

# Town Board update

## Town Board Shuts Down Barber Drive Bar

On May 31, the Town Board held a special hearing to address concerns about two local taverns, Radar's 4077, owned and operated by Ray DeChant, and Gene's Os, owned and operated by Gene Heiman. After deciding that violations of DeChant's liquor licenses were only poor judgement, the board suspended his licenses for one day.

In the matter of Gene's Os, however, the board felt that the establishment represented continuing problems with complaints from neighbors, an unresolved problem with raw sewage being pumped onto the ground, and new convictions for Heiman that classified him as a "habitual offender" and therefore made him ineligible to hold a liquor license. They permanently revoked Heiman's liquor licenses.

The board also later denied a liquor license to Heiman's aunt for the same establishment, based on the history of difficulties with that establishment and with Rosa's Cantina, which had been in the same area. The board had also received a petition from the neighbors opposing issuance of the license.

The board agreed to explore the possibility of delaying the sewer assessment on the property until a new use for it can be determined.

## Give Us Back Our Speed Bumps, Residents Demand

After four inches of gravel had been laid on Crescent Dr. as the first step in rebuilding the road, a group of residents appeared before the Town Board asking that the gravel be removed and the road returned to its former condition. The residents complained that the higher road would act like a dam for storm water, flooding yards, garages, and basements. Some residents complained that a smoother surface would increase traffic speed and asked for their natural speed bumps to be returned, while others called the road an embarrassment.

For the last two years, county engineers had identified Crescent Dr. as the town road most in need of being rebuilt, and advised that the road be raised to help alleviate some of the deterioration caused by the lowness and wetness of the area.

An engineering report ordered by the board to help reach a compromise among the residents recommended either a raised reconstruction and storm sewer project or removal of the gravel with patching and sealcoating of the existing pavement at its current elevation. The estimated cost for reconstruction is approximately \$30,000. The board chose the second option, which was also desired by the majority of the Crescent Drive residents present. The town will also clean ditches in the right-of-way and clean out the

culverts under the road to help drainage from residents' lots.

## Multi-family Multi-headaches

Both the Town Board and the Plan Commission have been heavily involved in the efforts of the Colladay Point Neighborhood Association to block a multifamily high-density development in their midst.

The developer-owners of a 7.5-acre parcel on Colladay Point Drive have plans to build 36 apartment units, which is scaled back from their original plans for 10 eight-unit buildings.

Concerns of the neighbors include an increase in traffic on narrow roads with poor intersections and a bad access situation onto U.S. Hwy. 51; possible siltation of Lake Waubesa since that lot filters out sediment from the farm across the highway, degradation of water quality through grease, oils, road salt, and heavy metals from the parking lot and the increased traffic so close to the lake; the possibility that the draw-down from a well large enough to serve a development that size would lower the water table and affect neighboring private wells; the impact on the Stoughton school district; and, effects to neighboring yards and to the lake from putting buildings and parking lots on what is currently a major waterway for storm runoff.

