

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: SHEPHERDS MINISTRIES

By: Nancy Suhr



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Many of us drive by Shepherds Ministries every day, not even realizing that it's there. Some of us have heard of them, but aren't sure what it's all about. Shepherds Ministries, 1805 15th Ave., is a nonprofit, Christian care facility serving more than 180 residents from around the country. They provide 24-hour-a-day care and training for adults with mental disabilities. This ministry has been in Union Grove since opening its doors in 1964. In 2008, Shepherds added a new educational program for young people with intellectual disabilities called Shepherds College. There are currently 130 full-time residents located on the campus along with 26 students in the new college program.

One of the highlights of the Shepherds Ministries campus is their greenhouse. Owen Lackey, Facilities Administrator, says that they've been selling plants and flowers to the public for over 25 years. On the day of my visit, I was able to meet Gerald, who has

been working in the greenhouse for all of those 25 years. The greenhouse is also an active lab for the Horticulture Studies program offered by the college. I also had the pleasure of meeting Brian (pictured below), who is a current student of the horticulture program; he thoroughly enjoys working hands-on in the greenhouse. It's a year-round enterprise at the greenhouse. In February they start preparing the greenhouse for spring, and in March and April, work begins on the grounds. Then every June, Shepherds offers large flower planters for your home or business. The planters are deliv-

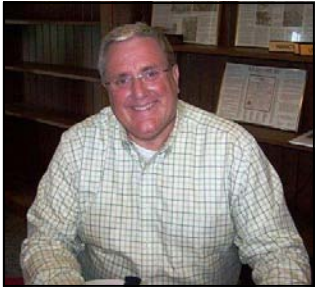
ered during the first week of June, and are picked up during the first week of October. That's great service, and all for just \$60 (\$55 for reorders) per planter. Wayne Manlick, Greenhouse Supervisor, said that there are future plans for decorative planter covers and customized planters. To round out the year, Shepherds Ministries holds their annual Poinsettia sale every Christmas season. There have been some exciting changes made to the poinsettia sale this year. The sale will be held only on campus; there will not be a satellite store. The great people of Shepherds Ministries invite you to come out and experience the beauty of their campus and ministry.



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THE PRESIDENT'S PEN FROM MIKE AIMONE



Christmas is in the air once again and another year is coming to a close. 2010 has been another very active year in the community of Union Grove. It never ceases to amaze me the commitment from our local business owners who continue to improve their appearance and presence in our community.

At a time when so many communities are struggling to retain or add new businesses, Union Grove seems to be holding not only steady but moving forward. I hope you all know your efforts are much appreciated.

2010 has also been a year full of many difficult decisions, while keeping in mind the overall economic times we are living in. Over this past year we have seen the addition of our third water softening plant, the creation of the storm water utility, a very aggressive streets project made possible by the stimulus program of Build America Bonds, the purchase of a new DPW building, and many other

projects and daily functions that probably go unnoticed, but are a critical part of our community's well being.

It seems fitting at this time of year to say thanks to all of our Village Staff.



Thank you to....

Liz, Janet and Jan, who spend countless hours in the Village office making it run, attending numerous meetings and making sure all of the mountains of paperwork are completed, filed and recorded. To Mark, our Director of DPW, for his patience and understanding in keeping the heartbeat of our community alive, while always maintaining a positive "can do" attitude. To our entire DPW crew for all the work, emergency service, dedication and pride they show in helping us keep our community clean, mowed, plowed, watered and sanitary. To Kim, our director of Parks and Recreation, in keeping the youth of our community busy with so many offerings and juggling a never ending battle of filling the need for coaches, volunteers and practice fields. To

Nancy, our communications specialist, for working so hard on our quarterly newsletter, for her patience in gathering all of the articles, and for keeping a sense of humor while doing it. To Jim, our building inspector, who has a very difficult job in making sure our community is safe and up to code. To Katie, for making the Library such a vital resource, and a center of activity for our community. To all of the Library staff, for their service and assistance to our citizens. To our Volunteer Fire/Rescue Department for all of their hours of training, preparation and planning, in not only keeping our community safe, but in providing extraordinary rescue services. And last, but not least... thank you to all of the committee, commission, and board members for sharing their time and talent in our ongoing efforts of improving our community.

Union Grove has a past to be proud of, a present to be working on and a future to plan and look forward to.

Wishing you and your families a very joyous Christmas Season and a Happy New Year.

Mike Aimone,
Village President

Village of Union Grove Board Members

President

Mike Aimone
maimone@uniongrove.net

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Ronald Bogard
John Korzilius
Tim Mallach
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Village Inspector

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Recreation Director

Kim Terpstra

Media Specialist

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COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: SHEPHERDS MINISTRIES

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Also new this year, are the “buy one poinsettia, get one half off” coupons, which are available at participating businesses. Gene Glas, Business Development, started the program this year in an effort to support local businesses, and to “help them to help”.

