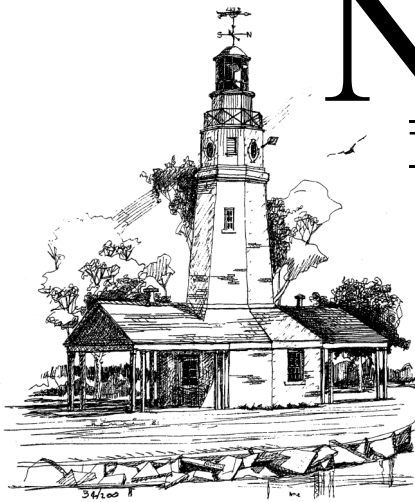


Neenah Notes

The City of Neenah Newsletter

VOL. 11 No. 4

Fall 2010



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City of Neenah Town Meeting

Tue., Oct. 19
7:00 p.m.

City Hall
Council Chambers

- State of the City
- 2011 budget preview
- Question City officials
- Express your concerns

Get involved!

Message from Mayor George Scherck

It's hard to believe that summer is over, but what a great summer it was in the City of Neenah. First, Plexus moved its 375 employees into its new global headquarters downtown. StreetBall brought thousands of people to the downtown and Street-Feast was enjoyed by all. Wisconsin Avenue was completed three weeks ahead of schedule and added to the ambiance of our historic downtown. Thanks to Future Neenah and area businesses, the Wednesday night concerts and Thursday Out-to-Lunch concerts drew record crowds to our beautiful Shattuck Park. Many returned on Saturdays to enjoy the Farmers' Market.

CommunityFest helped us celebrate the reasons we like it here and to give thanks for the freedoms we all enjoy. This great family event is a true partnership between local government and our private sector partners and volunteers.

On August 14 at the Farmer's Market, Ty Pennington, star of Extreme Home Makeover, surprised the Rhex Arboleda family by announcing they had been selected for the makeover and for the next 6 days we all watched in amazement as a new home was built on Elm Street. As a special conclusion to this nationally televised event, we enjoyed a special Christian Concert at Riverside Park.

And thanks to Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue Local 275, Theda Clark Medical Center, TDS Metrocom, and Krueger's True Value Hardware, the Mayor's Charity Golf outing was once again a great success at the Bridgewood Golf Course.

We continue to prove that government doesn't have to do everything for everyone when we have a vibrant



*Without a sense of caring,
there can be no sense of community*

Anthony J. D'Angelo

community spirit and many step up to provide activities for the community by the community.

The Fox Cities Marathon reminded us that we really are one big community and that the Fox Cities is a really special place to live. Summer is gone, but the opportunity to come together as a community, continues on. I hope you and your family enjoyed the summer in Neenah and that the fall of 2010 will bring a renewal of economic prosperity and a return of our brave young men and women who defend freedom around the world.

Best wishes,

Register & Vote!

City of Neenah residents may pre-register to vote for the Gubernatorial Election to be held on November 2, 2010 in the Office of the City Clerk, 211 Walnut St., during office hours on Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday from

7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Cutoff for voter registration is October 13. 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.



Contact us!

Mayor	
George Scherck	886-6104
City Attorney	
Jim Godlewski	886-6106
City Clerk	
Patty Sturn	886-6100
Community Development & Assessment Director	
Chris Haese	886-6125
Finance Director	
Mike Easker	886-6140
Fire Chief	
Al Auxier	886-6200
Health Department Director	
Paul Spiegel	886-6155
Human Resources Deputy Director	
Heather Barber	886-6102
Information Systems Director	
Joe Wenninger	886-6170
Library Director	
Steve Procos	886-6300
Parks & Recreation Director	
Eileen McCoy	886-6060
Police Chief	
Kevin Wilkinson	886-6000
Public Works & Utilities Director	
Larry Wattering	886-6180

Aldermanic District 1	
Jim Hemes	450-2135
Nick Piergrossi	751-0842
Shiloh Ramos	725-3323
Aldermanic District 2	
John Ahles	727-1306
Marge Bates	729-5556
Judy Zaretzke	722-1291
Aldermanic District 3	
Tim Hamblin	722-4593
Lee Hillstrom	722-0774
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.