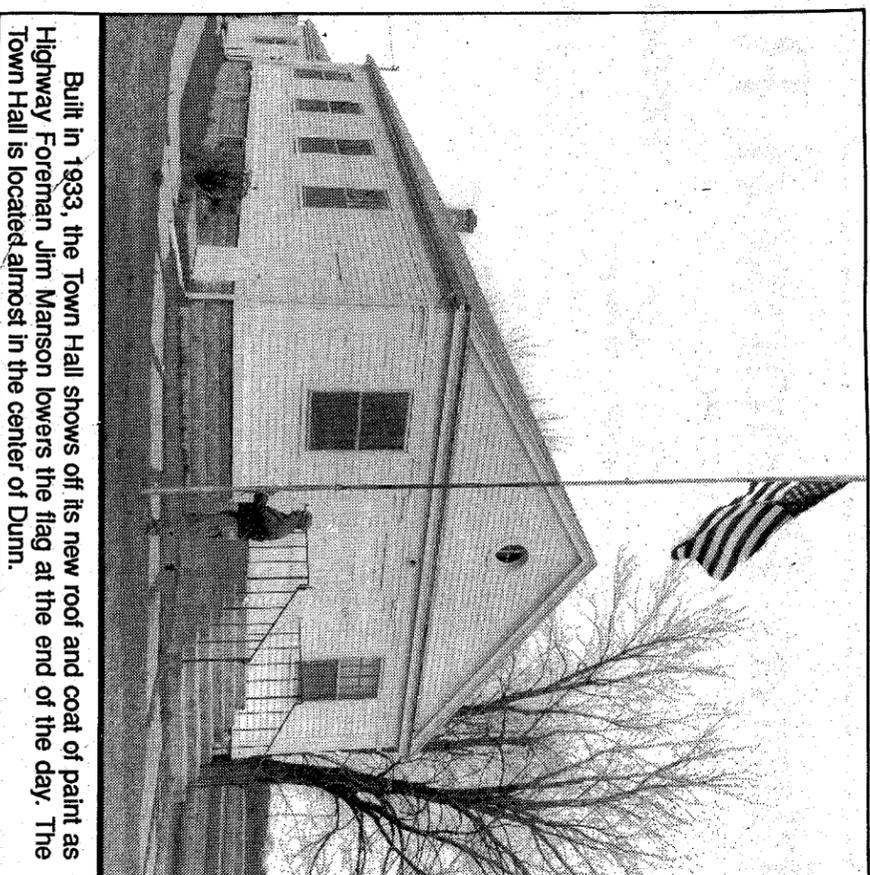
The Neighborhood Association is currently pursuing several paths toward stopping this project. They are raising money to try to purchase the lot. At the same time, an adjacent landowner has petitioned the county to rezone the parcel from B-1 and R-4 to R-3, a lower density residential classification. The petition has been approved by both the Town of Dunn Plan Commission and the Town Board, and is now before the county.

The developers have argued that they should be allowed to do anything with the property that is within the limits of its zoning, while the town and the neighbors argue that the parcel has been improperly zoned.

## Other Board Actions

The Town Board agreed to pay one eighth the cost of a mediator in the Libby Landfill negotiation process. Madison Landfills, Inc. had offered to pay the entire cost of a mediator, but the local negotiating team felt that this might unconsciously bias the mediator. The cost of the mediator is to be split, with the Town of Dunn and the City of Madison each paying one eighth and Dane County paying one fourth as the local negotiating committee, and Madison Landfills, Inc. paying the other half.

The town highway crew will be doing most of the work on the Jordan Drive storm sewer project. According to foreman Jim Manson, they can do just about



Built in 1933, the Town Hall shows off its new roof and coat of paint as Highway Foreman Jim Manson lowers the flag at the end of the day. The Town Hall is located almost in the center of Dunn.

everything except remove trees, move phone lines, get the required permits, and do the surveying. This will keep down the costs to the town.

The board has been involved in gathering information and costs on the various options available for waste disposal once the town's landfill is closed. (See related article.)

The town's attorney has been instructed to draw up draft ordinances on a group of issues that have been brought before the board recently by concerned residents. A public hearing will be scheduled in December for all residents to comment on the proposals.

The high bid for the sale of 18 acres of town land adjacent to the town landfill came from Harvey

## Property revaluation coming in 1990 Lake home values expected to rise most

State law requires municipalities to assess all property at 100% of fair market value, but they allow a 10% variance high or low.

The last time the town was reassessed and brought up to 100% valuation was in 1985. Over the past four years, sale prices have gradually risen above the assessed valuations. That has reduced the assessment ratio (the relationship of the town's assessed values to current market values as determined by the state) for the town to 91% in 1989. By 1990, that ratio would more than likely come in at less than 90% and the town would not be in compliance with the state assessment laws.

