

# LANARK NEWS



## UNIFORM DWELLING CODE INSPECTIONS

A new Wisconsin law effective December 18, 2003 requires that the state's Uniform Dwelling Code be enforced in all municipalities. Previously Lanark had elected to not enforce the UDC. Now, all new construction of one- and two-family dwellings and alterations or additions to homes originally built after June 1, 1980 must have inspection for compliance with UDC. By ordinance a municipality may also require inspection of other structures. The county will not enforce the UDC leaving the town with two options: 1) local enforcement by contracting with an inspector; 2) letting the State provide enforcement. The Town Board has elected the first option with the advantage of retaining control over the selection and supervision of the building inspector and the amount and method of fee collection.

Until September 1, 2004 or sooner if the town completes all that is necessary for enforcement, the owner is responsible for obtaining a building permit (county) and inspection services from a registered inspection agency. A list can be found at: <http://www.commerce.state.wi.us/SB/SB-CredList.html>. Watch the newsletter for more details on this enforcement.

## ROADSIDE CLEANUP & POTLUCK PICNIC

SATURDAY, APRIL 24

9:00 AM until Noontime



Residents keep showing how much they care for the appearance of our community by walking roadsides and

picking up truckloads of litter on this annual event. **WE NEED EVERYONE TO GET INVOLVED** and be stewards of the land. Sign up at election time or call the Town Clerk (824-5475). Hwy 54 is included and we need more volunteers for this job. The Unit Coordinator will arrange a meeting site, distribute garbage bags and safety vests and disperse crews to roads. The garbage bags will be collected and brought to the Town Garage (corner Hwy 54 & Cty TT) where a Potluck will be served at noon! Please bring a dish to pass. Beverages will be provided.

**THINK SAFETY:** Be alert for traffic, wear hiking shoes and work gloves, tuck pants into socks to protect yourself from ticks, and never touch anything hazardous (car batteries, dead animals, chemicals...). The reward is a clean environment and great food after the work!

## NOTABLE NEWS

### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

**Tuesday, April 13, 7:00 pm**

The Town of Lanark will hold its annual meeting of electors at the Town Hall on the second Tuesday in April.

This year's **Agenda** includes:

- Minutes of the 2003 meeting
- Annual Financial Report
- Road Repair Plans
- Comprehensive Planning News
- First Responder Service
- Topics as Allowable from the Public

**OPEN BOOK 9 - 11 a.m.**  
**BOARD OF REVIEW**  
**11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 15**

Property owners in the Town may view the assessment roll and meet with the assessor to discuss their evaluation and to ask questions anytime during the Open Book hours. Persons objecting to their assessment must file with the clerk an objection form at least 48 hours before the Board of Review is conducted. (Exception granted only if good cause can be shown for failure to meet the notice requirement.) A hearing time at Board of Review will then be scheduled.

### **MOVE THOSE GARBAGE CARTS!**

The Town asks that residents remember to move garbage and recycling containers out of the road right-of-way area (33' from centerline) after collection days as it hinders snowplowing & mowing.



### **VOTE APRIL 6!**

**Polling Place: Town Hall**

**Poll Hours: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.**

All school districts will have a ballot plus a ballot for Court of Appeals Judge & County Supervisor.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE REFUSE CHARGE CANNOT BE DEDUCTED WITH YOUR PROPERTY TAXES ON YOUR INCOME TAX FORM!**

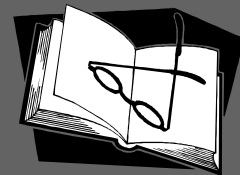
### **DOG LICENSES DUE**

April 1 is the deadline for any animal more than 5 months of age on January 1 to obtain a license! The tax is \$6 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$16 if not. The Town Treasurer will issue a license upon proof of vaccination.

With springtime comes complaints about dogs running at large.

**IT IS A STATE LAW TO KEEP DOGS ON YOUR OWN PROPERTY OR UNDER RESTRAINT!**

**D**id you know? In 1885 the state mandated that school be held at least six months of every year, but students were not compelled to attend the full term. Local districts scheduled school to fit the agricultural calendar. At Almond, where in 1879 the county's second high school



opened, classes were restricted to a four-month winter session that allowed students to work in the fields during planting and harvest times. In 1889 the Bennett Law declared all children between the ages of seven and thirteen had to attend at least twelve weeks of public or private school each year. At that time, 500 of the 3000 county students in this age group did not attend any school. The Amherst village school district built a new two-story brick school in 1891 thus starting the county's third high school. The district was also awarded the county Arbor Day prize of \$14.28 from the state for the "greatest improvement in the decoration of the school houses and grounds". "Improvements" took the form of installing a water pump in the yard, a flag pole or planting trees on Arbor Day. It could also mean the purchase of standard textbooks. Only 25 of the 108 districts in the county were purchasing books for their students in 1899.



