

# YORK TOWN NEWS

Nov 2016

## MEMORIAL DAY 2016

Memorial Day 2016 was a beautiful day to gather at Green's Prairie Cemetery. About 70 individuals enjoyed presentations by Dave Green and Tom Mitchell. Dave spoke about the places from which the early settlers emanated prior to arriving here. Tom Mitchell spoke about one of our "War of 1812" veterans. We capped our time with a special Quilt of Valor presentation to US NAVY veteran, Town of York Board Chairman, Dan Reeson. This was a real surprise to Dan. Tom Boyd, Dan's brother-in-law and fellow Navy mate, was extremely helpful in securing the information needed to complete the QOV paperwork. Vicki Sasso and Sue Levan-Green made the presentation. This quilt is one-of-a-kind and is signed by the maker. Many of Dan's family members helped us honor him. Thank you, Dan, Tom, and all who have served. Please see the full Green's Prairie Cemetery Association's 2016 Annual Report on the York website.

<http://www.townofyork.org/greens-prairie-cemetery-association-annual-report/>



## YORK RESIDENTS: HOW'S YOUR BROADBAND?

—1ST SUPERVISOR TIM CZERWONKA

Home internet. With uses from business to entertainment, in 2016 it is less of a luxury and more of a utility like electricity or phone service. Yet many of us in rural areas still struggle to get consistently reliable or high-speed service to our homes. The Wisconsin Public Service Commission (PSC) has a State Broadband Office (<http://www.link.wisconsin.gov/>) with a stated mission "...to make Wisconsin more competitive through advancing the availability, adoption, and use of broadband technologies."

For 2017, the PSC has awarded \$1,500,000 in funds to 17 projects throughout the state. But it seems to me there's a lot more that can be done.

The Wisconsin Public Service Commission is hosting a survey for you to weigh in with your opinions on broadband internet service options in our area. As of 28 September there were only 58 responses from Green County.

The survey closes 23 November 2016. You can access the survey here: <http://psc.wi.gov/broadbandsurvey.htm> or call (877) 360-2973.

### Town website:

[www.townofyork.org/](http://www.townofyork.org/)

**York Town Board** meets every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 8 pm  
e-mail: [townboard@townofyork.org](mailto:townboard@townofyork.org)

**Chairman: Dan Reeson**  
[chairmanreeson@townofyork.org](mailto:chairmanreeson@townofyork.org)  
608-523-1331

**1st Supervisor: Tim Czerwonka**  
[1stsupervisor@townofyork.org](mailto:1stsupervisor@townofyork.org)  
608-239-3696

**2nd Supervisor: Steve Hermanson**  
[supervisorhermanson@townofyork.org](mailto:supervisorhermanson@townofyork.org)  
608-558-2035

**Clerk: Nancy Anderson**  
[yorktownclerk@townofyork.org](mailto:yorktownclerk@townofyork.org)  
608-523-4529

**Treasurer: Ann Carlson**  
[treasurer@townofyork.org](mailto:treasurer@townofyork.org)  
608-527-3121

**Assessor: Gardiner Appraisal Service**  
608-943-8013      888-756-9726  
[gardinerappraisal@gmail.com](mailto:gardinerappraisal@gmail.com)

**Building Inspector: Mike Fenley**  
[totalinspectionsservices@gmail.com](mailto:totalinspectionsservices@gmail.com)  
608-963-0652

**Plan Commission** meets every 1st Tuesday of month, 8 pm

**Chair: Marselino Miranda**  
**Curtis Moen**  
608-527-2261      608-214-2291

**Brian Bubbenzer**  
608-527-4434

**Terri Nipple**  
608-527-4111      **Linda Yates**  
608-523-4554

What do you want to see in your Town newsletter? Send your news to  
**YTN Editor: Carrie Czerwonka**

## FROM OUR TOWN BOARD

—CHAIRMAN DAN REESON

It's been a good year for the township. Haven't had any major problems. The board talked about raising the tax levy, but have decided to put it off for now. We saved a little money this summer with only a part-time patrolman; Wayne Bue came back to help us out (can't thank him enough) for the summer and fall. We are looking for 3 or 4 part-time snowplow drivers this winter. Town of York has not raised the levy for more than 10 years. When I started on the board, York took in about 12 to 13% of the real estate taxes; now it is closer to 7 or 8%. Cost keeps going up, fire department and EMS need more money, and it comes from the villages and townships.