Sanitary sewer backups

Neenah storm and sanitary sewers are designed to recognized engineering standards. However, heavy rains this past summer have caused high Slough, River and Lake levels, and saturated soil, which leads to flooded storm sewers. When this happens, clear water can find its way into the sanitary sewer, and in extreme cases cause a sewerage back up into basements.

The City has made many improvements to the sewer systems in recent years. During heavy storms, City staff work diligently to avoid basement backups by pumping sewerage from the sanitary system in affected areas. However, extreme weather conditions

can still cause problems.

Homeowners can install a drain line check valve to prevent back-ups. For an existing house, the estimated cost is \$1,000. Most of the expense is for labor to remove a section of the basement floor, uncover the drain, install the check valve, and then repair the basement floor.

The check valve is not foolproof, and there are some circumstances where it may fail to prevent a backup. Still, it will eliminate many of the problems.

A plumbing permit is required for the installation, even if the homeowner does the work. For more details, contact your plumber.

Winneconne Ave. reconstruction

Neenah is "Goin' 'Round!" as work continues on the City's first multi-lane roundabouts. Vinton Construction started work on the Winneconne Avenue roundabouts this spring and is scheduled to complete them in November.

When the project is finished, there will be roundabouts at the intersections of Winneconne Ave./Green Bay Rd. and at Winneconne Ave./ Lake St.

Work on the south side of the road was completed in mid-August. Work on the majority of the north side was

completed at the end of September. The contractor is currently finishing the paving on the north side of Winneconne Ave. and on the west side of Green Bay Rd. and placing sidewalk. When that is complete, the temporary traffic signals will be removed and traffic will drive the roundabouts while the splitter islands and central islands are constructed.

For up-to-date project information or for information about driving roundabouts, visit the City's website at www.ci.neenah.wi.us.

Spend \$10 — save your family

Each year we spend hundreds of dollars on insurance for our day-to-day items: auto, home, motorcycle, boat, camper, etc., and still too many homes are not properly equipped with the insurance that will save our life, a smoke detector. Do we need insurance on our personal items? Of course. But we can replace the material items—not a life.

Every year there are 3,000 house fire-related deaths in the United States. Of those deaths, more deaths are caused by smoke inhalation than by the flames of the fire itself. Most, if not all of these deaths, could be prevented if every household had a properly working smoke detector.

According to Wisconsin State law, every residential and commercial building must be protected by a work-

ing smoke detector on each floor level of each unit including the basement and finished attic.

A smoke detector can be purchased at many different stores. They range in price starting under \$10 and are easy to use. Some smoke detectors are wired directly into your homes electrical system and also have a battery as a backup, and some detectors are powered solely by battery.

With either type of smoke detector, they are not magic.

They need to have some maintenance to ensure their effectiveness. The battery needs to be changed yearly, and the unit needs to be tested monthly. Such a simple device can be the difference between life and death for your loved ones.

Any questions? Call Neenah-Menasha Fire Rescue at 886-6200.



2011 budget public hearing

Mayor Scherck will present his executive budget to the City Council on October 22 and after a series of workshops there will be a public hearing on November 16, 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall. This is your opportunity to ask questions and provide your input on both the capital expenditure budget as well as the City's operating budget. Remember, a democracy is not run by the majority, it is run by a majority that show up. Please show up on November 16th!

Visit Legacy Park

If you haven't stopped to visit our newest park, stop north along Church Street just east of the Plexus Building by the old Bergstrom Paper Company smoke stack and view this incredible tribute to the paper-making industry. Financed and constructed completely by the private sector, this small pocket park helps us remember our roots as a community and to remind all of us of how important the paper industry has been to our growth and development.

WELCOME PLEXUS!

Neenah is pleased to welcome the Plexus Global Headquarters and its 375 employees to our downtown. Joining Bemis Corporation and Alta Resources, we now have 3 national headquarters within a two-block area of the downtown. Within a 1-mile radius of the downtown, 12,000 employees are hard at work creating a vibrant and growing business community.

Police Dept. news & notes

The Neenah Police Benevolent Association has volunteered to participate in Winnebago County's *Adopt-a-Highway Litter Control Program* by adopting the section of Cty Hwy G, from Dixie Rd. east to Cty Hwy A, the south boundary of the City. Officers and employees of the department have volunteered to pick up litter along that stretch of highway, in an effort to keep our community as beautiful as it is safe.

