

March 2005

VILLAGE NEWS

New Village Clerk/Treasurer

Effective February 28th, 2005, the Village of Chenequa has a new Village Clerk Treasurer. The Village has hired Bonita Zimdars after an extensive search and interview process conducted by the Village's Personnel Committee. Bonita's previous experience has been in the private sector with Morgan Stanley as an Associate Financial Advisor. We ask that you welcome Bonita to the Village and also understand that it will take some time for her to get acquainted with the procedures, names and faces here in the village.

Special Thank You

A special thank you to Lynn Grosch, the Village's Deputy Clerk and Police Clerk, Cindy Schlieve the Clerk at Oconomowoc Lake and Barb Stern, retired Clerk from Oconomowoc Lake for their assistance and efforts in the absence of our Clerk Treasurer.

Village High Speed Internet

The Village's High-Speed Internet service is nearing the implementation point. The phone lines should be installed soon at our tower site and installation will then be scheduled with those who have signed up for service. A web site has been set up by Eclipse @ www.eclipsellc.net that will provide you with information about the product being offered. The Village will provide a link from our Village website which is www.chenequa.org.

Internet Security

Accessing the internet via a wireless network set in the home is becoming more common. Consider enabling basic security features that may be provided by your internet service. Working with your provider or technician turn on basic security options within your software and hardware will help prevent unwanted access of your service.

Ad-Hoc Committee

The Village Board will be establishing an Ad-Hoc Committee to review the Village's Building and Zoning Code at its March 14th meeting. The Ad-Hoc Committee mission will be to research code changes that may address some of the issues that have come before the Village in recent years. The Ad-Hoc Committee will then make recommendations to the Plan Commission and Village Board for their consideration and input. A Public Hearing would be held before any such changes would be implemented.

DNR Proposed Pier Legislation

As outlined in our November Newsletter, the DNR is proposing changes in the regulations of piers, both current and those of the future. There is nothing new to report on this proposed legislation at this time however all residents concerned over this proposed legislation should contact WI State Senator Neal Kedzie either by phone @ 800-578-1457 or written correspondence should be sent to him at P.O. Box 7882, Madison WI. 53707-7882. As outlined in the November Newsletter, proposed legislation would require all

piers, existing and future to require a permit from the DNR and not extend beyond three feet of water depth and the ability to moor "a" boat. Piers with a T or L would also need a permit. Also in this proposed legislation, boat slips may be limited to (1) one per 50' of frontage. Should you wish to further review the proposed legislation, it is State Legislative Act 118.

April Election

The Spring Election is set for April 5, 2005. The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Chenequa Village Hall. If you need to vote by absentee ballot, you may do so in person at the Village Hall during regular office hours. If you will be unable to vote at the Village Hall, please contact the Clerk's Office to obtain an absentee ballot application.

Goose Barrier Fencing

The Village Board approved revisions in the Building and Zoning Code in 2002 to allow temporary goose barrier fencing within the setback area from the lake. An application must be completed and approved prior to the installation of such a goose barrier fence. Details of the fence/barrier composition is required as part of the application. It is suggested that materials proposed to be used not be visible from the lake. An application form is enclosed in this newsletter and will also be available online at www.chenequa.org.

Thank You from Village Employees

The Village of Chenequa Staff would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who brought by thoughtful and delicious treats for all of us during the Holidays. The staff appreciates the recognition of their efforts by the residents. If any of us can ever be of assistance to you, please let us know.

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

Boating Safety Classes

The Chenequa Police Department's Water Safety Patrol will again be conducting the Department of Natural Resource's certified boating safety classes. We have two sets of classes scheduled, with the first class beginning the end of March. The dates for the first set of classes are March 29, 31, April 5, and 7. The dates for the second set of classes are May 3, 5, 10, and 12. The sessions will run from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will be held at the Chenequa Village Hall. The class is open to anyone 11 years of age or older. The cost of the class is \$15 per student. Class size is limited to 20 students and fills up quickly. For reservations and/or additional information, please contact the Chenequa Police Department at 367-2145.

Wireless Network Security

Wireless networks are becoming quite popular for home use. Inexpensive wireless access points and gateways make it practical for multiple PC's to share Internet access, printers and folders without stringing network cabling throughout the house.

Unfortunately, wireless networking uses radio waves that can penetrate walls and allow access to your network from outside your home. This can lead to security problems ranging from unintended sharing of your Internet connection to identity theft.

The security features in most wireless access equipment is typically disabled to simplify installation. Once a wireless network is installed and working, few users take the time to enable the security features.

Check your equipment's instruction manual, CD, or the manufacturer's web site for detailed instructions. Note that when you change a security setting on your wireless access device, you will usually have to make a corresponding change on each device that attaches to the access device. To avoid disconnects during this process, use a wired connection to configure your wireless access device.

Having a person you trust with computer knowledge or your computer expert assist with the proper settings may be necessary to get everything to work.

HIGHWAY/FORESTRY NEWS

Winter Roadway Reminders

The Village plow trucks do not normally begin plowing until a snowstorm has subsided. Exception to the rule would be very heavy snowfalls over a period of time. Plowing of public and private roads is done as needed to ensure access for emergency vehicles and safe passage for other vehicles. It is not intended to be of the quality that may be available from some commercial services. Although we strive to satisfy everyone's needs, the Village plowing service does have budget, manpower, and truck limitations. As a result, we may not be able to meet all the possible requirements of all Village residents. If you have specific or unique requirements, you may need to contract privately for your plowing service.

The recent heavy snow weighed down branches that hit the windshields of the plows and other large vehicles such as fire trucks. Please trim your drive of low branches and brush. We should have a clearance of 10 feet in height and 2 feet from the edge of the pavement.

News from the Foresters

Many residents have asked, "What is happening to the trees on the northwest corner of Hwy 83 and Hwy K?" Well, the families who own these woods, referred to as "Ashbourne" have begun to act on a Forest Management Plan. The property has been enrolled into a WI-DNR program known as the Managed Forest Law (MFL). Under the MFL, the land is taxed at a reduced rate if it is managed according to a long term plan drafted by a DNR forester. This law has many restrictions and does emphasize timber production, but the result is a healthy forest of young and old trees. Much of the work has been done by members of the family on "work days". Their hard work has already restored a hillside prairie and removed most of the invasive non-native brush on the entire property! Several years ago, a professional logger thinned the pine plantation, removing enough trees to promote more growth on those remaining. The family has even conducted prescribed fires to restore the oak regeneration. The families who own and care for the Ashbourne property have become stewards of the land. They are committed to the long term care of these woods which all Chenequa residents will see for years to come.