



December 2009 Newsletter

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

www.napervillehomeowners.com

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The NAHC newsletter is published monthly to provide the news and information Naperville homeowners need. We welcome and appreciate your feedback. Send it to our Vice President and Newsletter Editor, Bob Fischer, at rafischer1@aol.com.

President's Letter

Our November meeting exemplified the uniqueness and value the NAHC brings to our community. As I have said many times, where else could one find homeowners, city councilmen, city department heads and state representatives all together in one room for an open and frank dialogue on the issues that impact our quality of life and our pocketbooks? The NAHC provides the “back fence” for these neighbors to talk among themselves and address issues and opportunities for our community.

Following up on an action item from the State representative portion of the meeting, we added the office addresses for our State and Federal representatives to the “Links” page on the NAHC website

I would like to thank Naperville Finance Director Karen DeAngelis for her very open and informative presentation on the budget issues. If you missed the meeting, Karen’s presentation can be reviewed on our website at <http://www.napervillehomeowners.com/NAHC/NewsDoc/NewsDoc11418.pdf>. While surfing our site, I invite you to take the Opinion Poll on ways Naperville can address its budget shortfall. Finally, if you have other suggestions on addressing the mismatch between projected revenues and expenses, drop the Confederation an email at nahc-naperhomeowners@wowway.com. We plan to talk budget with the City at our February meeting and our members’ input is a welcome contribution. One takeaway I had from our meeting was the sheer anxiety our councilmen are going through as they diligently work the never easy task of matching needs and wants against resources

The Park District leadership team meets with us in December. Mark your calendar for Thursday evening, December 17th at 7:30 PM at the Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center. Come a few minutes early and share a cup of coffee and holiday wishes with your neighbors and the NAHC Board.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation, I would like to wish you, your family, and your neighbors our sincere best wishes for the holiday season.

Dr Bob Buckman
President, NAHC
drbobuckman@sbcglobal.net

December Meeting Preview – Naperville Park District

In December the Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation (NAHC) December will offer an opportunity to meet with the senior leadership team from the Naperville Park District. We plan to learn about the recently completed Strategic Plan and what it means to our parks and recreation moving forward. As a special treat, some costumed cast members of the January production of “S.O.S. Trouble in the Trenches” will join us with information on their upcoming performance.

The meeting will be held on Thursday evening, December 17th beginning at 7:30 PM in the Community Hall of the Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center, 305 W. Jackson Avenue. The meeting program is scheduled to run from 7:30 until 9:00 PM with attendees and participants welcome to come at 7:15 PM for coffee and networking.

On tap for future meetings are opportunities to educate not only our member associations, but also residents in general. We are planning to address municipal services, including those available in emergencies, association legal requirements, and what the College of DuPage means to the community. City Council will be back in February for more on the budget.



If you have any suggestions on future meeting topics, or how our meetings can better serve Naperville homeowners, please email us at nahc-naperhomeowners@wowway.com.

Zoning and Land Use Update



The following report from Zoning & Land Use Committee chair Thom Higgins includes development projects that were discussed at the November monthly meeting with City Staff, of interest to Naperville area residents, and/or under consideration by Plan Commission and Council:

In attendance at the November meeting - Thom Higgins and Steve Grosskopf for the NAHC; Greg Jones and Alison Laff for the City of Naperville

New Proposals:

S/W corner of Van Buren and Webster: A proposal has been submitted for a three story 24 unit condo project with underground parking. It is currently under review by staff.

White Eagle Club Homes: a proposal to build 14 detached single family homes will be in front of the Plan Commission on December 2nd. The petitioner is requesting a change in zoning from R1A (low density single family) to R1B (medium density single family), as well as variances for setbacks and lot width. They are also requesting a reduction of the width of the right of way from 66' to 60'.

Ongoing Proposals:

Stillwater Addition annexation agreement amendment: On May 5, 2009, the City Council approved annexation, R1A (Low Density Single-Family Residence District) zoning, a variance to reduce the required interior side yard setbacks, and a preliminary/final plat of subdivision to allow for the development of 27 single-family homes on the subject property. The petitioner is interested in starting the installation of streets and utilities but is requesting an amendment to the agreement allowing payment of the school and park donations be postponed until issuance of the first building permit for a single-family home.

Navistar 2600 Warrenville Rd. Lisle, IL: The Navistar proposal was discussed once again at the Lisle Planning and zoning Commission on November 17th where there was considerable opposition

voiced by nearby residents and Giant Steps, a school for Autism represented by attorney Shawn Collins

Concerns about the number, noise and pollution generated by the testing of Navistar's diesel engines in the proposed 335,000-square-foot Advanced Technology Center that will provide design, testing and engineering of the companies diesel products is the residents primary complaint with Navistar's plan.

Navistar requested a continuance until January, after one of Navistar's consultants for the Air Permit process couldn't definitively say what levels of emissions might come from the facility. Navistar's legal counsel indicated the company will present additional information in January to respond the concerns voiced by the residents and Giant Steps.

Navistar has requested a TIF be established as part of the redevelopment to offset the costs of site redevelopment including removal of some existing buildings and construction of new buildings more suited to Navistar's needs. The development area is within the boundaries of School District 203.

http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/napervillesun/news/1892710.Navistar-hearing-continued_na111909.article

<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=339607>

<http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=337717>

Proposed Text Amendment for Boarding Rooms: Council discussed the draft text amendment regulating boarding houses and rooms at their November 17th meeting. Staff was directed to continue refining the amendment and place the matter on the Plan Commission schedule for a public hearing.

