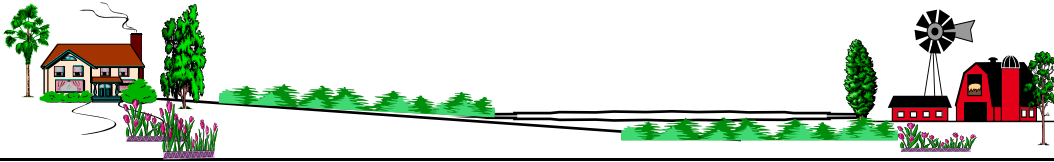


Town of Sun Prairie Newsletter

5556 Twin Lane Road, Marshall, WI 53559, 608-837-6688



Volume 20, Issue 2

August 2012

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Town Resident Credits Community Officer for Life Saving Efforts

Jerry Bradley, Bradley Farms, was working a field located on Town Hall Drive on June 28, 2011 when he slipped and fell injuring himself. His brother, Mark, called 911. Fortunately Dane County Community Officer John Nelson was nearby on Bailey Road, His quick response time and First Responders training

saved Jerry's life. Jerry was transported to the hospital ER where it took over an hour for two doctors, stitching the wound from both ends toward the middle, to sew him up.

Jerry's wound was deep and long. Without the service of the DC Community Officers the outcome could have been different. Many thanks to all that serve.

Jerry recalls someone passing by stopping to help him also. He would like to thank that person, in person, if they would be so kind to contact him, (608 837-6685).



TOWN OF SUN PRAIRIE FREE TO THE PUBLIC! FIRE EXTINGUISHER TRAINING

AUGUST 21, 2012

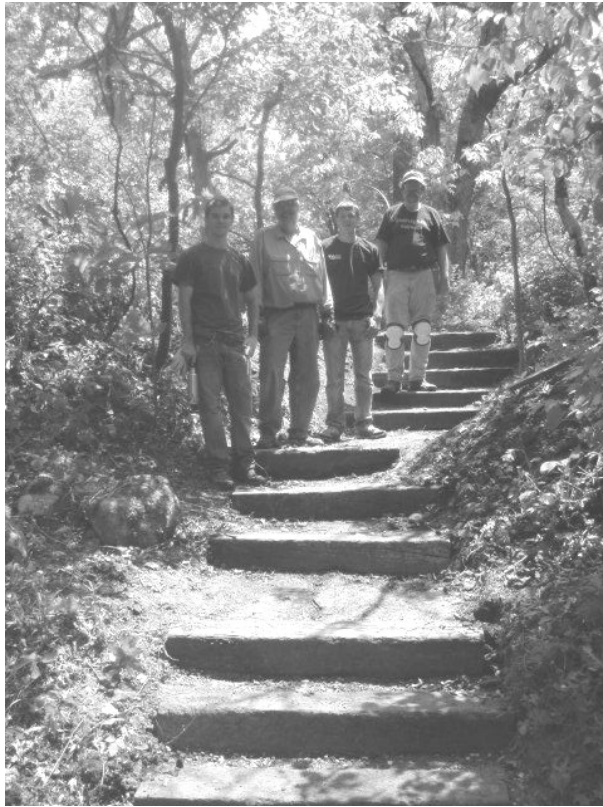
10AM-NOON

TOWN OF SUN PRAIRIE
TOWN HALL

5556 TWIN LANE ROAD



Generation Park Update.... Eagle Scout Evan Newhouse Chooses The Town of Sun Prairie



Completing a community service project is the final phase to become an Eagle Scout. With the help from Joe and Diane Powelka, Lyle Updike and many volunteers, Evan Newhouse decided to install railroad tie stairs and also clear invasive species from walking paths at Generations Park in the Town of Sun Prairie. After accomplishing approval from the Town of Sun Prairie and the Glaciers Edge Boy Scout Council, the volunteers and Evan spent many hours determining the materials needed to develop a plan. Evan used as many recycled materials as possible for the project to keep expenses down. Eighty feet of railroad ties cut into four foot sections were needed for the stairs; this made handling the ties manageable. Two holes were drilled into each four foot section for rebar to secure the tie into position. Mulch was delivered to the site by the Town of Sun Prairie; a six inch base of mulch was laid on the walking paths for weed control. Two of the

(Continued on page 4)

Letter from the Treasurer:

Yes, these are the dog days of summer, but I am thinking ahead to a much cooler time of year. Many call it winter, some call it tax collection. I would like to share a few things that happened during last years' collection with you that I hope to prevent from happening again.

