

TOWN of CEDARBURG

Preserving Yesterday's Heritage for Tomorrow



A PIECE OF HISTORY

The Legacy of Red Bridge

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CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Residents have two options to recycle real trees:

- Curbside Collection Jan. 4th to 22nd
- Drop-off @ Recycling Yard Dec. 28th to Jan 16th

Please remove all tinsel, lights, and ornaments for the safety of our crew.

NOTES & REMINDERS

- Town Hall is closed on December 24th, 25th, 31st & January 1st.
- 2016 Quarterly Recycling Events with secure paper shredding:
March 26th, June 18th, September 17th, and December 17th
- Please do not put yard waste in the garbage.
- Refuse & recycling carts should be 3 feet apart and out by 7am.

The town of Cedarburg is home to a unique cultural and historical treasure. More than 40 covered bridges once dotted the Wisconsin countryside. Today the sole survivor is the Cedarburg Covered Bridge, originally known as the "Red Bridge." It is found three miles north of the City of Cedarburg on aptly-named Covered Bridge Road. The last covered bridge in Wisconsin sits 50 feet east of where it was originally built in 1876 and where it was used until just after the assassination of JFK. Today it is the centerpiece of Covered Bridge Park where it connects pedestrians to a Boy Scout property. It is the last vestige of a day gone by when the pioneer spirit of its German settlers set the tone in the town and city of Cedarburg.



Gary Wickert
Supervisor Seat 3

In colonial America, travelers crossed rivers and streams at shallow spots called fords or through the limited use of ferries. Stone slabs or timber planks served as poor substitutes for bridges. After the Revolutionary War the demand for roads and bridges increased. With engineering skills at a premium and timber in abundance, crude wood bridges soon gave way to longer and more substantial structures.

The reasons why bridges were covered remains a point of some debate. Some say it was to prevent heavy snows from unnecessarily putting stress on its wooden members. Others claim it was to shelter travelers in storms and to provide refuge from some of the more hostile Native Americans. The most likely reasons for covering a bridge, however, were to preserve the truss structure from the elements and the fact that the teams of oxen used by farmers in the area often had a fear of crossing the water on an open bridge and frequently balked.

The Cedarburg Covered Bridge was built in 1876 by the Town of Cedarburg, when the town was less than 30 years old. It originally measured 120 feet long and 12 feet wide and was constructed of a certain type of pine obtained near Baraboo,

Continued on page 5

Board Approves Tax Rate Cut in 2016 Budget

On December 2nd, the Cedarburg Town Board approved a \$3.25 million all-funds budget for fiscal year 2016. And for a record 9th consecutive year, the Board adopted a property tax levy that either froze or cut the tax rate. Most importantly, the budget enables the Town to continue to provide high quality services.

The 2016 budget consists of five distinct funds. The largest of these funds is the general fund at \$2,471,405. The budget is primarily funded by a property tax levy of \$1,926,156, an increase of \$16,741. The levy increase is directly attributed to the rise in assessed value from new construction. The Town had the third largest percent increase in net new construction in Ozaukee County this year, marking the third consecutive year the Town was in the top three. The approved tax rate is \$2.321913 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The current rate was slightly higher at \$2.32388 per \$1,000 of assessed value. A home assessed for \$300,000 will pay \$697 in property taxes to the Town.

"The combination of new growth and responsible financial planning has enabled us to avoid raising the tax rate over the last nine years," stated Chairman Dave Valentine. "I appreciate the hard work of the Finance Committee and Town staff in accomplishing our goal."

Despite the tax rate cut, the budget allows for a greater investment in Town roads. Road reconstruction will increase by 12% to \$223,500 in 2016. The annual pavement maintenance program will include repaving Horns Corners Road from Bridge Street south 2,500 feet and Douglas Lane from Western Avenue south 1,500 feet. Other road maintenance efforts, such as crack filling will also receive funding.

The Board also adopted a five-year capital improvement plan that identifies future infrastructure and equipment needs. Anticipated expenditures in the 2016-2020 plan total more than \$1.9 million. In 2016, approximately \$519,000 in capital improvements is budgeted, including a new 5-yard dump truck (\$190,800), mini-excavator (\$95,000), and an ice pretreatment sprayer (\$11,000).

Additional information on the 2016 budget and capital improvement plan is available at:
<http://www.town.cedarburg.wi.us/cedarburg-egovernment.cfm?id=39>

Town Seeks Next Administrator

As you may have heard, I have accepted a position with the City of Washington, Illinois. My last day with the Town is December 23rd. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the Town Board for the opportunity to serve this community.

