

# The Official Town of Dunn Newsletter Fall 1993

## The Real Secret of Happiness

by Edmond Minihan, Town Chair

Our town will remain a desirable place in which to live as long as you are willing to expend a little effort in keeping the quality of life we enjoy. Because the town of Dunn is a sought-after community, there are a growing number of people who think they can make a fast and substantial profit by opening the town to extensive development. While there is nothing wrong with making a profit, the changes such development would bring to the quality of life and the cost of local services means that the profits are made at the expense of

the people who live in the town of Dunn.

At a time when nearby communities are actually advertising for people to move there, the town of Dunn, as one of the most populous towns in the state of Wisconsin, has no obligation to engage in the expensive expansion undertaken in other parts of Dane County. Once again, with the proposed increase to the tax levy, the town of Dunn will have one of the lowest tax burdens for local government in the county.

In a democracy, a community is as good as its citizens want it

to be. If we allow ourselves to be led astray by special interests that seek to degrade our quality of life for their personal gain, then it is simply our own fault. A democracy is dependent on an informed and participating populace. It is up to us to become informed and involved.

When our town residents become informed and involved, great things happen. While it is still too early to claim final victory in the Libby Landfill fight, the very positive position we are now in is a direct result of community involvement.

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## Homeowners to pay about \$27 more tax

*Town mill rate proposed to rise by 17 percent*

A resident in the town of Dunn with a home valued at \$100,000 can expect to pay \$184 in taxes for local town services in 1994 under the budget being proposed by the town board. Last year the cost of those services would have been \$27 less, or \$157, on the same home.

Spending in the 1994 proposed budget is at \$959,184, which is 7.6 percent higher (\$90,194) than in 1993. The proposed levy, including debt service, is \$375,579, an increase of about 16.8 percent (\$63,144) from 1993.

About 10 percent (\$38,733) of the tax levy is being used to pay on borrowing.

With this budget proposal, Dunn residents will have a mill rate of \$1.84 per \$1000 assessed value, up from the 1993 mill rate of \$1.57 per \$1000.

Unfortunately, that's not the whole story, and most communities don't tell the rest of the story. The town's current assessment ratio (the state's measurement of how close assessments are to the full market value) has dropped to 85.7 percent from 97.8 percent in 1993. The drop has occurred because the high demand for housing in the Madison area is pushing home values up very quickly. That's good news if you are refinancing or are selling your home. When it comes to taxes, however, it's another story.

Last year, when the ratio was 97.8 percent, it meant that a home assessed locally at \$97,800

by the town was, in the state's eyes, worth \$100,000. This year, with an assessment ratio of 85.7 percent, a home assessed by the town at \$85,700 is looked at by the state as being worth \$100,000. By using the state equalized value to show mill rate changes, as some communities do, Dunn's mill rate would have looked as though it dropped from \$1.57 last year to \$1.54 this year.

That drop, however, is artificial; what it actually means is that a home valued at approximately \$86,000 in 1993 will be paying taxes on the \$100,000 market value.

It is important to realize that residents of the town of Dunn are not paying higher taxes than our neighbors. Within a taxing district (i.e., county, school district, state and town) we have the same tax rate as neighboring communities since the equalizing ratios apply to them, too. It is just that this town is willing to take the time to explain the way the system works.

State law requires that towns reassess property if the assessment ratio is below 90 percent or above 110 percent unless they have had a reassessment within five years. Property in Dunn was reassessed in 1990 and 1991, so another reassessment will not be required for a year or two.

Township residents will have an opportunity to question and vote on the tax levy at the town's annual budget meeting, Tuesday, November 23, 1993. The

meeting will be held in the town hall, 4156 CTH B, at 7:30 p.m.

Details of the budget are in the center of this newsletter. The following is an explanation of the proposed budget, showing major changes.

### Where do the Dollars Come From?

In addition to the levy, the town gets intergovernmental aid amounting to \$312,883. Over the past four years, state shared revenue amounts have been dropping, and in 1994 the town will have about \$12,000 less in these monies than in 1993.

Additionally, the small increases shown in the county aid for roads and bridges are from a county grant paying for 50 percent of the costs of culverts installed in 1993, so while that money is shown as revenue, it is already spent. State road aid is \$5,000 higher than 1993, totalling

■ *continued on page 4* ■

## Budget meeting to adopt levy is set for November 23

A special meeting will be held Tuesday, Nov. 23, 1993 at 7:30 p.m. at the Dunn Town Hall, 4156 CTH B, for the purpose of:

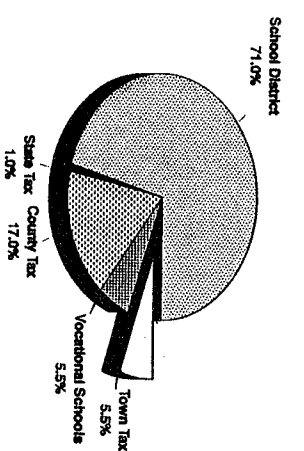
- I. adopting the town tax levy for 1993,
- II. authorizing expenditures of more than \$10,000 for highways.

Agendas and announcements for all special town meetings are posted at the following locations: in the window at the town hall; at Christy's Landing, 1952 Waubesa Ave.; and at the Quick Stop, 1888 Barber Dr.

All voters in the town of Dunn are encouraged to attend this meeting and vote on the issues. This is your opportunity to ask questions about where your tax money is going, and to have a say in spending and setting the levy.

By state law, town residents vote on the town tax levy, and grant permission for the board to make any highway expenditures in excess of \$10,000.

## Where Our Tax Dollars Go



TOWN of DUNN  
4156 Hwy. B  
McFarland, WI 53558

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Oregon, WI 53575  
Permit No. 78

## New Rezone Rules for County?

by Steve Greb, Plan Commission Chair

I recently attended a "listening session" of the Preserve Dane Campaign sponsored by our county executive, Rick Phelps. The current mission of this task force is to identify shared values of the citizens of Dane County. The meeting was well attended by public officials, business people and interested citizens.

Everyone was equally concerned with the rapid growth and associated problems Dane County is currently experiencing. The latest projections are for 50,000 more residents in Dane County by the end of the decade. The substantial amount of growth could have deleterious impacts on townships such as ours if not properly managed.

In addition to the appointing the task force, the county executive has also announced new rezoning standards on ordinance changes to help curb unnecessary urban sprawl. I thought I would share these with you, because they all could potentially affect the way land divisions and rezoning decisions are made in the future in Dunn.

First, the county executive will veto any rezoning that is not consistent with the county's farmland preservation plan and adopted town land use plan. Secondly, he will veto all new unsewered subdivisions. The nine proposed ordinance changes would:

1. require the county's zoning committee to follow the town plans and consult town govern-

ment in all cases where new residences are being built on A-1 Exclusive;

2. require individuals who want to build in A-1 Exclusive without rezoning to have \$6,000 in annual farm income;
3. ensure that all town boards allow farmers to build retirement homes on their farm;
4. change minimum requirements for A-1 Exclusive land divisions from 35 to 80 acres;
5. not allow residential development in A-1 zoning categories;
6. change the subdivision ordinance to require that subdivisions be sewered;
7. limit certified survey land divisions to two lots instead of the current four;
8. not allow for redivision of land for 20 years, instead of the current five years;
9. seek state legislation to enforce consistency among plans of all Dane County cities, villages and towns.

