

# MEMO FROM THE MAYOR

Dear Friends,

The 2010 City Budget is finished. On the city portion of your tax bill you should again see no increase in your taxes. The leaders in our State and Federal governments, however, continue to refuse to address their budget shortfalls. They continue to impose unfunded mandates on local branches of government and annually reduce the revenue they return to the local municipalities. To combat the reduction in aid and the increase in unfunded mandates, many municipalities have had to furlough employees, drastically reduce services, raise taxes or a combination of all three. Through careful planning and cooperation from city employees, Port Washington has been able to avoid these steps.

Improvements to our lakefront are continuing. Since my last letter to you our city and county crews working together finished the access stairs from Upper Lake Park to the beach. There are new public rest rooms in both Upper and Lower Lake Park. The Lower Lake facility will also have a warming room that can be used with the winter skating rink that was donated to the city by Harris Bank and Port Washington's Business Improvement District. We hope to have some good skating weather this winter to allow the rink to provide fun and exercise for those who enjoy skating.

Port Washington's Main Street Program has recently completed the first year. While a lot of time during the initial year was spent getting up and running, there has been progress. In spite of the down economy, nine new businesses opened in our downtown district. Unfortunately during the past year we also had two closings. Some of our primary buildings remain unoccupied, but there is activity and interest with most of the buildings. We hope that within the next few months there will be some movement regarding these buildings. The Economic Restructuring committee has put in a lot of hard work and is poised to launch a business retention and recruitment program. The success of the Main Street program is dependent on volunteers and donations from citizens and businesses. If you would like to volunteer, donate to the success of Port Washington's downtown, or simply learn more about the program please contact the Main Street program at 268-1132.

I look forward to seeing you out and about Christmas shopping in Port Washington and enjoying Port's family-friendly holiday events.

Sincerely,



Scott Huebner, Mayor



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

## SPRING 2010 ELECTIONS

The 2nd, 4th, and 6th Aldermanic District representatives are up for election in the spring of 2010. Those who wish to run for one of these positions can begin to circulate nomination papers on December 1, 2009. Candidates for Alderman must have a minimum of 20 signatures. Nomination papers must be turned in to City Hall no later than 5:00 p.m. on January 5, 2010. For more information regarding running for local office, contact the city administrator's office at 284-5585.

## 2009 TAX COLLECTION

Tax Collection season is fast approaching. Watch for your 2009 tax bill in the mail in mid-December. City Hall hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. The Port Washington offices of Port Washington State Bank and Harris Bank will participate in tax collection on behalf of the city.

If your taxes are escrowed and your escrow check exceeds the amount of tax due, please make payment at one of the banks, as they can issue an immediate refund of the overpayment.

Please review your tax bill carefully to determine if the lottery credit has been applied. If you are uncertain about your eligibility for the lottery credit, please contact the Treasurer at 262-284-5585, Ext. 1008.

## PROPER GARBAGE CART MANAGEMENT

The required location for all garbage and recycling carts on collection day is either on your terrace or in your driveway approach. Please do not place carts in the street or on the sidewalk! Carts placed in the street create an obstacle for leaf pick-up, street sweeping, and snow plowing. Carts placed in the public sidewalk likewise prohibit pedestrians, especially those with disabilities, from being able to pass. Please place carts behind the curb with 3 feet (minimum) of space between the garbage and recycling carts. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

## STH 33 UPDATE

The proposed Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WDOT) reconstruction of State Trunk Highway 33 from IH-43 in Saukville to Tower Dr. in Port Washington is scheduled to begin in summer 2010 with utility relocation, underground work, and temporary lane construction. In March 2011, traffic is scheduled to be moved onto the temporary lanes while the proposed four lane boulevard is constructed. Earlier plans by the WDOT to have the project completed in 2010 have been delayed by property acquisitions which are necessary to construct the expanded highway.

