

THE VILLAGER

Summer 2004

From the President

The committee of the whole recently interviewed seven candidates for the vacant trustee position. The committee was pleased with the overwhelming response received from residents that submitted letters of interest to fill the position. On behalf of the committee I would like to thank each individual for stepping forward, we appreciate your interest in the Village of North Fond du Lac. After careful deliberation and a thorough discussion the committee recommended appointing Chuck Hornung, to the vacant trustee position. Chuck Hornung was formally appointed to the position at the July 19th special board meeting. I strongly encourage any resident, especially those that participated in this process, to file nomination papers for the April 2005 election. Nomination papers will be available December 1, 2004 for circulating, you may contact the Clerk's office for further information.

I would like to note the hard work put forth by School Resource Officer Troy Damsteegt. It was his dedication and persistence that the North Fond du Lac police department has a new DARE vehicle. Officer Damsteegt received numerous donations from area businesses and held fundraisers to accomplish the goal of purchasing the vehicle and having it refurbished. Thank you Troy for your commitment to the Village of North Fond du Lac.

Please note that if you were reading this newsletter you would have received your utility bill for water and wastewater services. Each quarter nearly 400 delinquent utility bill notices are mailed. **This is a process that requires staff time, both administrative and utility staff, and non-payment affects the cash flow of the utilities.** If it is easier for you to make monthly payments, you may do so and your account will be credited.

The village recently accepted the resignation of Village Administrator, Karen Matze. Karen started with the village in February 1996. We wish Karen luck in her new role as Administrator for the Village of Suamico. The board has taken action to move forward with replacing the position. We hope to have a new administrator in place sometime in October. During the interim, staff and the board is being asked to rally together to get the necessary work completed. We ask for your patience during this period. I would like to thank all those involved with getting the Village through this transition.

Have a good and safe remainder of your summer.

Open Book and Board of Review

As you know, Bowmar Appraisers has been contracted to complete the revaluation of the entire Village. Most of the work has been completed, however there are approximately 300 homes that still need to be looked at by the appraisers. Bowmar Appraisers will start on Tuesday, July 27th to re-visit those homes that they were unable to get into on their initial visit. If they are still unable to get in the home they will be leaving a card, indicating that the homeowner needs to call the village offices at 929-3765 to schedule an appointment. After this process has been completed and all the figures entered in the software program, "Change of Value Notices" will be mailed to each homeowner in the village. **This notice will also indicate the date and time for Open Book and Board of Review.** If you have a question about your changed assessed value you may come to Open Book and speak with Bowmar Appraisers. If you are still dissatisfied with your assessed value your next step would be to address the Board of Review. Appointments to meet with the Board of Review are required in order for your case to be heard.

Again, please look at your Change of Value Notice for the dates and times for Open Book and Board of Review.



LIBRARY NEWS

The grand finale for all area library summer reading programs will be the special "Library Day at the Galloway House and Village", in Fond du Lac on Saturday, August 7th from 1-4 PM. There are over 25 historic buildings with lots of hands-on exhibits. Added attractions are Pat Day as Laura Ingalls Wilder (the Little House books), War of 1812 reinactors, performances by Randy Peterson, games, ice cream and more! Anyone who has participated in any of the library summer offerings, craft programs, story times, or reading programs will be given a free ticket as will their caregivers. A special thank you to Susan Wright, our interim children's librarian, who did such a fine job of organizing and presenting the summer program "Discover New Trails @ Your Library" this year. Thank you, also, to the area supporters who helped the library in one way or another. These include: Culvers, Pizza Hut, Hometown Buffet, Cookstove Cafe, the Wisconsin DNR, the Galloway House and the Friendship PTO. Some 155 children signed up and took part in either reading or being read to and received incentives each week plus a free paperback book upon completion of the full 6 weeks. Parents and caregivers who encourage and supervise the children in keeping up their reading skills over the summer are to be commended.

A new children's librarian will begin duties this September. No story times will be held during the month of August. Preschool story times will resume again on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10-10:30 in September. You are invited to bring your preschool-

ers to join in the stories, crafts and fun. Watch for announcements for upcoming programs for elementary age girls and boys which are usually held on school "free days" or sometimes on a Saturday.