Leaving the Town is bittersweet. I have truly enjoyed serving the Town Board, residents, and businesses over the past nine years. I have been blessed to work alongside a team of dedicated and talented employees. Their selfless service and dedication exemplifies good government.

My family and I have enjoyed the friendships we have developed in the community and surrounding area. The Town is a wonderful community to raise a family and has a bright future. We will continue to be enthusiastic advocates for the Town of Cedarburg.

The Town is now accepting applications for the Town Administrator position. For details or to apply, go here:
<http://govhrusa.theresumator.com/apply/dXNoxA/Cedarburg-WI-Town-Administrator>

With sincerity and appreciation,

Jim Culotta



**Online
Registration
Opens Jan. 4**

REGISTRATION ONLINE IN 2016

Little League registration will take place online from January 4th - February 26th. Town Hall will have a computer available for registration if it is more convenient to stop in. Go to www.cedarburglittleleague.com to register. Divisions of play and birthdate cutoffs will be posted to the website.

As with 2015, if you live outside the Cedarburg Little League boundary area (not tied to municipal lines) but your child attends a school within the boundary area, you simply need to bring an official school document, such as a report card or school enrollment form confirming enrollment for the current academic year, dated before October 1, 2015, to register for CLL. Families living outside of the Cedarburg Little League boundary area and not attending a school within the boundary area will need to fill out a residency waiver at Town Hall. The boundary area map can be found on the Cedarburg Little League website.

The girls' softball program will again be competing in a multi-community league with Grafton, Germantown, and Menomonee Falls; West Bend may be a new addition in 2016. The vast majority of practices and games will be held Monday-Thursday nights, with a few games played on Saturdays.

The baseball program will be played in Town at various Town and school district fields on Monday-Thursday nights for ages 4-10. Baseball players ages 11-13 will be play interleague against Port Washington; this continues the successful partnership from 2015.

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS IN 2015

Over \$38,900 was raised in 2015 in cash and in-kind donations. Monetary donations significantly reduce registration fees and allow us to improve our facilities. Our sponsorship flyer outlining categories is available at www.cedarburglittleleague.com. We are also looking for sponsors of items found on the field improvement plan (found at the Little League website). Contact Paul at Town Hall at 377-4509 for details.



**CEDARBURG FLAG
FOOTBALL LEAGUE**

The Cedarburg Flag Football league capped off a record season with championship games played on the Concordia turf field on October 17th (photo below). We had record registration in 2015 of **173 boys and girls** playing in four divisions ranging from 4-12 year olds. The \$34 fee included a mini-camp put on by the Concordia University players and coaches on their turf field and a dry-wick personalized player jersey.



DEEP WATER TONING

Registration for the winter/spring 2016 deep water toning season will open in mid-December. Registration forms listing the meeting dates and fee will be available at Town Hall and on the Town website. The one-hour classes are held on Tuesday/Thursday nights at the Cedarburg High School indoor pool. The program is open to all area residents and there is no non-resident fee.

PICKLE BALL

Registration for the spring pickle ball season is full. We are accepting wait-list registrations at Town Hall. The popular program held weekly on Tuesday nights at Thorson Elementary from 6:30 -8:30pm will run from January through May and costs \$15.

CHAIRMAN VALENTINE



Recycling Changes Impact Town

The Town of Cedarburg went to curbside recycling after years of discussion, many meetings and at times resident resistance. The decision and implementation has proven to be very successful. The old recycling building is being used for much needed storage space for Town equipment and vehicles. The Town yard is still used for the recycled items not subject to curbside pick-up.

Some of the other positive results include:

- 1.) The amount being dumped into landfill has been reduced. (About 5 tons/month)
- 2.) The amount of materials being recycled has increased. (47% more than 2014)
- 3.) Less fuel being used by Town vehicles in trips to the landfill
- 4.) Less hours of Town employees in trash collection
- 5.) Increased hours of Town employees for other needed public works tasks
- 6.) More Town equipment and vehicles are protected from the weather

These all have a positive impact on the Town budget. As you probably know, the Town now has 9 consecutive years without a property tax increase. WOW!! The Town is the only municipality in Ozaukee County to reach that feat. Obviously, that is not all the Town has done to control taxes and still maintain effective and efficient services, but it is an example of the many little things done to achieve that objective. You should be proud of the Town Board's fiscal prudence. They spend money like it is coming out their own pocket—actually, a small portion does.