The Police Department wanted to do something special for the **Arboleda family**, so we arranged to partner with Heid Music to supply the family with a top-of-the-line **Yamaha electronic keyboard**. Harry Long Trucking provided a substantial boost to donations. Original plans were for a baby grand, but the designers said there wouldn't be room for it in the house! While the piano donation is not likely to make the final television version of the show, we are all excited to watch the program, which is scheduled to show sometime in October.

Trick-or-Treat — Our community's costumed ghouls and goblins will be enjoying their tricks and treats from 4-7 p.m. on Sun. Oct. 31. The department reminds parents to observe these simple Halloween safety rules:

- Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.
- **Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats unless you know the cook well.**
- Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.

For more tips visit:
www.cdc.gov/family/halloween/

School is in session—obey speed limits and crossing guards! Protect our most valuable resource...

DID YOU KNOW?

- Winter rules require you to **keep sidewalks 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?
- You should rake **leaves to the terrace** not into the street? And...the same goes for branches and tree debris?
- Before putting leaves and yard waste out on the terrace you should check the **Recycling Guide?**
- Beginning Nov. 1, **you may not park** any vehicle on any City street (including the terrace) **between 2 a.m. and 5 a.m.?**
- As the number of bikes and mopeds increases, we all have to look twice to **share the road** with these vehicles?
- **Dogs & cats** are allowed in City parks but must be **on a leash and on the sidewalk or trail?**
- That **maintaining your property**, keeping junk off the curb until your pick up date, and keeping sidewalks clear of snow (or grass trimmed) **makes you a good neighbor?**
- **The last furlough day for Street & Sanitation workers will be Oct. 4, which means that if your normal garbage pickup day is on Monday, it will be on Tuesday, Oct. 5?**
- Our Neenah-Menasha **Firefighters' Fill the Boot** campaign netted **\$7,100 for MDA?**
- Our **Firefighters**, led by Brad Auxier, organized the Mayor's **Charity Golf Outing** again this year?
- You don't need an appointment to stop in at City Hall to **visit with the Mayor?**

634

Free hot dogs served at the Aug. 21 carnival at the police station.

92

Golfers at the Mayor's Charity Golf Outing.

PARKS & RECREATION

Leisure Connections

The *Fall Leisure Connections Guide* was distributed through Neenah elementary schools. It includes youth and adult activities as well as parks and facilities information. Additional copies are available at the City Hall Parks & Recreation office, the Neenah Library, and at www.ci.neenah.wi.us. Registration for most programs is accepted online; for facility reservations, call (886-6060) or visit our office.

Co-ed Volleyball League

Matches will be played at Shattuck Middle School, beginning in late October. Registration information at www.ci.neenah.wi.us. Registration deadline: Fri., Oct. 8. (Ages 16+)

Adult Basketball

Open Gym (must be out of high school) adult basketball Monday and Wednesday evenings beginning Oct. 4 through April. Held at Shattuck Middle School, North Gym from 7-9 p.m. Cost is \$2 per night; pay at the door. This is a supervised event and is not a practice site for organized teams. Details, including the complete schedule, are at www.ci.neenah.wi.us.

Adult Badminton

Adult doubles badminton league. Matches will be played at Shattuck Middle School beginning in January. You must bring your own racquet. Registration deadline: Fri., Dec. 17. Registration information at www.ci.neenah.wi.us. (Ages 16+)

\$695

Raised for the Neenah Animal Welfare Shelter from the Droll in the Pool event sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Department.

Mayor Scherck responds

Q Are Neenah's water rates going to increase again?

A The Neenah Water Commission has authorized a request for a water rate increase of 32 percent to be sent to the Public Service Commission (PSC). The increase is needed because declining revenues and increasing expenses have caused a failure to meet the required coverage ratio for Utility revenue bonds. If not corrected, the Utility bond rating will be lowered and future borrowing will be more expensive.

The Utility has tried to control costs through reorganization, mandatory furloughs, wage freezes, borrowing reduction, process adjustments, construction coordination with other utilities, health insurance cost-sharing, staff reduction, and vehicle life extension.

Still, expenses have increased 45 percent since the last rate increase in January of 2006. This is due to large increases in chemicals, energy, health insurance, treatment requirements, and payment in lieu of taxes to the City.

