



Issue 07

County Administration Newsletter

Vision & Stewardship

July 2014

Administration

On July 15, Burnett County hosted a visit with staff from the Governor's office. In addition to the staff member from the Governor's office, representation from the Town's Association and each village were also invited to participate.

The meeting was an opportunity to bring concerns, issues and ideas to the attention of the Governor that affect Burnett County. Discussion on several topics occurred, including; health and human services mandates and programs, highway

funding, economic development, local option sales tax, levy limits, and the recent communications tower legislation that essentially removed local control during the approval process.

In addition to a great round table discussion, a tour of two local businesses provided an opportunity for the Governor's staff to see firsthand a couple of thriving businesses that make our county a great place to own and operate a business.

Thank you to Kleiss Gears and Injection Molding Solutions for opening up your doors and providing excellent tours of your facilities!



Airport

The Northwoods EAA Chapter 1537 based at Burnett County Airport, along with support from other EAA Chapters, will be hosting its 4th annual Young Eagles event at Burnett County Airport on August 23, 2014.



During this event children between the ages of 8 and 17 can get free aircraft rides, access to free ground school for flight training, and can log their time toward a private pilot certificate.

If interested in signing up children, please contact Roy Ward at

rward@webster.k12.wi.us or Jeremy Sickler at (715) 349-7076 or jsickler@burnettcounty.org. There will also be a table set up at the Gandy Dancer Airshow July 26, 2014 for registration on site during the event.

Child Support Agency

Did you know that parents may apply for child support services from our office regardless of where the other parent lives or even when a state other than Wisconsin has established a child support order?

Enforcement options are limited once an individual crosses a state line thereby making it necessary to enlist the services of a

second state when a parent chooses not to cooperate with the local agency.

Of the 975 child support cases we are managing, 211 are inter-governmental cases requiring the services of child support agencies in two states because at least one parent resides in another state or country.

At the present time Burnett

County is responding to requests for assistance from other states in 92 cases, and we have filed petitions for assistance from other states in 119 of our cases.

Please contact our office if you would like any additional information.

Emergency Management

The tornado hits shortly after supper. You have been up for more than 12-14 hours. If you are county staff or a municipal employee, you will likely be up for an additional 12 or more hours as first responders begin initial response. The number one priority during this response phase is life safety. Each affected municipality will establish an incident command structure to manage and support tactical objectives set by the Incident Commander.

The realities of the situation are daunting. Homes and lives will be destroyed. Roads will be blocked. It will be dark with no power. Communication will be difficult. 9-1-1 dispatchers will be fielding hundreds of calls from friends and relatives while dispatching first responders. Within 30 minutes the news media will arrive and want infor-

mation. All this is happening and we won't know the full scope and magnitude of the disaster for several hours.

For those of us who are not first responders, this will be a truly chaotic and confusing night. The County Emergency Operations Center will be activated to respond to requests for assistance and resources from local jurisdictions. It will provide Public Information support and try to relieve the pressure on the 9-1-1 center by taking non-emergency calls. We will receive contradictory information and be asked for information we do not have. As the night progresses, tempers will flare and frustrations grow as we approach 24 hours with no sleep and high stress, all fueled with coffee and donuts.

As daylight approaches, the local first responders will begin to

achieve their tactical objectives of search and rescue. EMS will have triaged and transported the injured. Law enforcement has secured the perimeters to protect the public. Their response missions are ending.

Welcome to "First Daylight". This is the time when the operational picture becomes clearer and priorities and objectives begin to shift from life safety to long-term strategic recovery. The responsibilities of the Emergency Operations Center will dramatically escalate. All with no sleep and stale coffee.

Next month will be a description of how the EOC operates in support of the municipalities to achieve community recovery objectives.

Forestry & Parks

The Burnett County Forestry & Parks staff has been working on many summer projects. One of the biggest projects that we have finished is the installation of the newly donated playground equipment at Thoreson Park on Big Wood Lake. Our crew installed a three person

slide, teeter-totter, and a hanging merry-go-round. There was also a 6"x6" wooden border placed around the equipment filled with 4-6" of wood chips. Many thanks to the anonymous donators of this playground equipment!

Other projects include routine maintenance of all our



mer ATV trail system is in high use as well. The heavy rains and high water have created a few issues on the trail system, however with routine checks, daily maintenance and some temporary re-routes; the trail system continues to be in good shape.