## CITY PARKS IMPROVED

Over the past two months, the city has completed construction of two restroom and picnic facilities serving Upper Lake Park and the Possibility Playground, and Veterans Park and the north beach. A multi-use room attached to the Veterans Park building will serve as an ice rink warming shelter in winter, and will serve the picnic area in warmer months.

Additionally, a newly completed timber stairway connecting the beach to the bluff has improved access to Upper Lake Park, the north beach, and the Harborwalk. The stairs were built on the south end of the park/beach, so please take advantage of this improved access.

## COAL DOCK UPDATE

You may have noticed that the Coal Dock is turning green! This fall, We Energies completed the work of placing soil on the former coal dock and grading it according to the city's master plan for multi-year improvements. As the newly planted grass begins to take hold, the city is completing the design of improvements scheduled for the coal dock beginning in the latter half of 2010, including the extension of the city's Harborwalk. The Harborwalk extension will provide expanded opportunities for the public to enjoy the waterfront while providing dockage space for larger ships and schooners.

## MARINA UPDATE

Port Washington will soon have one of the most modern and user-friendly marinas on the Great Lakes! Replacement of the original fixed piers with floating docks supporting an exposed aggregate concrete surface and upgraded electrical, sewer, and water services will be completed in time for the 2010 boating season. The improved marina will not only function better by adjusting to fluctuating lake levels, it will also increase slightly the number of slips available for rent. These improvements mean our marina will continue to be one of the most popular facilities on the western shore of Lake Michigan, while keeping rental rates low, and adding to the vitality and economic well-being of the city.

## 2010 STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Among the street improvements scheduled for 2010, the most exciting will be the extension of S. Wisconsin St. from Chestnut St. to CTH "C" (Lake Shore Rd.) at Sunset Rd. As part of the city's 2002 agreement with We Energies, We Energies will improve and dedicate the proposed road segment, which will serve as the new southern arterial to downtown. The proposed street connection will include a 10 foot multi-use path for walkers, bikers, and rollerbladers, and connect conveniently to the Interurban Trail and Coal Dock Park. Additionally, the new street and sidewalk will lead to a parking lot adjacent to the south beach to serve beachgoers, kayaks, canoes, and other small craft.

In conjunction with these improvements, the city plans to improve Division, Chestnut, and Wisconsin Streets, during the summer of 2010. Upon completion of these improvements, these streets will serve as local access roads.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT DISPATCH

### SIX WAYS TO AVOID A PARKING TICKET

#### Watch for Permanent and Temporary Parking Restriction Signs

As street reconstruction projects are completed, those areas of the city often have posted new or modified parking restrictions. Signs without specific enforcement times shown are in effect 24 hours a day.

#### Read the Parking Meters

Look for the days and hours the meter is in effect, if overnight parking is permitted, or if a parking permit is required.

#### Be Aware of "Unsigned" Parking Restrictions

Parking is not allowed closer than 15 feet to the near limits of a *crosswalk*.

Parking is not allowed within 4 feet of a *private road, driveway, or alley*.

Parking is not allowed within 10 feet of a *fire hydrant*.

Parking is not allowed within 25 feet of the nearest rail of a *railroad crossing*.

Parking is not allowed on *sidewalks, sidewalk crossings or boulevards*.

#### Park Safely at Schools

Many streets near schools are signed "No Parking" during school hours; drivers should never double park to load or discharge children from their vehicles.

#### Use Side-Street Parking

The purpose of metered and parking time limit areas in the downtown business district is to encourage the turnover of vehicles in places where there is a high demand for on-street parking.

#### Know the Snow Ordinance Restrictions

Know and follow the snow ordinance parking restrictions, which prohibit parking of any vehicle on any street within the city between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. between December 1 and April 1.

Always remember to err on the side of caution. Parking ordinances are designed to discourage motorists from leaving their vehicles in a manner that may pose a safety threat or inconvenience to other drivers or pedestrians. Thanks for doing your part to maintain orderly parking for everyone!

