



December 2010 Newsletter

P.O. Box 5245, Naperville, Illinois 60567-5245

www.napervillehomeowners.com

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The NAHC newsletter is published monthly to provide the news and information Naperville homeowners need. We welcome and appreciate your feedback. Send it to our Vice President and Newsletter Editor, Bob Fischer, at rafischer1@aol.com.

President’s Letter

For those of you who joined with the NAHC at our last general meeting, you witnessed a unique collaboration of the Confederation and ACTHA (Association of Condominium, Townhouse and Homeowners Associations). This non – profit organization supports legislation that enhances all of our lives. At our meeting, attended by a standing room audience, a very unfair “tax” that affects all mandatory associations with 10 or more homes/units was discussed. At issue is an assessment of \$50 per association plus \$1 home/unit. This money is intended to enforce licensing of association managers, although the revenue breakdown or need has not been fully clarified. ACTHA is working to repeal this tax and place the cost burden elsewhere. Reflecting on the success of this meeting, the NAHC will have more quality presentations with our partner organizations, so stay tuned.

Congratulations to Edward Hospital, named by Thomson Reuters as one of its top 50 US cardiovascular hospitals. Only two other Illinois hospitals made the list and Edward was one of just 15 community hospitals recognized in this elite group. Criteria for selection were survival rates, lower complications, fewer readmissions 30 days following discharge, and, finally, shorter hospital stays and lower costs for discharged heart patients. It is good to have quality medical care for our community.

Finally, please follow and support the NAHC efforts as we interact with City Government, Commissions and Staff on diverse topics including electronic message center signage, small wind and solar renewable energy, and the Downtown2030 Plan. All of these were considered since our October general meeting and join other ongoing initiatives including opposition to Water Street redevelopment and our continuing efforts to sustain visibility of cable PEG (public, education, government) access channels.

You are invited to participate, neighbor to neighbor, in any and all facets of the Homeowners Confederation – after all we are you and you are us. I hope to see you on Saturday, December 18th at 8 AM at City Hall.

Dr Bob Buckman
President, NAHC
drbobbuckman@sbcglobal.net

Upcoming Confederation Meetings

The Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation's next general membership meeting will be December 18th, 2010, in lower level meeting rooms B&C of the Naperville Municipal Center. We will have coffee and networking beginning at 8 and the formal meeting at 8:30. Our goal is to complete the meeting by 10 AM so everyone can get on with their day.

At the December 18th meeting we will hear from members of the FORWARD Coalition (**F**ighting **O**besity, **R**eaching healthy **W**eights **A**mong Residents of **D**uPage), a group of concerned organizations who have come together to assess data and recommend policy changes to that are sustainable over time in the fight against obesity, particularly among our children,



Newly compiled figures suggest that kids here are adopting the same unhealthy lifestyle habits as their peers everywhere, mirroring a national trend toward lifelong obesity. Figures suggest that in the South West portion of DuPage County, 29 percent of kids are overweight or obese and 13 percent are obese.

Surprised? Think this couldn't happen in Naperville? The data places area children on a path that could result in more serious weight problems than present-day adults. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the rate of obesity in Illinois is 26.5 percent — precisely midway between Mississippi's high of 34.4 percent and Colorado's low, at 18.6 percent.

Come to the December meeting to find out what you can do to help reverse this epidemic.

Looking ahead, our tentative meeting schedule through the Spring of 2011 includes:

January: State Legislators

February: City budget

March: "How to" on landscaping.

April: City Council on the dais.

May: NAHC Annual meeting

The schedule above is the vision of the Board, but our meetings are for our members. We welcome your suggestions. Please email your thoughts and ideas for meeting topics and focus to us at nahc-naperhomeowners@wowway.com.

Zoning and Land Use Update



This report from the Confederation Zoning & Land Use Committee includes development and land use projects discussed at monthly NAHC meetings with City Staff, of interest to Naperville area residents, and/or under consideration by Plan Commission and Council. It also includes information obtained from other sources.

New Proposals:

Dicks Sporting Goods: Is looking to construct a new store between Home Depot and Whole Foods along 75th St. They are expected to appear in front of the Plan Commission in January.