In general, I support the proposed ordinance changes listed above. Whether they will pass the county board in their present form is hard to say. But I feel that all of the changes will help curb urban sprawl around Madison.

Over the next several months, the town will have an opportunity to formally give recommendations as to the passage of these ordinances. If you have any questions or comments, feel free to contact me or your county board representative.

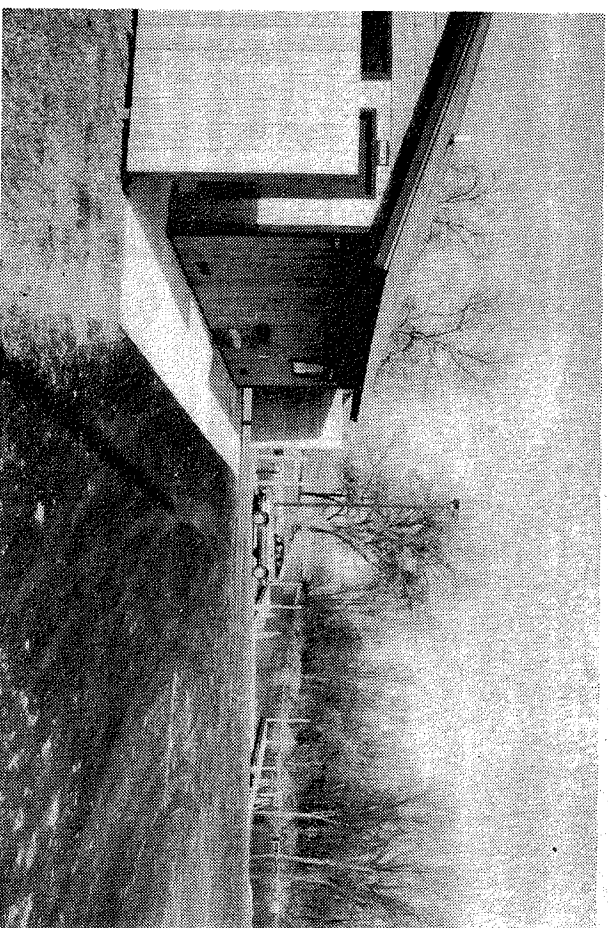
## ... the Secret of Happiness

■ *from page 1* ■  
involvement and individual sacrifice.  
The residents of Colladay Point have accomplished a preservation and lake enhancement project through neighborhood participation and personal sacrifice. There are more people like them in the town.

Citizen involvement in our town is what makes Dunn the special place we have chosen for our community. When you add up all the people involved, it comes to fewer than 100 people - less than two percent of our population. These people are the ones who make sure fire and emergency medical services are provided effectively, that our children are properly and efficiently educated, that our lakes are protected, that there are places for recreation, that sanitary sewer services are properly maintained, and that our land use plan is the guiding document for the future of the town. These people are your neighbors,

and most serve with very little or no compensation. They have the same concerns as most of us: keep our town a stable and pleasant community.

This is no small task. It is their responsibility to deal with the issues facing the town. They need your informed suggestions and help. If you read "Calvin and Hobbes", you may recall that Calvin, after trying to confront some tough issues, decided that "the secret of happiness is stupid short-term self-interest." There are those who share Calvin's sentiments, but for most of us, we want to be able to enjoy what we have in the town of Dunn. We want to be able to come home to a pleasant, stable community and have at least some hope that the next generation will be able to do the same. For those who haven't adopted Calvin's secret of happiness and have taken on the issues on our behalf, there is something all of us can do to help: tell them "thank you".



### Babcock Park Boat Launch is Open

This fall Dane County finished the remodeling of the Babcock Park Boat Launch. The \$227,000 in improvements were 100 percent paid for through grants, says Ken LePine, from Dane County Parks. The new facility will officially open next spring, but it includes a new fish cleaning building, restrooms, two launch areas, additional car-only and car & trailer parking and a bike path.

### Heritage Park to Curb Pollution

by Doug Kornetzke, Parks Commission Chair

Heavy rainfalls each year wash tons of nutrient-rich topsoil into Lake Waubesa from private land located uphill from Dunn Heritage Park. Much of this runoff - called *nonpoint source pollution* - travels directly across the park and is slowly filling in the southern end of the lake. Additionally this runoff contributes to the lake weed growth problem, reduces the water clarity and ruins spawning areas for several species of fish.

After several neighborhood meetings involving the Dane County Land Conservation Department, DNR officials and the town's engineer, the Dunn Parks Commission has coordinated a plan that will significantly reduce the runoff into Lake Waubesa, improve the lakefront and the natural beauty of the area, while keeping the costs to a minimum.

The project is primarily a wetland reconstruction that will collect and filter runoff. It will be constructed in two phases, with the first phase beginning in 1994.

The primary funding source will be the state's Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Abatement Program, which will pay for 70 percent of the expenses. The money is available because Dunn Heritage Park is part of the Yahara/Monona Priority Watershed District, a district that was created to help protect the Madison lakes and the Yahara River from nonpoint source pollution.

Nonpoint source pollution is primarily water runoff that contains soil or other materials collected as it flows over farm fields, yards and streets. In addition to the solid materials in the water, it also carries phosphates and fertilizers that cause weed growth in the lake.

We will apply for grant money

from the Yahara/Monona Watershed Protection Fund to help pay for the bulk of the costs. By using the plans developed through the county Land Conservation Department, the town will pay about \$6,000, or 30 percent of the total costs. The parks commission has \$7,000 that has been set aside over the past two years for this project.

Phase 1 of the project would include constructing a 100- by 200-foot wetland near the lake to act as a filter for runoff. To help the water run into the wetland, the parkland would be contoured to redirect the runoff water into the wetland. The newly contoured land would be seeded, as would the wetland, into semi-aquatic species.

Additionally, to enhance the area for spawning pike, a channel from the lake into the wetland will be built. Because this channel introduces fresh water into the wetland, the area will not promote mosquito growth.

In 1995, Phase 2 will divert the runoff from across Jordan Drive and Tower Road onto town property so that it too can flow through the wetland filter area.

A special thanks goes out to Duane Wagner with the Dane County Land Conservation Department and Jan Harrison from the Yahara/Monona Priority Watershed District for their work in developing this plan and helping us with the grant process. Without their help and insight, this project would have never been this far along.

If you have any questions please contact any parks commission member. Call the town office or attend our monthly parks commission meetings. We usually meet the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the town hall.



### Quam Drive Boat Launch is Open

The Quam Street boat launch was reconstructed this summer with off-street parking. The new landing is a joint project of the town, neighborhood and DNR that has attempted to make the access attractive to residents as well as fishers. The streets around the launch are posted with no parking signs and the area will be patrolled.

