

YORK Town News

November 2014

Town website:
www.townofyork.org/

York Town Board meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 8 pm
 e-mail: townboard@townofyork.org

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chairmanreeson@townofyork.org
 608-523-1331

1st Supervisor: Dan Truttman
supervisortruttman@townofyork.org
 608-527-5089

2nd Supervisor: Steve Hermanson
supervisorhermanson@townofyork.org
 608-558-2035

Clerk: Nancy Anderson
yorktownclerk@townofyork.org
 608-523-4529

Treasurer: Ann Carlson
treasurer@townofyork.org
 608-527-3121

Assessor: Gardiner Appraisal Service
 608-876-6704 888-756-9726
<http://gardinerappraisal.com/>

Building Inspector: Mike Fenley
totalinspectionsservices@gmail.com
 608-963-0652

Plan Commission meets every 1st Tuesday of month, 8 pm
 Chair: **Marselino Miranda** 608-214-2291
Curtis Moen 608-527-2261
Brian Bubenzer 608-527-4434
Terri Nipple 608-527-4111
Heidi Hankley 608-523-4095

What do you want to see in your Town newsletter? Send your news to
YTN Editor: Carrie Czerwonka
yorktownnews@gmail.com

UPDATE FROM THE CHAIR
 —DAN REESON

Hello to all, I want to start out by thanking Wayne Bue for his years of service for the Town of York. He will be missed. Here's wishing you all the best in retirement.

As most of you know we have a new Patrolman, Wade Jones. Wade is doing great learning the ropes. He has already had the pleasure of being called out to cut trees off the road in the middle of the night.

Our Plan Commission has been working really hard on our Land-Division Ordinance

(Dwelling Unit Allotments). Our Plan Commission crew consists of Curt Moen, Terri Nipple, Heidi Hankley, Brian Bubenzer, and Marselino Miranda. Thanks to all.

The State has signed into law weight limitations for all roads; this is known as the Implements of Husbandry. There are five options, and the Town of York must sign onto one of these options by January 15, 2015. This is for all agricultural equipment. For more information, <http://dot.wi.gov/business/ag/index.htm>.

(SEE CHAIRMAN, p. 2)

GREEN'S PRAIRIE CEMETERY
 —WILLIAM KUENZI

It has been an active year at Green's Prairie Cemetery. A number of gravestones were in need of repair. In 2013, gravestones belonging to Lucinda Hilton and James Biggs, that were laying on the ground but that were otherwise in good shape, had been reset on new bases. A new stone was also obtained for Robert Peebles, (see GREEN'S PRAIRIE, p. 4)



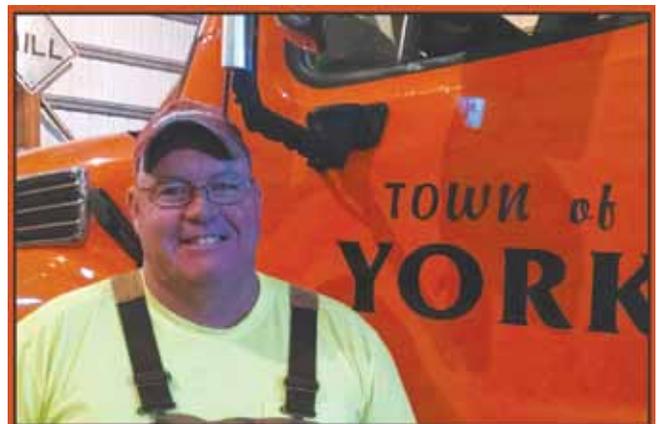
A HELLO FROM OUR NEW PATROLMAN

—WADE JONES

Hello, my name is Wade Jones. I am the new Town of York Patrolman. I have been on the job for a few weeks now and I have to say I am enjoying myself immensely.

In my previous employment life, I drove dump truck in Madison. Going from stresses of Madison traffic to the peaceful back country roads is a culture shock to say the least. I live in the area with my fiancé and her family. I enjoy hunting and fishing. I am familiar with many people in the community but not all. Please feel free to approach me when I am

on the roads with conversations or concerns. As said previously, I am new to this position and a very steep learning curve. Any input is appreciated.



ODDS AND ENDS

—NANCY ANDERSON

On September 25th of this year, following an order from the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago, voters were expected to show a photo ID at the November 4th election. However, most recently, the U.S. Supreme Court halted the requirement to show a photo ID. Therefore, electors are not required nor expected to show a photo ID until further notice. This has been a roller coaster ride for everyone, including election officials. Until, or unless we hear something different from the state, a photo ID will NOT need to be shown at election time.