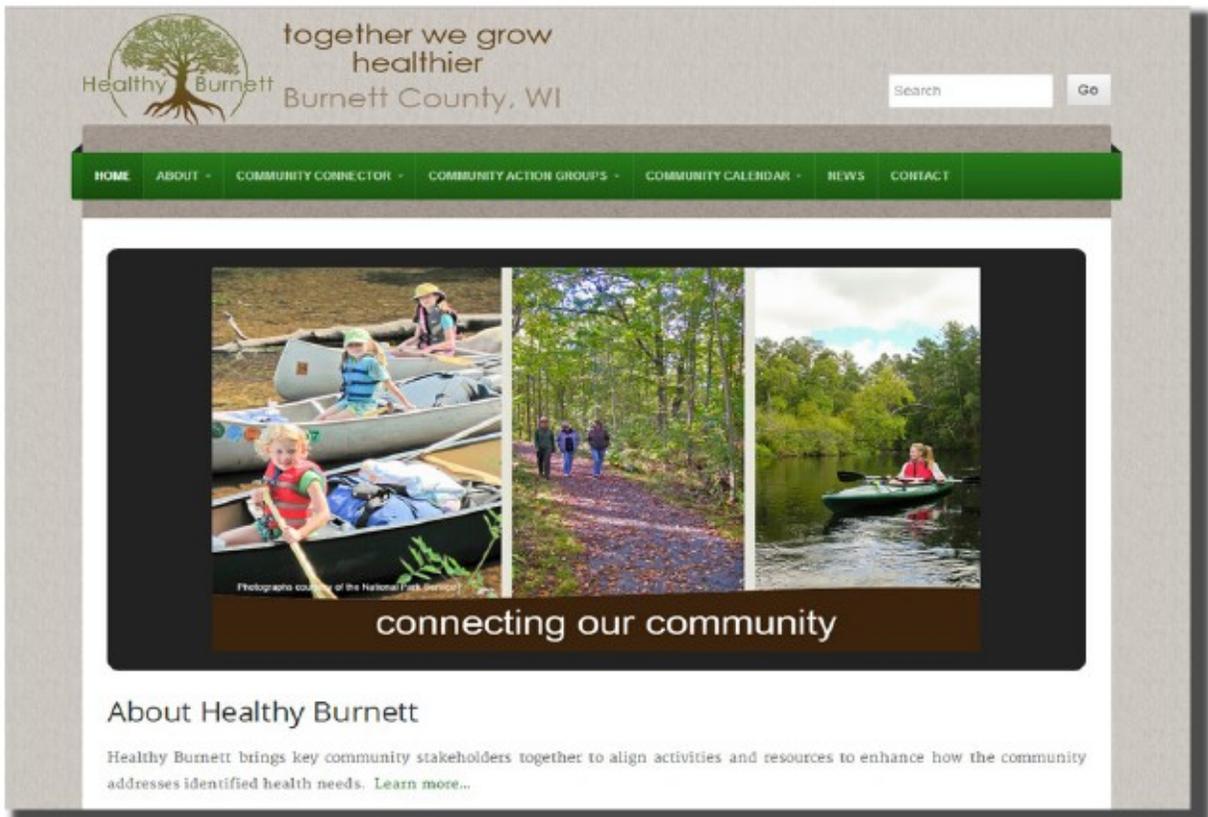
Fun in the sun at Devil's Lake

Health & Human Services

Check out the *Healthy Burnett* Website

And Get Connected to Your Community!

The Healthy Burnett website is your “go-to” source for the latest information on what’s happening in our communities to promote your health and wellness!



Visit the site to learn about Burnett County's:

- Community events and resources
- Community health needs and improvement initiatives
- Community action groups
- Opportunities to get involved

www.healthyburnett.org

CCR Presents National Night Out 2014!

When: Tuesday, August 5th, 2014

5pm-8pm

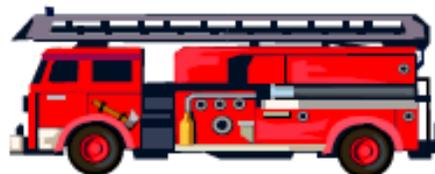
Where: Crooked Lake Park, Siren

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Burnett County Coordinated Community Response (CCR) team would like to invite you to get your message out to the community by participating in the 2014 NNO event by having a booth.

- ❖ Meal provided free of charge
- ❖ games
- ❖ 50/50 raffle
- ❖ Beautiful park setting
- ❖ Fire department, DNR, Law Enforcement
- ❖ McGruff
- ❖ Fingerprinting
- ❖ Great booth's to visit and gather information from the Providers of service in Burnett County



If you or your organization would like to have a booth or would like to donate; time, financially, or food please contact Heidi Jones from the Burnett County Family Resource Center @ 715-349-2922 or Tessa Anderson @ the Burnett County Prevention Office @ 715-349-8878 for further information.

Highway Department

Here we are half way thru July, where did the time go?

We have completed the surface treatments (chip sealing) on approximately 12 miles of County Road F from Highland Rd to State Highway 77 and about 3 miles of County Road X from Fristed Road to Tollander Road. We also chip sealed roads for Daniels and Meenon Townships totaling approximately 7 miles.