The PSC will review the request for an increase and have a public hearing in the fall. No date has been set.

If approved, the new rates are expected to go into effect January of 2011. However, the Neenah rates will still be lower than those in the Cities of Appleton, Menasha, and Fond du Lac and other area communities are expected to seek rate increases in the near future.

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

Recycle/Reduce yard waste

State recycling law prohibits sending yard waste to landfills to be buried, so it is important for all of us to know how we can reduce the amount of yard waste.

While the City still collects it or accepts it at the City garage, it is helpful if we consider composting leaves, grass and plant clippings. Chopping up leaves with your lawn mower is also good for your lawn and reduces

the volume that goes on the curb for pick up.

Remember you cannot burn leaves in the City but it is not an environmentally sound way to dispose of leaves anyway, can cause health problems, create safety hazards and cause a nuisance to your neighbors. This is equally true of burning trash in a fire pit, which is illegal in the City even if you have the required permit.

Lifeguard winners

From left to right:

First row: Hilary Shandonay, Ally Crum, Ariel Long, Brooke Muggenthaler

Second row: Emily Schell, Daryl Grable, Abby Brooks, Morgen Long, Kayla Johnson, Monica Laurent

Third row: Lara Westfall, Molly Pokel, Sarah Fahrenkrug, Sarah Hesser, Spencer Shandonay, Aaron Sears, Brad Harris, Brittany Jochman



The North East Wisconsin Parks & Recreation Organization lifeguard competition was held July 17 at Mead Pool in Appleton. Fourteen teams competed. Neenah had three teams in the competition placing 1st, 4th and 13th.

Community Spotlight

This issue's Community Spotlight shines on **Judy Zaretzke**, a lifelong community activist with a real love for Neenah.

Judy, alderperson from the 2nd District, is the ultimate volunteer, willing to do whatever it takes to help the community.

"Judy steps up and is happy to serve on whatever City wide committee we need her for," said Mayor George Scherck.

She established the South Commercial Neighborhood Committee, organized a city wide clean up day, served on the Bletzinger Rehabilitation

House Board, the Future Neenah Board, and the CommunityFest Organizing Committee. Judy almost single handedly organized Operation Enduring Appreciation sending 2,000 packages to our troops, while at the same time spearheading the St. Margaret Mary's rummage sale the past seven years.

*Thank you!
Judy Zaretzke*

In recognition of this life of service, she was named Wisconsin Woman Entrepreneur of 1999 and received the Jack Casper Service Above Self Rotary Award in 2008. This community needs more people like Judy Zaretzke.

Recreation Activities

Register: at City Hall Parks & Rec Office, call 886-6060, or visit www.ci.neenah.wi.us

ACTIVITY	OPEN TO	DATE(S)
Adult Yoga, Pilates, and Zumba®	Adults 15 & up	On-going
Junior Scientists	Ages 3-5	Oct. 15 and 22
Build-A-Scarecrow	Families	Oct. 16
Basketball Open Gym	Adults	M & W Oct. 5-April '10
Start Smart Sports	Ages 3-5 with parent/guardian	Begins Oct. 4
Start Smart Basketball	Ages 3-5 with parent/guardian	Begins Nov. 1
Elk's Free throw Contest	Ages 6-13	Nov. 20
Build-A-Gingerbread House	Families	Dec. 4
Little Rockets Basketball	Girls grades 1-5	Feb. 10, 14, 16, 17
Santa Claus is Coming to Town	Age 3 thru 2nd Grade with parent/guardian	Dec. 6
Babysitting Training Course	Ages 11- 15	Dec. 28 and 29
Boredom Buster Bowling	Grades 2-8	Dec. 30
Pint Size Picassos	Ages 3-5	Nov. 5, 12
Punt Pass & Kick	Ages 5-12	Sept. 18
Op Rec. – Non-school Day Activities	Grades K-6	Oct. 28 & 29 Dec. 27-31
Friday Flicks	Grades 1-6	Oct. 15 & Nov. 12
Quickstart Tennis	Ages 5 - 10	Begins Oct. 18
Little Chef's Cook & Book	Ages 3 - 5	Oct. 1 & 8
Fall Into Preparedness	Grades 1-5	Oct. 23

Resources you can't find on Google
www.neenahlibrary.org

Navigating multi-lane roundabouts

The frustration of wasting time and gas at a red light is becoming a thing of the past at intersections throughout the United States, in Wisconsin, and even right here in Neenah. Multi-lane roundabouts have proven to be beneficial traffic control devices that provide free-flow turning movements, less vehicle back-ups, and provide a large factor of safety. The key to optimizing a multi-lane roundabout's benefits is to learn how to drive them correctly and safely.