## FIRE DEPARTMENT BULLETIN

### Time to Have Furnaces & Fireplaces Checked

Gas and oil-fired furnaces need to be inspected by a qualified heating, ventilation, and air conditioning specialist. Chimneys need to be inspected by a qualified technician. A residential Carbon Monoxide detector should be installed near sleeping areas inside the home or apartment.

#### Holiday Fire Safety

Follow these tips to keep your family safe during the holidays:

- **LIGHTING:** Keep candles well away from decorations or other combustible material. Do not leave children unattended in a room lit with candles. Never use candles to decorate Christmas trees. When decorating with lights, be sure to use only lights labeled by a testing laboratory. Do not overload electrical outlets, and unplug all lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- **PARTIES:** Decorate only with flame-retardant or non-combustible materials. Provide large, deep ashtrays and check them frequently. After parties, check the furniture and trashcans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.
- **CHRISTMAS TREES:** Choose a fresh tree, and place it in a stand designed not to tip over, well away from heat sources and exits. Water it frequently. If you use an artificial tree, be sure it is fire-retardant.

## ESTIMATED WATER METER READS

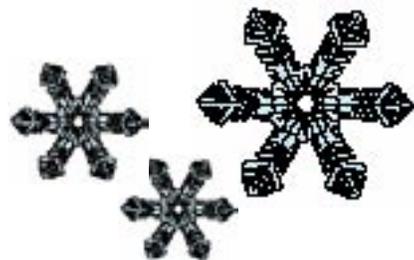
Weather conditions and snow coverage may necessitate that residential water bills be based on estimated usage rather than actual meter reads. The reads most likely to be affected by weather conditions are those conducted in early January and early March.

Most residential customers are familiar with the concept of estimates since electric bills are routinely based on estimated reads. Should an estimate be higher or lower than actual usage, it will be corrected at the time of the next actual read.

Although the Water Department prefers to perform actual reads, the safety of staff is a priority. If you are concerned that the estimate will be higher than actual usage, we invite you to provide us with an actual read in place of the estimate. Please be aware that we would need this information promptly in early January or early March.

## WINTER REMINDERS

- **Parking restrictions are in effect December 1 – April 1.** Parking on city streets is prohibited between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- **Keep sidewalks and walkways clear of snow and ice.** City ordinances require that snow and ice be cleared from sidewalks that abut your property within 24 hours after any snowfall, sleet or freezing rain.
- **Watch where you throw that snow!** City ordinances prohibit shoveling, throwing or depositing snow on or against a fire hydrant or on any sidewalk, roadway, or loading or unloading area.



## WISCONSIN HOME ENERGY PROGRAM

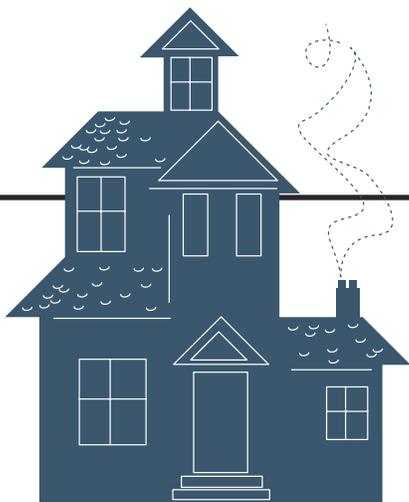
The Wisconsin Home Energy Program is available this winter to meet the high costs of home heating fuel for low-income households. Eligibility for the program is based on the household's gross monthly income in the three (3) months before the month of application.

Income limits are as follows:

Household Size	Gross Quarterly Income
1.....	\$5,859
2.....	\$7,661
3.....	\$9,464
4.....	\$11,267
5.....	\$13,069
6.....	\$14,872
7.....	\$15,210
8.....	\$15,548

Applications for the Energy Assistance Program are available at the Ozaukee County Department of Human Services, Administration Center, 121 West Main Street, Third Floor, Port Washington, WI 53074. To apply, call 262-284-8200 or 262-238-2800 (metro) for an appointment.

