

# November 2008 Newsletter

P.O. Box 5245, Naperville, Illinois 60567-5245

www.napervillehomeowners.com

Welcome to the NAHC Monthly Newsletter. The NAHC strives to include information of value to homeowners and the associations they belong to. We include a mix of current events, special reports, and Confederation information. This month's newsletter previews our November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting and, as usual, has news from the City of Naperville and other area organizations and entities.

The NAHC newsletter is designed to provide information you can use when managing your associations and communicating with your members. Feel free to share all or parts of this newsletter with your membership. We welcome and appreciate your feedback. Send it to our External Communications Director, Bob Fischer, at <a href="mailto:rafischer1@aol.com">rafischer1@aol.com</a>

# **President's Letter**

Part of the mission of the NAHC is to foster an interchange of ideas and information between and among individual homeowners associations. We do this through our meetings, special forums, website, newsletter, and columns and news items in various publications. There is no "one size fits all" approach to getting the word out, so we continue to try different ways to reach out and serve as many area residents and associations as possible.

One initiative we have undertaken is moving our meetings to different parts of the City to reach more people with events that may be a little closer to home. Our October meeting was at Safety Town. While this may be familiar to those with young children, it was a new experience for many as we heard excellent presentations from the Fire and Police Departments, CERT and Emergency Management and budget insights from City Manager Pro Tem, Bob Marshall. I was pleased to note that the new interoperable radio system Chief Dial described for us has been approved by City Council. This City initiative should keep all of us and our property much safer!

The November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting will be at Neuqua Valley High School where we will focus on the largest proportion of our property tax dollars – our schools. We're pleased that the Superintendents of Districts 203 and 204 will again join us for this annual meeting devoted to schools and will provide updates on initiatives in their districts and be available for an open discussion with the audience. Find out more about the districts, so you can ask informed questions of your school board candidates in the April election! Check our website for more details.

In December, we will be back in the Municipal Center, but will meet on Thursday evening, December 11<sup>th</sup> and focus on utility rates, savings and conservation. We thought that a Thurday evening meeting might be easier for all given the usual rush of holiday planning and preparations.

We continue to look for the best times and places for our meetings. Opinion poll questions on our website, <a href="www.napervillehomeowners.com">www.napervillehomeowners.com</a>, are asking for your input. Scroll down over the left hand navigation bar to "News & Info" and take the polls. We want to hear where and when you think we should meet!

We hope to see you on Saturday, November 15 at Neuqua Valley High School, 2360 95th Street. Enter through the main Academic Entrance, and follow the signage to the Library Media Center. See you there!

Chuck Schlabach, President, Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation, Chuckschla@aol.com

### Confederation November Meeting Focuses on Schools

Mark your calendar for the Confederation November 15<sup>th</sup> meeting where we will focus on School Districts 203 and 204. With construction projects ongoing in both districts, a new superintendent on tap for District 203, and School Board elections in the Spring, there will be a lot to talk about. As the largest line item on our Property Tax Bills, schools are of interest to homeowners with and without

children in the districts!

Beyond the formal agenda, there will also be Open Forum time where homeowner issues can be addressed, whether or not they directly relate to schools. This might even be a good time to ask about athletic fields and garden plots.

The meeting will be held in the Library Media Center on the main floor of

Neuqua Valley High School, 2360 95th Street. Enter trough the main academic entrance and follow the signs!

Come early and join us at 8 AM for coffee and networking, Confederation business begins at 8:30, and we will end the meeting with an Open Forum. Whether you are an association officer or director. or simply a homeowner looking for information. the NAHC

NEUQUA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

2256 97th 5t. Natereille, IL 60364

(sall) 628-6400

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November meeting should not be missed!

# Managing Curb Appeal For Vacant Houses

A visible symptom of our national economic malaise is an increase in houses that are vacant and/or up for sale where there is no longer someone in residence. These houses are easy to see as newspapers can pile up in the driveway, lawns are not cut, and the porch lights are no longer on to add light to the neighborhood.

While we, as neighbors, cannot address the lighting, there are other things we can do to help maintain our neighborhood appearance and the ongoing value of our properties.