Have you changed your address or e-mail recently or now have a cell phone # to call? Remember to inform the library so your records are current. Also, because the Fond du Lac Library joined the shared computer system (that the North Fond du Lac Library was already on) this past spring, anyone with two library cards must decide which one to keep. Our cards are good at all 26 libraries listed on the computer search screen which now includes Fond du Lac. Remember that materials from any public library can be returned at any library for your convenience. Also, your library card can be used to request any item listed on the computer catalog from any library in the 5 county system.

A reminder that the book discussion group for adults will resume meeting again on the third Saturday in September, the 18th, at 10 AM. If you haven't had the opportunity to come before this, please join us this fall. The Painted House by John Grisham and The Five People You Meet In Heaven by Mitch Albom are the selections. Call the library at 929-3771 if you have any questions.



VILLAGE DIRECTORY

Elected Officials

J.A. Moon, President -	921-9695
John Duffy, Trustee -	929-9039
Jan Pinto, Trustee -	921-5642
Mike Stretar, Trustee -	926-0223
Chuck Hornung, Trustee	923-1757

Village Departments

Administration Offices	929-3765
Clerk-Treasurer	929-3765
EMS/Fire	929-3760
Inspections/Zoning	929-3765
Library	929-3771
Municipal Court	924-2479

Police

Emergencies	911
Non-Emergency	
Calls for Services	906-5555
Police Administration	929-3760
Public Works	929-3765
Community Center	929-6811
Water & Sewer	
Utilities	929-3765

For Emergencies-Call 911

OFFICE HOURS

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Monday-Friday)

Visit us on the web at www.nfdl.org

All departments may be contacted through links on our website.

Village Newsletter Locations

The Villager is available via e-mail, on line at www.nfdl.org and at the following locations:

Municipal Offices
Community Center
Spillman Library
Steenberg Communities
Cookstove Café
The Classic Cut
PDQ
NFDL Mighty Mart

Swimming Pools

With the onset of warm weather people like to spend more time outdoors. Many people buy permanent above or below ground pools for their yards while others buy the new storable pools. Having a pool can make for a relaxing and cool summer. But because of the risks of drowning or shocks there are regulations that need to be followed.

The Village of North Fond du Lac ordinance 21.12(7) defines a swimming pool as an outdoor structure containing a body of water having a depth of water at any one point greater than one foot. **Most of the newer storable swimming pools are not exempt from the Village pool ordinances.** The ordinance states that storable pools that can meet all of the following are exempt from the provisions of Ordinance 21.12(7):

1. Maximum dimension of fifteen feet.
2. Maximum wall height of eighteen inches, and
3. Have less than twelve inches of water in it.

As shown above most of the new storable pools in the twenty-four to thirty-six inch range are not exempt from the pool ordinances and require permit and inspection. Decorative pools and fish ponds are not exempt from the pool ordinance.

THE VILLAGER, is published quarterly by the Village of North Fond du Lac . Please direct questions or comments to:

William Lamb, Co-interim Administrator
Village of North Fond du Lac
16 Garfield Street
North Fond du Lac, WI 54937-1399
(920)929-3761
e-mail - wlamb@nfdl.org

MUNICIPAL CALENDAR

Date

Event

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees is on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the municipal building board room. These meetings are televised live on cable channel 25. The board also meets as a Committee of the Whole for workshop discussions of village issues on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month beginning at 6:30 p.m. and following the regular board meeting as needed. The committee also meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the municipal building board room as needed.

August 25, 2004

Residential Water Bills Due

September 6, 2004

Offices Closed-Labor Day

October 30, 2004

Trick or Treat

unless they comply with the preceding requirements.

