

VILLAGE VOICE



Published by the Village of Union Grove

WINTER 2012

UNION GROVE BUSINESS NETWORK GROUP MEMBER: SQUARE ONE HEATING & COOLING

Square One Heating and Cooling is a licensed, professional HVAC corporation which handles all aspects of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning industry, from installing new systems to the 24-hour service of all makes and models.

As a factory-authorized Bryant dealer, customers can expect quality, efficiency and dependability from our skilled, factory-trained installers and technicians. They are qualified to meet the unique demands of each customer and all makes and models of their equipment.

Additionally, Square One offers a wide range of other services including duct cleaning, geo-thermal units, solar-powered systems and air quality products.

Originally formed as Square One Contracting on June 1, 2003, the company underwent a name change in August 2005 and became Square One Heating and Cooling, LLC. The name better describes the company's niche in the construction industry, Square One opened their current location in Union Grove in the spring of 2006, and became a factory-authorized Bryant dealer in 2007. The company, owned by Steve Hansen and Lee Schroeder, continues to grow. The size of the company is truly an advantage for Square One's customers. ***See back page for details on the Union Grove Business Network.*



Co-Owner Steve Hansen



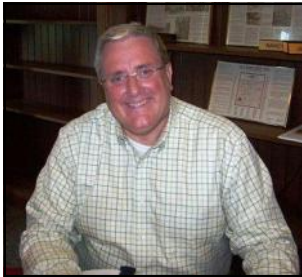
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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- The Kansasville VFW donated \$20,000 to the Union Grove/Yorkville Fire Dept.
- Coleman Tool & Mfg. donated a new lawn mower/snow blower/ cab to the village DPW.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEN FROM MIKE AIMONE



It's hard to believe that another year is coming to a close. 2011 has been a 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 not only be holding on, but moving forward. I hope you all know your efforts are much appreciated.

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.

I'd be remiss if I didn't recognize two very generous donations to the village over this past year from the Kansasville VFW. Thanks to a combined effort of volunteer labor (Kiwanis members), donated materials, a donation of \$10,000 from the Kansasville VFW and a donation of \$35,000 from the Kiwanis, we have a beautiful new full masonry pavilion at the "Old School Park". This would not have been possible without the generous donations from all.

A second generous donation of \$20,000 was made by the Kansasville VFW to the Union Grove/Yorkville Fire Dept. This money has been designated to an account for a future new fire station. (Picture on page 8)

Wishing you and your families a very Happy New Year.

Mike Aimone,
Village President

A GREENER UNION GROVE

By: Timothy Mallach

Recycling Helpful Hints:

- Anything made with fiber can be recycled, so please recycle your books and magazines.
- Please break down cardboard to make it easier to handle.
- #1-6 plastics are accepted (no packaging Styrofoam please).
- Please rinse co-mingles and please NO GARBAGE in your recycling bins. (Co-mingling recycling consists of glass bottles, jars, tin & bi-metal cans, aluminum containers, cans, plastic containers #1-#6)
- Fluorescent Light Disposal: Home Depot, 2429 S. Green Bay Road (Hwy 31), takes all fluorescent lighting for recycle. Just bring your fluorescent lights to the service desk and they will recycle for you.



Electronics recycling fact: Over 24 million pounds of electronics were recycled through E-Waste Wisconsin in 2010. That would be enough to fill Lambeau Field 30 feet high! During Union Grove's 2011 E-Waste Drives, more than 14 tons of E-Waste were collected and recycled—THANK YOU!

Please keep recycling for a greener Union Grove.

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT... THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NOT TO BE RECYCLED:

- NO garbage
- NO Styrofoam containers or pellets
- NO plastic take-out food containers
- NO plastic cups, plates or utensils
- NO paper towels, plates or napkins
- NO light bulbs
- NO toxic containers (antifreeze, oil, etc.)
- NO disposable diapers or rags
- NO lids or caps
- NO syringes
- NO window glass or mirrors
- NO plastic bags



Electronic Newsletter

In an effort to save taxpayers dollars, we are now offering the newsletter electronically. If you would like to receive your copy of the Village Voice **VIA EMAIL**, 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. Thank you to those who have already signed up!

