



Winneconne's Historical Crossing

Village of Winneconne's Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2011

Message from President John Rogers

For the second straight fall, we can look back and see all the progress we have made on the major projects facing the Village.

This November, we are looking forward to a ribbon cutting for the expanded Waste Water Treatment Plant at the end of Washington Street. This project now prepares the Village for a long future of sustainable service with growth in mind. Much of what this project accomplished was making this facility more efficient in electrical, chemical and water use. It is our hope that by investing in this plant, we are now ready for growth and better able to level off your utility costs for a long time.

Another project that we are finishing off this fall is the "tree street" project. While we still have many small issues we need to address, the bulk of the project has been completed and has already shown a great improvement to all Village residents and to those in this area. We thank all of these residents affected for their patience as we move through this very long process.

Thanks to the hard work of our dedicated staff, the Village is moving forward to make this a better community for all.

*John Rogers,
Village President*



From the Corner Office



Fall is a great time of the year unless you are trying to do a municipal budget. For both the Village and the

School District, the challenges before us to present a budget keeping services and taxes level can be a daunting challenge. For those that question how our taxes get to where they are, much of that has to do with State aids that have been the topic of much debate in Madison. The results of all of that debate, turmoil and protests are now moving from our state capital to our local budgets.

The good news for local tax payers is that on the Village side of things, we have not taken on any new debt, and have paid off some small debt. New debt is the driving force to higher taxes thus the reason our taxes went up last year.

Meanwhile, the new evaluations were completed by Associated Appraisers. I know from all the phone calls that most people were surprised when their evaluations went up.

But a few things you have to remember is that 1) properties in this community have not been fully assessed in quite a few years thus the reason we were forced to do the reval, 2) If your property value went up, and almost all did, your taxes don't automatically go up, they might go down. It all has to do with the percent your evaluation went up versus all others in the Village. Again, be watching for your tax bill in December and you might be very surprised that your taxes might be going down.

Finally, thanks to all of you that came out to our summer brat frys'. We enjoyed listening and discussing local issues with all of you.

*Steve Volkert
Village Administrator*

Village Brat Frys' exceed expectations. The goal of the brat fry is to encourage neighbors to talk with village board members on a personal level. Thanks to everyone that attended!



Beautification Committee decorates Main St. with Scarecrows.

Join us on Facebook, we have lots of exciting news and pictures to share with you.

facebook

Winneconne WI

Visit the Village website: www.winneconnewi.gov

Public Works Department

Fall and winter are just around the corner. Hope these friendly reminders from Public Works can help you plan your activities. If you have any questions/problems, please contact the Department by phone 920-582-4381, e-mail public-works@winneconnewi.gov, or fill out a complaint form from our webpage at www.winneconnewi.gov, click "public works", click "complaint form".

COMPOST SITE. As you clean up around the yard and trim trees, rake leaves, clean out the old garden, get rid of your pumpkins, keep in mind the Compost Site (located in industrial park on Enterprise Drive) will remain open Wednesdays 12:00 noon until 7:00 p.m. or dark (whichever comes first) and Saturdays 9:00 am until 2:00 pm until November 12. Special hours will occur the week of November 7th when the site will be open Monday thru Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Site is also open the week of January 2nd, 2012 for Christmas Tree disposal from 7:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Tuesday thru Friday. An access sticker is required and can be obtained at Village Hall, 30 South 1st Street.

WATER UTILITY. During October, the water utility will be flushing mains and hydrants. Residents should not feel any impact from these activities. This work is conducted twice every year. Some water users may notice 'cloudy' or 'brownish' colored water. Cloudy water can be commonly caused by excessive air within the water main. This is normal and usually will dissipate after a few minutes. 'Brownish' colored water is caused by release of iron sediments located within the pipe system. 'Blackish' colored water is caused by occurrence of manganese within the pipe system. When pressure changes rapidly, this can cause the sediment to release from inside the pipe system and get trapped in suspension. If you experience either of these issues, please notify the Department immediately so we can investigate. Thank you for your patience during this process.

MCO personnel will be contacting several residents in order to test your water meter. Testing is conducted on an eight year rotation to assure the meters are functioning properly. The meter will be temporarily removed and tested at the utility facility. When possible, the meter will be returned to service at your location, when not possible, a new or re-built meter will be installed in its place. You have the right to watch this testing be completed for your specific meter. If you would like to be present for your meter testing, please notify Public Works to arrange it.