## City Disposal Work Continues

Cleanup work and testing at the City Disposal Landfill Superfund Site on Sandhill Road will continue throughout the winter. In October Susan Pastor, the Community Relations Coordinator with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, issued an update of the events that have taken place at the site since last spring and those that will occur this winter.

The EPA issued an order in March to Waste Management of Wisconsin, Inc., to fund and conduct an estimated \$14 million cleanup of the landfill and the groundwater. The cleanup measures are outlined in a document called the "Record of Decision", which was signed in September.

Since March, Waste Management has been developing a remedial design and a redesign work plan, which is required by the EPA before the Superfund cleanup can occur. Pastor said the work plan will be finalized soon and that it contains "an aggressive fall and winter schedule."

From November through April 1994 several redesign tasks that are typical of Superfund sites will be completed. The results of that work will be available to the public by the summer of 1994.

A landfill gas evaluation will begin soon and will take about six weeks to complete. This will provide information for the installation and operation of a landfill gas extraction system. It is also a way to test for compliance with state regulations limiting emission rates of potentially hazardous air pollutants. Additional ground-water investigations will begin in November and run through March. This work will be done to more fully define the extent of the contamination plume.

At the same time, a pilot test

will be conducted for the on-site vapor extraction system that is being planned for the landfill. The pilot test will provide further identification of vapors and substances associated with subsoils for Cells 6 and 12 of the former landfill. It will also provide information needed when planning the installation of future extraction wells and monitoring probes. Simultaneously, an evaluation of potential cover material (clay) "borrow sources" will be done. Before clay is brought to a Superfund site, it must meet state specifications. Laboratory tests will help verify that clay proposed for use at the site will meet these specifications before it is used.

Finally, treatability studies and groundwater pump tests next spring will complete the redesign package. This work, which may last up to four months, will help determine the amount of water withdrawal the aquifer can handle by pumping out as much water as possible while putting pressure on the contaminated aquifer. Results from the pump test will provide a gallons-per-minute rate at which water will be pumped to stop the contamination plume from leaving the landfill. Treatment technologies, such as ultraviolet oxidation, will also be evaluated during this period to test their effectiveness.

Pastor also indicated that a new project manager, Russell Hart, will be handling the City Disposal Site's cleanup. Pastor and Hart can be reached toll free at the Chicago EPA offices at 1-800-621-8431. Hart can be reached directly at (312) 886-4844 and Pastor can be reached directly at (312) 353-1325.

Their mailing address is: U.S. EPA - Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60604-3590.

## Is Libby Finally a Bad Dream?

*from information provided by Jan Zimmermann, LWCA*

On October 28, the Wisconsin Court of Appeals confirmed that local zoning can exclude a landfill and that the Waste Facility Siting Board can delete portions of final arbitration awards.

The ruling just about eliminates the Libby Landfill from being sited on Dunn's northern border. The landfill was to be located across from Lake Farm Park, about 1200 feet from the western shoreline of Lake Waubesa.

Whenever a landfill is sited, the developer must negotiate with local communities and the residents living in the area to maintain property values, water quality and other community standards. In the Libby Landfill case, negotiations broke down in early 1991 and the case came before the WFSB, a state board created to oversee landfill siting. In arbitration, each side - the developer and the local committee (the local communities) - makes their final offer and the WFSB decides which side's terms to use.

At issue was the WFSB's March 1991 arbitration decision that selected the developers' final offer but deleted a section that would allow them to bypass local zoning and permitting ordinances. That meant local zoning regulations could not stop the landfill.

Dane County has consistently said it does not want a landfill located at the Libby site.

Following the WFSB's decision, the developer filed a lawsuit challenging the decision. The result was a July 1992 order by Judge Gerald Nichol that nullified the WFSB decision and allowed the landfill's development to continue.

That order was appealed by the local committee. In addition to the appeal, "friend of the court" briefs in support of it were filed by three municipal organizations, and a joint brief by the public intervenor's office and local environmental groups. Together they helped overturn Judge Nichol's ruling last month.

Money to make the appeal has come primarily from the town of Dunn, with the help of the Lake Waubesa Conservation Association, the village of McFarland, the town of Blooming Grove, and several area civic organizations and private individuals. These supporters and the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation have contributed heavily in the 12-year battle to prevent this landfill from being sited.

We would like to thank all who gave their support in this costly battle to protect our community.

### Town of Dunn Phone Numbers

Edmond P. Minihan, Chairman, 838-6432  
2379 Keenan Rd., McFarland, WI 53558  
Stan Solheim, Supervisor, 835-5818  
2380 Liatus Ln., McFarland, WI 53558  
Eleanor White, Supervisor, 835-3488  
4518 Schneider Dr., Oregon, WI 53575

Dunn Town Hall,  
4156 CTH B, McFarland, WI 53558  
Roz Gausman, Clerk-Treasurer, 255-4219

Dunn Town Garage,  
4156 CTH B, McFarland, WI 53558  
Jim Manson, Highway Foreman, 835-5611

Dunn Police Department,  
4156 CTH B, McFarland, WI 53558  
Robert Berry, Chief, 255-4219 (non-emergency)

Emergency 911

### Sanitary District Commissioners

District #1 Dick Christenson 222-4832  
Al Busch 222-6405  
Bob Bald 222-1020  
District #2 Ed Arnold 873-7165  
Gerry Ramsden 873-8800  
Roberta Howell 873-0150  
District #3 John Lorimer 835-5311  
Cathy Richards 838-3655  
Judy Livings 838-8921  
District #4 Harold Zuercher 222-1769  
John Ong 222-6489  
Tom Hitchcock 22-5394

# Summary of Dunn

## ... Budget Details

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\$80,529, and will be used to improve town roads.

Revenue also comes from local charges such as mobile home taxes, building permits, liquor licenses, interest earned on the general fund and several other smaller sources of fee income. In 1994, the town is expecting to collect \$19,282 in these monies.

Local speeding tickets, cable franchise fees and land division fees are expected to bring an additional \$16,300 in income. Public charges, coming primarily from the town refuse transfer site are expected to bring in \$18,000.

In addition, miscellaneous income, donations, street assessments, sales, land rentals and earned interest are expected to bring in \$23,709. This is down significantly because a \$10,000 donation from the Lake Waubesa Conservation Association was received in 1993. That money was used to help defray legal fees involving the Libby Landfill. Since the Libby issue is nearly over, the town is not expecting additional donations, nor is it expecting additional costs to oppose the landfill.

Another source of income is borrowing. This year the town is proposing to borrow \$110,000 to pay the costs of cleaning up soil contamination caused by an underground fuel leak and for improvements to the town hall.

### Where the Money Goes

#### General Government

The town's general government portion of the budget is proposed to have about a \$13,000 rise in spending. About \$6,000 of that is proposed as clerical wages due to the increase in work load at the town hall. Engineering fees, which in the past have been under general government, are also included in capital project costs this year. Under general government engineering is about

\$1,500 for the Dunn Heritage Park engineering. The remainder is for general engineering services, such as road drainage and culvert problems.