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 Bill Stoltz
 Gordon Svendsen
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VILLAGE TIDBITS

Village Dumpsters Discontinued

As of January 1, 2012 the Village will no longer be providing free dumpsters for residential use. If you need a dumpster there are several companies you could contact, if you need assistance please call the Village of Union Grove offices at 262-878-1818.

Black Garbage Bags

Black bags are not allowed for garbage. All garbage must be placed in clear or white plastic bags. The reason behind this is we are a mandatory recycling community. If you are using black bags please discontinue; ASDA has been notified to not pick them up.



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

Dogs and Cats in the Village **MUST** be licensed. Many residents think that because cats are kept indoors they do not need to be licensed. That is not true! Current licenses will expire December 31, 2011, and the deadline for licensing without penalty is April 1, 2012.



Good-bye to a valued employee

On January 31, 2012 Janet VanDaalwyk will be retiring from the Village of Union Grove. Janet has worked for the Village for 13 years and will be taking many wonderful memories with her. When asked what she liked best about her job she simply stated, the customers. Janet always tried her best to help everyone with their concerns, and if she didn't have the answers, she would get them and reply back to the customer. Her worst part of her job.....sending out the disconnection notices on water bills, and the Dog License past due notices, only to find out a favorite pet has passed on. The most interesting part of her job had to be clerking the Municipal Court. From preparing the paperwork for the judge, to collecting fines and keeping records for the court, Janet loved that aspect of her job. Please stop on by the Municipal Center to wish Janet well on her retirement!

NOTES FROM THE CDA

By: Teresa Holm

The Community Development Authority (CDA) in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce, is happy to report our first initiative from the Clue Group Study, the Farmers Market, was a huge success! Our Farmers Market in Village Square will run next year from mid - May thru October. A huge thank you to our vendors, entertainers and shoppers who came out to support the market during our Fall kick-off. We had a great time and hope to see you all back again in May.

The CDA would like to thank our downtown

businesses that have taken advantage of our Façade Grant Program. We've had several renovations completed using this program. We still have funds available, so please contact the Village at 262-878-1818 for details.

We've had some new businesses open in our downtown district. A big welcome to **The Laundry Station**, located in the Downtown Depot, and to **Top Paws Grooming**, located at 1033 Main Street. We have so many great stores, services and restaurants to choose from; if you haven't been downtown

lately, please come take a look.

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"



... A note from the desk of Mike Aimone, Village President

Union Grove Senior Housing Survey

In our continuing quest to meet the needs of the community of Union Grove and our surrounding neighbors, you may have received a survey from *Horizon Development Group* (out of Madison, WI) regarding your interest in senior housing (55 and over). As we continue to explore this very exciting potential development, I encourage you to please complete and return the survey. If you have not received a survey, or would like further information, please contact Scott Kwiecinski at (608) 354-0820.

A MESSAGE FROM FIRE CHIEF CZERNIAK

Even though you will be reading this long after Fire Prevention Week, I think it's fitting to say a few things about fire prevention and safety, especially when the 2011 slogan was "Protect Your Family from Fire".

Please remember to change your smoke alarm batteries. And don't forget; you should replace your alarm every ten years.



Candle Safety:

- Candles should be at least 12" away from everything.
- Never leave a child alone in a room with a burning candle.
- Don't let candles completely burn down.
- Never use candles if oxygen is being used in the home.
- Don't use candles during a power outage (bet you never heard that before); have flashlights and extra batteries instead.
- A candle fire in the home is reported every 30 minutes and 1/3 of home candle fires start in the bedroom.

- Use flameless candles – they look and smell real and aren't a fire hazard.

With the Prevention theme in mind, it is urged that you develop a home fire escape plan, and be sure to practice it twice a year. We've taught all preschool—fourth graders to do this, so your action and support reinforces how important it is to have a plan.