I received a small handful of checks that were written out for the 2nd installment amount, rather than the 1st installment amount. Most often on residential parcels the 1st installment is a bit larger than the 2nd (this is due to Dane County's method of calculation and factoring in the credits). When I apply your payment to your bill and the payment is not for the full amount of the 1st installment, the County considers this underpaid and the bill becomes delinquent. At that time, the balance of the entire bill is subject to interest and penalty at a rate of 1 ½% per month (18% per year). A \$30 - \$40 error may become very costly, so please double check that you are sending in the correct installment amount if that is how you choose to make payments.

I would also like to recommend that you write your phone number on the check you send in for your tax payment. It is nice to be able to reach you in the event of an incorrect payment, as stated above, or maybe you placed the wrong check in the envelope you mailed in to the office. If I am up against a deadline, it is much more efficient to reach you by phone than to send a note back to you through the

postal service. A quick call to you can potentially save you hundreds of dollars. This information is used only in the event of a payment emergency, and I do not share this with anyone or record it for any purpose. This happened twice this past year, and unfortunately the tax payers had to pay the interest and penalty on the unpaid portion of the remainder of the entire bill.

Tax collection the week between Christmas and New Year's is very limited this year due to the holidays. It looks as though the office will only be open the 26th, 27th, and 28th. Plan to stand in line if you choose to pay in the office on those days. You can always send in your payment to the office, and if you include a self addressed, stamped envelope I will send your receipt back to you. I will have office hours the week of the December 17th, so that may be another payment option for you, or you can always drop your payment off in the drop box in front of the Town Hall. Payments must be postmarked by December 31st, 2012 if you want the payment posted this year.

As always, I will include a short newsletter with your tax bill, but I wanted to share some specific problems I encountered this past tax collection season. My goal is to make tax collection as smooth as possible. I am almost certain you would prefer not to hear from me in December or January.

Thank you! Cindy Yelk

Vehicle Registration Forms: The next time you renew your vehicle registration please check to make sure that you are registered in the Town of Sun Prairie. Properly identifying your municipality helps ensure a more accurate population count for our Town, which in turn helps the Town receive its' fair share of grants, refunds, revenues, etc. Every little bit helps to keep our municipal taxes from increasing.



**Town of Sun Prairie
Clerk's Office**

tspclerk@spwl.net

608-837-6688

5556 Twin Lane Rd

Marshall, WI 53559

www.townofsunprairie.info

Voter Public Access

<https://vpa.wi.gov>

Honor System Does Work in the Town of Sun Prairie

For the past few years, the Town of Sun Prairie has ordered mulch delivered from the City of Madison during the spring and summer months. The Town chose to do this as a service to the residents who use mulch but are unable to accommodate such a large load delivered by the City or the delivery charge. All the Town has asked for is a contribution to the "mulch delivery fund" as any resident takes from the pile (\$10 per pickup load standard measurement, more or less depending on the amount you take). The response has been outstanding this year! The Town was able to keep mulch available for residents all spring and summer long. THANK YOU for contributions brought into the office and left in the drop box after hours. Because of the outstanding response, the Town will continue to provide this service as long as the City of Madison delivers to our Town Hall.

Would you like your town newsletter digital?

Drop us a short note via email ...

tspclerk@spwl.net or treasurer@townofsunprairie.info

Vote and Contribute to Area Food Pantry

Donations to the local food pantry will be collected at the Town Hall during the General Election, November 6th, 2012. There will be a collection bin set up to receive any non-perishable food items, toiletries, etc. that you would like to contribute.

(Continued from page 2)

main focuses of the project was to keep expenses low and keep the work environment safe for everyone. The physical project to install the ties and clear the paths took two working days to complete with the help of volunteers (boy scouts, parents and friends). Evan thanks all parties involved in this endeavor for making it a successful, memorable experience. The hope is that the people visiting the park will enjoy the manicured walking path and stairs.