The clerical wages, split between several areas like court clerk, police clerical, plan commission and parks commission clerical and others, fluctuate annually. The total clerical wages throughout the budget represents the salaries of two full time office employees and an LTE (limited term employee) hired each summer to handle special projects. An overall 5 percent pay increase has been figured into the budget. Pay increases, however, will be based on merit.

The clerk-treasurer's wages show nearly a \$2,000 increase, but this is due to the fact that the 1993 wages were for nine months. Also with the combining of the clerk and treasurer positions in 1993, the total salary paid in 1994 will be less than having two positions.

Three lawsuits — one from a developer, one on a property assessment, and one concerning the Libby Landfill — caused the attorney fees to exceed the budget by 100 percent, rising to \$62,000 from a budgeted \$30,000. Attorney's fees are hard to predict, but with the potential demise of the issue of the landfill in 1994 or future years, the overexpenditures in this area should subside.

Dues and publication expenses are higher because the town board decided to join the Wisconsin Towns Association for Urban Towns, a towns association that better represents the interests of this township in relation to urban sprawl issues than did the Dane County Towns Association. Fees are roughly \$1350.

General property liability insurance cost is down from the

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No.	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	GENERAL FUND BUDGET DETAIL			
		1992 ACTUAL	1993 ADOPTED	ESTIM. YR. END	1994 PROPOSED
<b>REVENUES:</b>					
<b>TAXES:</b>					
303	GENERAL PROPERTY TAX	256,876	267,635	267,635	336,84
304	MOBILE HOME - BAYVIEW	20,393	20,000	21,300	22,000
305	MOBILE HOME - OTHER	855	735	1,087	1,087
306	WOODLAND/MANAGED FOREST	0	0	209	24
309	OMITTED PROPERTY TAX	9,558	0	2,676	0
	<b>TOTAL TAXES</b>	<b>287,682</b>	<b>288,370</b>	<b>292,907</b>	<b>360,17</b>

<b>INTERGOVERNMENTAL:</b>					
318	SHARED TAXES - STATE	200,436	192,654	192,654	180,75
319	RECYCLING GRANT	11,568	18,000	15,019	18,50
321	STATE - ROAD AID	69,553	75,792	75,792	80,52
322	COUNTY AID - ROAD/BRIDGES	2,225	2,000	0	5,50
326	FIRE DEPT. DUES	7,286	7,300	7,268	7,26
327	PAYMENT MUNICIPAL SERVICES	7,965	17,657	19,571	18,80
328	FEDERAL EMERGENCY GRANT	55,256	0	14,000	92
329	FEDERAL AID IN LIEU OF TAX	826	900	556	55
	<b>TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL</b>	<b>355,114</b>	<b>314,303</b>	<b>324,860</b>	<b>312,83</b>

<b>LICENSES &amp; PERMITS:</b>					
337	LIQUOR, MALT LICENSES	2,950	2,600	2,550	2,550
338	OPERATORS LICENSE	660	600	780	700
339	BUSINESS OR OCCUPATION	50	50	50	50
340	CIGARETTE LICENSE	45	40	40	40
342	COIN MACHINE - OTHER	100	100	130	100
344	MOBILE HOME PARK FEE	442	442	442	442
345	DOG LICENSES - TOWN SHARE	1,297	300	(300)	300
345	DOG LICENSES - LATE FEE	0	0	230	100
346	PERMITS - BUILDING	24,996	15,000	16,000	15,000
348	EXCAVATION PERMITS	60	0	0	0
	<b>TOTAL LICENSES &amp; PERMITS</b>	<b>30,600</b>	<b>19,132</b>	<b>19,922</b>	<b>19,28</b>

<b>FINES, FEES &amp; PENALTIES</b>					
349	LAND DIVISION FEES	160	100	100	100
354	COURT PENALTIES & FINES	9,656	6,000	7,300	6,500
395	CABLE TV FRANCHISE FEES	9,327	8,700	10,333	9,700
	<b>TOTAL FINES, FEES &amp; PENALTIES</b>	<b>19,123</b>	<b>14,800</b>	<b>17,733</b>	<b>16,300</b>

<b>PUBLIC CHARGES:</b>					
391	TRANSFER SITE SALVAGE	1,226	0	1,050	0
.2	RECYCLING STICKERS	6,113	6,000	6,000	6,000
.3	SOLID WASTE COUPONS	12,823	11,000	12,000	12,000
	<b>TOTAL PUBLIC CHARGES</b>	<b>20,162</b>	<b>17,000</b>	<b>19,050</b>	<b>18,000</b>

<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>					
382	STREET ASSESSMENTS	1,331	1,331	1,533	1,129
385	DONATION - LIBBY ATTNY FEES	9,747	10,000	10,000	0
387	INTEREST - GENERAL FUND	27,988	20,000	25,000	22,000
389	INTEREST - SPECIAL ASSESSMENT	552	679	1,054	480
390	SALE USED EQUIPMENT	3,050	0	75	0
394	LAND RENT OTHER	1,131	100	100	100
397	MISCELLANEOUS	5,307	0	1,502	0
	<b>TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS</b>	<b>49,106</b>	<b>32,110</b>	<b>39,264</b>	<b>23,709</b>
	<b>GRAND TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>742,665</b>	<b>685,715</b>	<b>713,736</b>	<b>750,301</b>

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>					
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT:</b>					
456	TOWN BOARD - SALARIES	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
458	TOWN BOARD - EXPENSES	0	100	0	100
462	ELECTION WORKERS WAGES	2,316	1,200	1,809	1,950
463	ELECTION EXPENSES	333	2,000	1,136	2,000
465	PLAN COMMISSION - CLERICAL	0	1,000	1,000	1,000
466	PLAN COMMISSION EXPENSES	277	500	265	500
469	ENGINEERING FEES	125	0	0	3,000
470	JUSTICE SALARY	1,200	1,200	1,200	1,200
471	JUSTICE EXPENSES	88	100	191	150
2	COURT CLERK - WAGES	1,745	2,600	1,500	1,600
472	CLERK/TREASURER SALARY	15,000	18,310	18,310	20,000
474	CLERK/TREASURER EXPENSES	240	475	475	600
479	OTHER CLERICAL WAGES	39,978	37,000	37,000	43,300
480	ASSESSOR CONTRACT	7,560	7,560	7,560	7,900
482	ASSESSOR'S EXPENSES	85	200	204	200
484	TREASURER - SALARY	6,500	1,690	2,167	0
486	TREASURER EXPENSES	316	75	249	0
490	ATTORNEY FEES	40,259	30,000	62,500	30,000
496	INDEPENDENT AUDIT	3,389	4,000	4,065	4,000

### Community Mill Rate Comparisons

	1992 Actual	1993 Proposed	Percent Assessment Ratio
Town of Oregon	2.86	2.70	102
Village of Oregon	6.55	7.02	82.39
Blooming Grove	4.91	3.82	83
Dunkirk	1.80	1.36	100
Rutland	4.26	2.82	103.7
Pleasant Springs	2.38	2.05	83
McFarland	6.95	6.95	80
Stoughton	6.24	5.55	99.26
Fitchburg	4.44	4.59	97.9
Town of Cottage Grove	2.30	NA	NA
Town of Sun Prairie	4.00	3.4	79.5
Windsor	2.13	2.40	101
Dunn	1.57	1.80	85.7

NA — Data is currently not available from the municipality.