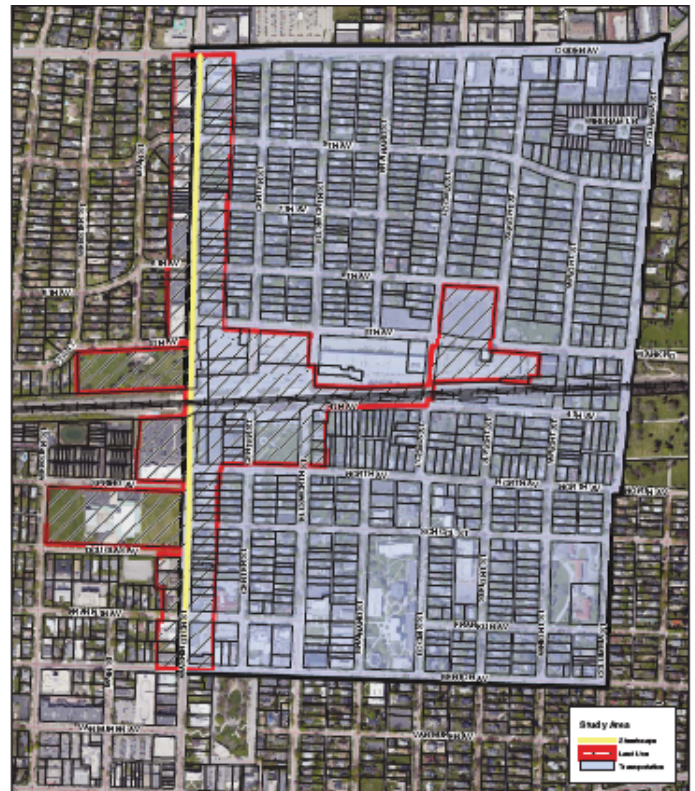
Studies and Initiatives:

Fifth Avenue Study: Council will review with the possibility of a vote on the Fifth Avenue Plan at their December 1st. meeting. Of note is the creation of a new zoning classification Mixed Use, as well as the apparent decision to abandon the concept of a parking deck for Metra commuters at the current lot at Fifth and Washington, and instead, ask for proposals for the former Public Works site and the Kroehler lot by developers in a public private partnership that would include a parking deck.

For more information on what is proposed you can read the agenda item posted on the Fifth Avenue Study website here:

<http://www.naperville.il.us/fifthavenue.aspx>

Naperville Downtown 2030 plan: The Downtown Advisory Commission will discuss the Downtown Plan update at workshops on December 17th at 3:30 pm, and on January 22nd, at 6:00 pm. All to be held in Meeting rooms B and C at the Municipal Center.



<http://www.naperville.il.us/napervilledowntown2030.aspx>

Plank Road Study: The City of Naperville will host a public open house to share the initial draft land use alternatives and transportation recommendations for the Plank Road Study Area. The open house will be held on Wednesday, December 9, 2009, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Meeting Rooms A, B and C at the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St. There will be no group presentation; the meeting is an open house format. More information can be found on page 11 of this newsletter.

<http://www.naperville.il.us/plankroadstudy.aspx>



We can make your upcoming holiday celebration special!

Bring your holiday celebration to the Naperville Park District and we'll make it both special and memorable for you and your guests! With unique venues that host an intimate gathering of 10 all the way up to banquet spaces for 160, we can help you plan an exceptional event any time of year.



Consider these indoor spaces for your upcoming holiday event:

- **Visitor Center at the Millennium Carillon**
Intimate gatherings with a beautiful view right on the Riverwalk
- **Community Hall at the Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center**
Newly remodeled space located just steps from the scenic Riverwalk
- **Sportsman's Park Clubhouse**
Convenient, central Naperville location for casual get-togethers of 50 or less
- **Barn Recreation Center**
Centrally located with auditorium-style set up capacity of 200 or small group meetings for up to 30



To book your event, please call 630-848-5000.



- **Clubhouses at Springbrook and Naperbrook Golf Courses**
Spacious rooms for casual get-togethers with views of our picturesque golf courses



To book your event at Springbrook Golf Course, call 630-848-5060; for Naperbrook, call 630-378-4215.

Reserve your date today as these spaces are booking up quickly!

Confederation Advocacy

Part of the Mission of the NAHC is to serve as an advocate for and a voice of the people who call the Naperville area their home. In recent months, the Board of Directors has formally expressed its opinions on proposed PACE route cutbacks (we were not in favor), the need to stop the mounting expenses of the "Furstenau lawsuit," the acquisition of the EJ&E Railroad by the Canadian National (CN), and the manner in which some "non-broadcast" television service providers treat (or mistreat) public, educational, and governmental (PEG) access channels.

The letters we sent out on each of these topics can be found on our website by going to <http://www.napervillehomeowners.com/WebPage.asp?PN=News&CID=0> and clicking on "Board Position Papers & Public Stands."

We welcome member feedback on these stands and also suggestions on other areas where the NAHC could be expressing its opinions. Email us at NAHC-Naperhomeowners@wowway.com.

Someone You Should Know

The City of Naperville is pleased to announce that Joe Henderson, a former Emergency Management Specialist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency, has been selected as the city's new Emergency Management Coordinator.



Henderson's experience includes working as a training and exercise administrator for the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, deputy director of operations in the Office of Emergency Management for the Baltimore City Fire Department, plans officer for the Central Maryland Urban Search and Rescue Team, adjunct professor with the University of Maryland and firefighter/paramedic with the Baltimore City Fire Department.