When approaching a multi-lane roundabout it is important to remember that it is similar to a traffic signal in regard to **CHOOSING A LANE** before entering the roundabout.

The left lane can be used for making a U-turn, left turn, or a straight movement. The right lane can be used for making a right turn or a straight movement. Once the correct lane is chosen, **YIELD** to any vehicles that are inside the roundabout to your left, and to pedestrians. Enter the roundabout when an adequate gap allows and remember to **STAY IN YOUR LANE** while in the roundabout.

Changing lanes inside the roundabout is not allowed. Continue in your lane and use the right turn signal when you exit the roundabout.

With these basic steps for safely navigating a multi-lane roundabout, driving one should be a positive experience. If you have any further questions or for more information please visit the website at www.ci.neenah.wi.us or call the Department of Public Works & Utilities at 886-6240.

Part-time jobs

NEW PROCEDURE: Applicants must submit applications online at the City's website: www.ci.neenah.wi.us

Apply starting Dec. 1 for volleyball officials, gym supervisors, ice rink supervisors, and summer parks, pool, and sports/playgrounds positions

**Neenah Parks
& Recreation**

LIBRARY

School Year Hours

Monday - Thursday 9 - 9
Friday 9 - 6
Saturday 9 - 5
Sunday 1 - 5

MMBK

Monday Morning Book Klatch discusses a selected title one Monday a month at 10:00 a.m. in the Shattuck Community Room. Anyone who has read the book is encouraged to attend. Light refreshments provided. Pick up a copy of the selected title at the Adult Services Desk. Information: Nicole — hardina-wilhelm@neenahlibrary.org; 886-6315.

Oct. 25 — *The Lace Reader* by Brunonia Barry
Nov. 22 — *Laura Rider's Masterpiece* by Jane Hamilton
Dec. 20 — *Wishin' and Hopin'* by Wally Lamb

Readers Review

The Readers Review book discussion group meets the third Monday each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Carpenter Conference Room on the second floor of the library. Anyone who has read the book is invited to attend. Light refreshments will be provided. Check at the Adult Services Desk for availability of a copy of the book. Information: Cheryl — 886-6315; kraft@neenahlibrary.org.

Oct. 18 — *A Gate at the Stairs* by Lorrie Moore
Nov. 15 — *The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game* by Michael Lewis
Dec. 20 — *Hector and the Search for Happiness* by Francois Lelord

Monday Matinees

Movies at the library on the second Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. in the Shattuck Community Room. Popcorn and soda will be served. Title subject to change. Information: 886-6315. Free.

Nov. 8 — *Extraordinary Measures* (PG)
Dec. 13 — *Young Victoria* (PG)

Tuesday Night Movies

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

Oct. 5 — *Iron Man 2* (PG-13)
Oct. 19 — *How to Train Your Dragon* (PG)
Nov. 2 — *Karate Kid* (PG)
Nov. 16 — *Toy Story 3* (G)
Dec. 7 — *Disney's A Christmas Carol* (PG)
Dec. 21 — *Shrek Forever After* (PG)

Sunday Concerts

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

Oct. 24 — **Bob Levy and the Little Big Band**
Nov. 14 — **Phil Passen** and the **Musical of the Civil War** on hammered dulcimer
Dec. 19 — **John Harmon Trio**

Adult Afternoon Programs

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

Oct. 4 — **Get into the Loop** with Dr. Juliette Sterkens. Learn how to get more out of your hearing aid T-coil (the Shattuck Room has a loop).
Nov. 1 — **WWI Christmas Miracle** with author Rochelle Pennington. Book for sale/signing follows program.
Dec. 6 — **Wicked Fox Cities: The Dark Side of the Valley** with author Frank Anderson. Book for sale/signing follows program.