# Proposed 1994 Budget

## ... Budget Details

ACCT NO.	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1992 ACTUAL	1993 ADOPTED	ESTIM. YR. END	1994 PROPOSED
500	DATA PROCESSING	250	500	350	500
505	TOWN NEWSLETTER	2,931	3,000	3,000	3,300
506	OFFICE SUPPLIES & EXPENSE	7,078	7,000	7,000	7,500
507	DUES & PUBLICATIONS	594	600	2,030	2,100
508	TOWN HALL MAINTENANCE	14,087	11,000	9,000	11,000
509	TOWN HALL MAINT. - WAGES	3,070	1,000	1,000	1,000
510	PROPERTY & LIABILITY INSURANCE	20,899	13,000	11,042	15,435
512	EMPLOYEES BOND	350	525	320	120
518	LEGAL PUBLICATIONS	1,632	1,300	1,800	1,800
519	TAXES REFUNDED	0	0	0	0
520	SOCIAL SECURITY EXPENSE	13,298	15,600	13,700	14,500
524	RETIREMENT EXPENSE	15,752	16,800	17,300	17,900
525	HEALTH INSURANCE	8,928	19,825	13,000	17,825
530	ILLEGAL TAXES	1,360	0	1,761	0
540	CEMETERY EXPENSE	0	0	300	450
541	CEMETERY - WAGES	483	1,200	1,200	1,200
542	MISCELLANEOUS	2,655	500	1,000	500
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	219,778	206,880	230,434	219,630

CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT					
552	PARKS COMMISSION - CLERICAL	307	1,000	1,000	1,000
553	PARKS ACTIVITY - WAGES	7,484	465	620	1,000
.2	PARKS - CONTRACT LABOR		7,035	7,035	7,400
555	PARKS EXPENSE	4,740	4,300	4,300	19,100
491	EDUCATION & TRAINING	1,282	2,500	2,500	3,000
	TOTAL CONSERV. & DEVELOP.	13,823	15,300	15,455	31,500

PUBLIC SAFETY:					
604	POLICE - WAGES	10,432	8,000	6,085	8,000
605	POLICE - CLERICAL	1,399	2,400	1,400	1,500
606	POLICE EXPENSES	1,686	2,000	2,000	2,000
616	FIRE PROTECTION - McFARLAND	35,500	35,500	23,807	38,000
617	EMS - McFARLAND	22,000	25,000	29,646	25,000
618	FIRE PROTECTION - OREGON	33,034	35,000	30,264	37,200
619	EMS - OREGON	21,639	22,000	21,682	21,235
620	FIRE PROTECTION - STOUGHTON	26,017	30,541	27,849	31,200
621	EMS - STOUGHTON	4,816	4,000	2,089	2,150
622	HAZMAT MUTUAL AID	97	100	97	100
624	EMERGENCY MGMT. EXPENSE		0	0	0
.2	EMERG. MGMT. - '92 TORNADO		0	801	0
.3	EMERG. MGMT. - '93 STORMS		0	946	0
630	BUILDING INSPECTOR WAGES	10,975	8,000	6,800	8,000
631	BUILDING INSPECTION EXPENSE	2,033	1,800	1,800	1,800
	TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY	169,628	174,341	155,266	176,185

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES:					
660	CIVIC DONATIONS	500	0	0	1,000
664	SENIOR CITIZENS - McFARLAND	1,000	1,000	1,000	3,000
665	SENIOR CITIZENS - OREGON	15,499	16,284	16,284	15,286
666	SENIOR CITIZENS - STOUGHTON	4,500	5,500	5,500	3,500
	TOTAL HEALTH & SOCIAL SERV.	21,499	22,784	22,784	22,786

PUBLIC WORKS:					
706	HIGHWAY DEPT WAGES	72,810	74,900	77,500	76,500
715	MACHINERY & EQUIP. OPERATION	5,337	8,000	6,100	7,000
716	MACH. & EQUIP. REPAIR & MAINT.	9,903	7,600	7,600	9,000
718	GARAGE EXPENSE	5,989	6,500	6,500	6,500
724	STREET REPAIR & MAINTENANCE	71,212	70,230	59,000	79,000
728	BRIDGES & CULVERTS		1,000	1,000	3,000
730	SNOW & ICE CONTROL	10,262	13,000	16,000	16,200
734	TRAFFIC CONTROL - SIGNS	1,624	6,000	4,000	6,000
736	STREET LIGHTING	7,159	8,000	8,000	8,000
740	TREE & BRUSH CONTROL	840	300	450	500
742	TRANSFER SITE - WAGES	13,251	15,500	15,500	16,000
746	TRANSFER SITE - EXPENSES	9,952	4,000	4,000	7,000
.2	RECYCLING - EXPENSES	3,021	4,000	4,000	6,000
.3	SOLID WASTE DISP. - EXPENSE	6,241	7,000	6,000	6,500
	TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	217,602	226,030	215,650	247,200

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES:					
806	SURFACE & RESURFACE ROADS	23,932	47,500	38,500	52,000
807	OFFICE EQUIPMENT	11,280	3,000	2,985	0
808	EQUIPMENT	2,274	1,400	1,400	1,000
	TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	37,486	51,900	42,885	53,000

GEN. FUND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	679,815	697,215	682,474	750,301
GENERAL FUND TOTAL REVENUES	679,815	686,715	682,474	750,301
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) EXPEND.	0	(11,500)	0	0

■ *from page 4* ■ budgeted amount in 1993 due to a quote error by the insurance company. The projected \$15,435 for 1994 is still lower by \$5,000 from 1992 because the town has joined the governmental property insurance pool available through the state.

Health insurance costs are lower than budgeted last year.

**Conservation**  
In the area of Conservation and Development, the town's parks commission is proposing two major projects. The town is proposing to spend \$9,200 to have the power lines that cross over Dunn Heritage Park moved. Another \$7,200 is proposed for shoreline repairs on four town-owned lots that are needed due to the high water levels in 1993. The repairs will be done to town lots on Zor Court, Colladay Point, Goodland Park and Waubesa Beach. Overall spending for parks will rise from \$4,300 in 1993 to \$19,100.

A wetland restoration project in Dunn Heritage Park is being paid for using \$7,000 in park development funds that have been set aside in a sinking fund over the past two years. The \$7,000 covers 30 percent of the total cost of the project. The remaining 70 percent is being paid through a nonpoint source pollution abatement grant provided by the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service. The category of park activity wages has been split to separate out contract labor for mowing parks from the wages paid to town employees for other park maintenance.