He holds a Bachelors Degree in Fire Science Management from the University of Maryland, a Masters Degree from the Johns Hopkins University and is a graduate of the Fire and Emergency Medical Service Executive Leadership Program at the Johns Hopkins Division of Public Safety. He

formerly resided in Baltimore, Maryland.

During his career, Henderson was responsible for the day-to-day emergency management operations, the emergency operations center, field response and inter-agency coordination for the Baltimore City Fire Department. He also served as project manager for the Metropolitan Medical Response System, Medical Reserve Corps and the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service. In addition, Henderson assisted in the development of numerous plans for the City of Baltimore, including the emergency operations plan, pandemic flu plan and standard operating procedures for field response.

Most recently, Henderson was part of the planning and joint operations for the 44th presidential inauguration and in that capacity worked with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Capitol Police.

NAHC Briefs – News You Can Use!

In early 2010, the City of Naperville will begin reconstruction of the Jefferson Avenue Bridge. The bridge has reached the end of its life expectancy and is rapidly deteriorating. The city is reconstructing the bridge to ensure that it remains safe for both motorists and pedestrians. The closure date for the bridge is weather dependent; however, it will not close until after the first of the year. The new Jefferson Avenue Bridge is slated to open no later than August 27, 2010.

**DuPage Children's Museum Welcomes
Visitors from NAHC**

 **Buy one,
Get one FREE!** 

With this coupon one FREE admission
with one paid admission.
Not valid with any other offers.
Valid 11/30/09 - 12/18/09



**DuPage
Children's
MUSEUM**
A nonprofit organization
...where learning comes in to play™

301 N. Washington St. • Naperville, IL 60540 • 630-637-8000 • www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org

Built in 1962, the Jefferson Avenue Bridge crosses the West Branch of the DuPage River and is located west of downtown Naperville. When complete, the new Jefferson Avenue Bridge will include two lanes, each wide enough to accommodate both vehicle and bicycle traffic, as well as protected sidewalks on each side for pedestrians. As part of the project, Jefferson Avenue will be reconstructed from Willoway Drive to Parkway Drive and a new plaza will be built to provide a northern gateway to the Naperville Riverwalk. The new gateway will include landscape enhancements, the Brethren Peace Plaza, bike parking and sitting areas.

During construction, the Jefferson Avenue Bridge will be closed to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Once a date for the bridge closure is confirmed, the City of Naperville will provide notice to residents and motorists via its standard communication outlets. Interested parties are encouraged to sign up for the city's e-News service at www.naperville.il.us/enews.aspx for the latest news about the project.

For additional information about the Jefferson Avenue Bridge Construction project, including suggested detour routes and frequently asked questions, visit the city's Web site at www.naperville.il.us/jeffersonbridge.aspx.

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As part of the City of Naperville's fiscal year 2009-2010 strategic planning process, the Mayor's Advisory Commission for Disabilities (ACD) is conducting a survey to identify community assets as well as unmet service needs in the community, specifically for people with disabilities.

The survey is now available on the city's Web site at www.naperville.il.us/cnasurvey.aspx. Surveys must be completed by Tuesday, December 15. Residents or interested parties may also complete a paper version of the survey, request to complete the survey by phone or take the survey via another alternative format. All inquiries of this nature should be directed to Accessibility Coordinator Marita Manning at (630) 420-6725 or manningm@naperville.il.us. Completed surveys can be faxed to (630) 305-7004 or mailed to City of Naperville, Attn: Accessibility Coordinator Marita Manning, 1350 Aurora Ave., Naperville, IL 60540.

This survey is intended for those individuals with a developmental, physical or mental disability; those who have a family member with a developmental, physical or mental disability; or those who care for a person with a developmental, physical or mental disability. One survey should be completed for each person with a disability. When completing the survey, the information provided should only reflect the personal needs of the individual with the developmental, physical or mental disability and not the perspective of anyone else completing the survey.

The survey results will be compiled by the ACD in early 2010. Subsequently, the ACD will share information with the Mayor, City Council, city staff and the public to help develop strategies consistent with goals in the city's fiscal year 2009-2010 Strategic Plan.

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The Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation has awarded the city a \$37,059 grant to be used for Fire Station No. 10's geothermal heating and air conditioning system.

The city is constructing Fire Station No. 10 to include this geothermal heating and air conditioning system as well as several other environmentally responsible characteristics to serve as an example of the use of these technologies in small commercial and large residential applications. The station is currently under construction on the city's southwest side at 3201 95th St.

Fire Station No. 10's primary response area is bordered by 83rd Street to the north, Book Road to the east, the city's municipal boundary to the west and the electrical lines between 95th Street and 103rd Street to the south. Areas to be served by the new station include Aero Estates, Burnham Point, Carillon Club, Frontier Place, Glenmuir, Heatherstone, Naperville Crossings, Penncross Knoll,

Signature Club at Clearwater, Summerfield, Tall Grass, Wheatland Heights, White Eagle, Windridge and Woodlake.

In addition to its core mission of providing fire safety and emergency response capability, Fire Station No. 10 will serve as a learning center for both environmental responsibility and community responsibility. The station will host community open houses and events, and educational programs focused on the building's geothermal system will be incorporated into all public events. The facility will also be available for tours and demonstrations of its energy efficiency systems.

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Testing for jobs with the 2010 U.S. Census is now underway. People interested in obtaining employment with the Census should call (866) 861-2010 to find out more information about testing times and locations in Naperville.