The Program runs October 1, 2009 through May 15, 2010. All persons are urged to contact the Ozaukee County Department of Human Services at the above telephone numbers well in advance of any disconnection or refusal of fuel delivery. If someone has an actual emergency during non-office hours, please call the Ozaukee County Sheriff's Department numbers, which are in operation 24 hours a day, seven days a week: 284-7172 or 377-7172 (metro).



## WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY?

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

*Preschool Story Times Resume on January 12, 2010*

Register at the Children's Desk

6 – 24 months	Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.
2 year olds	Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.
4 – 5 year olds	Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m.
3 – 4 year olds	Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m.
3 – 4 year olds	Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m.

### Read to Rover

January 9, 16, 23, and 30

This special reading program is for children who need to boost their reading confidence. Children have the opportunity to read aloud to a trained therapy dog, Bessie. Registration is required. Call Cindy at 284-5031.

### Adult Book Clubs and Programs

*Copies of the books are available at the library.*

#### YMCA Book Club, sponsored by the library

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. at the Feith Family YMCA

December 17 *Poisonwood Bible*, Books 3 – 7  
by Barbara Kingsolver

January 21 *Street of a Thousand Blossoms*  
by Gail Tsukiyama

### Literature Book Club

Mondays, 6:30 p.m. at the Library

December 21 *Poisonwood Bible*, Books 1 – 3  
by Barbara Kingsolver

January 18 *Poisonwood Bible*, Books 3 – 7  
by Barbara Kingsolver

### Friday Night Movies

7:00 p.m. at the Library.

*Please use the Grand Avenue entrance. Free admission.*

January 8 *Public Enemy* (PG-13)

### OTHER PROGRAMS

**Writer's Group:** third Tuesday of the month, 5:00 p.m.

**Yoga:** Thursday mornings at 9:30.

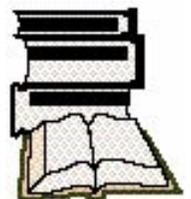
**Altered Books:** January 11, 6:00 p.m.

**Recipe Club:** December 22, January 12 & 26

**Chess & Scrabble:** December 19, 9:00 a.m. – Noon

### Make your New Year's Resolutions at the library!

Join us in January and February to hear experts in the health and medical fields as they talk to us about living a healthy new year!



# PARK & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Call 284-5881 for information or to register...

## Youth Basketball League

The Youth Basketball League for 4th grade boys and girls began on December 12 and continues for eight weeks. Games will be held at TJ Middle School on Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. The \$25 fee includes a t-shirt.

## Youth Basketball Skills Clinic

The boys and girls K – 3 Basketball Skills Clinic has begun. Volunteer coaches teach basic techniques and sportsmanship skills on Saturday mornings at TJ Middle School until January 30. The \$25 fee includes a t-shirt.

## 2nd and 3rd Grade Basketball Playoffs

Apply the skills learned in the Basketball Skills Clinic to on-court experience. Saturday mornings at TJ Middle School on February 6, 13, and 20. The fee is \$17.

## Pickleball

December 28 and 29, noon – 2:00 p.m. will be a time for fifth graders to adults to get together for an indoor “Pickleball” program at the Port Washington High School gym. Equipment will be provided. Cost is \$5 per day.

## Youth Bowling

For girls and boys ages 8 years and up, this program will work on core fundamental skills: stance, grip, steps, arm swing, slide, follow-through, etiquette, and scoring. Saturdays, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., December 19, 2009, and January 2 and 9, 2010. Cost is \$30 for Port Washington residents and \$37.50 for non-residents.

## Youth and Adult Open Gym

Port Washington High School is open for pick-up basketball games for kids and adults on Saturday afternoons from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. December 19, January 2, 9, 16, and 30, and every Saturday in February and March. Cost per day: \$1 per child and \$2 per adult.

## Discount Tickets – New!

We are selling discounted tickets for the Milwaukee Bucks, Indianhead Mountain Ski Resort and the Milwaukee County Zoo.