The coupons are available at the following locations: ALL ABOUT US BAR & GRILL, CAPITAL INSURANCE AGENCY, COMMUNITY STATE BANK (MAIN, UNION GROVE-MOTOR BANK AND KANSASVILLE LOCATIONS), COMMUNITY TRAVEL, INC., EDWARD JONES INVESTMENTS, MAIN STREET MARKET, MELBY CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC, MICROCOMP SERVICES, MULBERRYS PANCAKE & CAFÉ, NAPOLI PIZZA & PASTA, NORTH SHORE BANK, RUMA SPORTS, SQUARE ONE HEATING & COOLING, THE FAMILY DENTIST, UNION GROVE AUTO PARTS, INC., UNION GROVE PIGGLY WIGGLY, RACINE BIBLE CHURCH, INSINKERATOR AND CELEBRATE OUR TOWN.

Here’s how the program works:

1. Pick up your “Buy one get one ½ off” coupon from any of the participating locations.
2. Visit Shepherds Ministries to purchase your beautiful Holiday poinsettias, and

receive a valuable coupon packet redeemable at local businesses.

3. Start redeeming coupons!

Through your purchases, you are helping Shepherds Ministries to continue to provide compassionate Christian care, and vocational education and job opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities. While you are on campus, take a moment to say hello to those you see around you. They will touch your heart; I know they touched mine!

Editors Note: Due to the damage caused by the tornado, the poinsettia sale has been moved to the gymnasium. Please park at the greenhouse and follow the signs to the gymnasium. Hours are Monday-Friday from 9am-6pm and Saturday from 11am-4pm. Closed Sunday. Sizes available are 10”, 8”, 6.5”, 4.5” and 4”.




Before 1000+ poinsettias arrive



After!



Example of Coupon



Shepherds
GREENHOUSE
Share Gardens. Share Gifts.

Shepherds Poinsettia Coupon

Get **ONE POINSETTIA HALF PRICE**
When you buy one of equal or greater value

Limit One per Customer
Redeemable at Shepherds Greenhouse
Offer good until December 24th

1805-15th Ave
Union Grove, WI 53182
Phone: 262.878.6370

Example of Community State Bank Coupon from Packet

Thank you for supporting your Community.

To show our appreciation please present this coupon and say hello to receive a **FREE 2011 Old Farmer's Almanac Recipe Calendar**. (Redeemable at Union Grove office location.)



COMMUNITY STATE BANK Member FDIC
1500 Main Street, Union Grove, WI 53182 | (262) 878-3763 | www.CommunityStateBank.net

RECREATION DEPARTMENT ROUND UP

By: Kim Terpstra

The Union Grove Recreation and Parks Department has great things to offer—Come and check them out!

Indoor Walking Program



Indoor adult walking is available at Union Grove High School. You can walk indoors from now until April 1, 2011, Monday through Friday, 5:00 a.m. to 7:15 a.m., only when school is in session. Sign up at the Union Grove Municipal Center; registration is mandatory. Call 878-1818 for details.

Tiny Tot Tumbling runs from January 26—March 30. For children ages 18 months-6 years old. The fee is \$60 per child; sign-up is available at the Municipal Center anytime before the first class.

Old School PE is Back!

Come on out and play some old school games. No pressure, just fun! Are there games that you played back in elementary school and thought that you might never get to play them again? This class will bring back those memories and let you be a kid again. \$40 per person for 10-weeks, January 5-March 9.

Softball, T-Ball and Coach Pitch Registration will be held on February 5th from

10am-1pm at the Municipal Center (Village Hall). Watch local Channel 25 and the village website for information to follow.

Look for some exciting new leagues forming in the spring. The Recreation and Parks Dept. would like to start a kickball league for adults and a senior softball league. If you are interested, please call Kim at 262-902-7917.



And the winner is...

Thank you to everyone that voted to name the old grade school park. The winning name is OLD SCHOOL PARK! Look for a park dedication this spring.

And finally, thank you to all of the basketball coaches who helped out this year; without volunteer coaches we would not have a league. We really appreciate their help and support!

Programs brought to you by Shannon Malkasian, Community Room Assistant:

Taekwondo is held on Tuesday and Thursday, ages 4-12 from 5pm-6pm, 13 & up from 6pm-7pm in the Community Room at the Municipal Building. \$80 a month (first month includes uniform). Discounted rate available for additional family members.

Spirit Team 10-week



Winter Session runs on Saturdays, January 8—March 12. Ages 4-6 practice at 9:15am (45min), ages 7-9 practice at 10am (1hr) and ages 10-13 practice at 11am (1hr). The fee is \$65.00. Advanced ages 10-15 practice at 12noon for an hour and a half, and the fee is \$75. All practices will be held in the Community Room of Municipal Building. *Note: There are additional dates for performances.*

Play Dates will be held on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month at 10:00 a.m. For ages 18-36 months, this program offers educational age appropriate activities, lessons, songs and fun! Pre-register for 6-weeks at \$50, or drop in for \$10 per session.