Seasons Commons: is looking to construct a hospice care facility on Diehl Rd. west of Rt. 59, with a medical office as a future project. Scheduled to appear in front of the Plan Commission on Dec 1st.

Grand Appliances, Design Pointe Rt 59: Has agreed to occupy a new store under construction fronting Rt. 59. The store should be open in the coming weeks.

Ongoing Proposals:

ALDI, Corner of Naperville Rd. and Ogden: Has opened for business

Wallgreen's 75th and Wehrli: Site work is scheduled to start in December.

Coopers Hawk: A wine bar and restaurant chain has received approval for their PUD from the City Council and Plan Commission to construct a facility on the east side of Freedom Commons Rd. just north of Diehl. They are planning on starting site work this winter.

Studies and Initiatives:

Naperville Downtown2030 plan: The City Council held a joint workshop with DAC on November 8th to discuss the plan, and its recent revisions. The following is from the city website;

Through the workshop the City Council endorsed all of the actions requested by DAC in the matrix and offered several additional recommendations to modify the DRAFT plan. Direction provided by City Council included:

- A 40-50 foot height in the northern block of the North Downtown Special Planning Area based on feedback from area residents, the Plan Commission and DAC to reflect existing topography and provide a transition to outlying residential areas.
- A request for DAC to review recommendations for properties on the east side of Washington Street, south of Douglas Avenue that were previously included in the 5th Avenue Study, to ensure compatibility with the Naperville Downtown 2030 Plan recommendations.
- Development of a second map to reflect the commercial limits of downtown Naperville.
- Pursuit of zoning amendments to the B4, B5, and TU zoning districts, after the plan is approved, to distinguish between these districts and reflect the intent of these districts as defined in the Downtown Naperville (2000) Plan.
- Establishment of a height maximum for the B4 (60 feet) and B5 (50 feet) to provide additional restriction beyond the 2.5 FAR used in both of these districts.

The draft plan, released on October 7, 2010, is now being updated to reflect the feedback received from City Council, as well as the Transportation Advisory Board, Historic Preservation Commission, Advisory Commission on Disabilities, Plan Commission and DAC. A FINAL plan draft will be reviewed by DAC on December 9, 2010.

After DAC makes a final recommendation, a 60-day comment period will commence prior to scheduling Naperville Downtown2030 for final City Council action. It is anticipated that the 2030 Plan will be forwarded to the City Council in March 2011. More information with specific meeting dates and times will be provided as it becomes available.

Website: <http://www.naperville.il.us/napervilledowntown2030.aspx>

Christmas Shopping Tips from the NAHC



With Christmas coming and holiday shopping in full swing, the Confederation did some checking around town for "special" Naperville Christmas presents.

The Museum Store at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St. offers a variety of Naperville-themed items that make perfect holiday and hostess gifts. A new collection of dishes, glassware, mugs and tea towels are imprinted with Naperville landmarks created by talented local artist Marianne Lisson Kuhn. A travel thermos and shot glass feature an original Naperville logo.

Be sure to stop in the Museum Store any time between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. on December 4 and 5 to shop from a sparkling selection of holiday items. A \$2 off discount shopping coupon will be provided to individuals who take the Mansion Tour the first weekend. (Please note: coupon is valid on a purchase of \$15 or more and excludes food and drink; one coupon per person).

Hours are Tuesday-Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call The Museum Store at (630) 420-6010 or visit www.napersettlement.museum.

The Naperville Park District is ready to help with this year's holiday shopping, offering two, convenient and affordable options that are great for everyone on your gift list.

- Select a Naperville Park District gift certificate in any denomination. Gift certificates can be used for Centennial Beach memberships, rounds of golf or merchandise, Park District programs and more.
- On-the-Go Passes make a great stocking stuffer at \$15 each and give recipients the opportunity to enjoy a one-time visit to Centennial Beach, the Millennium Carillon in Moser Tower, and a 20-minute Paddleboat ride for up to four people. Passes are presented at each location and validated for one-time use. On-the-Go Passes do not expire.

Gifts will be available for purchase at the Naperville Park District's Administrative Office at 320 W. Jackson Avenue through December 23.

Visit www.napervilleparks.org to learn more about On-the-Go Passes and gift certificates.