Have you used the improved intersection of 67th Drive and Highway C? Please use good driving etiquette and skill to help avoid accidents. This intersection has been labeled as the deadliest intersection, and we want to change that. Be especially aware of the effects of sun and glare, which can make it very difficult to see.

Whenever in a life threatening situation, remember, do not hesitate to call 911 and let us help you. We have highly trained volunteer members who will assist you. So, enjoy our wonderful Wisconsin winter, and stay fire safe.



Proudly Serving the Community Since 1895.

DID YOU KNOW? There is transportation available for Seniors and People with Disabilities

There are companies who provide transportation for seniors and people with disabilities in and around the Village of Union Grove. These services will take people to doctor/dental appointments, the grocery store and many other places around Racine County. They all have different costs, qualification guidelines and services, so please contact them for more information.

- **ITNRacineCounty** ~ Dignified transportation for seniors

Phone: 262-554-1091 // Website: <http://itnracinecounty.net>

- **First Transit** (formerly Laidlaw)

Phone: 262-886-5321 // Website: www.hsd.racineco.com (listed under Adults & Specialized Transportation)

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

By Mark Osmundsen

Where has the year gone? Here I am talking about winter again!

Snow & Ice Removal

Winter storms are right around the corner, so please remember to clear snow and ice within the 24-hour period after the snowfall. Shoveling or snow-blowing snow from sidewalks and driveways into the street is NOT permitted; it creates a hazardous condition. Please note that there has been a change to the Municipal Code regarding snow and ice removal from

s i d e - walks. If snow or ice is not cleared, the village will

clear the sidewalk; you will be charged for the actual labor cost of removal by the village. There will be no notifications; after 24-hours they will clean and bill.

Utilities

The Village of Union Grove Water Utility brings you the best quality water possible. If you see a change in your water quality please remember that things can change inside your home, from aging pipes to water softener issues. If you run into any problems, please call the village at 262-878-1818; we would be happy to help diagnose the problem.

Thank you, and have a safe and happy new year!



Jill Kopp started with the Village of Union Grove on December 12th. She will be replacing

Janet VanDaalwyk as Deputy Clerk/Court Clerk when Janet retires on January 31, 2012.

Here's a little information from Jill:

"Hi, I'm Jill. I live in Waterford with my husband Brian and 3 sons, Carson, Brady and Zachary. We moved to the area about a year ago. I've worked in municipal government for 10 years and look forward to working for the Village of Union Grove. When I'm not taking care of the kids I enjoy scrapbooking, spending time with family and friends and partying Zumba style!"

Local events, meeting agendas and minutes, program schedules... All of this and more can be found on our NEW AND IMPROVED village website. Go to www.uniongrove.net today! "LIKE US" on Facebook/Village of Union Grove .



THE GREATER UNION GROVE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Our Mission Moving Forward

This Chamber of Commerce is organized for the purpose of advancing the economic well-being of the Greater Union Grove Area. Through planning, education and cooperation, the Chamber shall serve the commercial, industrial, professional, educational and civic interests of the area.

The Greater Union Grove Area Chamber of Commerce is a 100+ member community organization that facilitates, educates and advocates on behalf of its members through their services and programs.

 **THANK YOU!**

Thank you to all of the volunteers who have given of their time and energy over the year. We appreciate every one of you. We want to

thank Dousman Transportation for bussing our Leadership Union Grove students to their destinations over the past few months. Thank you to Betty and Bernie Backus for putting together our newsletter mailings this past year. And a big thank you to our 2011 Sponsors:

GOLD SPONSORS

Community State Bank
Polnasek-Daniels Family Funeral Home

SILVER SPONSORS

The Family Dentists
Martin's Garage Chrysler Dodge
Regional Appraisal Management, LLC
S & S Real Estate Appraisal, Inc.
Shepherds Ministries, Inc.
Shepherds Enterprises
Shepherds College
Talmer Bank & Trust



Pictured left to right: Dale Kerkman, Post Quartermaster, Rich Kasprovicz, Ron Crawley, Post Commander, Dennis Rockwell, Captain Kevin Vyvyan, Ron Bogard, Mike Aimone, Michael Younglove.