WINNECONNE BRIDGE UPDATE: WisDOT decided to delay any further screening decisions until it receives additional information from the DNR on the remaining alternatives' potential impacts on the Wolf River fishery and protected species. A mussel survey planned for this fall will supply part of the information WisDOT is seeking. The project team regrets the delay in getting together with all local residents., but to make an informed decision on the next step in the screening process, the information from the DNR is critical. We appreciate the village's patience and the patience of all local residents as we work through the important next step in the screening process.

WASTEWATER UTILITY. Construction work at the Winneconne Wastewater Treatment Plant will be completed in early October, 2011. An Open House is being planned, for Nov 3, 2011 from 2-6 pm, so please watch the newspaper and webpage for details. This will be a great opportunity for residents to see how your treatment plant works.



SNOW REMOVAL. Won't be long and the snow will be blowing, drifting, and clogging our streets and sidewalks again. Personal objects, weather vanes, garbage receptacles, should be kept back from the curb line in order to assist with timely/orderly plowing of streets. Just a friendly reminder regarding **snow regulations** in the Village; Village ordinances prohibit plowing/blowing/shoveling snow into the public street, snow should be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours of an event, sidewalks should be kept free of ice build-up.

If possible, please adopt a fire hydrant this winter. You can do so, by simply shoveling snow away from the hydrant to keep it accessible to the Fire Department throughout the year. If you are physically unable to assist and think a hydrant needs it, please notify Public Works.

CHANGES. This past year the department purchased a newer street sweeper, a new plow truck and a new lawn mower for the cemetery. Veteran employee, Jack Spiegelberg, retired in April of this past year after 37 years of service to the Village. When you see a new face around public works, his replacement is **Andy Kintopf**, who began work on September 12th. Andy worked this past summer as Park Caretaker. Welcome Andy to Public Works!



Andy Kintopf

SAFETY. Please use caution when driving around construction areas, where work vehicles are parked and at crosswalks. Reaching a destination a few minutes late is a small price to pay for the safety of workers and pedestrians.

Chris Hardy
Public Works Director



Fall/Winter 2011

Winneconne Police Department



Fall is approaching, with school back in session. With new bus routes, there will be more children walking to school this year, especially over the bridge. Be cognizant of our student population, and slow down when driving through school zones. Remember to yield to pedestrians. Bicycles must follow the rules of the road, obey signs, and travel safely on the streets, not on the sidewalks.

Fall also brings changing colors, and the cleanup of our yards of leaves and yard waste. Remember that **outdoor burning** is permitted, however, not on Sundays or *holidays*, you must not allow it to smolder or leave the fire unattended.



Halloween will bring many children to your neighborhoods. Have your 'trick or treaters' wear bright clothing. Remember to check their candy before they eat it, to ensure it is safe. If driving through the Village, watch out for them, drive slowly, and turn on your headlamps.

Throughout the fall, as we learn more of the concealed firearm carry permit process, we will hold a public information session to inform the public of the process.

On the heels of autumn comes winter, with snow removal, restricted parking, and hazardous driving conditions. Do not push, blow, or plow snow onto our streets. Help the senior citizens in your neighborhoods with snow removal. Do not park on the streets overnight, and remember to drive a little slower, taking extra time to reach your destination. If you have sidewalks in front of your home or business, please keep them clear of snow and debris.

Your officers are here to help you!

Chief Pete Running

Parks Department

2011 Marble Park Morning Swimming Lessons and Recreation Program

The parks and recreation department listened to feedback from parents in our programs over the past few years and evaluated the direction of their program and decided it was time to make adjustments for the summer of 2011. Our swimming lesson program was offered in three week sessions over a nine week period with Fridays being used as make-up lessons.

All of our swim lesson levels were thirty minute classes. Our recreation activities program was geared in a new direction away from just playing the same team sports day after day to adding a variety of fun-filled activities thru four different theme days including recess & basic games, family & yard games, sport skills & games, and teamwork & cooperation games. Our recreation activities were broken down into three different age ranges and were held in two sessions for an hour and fifteen minutes. Both of our programs had great attendance with swimming lessons having over three hundred participants and rec. activities having over one hundred participants on a daily basis. Overall, we feel the changes we made improved the programs and met the expectations of those involved. The parks and recreation department looks forward to continuing the programs in a similar fashion in summer 2012.

