President's Column

We hope you have noticed the new street signs and neighborhood watch signs that have been installed recently. Hopefully no longer will you have to meet a first-time visitor at the Ledges golf course parking lot to have them follow you home.

Last spring, the LPOA board decided that the original wooden post street signs were not doing the job, required repainting, and were frankly hard to read, especially at night. Roscoe Township agreed to provide their standard signs if we would provide an accurate listing of intersections. Thanks go to board members Jim Wood and his wife who put together a list of every intersection (over 20 locations) and who mapped out appropriate locations for Neighborhood Watch signs.

And special thanks to Matt Servant (Roscoe Township Road Commissioner) and his assistant Fred Nimmer for their cooperation and prompt installation of the standard easy-to-read signs and Neighborhood Watch signs. If we have missed some locations, contact any board member.

If anyone is interested in serving on the LPOA Board and willing to join a board who is working to make this a better community, we are looking to replace who recently resigned. Please contact any board member. We meet monthly at the Hoffman Clubhouse, 7pm on the second Tuesday.

The next time you see Chuck I know he'd be interested to have your input for ideas for our newsletter. He's not only the LPOA secretary, who e-mails the minutes of our meetings the next day, he's also the reason this newsletter gets put together and to the printer. Thanks to Chuck, you are better informed about what's going on here in the Ledges.

Jim Benkovich

Safety & Security/Neighborhood Watch

A list has been provided to the Roscoe Township Highway Dept. listing locations where street name signs need to be installed. This should make it easier for friends and delivery people to find you. The signs will be installed by the Highway Dept. as time permits. Several new Neighborhood Watch signs have been delivered to the Highway Dept. with a list of locations where we would like them installed, again as time permits.

We, in the Ledges, are fortunate to have a relatively safe community. It is not just luck, however, because people tend to watch what goes on in the area and watch out for one another. Deputy Falzone, who organized our Neighborhood Watch group several years ago, retired in August and will be replaced by Sargent Cowan (987-3174). He will be our contact with the Winnebago County Police. If you want to report a situation, dial 911 in case of emergency, or 987-5800 to report non-emergency concerns. Remember to press "1" to bypass the automated system and talk to a live person. I talked to Deputy Falzone on his last day of work and he said things have been pretty quiet here in the Ledges. There have been reports of a few thefts from cars, which were not locked, sometimes in a garage.

Fern Nelson

Couples - Golf/Dinner Outing – Forty four persons participated and many said when will the next outing occur? Bob Prosser's crew did an outstanding job with the meal (the 3 varieties of cheesecake were a real hit!). The LPOA and several businesses provided some nice prizes. Yes, we will be doing this again next year and maybe two times.

LPOA Christmas Parties

The LPOA is hosting two Christmas parties this year at the Hoffman Club House Restarant (Ledges Clubhouse). For greater detail see the insert which has registration forms for both of the parties.

Wild Rice, local ledges residents who have been singing and playing music more than 10 years, will providing special music for us at the adult Christmas party. Winner of On The Waterfront "Best of Rockford" awards three times, Wild Rice brings thoughtful lyrics and elegant harmonies to the stage. The trio, John and Mercedes Dewey and Carol Foster, present original and well-known traditional folk music, including Christams carols, accompanied by John's fingerstyle acoustic guitar and lively percussion.

Fall in the Ledges

Garlic Mustard, Buckthorn, Exotic Honeysuckle, Multiflora Rose, Siberian Elm and Poison Ivy: What makes these plants a problem? Invasive plants often are free of predators and disease, have a longer growing season, rapidly colonize an area, shade and/or crowd out better quality native plants, diminish the quantity and quality of wildlife, negatively impact property values, etc. Fall is usually the most effective time for killing invasive trees and shrubs. Cut the trees and shrubs close to the ground and treat the stumps with approximately a 20% solution of Round-up along the edges. Garlic Mustard can be sprayed in late fall when temperature is still over 35 degrees F. and other plants are dormant.

Remember that Round-up kills anything green including poison ivy.

West Nile Virus: Standing water is a breeding ground for mosquitoes. "Rain Gardens" are a new concept that will absorb standing water. Using native plants, those that like periodic wet soil, in low spots in your yard will put an end to standing water. The root systems of native plants can be 10 – 12 feet deep. Research shows they absorb large quantities of water and purify it as well.

Deer: Wisconsin passed a law forbidding feeding deer. This is to help reduce the spread of CWD, that deer killing disease. We should consider following their lead. *Gary Neu*

About Political Candidates

We have invited candidates for political office to submit information regarding themselves. The information presented here is in no way an endorsement of any candidate, but is provided for you information. You make the choice on November 5th!

Douglas R. Aurand

I have been honored to serve the citizens for over three decades as Winnebago County Treasurer for 28 1/2 years, as a Township Trustee for two years, and currently am in my second year of a four-year term as Harlem Township Supervisor. I am a lifetime resident of northern Illinois, a Vietnam era veteran and a Boy Scout leader for over 40 years.