First and foremost, City Code requirements for curb appeal apply to houses whether or not they are occupied. If there is an egregious offender property in your neighborhood, contact City Code Enforcement at (630) 420-6693. They'll track down an owner or responsible party. Remember, City Code requires grass be mowed and the property be maintained whether or not it is occupied.

If you have a neighbor who is having trouble maintaining their property, think about acting like a good neighbor and seeing if you can help. Whether health related or economically motivated, not everyone has the ability to maintain their properties at all times. Ring the doorbell and ask if you can help. Push your snowblower an extra 50 or 100 feet to open up more sidewalks for walkers. Remember, when it comes to neighborhood property values, we're all in this together!

### **Zoning and Land Use Update**

The following report from Zoning & Land Use Committee Chair Patricia meyer includes development projects that were discussed at the October monthly meeting with Staff and/or were determined by Plan Commission and Council:

There are few new development projects to report on for this month. Hollywood Palms (the former NOVA 8) is doing renovations and will be before Council in November. Staff likened this renovation to the movie theatres in Lombard where you may enjoy food and beverages at tables during a showing.

There are a few developments which have been working through the process and the status is as follows:

NaperSettlement PUD received approval from the Plan Commission in Mid October. This is a conceptual plan which encompasses the next 10-20 years. The plan is to bring the Settlement into the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and towards the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Main Street Promenade Addition will be before Council on Nov 18 for final approval. The demo permit has been issued.

10 West (next to Jimmy's) should be coming down soon. Demo permit has been issued. The replacement development is to be a 2story Charles Schwab office.

Naper Olympic site which has been renovated into a medical office complex will be before Council for final approval.

Riverfront Development Project (next to the Burger King on Washington) will be before Council at their next meeting.

Van Buren Parking Addition (attached to Van Buren Parking Garage) is in the final stages of completion and will be open for use in November, just in time for the holidays.

Water Street Development Project was before the Plan Commission for major changes to the PUD due to the expansion of the Loggia Building (additional property was acquired since the initial approval). The developer had discussed the expanded Loggia Building with the Zoning & Land Use Committee (also previously reported to the membership) and there are no new surprises. It should be noted that there has been a reduction to the height of the Theatre Building (approximately a few feet). The developer also requested as part of the approval a "Signage Variance". This request was NOT approved by the Plan Commission; instead the matter was continued to allow the developer to provide more details for the variance being requested.

Current Naperville code permits signage in a regulated manner on facades where there is customer access (i.e. entrance) and where parking is available (i.e. Calico Corners on Washington is permitted to have a sign on the back of the building since there is public back entrance <u>and</u> parking is available in the lot).

Accordingly signage would not be permitted on the Riverwalk side of the buildings in the Water Street Development Project – while there may be a public entrance on that side, no parking would be provided there. Apparently, those signs which currently do face the Riverwalk are not in compliance and existed prior to this regulation.

This is an interesting issue as there are at least 2 development projects in the works (others very likely) which will have facades facing the Riverwalk.

There are currently a couple of Studies underway:

Circular Study hosted an open house in October. Results will be available on website. Additionally Staff will suggest routes and fees and request feedback and suggestions from the public. 2009 expected to be before both TAB and Council

75<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor Study was before Council for approval and incorporation into the Master Plan. However, Council requested additional changes be made and will be again before Council in November.

Central Park Study hosted an open house and many attended. Apparently parking was of a major concern. There is an on-line survey which will be posted Oct 24. The next open house is expected in

5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Study had its 2<sup>nd</sup> public meeting October 29. The meeting focused on Land Use and Staff lead a visionary exercise and took public input. In mid-November there will be an open house focusing on transportation, methodology, and review - not results (again, public input requested). In early December the focus of the meeting will be the Washington streetscape, it will be interactive but that has not been formalized as of yet. In January 2009, Staff anticipates providing results and discussing the information.

### The NAHC Is Looking for Help

The Board of Directors of the Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation is currently involved in analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the Confederation and things we can do to improve upon the execution of our mission and expand our membership base. More details will be provided on this ongoing effort in a future newsletter.