Shakespeare on Screen

Films moderated by Dr. Katherine Roberts. Third Thursdays in the Shattuck Community Room. Information: Gretchen — raab@neenahlibrary.org; 886-6315. Free soda/popcorn. Free.

Oct. 21 — *She's the Man* starring Amanda Bynes (a modern day Twelfth Night) 6:30 p.m. (PG-13)
Nov. 18 — *My Own Private Idaho* with River Phoenix and Keanu Reeves (based on Henry IV) 6:30 p.m. (R)
Dec. 16 — *Henry V* starring Kenneth Branagh, 6:00 p.m. (PG-13)
Jan. 20 — *Richard III* with Ian McKellan and Annette Bening (set in 1930s England) 6:30 p.m. (R)

Legal Assistance Clinics

The Winnebago County Clerk of Courts and local volunteer attorneys are offering free legal assistance to individuals who need help with simple legal questions, assistance with forms, or referrals to attorneys who offer reduced-cost and/or unbundled services.

Volunteer lawyers, paralegals, and pre-law students from UW-Oshkosh will be available to offer help in the following case types: family law, small claims, domestic abuse/harassment injunctions, probate/wills or guardianships, and property disputes.

Held in the Shattuck Community Room 4:00-6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. First come first served. Information: Cheryl — kraft@neenahlibrary.org; 886-6314.
Event dates: Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14.

First Friday Concerts

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

Oct. 1 — **Amore, L'amour, It's Love** — Vocal art song selections on the theme of love — Michelle Peterson, mezzo-soprano; Nell Buchman, piano
Nov. 5 — **Gaelic Harper Jeff Pockat**
Dec. 3 — **Ragtime piano with Neil Blaze**

725

Speeding tickets issued
by the NPD Jan. 1-Jul. 31

Breezewood interchange construction

If your travels regularly take you through the US 41/Breezewood Lane interchange, it is not too early to start thinking about how you'll get around when that is closed for construction.

The interchange is scheduled to close on March 28, 2011, and remain closed until October 8, 2011 while the Wisconsin Department of Transportation replaces the bridges over US 41 and the railroad tracks, and constructs roundabouts at the Breezewood Lane intersections with Gillingham Road, the southbound ramps, the northbound ramps, and Harrison Street.

During that work, north-south traffic will be accommodated at the Breezewood/Gillingham intersection. In addition, the City will place a temporary traffic signal at the intersection of Cecil Street and Marathon Avenue. For information on the project, visit www.us41wisconsin.gov.

132.76

Miles of City streets.

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, condensed books, or encyclopedias).

Thu., Oct. 14 — 5:30-8:30 p.m.
(\$4 admission—children under 11 free with paid adult)

Fri., Oct. 15 — 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 16 — 9:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 17 — 1:30-4:00 p.m.
Books by the Bagful—\$5

Mon., Oct. 18 — 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.
Remaining Items FREE

LIBRARY

Dog Tales

Reading to a therapy dog can provide children a wealth of benefits: their self-esteem increases, they can maintain focus for a longer period of time, they become confident with reading aloud, and they become more motivated to read. **Dog Tales** is a special reading opportunity designed for kids in first through fifth grades to read aloud to therapy dogs who listen patiently and without judgment for 15 minutes. Call 886-6335 for more information or to register a child (1st – 5th graders only). Event dates (pre-registration required): Oct. 16, Nov. 20, Dec. 18.

Give a kid a book

Donate a new, unwrapped book for a child (birth through age 12) in need. Drop your donated book at the Youth Dept. desk between Nov. 1 and Dec. 11. Books will be distributed via the Boys' & Girls' Brigade Christmas Giving program. Thank you! More information: 886-6335.

Food for Fines

The Neenah and Menasha public libraries will again be sponsoring a **Food for Fines** food drive Sat., Nov. 6—Sun., Nov. 14. Bring non-perishable food items to the checkout desk at either library. The food will be given to an area food pantry. (Please—do not bring food before Nov. 6!)

- \$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.

1294

City building permits issued in 2009.

Girlfriends Read

Enjoy and explore the joy of children's literature featuring books with strong girl characters by women authors in these unique book groups. 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 9-12, with or without an adult.

Oct. 10 — *Nuts!* by Kacy Cook

Nov. 14 — *Becoming Naomi Leon* by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Dec. 12 — *The Leanin' Dog* by K.A. Nuzum

Storytimes!