A building permit is required for any permanent or storable pool which is not exempt by ordinance. The application for a swimming pool permit should include all of the following:

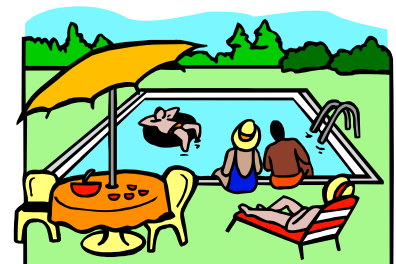
1. The dimensions of the lot and swimming pool.
2. A scaled plot plan including all buildings, structures, fences, and easements.
3. A sketch of overhead and underground power lines, gas service, cable services, water and sewer services.
4. Any proposed underground branch circuits.
5. Any plumbing required to serve the swimming pool.
6. Drainage method of the swimming pool.

Swimming pools may only be constructed or installed in the rear and side lot areas only. The pool and its equipment may only occupy up to fifteen percent of the lot area. No pool shall be closer than ten feet to a side or rear property line and no closer to the road than the front setback line of the main building.

All swimming pools whether storable or permanent which are not

exempted by this ordinance and are less than 48 inches above grade shall be enclosed with an adequate and secure fence at least 48 inches high above the adjacent grade to prevent straying into the pool area. All pool fences must follow the Village of North Fond du Lac ordinance section 21.12(6). All swimming pools must follow all applicable building, electrical, and plumbing codes.

Swimming pools can make for an enjoyable warm weather season for you and your family. The proper permitting and installation of a pool will help insure that there are no preventable accidents or injuries resulting from your pool. If you have any questions feel free to call Peter Fetters, Building Inspector, at 929-3765.



Members of EMS/Fire Department

We have a total of 55 individuals who are members of the North Fond du Lac EMS & Fire Department. These individuals are dedicated to serving the citizens of the Village of North Fond du Lac, and surrounding areas, with any type of emergency—whether it is a medical or trauma emergency, extrication from a vehicle, an ice rescue, a fire, or a Haz Mat event.

Every person who works on the ambulance as an EMT must take a class that is over 120 hours long. In addition, each EMT is required to take a refresher class and a CPR class every two years, plus keep up on their skills every quarter. These same people then sign up to be on a schedule—for at least 50 hours each month—to guarantee that the ambulance is ready to respond to any emergency 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Over half of the EMT's have taken additional classes to become certified as EMT-IV Tech's, EMT-Intermediate's, or Paramedic's. In the future, we hope to become licensed at an Advanced level of care, so that we can provide the best level of care to the citizens of our community.

All the firefighters have taken a class, and became certified at the Firefighter I level. Over half of the firefighters have gone on to become certified at the Firefighter II level, as well as certified at a Driver/Operator-Pumper level.

At the beginning of this year, our department purchased some needed ice rescue equipment. A total of thirty firefighters and EMT's took a specialty class, and were certified as Ice Rescue Technicians.

The members of the North Fond du Lac EMS & Fire Department are very proud of the accomplishments that have been achieved over the past year, and are looking forward to the future in order to provide the best service possible to the residents in our district.

Thermal Imaging Camera Project

The North Fond du Lac EMS & Fire Department is continuing to raise money to purchase a Thermal Imaging Camera. The Thermal Imaging Camera uses special space-aged technology to detect variances in heat and cold within any environment. It is used to “see” through smoke and walls, where the human eye cannot see.

The Thermal Imaging Camera can be used for various functions. The main purpose is to rescue a victim from a smoke filled environment, such as a burning structure. The secondary purpose is to detect heat within the walls of a structure to determine if there might be a possible fire within the infrastructure of a building. Lastly, it can be used to find someone lost in the woods or a cornfield. By flying overhead, we can see the temperature variations, and detect exactly where the individual is.

No matter how the Thermal Imaging Camera is used, it will help to save lives, property, and protect firefighters while fighting a fire.

The total cost to purchase the Thermal Imaging Device will be just under \$12,500. To date, we have raised a total of \$6,500. If you are interested in donating to this fund, there are donation cans located at the following businesses:

Mighty Mart BP Gas Station, 330 Prospect Avenue
PDQ Convenience Store, 400 Prospect Avenue
The Cookstove Café, 726 Wisconsin Avenue
Village Municipal Building, 16 Garfield Street.