Mike Doyle, the Green County Clerk, has informed all the municipalities that our current election equipment is reaching its end use. In the past, the County has purchased the equipment for the municipalities, but said it cannot afford to do so in the future. As of right now, the County is considering leasing new equipment for a period of eight years. Each municipality will have to set aside monies in our budgets to allow for that. The new machines will scan paper ballots as it has in the past, but will incorporate handicapped accessibility, too. This new equipment will be arriving in the summer or fall of 2015, with training to follow. The new equipment will be used for the February, April, August, and November elections in 2016, so that it will be in place for the next presidential election.

The York Town Board of Supervisors had voted to purchase a scanner to allow the clerk to scan and save important town documents in addition to the filed paper documents. It will be helpful in preserving both old and new documents having to do with town business.

The next time you visit the York Town Hall, be sure to notice that our old dilapidated piano is gone, and in its place is a lovely glass enclosed bookcase donated by Dick and Marilyn Jaeger. Some old books and documents will be better preserved and less dusty for generations to come. Be sure to thank Dick and Marilyn for the much appreciated donation to our Town Hall. It is quite nice.

CHAIRMAN (CONTINUED FROM P. 1)

The Poplar Grove Road bridge is to be replaced next spring or summer. The road will be closed for construction.

Thank you York Board for all you do! Nancy, Ann, Dan T., and Steve. And thanks to a few

PLAN COMMISSION

—HEIDI HANKLEY

The Plan Commission is continuing to make progress on setting up the process to track dwelling unit allotments in the Town of York. A public hearing was held on September 2, 2014 and there was good discussion among those in attendance regarding the amendments to the Land Division and Development Ordinance that will facilitate the tracking project.

The Town Board and Plan Commission have developed a database for tracking dwelling unit allotments, which determine how many residences a landowner is entitled to on his/her property. The database is designed to help insure that the town maintains and is able to provide accurate information about the number of dwelling unit allotments that are attached to properties within the town, especially as property is divided, or property or dwelling unit allotments are transferred.

All land divisions or transfers within the Town of York will now need to come before the Plan Commission and the Town Board so that we can keep a clear record of the number

of dwelling unit allotments attached to a given property. This process will help us all abide by the terms spelled out in the Land Division and Development Ordinance (#10-4) which was approved by the Town Board on July 13, 2010. One dwelling unit allotment attaches to every 20 acres, and some or all of those allotments can be retained by the seller when property is divided or transferred.

Visit <http://www.townofyork.org/> and you will be able to review a map of your property indicating the number of dwelling unit allotments attached to your acreage. The Plan Commission has reviewed the property maps and believes the information in the database is accurate, but the Town Board and Plan Commission invite you to review your map and approach the Plan Commission at its regularly scheduled meetings with any questions or corrections.



REEEEECYCLE!

—CINDY AND KIM PETERSON

Hello Everyone, hope you've had a great summer. Here, at the Town of York Recycling Center, we try to make recycling easy. If for any reason you are not sure, please ask us; we are here to help you. We do have information in the recycling building available to take home, or you can visit the web site <http://www.townofyork.org/> where you will find the recycling information. The easiest way to recycle is to have separate bins for garbage, recycle items, and aluminum cans. Then, as you go through the week, you just dispose of your items in the correct bin. By the way, bottles and jars need to be cleaned out to prevent mold from occurring, and labels do not have to be removed. THANKS FOR RECYCLING, and just remember the recycle materials of today will be made into different products for tomorrow.

HAPPY RETIREMENT WAYNE, HELLO WADE

—2ND SUPERVISOR STEVE HERMANSON

We've had a relatively quiet year. Our patrolman Wayne Bue retired after 16 years of service to our town. We, as a board would like to thank Wayne for his years of dedication, service, and care for our town roads and equipment. We posted the job opening in several local newspapers, and received 11 great applications. We hired Wade

Jones from Blanchardville. We look forward to working with him.

We are doing well with our budget. Last winter was very challenging, and because of this we will be going slightly over on fuel, sand, and salt. We're keeping our fingers crossed for a more near-normal winter this year. We put \$14,000 toward a new fire truck for the New Glarus Fire Dept. We are moving forward with the Poplar Grove Rd. bridge project, to begin next year.

people behind the scene, Todd Carlson, our web site man, Chip Hankley, for helping the Plan Commission with computer work, Carly Harris for cleaning the Town Hall, Kim and Cynthia Peterson for supervising the recycling center on Saturday mornings, and Dorothy and Raphael

Peterson on summer Wednesday nights. Also thanks to our poll workers, Dorothy Peterson, Kit Foley, Terri Nipple, Marilyn Jaeger, Sue Watrud, Marlys Reeson, and Susan Dumbleton. And Carrie C. for the newsletter. You rock.