This does not take into account the many hours saved by residents, which is a valuable commodity to all of us. This is not only for the trips to the recycling center, but the separation of materials, etc. It also does not account for the many gallons of fuel not used by residents to get to and from the recycling center two or three or four times per month.

Recycling has also resulted in numerous comments from residents about how much they like this new system. I personally have had no negative feedback on the new recycling system.

If you receive the Town's "e-Notify" via e-mail you already know about the latest Town of Cedarburg award. The Wisconsin DNR awarded the Town one of only two annual awards for "Recycling Excellence" for 2015. This was for projects and initiatives that demonstrate cost effectiveness and/or potential savings while increasing the recycling rate.

I urge every resident and business in the Town to continue to recycle. It is good for the Town, good for the residents and the responsible thing to do for the environment.

Dave Valentine
Town Chairman



Wisconsin. All of the timber and planks were cut and squared in a mill near

Baraboo and the lumber was then hauled to its current location on Cedar Creek. The pieces of the bridge were painstakingly fitted and set in place - a type of construction known as lattice truss utilizing a large number of small and closely spaced diagonal elements that form a lattice. The bridge's interlacing 3 x 10 inch planks were held together by 2-inch hardwood pins and its flooring was completed with three-inch planking - a technique very rare for covered bridge construction.

In 1927, a center abutment was placed to carry the heavier traffic of automobiles and trucks. The bridge was the main crossing point for Cedar Creek, and was used daily by local farmers, some of whose descendants are still living in this area, including the Kaehlers, Krohns, Ernsts, Hickeys, Corrigan, Mintzlaufs, Schellenbergs and Pollows.

In 1940, the bridge became an historic monument, even as it was still being heavily used. Legend says that the covered bridge leveled off the farmers' hay loads as they passed through it.

On October 1, 1955, the Daughters of the American Revolution added a plaque which reads: "1876 - 1955 Last Covered Bridge in Wisconsin."

Red Bridge was retired from vehicle traffic in 1962, when it was bypassed in favor of a new bridge for Covered Bridge Road. The retired 120-foot-long bridge spans Cedar Creek north of state Highway 60. Today, it is used only by pedestrians and bicyclists. It is both a history lesson and a source of great pride for the residents of the town of Cedarburg. We tend to take for granted the great things around us. Take the time to walk through the bridge and go back in time as you feel and smell the original construction and the pioneer spirit it represents. As Albert Einstein famously said, "The person who follows the crowd will usually go no further than the crowd. The person who walks alone is likely to find himself in places no one has ever seen before."

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ZONING CODE UPDATES

Town Adopts Several Zoning Changes

Pool Covers Now An Acceptable Alternative to Pool Fences

Town Code previously required every outdoor in-ground private or residential swimming pool or above-ground pool with sides less than four feet high to be completely enclosed by a fence or wall. The Town Board approved an ordinance that allows, as an alternative, a cover or other protective device over the pool that can be securely fastened in place and support a person weighing 250 pounds. The cover or protective device must be securely fastened in place at all times when the swimming pool is not in actual use.

Home Occupation Rules Amended

The Town Board has updated regulations regarding home occupations in all residential and agricultural zoning districts. The Code is now clear as to which home occupations are permitted, prohibited, and allowed with a conditional use permit. For details, refer to the Town Code on the website or contact staff at Town Hall.

Development Application Tracker: the Town website features pages that are regularly updated for all development applications so the public can follow the process and be apprised of meeting schedules. To view the list of applications, visit the Town website homepage and click on the **Development Application Tracker** icon.

Town Code Update

Before year-end, the Town will initiate a Code supplementation. This is the process of having adopted ordinances electronically incorporated into the Town Code. This supplementation will cover the period from August 2014 through December 2015.

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CEDARBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT



Dear Cedarburg Families,

As I reflect over the first few months as Superintendent, I am honored to have the opportunity to serve the students, staff, parents and community of Cedarburg, building on our tradition of excellence. We are an exceptional district and community by many measures. One metric that indicates our success is smiles. Smiles tell the story. In every building and throughout the community I see smiles. Smiles between students, students to teachers, teachers to parents, administrators to teachers, administrators to students, teachers to teachers, custodians to teachers, secretaries to teachers; we have a marvelous district full of smiles. It is that contagious enthusiasm, happiness and spirit that separates our district and community from others.