HELP WANTED

One thing we have determined is that we need some more "involved" folks as part of our bench strength. Whether as an Associate Director, Liaison committee member, or just as involved members at our general meetings, we need some more "involved" members. Please take a look at your association and see if you or some of your members might be willing to get more engaged with the NAHC. Bring these folks along to a future meeting, or encourage them to contact the Confederation at nahc-naperjomeowners@wowway.com and let us know how they might be willing to help. We're looking forward to meeting you!

## **Keep Your Sidewalks Clear!**

With fall in full swing and winter approaching, residents are reminded to maintain the sidewalks in front of their property and keep them free of obstructions so your neighbors can walk safely. If you've got a fire hydrant adjacent to your property, do everyone a favor and keep it visible by clearing the snow from around it.

The Naperville Municipal Code contains several regulations that are aimed to ensure that sidewalks, and other public rights-of-way, are maintained in a manner to provide safe and unobstructed passage for pedestrians. Following are a few tips for keeping your sidewalks safe:



**SNOW and/or ICE** - Snow and ice are considered to be obstructions. As such, property owners and/or residents are required to clear sidewalks adjacent to their property within forty-eight (48) hours after a snow/ice weather event. Sidewalks that are used by children to walk to and from school, or where children wait for their school bus, should be cleared immediately. Ref: Section 9-1H-2.

Please aim your snow blower discharge at the parkway or lawn, not into the street! Also, State law protects property owners from any added liability if they shovel their sidewalks, so don't use fear of potential liability as an excuse to not be a good neighbor.

**SUMP PUMP DISCHARGES** – Sump pumps shall not be directed as to flow over a sidewalk or into a street. Often times, slippery residue and ice from sump discharges build up on the sidewalk creating a dangerous condition. Ref: Section 9-1H-2

**PARKING** - It is unlawful to park a vehicle over a sidewalk. Furthermore, no part of a parked vehicle may extend over the sidewalk. Doing so makes pedestrians walk into the street to negotiate around the vehicle. This is especially difficult for persons with disabilities. Ref: Sections 11-2A-1 & 11-2A-11

For more information on this or any other Code Enforcement issue, please contact the Code Team by phone at (630) 420-6693

# **Everyday Parenting**

During his first month of kindergarten, my brother's son was threatened by a fifth grader. The older boy said he would bring a gun onto the school bus and shoot all the students, starting with my nephew. The school principal said my nephew must have "misunderstood."

Jennifer Griffin-Wiesner, youth development consultant and author

# When Your Child Is Being Bullied

Knowing that a child is being bullied tears at parents' hearts. And when adults in authority roles dismiss a young person's concerns or fears, it can add tenfold to parents' feelings of anger, frustration, helplessness, and sadness.

Here are ways you can help empower your child (and yourself) when bullying is an issue. Try it...

- If you think your child has been bullied at school, immediately ask to meet with your child's teacher. Calmly discuss the situation. Elicit the teacher's understanding of the situation, what the school plans to do about it, and when you can meet to review progress on the matter. Take notes. Stay involved.
- Bullying can happen in any setting. When you sign up your child for activities outside school, ask about anti-bullying policies and procedures. Let program supervisors know it's important to you that they be proactive in preventing bullying.
- Kids say the bus stop and school bus are bullying sites where adult supervision is often less apparent. Meet the bus, if possible, and get to know your child's bus driver.

dsMatter

 If weapons are ever part of a bullying threat, take the threat seriously. The police need to be kept informed.

From information provided by Search Institute's MVParent (www.MVParents.com).

# www.KidsMatter2us.org

# **December Meeting Preview**

Mark your calendars for the NAHC December meeting where we will focus on "Utility Rates, Savings, Customer Service and Conservation". All speakers are in place for this evening, including Allan Poole and others from Naperville's Department of Public Utilities as well as Thomas Kallay of Nicor Gas. With cold weather having the potential to be a budget buster, this will be a timely meeting with information we can all use.

This is our regular joint bi-monthly meeting with City Council and other City related topics will be part of the formal agenda as well as heard in the Open Forum following the meeting.