Thanks to all. Hoping for a mild winter!

TOWN OF YORK RECYCLING CENTER

— DAN TRUTTMANN

Though we have a new garbage and recycling provider, Pellitteri Waste Systems, the Town of York Recycling Center still provides the same convenient, environmentally friendly, one-stop location for disposal of your household waste items. Currently we provide 6 containers for garbage and 5 for commingled recyclables, a dumpster for miscellaneous steel items, plus a container for recycling used motor oil as well as used oil filters.

All residents, as well as farm and business owners, are strongly encouraged to follow state law and our town recycling ordinance by bringing recyclable materials to be properly recycled. Accepted materials include newspaper, printer paper, books, magazines, corrugated cardboard, and paper cartons. Also, aluminum cans, steel food cans, glass bottles and jars, and most plastic containers are accepted, and should be rinsed clean prior to disposal. Exceptions include motor oil containers & hazardous material containers.

The garbage containers are for the collection and disposal of nontoxic household waste. In order to keep the ever-increasing cost of disposal under control, farms and businesses that generate a significant amount of waste are asked to have their own containers on site, as are homebuilders, and homeowners doing remodeling projects. Additionally, yard waste should be composted to minimize disposal cost, and to prevent the pollution from burning.

We also collect, for your convenience, fluorescent bulbs, CFLs, & dry cell batteries, including rechargeable and power tool batteries. The following hazardous materials are not allowed at the recycling center, but should be kept safely until the next County Clean Sweep: oil paints and stains, solvents, fertilizer, pesticides, poisons, and mercury-containing items like thermometers and fluorescent bulbs.

The Town Recycling Center is open for the collection of recyclables and residential waste Saturdays from 8 am–12 pm year round, and on Wednesday evenings from 5–8 pm during summer months. For more info, please ask for assistance at the recycling center from assistants Kim or Cindy Peterson, or Raphael Peterson, or check the notice board or town web site. Other resources include the Wisconsin DNR and Pellitteri web sites.

Town of York Recycling Center hours:
Saturdays 8 am to 12 pm, year-round
Wednesdays 5 to 8 pm, June through August

SNOW PLOW SAFETY

Another winter season is near, and now would be a good time to review public safety. When clearing driveways of snow and ice, residents should avoid pushing the snow across the public roads. This creates a dangerous situation for other motorists and can cause damage to the town plow trucks. Ridges of snow form, which will turn to rough icy patches that are difficult for the trucks to remove, and may cause equipment failure and delays in snow removal.

If you hire someone to do snow removal for you, inform them of this important safety issue.

Keep in mind that large trucks need room to work and



turn around. Please avoid parking or placing obstacles in the roadway. Visibility from these trucks can be a challenge. Allow plenty of room when following snow plows and be aware that they may need to back up.

There is neither equipment nor man power available to do work on private roads, except in an emergency. There are both safety and liability issues to consider. Local contractors are available to meet your needs and should be contacted first.

Our town patrolmen do the best job they can given the oftentimes difficult working conditions. Patience is appreciated during busy times, but as always, feel free to contact board members with legitimate concerns you may have.

HARDWOOD TREES FOR PLANTING SPRING 2015

Green County Land & Water Conservation Department is offering 10 varieties of trees and 2 varieties of shrubs for landowners interested in planting trees next spring 2015. The tree varieties are: Bur Oak, Red Oak, White Oak, and Tamarack (featured species this year), Sugar Maple, Sycamore, Butternut, Shagbark Hickory, White Pine, and Kentucky Coffee. Shrubs available are: Hazel Nut and Nannyberry. The cost is only \$2.00 a tree with a minimum order of 10 of one species and must be ordered in increments of 10 per species.

