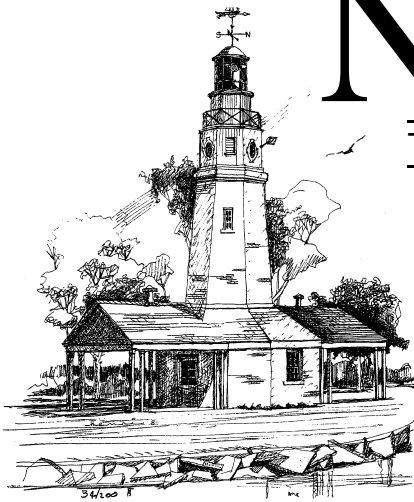


Neenah Notes

The City of Neenah Newsletter

VOL. 10 No. 1

Winter 2009



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

Message from Mayor George Scherck

Since the last newsletter, despite the economic hard times, we have had the opportunity to give thanks for the many blessings we enjoy and to resolve to face the challenges ahead with optimism and faith.

I have attempted to make accessibility, accountability, and transparency top priorities emphasizing the opportunity for citizens to not only be kept well informed but to provide input.

That is one reason that we have a public forum prior to every meeting. In addition to this newsletter, we have a website where I answer major concerns that have been raised. That is also why I am committed to answering every citizen

contact within 24 hours. Ultimately, we need to hold all elected officials accountable for doing what they say they are going to do.

At the 2007 town meeting, I concluded that 2008 would be a year of new initiatives. What follows is a list of 2008 projections and what we actually achieved.

I pledged that Neenah would move toward becoming an eco municipality where sustainability would be a high priority. The Sustainable Neenah Committee was created and is actively pursuing practical efforts to make a concern for the environment a factor in the life of both government and the private sector. A second initiative was to provide stronger enforcement of local ordinances to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. We added a part time ordinance enforcement officer and have made major strides in reducing the violations of those ordinances that detract from the community's appearance.

A third plan was for the Neenah Po-

lice Department to unveil plans for stepped up enforcement efforts to remind drivers of their responsibility to obey traffic laws. As of Nov. 1, the department issued 3,443 citations.



In our commitment to do more with less, I proposed combining the Public Works Department with the Water Utility. That was accomplished under Director Larry Wetering.

I committed to complete the rebuilding of our major arterials with the reconstruction of S. Lake St., S. Commercial St., and the Green Bay Rd. corridor. We delayed the reconstruction of the latter to determine if it could best be accomplished with all roundabouts or traditional intersections.

I promised to continue to rebuild neighborhood streets and we completed 17 residential street projects.

I projected that 2008 held the prospect for even greater development efforts. Led by the demolition of the Glatfelter mill and the plans for Plexus to build a national headquarters on that site, Neenah once again saw significant growth in new housing as well as industrial and commercial expansion.

Promises and performance must go hand in hand with a teamed approach to build a Neenah where our best days are ahead of us.

Best wishes,

*An acre of performance
is worth a world of promise.*

William Howells

Refuse & Recycling Guide Inside

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 Proce	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.

35

Percentage of your property tax that funds city services.

Sewer & storm water rate increases

The City Council has approved a rate increase for the Sanitary Sewer Utility. The typical home, which previously paid \$6.50/month, will now pay \$10.00/month. That rate is still the lowest in the Fox Valley and ranks as the 287th lowest rate of 312 state sanitary utilities.

The last sanitary sewer rate change, a decrease, was in 1991. Since that time, the Sanitary Sewer Utility has been spending down a surplus in the emergency fund that had accumulated in the late 1980s. The surplus has been reduced each year since 1991, and has now reached a point where it can no longer sustain the operational and capital requirements of the Sanitary Sewer Utility.

Operational costs have increased since 1991 due to inflation and City growth. But that is only a part of the need. During heavy storms, the clear water from sump pumps, leaking pipe joints, and manholes flowing into the

sanitary sewer system can be so great that the system must be by-passed to storm sewers to prevent basement flooding. By-passing is illegal and the City has been ordered to eliminate it.

The Storm Water Utility was established in 2003. The storm water rate has not changed since that time. In addition to five years of inflation and growth, state mandates for storm water quality must be met by 2013. This will require large capital expenditures for storm water facilities. The City Council has budgeted for an increase in this rate. Subject to final Council action, the typical home, which currently pays \$56/year, would see a \$14 increase to \$70/year.

Both the sanitary sewer rates and the storm water rates will be reviewed again in 2010 to determine if operational and capital costs are being adequately met and the emergency fund balance is at an appropriate level.