DuPage Children's Museum Explorer Store offers carefully chosen, creative, fun and educational toys, games and puzzles based on DCM exhibits and programs to allow children to extend the Museum experience at home. Store hours are the same as Museum hours and admission is never charged to shop the store. All proceeds support Museum exhibits and programs. Special for the pre-holiday selling season, all train sets are 20% off, while supplies last.

The Morton Arboretum has these green, gift-giving options:

- Give the Gift of Membership.
- Choose a Tribute Gift to celebrate, honor and remember.
- Select a special item from the Arboretum Store.
- Adopt-a-Tree for someone you love.

The Arboretum has help for "Fellas" still looking for the perfect gift. Stop in for their 3rd annual "Beer and Baubles" men's shopping night event at The Arboretum Store on December 16: 5:00 – 8 p.m. Find something for that special someone from the Patricia Locke line of jewelry while munching on tasty treats and sipping on local beer from Two Brother's Brewery in Warrenville. Free gift-wrapping is available for all jewelry purchases! Ladies who need to give their guys a big hint are welcome to come and point out some pieces you would like to receive this holiday season. All ages, beer for the 21 and up crowd.

For more information go to www.mortonarb.org.

November Meeting Recap

As Doctor Bob mentioned in his opening letter, our November meeting featured a look at recent legislation in Springfield that impacts our membership. Thanks to ACTHA for helping put this great program together!





We were pleased to have a panel of State Representative Darlene Senger, Andrew Freiheit from Representative Cross's office, Condo lawyer Mike Kim, and ACTHA lobbyist Dick Lockhart on hand to bring us up to date on what Springfield hath wrought. We also had a special treat as Invisible Fence

Brand, <http://igb.invisiblefence.com>, was our meeting host, providing refreshments during networking and providing information on their products.

Things we learned were that the Solar Rights Act, which prohibits HOA's from not allowing solar panels on buildings fewer than 30 feet in height will probably require more definition and may need judicial interpretation on issues such as enforcement and determination of exactly what acceptable use guidelines entail. We also learned that the Common Interest Community Association Act has pluses and minuses, depending on the association, and that more revisions to this new law will be needed to clarify language, inclusion, and intent. Finally, we heard how the Manager Licensing Act will be paid for by associations across the state, whether or not they engage a professional manager, unless ACTHA and others are successful in getting changes incorporated in new legislation in the upcoming session.

Thanks to all of our panelists for their time and insights. On an administrative note, the Confederation members passed our 2011 balanced budget and it is posted in the members section of our website.

Greener Business Program Includes Multi-Family Buildings

Multi-family building owners are now eligible to apply for the Greener Business Program.

Initially, the Greener Business Program targeted energy efficiency improvements in commercial buildings; however, the program was recently expanded to include multi-family buildings. A multi-family building is defined as a building containing three or more dwelling units that are primarily connected vertically. Energy efficiency improvements for these buildings can range from lighting retrofit projects to energy efficient windows.

Naperville businesses and multi-family building owners interested in applying for financial assistance in completing energy efficient retrofit projects for their buildings should submit an application packet for consideration. Awards will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.



To date, the city has awarded 13 Greener Business Program matching grants to commercial buildings totaling \$167,280. There is still \$116,000 in grant funding available. The building for which grant funding is sought must have been constructed prior to the year 2000 and must be located within the municipal boundaries of the City of Naperville. Applications are available online at www.naperville.il.us/greenerbusiness.aspx.

About the Greener Business Program

Funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the Greener Business Program was created to help buildings reduce their energy consumption and emissions and increase their overall energy efficiency.

The Greener Business Program contains two components: a Matching Grant Fund and a Revolving Loan Fund. Through the Matching Grant Fund, qualifying and accepted applicants will receive matching funds at a rate of \$.50 for every \$1 spent towards energy efficiency improvements, up to \$10,000 per building. Through the Revolving Loan Fund, qualified buildings may apply to receive an interest-free loan of up to \$25,000 for energy efficiency improvements. Qualifying buildings may apply for one or both of these components through the Greener Business Program.

Applications for the Matching Grant and Revolving Loan Funds are available online at www.naperville.il.us/greenerbusiness.aspx. A printed copy of the Matching Grant Fund application may be obtained at the Transportation, Engineering and Development Business Group, located on the main

floor of the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St. A printed copy of the Revolving Loan Fund application may be obtained at the City Manager's Office, located on the second floor of the Naperville Municipal Center.