ACCT NO.	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	1992 ACTUAL	1993 ADOPTED	ESTIM. YR. END	1994 PROPOSED
<b>SPECIAL REVENUES FUND</b>					
REVENUE:					
	PARKLAND DEDICATION FEES	800	0	900	800
	DESIGNATED PARKS FUNDS		0	0	0
	TRANSFER (MATCHING) FUNDS	6,000	0	0	500
	INTEREST INCOME	81	0	100	100
	DONATIONS		0	200	0
	TOTAL REVENUES	6,881	0	1,000	1,400
EXPENDITURES:					
	PARK IMPROVEMENTS	4,723	0	0	7,000
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	4,723	0	0	7,000
	BEGINNING FUND BALANCE, JAN. 1	6,243	8,401	8,401	9,401
	ENDING FUND BALANCE, DEC. 31	8,401	8,401	9,401	3,801

DEBT SERVICE FUND					
REVENUE:					
303	GEN. PROPERTY TAX LEVY	35,750	44,800	44,800	38,733
324	PECHA FUNDS	0	0	0	53,150
	TOTAL REVENUE	35,750	44,800	44,800	91,883
EXPENDITURES:					
764	PRINCIPAL LONG-TERM DEBT	28,585	38,503	38,503	84,178
768	INTEREST LONG-TERM DEBT	7,165	6,297	6,297	7,705
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	35,750	44,800	44,800	91,883

CAPITAL PROJECT FUND BUDGET					
REVENUE:					
396	PROCEEDS LONG-TERM DEBT	87,186	138,000	131,119	110,000
	TOTAL REVENUE	87,186	138,000	131,119	110,000
EXPENDITURES:					
540	CEMETERY	889	4,500	5,500	0
718+	UNDERGR. FUEL TANK REMED.	32,805	50,000	27,457	90,000
804	STORM SEWER PROJECTS	0	72,000	61,297	0
807	TOWN HALL - CAPITAL	0	0	0	20,000
808	HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT	60,534	0	0	0
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	94,208	126,500	94,254	110,000

GRAND TOTAL EXPENDITURES	809,773	868,515	821,528	952,184
GRAND TOTAL REVENUES	802,751	868,515	856,393	952,184
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(7,022)	0	36,865	

■ *continued on page 8* ■

Town of Dunn Officials

Edmond P. Minihan, Chair  
2379 Keenan Rd., McFarland, WI 53558 838-6432  
Stan Solheim, Supervisor  
2380 Liatrus Ln., McFarland, WI 53558 835-5818  
Eleanor White, Supervisor  
4518 Schneider Dr., Oregon, WI 53575 835-3488  
Roz Gausman, Clerk, Dunn Town Hall, 255-4219  
Jim Manson, Highway Foreman, Dunn Town Garage, 835-5611  
Dunn Police Department, 4156 CTH B, McFarland, WI 53558  
Robert Berry, Chief, 255-4219 (non-emergency only)

## June Tornado Changes Plans of Dunn Road Crew, Too

by Jim Manson, Highway Foreman

We started this spring with the usual routine of patching road holes and weak spots as they developed, thinking this summer would be just a normal one for us.

Then on June 17, the tornado hit the town and changed things not only for the 30 or so families whose homes were destroyed, but for all the town employees, too.

On the day of the tornado, we were out putting up speed limit signs on Lator Road. At noon it started looking really nasty, so we headed to the town garage to eat lunch. Then the power went out, so we grabbed our lunch bags and headed into the town hall to have lunch with the people in there.

When the sirens went off, we ended up having lunch down in the basement. We didn't hear or see it go through, but somebody stopped and said the tornado had just gone through on the hill in Waubesa Heights.

I jumped into the pickup and tried to get up there, only to find the road was blocked. I went all over trying to get through. I couldn't see much, so I went back to the hall and told Todd to get the end loader to get stuff off the road, and I jumped in the grader to try to push stuff off the roads.

The power was out and so were the phones; we tried many times to call in to McFarland on the truck radio, but nobody answered. With all the commotion, apparently there was nobody near a radio.

By the time we got back up the hill — it's only a mile away — emergency personnel were on the scene trying to get in, too. We had our work cut out for us.

In all, the road crew spent five or six weeks of steady cleaning up after that. The tornado hit worst at Waubesa Heights, but we had cleaning up to do on Schneider Drive, Southview Road, Mahoney Road, quite a bit on Evans Road, Burmeister's Woods area, and quite a bit in the eastern part of town on Elvehjem Road.

We were very lucky that we got a lot of help from our friends from neighboring towns and villages. The village of McFar-

land was here for about a week with several men and trucks. We also had help from the town of Rutland, village of Cottage Grove, town of Bristol, town of Dunkirk, town of Blooming Grove, village of Maple Bluff and the town of Christiana and we even hired extra help to run our own equipment.

We had all three of our end loaders going steady and the village of McFarland was also going pretty steady for quite a while. McFarland also came in with their street sweeper for two days to help clean up nails from the streets because too many people were getting flat tires on their cars.

We spent a lot of time hauling debris that residents and volunteers would haul out to the streets. We hauled a lot of downed trees and homes to the dump, where we burned everything. We just finished burning all the debris and the final cleaning up last week.

After the major part of the clean-up we had to catch up on our normal work of mowing roadsides and patching roads to get ready for sealcoating roads. This year we sealcoated about 13 miles of roads. They include Holm Road, Schuster Road, the west mile of Rutland-Dunn Townline Road, Labrador Road, Retrievers Club Road, Schneider Drive, Barber Drive, Colladay Point Road, Zor Court, a half mile of Dyerson Road, two-thirds of Tower Road, and all of the streets in Spartan Hills. Then it was back to mowing roads and trying to put up signs that were stolen or run over by automobiles.

Our road paving projects got put on hold not only because of the cleanup. Part of the hold-up was because of the weather. When things cleared up, then the contractors got busy. We are just this week trying to get our paving completed.

Let's just hope we have a mild winter. We don't need any more of this nasty stuff.

## Dunn Prepares Burying Ground Addition this Fall

by Jo Reynolds, Dunn Burying Ground Task Force

The Dunn Burying Ground expansion project is under way, with plans for work to begin yet this fall. (Due to the dry summer weather and the June tornado, diskling and seeding wasn't done this summer.) The cemetery layout has been approved by the town board and is now due to be surveyed and plotted (after fall diskling) by Abex Survey Company, which submitted the most competitive bid. The road and paths will be laid out at the same time and, weather permitting, the one-way circular gravel road will be put in.

Plots will be available to town residents after the surveying is completed and plot markers are in the ground. Then, information on

plot costs and other cemetery regulations will be available after finalized by the town board.