Information about census job testing is also available at www.2010censusjobs.gov. The Web site informs viewers about how to apply for 2010 Census jobs, what census jobs entail and the qualifications for a census job. A practice census test is also available at this Web site. The practice census test is designed to be similar to the actual test to measure the skills, abilities and knowledge required to perform a variety of census jobs. In addition, a downloadable brochure is posted on the Census Web site outlining the positions available with the 2010 Census.

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You can do your part to help the municipal budget shortfall by shopping and dining in Naperville. Sales tax receipts make up 24% of Naperville's general fund revenues and keeping these dollars "home" in Naperville is a simple way to ensure there are dollars available so services are not cut back.

To make your downtown experiences easy, shoppers, diners and event-goers have a variety of **free** parking options available, including the recently expanded Van Buren Parking Deck. Visitors to downtown Naperville can choose from more than 2,500 parking spaces located in three parking decks, various parking lots and on the street.

For more than 30 years, visitors to downtown Naperville have benefitted from the city's free parking. The main parking decks, which account for more than 1,700 parking spaces, are:

- *Central Parking Facility* – accessible from Chicago Avenue and Jefferson Avenue
- *Van Buren Parking Deck* – accessible from Van Buren Avenue and Benton Avenue
- *Municipal Center Parking Deck* – accessible from Eagle Street and Webster Street. This deck is open to the public after 5 p.m. on weekdays and every weekend and holiday.

As an added convenience for visitors needing to run a quick errand, short-term on-street parking spaces are available throughout downtown Naperville. These spaces are specially marked with signs indicating the time limits.

Visitors are also encouraged to use the downtown Naperville directory kiosks to locate shops, restaurants, businesses, parking facilities and other amenities. For more information and tips for parking in downtown Naperville, visit www.naperville.il.us/downtownparking.aspx.

Leaf & Lawn Waste Pick-Up

Naperville's free bagged (no sticker required) is available **through December 18, 2009**. To participate, fill 32-gallon paper yard waste bags with only leaves and no other yard waste. Place the bags at the curb on your normal trash collection day. No sticker is required for leaf-filled bags. Bags containing other yard waste still require a sticker. Curbside bulk leaf pick-up is over for 2009 and bags or mulching and leaving on the lawn are your only alternatives for getting rid of nature's bounty.



Yard Waste and Leaf Collection Deadlines

All yard waste collection will end on December 18, 2009. Yard waste stickers dated 2009 will expire on that date. Yard waste collection will resume on March 15, 2010. Stickers for the 2010 season will be available at that time. There are no guarantees that 2009 stickers will be honored in 2010, so plan accordingly!

Parent University 2010

Real-World Parenting 101

Need a few extra parenting credits?

Join us for a day of informative and interactive workshops designed to provide practical lessons for parenting kids in preschool through high school.

Saturday, February 6, 2010

8 AM-2:15 PM

Neuqua Valley High School

2360 95th Street, Naperville

\$30/person full day or \$20/person half day



www.ipSD.org
www.naperville203.org



December at the Morton Arboretum

All aboard the **Holiday Railroad!** Get in the holiday spirit with this holiday train display that will entertain visitors of all ages. Feel like you're aboard the train yourself with a small camera that captures the ride and projects it on to a little screen.

This model train takes visitors through the tale of the Brothers Grimm's Hansel and Gretel. See the 3-foot-tall brother and sister as they get lost in the woods after a flock of birds eat the bread crumbed trail Hansel left behind. Things take an unusual turn when they encounter the sumptuous gingerbread house of the evil witch. How will the siblings escape? Find out by visiting the "Enchanted Railroad!" Visitor Center Events Room. Through January 3: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas, and New Years'



Search for gnomes in the Children's Garden this winter in "**Gnome Hunt.**" Bring your best "I Spy" skills to find all 24 gnomes hidden throughout the garden. We'll provide a checklist so you can keep track of them. All ages, the Children's Garden. November 1-February 28 (weather permitting) 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Embrace the snowy season and cross-country ski or snowshoe across the Arboretum's winter wonderland. Visitors must bring their own cross-country skis, or may rent snowshoes to explore the grounds (rental is \$6-8 for up to three hours, limited quantities). Snowshoeing allowed only when there is four inches or more of snow on the ground. All ages, rentals at Visitor Center from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. As weather permits

For more information, including registration and activity fee information, visit www.mortonarb.org.

Naperville Park District Updates



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

Important registration information

Registration for Spring Soccer begins Wednesday, **December 2** at noon.

Resident online registration for all other Winter programs begins on Wednesday, **December 9** at noon.

Residents may drop off completed registration forms as soon as they receive their *Program Guide*. These registrations will be processed in the order received concurrently with online registration. More information on the registration process is available at www.napervilleparks.org.

Naperville Park District offers easy, affordable holiday gift options

The Naperville Park District is ready to help with this year's holiday shopping, offering two, convenient and affordable options that are great for everyone on your gift list.

Select a Naperville Park District gift certificate in any denomination. Gift certificates can be used for Centennial Beach memberships, rounds of golf or merchandise, Park District programs and more.

On-the-Go Passes are a great stocking stuffer at \$15 each and give recipients the ability to enjoy a one-time visit to Centennial Beach, the Millennium Carillon in Moser Tower, and a 20-minute Paddle Boat ride for up to four people. Passes are presented at each location and validated for one-time use. On-the-Go Passes purchased during the holiday season will be valid for use through 2010.

Santa's Hotline

Would your child like to receive a special telephone call from Santa Claus? If so, please download the Santa's Hotline form at www.napervilleparks.org. Completed forms must be received by the Park District by **December 11**. Santa will call on Wednesday, **December 16** between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m.