For more information on the Greener Business Program, including a list of qualifications and frequently asked questions, visit www.naperville.il.us/greenerbusiness.aspx.

NAHC Briefs – News You Can Use!

Beginning Tuesday, November 30, Naperville residents can bring their used holiday lights to the Department of Public Works Recycling Drop-Off Center, located at 180 Fort Hill Drive.

Residents may discard lights that no longer work at the Recycling Drop-Off Center during normal hours of operation on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through March 15, 2011. Accepted lights include all colors and lengths of:

- mini-lights (Italian lights)
- C7
- C9
- rope
- LED
- extension cords



For more information on the city's Recycling Drop-Off Center, visit www.naperville.il.us/recyclecenter.aspx.

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Representative Connelly's Office has partnered with the U.S. Marines **Toys for Tots program** to help fill a giant need this holiday.

Last year a news report showed with the current state of our economy there was one of the largest needs ever for toy donations, but the number of donations coming in was way down. The need to help was great and Connelly's office joined the Toys for Tots drive. The community response was huge and there were so many toys that he had to arrange for Toys for Tots to take some early so his staff could still use their office.

The trend of a toy shortage is no different this year for the Suburban Chicago Area.



No child should go without getting a Christmas present. To fill the need again this year, State Representative Connelly's district office at 24W500 Maple Ave. in Naperville will serve as a toys drop off location. The district office is on a busy street where it is convenient for citizens to drop their gifts off on their way to work.

The office is open from 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday and the last day to drop off toys will be Dec. 17. For more information you can call the district office or visit <http://joliet-il.toysfortots.org>.

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If your kids have you looking for the manual, register now for the **2011 Parent University** - a day of informative and interactive workshops designed to provide practical lessons for parenting kids in preschool through high school.

Parent University takes place Saturday, Feb. 5 from 8:00 AM – 2:15 PM at Metea Valley High School. Nationally acclaimed parent educator, author, and speaker Char Wenc is the keynote speaker.

Parents may choose to attend either the full day program which includes continental breakfast, keynote, one morning workshop, lunch and one afternoon workshop or opt for the half-day program which ends at 11:55 AM prior to lunch.

Attendees can select from a variety of 90-minute workshops presented by local child and adolescent development experts. During lunch, full-day attendees can chat with presenters and pick up resource information from local social service agencies.

Early bird pricing is: \$30/person full day or \$20/person half day. If parents register after December 15, 2010, the price increases to \$35/person full day; \$25/person half day.

To register for Parent University, visit either Naperville School District 203 at http://www.naperville203.org/departments/student_services/ParentUniversity.asp or Indian Prairie School District 204 at <http://ipsdweb.ipsd.org/News.aspx?id=31978>.



Parent University 2011

Help! Parenting isn't as easy as it looks.

If your kids have you looking for the manual...

Join us for a day of informative and interactive workshops designed to provide practical lessons for parenting kids in preschool through high school.

Saturday, February 5, 2011
8 AM-2:15 PM

Metea Valley High School
1801 N. Eola Rd., Aurora

Early bird pricing through Dec. 15: \$30/person full day or \$20/person half day
After Dec. 15: \$35/person full day or \$25/person half day

 www.naperville203.org
 www.ipsd.org

Participants will be registered on a first come, first-served basis. As space is limited, early registration is strongly encouraged.

Parent University is sponsored by Naperville School District 203 and Indian Prairie School District 204 in cooperation with the Collaborative Youth Team.

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On Thursday, December 9th at 7:00PM, School Dist. 203 and Wight & Co. Architecture invite you to attend a **Stormwater Management Workshop** which will focus on how a homeowner can implement environmentally friendly, sustainable landscape and property management techniques. This event will be held at the Ann Reid Early Childhood Center, 1011 So. Naper Blvd.

The workshop will focus on things homeowners can do to sustainably maintain their lawns and landscaping to reduce pollutant runoff from their property and improve overall water quality in the watershed. Things they will discuss are rain water harvesting, landscaping, and lawn care. They will discuss the use of rain barrels, landscape plant selection, and how to

sustainably maintain your lawn to reduce the need for watering and fertilizer.