To correct this, the town will begin a revaluation in 1990 and complete it in 1991. The change in values will show up on the 1991 tax roll, affecting taxes due in 1992.

Sales data from the state's Department of Revenue shows the largest increase over assessed value in sales of lake lots. Farmland shows the smallest variance between sales and assessed value. Lake property, therefore, will

and Ruth Gausman for \$11,700. The Gausmans also own the land adjacent to the Town Hall, and have agreed to sell one acre to the town for storing town equipment and for expanded parking for the Town Hall.

The dream of a town park on Lake Waubesa came a step closer to reality this fall when the town bought 28 acres from Art Mahoney. (See related article.)

The board appointed Mike Peterson to the Park Commission. Peterson will replace Sara Rath Coyle, who has moved to Boston, Massachusetts.

The board has authorized a new stop sign for the intersection of Riverholm and Dyreson Roads, and Children at Play signs for Geihler Drive.

show the largest change in assessed value.

The revaluation will be done by Gardiner and Clark Appraisal Co., at a cost of \$12,243 per year for two years. This is considerably less than the last revaluation in 1985 because the buildings were all measured and computerized at that time. This time, the assessor will view each property but will not remeasure unless there has been a change since 1985. The assessors will be issued identification cards by the town clerk.

If you are not at home when the assessor calls, he will leave a card requesting an appointment. Please reply promptly, because failure to cooperate with the assessor adds to the town's costs -- notices must be sent by certified mail at \$2.00 per letter. It can also add directly to your costs -- if the assessor cannot see your property, he must assume it contains the best of everything.

Written notice of all changes will be mailed to property owners. If you have any questions or concerns during the revaluation, please call the clerk's office at 255-4219.

## Old stones hold plenty of intrigue Stories of early settlers hide in cemetery by Jo Reynolds

As the remaining tombstones of the Town of Dunn Burying Ground suffer the damaging effects of age, vandalism and air pollution, we can, with some imagination, visualize how the cemetery appeared to the settlers who buried their loved ones there.

These Dunn pioneers were not always able to afford the traditional marble stones we recognize in many older cemeteries, and wooden crosses of varying sizes and degrees of elaboration were also prevalent. During hard times, often only a carefully chosen fieldstone or grouping of smaller rocks marked a family gravesite. The simplicity and poignancy of these markers make them as special to the cemetery as the carved marble stones. (It is because of this kind of marker that cemetery historians stress that any rocks found within a graveyard should not be moved or destroyed.) The unfortunate legacy of these simple markers is that the name and history of the person buried there is generally lost.

landing in New York after a five-week voyage. He came to Wisconsin the next spring by way of the Great Lakes and Milwaukee, and settled in Dane County. At that time there were few inhabitants, and he bought 400 acres in what is now Fitchburg, Bloomington Grove and Dunn townships. He first built a log cabin in Fitchburg, where he lived while building a log house in Dunn. He and his bride, Emma Roberts, lived there after their marriage.

Richard Tipple helped farm as a boy, and also attended school a part of each year. At the age of 21, he bought the home in Dunn, built a successful farm, and made many improvements. He married Martha L. Atwood of Verona in February 1881. They had one other child, Myron, besides their first, the baby Emma Rose.

Emma Rose is, in fact, the last documented burial in the Dunn Burying Ground that we know of, although it is commonly supposed that the cemetery was used until it was full in 1891.

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The infant's father, Richard E., was born on a farm in the Town of Dunn in 1855. Had he been born seven years earlier, he would have been born in the Town of Rome. In 1848, an act of the Territorial Legislature created three separate townships out of what had been Rome. As one of the new townships, Dunn was to have been called Dover. But the name was so poorly written that it was mistaken for Dunn, and the town has been named so ever since.