Family Movie Night is held on the first Friday of January, February and March in the Community Room at the Municipal Building. The FREE show starts at 6pm; doors open @ 5:30pm. Popcorn, soda and candy available for sale. *Please, no outside food.* Children under the age of 13 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

January 7: Ramona and Beezus

February 4: Shrek Forever After, The Final Chapter

March 4: Despicable Me

Valentines Day Craft Event will be held on Saturday, February 5th. Ages 3-6 meet at 10am and ages 7-10 meet at 11am. \$3.00 Participation Fee.

Jr. Dance to be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month. For ages 6th-8th grade. \$3.00 entrance fee. Pizza, soda and snacks available for sale. Call Shannon for details at 262-930-7704.

For details on any of the Recreation Department's programs, please contact Kim Terpstra, Recreation Director, at 262-902-7917, or Shannon Malkasian at 262-930-7704.

Email: kterpstra@uniongrove.net

Current Recreation Dept. information can always be found on the Village Website: www.uniongrove.net. Or check us out on Facebook/ Union Grove Parks and Recreation.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

By: Mark Osmundsen

It's starting to feel like winter will soon be here. As another winter season approaches, I have a reminder for you. The sidewalks must be cleaned and free of any slippery areas within a 24-hour period after a snowfall.

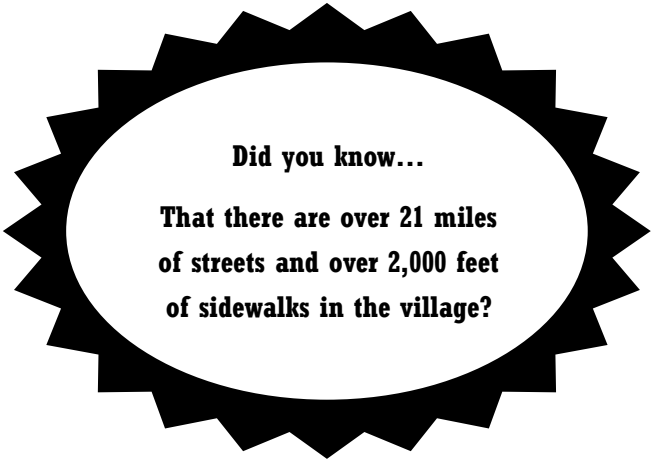


If the areas are not cleared, it will be done for you, but at a cost to the

property owner. We have a lot of people in the village that walk outside on a daily basis, so we need to keep everyone safe. Please take care of your sidewalks in a timely manner; it would be greatly appreciated. And please remember, blowing snow into the street is not allowed.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach me at 878-1818, or you can email me at: mosmundsen@uniongrove.net

As always, thank you for your cooperation.



Did you know...
That there are over 21 miles of streets and over 2,000 feet of sidewalks in the village?



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE COMMUNITY?

The 7th annual Michael Young flag football tournament will be held on Saturday December 11th, 2010, at Union Grove High School's Laverty Field. Players must be 14-years old to play, and all players are required to sign a waiver to play. Participants between ages 14 to 18 will need a parent or legal guardian to sign the waiver. Team requirements are 9 players on the field at a time, however you can have as many players on your team as you would like.

If you don't want to play, please come out and join us for some food and refreshments. We will have raffles and concessions all day (heated hallway in school will be used for raffles and to warm up). All funds raised from this event go to the continued support of the Michael Young Scholarship given out every year to a Union Grove High School senior at the High School awards banquet. For information call Emily Young at 878-1589.

UPCOMING EVENTS FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Greater Union Grove Area Chamber of Commerce - The Grinch and More



The Grinch doesn't live in Union Grove. But, rumor has it that he has the Wonderful, Awful idea to travel this way to find out why the residents of Union Grove are Merry during the holiday season. I wonder when he will arrive. It is said that this green man dressed in red has a heart that is 2 sizes too small, but the Grinch won't snatch your **Letters to Santa**, which you can take to the Union Grove Post

Office. Make sure your full name and address are listed so Santa Claus knows where to send your letter. You can drop them off December 4 - 18.

The Hat and Mitten Tree

Help keep your neighbors warm this winter by donating new hats and mittens. The hat and mitten tree will be at First Banking Center (1201 Main Street, Union Grove) until December 17. The hats and mittens will be given to the Union Grove Area Food Pantry to be given out with Christmas Baskets. The Hat and Mitten Tree is just the kind of thing that makes the Grinch frown. Residents, take time to care for their less fortunate neighbors.

Other events at the Chamber:

Saturday, February 5 beginning at 6:00 pm individuals who have contributed to the Community will be honored at our **Pillar of the Community Banquet**. Bower Design will be presented with the Cornerstone of the Community Award for their contribution to the community. All are welcome to join us at the Eagle Inn. Watch our website for details.