A generous donation of \$20,000 was made by the Kansasville VFW to the Union Grove/ Yorkville Fire Dept. This money has been designated to an account for a future new fire station.

UNION GROVE AREA FUND

By Barbara Geschke

Have you ever heard of the Union Grove Area Fund? If so, do you know what it is? The Union Grove Area Fund was established in 1995 with a \$100,000 bequest from the estate of James R. Reitsma, a local dairy farmer. But don't let the name fool you—the residents of Yorkville benefit from this fund, too. Reitsma's purpose for making such a generous donation was to support and enhance the fire/rescue squad services for the Union Grove area, and to improve safety and welfare for the community as a whole. Since 1995, several other donations have been received. Funds are kept on deposit with the Racine Community Foundation as a separate Union Grove Area Fund, and are managed by a local Board of Advisors. The five-member board meets annually to consider grant applications, or by special request as needed.

The majority of the grants awarded are those that fit the guidelines established in the bequest of James Reitsma. The grant application asks for a description of the project for which funds are being sought, including specific objectives. Other details needed are the project start and end date, the amount of funds requested from the Union Grove Area Fund, other sources of support being approached, and the amount of any funds already received or pledged.

In keeping with the terms of the original bequest, the Union Grove Area Fund has awarded several grants over the years to the Union Grove/Yorkville Fire & Rescue Department for the purchase of equipment that was needed to better serve the surrounding community. Grants have also been awarded to Leadership Union Grove, Shepherds Ministries, and most recently to Yorkville United Methodist Church for help with installing a new well. The church is in the process of qualifying as a disaster relief site for the rural Yorkville/Union Grove area.

Making a contribution to this fund is an excellent way to give back to your community; you can make a tax-deductible contribution at any time or leave a bequest in your will. Whatever the amount of your donation, your contribution will help make a difference in your community!

If desired, you may specify an area of interest and your wishes will be followed whenever possible as grants are awarded. For any questions or other matters related to gifting, please contact the Union Grove Area Fund at 1616 63rd Drive, Union Grove, WI 53182, or call Brian McMahon at (262) 878-2634. A Facebook page will be up soon, where you can find further information!



NEW DATE THIS YEAR! The 2012 **RELAY FOR LIFE OF UNION GROVE** will be held at Union Grove High School on **June 15-16**. The theme is Sun, Sand & Relay!

TEAMS ARE FORMING NOW! Relay For Life 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. The 2011 Relay For Life of Union Grove event was a huge success! Over 250 people on 24 teams took the opportunity to participate in the fight against cancer, raising a record-breaking amount of money— Union Grove raised over \$87,000!

> > There will be an **EVENT KICK-OFF PARTY** at 5:00 p.m.. January 12, 2012 at the Union Grove-Yorkville Fire Department. Early Bird Discounts Apply: Register your team online before 12/31/11 and save \$50 off of the registration fee! Register before 2/29/12 to save \$25.00 off your fee.

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. Check out the Relay website at: www.relayforlife.org/uniongrovewi

Save
the
Date

RECREATION ROUND-UP

Indoor Walking Program

is held at Union Grove High School, and runs until April 1, 2012. Walking times are Monday through Friday, 5:30-7:00am, **when school is in session**. Registration is mandatory. Sign up at the Municipal Center, 925 15th Avenue, or call 878-1818.

Old School P.E. is Back! Sessions are on Wednesday nights, January 11 – March 14 from 6:00 -8:00pm. \$40.00 per person. For more information, call Kim Terpstra at 902-7917.

ZUMBA is still running strong on Wednesday nights, classes held from 6:30-7:30 in the cafeteria of Yorkville school. Dance your way to a fitter you ~ exciting and unique Latin moves and rhythms.

- 6 Classes for \$35.00
- Punch cards available by purchasing 2 sessions

Register at class or in advance by contacting: Sherry Erickson, Certified Zumba Instructor at 414-881-8216.