Thank you for making our district one of the premier districts in the country where students are able to achieve their goals and dreams.

We are very thankful to the Town of Cedarburg for allowing us the opportunity to highlight a few of the new happenings in the district. Have a wonderful holiday season!

Todd Bugnacki, Cedarburg Superintendent

Multimedia Broadcast Studio at Webster Transitional School



The district is developing a long range plan of upgrades and implementation of media centers and digital media opportunities for students.

Phase one of the plan began this fall with Webster Transitional School. Webster assembled a team to investigate and plan an upgrade to the existing multi-media room and proposed the project to the Cedarburg Education Foundation (CEF). A review of current equipment including consulting from industry experts revealed that use of the current equipment was commendable however; the equipment had far exceeded expectations for its age. Updating the current media room would enable students and staff to produce high quality daily news broadcasts and assignments that align with the curriculum. The proposed environment and equipment would provide a hands-on experience in direct correlation to the 21st century learner. The team created a grant proposal that was submitted to the Foundation. At this year's CEF Gala, students created a video to support the media room needs and used green screen stations, run by Webster students, to demonstrate the abilities of the students and potential of the media room project.

Plans for additional phases are underway at the elementary schools and high school. Parkview is currently upgrading their equipment and infrastructure to provide live video feed of student activities and viewing access in the classrooms. The plan is to expand the same capabilities at Thorson and Westlawn. Elementary classroom multi-media kits are being created to enable teachers and students to more easily develop and create projects that support our curriculum.

We are excited to provide additional learning opportunities for our students that will extend well past the classroom into the community. Multimedia studios will allow students to integrate skill and knowledge gained in the classroom into media presentations covering a range of topics and themes for district and community consumption.

Continued on page 8

Check out what's new at the CEDARBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT



The Cedarburg School District is pleased to announce that the School Board approved the establishment of a half-day Kindergarten program for 4-year old children in the district beginning with the 2016-17 school year. Four-year old Kindergarten (4K) classes will be offered at the three district elementary schools; Parkview, Thorson and Westlawn.

Offering a 4K program will allow students to gain excellent preparation for the remainder of their school years. All of the resources available to Kindergarten through 5th grade students will be available to the 4-year olds enrolled in the District's 4K program. As one of the premier public school districts in the state, offering 4K aligns with the Cedarburg School District mission to ensure all Cedarburg families have access to quality early education.

Three, one hour parent information events will provide parents with an overview of Cedarburg's 4K program, registration process, class schedule and transportation, followed by 4K & 5K registration at your neighborhood school.

Parent Information Sessions

January 14, 2016
10:00 AM, 1:00 PM and 6:30 PM
Cedarburg Public Library

4k & 5k Kindergarten Registration

February 9, 2016
Elementary Schools

Children in the school district and are at least four years of age on or before September 1, 2016, are eligible to enroll in Cedarburg's 4K program. Information about registration will be forthcoming. Please monitor the District website regularly for future announcements.

For more information, please visit www.cedarburg.k12.wi.us/programs/4yearoldkindergarten

Check out our new district website and follow us on Facebook

www.cedarburg.k12.wi.us
www.facebook.com/cedarburgschooldistrict



Winter Reminders

Public Works employees are prepared for winter and the upcoming plowing season. Now is a good time for residents to take a look at your mailboxes and posts. Check for obvious damage such as cracked boards or posts, missing screws, etc., but also look below ground level to make sure your post is still in good condition. A rotted post will not stand up well to a Wisconsin winter.

As a reminder winter parking restrictions are as follows per Town code. No person shall park any vehicle on any street, road, highway, public way, or public parking lot in the Town between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. from November 15 through March 31.

During the winter months on trash collection day, do not set refuse and recycling containers out before 6 a.m. When placing the containers please place them behind the roadway edge within 10 feet rather than in the road where plows could hit them. Snow plow drivers want to clear the streets for your safety and obstacles such as refuse carts need to be out of the way. To ensure mail delivery, please clear snow away from the front of your mailbox.

When driving, remain at least 200 feet back from a snowplow. Fully loaded plow trucks weigh 33,000 pounds and an average vehicle weighs only 3,000 pounds, smaller vehicles may think they can get around plow trucks, however the snow and debris coming off the plow blade becomes a hazard for vehicles trying to pass.