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The Naperville North Booster Club will host its 11th annual **Seniors on Parade** fashion show fundraiser on Sunday, February 27, 2011 starting at 11 AM at Bobak's Signature Room in Woodridge.

This year's event theme is **Sizzling Seniors** and will feature hot fashions from a variety of local independent retailers as well as national chains with outlets in our community. Over 100 models, all members of the Class of 2011, will represent their extra-curricular teams and clubs.

Doors will open at 11 AM for raffle prize viewing and a performance by the award winning Naperville North Jazz Band. Lunch begins at 12:15 PM, followed by the fashion show at 1:30 PM. Early bird

tickets are available through Feb. 1 for \$35/person and \$20 for NNHS students and children under 12. Ticket prices will go up after 2/1/2011. Attendees may reserve a table for 8 – 12 people.

All proceeds go directly to the NNHS Booster Club so they can continue to financially support all Huskies involved in athletic teams, activities and clubs. To download a ticket order form, visit: http://www.nnhsboosters.org/uploads/2011Fashion_Show_Ticket_Form.pdf.

For more information about this event, contact Anna Fattore, Event Chair, at afattore@aol.com or call 630-961-0922.

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The City of Naperville is pleased to announce **Phase II of the Home Energy Savings Program**. Due to additional funding, the city will accept an additional 100 qualified residents for participation in the program. Applications for Phase II will be accepted beginning Monday, November 29, 2010.

The Home Energy Savings Program is designed to provide qualified residents an opportunity to improve their home's energy efficiency through a **free** home energy evaluation. Program participants will also receive a 50 percent reimbursement up to **\$1,500** for qualifying energy improvements. *According to a recent survey of program participants to date, more than 95 percent were satisfied with the overall program and 98 percent would recommend the service to a friend or neighbor.*

Change in Program Criteria for Phase II - The City has modified the criteria for Phase II to allow more residents to qualify for Phase II of the program. To qualify for Phase II, applicants must own a home in incorporated Naperville **built prior to 2000**.

Application Process - Applications for Phase II of the Home Energy Savings Program will be accepted beginning Monday, November 29, 2010. Applications are now available for download on the city's website at www.naperville.il.us/HESP.aspx. Interested parties may also pick up an application in person at the first floor counter of the Transportation, Engineering and Development Business Group, located at the Naperville Municipal Center or call (630) 420-6077 to receive an application via mail. All applications must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, January 7, 2011. .

For more information on the Home Energy Savings Program, visit www.naperville.il.us/HESP.aspx or call the city's Home Energy Hotline at (630) 420-6077.

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On November 2, 2010, voters approved a binding public referendum question on the general ballot that establishes **City Council districts within the City of Naperville**. Despite the approval of the referendum question, city officials were examining the feasibility of implementing districts in time for the 2011 consolidated elections.

On Wednesday, November 17, 2010, Judge Bonnie Wheaton entered a court order declaring it impossible for the city to properly implement the referendum in time for the 2011 election. She further allowed 60 days for interested parties to appear and file responsive pleadings. The matter will be re-evaluated by the court on February 2, 2011. The Naperville Voter Education League is requesting that the referendum be implemented in time for the 2013 general election, but Judge Wheaton stated that she would need to be briefed on the issue before a decision can be made.

When this referendum becomes effective, the Mayor and three councilmen will be elected at large while the remaining five councilmen will be elected from each of the five districts to be established. In subsequent elections, a resident would vote for one mayor, one councilman to represent his/her district and three at-large councilmen. Geographic boundaries of the districts would be determined and approved the City Council based on 2010 census data.

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The City of Naperville is pleased to announce the continuation of the Guaranteed Ride Home Program in 2011. The Guaranteed Ride Home Program offers alternative transportation (i.e., taxicab ride)

during non-peak travel times (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 12 a.m., Monday through Friday), when Pace bus service is not available.

The Guaranteed Ride Home Program is available to commuters who are Naperville residents and use Pace bus to travel to and from the Naperville or Route 59 Metra Station. Registration is required for the program. To learn more about the Guaranteed Ride Home Program, visit the city's website at www.naperville.il.us/guaranteedridehome.aspx.