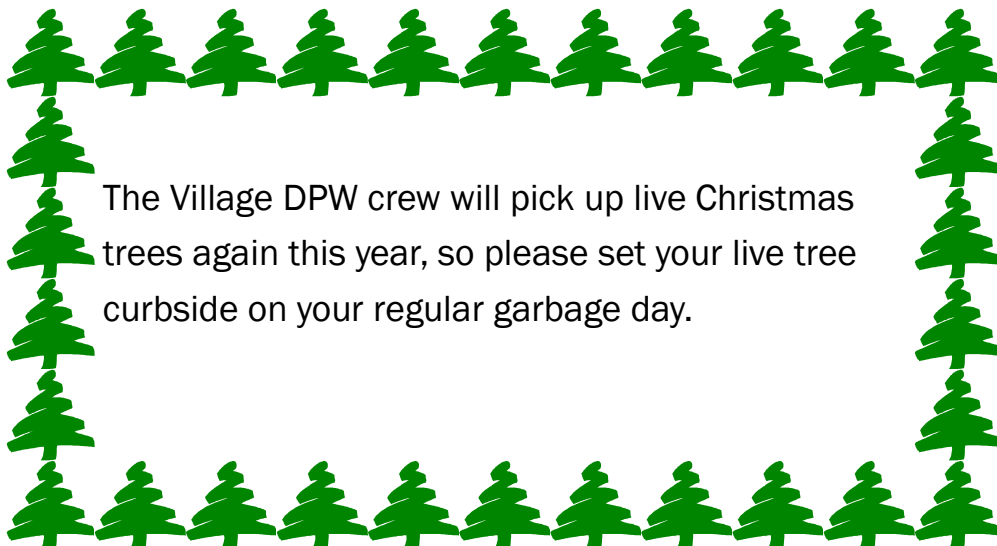
March 19 is the day to get your business involved in the **Bowling Battle of the Businesses** at Old Settlers. It is open to all businesses. Get a team



together and join in the fun.

Chamber lunch meetings will be held on January 10 and March 14. On January 10 local elected officials will be speaking at our meeting. There will be plenty of time for any questions you may have for them. The topic for the March 14th meeting will be Health Care Reform but the speakers will be announced later. Call or email for reservations.

Terri Gray, Executive Director
262-878-4606
ugchamber@att.net
www.uniongrovechamber.org



The Village DPW crew will pick up live Christmas trees again this year, so please set your live tree curbside on your regular garbage day.

A MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF CZERNIAK

While considering what I should write about for fire safety in this issue, tragedy struck and some of our fellow residents provided material through their own lack of forethought.

First, the tragic loss of lives in the Delavan - Darien community reemphasizes the need to be overly cautious and conscientious when using space heaters. When you opt to use such a device, please read and follow the instructions, be sure you have adequate ventilation and realize that this should not be your only source for heating your residence. Maintain proper distances of objects from the device, purchase space heaters with automatic shut offs, have proper containers for fuel (if not electric) and use them for the intended purpose only.

Second, we had a very dry fall, so when the desire to burn strikes you, please look at the weather conditions. Pay careful attention to wind speed and direction, and have water available should it be needed. We can't be there in less than five minutes

(no matter how fast we are), and a fire can easily double or quadruple in that short amount of time.

As you prepare for the holidays, please think safety. Don't overload circuits and don't hide wires or extension cords under rugs. Consider the new, cool LED bulbs over the old-time hot bulbs.

Keep your "live" tree adequately watered, and remember to put out any candles when you leave the house, go to bed, or even when you leave a room for any extended period of time. I don't want to sound like I'm yelling at you, but I can't emphasize enough how important all of this is for you and your family's safety.



I am quite sure that you changed your smoke alarm batteries as we switched to Central Standard Time, and I hope you have purchased and periodically tested your CO meter. Remember, the devices will

not last forever and they do need to be replaced after a number of years. The loss potential if you don't have them far exceeds the initial and repeated expense of keeping them around and working.

Our efforts continue to plan for a much needed fire station, and in the up-coming months I'll be gathering some interesting facts and figures to share with you. I'd like to show you that having a volunteer fire department saves you tax dollars, and how important it is to our organization and to the community to have a larger building with sleeping facilities, adequate space for training, continuing education and maintenance of physical fitness.

In the meantime, enjoy your holidays. Adopt a fire hydrant and keep it clear of snow. Practice good common sense when burning candles, using fireplaces and space heaters. And finally, stay healthy by getting your flu shot and bundling up this winter.

RELAY FOR LIFE OF UNION GROVE

Relay for Life of Union Grove is a nationally recognized American Cancer Society event in the fight against cancer. The annual event has grown each year and consists of teams taking part in activities that are held over the course of a 14-hour period. In June of this year, over 200 people on 18-teams took the opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer, raising a record-breaking amount of money. The 2010 Union Grove Relay For Life raised \$72,275.25!



TEAMS ARE FORMING NOW! The 2011 event will be held at Union Grove High School on

June 3-4. The theme for 2011 is Carnival for a Cure.

There will be an event kick-off for team captains at 5:00 p.m. on January 13th at the Union Grove-Yorkville Fire Department.; invitations will be mailed to all past team captains. Register your team early to and save money:

Register by 12/31/10: \$100 Reg. Fee

Register by 02/28/10: \$125 Reg. Fee

March 1st until event: \$150 Reg. Fee

The Union Grove relay has been very successful in raising money in the fight against cancer, but we need **YOUR** help! If you are interested in learning more about

the event, or would like to join us at the kick-off, please contact Nancy Suhr at 262-939-2990, or email at ugrelayforlife@gmail.com.