Santa House

The Naperville Park District's Riverwalk Santa House, located at Jackson Avenue and Webster Street, will kick-off the holiday season with three special days of visits before it opens to the general public on Friday, December 4. Photos with Santa will be available for purchase during the special days.

Special Needs Nights at Santa House, for children with special needs and their families, will be held on Tuesday, December 1 and Wednesday, December 2 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Visits are arranged by appointment only to ensure a minimal wait time and an enjoyable experience for the entire family. Reservations must be made by calling 630-848-5000; space is limited.

Pet Day at Santa House will be held on Thursday, December 3 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Each pet will receive a special pet-friendly treat! Reservations also are required for this event; please call 630-848-5000 to reserve your space.

General hours of operations for Santa House are: Fridays from 5:00-8:00 p.m., and from noon-6:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays through December 20. From December 14-17, Santa House will be open every day from 5:00-8:00 p.m. On Monday, December 21 and Tuesday, December 22, Santa House will be open from 2:00-8:00 p.m. for those last-minute holiday wishes. Photos will be available for purchase this year at a cost of \$8 each or two for \$15. Cash or checks only, please.

Sled Hills

The following hills are located in neighborhood parks. They have no concessions and close at dusk.

- Arrowhead Park, 711 Iroquois Avenue
- Brook Crossings, 1015 95th Street
- Country Lakes Community Park, 1835 North Aurora Road
- Gartner Park, 524 W. Gartner Road
- May Watts Park, 804 S. Whispering Hills Drive
- Old Plank Park, 583 Milton Drive
- Riverwalk Sled Hill at Rotary Hill, Riverwalk and Aurora Avenue, across from Naperville Central High School

Snowboarding

Weigand Riverfront Park, 2436 S. Washington Street

The hill at Weigand Riverfront Park will be used only as a snowboarding hill. Snowboards are restricted on all other Park District hills. Sledding is not allowed at Weigand Riverfront Park.

Ice Skating Rinks

Centennial Park Ice Rinks, 500 W. Jackson Avenue

Centennial Park features two lighted hockey rinks as well as a lighted free-skating area. These are the only rinks where hockey is permitted. Lights may be turned off before 9:00 p.m. in the event of low attendance. Please do not skate after 9:00 p.m. since this is when the ice is flooded and groomed.

Gartner Park Ice Rink, 524 W. Gartner Road

Gartner Park ice rink is not lighted. Hockey sticks are not allowed.

S.O.S. Trouble in the Trench Program Cover Design Contest

The Naperville Park District is calling on all kids ages 5-13 to design a program cover for the dance program's performances of *S.O.S. Trouble in the Trench*, which will be held in January 2010. All submissions will be evaluated by a committee, first through third place will be selected, and prizes will be awarded.

The story, *S.O.S. Trouble in the Trench*, is an original story penned by June Wilderman and Melissa Sallée of the Naperville Park District. It's a story about an underwater city called Sand Andreas, a great place for fish folk to live until garbage comes to town and things begin to deteriorate. The citizens need to find a way to get the dumping to stop so they can start enjoying life again.

Contest entry forms and a summary of the story can be downloaded at www.napervilleparks.org. This information also can be picked up at several Park District facilities.

Designs must be created in color and submitted on a fully completed entry form. Artists are asked to use colored pencil, marker, paint, crayon or electronic media. Those who submit a design using electronic media need to save the design as a .PDF, burn it to a CD and deliver it to the Park District's Administration Building.

The top three winners will be notified by phone. First place will win a *S.O.S. Trouble in the Trench* T-shirt, four free tickets to *S.O.S. Trouble in the Trench* performance on January 23 or January 24, a backstage pass plus the design will be used for the cover of the programs. Second place will win three free tickets to the production and third place will win two free tickets.

Completed entry forms will be accepted through Saturday, December 12 at noon.

Entries should be submitted to the Naperville Park District Administration Building and should be labeled **Attention: S.O.S. Trouble in the Trench Program Cover Design Contest**.

Confederation 2009 Dues

As 2009 draws to a close, has your association paid its NAHC membership dues? Invoices were re-sent in September to those member associations who had not paid yet requesting their annual contribution to the operation of the Confederation!

If you have not paid, please return a 2009 Dues check for \$30 to:

Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation, Inc.
PO Box 5245
Naperville, Illinois 60567-5245



You can save postage by including your 2010 dues at the same time.

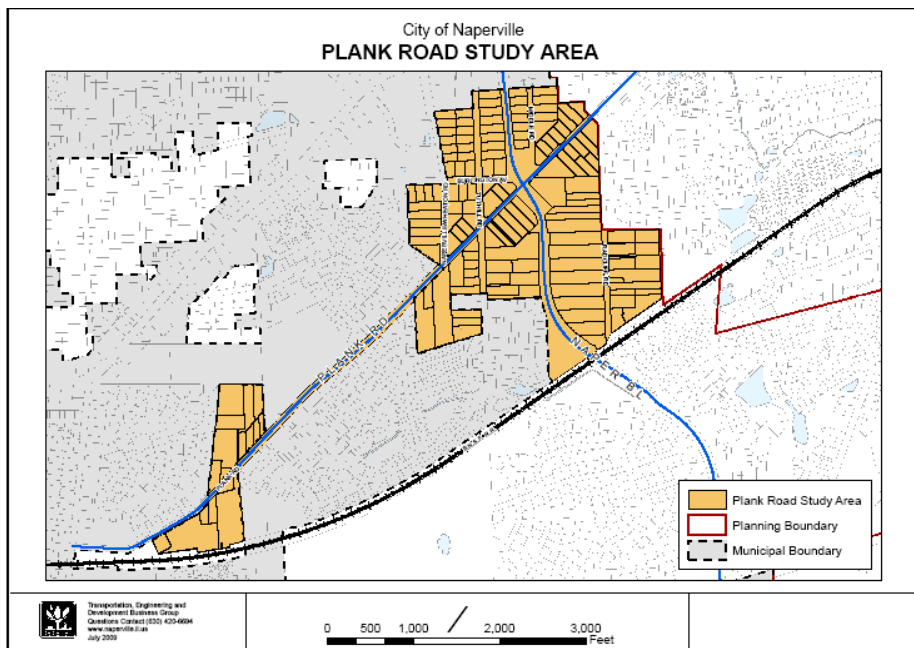
If your Association is not currently a Confederation member, or if there have been significant changes in your association's contacts, download and complete the Membership Application found on our website at: <http://www.napervillehomeowners.com/NAHC/NewsDoc/NewsDoc7603.doc> and send it to us along with your 2009 dues.