Making water potable

The source for Neenah drinking water is Lake Winnebago. To clean up this source and make it suitable for drinking, many different chemicals are used at the new water treatment plant. They are:

- Lime - Used to soften the water by removing most of the naturally occurring calcium and some of the naturally occurring magnesium from the lake water.
- Carbon dioxide - After softening, the water is unstable and the filters and pipes can be plated with excess calcium. This chemical protects the filters and pipes.
- Sodium permanganate - Fed at the lake intake. Controls zebra mussel growth in the intake pipe. It also reacts with the lake water to remove other pollutants.
- Alum - Removes the soil and other particles.
- Powdered Activated Carbon - Used to remove taste, odor, and other

pollutants.

- Fluoride - Added for dental health.
- Chlorine bleach - Replaces chlorine gas as a disinfectant to kill bacteria and viruses.
- Ammonia - Combines with the chlorine to extend the usefulness of the chlorine and reduce the chlorine taste.
- Polymer - Helps particles settle out by increasing their size and weight.
- Phosphate blend - Used to prevent lead and copper from leaching into the water from home plumbing.

Each of these chemicals is used in varying amounts; it depends on the water quality in Lake Winnebago and on the amount of water being used on a specific day. Our total yearly budget for all of the chemicals used is almost \$300,000. This amount continues to rise faster than inflation because production and delivery of most of these chemicals is heavily dependent on energy costs.

Visit the City's web site!

www.ci.neenah.wi.us

Free information!

www.neenahlibrary.org

Preparing for a flu pandemic

A flu pandemic is a global outbreak of influenza (a respiratory disease) which is caused by a virus that infects the nose, throat, and lungs. There are many types of flu viruses and they can change. If a flu virus changes significantly and rapidly, it could result in a new strain of flu. Nobody would be able to fight the new virus, so everybody would be at risk. If the virus spreads easily between people, a pandemic could occur.

During a flu pandemic the virus would spread quickly from person to person, affect many people in a short period of time, possibly spread around the world in months or days, and may cause serious illness or death. No one can predict when or where it could start, but a flu pandemic could affect thousands.

Federal, state and local governments are preparing for a possible flu pandemic by:

- Supporting research to produce new vaccines and medications.
- Establishing effective public health guidelines.
- Monitoring viruses around the world.
- Working to detect outbreaks and respond to them quickly.
- Helping state, local and tribal authorities develop pandemic flu response plans.
- Setting up systems for sharing emergency health information.

Practicing good hygiene is the most important thing you can do to help prevent the spread of pandemic flu. Other steps you could take are:

- Wash your hands regularly.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.
- Cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue (or your upper sleeve).
- Wash your hands after coughing or sneezing.
- Don't share personal items such as utensils, cups, straws, and toothbrushes.
- Practice food safety by thoroughly cooking meat, poultry, and eggs.
- Get a flu shot every year to help protect you from seasonal flu.
- Teach children to protect themselves by thorough hand washing and telling them to never play with or touch sick or dead animals.
- STAY HOME from work, school, and social activities if you or your child are ill. Seek advice from your primary care provider as to further follow up.
- Have a Family Emergency Plan that includes emergency phone numbers and places to meet in case of an emergency.
- Store emergency supplies such as food, water, medications, and pet supplies in case you will need to "shelter in place" for a period of time. (A three week supply is recommended.)
- Check the news regularly as public health authorities will provide information and instructions should there be a flu pandemic.
- Learn more about a possible flu pandemic at www.pandemicflu.gov or by calling the Neenah Department of Public Health at 886-6155.

Property tax collection dates & hours

Payments can always be made at the Treasurer's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Friday (except holidays).

First installment or in full payments can be made through Feb. 2, 2009 only at the Associated Banks, Wells Fargo Bank, M & I Bank, First National Bank Fox Valley, and Bank Mutual (Neenah locations only).

Due date for first installment and for in full payments:

Monday, February 2, 2009

Due date for second installment:

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Due date for third installment:

Monday, June 1, 2009

Due date for the fourth installment:

Friday, July 31, 2009

For more information, call 886-6143.

