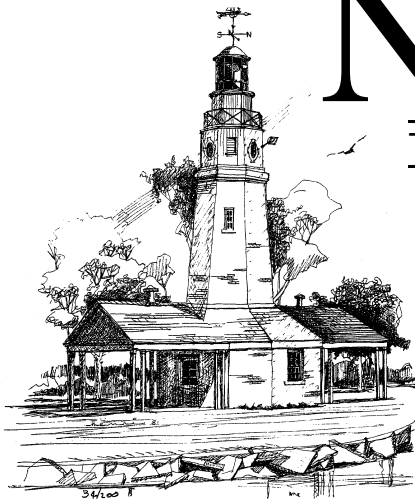


Neenah Notes

The City of Neenah Newsletter

VOL. 9 No. 4

Fall 2008



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City of Neenah Town Meeting

Mon., Oct. 13 - 7:00 p.m.

City Hall

- State of the City
- Sustainability report
- 2009 budget
- Question City officials
- Express your concerns

Get involved!

Message from Mayor George Scherck

Were you one of the many thousands of citizens, young and old alike, that enjoyed the fantastic *COMMUNITYFEST* event this summer? This has always been a special time for me because it usually meant pony rides, bungee jumps, the petting zoo, and face painting. But this year, Addie Jo, Clara, and Aaron were on vacation and I have to admit to an initial disappointment, a feeling that the event just wasn't the same for me. While the joy and excitement of watching young children is a big part of this event, we all need to focus on what the day is really all about. It's easy to get caught up in the talent of the Wisconsin Singers, the athleticism of the Web Footers, or the excitement of the fireworks and forget why we come together to celebrate.

COMMUNITYFEST celebrates the freedom given to all of us, the sacrifices of generations of men and women who fought to preserve that freedom and the blessings of living in a free society. It is a time to say a grateful prayer for those who continue to volunteer to put themselves in harms way in places like Iraq and Afghanistan.

Neenah's celebration of independence is planned, organized, and financed by a partnership of local government and private citizens. Private contributions finance many of the activities we all enjoy. The first meet-

ing for *COMMUNITYFEST* 2009 has already been held. Did you know that all of the workers during that day are volunteers who pick up garbage, deliver ice, provide security, and do all of the thankless tasks that make the day so pleasant for the rest of us? Most of the activities like the Community Band; the pet show; Red, White, and Blue parade; and face painting are all done by volunteers.



*A healthy social life is found
only when in the mirror of
each soul the entire community
finds its reflection.*

Rudolph Steiner

COMMUNITYFEST is the very essence of life in Neenah, where families can gather in a beautiful park setting, for alcohol-free events as we celebrate an ever increasing sense of community spirit. It is a celebration of the community, for the community. So while I did miss my special little friends this year, I hope you will join with me in thanking all of the dedicated people who made *COMMUNITYFEST* possible and that you share my sense of pride in Neenah, a community whose best days are still ahead of us.

Best wishes,

George

Free information!

www.neenahlibrary.org

Visit the City's web site!

www.ci.neenah.wi.us



Contact us!

Mayor	
George Scherck	886-6104
City Attorney	
Jim Godlewski	886-6106
City Clerk	
Patty Sturn	886-6100
Community Development & Assessment Director	
Bob Buckingham	886-6125
Finance Director	
Mike Easker	886-6140
Fire Chief	
Len Vander Wyst	886-6200
Health Department Director	
Judy Crouch-Smolarek	886-6155
Human Resources Deputy Director	
Heather Fuller	886-6102
Information Systems Director	
Joe Wenninger	886-6170
Library Director	
Steve Procs	886-6300
Parks & Recreation Director	
Eileen McCoy	886-6060
Police Chief	
Ray Appel	886-6000
Public Works & Utilities Director	
Larry Wattering	886-6180

Aldermanic District 1	
Jim Hemes	729-1289
Mark Lange	729-0831
Nick Piergrossi	751-0842
Aldermanic District 2	
John Ahles	727-1306
Marge Bates	729-5556
Judy Zaretzke	722-1291
Aldermanic District 3	
Lee Hillstrom	722-0774
Bruce Rhoades	727-0243
Todd Stevenson (Pres.)	722-5440

Credits

The 'Lighthouse' artwork courtesy of Henri Miles. Photographs were submitted.

34

Percentage of your property tax that funds city services.

Who is using that water?