Free Family Movie Night:

Held at the Municipal Center, 925 15th Avenue on the first Friday of the month.

- > Jan 6th: Cars
- > February 3rd: Glee 3D
- > March 2nd: The Smurfs



Softball, T-Ball and Coach Pitch Registration

will be held in February; look for details on the date and fees in January at local schools and on the village website at www.uniongrove.net.

And finally, a big thank you to all of the basketball coaches for helping out this season. Without you, we wouldn't have a season.

~ Kim

**Thank you
Coleman
Tool &
Mfg.
Corp!**



Pictured left to right: Mike Coleman, Mark Osmundsen, Mike Aimone, Rebecca Miller and Doug Coleman.

Doug and Mike Coleman from Coleman Tool & Mfg. Corp. are so impressed with the way the Village crew keeps the Village looking, they wanted to help out with a donation of a new lawn mower/snow blower/cab .

THE BOOKSHELF Graham Public Library



Graham Public Library, 1215 Main Street in Union Grove, offers programs for all ages. Call 262-878-2910 with any questions, or visit the new and improved library website at www.uniongrove.lib.wi.us.



~ Thank you for your patience during construction ~

During our current phase of our construction project, the Main Street (Hwy. 45) entrance will be used. Limited parking is available on Main Street and our parking lot will be accessible. Stop in to see the new lighting in half of the library. We are pleased with the new look.

Make 'n Take Fridays

Held every Friday from 10am—2pm, in the children's section of the library. Hands-on, super simple, self-directed projects for your pre-school child to “create” at their own pace with a grown-up, all for free! Supplies are provided by the Graham Public Library!

Feeling Crafty?

Our Crafter's group meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 9:30- 11:00. Any craft in any state of completion is welcomed. This is an easy going group who loves to share ideas and fellowship. No registration required.



NEW IN 2012! Be a Smart Cookie! READ!

Come in the LAST Friday of each month during 2012 and receive a free cookie for checking out an item (one cookie per patron while supplies last).

Library Hours: Mon - Thurs: 9 am - 8 pm , Friday: 9 am - 5 pm. Saturday: 9 am - 3 pm, Sunday: Closed

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the Village of
Union Grove

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WEB: www.uniongrove.net
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Permit #11



Check us out on Facebook! Go to www.facebook.com and enter Village of Union Grove in the search box.

Working together today for tomorrow's future

UNION GROVE BUSINESS NETWORK GROUP

The **Business Network Group** consists of businesses in the Union Grove Area working together to promote each other's business by joining forces in advertising and networking. One of the most recent advertising ventures has been a coupon campaign. The campaign is an envelope filled with coupons from participating business that have been given out at all of the businesses to their customers hence promoting not only their business but those of the Business Network Group. If anyone is interested in joining the group, please call Liz Schwertfeger at the Village of Union Grove, 262-878-1818.

Current Members:

67th Drive Salon & Spa, Acme Office Equipment, Bob's Mobil, Capital Insurance Agency, Community State Bank, Country Store, Dairy Queen, Dimensions Hair Salon, Edward Jones, Family Dentists, Fortier's Jewelry, Grove Insurance, Hair Shoppe, Hands On Consulting, It's All About Us, JB's Pub, Main Street Market, Maximum Security, Mechanical Masters Inc., Melby Chiropractic Clinic, Meredith's Culligan Water, Midwest Dental, Mulberry's Pancake & Café, Napoli's Pizza and Pasta, Next Generation Salon, North Shore Bank, Old Settler's Inn, Playmate Kennel, R & R Club, Ruma Sports, Shepherd's Home, Square One Heating & Cooling, State Farm Insurance, Talmer Bank, TEC Recycling, Terri's Touch, Union Grove Piggly Wiggly, Union Grove Auto Parts, Union Grove Lumber & True Value Hardware, Village Dollar, Vioski Properties, LLC & Redwood Construction, Weis Roofing.