The trees and shrubs are all native to the

area. The species offered this year cover a broad range of soil types and moistures, from dry to very wet. If you are unsure about what trees will work in your particular soil, have any questions about the trees, or how to order, stop in, call, or e-mail Chris at GCLWC. **Order by Friday February 13. Trees will be delivered near the end of April.**

- Order form and info through the Green County Master Gardeners: <http://greencountymga.org/hardwood-trees-and-shrub-sale/>
- Green County Land & Water Conservation Department contact: Chris Newberry, Conservation Technician, 608-325-4195 x120
Chris.Newberry@wi.nacdn.net

NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

— ANN CARLSON

Property taxes: Once again this year you can pay your property taxes online using a credit card or debit card. Another option is to pay with an electronic check (debit) from your checking account. An advantage to paying electronically is that you get confirmation of your payment and can print a receipt immediately. Both of these options are available through the secure county website (www.co.green.wi.gov). A listing of the 2014 tax roll will be posted on the town website (www.townofyork.org). Collections at the York Town Hall will be on Wed., December 31, 2014 and January 31, 2015.

Mailing payments is the most efficient payment process. All payments with a postmark date of December 31, 2014 and prior will be posted in 2014. All payments with a postmark of January 31, 2015 will be applied to the first installment in 2015. All payments made after January 31, 2015 are to be mailed to Green County. Payments requiring a receipt must include an e-mail address or a self-addressed stamped envelope. Escrow checks exceeding taxes due will be accepted and the overpayment

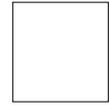
refunded to the tax payer after the next town board meeting. Any two-party checks need to be endorsed by the taxpayer and all checks written prior to February 1, 2015 need to be made payable to: Town of York.

Dog license fees remain unchanged: males and females, \$10; spayed and neutered, \$5; multiple dog fee of \$40 for up to 12 dogs and \$4 for each additional dog. A copy of rabies vaccination records is required to be on file before a dog license will be issued.

What is a mil rate and how is it determined? A mil rate is basically the dollar amount of tax per \$1,000 of assessed value. When all levies have been set by the state, county, township, schools, and vocational districts, a mil rate is computed for each by dividing the amount levied by the total assessed value. Residents of York have one of three mil rates, depending on which school district they reside in. The mil rate seen on the tax bill is the state mil rate + the county mil rate – the county sales tax mil rate + the township mil rate – the school tax credit mil rate + the mil rates for the school district and vocational district in which the taxpayer owns land. Typically, as assessed value increases, the mil rate decreases.

YORK *Town News*

c/o Nancy Anderson
N8791 York Center Rd.
Blanchardville, WI 53516



(GREEN'S PRAIRIE, CONTINUED FROM P. 1)

a War of 1812 veteran, from the Department of Veterans' Affairs. In December 2013, a contract was signed with Pechmann's Memorials to reset 6 gravestones that were either laying on the ground or were leaning badly. Funds for this work were provided by the Cemetery Association, the Prairie Enthusiasts, and by The Town of York. The stones to be reset are those of Jessie Robb, Ellen Byrne, William Crowell, Nancy Whitney, Adelia Crowell, and John Hillis. This work is expected to be completed in

October. Donated funds were also used to have an attractive raised marker made by the Postville Blacksmith shop for the at-grade marker for Infant Erickson.

Control of invasive species in the cemetery is an ongoing struggle. Two of the biggest current problems are the spread of graveyard lilies (also called peace lilies) and an aggressive kind of spurge. Around a few graves, cemetery lilies planted long ago have spread and established pure stands in which no other plants can grow. Last summer three of these locations were sprayed and in late fall replanted with a mix of prairie seeds obtained from local sources. A small amount of hand weeding and continued seed planting will allow prairie plants to crowd out weeds over the next few years. In midsummer, flea beetles which only feed on the destructive spurge were obtained from a firm in Montana and released in the cemetery. This is the second time the beetles have been used and some progress appears to have been made in controlling the spurge without the use of herbicide. The annual controlled burn of the prairie with excellent protection of the gravestones with metal and

water was conducted in April. The burn was conducted by about 10 volunteers under the direction of the Prairie Enthusiasts. Burning also helps control invasive species and makes the cemetery more accessible for visitors on Memorial Day.

On May 26, the annual Memorial Day observance was held at the cemetery. Despite threatening skies, about 32 attendees watched a partial reenactment by Dennis Mason and friend in full Civil War Uniform. In previous years, this reenactment has included both the reading of the names of veterans buried in Green's Prairie and the firing of a Civil War era cannon. Mother Nature begun firing her own cannons this year and rain quickly chased participants from the field.

For those interested in learning more about the history of the cemetery and those buried within, a book published by York resident David Green is available at the New Glarus, Monticello, and Blanchardville libraries. A few copies are still available for sale by the author. The green box near the entrance to the cemetery has information on the names and grave locations of those buried in the cemetery. Those interested in making donations in support of cemetery maintenance and upkeep may send them to Nancy Anderson (address at top of page).