2011 Marble Park Pool Beach Attendance

The weather is unpredictable year after year, month after month, and day after day. The success of our Marble Park pool and beach really revolves around the weather.

Our 2011 summer was one that got off to a rocky start due to the cooler, wet weather and then rebounded in the month of July with the unbearable heat indexes and then tapered back down in



the month of August. Our statistics for the month included the following: June we were open for fifteen days having 1,137 swimmers; July we were open thirty days having 5,355 swimmers; August we were open nineteen days having 1,602 swimmers. Our grand total attendance for the 2011 season was 8,084 swimmers for an average of 126 swimmers per day.

2012 Parks Shelter Rentals & Events

If you are looking to reserve a park shelter or host an event in 2012, the first day the village will accept reservations is **January 3, 2012**. The 2012 fees will be set in November and reservation forms can be found on our website at www.winneconnewi.gov.

Jenny Reese,
Park Director



T-Shirts and Bookbags For Sale by The Friends of the Winneconne Library

The Friends of the Winneconne Public Library have started a new fundraiser! Library t-shirts and book bags are on display and for sale at the library. The designs were inspired by the library's new logo, which was created this past spring by Jason Nelson, the spouse of one of the library staff members. The logo was approved by the library board in May. The price for each t-shirt and book bag is just \$10. The Friends of the Library also have Vande Walls chocolate bars for sale at the library circulation desk. For an order form or information about joining the Friends of the Library, visit the library's website.



Family Evening Story Times

The library will offer a trial session of evening story times for families this fall! Story times will be held on Thursday evenings at 6:30 September 29 – October 27. Take a brief online survey to express your interest and find out more about this exciting opportunity!

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/wcpl-storytime>

Holiday Faire

The Winneconne Historical Society will host the 3rd annual Holiday Faire on Saturday, December 3rd, from 9am -1pm, featuring a craft show, and bake sale, Children's book sale, crafts for kids to create, stories and a visit from Santa Claus!



Village Offices Closed

Nov. 24th / Thanksgiving Day
Nov. 25th/ Day after Thanksgiving
Dec. 23th/ Christmas Eve
Dec. 26th/ Christmas Holiday
Jan. 2nd / New Year Holiday

From the Village Board and Staff we would like to wish everyone Safe Holidays and a Prosperous New Year!



Library Launches New Website!

The library has launched a new website! You can check out our new look at the same old address, www.winneconnelibrary.org.

You can also get key library updates if you Friend us on Facebook. Or follow us on Twitter. Our username for Facebook and Twitter is **Winneconne Public Library**

“So Much More Than Books” – Sign up for our NEWSletter!

If you are interested in keeping up to date with new library materials, programs and services, call or email to add your name to our mailing list, and receive the libraries new quarterly electronic newsletter, “So Much More Than Books.”

Contact Information

Holly Selwitschka, Director; Winneconne Public Library, 31 S. 2nd Street, PO Box 518, Winneconne, WI 54986 (920)582-7091; website: <http://www.winneconnelibrary.org> email: director@winneconnelibrary.org;

Wisconsin's New Voter Photo ID Law



Wisconsin law requires voters to show an acceptable photo ID to vote starting with the February Primary.

What is an acceptable photo ID?

- ◆ An acceptable photo ID is not required to have a current address.
- ◆ A Wisconsin DOT-issued identification card.
- ◆ A Military ID card issued by a U.S. uniformed service.
- ◆ A U.S. Passport
- ◆ An unexpired identification card issued by a Wisconsin accredited university or college that contains the following: date of issuance, signature of student, expiration date not later that two years after date of issuance
- ◆ An identification card issued by a federally recognized Indian Tribe in WI.

How do I get a free photo ID to vote?

WI law requires the Dept. of Transportation to provide free ID cards to any individuals who will be at least 18 years of age on the date of the next election and who requests a free ID for the purpose of voting. Due to the need to provide a birth certificate and other documents to receive a DOT issued ID, individuals should start the process of obtaining a statutory identification well in advance of an election at which they wish to vote.