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Unshoveled walks** are shoveled by the City and billed to the property owner?
- Krueger's True Value and Brazee Ace Hardware stores will accept your used **compact fluorescent bulbs**?
- Larger fluorescent bulbs can still go out with the garbage?
- **Garbage** should go out on the curb no earlier than the **late afternoon** of the day prior to your pick up?
- Even with an increase in sanitary **sewer rates** we will still rank 287th lowest out of 312 Wisconsin communities?
- **Visible reflective clothing** is critical when walking or jogging in the dark?
- You can properly dispose of **tattered American flags** at a drop-off box at City Hall?
- **Dogs in parks** must be on a leash?
- **Dog and cat licenses** for the 2009 calendar year are due by March 31 and may be purchased at the City Hall Treasurer's Office. A valid rabies vaccination certificate is required each year in order to license your pet. Neutered/Spayed cat or dog - \$6.00; Unneutered/Unspayed cat or dog - \$11.00.

2009 tax bill

Remembering that just 35% of the property taxes that you pay go to the City for municipal services, the tax bill you received represented a 3.06% increase in the assessed tax rate for City services, raising the rate per thousand from \$8.13 to \$8.39. This was accomplished without decreasing the services you have come to expect.

The capital budget was reduced on the Mayor's recommendation by \$2.1 million and reduced another \$1.9 million by Council action, recognizing that we need to stabilize our outstanding debt and establish clear-cut priorities and timetables for all projects no matter how worthwhile they may be.

Total taxes, for all taxing jurisdictions, on the average assessed home of \$135,000 increased \$20.33 for 2009.

PARKS & RECREATION

Leisure Connections

Leisure Connections, the *January to May Activities Guide* has been distributed through Neenah schools. The *Guide* includes youth and adult activities as well as parks and facilities information. Additional copies are available at www.neenahgov.org, the City Hall Parks & Recreation office, or at the Neenah Public Library. Activity registrations and building rentals accepted online.

Volleyball!

Get your friends, family, co-workers, or neighbors together for fun in the sun! **Adult Summer Co-ed Sand Volleyball leagues** for 16-year-olds and up will play on the Neenah Pool outdoor courts on Thursday evenings. **Tentative** starting date is Jun. 11 for the 10-week session. Registrations packets available at the City Hall Parks & Recreation office or at www.neenahgov.org on Feb. 2. Team entry **deadline** is May 15. Limited spaces available.

Softball!

Exciting adult softball action Mon., Wed., and Thu. evenings May through mid-Aug. Leagues play 12 games at Memorial or Washington parks. **Tentative** starting date is the week of Apr. 27. Registration packets will be mailed to 2008 team managers and will be available at the City Hall Parks & Recreation office or at www.neenahgov.org on Jan. 5. Team entry **deadline** is Mar. 20. Limited spaces available.

- Men's (A & B) - Mon. & Thu.
- Co-ed (A & B) - Wed.
- Men's over 35 - Thu.

20

Percentage of Parks & Recreation registrations completed online.

Mayor Scherck responds

Q What are the priorities you see for Neenah in 2009?

A First, we need to stabilize our outstanding debt by reducing the amount borrowed for major projects, which will mean that worthwhile projects will have to be prioritized and sometimes delayed. As the next President of the League of Municipalities, I will work with other mayors to reduce our reliance on the property tax, make the tax system fair to residential property taxpayers, and limit unfunded mandates that fall on the back of our citizens.

From my personal perspective as Mayor, the vision we seek for the future must include the following:

- Government that prioritizes citizen involvement and participation. We need to continue to look for new ways to involve citizens but to provide improved avenues for government to listen to citizens, to align citizen priorities with the services government provides.
- Collaborate and cooperate with other cities, the county and school district.
- Promote improved neighborhoods by an enhanced educational and en-

forcement effort to improve poorly maintained property and enforce local ordinances that impact the aesthetics of a neighborhood.

- Develop and support convenient and accessible traffic and pedestrian routes that fit with our sustainability commitment.
- Continue our strong emphasis on developing opportunities and facilities for young people building off of the City's designation as a Playful City and the Fox Cities designation as one of the 100 best places for young people to grow up.
- Maintain a strong emphasis on financial health and economic development and redevelopment, expand the tax base, provide new jobs, maintain existing jobs, and provide additional opportunities for Neenah citizens.

As every community faces increasing challenges today, we all need to remain focused on tomorrow and what future generations will inherit from our generation.

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

Overpass bumps

The Mayor and Rep. Dean Kaufert met with all parties involved in the construction of the Cecil St. overpass for a detailed analysis of why there are bumps on either side of the bridge deck.

The simple answer is that the bridge itself is built on pilings driven 80 feet to bedrock, so it does not move. The approaches were built on the poor soils of the area and the weight of additional fill led to an expected 2-5 inch drop.