York board purchased a new mower for the roads and we are taking bids on the tractors. The John Deere is starting to cost us a bit of money to maintain, over \$6000.00 this year. Might be in our best interest to buy new.

Have something to ask of you all, if you meet a large truck or farm equipment on a town road, please slow down or even stop to help each other pass, let's all be neighborly. Thanks.

Now I want to thank all the folks that run this Town of York: Nancy, she has a lot to do. Tim, Steve, and Ann for making my job easier; Cynthia, Kim, and April for taking care of the Recycle Center; Curt, Brian, Mareslino, Linda, and Terri for keeping the Plan Commission running. Our Rural Land Conservation Committee: Nan, Bob, April, Dan, and Bethany. Mike Finley, our building inspector; all of the election workers: Kit, Heidi, Susan, Linda, Marlys, Kelly, Sue, and Steve; and Carrie for the newsletter.

Be neighborly to everyone, most people you meet have bigger problems than you!

—TREASURER ANN CARLSON

**P**roperty 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](http://www.co.green.wi.gov)). A listing of the 2016 tax roll will be posted on the town website ([www.townofyork.org](http://www.townofyork.org)). Collections at the York Town Hall will be on Saturday, 31 December 2016 and Saturday, 28 January 2017.

Mailing payments is the most efficient payment process. All payments with a postmark date of 31 December 2016 and prior

—1ST SUPERVISOR TIM CZERWONKA

### Water Testing:

**E**arly this spring, the Town of York was one of two townships to participate in a drinking water testing program through the UW Extension office in Monroe. Participants were able to conveniently pick up sample bottles at the town hall on Saturday and drop them off Monday morning. Results were available approximately one month later with a follow-up session featuring experts who were available to assist with interpreting results. 29 households from Town of York participated in the testing.

According to Victoria Solomon, Green County UW Extension Community Resource Development Educator, ground-water in the Towns of York and Washington had a moderate amount of hardness and pH. 17% of the samples showed above 10 mg/L nitrate-nitrogen and 8% detected coliform bacteria. Households with problems detected were provided with additional information regarding possible corrective measures.

The UW-Stevens Point Center for Watershed Science and Education has an interactive online database<sup>1</sup> of samples with well test results from homeowners and other well water data collected by state agencies over the past 25 years.

If you missed this chance to test your well, it's not too late! Water test kits are available through the Green County Health Department, 608-328-9390, or the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene, 800-442-4618.

<sup>1</sup><http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/watershed/Pages/wellwaterviewer.aspx>

(see TIM, p. 3)

—2ND SUPERVISOR STEVE HERMANSON

**I**t's been another busy year for the town. We passed a one-year moratorium on large-scale farms. During this time, the Rural Conservation Committee will be collecting data to protect our natural resources, such as ground water and our soils. They have one year to prove their point to the DNR.

This year we seal coated and paver patched more roads than originally anticipated due to the 25–30% price reduction. Our full-time patrolman left in April to take another position. We now have part time help from Wayne Bue and two people lined up for snow plowing. We expect in the future to return to a full time patrolman. This has been a cost saving to the township for the short term.

We replaced our ditch bank mower with a 10 ft. batwing mower, which will be much heavier and more efficient. The repairs on our JD 6220 tractor and the old mower were more this year than in other years. We received bids for a new tractor and loader from John Deere and New Holland. We accepted the bid from Hennessey Implement for a new 140hp tractor and loader. Because of the farm economy we got an exceptional bid and decided to trade off the 2003 tractor with 6000 hrs.

We as a board will continue to serve the town for the present and the future.