Richard's father, John Tipple, was born near Norfolk, England, and had owned and operated a mill there. He emigrated to America, sailing from Liverpool and

Several of the marble stones in the cemetery are carved and signed by Madison stone carver A. Abbott. The artistic simplicity of these stones still shows, even though they are weathered. Other elaborate stones feature rose and willow tree motifs, which were symbols of everlasting life.

A visitor to the Town of Dunn Burying Ground today can only imagine how the cemetery would have looked in 1885, with 200 or so markers in these varied styles gracing the property.

## Cable Commission needs help Position remains open but no takers

After a year of not operating due to lack of interest, the Dunn Cable Commission needs a few folks who are willing to meet monthly or quarterly to see that the town is represented on cable programming. Projects might be: monitoring cable company distribution requests, being a liaison with neighboring cable companies, writing grant requests for projects for the high school production of pro-

grams on town issues, taping and playing of Town Board meetings. Interested persons should leave their name, address and phone number, along with a note about their interest, at the Town Hall.

Oregon and Fitchburg local access channels have recently agreed to broadcast Town of Dunn announcements. Look for them on your local cable channel.

## Jones Intercable new owner of Goodland Park Cable

Effective in October, the fledgling Goodland Park Cable Co., serving Goodland Park and a portion of Meadowview subdivisions, became part of Jones Intercable, Inc. of Madison.

For residents of this area, rates are \$16.95 for the basic 34-channel service. The installation fee is \$25.00, and somebody must be home for the installer to wire your home for service. Exact in-

stallation times cannot be set, but the company will guarantee either a morning or an afternoon installation. Hours are 9 to noon and 12:30 to 5 pm, and can be as soon as the day after you call.

Jones Intercable, Inc. is located at 2984 Triverton Pike, Madison, WI 53711. The regional manager is Joe Zuravle, Jr., and the phone number is 273-4800.



John Deegan from Dunn's highway crew sits atop the highway department's new Ford tractor, which is used for mowing the town's roadsides. The tractor and a push mower were included in last year's budget request, and were purchased this spring.

## On the road again with Jim by Jim Manson, Highway Foreman

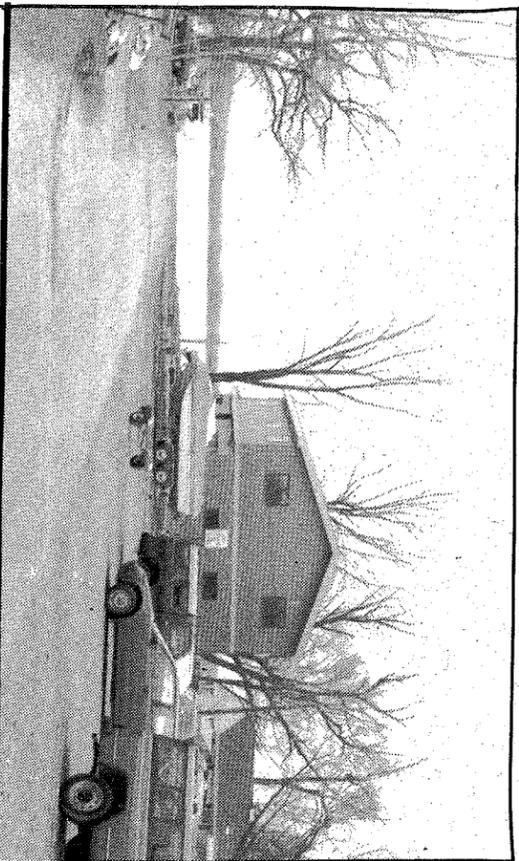
As highway foreman, I get many questions about our roads and why we do things the way we do. One question that often comes up is why we don't put center and side lines on more roads. Well, the answer is simple: the town doesn't put lines on any roads, with the exception of center lines on a few sharp curves on heavily traveled roads. The county and state roads have lines. Since these are the more heavily traveled roads, they are more in need of lines. The major reason that we don't put lines on town roads is the cost. Center lines cost \$400 per mile, and the two white lines down the sides of the roads cost \$600 per mile. Costs like that could mount up quickly, even if we did only a few of the 63-plus miles of town roads.