Commuters interested in participating in this program are required to complete a one-time registration process. Registration is available via the city's website by [clicking here](#). Commuters may also register by visiting the city's Finance Department located in the Municipal Center or register by mail. Registration forms are available for pick-up at both the Naperville and Route 59 Metra Stations or maybe downloaded [here](#).

If you were enrolled in the 2010 program, you will be automatically enrolled in the 2011 program. If you wish to no longer participate in this program, please [click here](#) or go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/grhcancel> before 5 p.m. on Monday, December 6, 2010 to remove your name from the program.



***Tues., December 7th: "Why an Association Needs a Window Replacement Policy"** Webinar, 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. Presenter: Diana Krieter of Woodland Windows & Doors

What You'll Learn: How window replacement policies protect owners with: Group energy cost savings, continuity between units, water management, & professional installation.

*All Webinars **REQUIRE** pre-registration 24 hours before the start of the program. The cost is \$20 for ACTHA members and \$50 for non-members.

To register, visit www.actha.org, call 312-987-1906 or email kevin@actha.org

Arboretum Activities



A holiday favorite returns! The newly-redesigned "Enchanted Railroad" rolls through with model trains of different colors and styles. One train even has a tiny camera on board so visitors can see what it would be like to ride along! Nine trains operate via remote-controlled interlocked signals, allowing them to cross tracks safely, and two trolleys that reverse direction automatically. This year's theme of "Mother Earth" combines the holiday spirit with trees. All ages, Special Events Room. November

26–January 2: 9 a.m.–4 p.m. Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas, and New Years' Day

The "Cat in the Hat" visits the Arboretum Store! Swing by to say hello to this beloved Dr. Seuss character to celebrate the new Learning Library book series, including "I Can Name 50 Trees Today." All ages. Arboretum Store. December 11: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Follow the clues to a festival holiday favorite! The "Yule Log Hunt" returns for its 33rd year. Visitors will get a list of clues to lead them to various parts of the Arboretum to look for the Yule Log. Once found, Winter warriors return for a log-sawing celebration, bonfire, caroling by the Frozen Robins singers, and hot cocoa. Dress for hiking and cold weather. All ages. Visitor Center area. December 26: 2–3:30 p.m.

Too little for the big hunt? Join the pint-sized "Yule Twig Hunt!" This event sends little adventurers around to find a Yule Log that is just their size. This drop-in, self-guided activity provides holiday memories for parents and their kids. All ages, The Children's Garden. December 26: 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Beautiful chamber music flows through the winter woods when visitors see the “Fifth House Ensemble.” This classical music group offers an afternoon of enchanting music set in front of a giant window overlooking the splendor of a winter’s afternoon at a tree museum. After the concert, take the opportunity to meet the artists in the original library of the Arboretum’s founder, Joy Morton. Cost \$28 (discounts for Arboretum members). All ages. Thornhill Education Center. December 5: 2:15 – 4 p.m.

Don’t let your child’s nature knowledge hibernate! Take a 15-minute guided glimpse into the trees and natural world with “Meet the Naturalist!” Activities may include snowman building with natural materials or skull and pelt identification. This is a drop-in activity. All ages. Children’s Garden. December 1 - February 28: 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. (weather permitting)

Who’s hiding in the “Magical Winter Garden?” Most of the animals may be hibernating, but the Children’s Garden still has enchanting gnomes, fairies and wise old trees within the Garden. Come see what you can find! Children’s Garden through Feb 28: 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (weather permitting)

Go walkin’ through a winter wonderland in a pair of snowshoes! Bring your own or rent a pair of ours to explore quiet stillness of nature in hibernation. Visitors may also bring their own cross-country skis. Snowshoe rental is \$8 for up to three hours, limited quantities. Snowshoes are rented only when there is at least four inches of snow on the ground. All ages, rentals at Visitor Center from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Get a story, a craft and a journey with “Arbor Reading Adventures!” Children get to hear an exciting nature-themed story, create crafts, and then head out to the grounds for an energizing walk! Themes change each week. Cost: \$5 (discounts for Arboretum members). Suggested for ages 3-5; adults must accompany children. Sterling Morton Library. Fridays November – March (excluding 11/26, 12/24 and 12/31): 11 – 11:45 a.m.