The alternatives to avoid this were all cost prohibitive and would have been borne by Neenah taxpayers.

Until the settling stops, City crews will continue to add blacktop fill to make the bumps as manageable as possible.

When the settling stops, the asphalt will be removed and permanent concrete approaches will be installed. Thank you for your patience.

Clocktower contributors

If you donated to this project and did not receive a card asking how you want your name to appear on the donor appreciation plaque, please call Mayor George Scherck at 886-6104 or email your inscription to dducklow@ci.neenah.wi.us.

Thanks for your generous support of this great community project!

3443

Number of citations issued by the Neenah Police Dept. Jan. - Oct., 2008.

Rotary continues tradition of service



Neenah Rotary helps build another playground. Rotary members have become experienced playground builders after completing projects at Washington, Green, Great Northern, Riverside, and now Memorial parks.

Lifesaving AEDs available downtown

Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) are now available at the Neenah Public Library and Shattuck Park. Future Neenah and Gold Cross organized the effort to place several AED units in public access locations throughout the downtown. (Anna Jankus organized the library effort.)

These portable easy to use devices can diagnose a life threatening abnormal heart rhythm, and if necessary deliver a shock to restore a normal heart beat. Through generous donations, these units were provided at **no cost** to businesses strategically located

throughout the downtown that were willing to become AED Aid Stations. These are user friendly models but approximately twenty central city business employees also attended a CPR & AED training session.



AEDs are also located at the Holiday Inn Neenah Riverwalk, Marketplace, and Future Neenah. All of these units are accessible and are available to the public in the event of an emergency.

Signage with the universal red 'broken' heart logo can be seen on these buildings indicating that an AED is available inside.

Chief to retire

After nearly 30 years in law enforcement, Police Chief Ray Appel announced his plans to retire effective June 4, 2009.

Chief Appel informed Mayor George Scherck and the Neenah Police Commission of his decision October 1. The Police Commission has started to develop a plan to hire Appel's successor that will include a national search.

NO PARKING

On City streets between 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. to allow for efficient plowing during snow events.

PARKS & RECREATION

Neenah Community Band

Spring Concert, Mar. 15, 2:30 p.m. Neenah High School Pickard Auditorium, 1275 Tullar Rd., Neenah.

FREE admission. Donations accepted to help fund student scholarships.

Summer Part-Time Job Openings

Applications are available at the City Hall Parks & Recreation Department Office (211 Walnut St.), Neenah High School Student Services Office, St. Mary's High School, or at www.neenahgov.org.

Deadline for accepting applications is Fri., Feb. 6.

Jobs are open to **15-year-olds and older**. The minimum age requirement varies with the position. Check the job descriptions.

Recreation Instructors: Archery, Baseball, Tot Lot, Crafts, Playgrounds, Drama, Nature Quest, Tumbling, Operation Rec., Tennis, Golf, Soccer, Tot Sports.

Swimming Pool Jobs: Lifeguards, Lesson Instructors, Concessionaires, Admission Controllers.

Other: Softball Scorers, Umpires, Volleyball Officials, Park & Cemetery Maintenance Workers.

Competitive Wages & Excellent Working Conditions. Call 886-6060 for more information.

Ice Skating Rinks

Supervised ice rinks with warming shelters are located in Green (337 Columbian Ave.), Washington (631 Winneconne Ave.), and Memorial (enter park off Apple Blossom Dr.) parks—shelters are open limited hours. Doty Park has unsupervised ice skating and no warming shelter.

All rinks and warming shelters open only as weather permits.

For more information and shelter schedules, call 886-6060, stop by the Parks & Rec office at City Hall, or visit www.neenahgov.org.

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 open to anyone who has read the book. Light refreshments are provided. 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.

Jan. 26 — *Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama
Feb. 23 — *Driving Sideways* by Jess Riley
Mar. 23 — *Population 485* by Michael Perry

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.