2012 Election Results

February 21

Spring Primary

152

April 3

Presidential Preference &
Spring Election

471

May 8

Recall Primary

704

June 5

Recall Election

1258

August 14

Fall Partisan Primary

November 6

Fall General Election

**Judy Stang,
Plan Commission
Member Retires**

Judy was first appointed for a 3 year term effective July 1, 2001. She was instrumental in creating the Town Comprehensive Plan and made valuable contributions to the concepts and policies in the plan. She contributed significantly to the implementation of the plan in the following years and was very conscientious about attending meetings.

*Thank you for serving!
Sun Prairie Town Board
&
Plan Commission*



**Town Hall Office
Hours**

Clerk & Treasurer

Monday—Thursday

9 A.M.—2:00 P.M.

Closed on Friday

When you need assistance on Friday please call Cindy (608) 333-3973 or Jo (608) 220-8590. We will do our best to serve you.



TOWN SEEKING APPLICANTS

*Plan Commission (PC) Member Moves Out Of Town
Creating A Vacancy To Be Filled On Board*

The Town Board is looking for a resident who is interested in the future of his/her community to serve on the Town Plan Commission. The Town believes that citizens have valuable knowledge, skills and experience to contribute to the community planning process. The Plan Commission holds regular meets on the 3rd Monday of each month and occasionally has a need for additional meetings. Individual applicants who can make a commitment of 1 or 2 evening meetings per month will be considered for appointment to a 3 year term.

The function of the Plan Commission is to administer, amend and revise the Towns Comprehensive Plan which addresses the following elements:

- Changes in Land Use (Rezoning)
- Agricultural, Natural & Cultural Resources
- Utilities & Community Facilities
- Intergovernmental Cooperation
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Transportation
- Implementation

The majority of each Plan Commission meeting is spent in reviewing proposals for rezoning and development and making recommendations to the Town Board.

Any town resident interested in serving on the Town Plan Commission may contact the Town Clerk, Jo Ann Ramsfield, at 837-6688 for an application or more information. Applications should be returned to the Town Clerk.

Town Board Members approve the reappointment of Roger Fetterly & Doug Yelk to the Plan Commission for another three year term. Roger will continue to serve as Chairperson.
Thank you for serving!



MEET TOWN TRUCK TWENTY

The town board and highway patrolmen periodically upgrade the towns equipment. This vehicle will be an addition to the garage. The patrolmen expect delivery by September 1, 2012.

ANNUAL RECYCLE GRANT & REBATE STATISTICS

Annual Recycling Grant Amounts:

2011—\$ 13,626.70

2010— \$ 21,090.89

2009— \$ 20,041.97

2008— \$ 22,267.64

Monthly Rebate 2012	Monthly Rebate 2011
\$ 470.65	\$ 659.32
\$ 479.56	\$ 718.14
\$ 780.07	\$ 868.40
\$ 681.32	\$ 1,228.79
\$ 602.21	\$ 942.94
\$ 808.82	\$ 884.70
	\$ 1,075.32
	\$ 888.48
	\$ 1,220.82
	\$ 773.30
	\$ 557.96
	\$ 504.39
\$ 3,822.63	\$ 10,322.56

TOWN OF SUN PRAIRIE 2011 RECYCLING GRANT RECEIVED—\$13,626.70

This money is turned around and used to reduce the special charge amount on property owners tax bill for trash & recycle collection. The recycling program was mandated in 1994. Tipping fees have increased and the recycling grant is being phased out. To offset the decrease in the grant the Town Board approved a proposal from Waste Management to participate in their recycle rebate program. The rebate amounts fluctuate with the market so it is difficult to predict what the rebate will be. However, it has worked well for the town residents the last couple of years.

The grant requires a continued high level of recycling. If the town falls below 82 pounds of recycled material per person,

per year we will not

continue to receive the annual grant.

Our amount for 2011 was 192 pounds per person.

Keep up the good work and be mindful of recycling all that you can.

Items Recycled	2011 Pounds	2012 Pounds
newspaper	113677	41405
cardboard	170230	71374
Mixed Paper	71420	62802
Glass	64583	26930
HDPE mixed	2506	1210
HDPE natl	4290	1874
PET	8471	4365
Aluminum	2828	990
Tin	8623	3674
Year To Date Total	446628	214624

Winter Road Reminders

Winter usually brings some challenging road problems both for drivers and for people plowing the roads. The Town of Sun Prairie is proud to be able to clear the roads in a timely manner. The plow drivers prefer to tackle the job early, before the commuters and school buses are on the road.