## Ice Skating

Get those skates out of storage! As soon as the weather gets “really” cold, the ice rink at Veterans Memorial Park will be available. This year we have a new warming shelter and bathrooms. Come on down and check it out!

## Park Rentals

Book your 2010 reservation now for our pavilions and park areas. New this year is the Veterans Memorial Park Shelter, with great views of the lake! Check availability on the Park Rental Calendar at [www.ci.port-washington.wi.us/ParkAdRecreation/ParksEventCalendar.pdf](http://www.ci.port-washington.wi.us/ParkAdRecreation/ParksEventCalendar.pdf).

## SENIOR SHORELINES

Call 284-5821, or e-mail [ckiener@ci.port-washington.wi.us](mailto:ckiener@ci.port-washington.wi.us) for information or to register. Pay by cash or check.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Holiday Craft & Bake Corner

Open daily during office hours through December 16

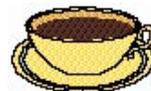
### Senior Dining Christmas Party

December 18

## LAKESIDE TEA SOCIETY

### A Cup of Christmas Tea

December 16



### Author Tea

January 20

## CLASSES & CLUBS

### Arthritis Foundation Exercise Course

Contact the Center for 2010 start date.

### Strong Women Program

Begins January 5

### TAI CHI Workshops

December 28

### Stamp Up!

December 14

### Creative Arts Classes 2010

Contact the Center for information.



### Monday at the Movies

December 21 *Thomas Kinkadee's Christmas Cottage*

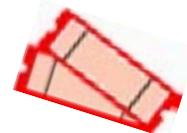
## ONE DAY ADVENTURES

### Fabulous Fifties & Sixties at the Fireside

January 21

### Grease at the Marcus Center

February 23



## CITY MEETINGS

Common Council	1st & 3rd Tuesday	City Hall	7:30 p.m.
Plan Commission	3rd Thursday	City Hall	6:30 p.m.
Public Works Board	2nd Tuesday	City Hall	7:00 p.m.
Harbor Commission	2nd Monday	City Hall	7:00 p.m.
Police & Fire Commission	2nd Monday	Police Building	7:00 p.m.
Park & Recreation Board	2nd Thursday	Park & Rec Building	6:30 p.m.
Commission on Aging	2nd Monday	Senior Center	7:00 p.m.
Library Board	3rd Friday	Library	8:30 a.m.
Finance & License Committee	1st & 3rd Tuesday	City Hall	6:30 p.m.

## ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

### ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

**MAYOR** Scott Huebner 262-284-0575  
 Email: shuebner@ci.port-washington.wi.us

### ALDERMEN

1st District	Mike Ehrlich	262-284-5528
2nd District	Paul Neumyer	262-284-3501
3rd District	James O. Vollmar	262-268-1682
4th District	Burt Babcock	262-284-3419
5th District	Tom Hudson	262-284-1948
6 <sup>th</sup> District	David Larson	262-268-1171
7th District	Dan Becker	262-284-6043

## CITY HALL HOURS

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday,  
 except holidays

mehrlich@ci.port-washington.wi.us  
 pneumyer@ci.port-washington.wi.us  
 jvollmar@ci.port-washington.wi.us  
 bbabcock@ci.port-washington.wi.us  
 thudson@ci.port-washington.wi.us  
 dl Larson@ci.port-washington.wi.us  
 dbecker@ci.port-washington.wi.us

CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON INTERNET ADDRESS:  
[www.ci.port-washington.wi.us](http://www.ci.port-washington.wi.us)

# CITY NEWS

POSTAL CUSTOMER LOCAL



262-284-5585  
 Port Washington, WI 53074-0307  
 P.O. Box 307  
 100 West Grand Avenue  
**CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON**

CART-RT.-SORT  
 BULK RATE  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PERMIT NO. 36  
 PORT WASHINGTON  
 53074