Jan. 19 — *1984* by George Orwell
Feb. 16 — *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson
Mar. 16 — *Population 485* by Michael Perry

Adult Afternoon Programs

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

Jan. 5 — **Digital TV Transition Informational Presentation** with representatives from Wisconsin Public Television
Feb. 2 — **Astronomy of Wisconsin: 120 Years and Still on the Frontier** with Dr. James Lattis, Director, UW-Madison Space Place
Mar. 2 — **Barns of Wisconsin** with author Jerry Aps

Movies

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

Jan. 13 — 6:00 p.m. — *Dark Knight with Heath Ledger* (PG-13)
Jan. 27 — 6:30 p.m. — *Incredible Hulk* (PG-13)
Feb. 10 — 6:30 p.m. — *Mamma Mia* (PG-13)
Feb. 24 — 6:30 p.m. — *Journey to the Center of the Earth* (PG)
Mar. 10 — 6:30 p.m. — *Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa* (PG)
Mar. 24 — 6:30 p.m. — *Secret Life of Bees* (PG-13)

Sunday Concerts

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

Feb. 22 — **John Pfeiffer Quartet, Swing Band**
Apr. 26 — **Madison Marimba Quartet**

First Friday Concerts

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

Feb. 6 — **Jeff Pockat, Celtic Harpist**
Mar. 6 — **John Pfeiffer Duo, Jazz standards**
Apr. 3 — **Vocalists Sigourney Tanner, mezzo soprano, and James Anthony, baritone**
May 1 — **Vocalist Christopher Besch, bass-baritone**

Fox Cities Book Festival

Celebrate the pure joy of reading by attending the second annual Fox Cities Book Festival Apr. 14-19. For general information go to www.focol.org/bookfest/index.asp; for information on our library's events call 886-6315 or visit www.neenahlibrary.org.

Safety First!

The Health Dept.'s Maternal and Child Health (MCH) grant focuses on the importance of injury prevention. One way we implement this grant is by actively promoting the use of car seats. Child safety seats decrease the risk of death in passenger cars by 71% for infants and by 54% for children ages 1-4 years. For children 4-7 years, booster seats reduce the risk of injury by 59% compared to seat belts alone.

In 2008, the Health Dept. positioned 26 children properly in their car seats with infant seats also being fitted for expectant parents. We provide this service by partnering with Safe Kids Fox Valley at bi-monthly fitting stations and community events throughout the Fox Valley. Please join us in our efforts to help you make your child safer while riding in a passenger car. Interested parents may call 231-6578, Affinity Nurse Direct, to set up an appointment for their child at a car seat fitting station in the Fox Valley.

Biking anyone? If you like to ride, please always wear a helmet! According to the Centers for Disease Control, only about one in four children ages 4-15 years wears a bicycle helmet when riding, and teen use is almost zero. Wearing a bike helmet reduces the risk of brain injury in a fall by 88% and reduces the risk of facial injury by 65%. In 2008, MCH grant funding allowed us to provide some of Neenah's lower income children with a total of 114 bicycle helmets. Each child fitted with a helmet also received biking safety information. The Parks & Recreation Dept. and Police Dept. partnered with the Health Dept. to provide fun biking events that included a bike riding safety course and bike licensing.

Please call the Neenah Department of Public Health at 886-6155 if you have any further questions.

44

Percentage of the total City operating budget spent on public safety (Police & Fire).

Community Spotlight

This issue's spotlight focuses on the **NHS students** who produced the brilliant movie *The Edge of Reality* that focused our attention on the critical issue of drinking and driving. Their willingness to step up and be counted tells a great deal about their character and their commitment to attempt to influence others to make good decisions.

Too often young people are overly concerned about their reputation, what others think about them. That leads to peer pressure and often times to poor decisions. But reputation is like the leaves on a tree, subject to change

with the seasons. Character is like the roots and trunk of the tree, always there to serve as the basis for growth and development.

The Mayor joins with their parents, teachers and Neenah citizens in expressing our pride in the efforts of **Ben Birtch, Eric Busse, Julie Kehler, Laura E. Moran, Laura R. Moran, John Schwerbel, MaryBeth Spoehr** and **Lucy Woerfel**.

Thank you!
NHS students

Our future is in good hands with student leaders like these.

[More information: <http://web.mac.com/vbayer1/Reality/Welcome.html>]

Heating safety

It's a cold winter night. You decide to use a space heater, or perhaps light a fire in the fireplace, to save on the heating bill. Comfortable from its warmth as bedtime approaches you think, "What harm could it cause to leave it on overnight?"

Think again. While these heating devices may help you feel cozy and warm, they can become extremely dangerous if not used properly. Home heating fires are largely preventable when you know the rules. Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue's goal is to reduce the number of home-heating fires in our community. But we need your help to do this. We urge you to use extra caution this winter when heating your home. The majority of fire deaths are caused by space heaters or by creosote build-up in the chimney. To help keep you and your family safe this winter, Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue recommends that you follow these simple guidelines:

- Keep all things that can burn at least 3 feet away from space heaters such as paper, bedding, furniture, etc. Space heaters need space!
- Turn portable heaters off when you

go to bed or leave the room.