You may also send a contribution by mail to:

North Fond du Lac EMS & Fire Department
Thermal Imaging Camera Project
16 Garfield Street
North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

For additional information, please contact Dana Sechler, EMS Director/ Fire Chief at (920) 929-3765, or dsechler@nfdl.org

Ride...or Denied?

With the rapid rise in availability and popularity of motorized transport devices, there is much confusion about what devices can be legally operated, by whom, and where. The Police Department wants everyone to be aware of state laws and local ordinances regulating vehicles. Understanding and obeying the laws will keep all of us safer...from physical harm and costly citations.

Motorcycles and mopeds are motor vehicles, which require operators to be licensed. Additionally, such vehicles must be registered through the Department of Transportation. Motorcycles and mopeds must be driven on the road and must adhere to all traffic laws. Operators of motorcycles are also required to wear eye protection at all times.

Motorized scooters have recently seen an explosion in popularity. Once people become familiar with the law, however, that popularity will likely dwindle. Motorized scooters are “motor vehicles” under Wiscon-

(Continued from page 4)

sin law, and as such, they must be registered. State laws prohibit the operation of motorized scooters on both the roadway and sidewalks. This means that motorized scooters can only be operated in off-road situations like mini bikes and ATV's.

Segways and other electric personal assistive mobility devices are not defined as motor vehicles. These devices can be operated on roadways if the speed limit is less than 15 mph. Under such circumstances, they must be operated with traffic just like bicycles. Similarly, all traffic laws apply to Segways when operated on the roadway. Additionally, because Segways are not motor vehicles, and because the Village does not have any local ordinance restricting their use, Segways can be operated on the sidewalk within the Village.

Lawn mowers, go-carts, and other motorized play vehicles such as *Power Wheels* riding toys may not be operated on the roadway. Additionally, these self-propelled vehicles may not be operated on the sidewalk.

Bicycles and in-line skates may lawfully be operated on the roadway. Users of these conveyances must operate with traffic and adhere to all traffic laws. In addition, anyone riding bicycles or in-line skates during hours of darkness must do so with the use of a clearly visible white light. Only bicycles with a wheel diameter of 16 inches or less may be operated on sidewalks in the Village. The riding of any bicycle or in-line skates is prohibited on the sidewalk on Wisconsin Avenue between Garfield Street and Harrison Street.

All other play vehicles including skateboards, big wheels, and tricycles are prohibited on the roadway. Play vehicles may be operated on the sidewalk except on Wisconsin Avenue between Garfield Street and Harrison Street.

Request for Absentee Ballots

Any qualified elector may request to vote by absentee ballot. A qualified elector is any U.S. citizen who will be 18 years of age or older on election day and who has resided in the district or municipality where he or she wishes to vote for at least 10 days before the election. If you have never voted in the Village of North Fond du Lac you must provide two forms of identification that provides proof of your residency.

To obtain an absentee ballot you must make a written request. Contact the Village Clerk's office and request that an application for an absentee ballot be sent to you for the primary or general election or both. You may also request an absentee ballot by letter. Your written request must list your voting address within the municipality where you wish to vote, the address where the absentee ballot should be sent, if different, and your signature.

Special absentee voting application provisions apply to electors who are indefinitely confined to home or a care facility, in the military, hospitalized, or serving as a sequestered juror. If these provisions apply to you, contact the clerk's office.

You can also personally come to the Village Clerk's office, complete the written application, and vote by absentee ballot the same day.

Village Clerk-Treasurer
16 Garfield Street
North Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Phone: (920) 929-3765
Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm

The deadline for making an application to vote absentee by mail is 4:00 pm the Friday before the election.

The deadline for voting by absentee ballot in the Clerk's Office is 4:00 pm the day before the election. No absentee ballot can be hand-carried outside of the Village Hall. You may not "pick-up" an absentee ballot for anyone else and take it to them unless you are acting as an agent for a hospitalized elector.

All voted ballots must be returned to the Clerk's Office so they can be delivered to the polling place before the polls close on election day. Any ballots received after the polls close will not be counted.