Next up on the schedule is to grind and resurface County Road B from Herrick Road to Soderberg Road and County Road M from State Highway 70 to County Road D. This process will begin on July 21, and should be complete by the time school starts or shortly thereafter.

The Performance Based Maintenance Projects for the WIS DOT

will begin shortly after August 1, and should last approximately three weeks. State Highways 35 and 70 East will receive surface and shoulder improvements which will improve safety for our residents and the traveling public.

Have a safe summer, buckle up and watch for our out for highway crews in work zones.

University of Wisconsin-Extension and Tourism

Kevin Schoessow and Otto Wiegand are Area Agriculture Agents for UW-Extension, who serve both farm and non-farm clients in Burnett, Washburn and Sawyer Counties. They provide information and outreach in the areas of home and commercial horticulture, Master Gardener Volunteer training, direct marketing and local

foods, crops and soils, dairy and livestock, grazing and pasture management, livestock facilities modernization, and farm financial businesses management.

They are available for one-on-one consultation and farm and site visits. They also help organize various conferences, trainings, workshops and are available for group presentations.

During the growing season they offer diagnostic plant health services with the help of Horticulture Assistant Susan Armstrong.

Kevin, Otto and Susan have offices at the Spooner Agriculture Re-

search Station and can be reached at 715-635-3506 or 800-528-1914.

More information can be found in their Agriculture and Gardeners newsletters available at <http://www.cals.wisc.edu/ars/spooner/> or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/spoonerag.

Upcoming Spooner Ag Station educational events include.

Regional Pasture Walks (free, open to the public)

- July 19, Bison, Beef and Hogs, West Wind Farms, Steve and Lorre Hubin, Hwy 70 West Spooner
- July 26, Beef and Horse, Gary & JoAnne Crowe, 1030 8th Ave, Barron
- Aug 6, Organic Dairy, Jay and Theresa Ludvigsen, N7676 Spur Rd, Sheldon



Area Agriculture Agent Kevin Schoessow teaching tractor safety earlier this summer.

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- Aug 28, Organic Dairy, Mike and Julie Petherbridge, 1739 Cty F, Dresser
 - Sept 12, Sheep Ann, Laura & Kara Berlage, 11077N Fullington Rd, Moose Lake
 - Sept 12, Sheep seminar and pasture walk, Spooner Ag Research Station
- Other Events**
- July 22, Regional Vineyard Walk*, Ernie and Lynn Betker, 1212 Trout Brook Rd, Hudson
 - Aug 16, Sheep Day* (seminars, lamb BQ, sheep demos), Spooner Ag Research Station
 - Aug 19, Commercial Fruit Growers clinic, site TBD (Burnett or Washburn Co)
 - Aug 19, Annual Twilight Garden Tour, Spooner Ag Research Station, Teaching and Display Garden
 - Sept 11, NW Graziers Conference*, LCO College, Hayward
 - Sept 20, Fall Gardening Workshop, Spooner Ag Research Station, Teaching and Display Garden
 - Master Gardener Volunteer Training* is scheduled to start Tuesday Sept 9. This volunteer training incorporates a combination of on-line lectures and face-to-face discussions and field trips. For more information and a complete schedule contact Kevin at 800-528-1914.

* Registration and fees required.

Veterans' Services

Everything that happens in the Veterans Service Office is tied to what the federal and state Veterans Affairs agencies are doing. The USDVA, in efforts to be more efficient and responsive to its constituents, have been moving to a more web based, paperless system. To younger veterans, this makes perfect sense. However, this change may be difficult for our living WWII, Korean War and, in many cases, Vietnam veterans who don't have access to email / internet or just plain are not interested in electronic communication. Also, any technological changes they make are usually based / dependent on the most current internet systems. This poses challenges to a small department in a small county.

However, some changes are

good. In the past, every claim sent to VA required development by VA staff/personnel. Now, with technological changes, VA is able to by-pass the required application and development stage, and automatically grant awards based on information already on file. For example, beginning July 7, the surviving spouse of a veteran who was 100% disabled for a period of at least 10 years will automatically receive DIC, with no application required. That same spouse will also automatically receive the burial allowance.

Also, federal law now states that if a veteran applies to VA for Individual Unemployment (IU) and is granted IU, and then later apply for SSD, if SSD is granted, it must be back dated to the IU

date. The same applies if a veteran applies for SSD, is granted, and later applies for IU, the IU must be backdated because an application for one, is an application for both. There are exceptions, such as IU can only be based on service connected (SC) disabilities, which means the effective date is limited to when the SC disabilities made the veteran unemployable.

Those are very welcomed and good changes.

August Dates of Interest

1. Air Force Day (1947)
2. Operation Desert Shield (1990)
4. Coast Guard Day (1790)
5. US entry into Vietnam (1964)
7. Purple Heart Day (1782)
15. Victory over Japan (1945)