Hello Town of York Residents. We would like to thank you for all of your recycling efforts. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask us about any of your recycling needs.  
—Cindy and Kim Peterson

will be posted in 2016. All payments with a postmark of 31 January 2017 will be applied to the first installment in 2017. All payments made after 31 January 2017 are to be mailed to Green County. Payments requiring a receipt must include an email 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 1 February 2017 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.

## RLCC

The Rural Land Conservation Committee of the Town of York was sworn in January, 2016. Members include, Nana Schowalter, chairperson, Bethany Emond Storm, secretary, Bob Bergman, April Prusia, and Dan Truttmann.

The RLCC has been given the task of drafting a one year moratorium on the establishment of Livestock Facilities housing 750 or more animal units. The moratorium is in effect April 12, 2016 to April 12, 2017.

The purpose of the moratorium, and the task of the RLCC, is to allow the Town of York adequate time to study, review, consider, and determine whether creation of a Livestock Facilities Licensing Ordinance with requirements that are more stringent than state standards and/or other ordinances relevant to livestock facilities are necessary to protect public health or safety in the Town of York in light of the unique environment and characteristics of the area and the concerns expressed by Town residents and property owners.

The RLCC shall, during the course of the moratorium imposed, research, analyze, and synthesize scientific literature and research regarding the impact of livestock facilities with 750 or more animal units on ground water, surface water, air quality, and other identified potential impacts, specifically as those issues apply in the Town of York.

RLCC meets the first Monday of each month. Minutes and agenda are posted on TOY website, and the public is welcome to attend meetings.

<http://www.townofyork.org/committees/r-l-c-c-members/rlcc-meeting-agenda/>

<http://www.townofyork.org/committees/r-l-c-c-members/rlcc-meeting-minutes/>

## HARDWOOD TREES FOR PLANTING THIS SPRING 2017

-CHRIS NEWBERRY, CONSERVATION TECHNICIAN  
GREEN COUNTY LAND & WATER CONSERVATION  
DEPARTMENT

As you look at the beautiful fall foliage, recollect how it is created. The colors are created by trees. If you would like to create more foliage or diversify the color or just add to it, you can stop by the Green County Land & Water Conservation Department. The Department is offering 10 varieties of trees and two varieties of shrubs for landowners interested in planting trees next spring 2017. The tree varieties are: bur oak, red oak, white oak, swamp white oak,

sugar maple, black cherry, basswood, tamarack, white pine, and Harbin pear. Shrubs available are: elderberry and ninebark. The trees and shrubs will be bareroot, 1-2 ft tall for basswood and tamarack; 2-3 ft tall for white oak, white pine, pear, elderberry, and ninebark; the other oaks, maple, and cherry will be 3-4 ft in height. 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.

Most of the trees and shrubs are native to the area except the Harbin Pear. The species offered cover a broad range of soil types and moistures, from dry to very wet. The featured species this year is the Basswood. Basswood is the favorite tree of both

## NEWS FROM THE YORK TOWNSHIP PLAN COMMISSION

The York Township Plan Commission developed and posted a Dwelling Unit Allotment Data Base on the township website about two years ago. Township residents are requested to please check the posting (Look under Land Units and follow the instructions) regarding your property and notify the York Township Plan Commission if they believe the information is inaccurate.

<http://www.townofyork.org/resident-info/land-units/>

**If you are planning on selling, developing, or dividing any property** at any time, you must attend a Plan Commission meeting **prior** to doing the transaction. Please bring with you a completed PRELIMINARY PARCEL DIVISION / TRANSFER INQUIRY FORM posted on the Township website under FORMS (<http://www.townofyork.org/download/forms/Parcel-Division-Transfer-Form.pdf>). Be sure to include other supporting documents, including a CSM (Certified Survey Map) if you have one, as requested on the form. The Plan Commission will review your request, form, and supporting documents. If your request is within the requirements of York Township Ordinance #16-03, the request will be forwarded to the York Town Board for approval. Meeting with the Plan Commission prior to transferring/developing, or dividing any property within the Township, helps to insure that your transaction complies with the Town's Ordinance.