As of Jan. 1, 2007 the Neenah Water Utility had 10,535 water meters in service throughout the City. In 2000, we had less than 9,500 water meters in service. The growth is related to the number of new homes and individually metered apartments during that time.

One-family or duplex residential units account for 9,560 meters. They range in size from 5/8-inch to 2-inches in diameter. While the total represents 91% of the water meters in service, residential customers only use 37% of the water pumped from the water treatment plant. (Percentages are based on a yearly average.)

There are only 154 water meters serving industrial customers. These meters range in size from 5/8-inch to 8-inches in diameter. While industrial customers represent less than 2% of the water meters in service, industrial customers use 48% of the water pumped.

Commercial customers, which include multi-unit apartments with three or more individual units, are served by 776 water meters. They range in size from 5/8-inch to 4-inches in diameter. Commercial customers use approximately 14% of the water pumped.

The final category of usage is public authority, which includes parks, schools and other governmental buildings. There are 45 water meters serving these facilities. They range in size from 5/8-inch to 4-inches in diameter. Public authority uses approximately 1% of the water pumped.

Water usage by customer type can change dramatically month by month. In the summer, industrial and commercial usage may increase by 10% over winter months, but residential usage may increase 60% over winter usage. This large summer increase is directly related to lawn watering and other outside uses of water.

Police Dept.

One of the common concerns expressed by citizens was for increased traffic control. As of Aug. 1, 2008, 1,463 traffic citations have been issued and 7,618 police incident reports were generated in the first six months of 2008.

The best way to control speeding and traffic violations is self control. Drive safely, the life you save may be your own!



Together We Succeed

Neenah Police Department
2007 Annual Report

Available at the Neenah Public Library or the City's website:
www.ci.neenah.wi.us

VOTE!

PRE-REGISTRATION POSSIBLE

City of Neenah residents may pre-register to vote for the Presidential Election to be held on Nov. 4 in the Office of the City Clerk, 211 Walnut St., during office hours Mon.-Thu. 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. and Fri. 7:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.



Cut off for voter registration is October 15. Voters may register at the polls on Election Day. Voters must provide proof of residency and either a Wisconsin Driver's License number or the last four digits of their Social Security Number.

The Clerk's Office will also conduct voter registration and absentee voting in the Office of the City Clerk, 211 Walnut St., on the following dates:

Sat., Oct. 4, 2008
8:00 a.m.-Noon

Sat., Oct. 11, 2008
8:00 a.m.-Noon

Health officials urge caution

As residents spend time in the outdoors, Health Officials remind people to use caution around wild animals to protect against rabies, a viral disease transmitted by bites from infected animals.

Jim Kazmierczak, State Public Health Veterinarian of the Department of Health Services, states, "If you are bitten by an animal, wash the wound immediately with plenty of soap and water and contact your physician and local health department. If you can do so safely, capture and confine the animal so it may be tested for the virus."

Often, people turn loose or destroy the animal, rather than safely capturing it. In the majority of cases, if the animal is either placed under observation or tested for rabies, no anti-rabies shots are needed for the bite victim.

Dogs and cats that bite humans can be observed and checked by a veterinarian through a quarantine order.

Bats and skunks are the most likely to carry the rabies virus, but dogs, cats, raccoons, and foxes can also transmit the disease. To avoid possible exposure to rabies:

- Avoid contact with wild animals, especially if they approach you or you observe them acting abnormal or sick, indicators that they may be infected. Do not try to nurse a sick animal back to health. Call an ani-

mal control official or a wildlife rehabilitator if you find a sick animal.

- Never touch unfamiliar or wild animals and teach children to do likewise. Stray cats and dogs may not be accustomed to being handled and are more likely to bite.
- Never adopt wild animals or bring them into your home. Even baby animals can carry rabies.
- Walk your dog on a leash and do not let it roam freely where wild animals may be present.
- Secure trash cans and pet foods so they will not attract wild animals.
- Keep bats out of living areas by securing open or loose fitting doors, attics, unscreened windows, and chimneys. Protecting your home can significantly reduce the potential for rabies exposure for you and your pets, as bat bites are small and may go unnoticed.

Human rabies cases are very rare in the U.S. In Wisconsin, the most recent cases of human rabies occurred in 2000 and 2004, in both cases resulting from a bite from an infected bat.

For more information call the Neenah Health Department at 886-6155 or visit: <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/communicable/factsheets/Rabies.htm>

DID YOU KNOW?