STORM WATER MANAGEMENT UTILITY

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

At the August 23, 2010 meeting of the Village Board a Storm Water Management Utility was created to govern the storm water system in the Village. This not only includes the current retention basins but also the storm water mains and the curb and gutter system.

Starting with the first quarter water bill in 2011, the bill mailed the beginning of April, 2011, a charge will appear to cover the costs to maintain the storm water system. The budget will be set each year and will vary depending upon the project selected. The estimated annual cost for 2011 is \$89.00.

The feasibility study commissioned by the Village indicates that storm water related cost to residential customers under a fee based system will be 36% less than under a tax-based system, because commercial, industrial and institutional customers will be charged a storm water fee based on the amount of impervious area (roof, parking lot, etc.). In addition tax-exempt properties that currently don't contribute funds to the storm water budget, but contribute runoff to Village collection systems, will be charged a storm water fee.

The costs that are currently in the street department budget for storm sewer maintenance will be moved to the storm water utility and out of the tax levy. This includes the cost of street sweeping and one employee. The Village will be facing more unfunded mandates from the Federal and State governments regarding storm water quality and quantity. The Storm Water Management Utility is an equitable means of funding projects associated with these mandates, as well as funding planned Village projects to alleviate flooding.

CHICKEN FRANCAISE

- 1 lb. skinless-boneless chicken breast
- 2 eggs
- 1 tbsp. lemon juice
- 1 cup seasoned Italian bread crumbs
- ½ cup parmesan cheese
- 1 stick margarine
- ¼ cup lemon juice (**fresh or concentrated**)
- 3 cloves crushed garlic (or to taste)
- 2 tsp. parsley
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- ½ cup broth and ½ cup white wine **or** 1 c. chicken broth



Slice chicken as thin cutlets. Beat together with fork, 2 eggs, salt and pepper and 1 tablespoon lemon juice. Mix breadcrumbs with parmesan cheese. Dip chicken pieces in egg mixture and then in breadcrumbs mixture.

Brown 2-3 cloves garlic in olive oil - add chicken and brown on both sides. Set aside in baking dish. For sauce: melt together 1 stick of margarine and lemon juice. Add 3 cloves crushed garlic (or to taste), 2 teaspoons parsley, 1/8 teaspoon pepper and ½ cup chicken broth and ½ cup wine. Simmer 10 minutes; strain if desired. Pour over chicken in baking dish. Bake covered 20 minutes and then uncovered 10 minutes at 350 degrees. Add lemon slices on top of chicken and serve. *(Recipe courtesy of Liz Schwertfeger)*

THE BOOKSHELF

Graham Public Library, 1215 Main Street in Union Grove, offers the following programs and classes. Please call the library at 878-2910 for registration information. Please visit our website at www.uniongrove.lib.wi.us

Children and Family Programs

Toddler Time

Designed for the confident walker and a parent or caregiver. Toddler Time includes simple stories, songs, fingerplays, and movement activities for the “active” set. Takes place on Wednesdays from 9:30-10 a.m. during the month of February. Pre-registration is required.

Lap-Sit

Designed for pre-walkers (and crawlers and those not yet comfortable being totally vertical). Includes stories, songs, bounces, and movement activities to be done with a parent or caregiver. Takes place on Thursday mornings from 9:30-10 a.m. in March. Pre-registration is required.

Family Story Time

This “Intergenerational Story Hour” was started to meet the needs of traditional and extended families. Developed for “any age, any number”, family members gather at the library for stories, songs, food, and



fun. Family story time will be held November 16th, February 15th, and March 15th from 6:30 – 7:30p.m. Pre-registration is required.

Programs for Adults

Adult Book Discussion Group

Attention book lovers! Do you like to discuss books with other avid readers? Library staff will select a “book of the month”, and we will meet to discuss our ideas, interpretations and opinions of the selected book. The book discussion group will meet on Mondays from 6:30-8 p.m.

We will be reading:

January 24: Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet, by Jamie Ford.

February 21: The Help, by Kathryn Stockett.

March 28: March, by Geraldine Brooks.

Stop by the library to check out any one of these titles and register for the book discussion.

Crafter’s Group

Held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month at 10 a.m. Whether your craft is scrap booking, greeting card making, model railroad or airplane building, fly tying, drawing or painting, whittling, needlework or other, you are cordially invited to join this friendly group for conversation, fun, and creative ideas to share. No registration is needed. All levels welcome.

Memoir Writers

Anyone interested in learning how to write their memoirs can join the new writers group that meets at the

library the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. No registration is required. All level of writing skills welcome.

Art Classes

Art classes are led by artist Lucky LaMeer. Registration and payment are required. \$10 fee per class includes all supplies. Class size is limited to 10.