Riverholm and Rivercrest Roads, and Jordan Drive.

In this year's budget, I'm asking for a new town dump truck to replace our 1972 International. Our '72 has served us well, but the main-enance costs are becoming very high. The new truck will be fitted with a salt spreader. We will use the old plow on the new truck.

As winter is coming again, we all have to relearn how to drive on slippery roads. As in the past, it is the policy of the town to salt or sand only the bad hills and curves, and all intersections. We use mostly salt because sand has no melting effect, and traffic tends to blow it off the road. Salt works more slowly as the temperature drops. It does very little to melt ice or snow when the temperature gets below 10 degrees. It works best above 20 degrees in high humidity.

One extra winter recommendation that I have is to remember that the county and state roads have reflective lines and are heavily salted. When the weather is bad or foggy, it is probably much safer to stay on those roads as much as possible.



The McConnell Street boat launch was the Park Commissioner's 1989 Arbor Day project. Improvements included extension of the pavement to the lake edge, fencing, and grading. Trees and shrubs were donated by Pletsch Landscape and Tree Service.

## Town purchases Lake Waubesa parkland

In October, the Town of Dunn purchased 28 acres of farmland from Arthur Mahoney for the purpose of a community park. Centrally located in the town, bordered by Lake Waubesa, Jordan Drive and Tower Road, the land slopes gently down to Lake Waubesa and about eight acres of wetland along the shoreline.

Beginning in 1990, the Park Commission will be discussing the development of a comprehensive park plan for the future use of the new property. Immediate consideration will be given to the protection of the shoreline and its potential for accessibility and use. Regular Park Commission meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month and meeting agendas are always posted on the window at the Town Hall. Your input at these meetings is always encouraged and appreciated.

### 1990 Park Budget

As we have in past years, the Park Commission is requesting \$7,000 to be used as matching funds for park development in the many small neighborhood parks.

## EPA report due City Disposal site gets tests

by Town Supervisor Eleanor White

This summer, several new monitoring wells were dug around the City Disposal Superfund site on Sand Hill Road, and several old wells that did not meet current U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards were re-placed.

All materials removed in the digging process have been placed in covered barrels and marked to identify from where the materials were removed. If any well tests show contamination, that barrel's waste will be removed from the site and delivered to a site certified to receive hazardous waste. This will be an out-of-state location, since there are no hazardous waste sites in Wisconsin.

Data from testing of the wells is being analyzed in preparation of a Technical Memorandum that is

As examples of uses, in 1990 we are setting aside funds to match money raised for the purchase of a slide in Spartan Hills. We are also setting aside matched funds for the grading and seeding of a new park in Waubesa Heights. We try to make this kind of match money available every year. If your neighborhood has plans to improve a park, we will be happy to advise you and help if we can.

Also in the budget, we are requesting money for the improvement of the boat launch site on Quam Drive. Improvements would include work on the launch itself, setting up 10 parking spaces and installing road signs, if residents surrounding this launch decide to choose this option for the launch's maintenance. (Information from the meeting on November 16 discussing options was unavailable for the press deadline of the newsletter.)

The park budget also includes \$3,000 in wages for park upkeep and \$225 for clerical expenses charged to the Park Commission.

due to the EPA by January 1990. Some questions being addressed are: In what areas does contamination exist? In what direction and how fast is the groundwater moving? Is there a groundwater connection to the Madison Metropolitan Sewer Discharge/Badfish Creek drainage ditch?

After the EPA receives and reviews this report, they will negotiate a set of remedies with Waste Management of Wisconsin, the owner of the site. There will be a period of time for public input on the proposed remedy before final agreement and construction commences. A public information meeting will be scheduled at the Dunn Town Hall when the next Technical Memorandum is available.