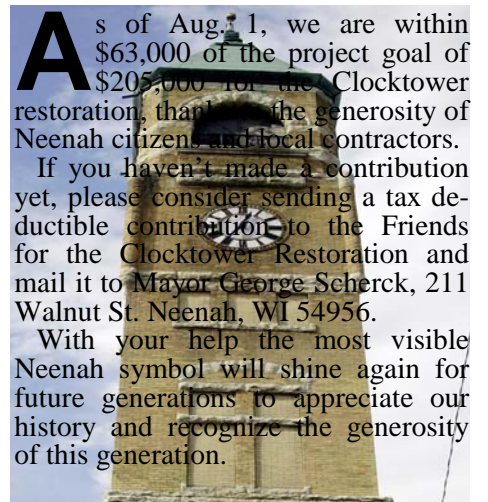
- Winter rules require you to keep your sidewalk free of ice and snow?
- We are still looking for volunteers for boards and commissions?
- It's not too late to start pairing up your garbage with your neighbor?
- Before putting leaves and yard waste out on the curb you should check the recycling guide?
- There is no parking on city streets after Oct. 31?
- We really need everyone to consider a contribution to help us complete the fundraising for the clock tower project?
- Bikes and mopeds have to follow the same rules of the road as other vehicles?
- As the number of bikes and mopeds increases, we all have to look twice to share the road with these vehicles?
- The Sustainable Neenah Committee is up and running with dedication and enthusiasm for their challenge?
- Dogs & cats are allowed in City parks, but must be on a leash and on the sidewalk or trail?

Clocktower Restoration

As of Aug. 1, we are within \$63,000 of the project goal of \$205,000 for the Clocktower restoration, thanks to the generosity of Neenah citizens and local contractors.

If you haven't made a contribution yet, please consider sending a tax deductible contribution to the Friends for the Clocktower Restoration and mail it to Mayor George Scherck, 211 Walnut St. Neenah, WI 54956.

With your help the most visible Neenah symbol will shine again for future generations to appreciate our history and recognize the generosity of this generation.



*Thank you to Neenah Rotary and the kids from YouthGo for planting the roundabouts and traffic island at First St. & Nicolet Blvd.
More community volunteers at work!*

VOTE!
Tue., Nov. 4
To find your polling place, visit the City website at www.ci.neenah.wi.us

Fall Leaf Collection
All leaves must be loose on the terrace. No plastic bags or containers of leaves will be collected. Please check your 2008 *Recycling and Refuse Guide* or the City of Neenah Website for the fall leaf collection dates in your area.

81,000
Annual cash transactions processed by the Finance Dept.

PARKS & RECREATION

Fall Activity Guide

The *Fall Leisure Connections Guide* was distributed through the elementary schools in early September. The *Guide* includes youth and adult activities as well as parks and facilities information. Additional copies are available at the City Hall Parks & Recreation office, at the Neenah Public Library, and at www.neenahgov.org. Registration for most programs and park facilities are accepted online.

Street lights

If you see a street light that is on during daylight hours or blinking or completely off at night, call WE Energies at 1-800-714-7777, report on-line at www.we-energies.com/night_aura or call the Neenah Public Works Department at 886-6240. In general, street lights that are mounted on wood poles are owned and maintained by WE Energies. Street lights mounted on metal poles are owned and maintained by the City.

11,879

Registrations for Parks & Recreation programs in 2007.

15

Citizens attended a recent Neenah Police Academy.

1,111

Fire hydrants in the City.

Mayor Scherck responds

Q Why does the City build new buildings when there are so many vacant buildings in the City?

A First, this is a decision made by the private sector not the City. Often the old building is in need of so much remediation that it is no longer cost-effective to redevelop. At other times, it no longer meets the needs of the business because of size or physical layout.

Clearly, once a business decides it needs a new location, our goal is to make certain the new location is in Neenah and not elsewhere. But let's also remember the large number of buildings that have been redeveloped—providing enhanced tax base, new jobs, and new shopping opportunities.

The Jersild Building, Family Video,

Papa John's, Mighty Auto, Choices Restaurant, Directions Inc., and Dollar General are just a few examples of vacant buildings that have been renovated for new uses. Many other locations have been razed to make room for a new Neenah business such as the Taco Bell on Green Bay Road, many locations on S. Commercial St., and a new medical facility on N. Commercial St.