The December meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**, beginning at 6:30 PM with snacks and networking. The gavel will fall to start the formal meeting at 7 PM and we are planning to adjourn at 9PM following the Open Forum.

This is the first meeting we have scheduled on a weeknight in a couple of years and we are hoping for a great response from the membership as we work on lightening the holiday season weekend load by moving the meeting to a weeknight.

See you then!

# The Good, The Bad And The Non-Native Plant

By Brook McDonald President & CEO, The Conservation Foundation

Here's a question for you. What do Bloodroot, Rattlesnake Master and Chokeberry have in common? Don't let the names fool you. These aren't some gang of garden thugs! On the contrary, these plants are native to Illinois and, therefore, should be real superstars in local landscaping.

The real threats include the seemingly innocuous Honeysuckle, Garlic Mustard, and Multiflora Rose. These menaces of the Midwest—or non-native plants—are strangling out many of their native

counterparts in fields and forests alike.

There are currently some 50,000 foreign species of plants in the United States. With the growing movement of plant, animal and disease organisms that accompany globalization, this number of foreign specimens continues to increase. In fact, about 42 percent of plants on the *Threatened and Endangered* species lists are at risk primarily because of non-native or invasive species.

Home-owners can help stop the spread of these alien photosynthesizers by learning about native and nonnative plants in your area. Then take a look around your yard and decide which plants to keep, remove, or

add. With fall and spring as the best planting seasons in the Midwest, the time to act is now!

Did you know that native plants are low maintenance, require no fertilizer or watering and, therefore, cost less to maintain? It's true! Native plants can also lower your carbon footprint by sequestering or trapping carbon. Native plants have roughly 70 percent of their mass underground as compared to just 30 percent for many non-native plants. This deep root structure characteristic of native plants not only helps trap carbon, but also helps to conserve water, since these plants can more easily "find" water during periods of drought. The deep roots of native plants create channels even in the most uninviting soil that rainwater can follow.

Incorporating native plants into landscaping is one of the best ways home and business owners can demonstrate their commitment to the environment. Why not make your local environmental commitment today?

**The Conservation Foundation**, a nonprofit land and watershed protection organization, is dedicated to preserving open space and natural lands, protecting rivers and watersheds, and promoting stewardship of the environment in northeastern Illinois. For more information about activities, programs and membership, visit www.theconservationfoundation.org or call 630-428-4500.

# NAHC Candidate Forums - Coming In February.

While the campaign season for County, State and National elections will soon be over, the elections that have the most impact on your property tax bills are right around the corner. On the first Tuesday in April we will elect School Boards, Park District Commissioners, and city Council Members. To help keep residents informed on the races we are planning forums for the late Winter, early Spring.

The Forum Schedule will be:

Monday, February 23: Council Primary Forum (if there is a primary election)

Wednesday, March11th: Dist 204 Forum Monday, March 23rd: Dist 203 Forum Wednesday, March 25th: Park Dist Forum Monday, March 30th: Council Forum

Our format will include a brief opportunity for the candidates to introduce themselves followed by our moderator posing questions prepared by the NAHC and also submitted by our audience. Our focus will be on issues important to Homeowners. The forums will be held in the City Council Chambers of the Naperville Municipal Center and will be broadcast live on Naperville cable channels 6 (WOW) and 10 (Comcast). IF AT&T U-Verse is a reality by then, we'll try to figure out how they are handling public access broadcasting and provide you with information on where to find it on their system as well (from what we hear, it won't be quite as easy as clicking on a channel number).

Watch the website and future newsletters for more details.

### Is Your Check in the Mail???



The NAHC is still collecting 2008 dues from our members. If your association did not receive a mailing with a dues invoice and survey form, go to the NAHC website at <a href="https://www.napervillehomeowners.org">www.napervillehomeowners.org</a> to download our membership survey, complete it, and return it to us along with a 2008 Dues check for \$30! Your input will help us do a better

job of planning our programs and understanding how we can best help our members.

Dues are our only source of income and are critical to the ongoing operation of the confederation. If your Association is not a Confederation member, go to the website to download and complete the Membership Application (which also includes the survey) and send it to us along with your 2008 dues.