The major issues I support include:

Public Safety, Holding the line of taxes, Intergovernmental Cooperation, Protecting our Environment, and maintaining our Infrastructure

Election Goals if elected

Ensure that residents of District Three have a solid voice representing them within the Winnebago County Board.

Utilize my 30 plus years experience in government to cut through the red tape to get the job done.

Insure tax dollars are spent wisely and not wasted.

Gary Jury

It has been my pleasure to serve on the Winnebago County Board for the last two years. The general election in November will be the first election under the new county board districts. That gives me the opportunity to represent you in the new 3rd district.

In the time I've been on the board there have been opportunities for me to make decisions of importance for everyone in the county. That experience is invaluable as we face serious concerns in the future. There can be no substitute for life experiences. My greatest pride is being a father and grandfather and raising my children with my wife Mary Jo the past 31 years.

My professional experience as a manager for the Illinois Department of Transportation has given me a unique opportunity in learning about the important balance between growth and preserving open space for people to enjoy and why they move to less dense areas. It's important for government to be efficient while still providing services, which are necessary for us to get through each day.

I've met many of you on campaign walks and door to door visits. It is my desire to listen to what you have to say. What I heard was that quality of life, safety, education, roads, controlling taxes and balanced growth were important issues and I agree. Keeping taxes at reasonable levels and providing services means hard work and I never have been afraid of hard work and will continue to work for you.

Concerning real issues I understand that we need to concentrate our efforts to improve the roads we have, rather than building new roads which cost a lot of money and will detract from our sense of community. We need to concentrate our efforts on encouraging economic development to help offset the tax burden created by demand for schools and services. I am a true Republican. and feel we must keep at the forefront the values of honesty, integrity and hard work to encourage personal growth for us and our families.

My pledge to you is that I will continue to work hard for our community with your help and God's guidance. To help in my election or for questions please call 885-4802.

Directory Deletions

Diesner on Owen Ct.	London on North Ledges
Dowie on Club Ct.	John Cain
Evelyn Wallace	Kegel Bernabei
Pedek on N. Ledges	Hicks on Northgate
Bastian on Southgate	Peltonen on Greensview

We Welcome New Residents

Greg & Tammy Schultz
11535 Bowen Ct.
623-3622

Greg & Barb Otwell
12325 North Ledges

Rick & Jeanette Nolting
11739 Chatt Drive

Jack & Diane Trenery
12336 North Ledges

Roland Leaf & Leana Peterson
7767 Northgate

William & KarenWoodard
11738 Southgate

Stanley & Mary Showers
12551 Greensview Dr.

Hoffman Club House

What's Cooking ?

Effective September 8th 2002 the Hoffman Club House restaurant at the Ledges is offering some meal deals! They will open nightly at 4 PM, Monday thru Saturday; 11 AM Sunday after the golf course closes at the end of October. The banquet room is available any time for lunch or dinner banquets on any day excluding Fridays. Call 389-9242 for further details

Sundays and Mondays

Prime Rib Sandwiches	$2.00
Chicken wings	$.25
16 oz. Draft Beer	$1.50
Pitchers of Beer	$5.00

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Burger & Beer Night

Burgers	$3.00
Draft Beer	$1.00

Wednesdays

Main Street Meat Company Steak Night
USDA Choice Ribeyes, NY Strip or T-Bones

Fridays

All you can eat Cod Fish Fry $8.99

NFL Game Days

Miller Light 23 oz. Drafts in a Football Glass $3.50 and you keep the glass. Refills $2.50

Ledges Family Starts Mexican Restaurant

Roy and Belinda Niksich and Roy's brother-in-law, Rolly Ontiveroz, have begun the "Sabrosa" Mexican Restaurant. Now open for business, the restaurant is located at Main Street Square. They feature authentic family recipes and you can dine in or carry out. We encourage Ledges Residents to patronize "Sabrosa". They are closed on Monday. Open hours are: 11 am – 8 pm Tuesday through Thursday, 11 am – 9 pm on Saturday, and 11 am – 7:30 pm on Sunday. Call 623-TACO

Tents ____ Tents ____ Tents

For years Harold Pann has stored and taken care of the tents we have available for rent. We very much appreciate his willingness to take care of this project. We would like to officially express our appreciation for his many years of service.

The LPOA board

Burning Leaves is a political, health and environmental issue. Don't wait for the politicians to stop this unhealthy waste. Mulch or compost your leaves. Use them in your flowerbeds. The earth needs their decomposition to improve its soil. Fire though, serves a major purpose in woodlands and prairie gardens. Burning the groundcover in woodlands improves the quality of the soil and sets back invasive species like garlic mustard, Asian honeysuckle and buckthorn. This allows for more sunlight and more native plants to grow, which is better for the wildlife. Property owners with woodlands could spread their leaves out in the woods and leave them or burn.

For those who wish to exercise their rights to burn here are the regulations from Winnebago County. During the months of April, October, and November, yard waste may be burned on Saturday and Sunday from 8AM – 8 PM. Those with even numbered addresses may burn from 5PM – 8PM on even numbered days and those with odd numbered addresses may burn on odd numbered days from 5PM – 8PM.