The best example of this will be the replacing of the Glatfelter Mill with an \$18 million Plexus National headquarters. Attracting new development and filling vacant buildings is a major challenge of every community; one Neenah has met with great success.

For the complete text of all Mayor Scherck's responses, go to the City's website: www.ci.neenah.wi.us.

Memorial Park Tullar Shelter



The Memorial Park Tullar Shelter, located at 1131 Tullar Rd., features a multi-purpose room with heat, electrical outlets, restrooms and a gas fireplace. The kitchen area is equipped with counter space, sink, refrigerator, and a stove/oven. There are 12 six-foot tables and fifty chairs. There is a playground near the shelter and two outdoor grills on the patio. Call 886-6060 for rental information.

Appliance Disposal

Microwaves and appliances that contain Freon (freezers, refrigerators, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, etc.) cannot be disposed of in the City. The Winnebago County landfill will accept this type of appliance for a fee of \$13/each. Contact them at (920)727-2884.

Tullar Rd. drop off site

Residents can drop off their computer equipment, televisions, electronic equipment, etc. at the Tullar Road Garage drop off site.

The drop off center is open Sat. mornings 8:30-11:30 until Oct. 25.

Galloway supports safety programs



Laurie Olson, Eileen McCoy, Tony Schmidt and Jim Garvey.

Tony Schmidt, chair of the Safety and Welfare Advisory Team (SWAT) for Galloway Company, and Jim Garvey, SWAT Team member recently presented the City with a check for \$1,050. This team of employee volunteers coordinates the safety focus and training in the organization during the year. In 2007 the team provided the option for employees to donate rewards they earned from properly completed safety education activities for a community safety fund. The money donated to this fund would be used for community programs that promote safety education and or advancements in safety for the City of Neenah. Parks and Recreation will use the \$1,050 donated by participating Galloway Company employees for confined space equipment and the Youth Safety Camp.

Recreation Activities

Register: at City Hall Parks & Rec Office, call 886-6060, or visit www.neenahgov.org

ACTIVITY	OPEN TO	DATE(S)
Adult Yoga, Cardio-Aerobics, Walking	Adults 15 & up	On-going
Kidstage (theatre)	Ages 5-14	Oct. 7-Dec. 2
Story Stretchers	Ages 3-5	Nov. 7, 14 and 21
Build-A-Scarecrow	Families	Oct. 18
Basketball Open Gym	Adults	M & W Oct. 1-Apr. '09
Start Smart Sports	Ages 3-5	Begins Oct. 6
Start Smart Basketball	Ages 3-5	Begins Nov. 10
Elk's Free throw Contest	Ages 6-13	Nov. 22
Build-A-Gingerbread House	Families	Dec. 1
Little Rockets Basketball	Girls grades 4-6	Dec. 1 and 3
Santa Claus is Coming to Town	Age 3 thru 2nd Grade with parent/guardian	Dec. 3
Babysitting Training Course	Ages 11- 15	Dec. 29 and 30
Drawing Classes	Ages 3 1/2 - 12	Various dates
Boredom Buster Bowling	Grades 2-8	Dec. 30
Fit & Fun for Pre-Schoolers	Ages 3-5	Oct. 10, 17, 24; 2nd session in Dec.
Keyboard workshops	Ages 18+	Dec. 6
Punt Pass & Kick	Ages 5-13	Sept. 20

Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an exotic woodborer that has killed millions of ash trees in the U.S. and has recently spread into Washington and Ozaukee counties in Wisconsin. EAB is easily spread through the movement of firewood, logs, and nursery stock. Even though EAB has NOT been found in the City of Neenah, it may already be here.

The City has an estimated 1,100 publicly owned ash trees. The estimated cost of their removal is \$550,000; the estimated cost of replanting them is \$330,000. These numbers do not include natural areas such as Carpenter Preserve, Memorial Park Woods, Wilderness Park Woods, or the Neenah Slough.

Currently, the City is doing the following to prepare for the arrival of Emerald Ash Borer:

- Monitoring sick or dying ash trees on City property.
- Reviewing street, park, and cemetery tree inventories to assess numbers and locations of ash trees.
- Giving awareness training to City staff.
- Permitting the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) to place EAB traps on City property.

When EAB arrives, DATCP will oversee a federally mandated eradication effort. Removal costs will be funded until the eradication effort stops. After that, the City and private residents will be responsible for the removal of dead trees.