# Naperville Park District Upcoming Events



For additional details, visit www.napervilleparks.org or call 630-848-5000

#### Petition packets available for Naperville Park District Park Board election Five seats are up for election in April 2009

Petition packets for the 2009 Naperville Park District Park Board of Commissioners election are ready for pick-up by interested park board candidates. Packets are

available from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday at the Park District's Administration Building at 320 W. Jackson Avenue at the desk of Jacki Stern, Executive Administrative Assistant/Local Election Official.

#### **Garden Plots Community Engagement Meetings**

Naperville Community Unit School District 203 and the Naperville Park District will be hosting three community engagement meetings to gather public feedback on site concepts for the proposed future use of the Garden Plots property along West Street. The remaining two meetings will be identical in

format, with staff from both School District 203 and the Naperville Park District in attendance. Attendees can expect an open house format beginning with a brief overview presentation to outline the issues, concept drawings displayed, options outlined, and participant feedback taken for further consideration. Each meeting will be held from 7:00-8:30 p.m., Monday, **Nov. 10** at the Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center, 305 W. Jackson Avenue; and Wednesday, **Nov. 12** at District 203's Administrative Center, 203 W. Hillside Avenue. For more information, visit <a href="www.napervilleparks.org">www.napervilleparks.org</a> or <a href="www.naperville203.org">www.naperville203.org</a>.

#### Spring Soccer online registration begins on Wednesday, December 3 at noon.

#### Winter 2009 Program Guides

Winter 2009 Program Guides will be delivered to your door beginning **November 15**. You also may pick up a copy at any one of our facilities:

Administration Building, 320 W. Jackson Ave.

Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center, 305 W. Jackson Ave.

Barn Recreation Center, 421 W. Martin Ave.

South Maintenance Facility, 3415 Book Rd.

Program Guides also will be available at Naperville library branches:

Naper Boulevard Library, 2035 S. Naper Blvd.

Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave.

Ninety-fifth Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr.

And at the following National City locations from **November 17-December 12**:

1001 S. Washington St.

1308 S. Naper Blvd.

3135 Book Road

9 E. Ogden Ave.

3320 S. Route 59

#### Winter 2009 Program Registration

Online registration for the Naperville Park District's winter session will begin on **Wednesday**, **December 10 at noon**. Visit <a href="www.napervilleparks.org">www.napervilleparks.org</a> and click on the "Click Here for Online Registration" icon on the home page. Park District customers electing to use our Rec-Enroll online registration system need a bar code and PIN#. If you do not have this information, please call 630.848.5000.

Phone-in, walk-in and nonresident online registration begins Wednesday, December 17 at 8:30 a.m.

#### **Golf this winter at Springbrook Golf Course!**

Yes, you read that correctly. Springbrook will be open throughout the winter weather-permitting, so there's no need to put the clubs away this year. Just watch <a href="www.springbrookgolfcourse.org">www.springbrookgolfcourse.org</a> for updates. We also recommend that you call ahead to verify that the course is in playing condition.

### Celebrate the holidays with Springbrook and Naperbrook Golf Courses!

Our spacious clubhouses at Springbrook and Naperbrook Golf Courses are the perfect place to host your business meeting or cozy holiday gathering for up to 70 people. We specialize in providing exceptional service and the coordination to make your gathering successful and very memorable. Catering packages offering delicious and satisfying breakfast, lunch, or dinner options are available.

Call today to reserve your special event!

Springbrook Golf Course: 630-848-5060 (Ask for Ed or Mike)

Naperbrook Golf Course: 630-378-4215 (Ask for Tim)

www.napervilleparks.org/golf

#### **Naperville Park District Preschool Information Night**

Do you have questions about the Park District's Sunny Days Preschool program? Are you wondering what a play based preschool really is? Would you like to know more about our new, green preschool, Toadstools and Pollywogs? Join us at The Barn on Tuesday, **Dec. 2** from 6:30-7:30 p.m. and have all your questions answered.