Anyone wishing to donate landscaping materials for the new addition, or spring annuals or perennials for the original burying ground is encouraged to contact the town hall and leave their name as an interested donor. Native trees, old fashioned shrubs, heirloom roses and perennials will the emphasis of the plantings, in keeping with the original rural cemetery.

A brochure detailing the original cemetery and its burials is now available at the town hall, and is a valuable guide when visiting the cemetery.

## Dunn Police Chief's Report

by Chief Bob Berry

It's been a long summer for those who live along and use Highway 51. With the road construction nearly completed, the new highway will be a welcome change. The town has had driving complaints already, with some motorists exceeding the speed limit on the new highway.

I would like to thank the many nice people who showed respect by following the requests of the officers after the June 17th tornado, when they were asked not to drive through the area by the local police, security personnel and the Dane County Sheriff's Department. This made our jobs a lot easier. Yes, there were many who were issued citations for failure to obey the

road closed signs; those that were cited and appeared in court should be very thankful that they didn't have to experience the tornado first hand. Most had very original stories to tell.

The storage of boats, vehicles and recreational vehicles along the road right of way for longer than 48 hours is a violation and will be ticketed. Failure to remove the vehicle within 24 hours after the citation is issued will result in its being towed at the owner's expense. Last winter, many vehicles were left alongside the streets and were very troublesome for the road crew to plow around. Now is the time to move these vehicles to the proper storage area.

## Boat Landing Will Soon Be Ready For Ice Fishermen

Construction of the Amundson Boat Landing on Lake Kegonsa is underway and the ramp will be open this winter as an access point for ice fishermen, says Scott Stewart of the Department of Natural Resources.

During the second week of November workmen were pouring the concrete boat ramp and preparing the base for the parking lot. The workmen believe they will be completed by the beginning of December. Stewart, though, is concerned that early cold weather conditions may prevent the paving this fall, but he said that would not stop the access point to the lake from

being open to ice fishermen. The boat landing, which is located on Quam Drive, will have five car and trailer parking stalls and five additional stalls along the street. One of the stalls in the parking lot will be handicapped accessible.

The town helped purchase the property two years ago with the state by paying the excess the state had not budgeted for the land. The ramp and parking lot are being constructed with state Dingle-Johnson monies, an excise tax on fishing equipment. When the landing is completely finished, it will be dedded to the town of Dunn.

# Dunn Parks News

by Elaine Andrews, Parks Commission Chair

## Goings and Comings Zarnstorff appointed to commission

The Dunn Parks Commission would like to extend its appreciation to Carol Schwartzburg for her service from 1983 to 1992. During her tenure on the commission, Carol provided leadership in designing the town's approach to neighborhood park development. She was also active in the commission's annual award program and created the town's Stewardship Award plaque.

The Dunn Parks Commission would like to welcome Dan Zarnstorff, appointed to the parks commission in September. Dan will serve until July 1, 1995, completing Carol Schwartzburg's

current term. Dan has been active in developing solutions to various problems for the undeveloped area in the Colladay Point neighborhood. Dan is especially interested in the potential for natural landscaping in the town.

Town residents interested in becoming active on the parks commission are encouraged to provide their names to the commission. Several volunteer opportunities are currently available. Citizens interested in future vacancies on the commission will be informed when they occur.

## Do You Have Questions about Neighborhood Parks? From A to Z, We Can Help You

Town of Dunn neighborhood parks are developed and maintained through a neighborhood-town partnership. Neighborhoods interested in developing local town park land should request to be on the parks commission agenda. The parks commission can provide planning and financial assistance in getting the park started.

Resources about neighborhood park planning can also be found at the town hall. The town is developing its files on park equipment suppliers and techniques and resources for natural landscaping. Information on natural landscaping includes:

<i>Lake Waubesa area:</i>	Dan Zarnstorff 873-0366
	Mike Peterson 873-8581
	Judy Kinney 835-3830
	Sue Sanford-Ring 838-9733
<i>Parks Chair:</i>	Elaine Andrews 222-2255
	Doug Kornetzke 222-5848
	Jan Zimmermann 221-8423
<i>Town hall area:</i>	
	Judy Kinney 835-3830
	Sue Sanford-Ring 838-9733
<i>Parks Chair:</i>	Elaine Andrews 222-2255

## Spring Arbor Day - Be There! County Agent Mindy Habecker Talks Trash

"Don't burn or bag — compost" will be the theme of this year's Arbor Day celebration planned for Friday evening, April 23, 1993. Each April, the parks commission sponsors the annual potluck to celebrate Arbor Day, gather together as a community, and learn something new about caring for our town's resources. All ages are invited. Details will be provided in the spring Town of Dunn Newsletter.

This April, Mindy Habecker, Dane County Agricultural/Natural Resources agent will talk to town residents about what, how and why to compost. Mindy has taught and written about composting for the last several years. Composting is the breakdown

suppliers and plant materials costs, newsletters, and information about the Dane County Parks Commission Adult Conservation Team.

If you have questions about neighborhood parks, contact the commissioner from your area:

<i>Lake Kegonsa area:</i>	
	Dan Zarnstorff 873-0366
	Mike Peterson 873-8581
	Judy Kinney 835-3830
	Sue Sanford-Ring 838-9733
<i>Parks Chair:</i>	Elaine Andrews 222-2255

of organic matter by bacteria and other organisms. The end product of composting is humus, which is rich in nutrients and organic matter. The value of organic matter to crops has been established since early times. Burning of organic matter contributes to air quality problems and global warming. Bagging for landfill disposal adds to landfill problems. Dumping of grass clipping and leaves on town roadsides both is unsightly and has led to town road crew accidents.

Winter is a good time to set up your composting system. If you don't want to wait until April for information, contact the Dane County Extension Office for resources available in print.

## Wes and Jane Licht Receive 1992 Dunn Stewardship Award

The annual Arbor Day potluck sponsored by the Town of Dunn Parks Commission on April 24 honored Wes and Jane Licht with the Town of Dunn Stewardship Award for their long-standing commitment to community service and the preservation of natural landscapes.

The Licht family efforts have included development of a wet prairie on their property, which has restored wildlife habitat and served as a learning opportunity for many town residents and friends.

Jane has provided strong regional leadership through documentation of local history and promotion of the Wisconsin Wetlands Bill. She spent six very active years as a county supervisor, serving on the Dane County Parks Commission, and was instrumental in developing the Nine Springs E-Way System. She is currently Dane County's Register of Deeds. Wes, a teacher at Glendale Elementary School, has taken his activities beyond the classroom by providing years of



Dunn Bicycle Trail Guide, initiated the annual Arbor Day programs, and created and led the annual Dunn stewardship tour.

Wes also worked for the unique system of shared management in Dunn's neighborhood parks and he pursued the purchase and funding for the Dunn Heritage Park, our future community park.

Congratulations Jane and Wes, and many thanks for your years of committed stewardship.

## Annual Stewardship Award Help Us Find Candidates, Nominations Due February 1

Each year the parks commission recognizes a person or persons in the town who has contributed the most to the stewardship of the town's natural resources. We would like your assistance in identifying stewards for the 1993 award. Please send your nominations to the parks commission in care of the town hall by February 1. Nominations should be accompanied by a one-page description of why that person or persons should receive the 1993 award.