Signs of EAB:

- Dying ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.) with sprouts on the trunk or at the base of the tree. (Mountainash is not a true ash tree and is not attacked by EAB.)
- D-shaped exits holes in the bark of ash trees where adult beetles have emerged.
- Flattened worm-like larvae boring under the bark of ash trees.
- Winding tunnels under the bark created by larvae.
- Bullet-shaped iridescent green adult beetles present from June to August

If you see 3 or more of these signs, please contact the EAB HOTLINE 1-800-462-2803. You may also contact the City forester at 886-6070. Additional EAB information: www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov.

LIBRARY

School Year Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 - 9

Friday 9 - 6

Saturday 9 - 5

Sunday 1 - 5

MMBK

Monday Morning Book Klatch is a book discussion where parents and caregivers are welcome to bring children (and are responsible for their care). Light refreshments are provided, along with toys for the kids. Ask at the second floor Adult Services Desk for a copy of the book. Shattuck Community Room, 10:00 a.m. Information: Nicole — hardina-wilhelm@neenahlibrary.org; 886-6315.

Oct. 27 — *Zookeeper's Wife* by Diane Ackerman

Nov. 24 — *Center of Everything* by Laura Moriarty

Dec. 15 — *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid* by Bill Bryson

Readers Review

The Readers Review book club welcomes adults to discuss the following books at 6:30 p.m. in the Carpenter Conference Room. Check at the Adult Desk for availability of a copy of the book. Information: Cheryl — 886-6315; kraft@neenahlibrary.org.

Oct. 20 — *Tortilla Curtain* by T.C. Boyle

Nov. 17 — *China Road: a Journey into the Future of a Rising Power* by Rob Gifford

Dec. 15 — *After This* by Alice McDermott

First Friday Concerts

Held in the Shattuck Community Room at 2:00 p.m. on selected Fridays. Free.

Nov. 7 — **Druid's Table Celtic Music**

Dec. 5 — **Lawrence University Vocalists Steven Spears, tenor, and Nick Meyer, baritone**

Movies

Movies at the library on Tuesday nights in the Shattuck Community Room. Popcorn and soda will be served. Free. Information: 886-6315. Most movies start at 6:30 p.m. Titles subject to change depending on DVD release dates.

Sep. 30 — *Forbidden Kingdom* (PG-13)

Oct. 14 — *Leatherheads* (PG-13)

Oct. 28 — *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* (PG-13)

Nov. 11 — *Kung Fu Panda* (PG)

Nov. 25 — *WALL-E* (G)

Dec. 16 — *Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian* (PG)

Dec. 30 — *Get Smart* (PG-13)

Adult Afternoon Programs

The first Monday of the month brings interesting programs to the Shattuck Community Room at 2:00 p.m. Free.

Nov. 3 — **World Water Shortage / Waterborne Disease** with Dr. Robert Dedmon.

Dec. 1 — **History of NORAD** (North American Aerospace Defense Command) with Dave Roebke.

Sunday Concerts

Held in the Shattuck Community Room at 2:00 p.m. on selected Sundays. Free.

Oct. 26 — **Cajun Strangers**—Cajun/Creole music.

Nov. 23 — **Bovee and Heil Old Time Music** — with Bob Bovee and Gail Heil.

Dec. 21 — **Island Magic Steel Drum Band**

French Film Festival

Classic French films (with English subtitles) moderated by French Instructor Kathie Kinnaman. In the Shattuck Community Room at 6:30 p.m. Free.

Sep. 25 — *Les Choristes*

Oct. 2 — *King of Hearts*

Oct. 23 — *Joyeux Noël*

Safe Sleep for Babies

Are you or do you know expecting or new parents who need a crib for their newborn? If so, the Neenah Health Dept. has a Safe Sleep program that provides free portable cribs to city residents who meet eligibility requirements.

Our goal is to empower parents with knowledge so their infants will grow safely in their care. The **Back to Sleep** campaign, developed by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), emphasizes the importance of always placing a baby on his or her back to sleep. This simple act can help to lower a baby's risk of dying of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) by at least 50%.

