wide) to the water's edge is permitted.
- Don't dump grass clippings, yard waste or anything else in the wetland buffer.
- Don't build any structures or create impervious surface within the wetland buffer.

Thanks for doing your part to help keep these important resources healthy. *Source: Clean Water Minnesota*

Info from Area Senior Centers

McFarland Senior Outreach Service Volunteer Opportunities

Our department, which assists Town of Dunn seniors, is seeking dedicated, compassionate volunteers in the following areas:

- Occasional Office Coverage answering phones, preparing mailers to go out, and reminder calls
- Assist in delivering newsletters/event fliers around town
- Assisting with special events
- Registration of participants at events such as at tax clinics
- Kitchen Volunteers to assist our Nutrition Manager as needed on a substitute basis
- Drivers to deliver meals; regular and substitutes needed for McFarland School District delivery
- Drivers for senior's medical appointments
- Entering loan closet inventory onto computer (Experience with Excel)
- Meeting recorder/minute preparer of the Senior Outreach Advisory committee 6 times a year
- Seasonal yard work or occasional home chores
- If you have any additional ideas please let us know.

If you are interested in any of these and want to discuss specifics please call Lori Andersen at 838-7117 or email at lori.andersen@mcfarland.wi.us. Many of these do not require a huge time commitment but are invaluable in helping Senior Outreach Services run at its greatest potential.

Oregon Senior Center Volunteer Opportunities



Oregon Senior Center Volunteer Driver Escorts

Help adults 60 and over who do not have access to personal transportation and respond to requests for medical and medically related needs. Drivers are reimbursed 50 cents/mile and provided with insurance. Please call Gene at 441-7896 for more information or to sign up.

Volunteer Meal Delivery Drivers

Volunteer drivers are needed to help deliver meals. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Susie at 835-5801, between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm.

Stoughton Area Senior Center

The Stoughton Area Senior Center serves individuals 55 years of age and older as well as their families. Our programs and services include:

- Social & Recreation
- Equipment Loan Closet
- Home Delivered Meals
- On-site Noon Meals
- Nutrition Site
- Fitness Opportunities
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Skill Development
- Support Groups

No experience is needed for volunteering. We have flexible hours, training and ongoing professional support provided. Friendly Visitor Volunteers are matched with homebound or isolated older adults identified through the Senior Center.

Upcoming Programs

Music Appreciation Series

- October 24 (At Stoughton Opera House) - Pianist Luis Alberto Pena Cortez
- October 31 - Come and learn about the harp and enjoy the intimate music the instrument offers with Elizabeth Borsodi
- November 7 - Professor Marc Vallon, UW bassoon professor and students.

Why We Love the Packers

Thursday, October 20, 3:00-4:00 PM

Why we love the Packers is a chance to relive the highs and lows of pro football's most loved and successful franchises. We'll go from Lambeau to McCarthy in a program that features all the great players, historic games and special moments.

Through the Ages

Join us for a new program in bringing younger and older people together. These free, monthly opportunities are for you, your friends, children, grandchildren, family, and neighbors to join in.

- October 28 - Halloween Costume Parade and Book Reading 1:00-2:30 PM
- November 28 - Entertainment Truly Remarkable Loon 3:00-4:00 PM

Details of our offerings can be found in our Yahara Senior News newsletter or Stoughton Area Guide for Senior Services. Both publications may be picked up at the Senior Center or found on our website.

248 W. Main Street, Stoughton WI, 53589 • (608) 873-8585 • ci.stoughton.wi.us/senior

Three New Properties Enrolled in the Purchase of Development Rights Program

by Erica Schmitz, Land Use Manager

The Land Trust Commission is thrilled to announce that the Town has added three new properties to the Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) program. The properties together represent over 168 additional acres permanently protected. The Town has now protected 3,173.5 acres of farmland and natural areas with conservation easements since the program's inception in 1997.

The Purchase of Development Rights program allows the Town of Dunn to purchase available land divisions from willing landowners to permanently protect agriculture, natural areas, and open space throughout the Town. A conservation easement is the legal instrument used to execute PDR. PDR property remains in private ownership and is not open to the public.

Two of the recently protected properties are located adjacent the Hook Lake – Grass Lake Wildlife Area. The 35 acre Greb Andersen property borders this area and is located less than a half mile south of Hook Lake itself. The 70 acre Dunn property is locat-

ed south of Grass Lake, and Badfish Creek bisects the property.

The 63 acre Carley Dersien property, located along Hawkinson Rd., helps extend this area of protected land to the northeast. Preserving this property closes a gap in an extensive corridor of protected lands and provides an important wildlife habitat connection in the area.

The PDR program is funded by a local levy. The Town has always been committed to stretching those dollars as far as possible for land protection. For the three new properties preserved this August, all were funded in part through the Agricultural Land Easement program, a program of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The Town is very grateful for the dedicated commitment to farmland and natural area preservation that these landowners have shown. We also thank our partners, the Natural Heritage Land Trust for their ongoing support of the PDR program and their dedication to protecting these lands over the long term.