An elector may receive an absentee ballot by fax or electronic mail, please contact the Village Clerk-Treasurer at 920-929-3765 for the instructions.

Election Dates & Location

2004 Election Dates:

Fall Partisan Primary-September 14, 2004

Fall Presidential and General-November 2, 2004

Voting Locations: All Village of North Fond du Lac residents vote at the Community Center located at 280 Garfield Street, North Fond du Lac, WI 54937.

The polls are open from 7:00 am—8:00 pm.



THE STANFORD STUDY: LESS TV = LESS VIOLENCE

Would you like to have a 40% reduction in violent behavior in YOUR kids' school?

How many kids were killed or injured in school fires in the US in the last 5 years? Answer: Zero. Yet we do fire drills and have alarms and sprinklers for something that is only an infinitely remote possibility.

How many kids were killed or injured in school shootings in the US in the last 5 years? Answer: In 1998 alone, according to the US Secret Service, there were 35 murders, and almost a quarter-of-a-million American children "seriously injured" by school violence.

The possibility of your child being killed or injured by school violence is small, but it is thousands of times more likely than the possibility of a school fire, and we have the moral obligation to do at LEAST as much prep for a shooting as for a fire.

So what can we do to reduce school violence?

Convince kids to turn off the TV!

In July, 2000, a joint statement was made to the US Congress by the AMA, the APA, the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. What they said was: "Well over 1,000 studies point overwhelmingly to a causal connection between media violence and aggressive behavior in some children."

That's all of our doctors, psychologists, pediatricians and child psychiatrists telling the US Congress that media violence causes violence in children. Over a 1,000 studies have demonstrated that if you put media violence in a child's life, you will get

an increase in violent behavior. So far, though, no one has demonstrated the reverse: If we take media violence out of a child's life, will violent behavior go down?

Now Stanford University has demonstrated exactly that. Less TV equals less violence. Earlier this year Stanford released a landmark study demonstrating a 50% decrease in verbal aggression, and a 40% decrease in physical aggression, just by encouraging kids to turn off their TVs and video games.

Thomas N. Robinson, an assistant professor of medicine at Stanford and the study's lead author, stated that: "What this says is there is something you can do in a practical way, in a real-world setting, and see the effects."

The Stanford data was gathered at two similar San Jose elementary schools. Researchers first carefully assessed the baseline level of aggressive behavior in 192 third- and fourth-graders through playground observations and interviews. Then, they introduced a curriculum at one school meant to encourage children to cut back on video games and to watch less TV.

Two-thirds of the pupils agreed to participate in an initial, 10-day effort to turn off television altogether, which was monitored by slips signed by parents. Over half of them continued to limit their television watching to under seven hours per week during the next 20 weeks.

After 20 weeks the researchers found a 40 percent reduction in physical aggression, and a 50 percent reduction in the level of verbal aggression in the overall population at the experimental school compared with the one that did not follow the curriculum. The children who were the most aggressive at the outset of the study had the most to gain, and they showed the greatest

benefit. The researchers also noted significant reduction in obesity and overeating problems in the school where the curriculum was introduced.

In personal correspondence with Dr. Robinson, the lead researcher in this project, he told me that, "One of my goals is to make the curriculum available widely. I get many requests directly from teachers and other researchers." Every parent, teacher, and leader in American should insist that this curriculum be integrated into their school as soon as possible.

I remember when my 1st grade teacher told us that cigarettes can kill people. My dad smoked! I loved my dad and didn't want him to die. So I hid his cigarettes. He convinced me that that was not a good idea, but the generation that was taught in elementary school about the health risk of tobacco is the generation that grew up and played pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey with the tobacco industry.

Now we are on the threshold of a generation that will be informed about the health impact of media violence, and the result will be a major victory for America's children and for the American people.

Get the Stanford Curriculum

Dr. Robinson, the lead researcher in this project, says that he is "hoping it is just a matter of a few more months at most," before this material will be available. As soon as it is available he has promised to contact me, and I will post the information at this location on this web site.

Excerpt taken from:

<http://archpedi.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/short/155/1/13>