**FIRST RESPONDER  
LANARK UNIT**

The Lanark Unit of the Amherst Area First Responders is now organized and in operation thanks to the volunteers in the town. Those who have finished their training and have applied to be First Responders are: Rosalie Bednar, Jim Boelter, Tim Eddy, Cassandra Helbach, Sarah Peskie, Diane Tsenane and Dave Anderson. Tom Jatnieks is attending class and several others plan to attend the next session. If you see these people give them a big "pat on the back" as one day they may keep you or a loved one alive! Medical supplies and communication equipment have been purchased and volunteers have been out on calls with the Amherst staff. The Town is building a room inside the town garage with a separate entrance for storage of First Responder supplies.

**SUMMER BALL!**

Forms are available in Amherst at OK Hardware for the Tomorrow River Lions Ball Program which is open to all Lanark youth in grades 1-9. The fee is \$15 per child which includes an athletic T-shirt. Call Mark Olson at 824-5614 (days) or 824-3405 (eve.).

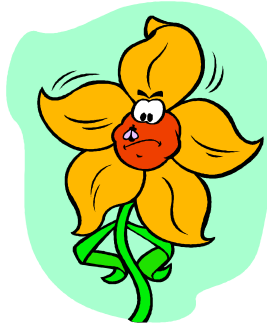
**LANARK BASEBALL TEAM** will be playing this summer at the ballpark on Hwy 54. The

**COUNTY JJ TO  
BECOME A TOWN  
ROAD**

The Portage County Highway Department has entered into an agreement with the Towns of Buena Vista and Lanark for a jurisdictional transfer of County JJ. The road has been resurfaced and minor work will be done before the January 1, 2005 transfer.

**LOTTERY CREDIT**

Applications for the lottery credit are available from the Treasurer. If you owned and lived in the town since January 1 you may apply and reduce you taxes!



**BURNING PERMITS**

With the snow finally melting it is time to remember to obtain free burning permits from your DNR Fire Wardens. Permits are needed for everything except cooking or warming fires. The safe time to burn is from 6 p.m. to midnight.

**Tom Clinton**, 9388 Clinton Rd., 824-3609 after 5 p.m..  
**Sarah Lucht**, 7188 Cty. Rd. D, 258-3150 after 3 p.m..

Newsletter Editor: Loretta Klingenberg. This Town publication is intended for public information on local issues and does not express opinions of the Town Board or Editor.

**T A X P A Y E R \$**

**AGRICULTURAL FOREST AND UNDEVELOPED LAND** Beginning with the assessments as of January 1, 2004, agricultural forest land and undeveloped land shall be assessed at 50% of

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its full value. Undeveloped land was classified as "swamp and waste" (class 5) and means bog, marsh, lowland brush or uncultivated land zoned as shoreland. The definition of agricultural forest land is strict and very few if any land in the town may qualify this year. Agricultural forest land must be land that is producing or is capable of producing commercial forest products and is contiguous to a parcel that has been classified in whole as agricultural land and has the same owner. The agricultural land (class 4) is defined as land exclusive of buildings and improvements, in other words, used only for agriculture. Assembly Bill 650 if passed, will amend the language allowing more forest land to classify. This would not affect "farmers" taxes until January 1, 2005 assessments. Agriculture use values are frozen for this year, so those assessments will not change. If you have any questions about the new law or your assessment please contact our Assessor.





## OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

**Chairman: Thomas Clinton**  
9388 Clinton Rd.  
Amherst, WI 54406  
824-3609

**Supervisor: Theodore Marquardt**  
8965 Boelter Lake Dr.  
Almond, WI 54909  
366-2283

**Supervisor: Michael Pagel**  
10408 Otto Rd.  
Amherst, WI 54406  
824-5231

**Clerk: Loretta Klingenberg**  
6128 Cty. Rd. A  
Amherst, WI 54406  
824-5475

**Treasurer: Bill Frizzell**  
10067 Cty. Rd. D  
Amherst, WI 54406  
824-3780

**Assessor: Jeremy Kurtzweil**  
1501 N. Hume Ave.  
Marshfield, WI 54449  
486-9019

**Portage County:**  
District 20 Supervisor  
Lonnie Krogwold  
824-5600

**Planning & Zoning**  
346-1334  
**County Treasurer**  
346-1348

**Lanark Town Hall**  
715-498-6090  
**Lanark Town Garage**  
256-1376

**Sheriff**  
346-1400

**Town of Lanark**  
6128 Cty. Rd. A  
Amherst, WI 54406

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
AMHERST, WI  
PERMIT NO. 15