The next class, Snowman Jars-Glass Painting., is on Thursday, December 9, 6–8 p.m. Bring your own jars!



Library Hours

Mon - Thurs: 9 am - 8 pm
 Friday: 9 am - 5 pm
 Saturday: 9 am - 3 pm
 Sunday: Closed

The library will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Years Day.



History Seekers

History Seekers, a group interested in preserving local history will meet at Graham Public Library on Thursday, December 9th at 9:30 – 11 a.m. Come share your Christmas memories with us, and help make plans for 2011.

NOTES FROM THE CDA COMMITTEE

By: Michael Younglove,
CDA Chairman

It seems like only yesterday that we published photos and an article celebrating the groundbreaking for "Village Crossing", a combination commercial/residential development at Main Street and Tenth Avenue. If you haven't been on Main Street recently you should plan a trip to the area to check out the businesses moving into the building, as well as our other fine downtown businesses.

The Community Development Authority and the Village Board recently signed a contract extending our cooperative relationship with the Racine County Economic Development Corporation; our local

contact person is Kristin Niemiec, who is the face of our Community Development Authority. Kristin can be contacted by phone at 262- 898-7404, or by e-mail at kniemiec@racinecountyedc.org.

The Racine County Economic Development Corporation, through its website www.racinecountyedc.org/properties/index.html, now offers a complete inventory of commercial properties available within Racine County. The system provides full property profiles, including photos, building and lot information. It also provides historical transactional information, such as leasing, sales, and vacancy information. RCEDC is planning a training session in Union Grove on how to use the sys-

tem in the near future; please watch for more information. This service is provided through Xceligent®, and is a type of MLS service. If you have property that you would like listed, please contact Kristin Niemiec at RCEDC. If you are looking for properties in Union Grove, please check out the website.

On October 26, 2010 a meeting was held to discuss the possibility of a Senior Cooperative Housing Development located at the approximate 2 ½ acre former CPI Mill property. Over 90 housing cooperatives have been developed in the Midwest for active older adults. Representatives from the Village Board and CDA, as well as many interested citizens attended the meeting and walked away with a good understand-

ing of the benefits of Senior Cooperative Housing. If you are interested in more information, please contact Leslie Scherrer of the Peter Scherrer Group at 262-758-3190, or you can email Leslie at leslie@scherrergroup.com.

The CDA meets regularly on the third Tuesday of the month. We invite everyone in the community to attend. There is always time set aside at each CDA meeting for input from the community. We welcome any input from the community we serve.

"Building on our past for our future"

Village Budget Information; the 2011 Village operating budget reflects the following changes from the 2010 budget:

Income:

- * Increase in property taxes budgeted to be received from Water Utility (\$30,000)
- * Reimbursement from Storm Water Utility for office expenses (\$15,500)
- * Decrease in Interest Income and Court Fines (\$4,000 each)

Expenses:

- * Removed funding for Village Administrator including pension, health insurance and social security expenses (\$109,900)
- * Increase in Hydrant Rental/Fire Protection that was ordered by the Public Service Commission as part of the water rate increase (\$125,676)
- * Decrease in labor in the operating budget moved to the Storm Water Utility budget including benefits (\$67,625)
- * Increase in wages - 2.75% represented employees, 2% NRE's (\$10,322)
- * Increase in pension expense (\$2,500)
- * Increase in health insurance (\$6,424)

The Storm Water Management Utility includes capital items that must be completed - Detention Basin on Commerce Drive and balance of Assessment from the drainage district. (\$111,468)

The Debt Service budget increase is due to borrowing for street program (\$191,388). However we will receive \$55,066 from the federal government to offset some of the interest.

The tax rate increased \$.15/1000 of assessed value due to the decrease in the assessed value.

VILLAGE TIDBITS

IMPORTANT!

Updated Village Recycling Information:

As of January 1, 2011, Recyclables will be picked up the same day as your garbage. **ALL** of the recyclables will be picked up. Please continue to separate your recyclables as you do now, cardboard and paper in one container and co-mingles in another, but put them **all** out on your garbage day!

Yard waste will no longer be accepted in plastic bags, you must put it in a biodegradable bag or container. You can pick up biodegradable bags from Menards, Farm & Fleet, Union Grove Lumber.

E-waste, anything that is electronic, including televisions, needs to be called in to ASDA for pickup. 262-539-2086.

Tire pickup, brush chipping and yard waste will stay the same, getting picked up on the last Friday of the month.

There will no longer be a large item pickup at the end of the month. You can put out any large item with your weekly garbage and it will get picked up on your regular day.

REMINDER! Black bags are not allowed at anytime for any garbage. Acceptable bags are clear, clear blue or white. *Note: Garbage pick will be on the normal schedule during the week of Christmas and New Years.*

Odd or Even Side Overnight Parking Permitted

From November 15 through March 15, overnight parking shall be permitted only on the even-numbered side of the street on the nights bearing an even calendar date during the hours from 2:00 am to 6:00 am, and on the odd-numbered side of the street on those nights bearing an odd calendar date during the hours from 2:00 am to 6:00 am on any street in the village, except Main Street. Please note that the ordinance is in effect whether or not there is snow.