# Parents, are you having fun yet?

Whether your child is in preschool or high school, join us for a day of workshops designed to share effective parenting strategies

Saturday, January 24, 2009 8:15 AM-3 PM

Naperville Central High School 440 West Aurora Avenue, Naperville \$25/person



Registration forms are available on the District 203 website: www.naperville203.org and the District 204 website: www.ipsd.org



Para información en Español, por favor llame al 630-420-6552 o dottolino@naperville203.org
For information in Spanish, please contact 630-420-6552 or dottolino@naperville203.org



# DuPage Children's MUSEUM \* 1

# ...where learning comes in to play

# November 2008

 Due to Thanksgiving holiday. OPEN Friday, Nov. 28, 9am-5pm!





engineering and meet our design challenge in this acclaimed school program that's been adapted into a camp timed to take advantage of the holiday break! Children do not need an adult partner to participate.

Dec. 29 & 30 9am - 1pm Ages 7-10 Code WMC-108

Pre-registration and pre-payment are required; enrollment is limited. Call 630-637-8000 for more information or

to reserve a spot for your child. -----------

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#### Reservations Are Filling Up!

The 7th annual family-friendly New Year's Eve countdown to noon is back home at the Museum! Day: Wednesday, December 31, 9am-Noon Place: DuPage Children's Museum

Fee: Member \$15/Nonmember \$20 Call 630-637-8000 ext. 0







#### Saturday, Nov. 29 from 10:30am to Noon Dave Rudolph - Beach Party music

A totally interactive Show with hula hooping, bubble machines and limboing. Features Dave's original music as well as some "Fun in the Sun" songs such as "Hot, Hot, Hot," "Sonora," and many more!

#### Also in November!

Nov. 1, Paul Abella Trio, Jazz music Nov. 15, DuPage Symphony Orchestra

All performances 10:30am to noon. FREE to Members or with Museum admission!



#### Early Registration! Thursday, Jan. 22, 7-8:30pm

DCM presents an international leader in early childhood education, Dr. Lilian Katz -Nurture Learning by Developing Children's Inate Dispositions.

For complete details including cost, location and registration info, visit our website or call 630-637-8000 ext. 0

> (Please flip this to see other side) Distribution of information and materials through the schools does not imply District 203 or 204 endorsement of them.



# **November at Naper Settlement**

http://www.napersettlement.org/ 523 South Webster Street Naperville, Illinois 60540 (630) 420-6010 (630) 305-5255-fax

Naper Settlement begins its Winter Season Nov. 1, which runs through March 31. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Admission is \$4.25 for adults, \$3.75 for seniors 62+ and \$3 for youth 4-17 and includes an audio tour. The Pre-Emption House Visitor Center exhibits and galleries are open, but the buildings are closed except for special events, such as Christmas Memories Dec. 12-14; Happy Birthday, Mr. Lincoln Feb. 7-8; and Maple Sugaring Days March 14-15. The Museum Store is open for shopping during regular museum hours with or without admission to Naper Settlement.

#### **Weed Ladies Winter Floral Design Sale**

Just in time for holiday shopping, the Winter Floral Design Sale features the Weed Ladies creative seasonal arrangements with silk and dried flowers at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 7-8. Admission to the sale is free.

#### **Victorian Secrets**

During Victorian Secrets, to be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Nov. 8, take a special behind-the-scenes tour of the Martin Mitchell Mansion, then peek into a traveling trunk as beauty and clothing secrets are revealed in the "Victorian Lady" presentation. Relax and enjoy the show while sipping lemonade and nibbling sweets in the cozy Pre-Emption House. This program is recommended for adults 18 and over. Tickets are \$30 per person. For reservations, call (630) 420-6010.

#### **History Speaks Lecture Series: First Ladies**

Join Jenny Riddle as she presents a one-woman show dramatizing the personal lives of three remarkable First Ladies: Mary Todd Lincoln, Eleanor Roosevelt and Jackie Kennedy. Look for a contemporary First Lady, who will pop in for a surprise visit. This presentation of the History Speaks Lecture Series will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 9, at Naper Settlement's Century Memorial Chapel, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. Advance tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for students, youth and Naperville Heritage Society sustaining members. Tickets at the door are \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and youth. For tickets, call (630) 420-6010.