Dues are our primary form of income and support meetings, issue and candidate forums, and the "legal requirements" that needed to stay in operation and serve our members.

Remember – the primary way the City or Park District contacts homeowners associations is through the Confederation. Due to past FOIA issues, we will not provide our entire directory to governmental bodies as otherwise the membership list could be used by third parties looking to contact HOA's for commercial or political purposes. We take your privacy seriously and value our members!

Plank Road Study

As reported in the Zoning and Land Use Report on page two, the City of Naperville will host a public open house to share the initial draft land use alternatives and transportation recommendations for the Plank Road Study Area. This open house, scheduled for Wednesday, December 9, 2009, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Meeting Rooms A, B and C at the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle Street, will feature City staffers available to answer questions, but there will be no formal group presentations in this open house format.



The Plank Road Study will evaluate the future land use for unincorporated properties near the intersection of Naper Boulevard and Plank Road, as well as unincorporated properties fronting Plank Road from Columbia Street to east of Naper Boulevard. It will also establish recommendations to guide potential development and redevelopment for unincorporated properties within the study area in the event the property owners seek annexation into the City of Naperville.

For more information about the Plank Road Study, visit www.naperville.il.us/plankroadstudy.aspx. As a courtesy to residents and businesses interested in the Plank Road Study, the City of Naperville will periodically provide e-mail updates regarding the study and opportunities for public involvement. To sign up to receive the e-newsletter, visit the Plank Road Study project Web page or www.naperville.il.us/enews.aspx.

Christmas Tree Selection Tips

Are your Christmas tree selection skills on the same level as Charlie Brown's? Well good grief! Let The Morton Arboretum offer up some great tips to keep the Christmas tree bright this season.

A fresh tree is a long lasting tree. Most trees should last up to three weeks in the home, according to Doris Taylor, who heads the Arboretum Plant Clinic. Before purchasing, find the best location in the home away from fireplaces, hot air vents, televisions, candles or other heat sources that can dry out the tree or cause needles to drop.

Also look at the tree name. This little gem of knowledge can give clues about the aroma, color and needle retention. Some names to be aware of are:

Scots pine trees are dark green with stiff branches and excellent needle retention.

Eastern white pines have dense, medium-green coloring and seem to hold their long needles well.

Similarly, balsam firs have dense, dark-green foliage with good needle retention. They also have a classic pyramid shape, often with a spindly top and a festive evergreen scent.

Douglas-firs have more soft, flat and short green needles with very good retention. Also note that when crushed they give a sweet camphor smell.

For more of a blue-green color, look for a white fir with soft, 2-inch-long needles that curve outward and upward on branches. They have very good needle retention and give off a strong lemon scent.

Be cautious of the white spruce tree. While they do have pretty, grayish, blue-green needles that are short and blunt, forming a natural cone shape, some people may find their scent displeasing and their needle retention is very poor.

The Colorado spruce tree has 1-3 inch needles that are gray-green to blue-green and are stiff and prickly. It has a resin-like scent and a great symmetrical form; however the needle retention is poor.

When selecting a tree, look for needles that are pliable, fragrant and attached, with full, bushy branches that are durable enough to support ornaments. Check the cut end of the tree to ensure it is sticky with sap. Pound it onto the ground and watch what happens. Only a few needles should fall off.

Finally, grab a branch with a bare hand; pull your hand toward you, away from the tree trunk, to see if any dye rubs off. "It's not uncommon to detect a blue-green dye that was applied to the leaves to mask the color of leaves drying out," says Taylor, adding there may also be an anti-desiccant on the leaves to keep them pliable."

Once you select your holiday tree, keep it flourishing by making a fresh cut off the bottom of the trunk and promptly put it in a bucket of water. Trees are thirsty – they can consume up to a gallon of water a day, so watch water levels closely. Aspirin, soft drinks or flower fertilizer will not prolong freshness - use plain water! If trimming is required, lay the trimmings on a perennial or bulb flower bed as mulch!

The Arboretum Plant Clinic at (630)719-2424 or plantclinic@mortonarb.org can answer questions. Services are free.



Library News & Programs

Mark your calendar for programs for all ages at the various branches of the Naperville Public Library. For more information go to <http://www.naperville-lib.org>

Tuesday, Dec. 8

Turn the Page

The Naperville Public Library's morning group, Turn the Page, primarily reads nonfiction. In December, they will read "**Little Heathens**" by Mildred Kalish Armstrong. Coordinating the discussion group is Kathy Carrus. Nomura Room C, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 9:30 a.m.