Stewardship can mean many things, depending on the individual point of view. Here are some of the thoughts that parks commissioners have used to guide their choice of individuals to be given awards each year, adapted from a presentation by Ruth Hine to the parks commission in 1984.

Stewards of the earth recognize through their actions that:

1. All nature has value.
2. All people, plants and nonliving components of the earth are part of an interrelated whole.
3. Humans are from the earth and are dependent on it.
4. Nature is a gift to be honored and respected.
5. Nature has value to the human spirit.
6. Humans do not own the earth.
7. Humans have been given the responsibility to care for the earth.

Past awards have been given to farmers, citizen activists, professors, teachers, and local landowners. If you are curious about who has received past awards, visit the town hall and view the Stewardship Award plaque.

# Smokey Hook Lake Prairie Burn Was Unintentional

By Doris Rusch, DNR Wildlife Manager

When the buffalo roamed over what is now the town of Dunn, and the Indians camped on the shores of Hook Lake and trapped in the waters of Grass Lake, the landscape was waving fields of prairie grasses and flowers. The prairie panorama was broken by an occasional oak or clump of oaks mixed with hickory and cherry. Europeans named this landscape of tall grasses and oak "savanna." Where the oaks are scattered widely, we call it oak savanna. Where the oaks grow in closer proximity, but allow sufficient light for the tall grasses to grow at their feet, we call it open oak savanna woodland.

Savanna and fire are synonymous. Without fire there was not savanna; fire made the savanna. Before settlement, scarcely a year went by without fire. Where annual fire was less intense, the sturdy oak survived in open woodlands or scattered clumps. Where fire was intense, it left nothing but treeless prairie grassland.

When we undertook the project of public ownership of the Hook

Lake-Grass Lake Area, we agreed to return the area to oak savanna. The Dunn folks want the area to be restored to a "natural" condition. The natural condition would represent the presettlement savanna vegetation.

Our plan is to gradually plant the existing fields to native prairie vegetation and to return the woodlots to open oak savanna. Our vision of the future landscape is a multitude of prairie flowers and grasses - cone flowers and rattlesnake master, big bluestem and Indian grass, blazing star and compass plant, and many others - and oak. The woodlots already have the oak component, but are filled with box elder and exotic brush such as honeysuckle and buckthorn. Burning through the woodlots will gradually kill the honeysuckle and box elder, opening up the woodland floor to light and the emergence of native savanna grasses and woodland flowers.

This April we waited and waited for the proper burning conditions. We wanted a south wind to prevent smoke from

traveling toward houses to the east or west. We needed a strong wind to provide enough oxygen to carry the fire through the woods. We needed a day or two without rain so the fuel would be dry enough to burn. The humidity could not be too low (more difficult to control the fire), or too high (nothing would burn). The white oaks had to drop their leaves to provide the woodland fuel. The honeysuckle had to be in leaf-out condition to give the fire killing power. The fields full of little box elder trees had to be dry enough to burn. All these events had to occur simultaneously, and before grassland birds began nesting in earnest. The peak of nesting occurs in mid to late May, we stop conservation burning in early May.

We waited for the perfect combination of events. The wind was the worst problem. The prevailing westerly winds prevailed. Every time there was south wind, it brought moisture. Rain, rain, and more rain, filling up the wetlands but preventing any prescribed burns. Finally, just when we'd

almost given up, we had such a morning. It was our last chance. Standing on the McMannus drive, a strong wind blew straight from the south. We hoped for no smoke problems.

But there were smoke problems, and we apologize sincerely to those who had to put up with smoke during the midday hours on May 1st.

We began the burn on the southeast, but the wind there blew southwesterly. Was it just a local aberrance caused by the woodlot? The smoke drifted southeasterly, but appeared to dissipate rather quickly over the cornfield. In fact, rather than dissipating, it settled into the lower land. The subdivision to the east was like a magnet for the smoke. The fickle winds had shifted southwesterly.

We had issued a news release regarding our intent to burn. However, we couldn't predict the date. In future years, we will place a yellow notice of our intent to burn on doors of nearby landowners just prior to the burn. We will also continue to wait for that due-south wind in the future.

## Most of Highway 51 is Open; Babcock Boat Ramp Closed 'till June

It's a welcome word and a lot fewer miles to drive for many of us. Beth Canestra of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation reports that Highway 51 opened on Monday, November 15.

Canestra said the highway is fully open from Stoughton to McFarland, but the portion between McFarland and the Beltline is open to traffic only on one side of the four-lane road because concrete poured on the Siggelkow Road bridge still hasn't cured fully.

She expects that portion of Highway 51 north of Siggelkow Road to open in late November or early December. "We are hoping to have all four lanes open for winter, before we shut down for the season," she said.

Canestra also cautioned motorists to avoid the Siggelkow Road interchange because the contractors have not finished work there.

While its good news the road is open, that's not the case for the Babcock Park boat launch, which has been closed for renovations since September. Jim Mueller of Dane County Parks says that area will be closed until June because

Dane County is expanding the parking lot and adding a fourth boat launch to the site. "We are hoping to have it open before then, but a lot depends on the weather. If we get a warm winter again, then we can probably work on a lot of this over the winter," he said, indicating the ramp and lot may be open sooner.

The renovation of the boat launch and parking lot will mean a majority of the car and trailer parking will be moved to the lake side of Highway 51, eliminating much of the pedestrian crossover traffic to the overflow parking lot. Mueller said the county is increasing the existing 31-parking-space lot to 80 car-trailer parking spaces by purchasing additional property and vacating a portion of Camp Leonard Road.

The overflow lot on the east side of the highway will still exist, he said, but parking in it will be more strictly controlled. Mueller said he expects the overflow lot will still be used frequently, since on peak week-ends the boat launch has had an average of 140 users.

In addition to the renovations on land, the county will be dredging the lagoon so that more boat-

ers can stay in the lagoon in bad weather as they wait for boat ramp space. On the other side of the river, in the campground area, Mueller said a new restroom and shower facility is planned. That facility, he said, will probably open in 1994.

## Summer Student Intern Saves The Day During Tornado Aftermath

This past summer Molly McCormick, Sun Prairie, served as a summer intern in the town hall. Molly is a senior at the University of Minnesota—Morris studying political science and women's studies.

She joined the Dunn office staff in early June. Originally she was hired to help update the town's ordinances, work on an office procedures manual and to work with updating several planning and land use maps. Instead, because of the June 17th tornado disaster, she became an invaluable office assistant, helping to process disaster assistance forms and being an addition team member in the town office.

"She was a blessing to have here," says Clerk Roz Gausman. "We needed extra support with a disaster relief person but, even



with all that she accomplished some of the goals that we set as her initial projects."

Molly returned to UM—Morris in late August and will graduate next spring. Next summer the town is hoping to find another able summer intern.