Continued on Page 11

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New Year Brings Four Elections & Photo ID Requirement

As we ring in the new year, the Town is preparing for the implementation of the voter photo identification law and four elections. Here is a quick summary of the upcoming elections:

Spring Primary: February 16th for nonpartisan state and local candidates.

Spring Election and Presidential Preference Vote: April 5th. Town seats up for election this year are Supervisor Seats 2 and 4. If you are interest in running for one of these positions, you must file a Campaign Registration Statement at Town Hall before circulating nomination papers. All candidates must also file a Declaration of Candidacy and completed nomination papers with the Town Clerk by 5pm Tuesday, January 5, 2016. For more information, contact Asst. Administrator/Clerk Eric Ryer or the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board at <http://gab.wi.gov/> . The Town Board consists of five members: one Chairman and four Supervisors. All elected officials have two-year terms and represent the entire town. Eligible voters may vote for the chair and each supervisor seat.

Partisan Primary: August 9th.

Fall General Election: November 8th for President & Vice President, Senator, Representatives in Congress, State Senators for even numbered districts, Representatives to the Assembly, and District Attorneys.

Voter Photo ID Required

A photo ID is now required to receive a ballot in all special and regular elections. Visit <http://bringit.wisconsin.gov/> to learn about getting a free Wisconsin ID, even if you do not have a birth certificate. This website also includes information on what forms of ID are accepted at the polls.

Voter Registration Reminders

Please visit <https://myvote.wi.gov/> to verify you are registered, review your voter profile, and view other important voter information including the races on your ballot. You may visit the Government Accountability Board (GAB) website <http://gab.wi.gov/> for additional information regarding voting.

If you aren't registered to vote, you may do so at Town Hall M-F 8am-4:30pm or by mail as long as it is postmarked at least 20 days before the election. You may also register at the polls. The Ward Map can be viewed on the Town website. If you live in wards 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 you will vote at Fire Station No. 2 located at 1350 Covered Bridge Road. If you live in wards 1, 2, 3, or 4, you will vote at Cedarburg Town Hall.

New Youth Track and Field Pilot Program

The Town is proud to announce the launch of a new pilot youth Track & Field program in spring of 2016. Children will be taught running form, sprints, distance, long-jump and softball throw as well as healthy living concepts, such as flexibility and cardiovascular fitness. The season concludes with a track meet hosted by a local YMCA.

This program is open to all youth grades K5-4th but only 40 spots are available this season. The program will include one practice per week for 6 weeks after school at First Immanuel Lutheran School. The intent is to expand the program in 2017 if sufficient interest is expressed. Registration will open in February with the first week of practice being the week of April 18th. The cost is \$35, which includes a t-shirt and entry into the end-of-season track meet. If you have interest in coaching or have questions regarding the program please contact Paul Jungbauer, Recreation Coordinator at 262-377-4509 or pjungbauer@town.cedarburg.wi.us.

Who Maintains that Road?

Over the past several years, our area has been inundated with road paving and reconstruction projects, including the addition of two roundabouts. Within our jurisdiction, the Town owns and maintains 120 lane miles of road. However, there are many miles of road within the Town's border that are owned and maintained by other jurisdictions. Below is a quick overview of State, County, and Local roadways including who to contact if you have questions about road construction, drainage concerns, culverts, or damaged property i.e. mail boxes during snow/ice control operations.

State Trunk Highway (STH): Wauwatosa Road (STH 181) and STH 60.

County Trunk Highway (CTH): Sheboygan Rd (CTH I), Pioneer Road (CTH C), Western Avenue (CTH T), Washington Ave (CTH NN), and Granville Road (CTH Y).

Town of Cedarburg: Roadways other than STH and CTH.

All State and County roads are maintained and managed by the Ozaukee County Highway Department and can be reached at (262) 238-8335. Local roads are maintained by the Town of Cedarburg's Public Works Department at (262) 377-4509.

Put Snow in its Place

Please remember to blow, shovel, or plow snow **onto your own property – not in the road.** Town code § 237-14 states, "Snow and ice removal" *No person shall push, blow, shove or in any way deposit any snow or ice onto any public street, alley, sidewalk or public lands dedicated to public use."*

Snow in the street can become compacted and freeze into large lumps of ice on the roadway. If a plow truck with its plow down catches these unexpected lumps of ice, it can spin the truck around, break the plow off the truck, or send the truck out of control – all dangerous situations. Large mounds of ice on the roadway can also be a hazard for the traveling public, so please help us out by keeping it out of the street.

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