Dog & Cat Licenses

Licenses expire on December 31, 2010. A great time to renew is when you pay your property taxes, however, you do have until April 1, 2011 to renew without penalty. After April 1, 2011,



there is a \$10.00 per animal late added to the license fee. Please note: cats need to be licensed, even if they are kept in the house. The fees are as follows:

- Neutered Male : \$6.00
- Un-neutered Male: \$12.00
- Spayed Female: \$6.00
- Un-spayed Female: \$12.00

Holiday Office Hours:

Regular village office hours are from 8:00 AM to

4:30 PM Monday through Friday. The office will be closed December 23 and 24, and will close at noon on December 31st.

A drop box, located by the door to the Municipal Center, is available for dropping off tax payments. Please do not deposit cash in the drop box.

We are on Facebook!

Check us out at the Village of Union Grove Facebook page.



Local events, meeting agendas and minutes, program schedules... All of this and more can be found on our village website. Go to www.uniongrove.net today!



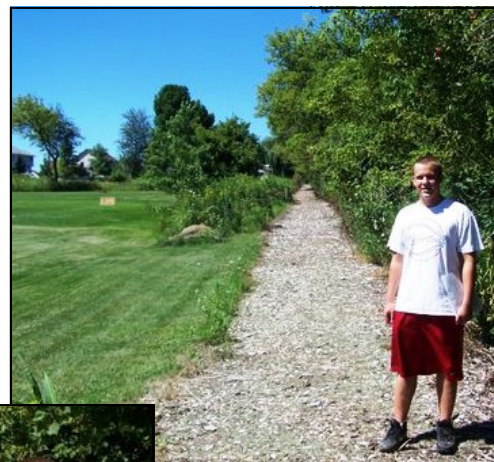
LIFE TRAIL, BY EAGLE SCOUT KEVIN JORGENSEN

Every once in a while you hear a story about someone making a difference in their community. Well, this is one of those stories. But the exciting part is that the person making the difference is Kevin Jorgensen, a young man who chose to create a walking path in our community for his Eagle Scout project (Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy

Scouting program).

Rather than interview Kevin, I asked for him to describe the project in his own words. Please read below and be prepared to be inspired by Kevin's passion and community-minded way of thinking. I know I was!

~ Nancy Suhr



In talking to village representatives I learned that the village needed an alternate access route between the Fox Creek subdivision and the Groves subdivision instead of 67th Drive. I was asked by the village to make a trail behind the water treatment plant that would connect the two subdivisions together. I researched and found the most cost efficient and easiest maintenance way of building the project. I asked the village if it would be okay if I went through with my trail in the way I was planning, and they gave me the go ahead. Mark Osmundsen and Tim Mallach helped guide me through the makings of my trail, like regulations, property lines, layout materials, and any additional questions that occurred through the building process. I then had to submit my project in to the Boy Scout council to see if it was eagle worthy. The Boy Scout council said that it was a good idea and to start when I saw fit. I started in fall when the vegetation was low and cut out some of the brush blocking the trail. I then asked the village about donating the wood chip piles behind the plant to the use of my trail and they said I could use everything back there. The Boy Scouts of Troop 350 and I laid down the wood chips over a six month process. Afterwards I looked around trying to find signs that would be visible and large enough for my trail. I contacted some sign companies in the area when a fellow boy scouts stepfather, Chris Slusar said he knew one of his friends in Green Bay that could help me obtain the signs for my trail. He gave me the name and number and I called him. He told me that he would donate all the labor and most of the materials for the trail and the final cost would be thirty-five dollars. I took him up on that offer and he generously donated the signs for my trail. He told me to think of a name for the trail, and that's where I decided Life Trail for two reasons. Reason one is because the far north side of my trail is connected to Eagle Trail. In Boy Scouts you must first become a Life Scout before you become an Eagle Scout. The Second Reason was because the other side of my trail is connected to Moe and Young Memorial Park which was built because of the lives of young children who had passed away. After I had obtained my signs, I went to Union Grove Lumber who donated 2x4's and hardware to put the signs on. Once the signs and the lumber was connected me and another Boy Scout, Alex Dawson, installed the signs around the trail.

A GREENER UNION GROVE

By: Timothy Mallach

Why should Union Grove recycle? Why is it important to me to recycle?

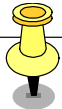
Recycling is not just separating your household waste to be collected as trash; you have other options. For items that are still useable, consider donating or reselling them. By donating your unwanted useable items to a charity, you will be helping people in need, By reselling, you could make a few dollars of your own. Try selling items on Craigslist or on eBay.

Curbside recycling provides a place for me to properly dispose of my plastics, aluminum, tin, paper, cardboard, etc. It's the law in the State of Wisconsin to recycle; it will save energy and create jobs. This will help keep recyclables out of the landfill and save everyone money.

If everyone would recycle and teach the younger generation the importance of recycling, then future generations will have less trash to dispose of.