#### School's Out: Hidden Treasures

Join us for exciting treasure-hunting adventures during "Hidden Treasures," from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 26, a School's Out program for boys and girls in grades 1 to 5. Seek and find clues, locations and hidden items using maps, compasses, puzzles, secret codes and high-tech GPS devices. Bring a sack lunch and a drink. The fee is \$45 per day per child; \$40 for Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining Members. Reservations are required, call (630) 420-6010.

#### Santa's Secret Workshop

Parents can shop Naperville on one of the biggest shopping days of the year while the kids enjoy a fun-filled afternoon from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 29, in our village at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. Children will learn about holiday traditions, make a secret gift for mom or dad, write their letter to Santa, and snack on cocoa and cookies while listening to holiday stories. For boys and girls in kindergarten through fifth grades, the fee is \$25 per child, \$24 for Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining Members. For reservations, call (630) 420-6010.

#### Breakfast with Mrs. Claus

Santa's youngest fans will love this visit with his cheery wife from 8 to 10 a.m. on either Saturday, Dec. 6 or Saturday, Dec. 13. Activities, songs and a continental breakfast are included. Bring your cameras to capture a memorable moment. For children ages 2 to 8 with an adult; up to three children per adult. Fee is \$15 per child; \$14 Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining Members; \$10 per adult. Limited to 40 people, call for reservations at (630) 420-6010.

#### **Victorian Holiday Traditions**

Learn about Victorian Holiday Traditions during this special program to be held from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Dec. 6 at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. Enjoy a one-hour tour of the Victorian-era Martin Mitchell Mansion, decked out in traditional Victorian Christmas splendor. Then sip tea and enjoy sweet treats while discovering the history of holiday traditions, such as Christmas tree ships and ornaments, as presented by our Victorian costumed interpreter. Finish off the afternoon browsing our Museum Store for specialty gifts, then plan to visit downtown Naperville for lunch or more shopping opportunities on your own. For ages 18 and up, the fee is \$30 per person. Call (630) 420-6010 for reservations.

#### History Speaks Lecture Series: An Intimate Conversation with the Author

Join author Rochelle Pennington from 7-8 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 7 at Naper Settlement for "History Speaks: An Intimate Conversation with the Author," a new spin-off program of the History Speaks Lecture Series. The program will debut in the Pre-Emption House Tavern where guests will enjoy hot cocoa and cookies while listening to author Rochelle Pennington talk about her book, *The Historic Christmas Tree Ship.* Her multimedia presentation will feature Chicago's famous Christmas tree ship and details on one of the most well-known shipwrecks of the Great Lakes; including little-known facts about the ship's mysterious disappearance, clues washed ashore, ghost ship sightings of the phantom schooner and mysterious omens. Tickets are \$16, \$14 for Naperville Heritage Society members. Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase. This event is limited to 40 participants. Call (630) 420-6010 for reservations.



## **November at the Library**

#### Wednesday, Nov. 5

#### Eyewitness To Africa: Overland from Victoria Falls to Zanzibar with Bill Helmuth

Explore the exciting and mysterious heart of Africa with our favorite explorer Bill Helmuth. The audience will travel with Bill over 3,000 bumpy miles in a safari vehicle, while remaining in the comfort of the Library! Some of the sights seen will include the grandeur of Victoria Falls, tribal villages and rural schools, and the island of Zanzibar. Not just a travelogue, Bill takes you into the heart and soul of the people, and how the repercussions of colonialism still pose problems for today's struggling governments.

Online registration is required to attend this program. Register through the Library's website, www.naperville-lib.org, or at any of the service desks at the three Library buildings. Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 7 p.m.

#### Saturday, Nov. 8

#### **Bi-Annual Library Leftovers Sale**

This sale will include used computers and PC accessories as well as library furnishings. Items that are currently on sale can be seen on the Naperville Public Library website, www.naperville-lib.org. Click on

"For Sale" on the lower left column. All items will be sold on a cash and carry basis. Payment may be made by cash, check, debit card, MasterCard or Visa.

Meeting Room A/B, 95<sup>th</sup> Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 9 a.m. to 12 noon p.m.