Several reminders for winter driving consideration:

When you clean your drive, please do not push the snow across the road or into the road right of way. Snow and ice left on the road and the shoulder which has already been cleared, freezes hard and creates a real hazard. The sheriff will issue citations for this.

“The snowplow driver dumps snow in my drive all the time!” There is nothing the plow driver can do to prevent this problem, but the homeowner may be able to help. Clear an area next to the driveway along the shoulder. When the plow passes, the snow will windrow into that empty area instead of your drive.

Cul-de-sacs present a real challenge. Many have not been designed with the snowplow equipment in mind. There needs to be

enough open space in the right-of-way to allow for piles of snow.

Stay a safe distance behind the plow. You may think that the biggest risk of collisions involving snowplows is getting hit by one. In fact, most accidents occur when other drivers rear-end plows, according to the State Patrol. Snowplows often have to stop or slow down if they encounter an obstacle. State Law requires that you leave 200 feet between you and the plow. Following closer not only risks crashing, it may cost you a \$161 ticket. The driver will not be able to see you if you are close and you will be showered with road salt. As the plow drivers clear intersections they backup numerous times.

When there is a large snowfall the drivers are on the roads by 3:00 a.m. The main town roads are opened first then the subdivisions.

Blue reflectors should be used if you wish to mark your driveway or mailbox. The red, white or amber reflectors are easily mistaken for vehicles by the plow drivers.

Bits and Pieces

Used cell phones are being collected for the Dane County Sheriff to redistribute to victims of trauma. This will be an on-going program and the Town Hall is a collection site. No cell phone ever ends up in a land fill.

Rural Address Number Sign Is your sign visible from the road day or night and at all times of the year? Remember that the drivers of the emergency vehicles need to be able to see the numbers to respond to your call for help.

Parking No parking on Town Roads and Streets from December 1 to April 1. Illegally parked vehicles will be ticketed and towed.

Mailboxes Make sure your mailbox and post are secure. Flying wet snow from the plow can easily push one over. If you are replacing a mailbox, consider a black one, as they are easier to see in a snowstorm. The mailbox should be 3 feet from the edge of the pavement.

Town of Sun Prairie

5556 Twin Lane Road
Marshall, WI 53559

Phone: 608-837-6688
Fax: 608-825-4864
Email: tspclerk@spwl.net
Email: treasurer@townofsunprairie.info

TIME SENSITIVE
INFORMATION INSIDE

August 2012
Volume 20 No. 2

The Town of Sun Prairie Newsletter is a communication service of the Town Board for the residents of the Town of Sun Prairie.

Contacts

Fire, EMS and Sheriff Emergency	911
Sheriff NE Precinct non-emergency #	266-3456
Lyle Updike, Board Chairperson	837-0069
Vernon Pogue, Board Supervisor	837-6749
Doug Yelk, Board Supervisor	333-3974
Jo Ann Ramsfield, Clerk	837-6688
Cindy Yelk, Treasurer	837-6688
Jerry Hahn, Constable	837-9860
Waste Management, trash & recyclables	273-2500
Burn Permit (answering machine)	837-5066
Dane County Planning & Development	266-4266
Building Inspector	1-800-422-5220

BOARD & PLAN COMMISSION MTGS.

The Town Board's regular monthly meetings are on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m., at the Town Hall, 5556 Twin Lane Road.

Meeting notices, ordinance adoptions and other information are posted on the website and three town bulletin boards. The bulletin boards are located at the Town Hall, and on Town bulletin boards at the intersection of CTH N and Lonely Lane and at 4167 CTH TT.

Building Permits & Ag Site Permits are issued by the building inspector, Chris Butschke. He has office hours at the town hall on Monday 9-10 a.m., 837-6688. He is often in the area and will meet with residents at other times. He can also be reached by calling 1-800-422-5220 or 608-576-6371. **Dane County** requires a zoning permit for all new structures and additions. The phone number is 266-4266, Rm 116, City County Building, 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Madison.

We're on the Web
www.townofsunprairie.info