- Plug power cords only into outlets with sufficient capacity and never into an extension cord. Inspect for cracked, frayed, or broken plugs or loose connections. If it is damaged, replace it before using it.
- Have your chimney inspected and cleaned, if necessary, by a professional.
- Allow ashes to cool before disposing. Dispose of ashes in a metal container.
- Never use an oven to heat your home.
- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home. Test your smoke alarms once a month.
- Install and maintain a carbon monoxide alarm in a central location outside each sleeping area.



With these simple precautions, help us meet our goal of decreasing home-heating fires this winter. If you have any questions, please call Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue at 886-6200.

2495

Number of children that our Fire Dept. team delivered their fire safety message to during October 2008.

LIBRARY

Girlfriends Read

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+

Jan. 18 — *Ida B...and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World* by Katherine Hannigan

Feb. 15 — *The Moffats* by Eleanor Estes

Mar. 22 — *A Crooked Kind of Perfect* by Linda Urban

Storytimes!

Winter storytimes run Jan. 5 - May 22. No registration is required. More information: 886-6335.

Baby Time — 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 Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30; Feb 13, 20, 27; Mar. 13, 20, 27; Apr. 10, 24; May 8, 15, 22.

Guys Read

Guys Read 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. Info: youthdesk@neenahlibrary.org; 886-6335. Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

Jan. 11 — *Danny the Champion of the World* by Roald Dahl

Feb. 8 — *Dragon Rider* by Cornelia Funke

2009 Construction

Street Construction

Sidewalk

- Alexander Dr. - north side (Bruce to Commercial)
- Bruce St. - west side (Parkwood to Castle Oak)

Sanitary sewer, water main, overlay

- Caroline St. (Railroad tracks to Church)

Curb, gutter, bituminous pavement

- Cavalry Ln. (Marathon to west end).
- Fort Dr. (Marathon to east end).
- Grassy Ln. (Olde School to Fort)
- Hewitt St. (First to Commercial)
- Marathon Av. (Fort to CTH G)

Overlay

- Mark Ct.
- Nicolet Blvd. (First to Kittiver)

Water main, overlay

- Whitlow/Mayer (Harrison to Main)

Undesignated

- Liberty Heights Subdivision

Oil and chip

- Undetermined—will review streets after winter.

8

Reductions in full-time equivalent City employees since 1999.

Police recognized for rescue

Four Neenah Police officers were recently recognized for helping rescue two people with limited mobility from a burning apartment complex.

Lt. Shaun O’Bre, and Officers Stu Zuehls, Jeremy Bauman, and Jim Plymire received lifesaving awards for actions taken on Friday, Nov. 21, 2008. Mayor George Scherck commented, “The quick response and teamwork of these officers exemplifies the professionalism of the Neenah Police Department.”

Neenah Police and Fire Departments were called to a four-apartment complex on Clairmont Court in Neenah just before 8:30 a.m. Officer Zuehls was the first to arrive and determined there were people in the upstairs apartments. After assessing the conditions he made the decision to enter the complex and located one resident. Smoke detectors started to sound as he entered the building. He carried the resident, who uses a walker, down the stairs to safety. Meanwhile Lt. O’Bre and Officer Bauman located the woman from the other apartment who needed assistance to flee the fire. Officer Jim Plymire arrived and entered the com-

plex to assist with the rescue effort of the second woman. Gold Cross Ambulance was summoned to assess the conditions of the second woman.

“This was a team effort by the entire shift,” said Police Chief Ray Appel. According to Appel, officers often have to make split second decisions to assure the actions they are taking can improve the situation. In this case they quickly but carefully assessed the danger then acted decisively. “Clearly the two women could not have made it down the stairs quickly without the assistance of these officers,” continued Appel. “Our officers’ selflessness and courage may have saved the lives of these residents.”



O’Bre



Zuehls



Bauman



Plymire

Behind the Scenes

This issue commends all those people who made our election run smoothly. The professionalism and organization of City Clerk **Patty Sturn**, her deputy **Angie Voldness**, HR Administrative Assistant. **Marcia Anderson** and the Mayor’s Secretary **Diane Ducklow** all went

way above and beyond, carrying out their normal day to day responsibilities while meeting the challenge of handling 4500 early voters.

A special thank you goes out to our **dedicated poll workers** who put in a long day and do it with a smile. We couldn’t do it without you.

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