Views from the Chair (continued)

(continued from front page) by an Eagle Scout. The Edgewood High School comes every year to help with a Town project. The Lions Club of McFarland works on projects in the Town. Our history is displayed and researched by the McFarland Historical Society. The storm shelter is staffed by local residents who open it when there is a threat to vulnerable homes. The Oregon Sportsman Club contributes to our preservation efforts. RSVP Drivers who get people to their medical appointments, Meals on Wheels, and our wonderful senior centers and SAIL (Supporting Active Independent Lives for aging in place) all depend on volunteers. All of the above is done by volunteers. They are less than 2% of our population, but their effect is gigantic. They are the middle class folks who actually make their communities work and prosper. Margaret Mead described it well when she said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

That brings us to the people who have put this Town on track to be unique in the Midwest. It is now the silly season and we are all tired of politics, but political action is what has allowed this Town to become what it is and will be into the future. We get requests from community groups from all over the Midwest asking for

our help to get their officials to do the right thing. Our response always is to change who the officials are. Dump the elected officials that care more about either their own pockets or the pockets of their friends (or both) than the quality of life in their community.

What has happened in the Town of Dunn has been accomplished by families working to get people elected that care about the community. The kids distributed literature, the adults wrote ads and developed literature and all the other things that are needed in a political campaign. It is political. We too often denigrate the importance of political activity, but it is in fact the reason this Town has accomplished what it has. It was done with the supreme effort of volunteers who believed it could happen. They gave of their own money. They spent hundreds of hours fighting to win elections that were vital to making this Town what it is. The Waubesa Beach neighborhood gave over 45 thousand dollars to fight the Libby Landfill out of their own pockets. The fight was won in the political arena. Politics matter, but what matters most are the volunteers who make all of this happen. If you are a volunteer, please accept a heart-felt thanks for what you do. If you are not, it is time to start caring. The future depends on it.

Leave Phosphorus out of Lakes

by Peter Foy, Friends of Lake Kegonsa President

Leaves are a main source of Phosphorus getting into our lakes. How can we help manage this problem?



This fall, consider mulching or composting. If you rake, make sure the leaves stay out of the gutters and ditches.

While they are natural, and seem biodegradable and harmless, leaves pose a threat to the quality of water in our lakes. The leaves don't have to get into the lake to have an adverse effect. We all have lakeside property, in that whatever goes into the street will eventually go into our lakes and streams. Phosphorus that leaches from the leaves when it rains will eventually end up in our lakes. The Town of Dunn doesn't pick up leaves, so this autumn, when the leaves blanket your yard, please follow these suggestions to help maintain the health of our lakes.

Compost

Adding leaves to a compost pile creates an inexpensive and nutrient-rich fertilizer for your vegetable and flower gardens. In our urban environment, composting allows us to imitate and reap the rewards of the natural recycling process. Check out clean-water.uwex.edu/pubs/stewards/Y013.pdf for more information on composting.

Till

Leaves can be tilled directly into a garden, contributing valuable organic matter.

Mulch

If you have a mulching mower, you can chop the leaves into small particles that will decompose directly into your lawn. If you have a bagger on your mulching mower, you can use the leaves to mulch flowerbeds and shrubs.

Rake and Take Leaves to the Transfer Site

When you rake, make sure to sweep or rake any leaves out of the street or ditch, as well as your yard. You can take these leaves to the Town's Transfer Site, which is open:

- 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month 8:00am - 4:00pm
- Wednesdays through November 2nd from 2:00pm - 4:45pm

Burn

The Town of Dunn discourages burning leaves. Leaf burning often smoulders and creates a nuisance for neighbors. Also keep in mind that burning is a source of air pollution and that ashes are a source of highly concentrated phosphorus. Runoff can carry the ashes and the phosphorus into the lake. So, if you burn, get rid of the ashes before it rains. Don't burn on the lakeshore, where stormwater will carry the ashes directly into the lake, unless you get rid of the ashes before it rains. Remember the ashes contain highly concentrated phosphorus. Some people choose to use ashes in their garden.

Inevitably, some leaves and the phosphorus that leaches from the leaves will get into the water regardless of what we do to stop them, but we can prevent most of the pollution by following these simple water-friendly practices.

US 51 Corridor Study Update

by Erica Schmitz, Land Use Manager

Earlier this year, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) identified Alternative H (Hybrid) as the preferred alternative for the US 51 corridor from McFarland to Stoughton. Reconstruction of the approximately 5.6 mile, 2-lane rural section of US 51 between County B (east) and Exchange Street would include two 12-foot travel lanes with a curbed median for most of the length, improved intersections with designated left- and right-turn lanes, 10-foot shoulders with 6-foot paved for bicycle accommodations, and improved

roadway curves. The County B/AB and Exchange Street intersections would be converted to roundabouts. Due to funding limitations and statewide priorities, the project has been delayed. WisDOT now anticipates that the preferred alternative for the US 51 project will be funded for final design and construction in the fall of 2018. During this approximate 2 year extension, the study team will continue to refine the design. The next public meeting is anticipated to be held in the fall of 2017.

