

November 2009

## **VILLAGE NEWS**

### **Village President Bryce Styza Resigns**

Enclosed in this Fall Newsletter is a letter from Bryce Styza to fellow Village Board Trustees and the Citizens of the Village of Chenequa stating his resignation from the Village Board. The Village Board of Trustees will elect a new President at its December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2009 meeting to complete the Presidents' term which expires in April 2011.

On behalf of the Village Staff, we would like to thank Bryce for his outstanding leadership, insight and devotion to the Village of Chenequa. His time and efforts have paid the village great dividends which we are all grateful for and we wish him well.

### **Village Trustees Election**

Three Trustee seats on the Village Board have terms that will expire in April of 2010. The three incumbents are Robert Foote, Jr.; Kathleen Seidel; Susan Wilkey. Village residents interested in taking out nomination papers may do so beginning December 1, 2009. Forms may be picked up at the Clerk's Office.

### **Village Board Approves Tax Levy**

The Village Board has approved and adopted the 2010 Village Budget. The Village Board set the tax levy at \$ 1,677,805.11, which is an increase of \$48,868.11, or 3%. The resulting tax rate is \$3.24 per thousand of assessed value.

Historical Adopted Village Tax Rates & Percentages Based on Assessed Values									
Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Tax rate	5.04	5.22	5.22	5.25	5.31	5.42	5.56	5.67	3.24
Increase		3.05%	0%	.57%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%

### **Holiday Office Hours**

The Village Hall will be closed Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, November 27<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday. We will also be closed Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, Friday, December 25<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup> and Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>. If you need to contact someone regarding a non-emergency issue you may call 367-2600 and our dispatch center will have an officer make contact with you.

### **Tax Collection**

All documentation necessary for the processing of property tax bills will be received soon and the bills will then be in the printing process. It is anticipated that the tax bills will be mailed in early December.

Tax payments may be made at the Chenequa Village Hall during normal business hours, which are Monday through Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. **The office will not be open Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Tax payments may also be mailed to the Village Hall or dropped in the drop box located to the right of the Village Hall main entrance. After processing payments, receipts will be mailed to you. Payments postmarked on or before December 31, 2009 will be receipted as a 2009 payment. Any payments found in the drop box at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, January 4, 2010 will also be receipted as a 2009 payment.

### **U.S. 2010 Census**

In March of 2010, census forms will be delivered to every residence in the United States and Puerto Rico. When you receive yours, just answer the 10 short questions and then mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided. If you don't mail the form back, you may receive a visit from a [census taker](#), who will ask you the [questions from the form](#).

By being counted you are standing up for what your community's needs are. That's why census takers are so important. A census taker is a person from your community who is hired by the Census Bureau to make sure that your neighborhood gets represented as accurately as possible. The census taker's primary responsibility is to collect census information from residences that have not sent back their 2010 Census form.

- The Census Bureau provides the census taker with a binder containing all of the addresses that didn't send back a filled out census form
- The census taker then visits all of those addresses and records the answers to the questions on the form
- If no one answers at a particular residence, a census taker will visit that home up to three times, each time leaving a door hanger featuring a phone number; residents can call the number on the hanger to schedule the visit

The census taker will ONLY ask the questions that appear on the census form.

Your participation in the 2010 Census is vital and required by law, ([Section 221, of Title 13 of the U.S. Code](#)). However, rather than rely on criminal charges, the Census Bureau is very successful in getting participation by explaining the importance of the questions we ask and how the information benefits our communities.

The census taker who collects your information is sworn for life to protect your data under [Federal Law Title 13](#). Those who violate the oath face criminal penalties: Under federal law, the penalty for unlawful disclosure is a fine of up to \$250,000 or imprisonment for up to 5 years, or both.

### **Upcoming Holiday Waste Collection**

Please make special note of the following garbage collection dates for Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. Pick up for those weeks will be as follows:

*Saturday, November 28, 2009*

*Saturday, December 26, 2009*

*Saturday, January 2, 2010*

### **Dog Licenses**

Soon it will be time to renew dog licenses for 2010. **Please remember that you must submit a copy of your dog's current rabies certificate along with your application.** We cannot issue a dog license until we have a copy of the rabies certificate in our office. A copy of the Application for Dog License is enclosed.

### **Elmbrook Humane Society**

Have you found a stray or injured animal? Residents of the Village of Chenequa who are experiencing an animal related issue should call Elmbrook Humane Society during normal business hours at 262-782-9261 or use their after hours number 262-893-8189, for evenings and weekends. In addition to companion animal adoptions and surrenders, EBHS is available for the pickup of stray animals, injured wildlife, and to handle animal related emergencies and complaints 24-hours a day. Do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance to you. Please see our website for additional information regarding the shelter and our Humane Officer services at [www.ebhs.org](http://www.ebhs.org).

Hours of Operation:

Monday through Friday 1 – 6 pm  
Saturday & Sunday 11am-5pm  
Closed Thursdays & Holidays

### **Lake Country Fire Department Consolidation**

Over a year ago, in May 2008, the three communities of Chenequa, Delafield and Nashotah formed a committee to examine the feasibility of merging resources to create a single fire department serving their citizens. In addition to their elected leaders (village presidents and mayor) two other citizens from each municipality were appointed. Since then, open meetings have been held on a monthly basis to cover the full range of topics.

After many hours of work by several of our local officials, this merger is now complete and ready to move forward effective January 1, 2010. Your fire and emergency medical response will be from the Lake Country Fire and Rescue which is comprised of Chenequa, Nashotah and now the City of Delafield. This department will have a higher level of emergency medical response from what we currently have as it includes the paramedic program. In addition to a more dependable and higher level of service we expect an overall savings in new capital equipment expenditures and efficiencies with respect to staffing and operation.

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

#### **Background Checks**

Many of our Chenequa residents hire people for miscellaneous duties around their homes. Due to recent events, the Police Department strongly encourages you to check their criminal backgrounds and obtain their full name and date of birth. Under the Wisconsin Open Records Law you can access Wisconsin Circuit Court Records through a web site. This web site is: <http://wcca.wicourts.gov/index.xsl>.

### *Vacation House Watch*

If you are leaving town for more than a couple of days and would like the Police Department to make a periodic check of your home, please call the Village Hall and let us know when you will be away. If you return early, please call us so you are not surprised by a visit from an officer.

### **HIGHWAY/FORESTRY NEWS**

#### *Winter Roadway Procedures and Reminders*

The 2010 Snowplowing/Sanding Agreement and Release of Liability form is attached. If you wish to have the Village maintain your roadway/driveway in accordance with the Winter Roadway Maintenance Policy, your signed agreement must be returned to the Village Hall along with **\$100.00** by December 29, 2009. **Failure to do so will remove your address from the plowing list effective January 1, 2010.** For snow plowing updates call our information line at 367-4681 ext #320. A message will be left on this line stating when plows will be out. Please review and sign the snow plowing policy outline on the enclosed Snow Plowing/Sanding Agreement and Release of Liability 2010 form.