

LANARK NEWS



RUSTIC ROAD PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS

Two photos submitted by the Town of Lanark to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation were selected as winners in the Photo Contest that was held to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the program. Lynn Dumke of Menasha submitted the photos of Rustic Road 17 - Otto & Morgan, winning in the wildflower category and the barn/silo (at the corner of Morgan and T) in the best man-made structure category. Photos were also submitted by Vera Rooney on Otto Road and by Nancy Krauss of Weyauwega. Winning photos from the six categories will be used for promotional efforts by the state.

A special reception was held at the Governor's Residence in Madison in August to which Loretta Klingenberg attended on behalf of the Town to receive recognition plaques.

Efforts for the Rustic Road Program actually began as far back as the 1930s when the state's first scenic roads inventory was completed. Today, the network features 95 roads covering some 510 miles through 53 counties.

The first road was dedicated in 1975 in Taylor County near Rib Lake. Townline & South Foley Rd. comprise R-57 which traverses 4.1 miles into Waupaca County.



ROADSIDE CLEANUP & POTLUCK PICNIC

SATURDAY, APRIL 22

9:00 AM until Noontime

Bad Weather Date: April 29

Spring will soon be here and with it comes the time to show how much you care for the appearance of our community by walking roadsides and picking up litter on this annual event. **WE NEED EVERYONE TO GET INVOLVED** and be stewards of the land. Every road in the town is included and we need more volunteers for this event. Coordinators are needed to arrange a meeting site, distribute garbage bags and safety vests and disperse crews to roads. Sign up at election time or call the Town Clerk (824-5475). 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 11, 7:00 pm

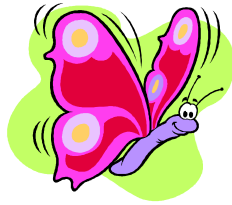
The Town of Lanark will hold its annual meeting of electors at the Town Hall on the second Tuesday in April.

This year's **Agenda** includes:

- Minutes of the 2005 meeting
- Annual Financial Report
- Road Repair Plans
- Comprehensive Plan News
- Building a New Town Hall
- Topics as Allowable from the Public

VOTING EQUIPMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

In response to the 2000 presidential election, the U.S. Congress passed the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA). This law allocated nearly \$4 billion to help localities replace older election equipment, help states establish a statewide voter registration database, and help jurisdictions meet new election system requirements. Every polling place must be fully handicapped accessible and equipped with a fully accessible component of voting equipment. The State is planning on paying for one such machine for each polling place as well as programming costs and ballot printing for 2006 only (\$6,000 max.). The Town of Lanark has agreed to join with Portage County in purchasing the same equipment in order to save money on maintenance, programming, printing, and publication costs. A machine has not yet been selected for use in the fall elections.



VOTE APRIL 4!

Polling Place: Town Hall

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

All school districts will have a ballot, and the county ballot will have the County Executive, County Supervisor, Justice of the Supreme Court, Court of Appeals Judge and Circuit Court Judge.

All voters must fill out a voter registration form. Please make sure you have your drivers license and if a new resident, proof of residency such as a current utility bill.

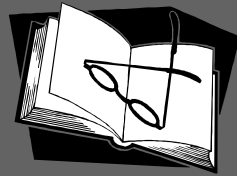
DOG LICENSES DUE APPLY AT THE TOWN HALL APRIL 1, 8 AM TO 2 PM

April 1 is the deadline for any animal 5 months of age or more on January 1 to obtain a license! The Town Treasurer will be at the Town Hall on Saturday, April 1 for residents to register their dogs. The tax is \$6 for neutered or spayed dogs and \$16 if not. The Town Treasurer will issue a license upon proof of vaccination. A late fee of \$5 will be assessed past the deadline. License fees pay for the new County Animal Control Program. Call the Humane Society of Portage County for any questions or animal control problems.

With springtime comes complaints about dogs running at large.