Mark Jung's Images Focus on Natural Beauty

by Meg Nielsen



Mark Jung has gathered hundreds of images from the Town of Dunn that demonstrate the beauty found in the commonplace. Jung uses digital manipulation to massage photographs of natural items, like this tulip from his front yard, to look like paintings.

Holsteins heading for pasture on a misty morning. A farmstead swathed in snow. Sandhill cranes taking flight over a marsh. The delicate lace of an insect's wing.

Artist/photographer Mark Jung has captured these and hundreds of other images from the Town of Dunn while living along the shores of Lake Waubesa for the past 25 years.

In fact, if the Town of Dunn had an Artist in Residence, it would probably be Jung, who over the years has become known for portraying the town's natural beauty. His status as official unofficial Dunn artist started with the death knell of a centuries old burr oak. The highly visible tree – a landmark to many and a source of joy to its owners – had been damaged when hit by a car. The tree's owners knew it was listing dangerously over the road and would have to be removed. They saw Jung at a town meeting and asked him to get a photo before it had to be removed.

"I went out at different times of

the day to try to get the tree in just the right light. And, appropriately enough, since the tree was dying, sunset seemed to be just the best time," Jung said. A framed photo of the tree along with a poem penned by the town's Poet Laureate John Herm has become part of town lore and hangs in a place of prominence in the town hall.

And so it began.

The years since have brought Herm and Jung together a number of times to create memorable images, both visual and linguistic, of town scenes: sandhill cranes, wetlands, pastures, woodlands and farms.

"I like morning and evening as the best times to get great photos," Jung said. "For me, there is a particular Zen in going out taking pictures, in seeking and finding the beauty of the moment, whether it is the structure of a leaf or the splendor of a hillside. I often go out in the morning and drive around just snapping pictures," he added.



Jung's photograph of the Dyreson Bridge shortly after its reopening in 2015

"I find images that represent the town because I am looking all the time. Not consciously, just looking. When I find something I think the town would like to have, I send it to Cathy [Hasslinger]," he said. Hasslinger is the town's clerk/treasurer/business manager.

Most often he uses his cell phone, although he says a camera works better for distance. Jung confesses to having thousands of images on his computer, all neatly filed by topic and date and managed by a program called Light Room.

He's come a long way from that first Brownie box camera he bought with his allowance money when he was just a boy. And he's gone the gamut from f-stops and lenses, chemicals and processing pans, to computerized digital manipulation of his photographic images.

"Digital photography makes it possible to manipulate the colors, the brightness and other aspects of

make paper airplanes and while we folded the paper and tried them out in the nearby lunchroom, we talked. With girls, I used origami," he said.

Giving the hands something to do seemed to free up the mind and increase communication, he added.

Retired now for 10 years, Jung says he still finds art to be a great communication tool. But lately his interests have broadened to include ways to preserve the beauty he so closely observes in the town. He has become involved in the Clean Lakes Alliance and monitors water clarity from his home on the shores of Lake Waubesa.

"Just doing that, and observing the lake closely since we've lived here has been an amazing journey. In the spring a tiny organism called the daphnia hatches out and eats the algae. It's like magic, because it cleans up the algae almost entirely and the lake is as clear as glass. At other times there is an overabundance of a



Cranes near the Town Hall in the early morning fog.

the picture before printing. Once it is printed on canvas, I can do more with the image, make it more like a painting," Jung said. Jung embellishes the printed photos, which are often mistaken for oil paintings or watercolors.

An artist in his own right, Jung has sold his works in art galleries in Madison and Door County. He now markets his art mainly online.

A school psychologist in the Oregon School District for 32 years, Jung often used art to bridge the gap while working with students.

"Boys found it especially hard to sit still and just talk. So I used what I called 'plane therapy.' We would

new invasive species called the spiny water flea that comes and eats the daphnia and preventing the natural clean-up. There is a balance in nature that is so intricate as to be, in a way, spiritual," he said.

"Because of its natural beauty, the Town of Dunn has attracted a certain kind of people – people who appreciate wetlands and farmland, people who want to preserve those things," Jung said.

And while acknowledging that, Jung also said he realizes that preservation of the natural beauty he so enjoys is an ongoing battle with encroaching development, farmland runoff and pollution of precious waterways.

"If my photos and artworks can help people realize what treasures we have in the Town of Dunn, I will be both pleased and honored," he said.

You can view Jung's photos and art works at mjungart.com. To see a touching video filmed in Jung's backyard, search YouTube for Graduation Day for Wood Ducks.