## Libby paper trail causes concern for couple

Waubesa Beach residents Jan and Scott Zimmermann are concerned that too few people understand what's at stake in locating the Libby Landfill near Lake Waubesa after an informational meeting at the Waubesa Beach Community Center two weeks ago drew only 20 to 25 people.

According to Jan, she and Scott are drawing to draw up a list of people who want to be active and fight the landfill again. She and Scott were among area residents who thought they had forever stopped the landfill when the county stopped pursuing the site in the early 1980s.

"There have been waves of interest in this thing and I think a lot of us realize that, if we are going to fight this thing, this is going to be our last-ditch effort," she said, commenting that the situation is a "tangled mess" and a "paper trail"

Jan and Scott have not come up with an exact name for the group but

"Protect Dane are considering County's Lakes". They will meet again on Thursday, December 7, in the Waubesa Community Center at 6:30 pm. For more information, call the Zimmermann's at 221-8423.

Both would like any individuals from the lake area or representatives from hunting, fishing or environmental groups to attend and consider using their own group as an additional source of manpower. As Scott said, "Lake Waubesa is five miles from the capital. It strikes me as absurd that a city as environmentally aware as Madison is going to have our garbage piled up next to the lake along our new gateway (the new South Beltline)."

"I think the only thing that is going to save us right now is public opinion."

## Dunn landfill to close January 1

From front page

vey, and a closure plan must be prepared by an engineer.

6. Two more groundwater monitoring wells would have to be installed, tested and reported on quarterly.

7. Fees for the Environmental Repair fund, the well compensation fund, an annual license, the closure plan review, and the feasibility plan review would all increase. The increase would total more than \$20,000.

The increased liability and costs to comply with these new rules makes it extremely difficult and expensive for small municipalities to continue operating their landfills.

### Waste Disposal Options

In looking at our options, we should remember that there is no statutory responsibility for any municipality to provide solid-waste services for its citizens in Wisconsin. Therefore, one of our options is to simply close the landfill and provide no service in that area. The Town Board is aware however, that many items such as brush, grass clippings and other things are not being picked up by curbside service. They feel that it's important to continue some kind of service at the landfill site.

The Department of Natural Resources is encouraging municipalities to establish a transfer site where refuse is collected and then hauled to licensed landfills. With one third of the state's landfills closing in the last year, there has been an increase in garbage left along rural roads. That is another reason to consider some sort of service for larger rural communities such as Dunn. The question is, what type of service should we provide?

Estimates for curbside pickup with recycling as an option range from \$7.50 to 10.25/month per

household, or \$200,124 per year for the town.

A transfer system at the current landfill site with dumpsters, recycling bins, a burn pile for brush only, and a compost pile for grass clippings and leaves would cost approximately \$30,000/year. This figure is a rough estimate, because the costs are based on the volume of refuse collected and hauled away, and we have no feeling yet for how much garbage would be brought to the site. If the volume is more than dumpsters can handle, we would have to put in a compactor to crush the garbage before it is hauled away. A compactor and container runs about \$300/month rental. The setup for a compactor with three-phase electric service and a concrete slab would be an additional \$10,000.

To help offset the cost of a transfer system, the Town Board is suggesting a fee of 50 cents per bag (30-gallon garbage bag) dropped at the site. There would be no charge for recyclable goods such as newspapers, plastics, glass, tin, aluminum, or salvage metal. Residents would purchase punch cards at the Town Hall or the landfill site; these would be punched for each bag of garbage dropped off.

Another big change would be restriction of the transfer site to household refuse only. The use of dumpsters would prohibit the acceptance of business refuse and construction debris, which we were able to accept in the past.

The days of cheap refuse handling are gone. The decision of how much service to provide, if any, will be made at the special town meeting on November 28, 7:30 pm. If you cannot attend and wish to have your comments considered, please call or write to your elected officials before that meeting.