Dec. 14, 2009 to Jan. 31, 2010

Winter Reading Program -- *Treat Yourself to a Good Book*

Sign up for Naperville Public Library's Winter Reading Program beginning December 14, 2009. All participants have a chance to win family packs of tickets to a Chicago Wolves Hockey game and other fun prizes from our sponsors. The Winter Reading program is for all children through 5th grade. Listeners and all reading levels welcome!

Tuesday, Dec. 15

Get Your Game On!

School is stressful. And the Library isn't just for studying. Join Naperville Public Library in giving our new Wii™ systems a workout! Each month, your local Naperville Library will be offering an open play session for you to come in and play the time away. Enjoy the Library's assortment of video games for Wii™: Guitar Hero, Dance Dance Revolution, MarioKart, SuperSmash Bros., Wii Sports, Mario&Sonic, and our newest addition Rock Band 2! No registration required. Naperville Public Library card holders will be given first preference, in accordance with our Priority Service Policy. Meeting Room A, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 3 p.m.

Great Books Reading and Discussion Group

The Naperville Public Library's book group, Great Books Reading and Discussion Group reads classic works using the Great Books format. In December, they will read a selection from the classic, "Pensees," by Blaise Pascal. Coordinating the discussion group is Jack Hatfield for Great Books. The reading is from the book "Great Conversations 1" by the Great Books Foundation. If you wish to purchase this book, call the Great Books Foundation at 1-800-222-5870. Program Room, Naperville Boulevard Library, 2035 S. Naperville Blvd., 7 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 17

Exam Cram

Who knew the Library would be the hot spot for finals week? We know that finals can be a drag, so let's try to make it a little more fun. Just for Teens, the Library is staying open late to provide a big space to cram for tests. Snacks will be provided, we have lots of tables for group study, Wi-Fi for your laptop, and reference help will be available. **No registration required. High School ID required to sign in and sign out after closing, but no registration is required.** Anyone attending this program is responsible for transportation to and from the event and assumes responsibility for any and all risks of injury. Sponsored by Robert Slayton Associates, Licensed Insurance Specialists Meeting Room A/B, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 8 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 18

Get Your Game On!

School is stressful. And the Library isn't just for studying. Join Naperville Public Library in giving our new Wii™ systems a workout! Each month, your local Naperville Library will be offering an open play session for you to come in and play the time away. Enjoy the Library's assortment of video games for Wii™: Guitar Hero, Dance Dance Revolution, MarioKart, SuperSmash Bros., Wii Sports, Mario&Sonic, and our newest addition Rock Band 2! No registration required. Naperville Public Library card holders will be given first preference, in accordance with our Priority Service Policy. Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 3 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 21

Anime Day

Whether you're an Otaku or you've never seen anime in your life, we'll have something you'll enjoy. Come watch a few episodes of some groundbreaking anime series, enjoy some Japanese snacks, show off your manga skills, and chat with other anime geeks. **No registration required.** Nomura Room C, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 29

Winter Teen Relax Cafe

Join us in the Community Room during Winter Break! Hang out with your friends, listen to music, play board games, and munch on some goodies! **No registration required.** Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 2 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 30

Money Smart Teens

Teens! Learn how to stop spending, start saving, and get started in investing! Library resources can help you manage your money, save for college, and plan your financial future. Refreshments will be served. This workshop is open to all interested teens. To register, please call Bobbie Rudnick, Business Librarian, at 630.961.4100 ext. 6328. Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 3 p.m.

“Read all you can lay your hands on. The rewards of reading never diminish.”

*Helen Ganz
literacy advocate*

Reading: Getting Kids Excited about Books

Reading is powerful. When kids know how to read and enjoy reading, they're more likely to succeed in school and in life. Unfortunately, only 22% of kids report having the Asset of Reading for Pleasure. Yet reading is an Asset that parents have a great deal of influence over helping their children attain.

Here are ways to help incorporate reading into your children's lives. Try it! For all parents:

- Make sure each of your children has a library card (you can get cards at your local library branch). If your kids already have library cards, use them on a regular basis. Visit the library once a week, or at least once a month.
- Show kids how much you enjoy reading. Instead of watching TV, read periodically. Have books and magazines strategically located around your house.
- Talk about what you are reading. Ask your kids about what they're reading.

For parents with children ages birth to 5

- Surround your children with picture books. Give them to your kids as gifts. If you can't afford to buy them, check them out of the library.
- Read aloud to your children every day. If possible, read aloud more than once a day.
- Keep board books with your children's toys so that your kids see books as part of their everyday lives.

For parents with children ages 6-9

- Once your children learn how to read, have them read aloud every day to you.
- Help kids find books that get them excited. Visit the library and browse the bookstores.
- Read a book to your children before they go to bed. Use a book as part of your bedtime routine to help your children relax and connect with you.

For parents with children ages 10-15

- Encourage your kids to find books that excite them. Don't overlook comic books, magazines and other types of reading that may not interest you, but interests them. The point is to keep your kids reading.
- Find out which books your teens are assigned to read in school. Ask them which ones they liked best and why.
- Give books as gifts. Young teenagers often enjoy advice about life books.

For parents with children ages 16-18

- Ask your teenager which book has had the most impact on his/her life. Talk about a life changing book you've read.
- Be patient if it seems your teenagers don't read for fun. Many feel overloaded with homework reading and prefer to spend their free time with friends or listening to music.
- Ask your teenager which books other teenagers are reading and see if there are any that interest your teenager. Choose a book yourself and talk about what you have read.
- Bring up current events or topics you've read about to start discussions with your teenagers. Reference what you're reading, such as "I read in Newsweek today..." or "Did you see that article in the newspaper today?"