The York Township Plan Commission regularly meets on the first Tuesday of the month in the York Town Hall. A request to be on the agenda should be made at least a few days prior to our meeting to allow for legal posting. Such a request may be made to any Plan Commission member. See [www.townofyork.org](http://www.townofyork.org) for information.

(TIM, continued from p. 2)

### Town Website, change in meeting posting laws:

In November 2015 Wisconsin passed Act 79, which allows municipalities to use an internet site as an official posting location for certain meeting notices. Prior to this change, towns were required to post meeting notices in three public places. Now, meeting notices and agendas can be posted on the Town website and in only one public location. York will post at the town hall.

Our website is <http://www.townofyork.org>

The website was redesigned last fall and contains links to agendas and minutes for regular and special board meetings, Plan Commission, and Rural Land Conservation Commission meetings.

If you choose to provide an email address, you can sign up to receive email each Monday morning with links to updated website postings from the previous week.

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

honeybees and beekeepers. Its nonshowy, fragrant flowers appear in late May or June, and attract large numbers of bees which produce a distinctive tasting honey which is sometimes sold as "basswood honey."

Trees can be ordered by contacting the LWCD directly by phone and walk-in, or by ordering through the Green County website [www.co.green.wi.gov](http://www.co.green.wi.gov). 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 or give the Green County Land & Water Conservation Department a call at 325-4195. We will be taking orders until Friday 30 December. Trees will arrive near the middle of April 2017 and can be picked up then.

**YORK** *Town News*  
c/o Nancy Anderson  
N8791 York Center Rd.  
Blanchardville, WI 53516



## A YEAR OF CHANGES

—NANCY ANDERSON

Last year at this time, the Town began issuing recycling permit tags to Town residents and property owners. The move appears to be helping our supervisors monitor use of the facility by owners and tracking its occasional misuse.

Earlier in the year our fulltime patrolman left us. Luckily, Wayne Bue, our former patrolman, agreed to work part time for the Town. It's good to have Wayne on board again.

In other news, York has a new voting machine, which was put into service back in February. Two people from each municipality in Green County attended the training session in January on its use. Chief Inspector Dorothy Peterson and I attended the workshop. We hope the new equipment will serve our citizens well for years to come.

Because of the great concern about "Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations"

(CAFOs), one of which is currently trying to establish itself in the Town of Sylvester in Green County, the York Town Board thought it would be wise to reactivate its Rural Land Conservation Committee to establish ordinances which would help York fend off excessive use of our land. At the December 2015 Board meeting, a motion was approved to appoint Bethany Storm, Bob Bergman, Nana Schowalter, April Prusia, and Dan Truttmann to the Committee to do just that. Check the York website to follow what's been happening.

A new lawn tractor was purchased to help maintain the grounds around our Town Hall. Maybe you noticed the small sign added to the Town of York sign out on the front lawn which gives the website address for the Town. We can also be found on Facebook. Thank you to Nana Schowalter for the nice addition to our signage.

It will soon be election time again, and we all appreciate the help of those willing to serve

as poll workers and chief inspectors for these elections. Of the Town's four chief inspectors—Kit Foley, Terri Nipple, Marilyn Jaeger, and Dorothy Peterson, three have had to give up their positions for varied reasons. A big thank you goes to Terri, Marilyn, and Dorothy for their past service to our community. Residents Heidi Hankley, Kelly Hermanson, and Marlys Reeson have stepped forward and recently attended Baseline Core Training for Chief Inspectors. This will complete our staff of four election inspectors. Thank you, Ladies, for your willingness to serve. Be sure to thank them and all our poll workers for their service when you come to vote.

Lastly, the Towns of Washington and York held Water Testing Pickup and Drop off services in March. The service was sponsored by the Green County Extension. Quite a few residents took advantage of this opportunity. The results were mostly, if not totally, favorable for our area.