The following are the Safe Sleep Top Ten Tips as developed by NICHD:

1. Always place your baby on his or her back to sleep, for naps and at night.
2. Place your baby on a firm sleep surface covered by a fitted sheet.
3. Keep soft objects, toys, and loose bedding out of your baby's sleep area.
4. Do not allow smoking around your baby.
5. Keep your baby's sleep area close to, but separate from, where you sleep.
6. Consider using a clean, dry pacifier when placing your infant down to sleep.
7. Do not let your baby overheat during sleep.
8. Avoid products that claim to reduce the risk of SIDS because often they have not been tested.
9. Do not use home monitors to reduce the risk of SIDS.
10. Provide supervised "Tummy Time" to reduce head flat spots and to strengthen muscles.

For additional information, call the Neenah Health Dept. at 886-6155 or visit the following websites: <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/SIDS> and <http://www.cpsc.gov>. Information on crib safety guidelines can be found by contacting the Consumer Product Safety Commission at 1-800-638-2772 or at their website listed above.

Gary Schmidt author visit

Award-winning young adult author Gary D. Schmidt will be visiting the library Oct. 21-22. His critically acclaimed novels include *Trouble*, *The Wednesday Wars*, and *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*. Watch for program announcements. Information: youthdesk@neenahlibrary.org; 886-6335.

Food for Fines

The Neenah and Menasha public libraries will again be sponsoring a **Food for Fines** food drive Sat., Nov. 1—Sun., Nov. 9. Bring non-perishable food items to the checkout desk at either library. The food will be given to the Neenah-Menasha Chapter of the American Red Cross. (Please—do not bring food before Nov. 1!)

- \$1.00 worth of food will pay off \$2.00 in fines.
- No damaged or expired food items accepted.
- Food items may be applied only toward fines—not lost books.

Call Nancy at 886-6320 with any questions.

Used Book Sale

The Friends of the Neenah Public Library's annual used book (and DVDs, VHS, CDs, etc.) sale will be held in the Shattuck Community Room.

Donations are always accepted for the book sale (please—no magazines or condensed books).

Thu., Oct. 9— 6:30-8:30 p.m.
(\$3 admission—children under 11 free with paid adult)

Fri., Oct. 10 — 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 11 — 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 12 — 1:30-4:00 p.m.
Books by the Bagful

Mon., Oct. 13 — 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Remaining Items FREE

Kids Reading to Canines

A program partnership of the Neenah Public Library and the Fox Valley Humane Association.

What do you get when you bring children, dogs, and books together? You get happy, confident children who love to read. The object of the program is to provide a monthly opportunity for kids in first through fourth grades to read aloud to dogs who listen patiently and without judgment for 15 minutes. Children and dogs will bond together over a shared story.

Molly Johnson, Education Coordinator, Fox Valley Humane Association supervises the program. Families who wish to sign up will register their child for a specific time to read to the dogs.

Ms. Johnson stresses that, "These certified therapy dogs and their handlers are carefully screened to provide a safe, fun, experience for the children involved in the program. The dogs are all certified therapy dogs through Therapy Dogs International and must meet stringent temperament and health requirements. They have demonstrated exceptional manners and friendliness and are gently responsive to people of all ages." Information: youthdesk@neenahlibrary.org, 886-6335.

To register by phone, call 886-6335. Registration is required and space is limited.

BooFest!

Come meet **Witch Hazel** performed by Kristine Wildflower—a witch's brew just right for you! Rat's tail, cat's paw, mother's wort, wolfbane, and mandrake, to name a few of the things one might brew. These are all real herbs used medicinally throughout history. Hazel's potion book is illustrated with detailed plant pictures and everyone receives a handout. (Hazel is not a wicked witch; she is a healer and does not scare children!)

Sat., Oct. 18 — Noon — Shattuck Community Room. (Join us after the show for face painting by Jason!)

Stories & Crafts

...from around the world. Dec. 6, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Information: 886-6335.

LIBRARY

GirlfriendsRead

Enjoy and explore the joy of children's literature featuring books with strong girl characters by women authors in this unique book club for children and adults. Come alone or come together! Enrollment is limited, so please call 886-6335 to register and stop by Youth Services to obtain a copy of the current book. Information: youthdesk@neenahlibrary.org; 886-6335. Sundays at 2:00 p.m. Ages 9+

Oct. 19 — *The Trolls* by Polly Horvath

Nov. 16 — *My One Hundred Adventures* by Polly Horvath

Dec. 14 — *Rules* by Cynthia Lord

Storytimes!

Fall storytimes continue through Dec. 19. No registration is required. More information: 886-6335.