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

Did you know? In 1917 the legislature authorized the state highway commission to draw up a highway system that would connect every county seat and every city with a population greater than 5,000. Portage County was on the main north-south route through the state starting with "old highway 10" which evolved into Interstate 39. The Stevens Point-Marshfield state highway with a new bridge



over the Wisconsin River received funding first and several years later the Amherst-Stevens Point link, later known as "old highway 18", was built. Construction specifications called for a nine-foot wide band of graded gravel. Traveling alone, a single car could keep all its wheels on the gravel. When two cars met, each one moved to the right and kept only two wheels on the gravel. As traffic increased, two full lanes of roadway were graveled. By the end of the 1920s, the county highway department was the largest department in county government.



HOW THE RUSTIC ROAD 17 CAME ABOUT

By Agnes Rosin

In the fall of 1980, I read an article in the Appleton Post Crescent, stating the Wisconsin Department of Transportation decided some rural roads throughout the state should be designated and maintained in their natural condition.

I decided to pursue this information. I wrote to the DOT asking what I must do to make this section of Otto-Morgan Road into a Rustic Road. Upon receiving a reply, I was told to qualify as such, it must be at least two miles in distance. I was to contact landowners and renters to get signatures of satisfaction living along Morgan and Otto Roads.

I contacted Carroll Winkler, our Town Chairman at that time and with his help we contacted the Portage County Highway Dept. All this information received was favorable. Otto-Morgan Road is 2.7 miles in distance. It has a variety of trees and vegetation, various elevation of land; some areas are very hilly, some flat. The roadbed at that time was gravel.

As you travel this Rustic Road you will find vistas of beauty - hills, valleys and the Tomorrow River as of now, like in the past only one bridge crosses the river.

The Town of Lanark maintains this Rustic Road the same as it does other town roads putting in culverts, etc. The surface today is blacktop.

Many rural roads in Wisconsin are designated as being rustic in nature, I believe Otto-Morgan Road

was one of the first in Portage County. It can accommodate automobiles, bicycles, motorcycles, horseback riding, walking, any mode of travel you choose. However, it does have a speed limit of 35 miles per hour.

Any season of the year, you will enjoy traveling on this Rustic Road. The state put up signs at various points indicating the location of Rustic Road 17.



BURNING PERMITS

With the snow finally melting it is time to remember to obtain free burning permits from your DNR Fire Wardens. Permits are required anytime the ground is not snow covered during the months of January, February, March, April and May. Permits are needed for everything except cooking or warming fires. The safe time to burn is from 6 p.m. to midnight. You are responsible for **all** suppression costs incurred from a wildfire caused by your negligence! Wet rubbish, oily substances, asphalt, plastics of any kind and rubber products are prohibited to be burned by law.

Tom Clinton, 9388 Clinton Rd., 824-3609 Tues. or after 5 p.m..

Sarah Lucht, 7188 Cty. Rd. D, 258-3150 after 3 p.m..

Evergreen Hills - Permits

Matthew Bohm, 10970 Red Pine Way, 256-1881 3-5 p.m. (not Wed.)

TAXPAYER \$

TOWN HALL PLANS ARE AWAITING BIDS

Plans for a 2,800 square foot Town Hall have been drawn up by architect Jackson Case of Architectural Services in Stevens Point.

The new hall will have water and bathroom facilities as well as office space, storage and a main meeting area. It will be placed on the land owned by the Town at the corner of County TT and HWY 54 near the current garage. The plans will be on display at the Hall on April 4 during polling hours and at the Annual Town Meeting. Bids will be opened March 21 by the Town Board and plans are for the Hall to be built by August 31, 2006.



HOME BUILDING INSPECTION FEES TO INCREASE

Vierbicher Associates requested an update to our contract which will change inspection fees to \$300 for the first 800 sq. ft., and \$0.20 per sq. ft. over that amount. Unfinished space (garage, porch, basement) is \$0.03 per sq. ft. The state of WI UDC seal remains at \$25.

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.



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County Treasurer
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Lanark Town Garage
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Sheriff
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