Fall—Winter storytimes have started and run through Dec. 10. No registration is required. More information: 886-6335.

Babytime — Wed. — 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- and younger 3-year-olds *with* a caregiver).

Our Time — Tue. at 10:00 a.m. and Wed. at 1:00 p.m. — (For children 3- to 5-years-old *without* a caregiver).

Story Fun Friday — Stories & crafts for children aged 3 to 6 only *without* a caregiver. Fridays at 1:00 p.m.

Brown Bag Lunch Book Club

Parents and teachers: pack a lunch and drop children ages 8-10 off at the library for an opportunity to discuss books, characters, writing, and stories. We'll provide beverages. The discussions will include a related activity.

Sessions are the second Saturday of each month from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Registration is required, but only on a monthly basis. Pick up the books at the Youth desk. Please call 886-6335 for more information or to register.

Event dates: Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11.



City of Neenah
211 Walnut Street
Neenah, WI 54956

Residential Customer Neenah WI 54956

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NEENAH WI

Rain barrels

Collection of water from rooftop runoff can provide an ample supply of free "soft water" containing no chlorine, lime, or calcium. Rainwater is ideal for a multitude of applications, including vegetable gardens, landscape plantings, indoor plants, automobile washing, and cleaning household windows. Rainwater diversion will also help decrease the burden on water treatment facilities and municipal drainage systems during storms.

Summary of the direct benefits of collecting rainwater:

- Reduces the amount of potable water used on lawns and gardens
- Saves municipal resources by reducing volume of water treated (chemicals, electricity, storage costs)
- Decreases the negative impact of storm water flowing to our rivers and lakes
- Lowers the percentage of roof top rainfall as a component of urban runoff
- Backup source of water during times of drought or between rain showers
- Naturally softened water is preferred for delicate houseplants, auto cleaning, and window washing
- Lowers household water bills
- Chlorine-free water helps maintain a healthy biotic community in the soil

Rain barrels should be properly maintained and covered (screening) to prevent nuisances and insect infestation.

For more information visit the Sustainable Neenah Website at:

<http://www.ci.neenah.wi.us>



Come to the Neenah Public Library building's 10th birthday party!

Saturday, Oct. 23 from 1-4 p.m.

Music • Behind-the-scenes tours • Birthday treats • And more...

The celebration is funded by private donations.

Convoy of Hope

On August 14, over 1,400 volunteers provided services and groceries to over 4,400 people from the Fox Valley. What an uplifting example of the generosity and spirit of people from our area as they pour out their hearts and give time to help those in need. As Mayor, it is an honor to serve in an area where people really care.

My good friends Clara, age 12, and Aaron, age 16, both spent 7 hours car-

rying groceries in Saturday's oppressive heat and returned home excited with the knowledge they had gained more from the experience than they had given. When people ask, "What's wrong with today's teenagers?" the obvious answer is, "Absolutely nothing." Thanks to all of the dedicated volunteers who made this day of hope possible.

~ Mayor George Scherck

Extreme Makeover: Neenah Edition

On August 14, Ty Pennington surprised the Rhex Arboleda family when he got off the bus at the Farmers' Market and announced they had been selected for a new home.

Demolition began immediately and six days later a beautiful new home had been built by volunteers from throughout northeast Wisconsin led by Lexington Homes.

This ABC show is viewed by millions of people around the world and lets people see why we like it here. Thanks to cooperative neighbors, City staff, and many volunteers, we had a truly memorable week in our community.

While the overall response was very positive, some concerns have been raised. It is fair to point out that the City incurred costs primarily for police security but costs will be offset by

a fourfold increase in property taxes on the new home.

The City agreed to close several streets and limit parking on Elm St., to expedite inspections, and to provide first responder and police services.

We also agreed to the use of Riverside Park for a fundraising concert that unfortunately was limited by severe weather, although those that attended had a great time. Our prayers go out to the four people injured during the storm.

A beautiful home for a deserving family, a major economic impact on the area with 797 confirmed hotel room bookings, increased tax revenues, a continuation of the volunteer and community spirit—not to mention the positive exposure of our community to the world—made Extreme Makeover: Home Edition a great event for Neenah.