Babytime — Wed. or Thu. — 9:15 a.m. (Babies, birth—12-months-old).

Toddle Time — Tue. or Fri. at 10:30 a.m. (Toddlers, 12-23 months old).

Lapsit — Wed. or Thu. at 10:00 a.m. (2-year-olds *with* a caregiver).

Our Time — Tue. At 9:15 a.m. and Wed. at 1:00 p.m. — (For children 3- to 5-years-old *without* a caregiver).

Story Craft — Stories & crafts for children aged 3 to 6 only *without* a caregiver. Fridays at 1:00 p.m. on Sep. 26; Oct. 17, 24, 31; Nov. 14, 21; Dec. 12, 19.

GuysRead

GuysRead is a book group featuring books with strong boy characters for ages 9-12. Come alone, with a friend, or with an important adult in your life. Enrollment is limited. Call 886-6335 to register. Stop at the youth desk to obtain a copy of the current book. Information: youthdesk@neenahlibrary.org; 886-6335. Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Sep. 28 — *The Aurora County All-Stars* by Deborah Wiles

Nov. 2 — *Chasing Vermeer* by Blue Balliett

Dec. 7 — *Rex Zero and the End of the World* by Tim Wynne-Jones

NPD officer garners dual honors

Neenah Police Officer Christopher Gorden graduated from the Wisconsin Basic Police Academy at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College on Aug. 15, 2008, in a ceremony attended by members of the department's administrative team and Officer Gorden's family. Twenty-four men and women celebrated completion of the 13-week intensive training and testing and are now certified or certifiable to become Wisconsin police officers.

Officer Gorden was awarded two honors during the ceremony. Gorden received the **Academic Award** by posting the highest scores of all the recruits. In addition, Gorden shared honors with a deputy from the Forest County Sheriff's Department, receiving the **Backup Officer Award**. This award is given to the recruit that class members would most want as their backup. "We have had officers receive the academic award in the past, as well as the backup officer award, but this is the first time an officer received both," said Police Chief Ray Appel. "We are very proud of Officer Gorden." Officer Gorden will now enter several months of field training with department field training officers. He should be patrolling our streets on his own by the end of the year.

Originally from the New York City area, Officer Gorden spent eight years in the United States Air Force, which included tours of duty in Afghanistan. Officer Gorden was hired by the Neenah Police Department on Apr. 14, 2008. He and his wife, Janet, reside in Menasha with their children, Dominick and Giana.

Free information!
www.neenahlibrary.org

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Community Spotlight

This edition's Community Spotlight focuses on the **dedicated Habitat for Humanity volunteers**, who this August dedicated their 100th home in the Fox Cities.

Many organizations provide a hand out, but Habitat provides a hand up, building not just houses but hopes and dreams for hardworking families who through "sweat equity" earn their home and the opportunity it provides. The volunteers for Habitat do everything from the actual building

to the providing of financial support and meals for the workers.

Businesses, churches, civic groups and individuals all come together, enriching our community by improving our neighborhoods one home at a time. Twenty-six families enjoy life in Neenah because of the Habitat volunteers. Last year, the volunteers logged in 21,600 hours. Now that's the volunteer spirit that makes Neenah a great place to live!

Thank you!
Habitat Volunteers

Behind the Scenes

One group of City employees that we all hope to never see are the firefighters, but when we have a need, nothing is more comforting than the rapid response of the Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue officers.

Last year, the firefighters responded to 1,502 EMS calls and 780 fire calls. For each fire call, they put their life on the line to save both lives and property.

But beyond their official duties, the men and women of Firefighters Local

275, through their benevolent fund, make significant contributions by going above and beyond their required tasks. They provide operational and organizational support for the Mayor's Charity Golf Outing that has raised over \$35,000 for local nonprofits. The Fill the Boot campaign raised \$10,000 on behalf of MDA.

"One department fully involved" clearly describes the dedicated service and community commitment of our firefighters.

Our thanks to them all!

What can I do?

Sometimes we think that challenges are so great that one person cannot truly make a difference. As we attack the challenge of making Neenah a more sustainable community, Just a few more reminders of what you can do to help.

- Keep the storm drain closest to your house free of debris
- Avoid blowing grass clippings or leaves into the street
- Mulch leaves and grass

735,216
Feet of water main in the City.

Visit the City's web site!
www.ci.neenah.wi.us

Residential Customer
Neenah WI 54956

City of Neenah
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