What is the Freecycle Network™? The network is made up of 4,864 groups with 7,603,875 members around the world. It's a grassroots and entirely nonprofit movement of people who are giving (and getting) stuff for free in their own towns. It's all about reuse and keeping good stuff out of landfills. Go to freecycle.org to check it out! There is a local volunteer group in Racine that is on the site giving and getting items right now!



Memo

In an effort to save taxpayers dollars, we will be offering the newsletter electronically starting with the March 2011 issue. If you would like to receive your copy of the Village Voice **VIA EMAIL** from now on, please send an email to feedback@uniongrove.net, and tell us your name and property mailing address. We will remove your name from the paper copy mailing list. Please include the email address that you would like us to use for future newsletters. As a thank you, 10 lucky winners will receive a free Union Grove coffee cup! Winners will be randomly selected from the list of names submitted.



GET TO KNOW YOUR VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

Take a look at the 2010-2011 Winter Snow and Ice predictions! →

It seemed appropriate that for this edition of the newsletter we highlight the workers of our DPW-Streets department. They are busy all year long, these are the men that will keep our streets clear of snow this winter:



Ron Hanson



Ron Hanson has worked for the village for 20-years, and is in charge of the maintenance of all of the equipment and buildings. He also does a lot of the buying for the village. Ron also does street work, snow plow and building repair. Ron has lived in the village all of his 57-years. He's been a trustee at St. Paul's Lutheran Church for six years, and was in the first Leadership Union Grove class. His three grown children all live away from home now; his daughter is 29 and a doctor. His 28-year old son works for Office Max at their world headquarters, and his 24-year old son works at the Curative Workshop of Racine.

Brian Dexter



Brian has worked for the Village of Union Grove on the Street Department for 19 years. He is the lead man for the six street department employees. The DPW jobs

change with the seasons; ranging from decorating the Village for the holidays to mowing and maintaining parks in the summer. The current focus is cleaning up the leaves to be ready for plowing snow this winter. Brian lives on a hobby farm with his wife Raegan, and their two children, Morgan (22) and Mason (19). Raegan is a department lead for Runzheimer International. Morgan is a recent graduate of UW Whitewater and is working in Brookfield as a business recruiting specialist. Mason works for Asplundh Tree Service as a tree trimmer. When Brian isn't working, he likes to hunt, fish and farm. Brian is currently enrolled in Leadership Union Grove.

Kevin Kempken



Kevin has been with DPW for 5-years now, and really enjoys working for the people in our village. His job changes with the weather, so it varies from maintaining the streets to mowing the grass in the parks and everything in between. Kevin asked if during snow removal, everyone could be patient as they make their way through the village. "DPW doesn't like to plow your driveway in", but the roads must be cleared for safety. Kevin said to feel free to talk to the DPW guys about any

suggestions you might have to make improvements to our village. When he isn't working, Kevin likes to go up north to the family cabin as often as he can, and to ride his motorcycle with friends.

Dale Hapner



Dale enjoys working for the village, and has worked there for 17 years. Dale snow plows, patches streets, picks up leaves and anything else that needs his assistance.

Marvin Hegemann



Marvin is starting his 7th year with the village. He trims trees, plows snow, patches streets, vacuums leaves, repairs equipment, chips brush, sets up the parade, hauls snow, cleans equipment... just to name a few jobs. For fun, Marvin plays softball and golf. He enjoys snowmobiling and motorcycling. He's been married to Linda for 27 years, and they

have three children. Chad is 22, Andrea is 20 and Zach is 19.

Jeff Swantz



Jeff works for both the Storm Water Utility Department and the Streets Department. Jeff has many job duties, some of which are sweeping the streets, snow plowing & snow removal, cleaning storm sewers & catch basins, rebuilding catch basins and curb & gutter replacement—the list goes on! Jeff has lived in Union Grove for 24 years, and he likes to hunt, fish, golf, snowmobile, drag racing and restoring Hot Rod cars. He has fun with his four nephews and one niece, and always likes to spend time with family and friends.



Let's all do our part—
Please park off-street if possible, and please do not blow your snow into the street.

VILLAGE FUN

Great Pumpkin Fest

On Saturday, October 30th, the Greater Union Grove Area Chamber of Commerce presented the 7th Annual Great Pumpkin Fest. The children and adults were dressed in costumes that ranged from very scary to very cute, and everything in between. Below are just some of the costumes from the fun-filled day. (Contest photo courtesy of Andrea Lazzeroni from Wisconsin Veterans Home)



The cutest cupcake ever!
Addison Callewaert



Mason Svendsen, Jaden Svendsen
and Austin Svendsen



Lindsey Laitinen

The Terpstra Family: Kim, Blake and
Ashlyn. Yes, that's Kim back there!



Winners of the Pumpkin Decorating Contest



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**WORKING TOGETHER TODAY FOR
TOMORROW'S FUTURE**



Why Shop Local?

Because it really makes a huge difference.

When you shop local, you invest in your community, in your neighbors, and in yourselves. Local business owners have invested in our community, so let's do the same!