* From information provided by Search Institute's MVPparent (www.MVPparents.com).





DuPage Children's MUSEUM

...where learning comes in to play!

December 2009



*The Museum will be closed
Dec. 24, Dec. 25, Dec. 31 & Jan. 1

Call 630-637-8000 TO REGISTER
Pre-registration and pre-payment required.
For a complete program schedule, please visit:
www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org.

Join us to say farewell to 2009 and welcome 2010!



BUBBLE BASH 2009
All About Bubbles

When: Thursday, Dec. 31, 9 a.m. – Noon
Where: DuPage Children's Museum
Fee: Member \$15/Nonmember \$20
Reservations Required - **MAKE YOURS NOW!**
630-637-8000 ext. 0

Featuring...

- Music by Jeannie Bl and The Jelly Beans
- Bubble Wonder demonstration by Bubble Man, Geoff Akins
- Refreshments, art activities, photo ops and more!




Winter Break MINI-CAMP!

For Ages 7 - 10

Kids Design Engineering

Learn about pneumatic power and how it can work for you. Based on our popular school program, Kids Design Engineering camp gives you the opportunity to use some cool tools as you design, build and test your own pneumatic (balloon) powered project for land, water or air. Plus, you'll get to take a ride on the Museum's Hovercraft.
Children do not need an adult partner to participate. (An adult must drop off the child and pick up the child at the room.) Please bring a sack lunch. Museum floor time during program (included) will be supervised by Museum volunteers.

Ages 7-10 Mon. & Tues. Dec. 28 & 29 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Cost: \$90 Members/ \$100 Nonmembers
Pre-registration and pre-payment are required; enrollment is limited.

Call 630-637-8000 ext. 0 for more information or to reserve a spot for your child.

Family Fun Friday Nights!

Open until 8 p.m. Friday nights!



- Dec. 4 Naperville Park District Dance Academy , 6 p.m.
 - Dec. 11 Mad Scientist Concoctions, 6 p.m.
 - Dec. 18 Train Night, 5 p.m.
- Presentation Partner: AI's Hobby Shop

Visit the Web site for more details.

Registration Policies for all MCE Classes: No portion of the enrollment fee will be refunded as of the day class begins. Registrants withdrawing one week prior to the beginning of class will be charged a 50% administrative fee. Registrants who withdraw prior to the week before classes begin will be charged a 25% administrative fee.

Winter 2009- 2010

Creativity Classes

NEW ON-LINE REGISTRATION NOW AVAILABLE

Designed to foster children's joyful learning.
Pre-registration and pre-payment are required.
See Web site for full roster and descriptions
REGISTER NOW!
CALL 630-637-8000 ext. 0 or register on-line at www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org

Great Performances™

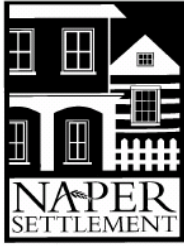
Saturdays from 10:30 a.m. to Noon
FREE to Members or with Museum admission!

Dec. 12 Special Consensus – Bluegrass Duo
Dec. 26 Laura Fako Utley – Harp

Discover the magic of live performance!

FOR MORE PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEB SITE, www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org, AND CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR UNDER THE PROGRAMS TAB.

Distribution of information and materials through the schools does not imply District 203 or 204 endorsement of them.



A Historic Museum Village

December at Naper Settlement

www.napersettlement.museum

523 South Webster Street

Naperville, Illinois 60540

(630) 420-6010

(630) 305-5255-fax

Victorian Holiday Traditions

Tour the Martin Mitchell Mansion decorated in holiday splendor and then enjoy refreshments in the 1834 Pre-Emption House Tavern with a costumed interpreter from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Dec. 5, or from 1 to 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at Naper Settlement. Discover the history of holiday traditions such as trees, ornaments and more. Tickets are \$25 per person; \$20 for Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining Members. Group tours are also available. Call (630) 420-6010 for reservations.

The Legend of St. Nicholas

Hear the stories of St. Nicholas, the protector of children through the ages, heartwarming portrayed by veteran performer and historian Terry Lynch. Learn about the origins of St. Nicholas in various countries, popular Christmas symbols, and worldwide Christmas traditions. This special one-man interactive program is meant for all ages and will be held at Naper Settlement's Century Memorial Chapel from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 6, also known as St. Nicholas Day. 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. Call (630) 420-6010 for tickets.

1939 Time Capsule materials on display

Items found in a 1939 DuPage Centennial time capsule will be on display free-of-charge through December in the Pre-Emption House Visitor Center at Naper Settlement. The capsule was discovered in Naperville's Central Park and opened on Oct. 26, 2009, at an event hosted by Mayor A. George Pradel, the Naperville City Council, DuPage County Board Chairman Robert Schillerstrom and the Naperville Heritage Society. A complete list of the contents found in the time capsule and photos of the event are now available to view at www.naperville.il.us/timecapsule.aspx. Additional photos of the Central Park monument are available at www.napersettlement.museum.

***The NAHC is looking forward to seeing our members on
Thursday evening, December 17th, at 7:30PM in the Community Room at
the Alfred Rubin Riverwalk Community Center when we meet to focus on
the Naperville Park District***

***Keep an eye on www.napervillehomeowners.com
For late-breaking news and information of importance to
homeowners.***

The next newsletter will be on or about January 1st

***Bob Fischer
NAHC Newsletter Editor
& Webmaster***