#### Tuesday, Nov. 11

# Saving for Retirement (Without Living Like a Pauper or Winning the Lottery) with Author Gail MarksJarvis

Gail MarksJarvis, award-winning personal finance columnist and author, will present her sensible approach to retirement investing that she describes in her new bestselling book. In her writing and speaking, she avoids the bewildering lingo of finance and explains what you need to know so you can successfully invest money, juggle bills, save for retirement, send children to college, and face your retirement confidently. MarksJarvis is one of the nation's most respected personal finance columnists. Her "Chicago Tribune" columns reach millions of readers in leading metropolitan newspapers throughout the U.S. A frequent radio and TV commentator, she is also the recipient of numerous journalism awards. Meet the author at a book signing session following the presentation. This program is made possible by a grant from the FINRA Investor Education Foundation through Smart Investing @ your library<sup>®</sup>, a partnership with the American Library Association.

This event is open to the public and no registration is required.

Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 7 p.m.

#### Thursday, Nov. 13

#### "At Long Last" with Singer Tony Andriacchi

Tony Andriacchi, hailed as one of Chicago's greatest vocal treasures, performs music from his latest CD, "At Long Last". He has performed at Ravinia, Davenport's, the Pump Room and the Drake Hotel. His warm and subtle style brings new meaning to the great American Songbook. Often compared to Tony Bennett, he will perform classics such as "At Long Last Love", "Sway", "Maybe September", and "This Guy's In Love with You".

Online registration is required to attend this program. Register through the Library's website, www.naperville-lib.org, or at any of the service desks at the three Library buildings.

Meeting Room A/B, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr. 7 p.m.

#### Tuesday, Nov. 18

#### Images of Honest Abe with Art Excursions

This slide lecture examines a variety of depictions of our 16th president. Images of Lincoln changed dramatically during the course of his political career. Even after his assassination, he continued to be a popular source for artwork and material culture. This program examines paintings, photographs and sculptures relating to Lincoln in their proper historical context. Art historian Jeff Mishur, a member of the Illinois Humanities Council's Road Scholars program, will present this lecture.

Online registration is required to attend this program. Register through the Library's website, www.naperville-lib.org, or at any of the service desks at the three Library buildings.

Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 7 p.m.

#### Thursday, Nov. 20

#### The Naperville Community Associates of the Art Institute of Chicago

# The Pleasure of the Text -- Reading Pictures with Dr. Margaret F. Farr, Lecturer, Department of Museum Education, The Art Institute of Chicago

Why is the lure of literature so powerful a subject for visual artists? In this lecture, we will examine two different ways painters may demonstrate the link between art and literature. Some depict scenes taken from literature, while others portray subjects immersed in the art of reading. We'll consider what drives each type of image and the consequent effects of those "reading" such works.

This program is held in partnership with the Community Associates of the Art Institute of Chicago. No registration is required.

Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., coffee is served at 7 p.m.; the program begins at 7:30 p.m.

#### Saturday, Nov. 29

#### Home Town Holidays- A Truly Remarkable Loon

Truly Remarkable Loon can balance anything and everything! Just watch him juggle balls, sports equipment and Harry Potter's Nimbus 2000, just to name a few! And while he's doing that, he's cracking the audience up with other wacky antics and jokes. You just have to come to the show to truly appreciate how very remarkable this loon really is!

In partnership with the Downtown Naperville Alliance. No registration required.

Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 1 p.m. & 2:30 p.m.

# Bi-Monthly City Homeowners Mailing Went "Electronic" in October

We had well over 400 hits on the first all electronic distribution of the City bi-monthly homeowners report in October. Since only around 175 reports were mailed out previously, we think this is a great success as it would appear we more than doubled our distribution while saving a few trees (and not to mention City Budget bucks!)

Watch for the email announcing the next City packet in December!

We're looking forward to seeing you at
Our General Meeting
On
Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>
at

8:00 AM in Meeting Rooms A, B, & C
At the Municipal Center
Keep an eye on our website

www.napervillehomeowners.com

For late-breaking news and information of importance to homeowners.

Watch for the next NAHC newsletter in early December!!!!

Bob Fischer NAHC Newsletter Editor & Webmaster