What are the Christmas customs of Illinois? Discover the historic holiday traditions from Cairo to Chicago with a copy of “Christmas in Illinois.” James Ballowe, author of A Man of Salt & Trees: The Life of Joy Morton, brings a collection of tales, poems, memoirs and images from all across Illinois just in time for the holiday season. Ballowe is here to sign copies of his book. Grab a great gift and enjoy a holiday snack. The Arboretum Store. December 4: 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

What’s it like to live in an historical cottage? Meet local author Cathy Maloney as she signs copies of her new book, “The Gardener’s Cottage in Riverside Illinois: Living in a ‘Small Masterpiece’ by Frank Lloyd Wright, Jens Jensen, and Frederick Law Olmstead.” This book discusses the history of her home and what it is like to live in such an historical location. The Arboretum Store. December 18: 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Shop for bargains on holiday treasures, apparel, books, home decor, jewelry and more at The Arboretum Store's semi-annual clearance sale. December 31: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

See spectacular plant images from rare books and art collections in “Flora! Illuminated.” A non traditional exploration of spectacular plant images from the Suzette Morton Davidson Special Collections of the Sterling Morton Library. Selected snippets of song lyrics, poetry and prose will accompany these brilliant images to create a memorable experience for visitors. The exhibit will highlight rarely seen artwork and rare books revealing the extraordinary beauty and depth of the plant world. All ages, Sterling Morton Library. Free with Arboretum admission. Through January 2011: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Tuesday–Friday; 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Saturday

Unless otherwise specified, all Arboretum destinations including the Children's Garden and Parking are free with Arboretum admission. For Program Registration, call 630-719-2468 or visit www.mortonarb.org. The 2010 Arboretum events rates are:

- \$11/adult, (\$7 on Wednesday), ages 18-64
- \$10/senior, (\$6 on Wednesday), ages 65 and over
- \$8/child (\$5 on Wednesday), ages 2-17, Under age 2 is free

Tax Question - Deduction of Interest by Unit Owners

Question: Can an individual deduct interest on their personal tax return for interest paid by the Association? The answer is one that addresses a lot of different situations. Below is a summary of the various situations and the related answers:

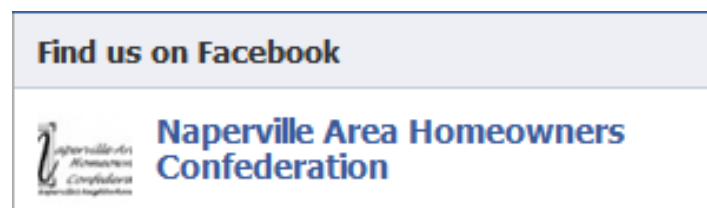
1. **Cooperatives:** A cooperative housing corporation or other entity actually holds the title to the building. They can obtain a loan of which the collateral is the building. This would be called a mortgage loan if the collateral is the building, similar to a single family dwelling. If the Cooperative secures a mortgage loan the shareholders can take their portion on their personal tax returns as mortgage interest. There is a pass through deduction for this type of entity. The Cooperative should issue a Form 1098 for the mortgage interest to each shareholder.
2. **Condominiums, Townhomes and Homeowner's Associations:** In a condominium or townhome and the homeowners association, the Association does not own the buildings. The unit owners own the buildings and other property in common. When an Association obtains a loan, the loan cannot secure the building with a mortgage lien but must actually obtain a secure position on the future assessments of the Association. The loans that these entities obtain are not considered mortgages and the interest is not considered mortgage interest. **In addition, there is no provision in the IRS code to provide for interest from these entities to pass through to the unit owners.** If the owner is a non-resident investor and paying interest on their special assessment to pay the loan then they probably can deduct the interest they are paying as a business or rental expense. If the unit owner lives in the unit and they are paying interest with the special assessment to pay the loan then the interest is either considered personal interest, (which is not deductible), or investment interest which is deductible up investment income.
3. **Home equity loans:** If the unit owner needs to finance a special assessment and has equity in their unit, (not as prevalent with the real estate market crash), they would normally be better off using their own home equity line of credit or add to their own mortgage. Both of these are deductible within certain limits. If Married and filing jointly the mortgage amount is limited to \$1,000,000 and the home equity line is limited to \$100,000.

Summary: The IRS has a publication that goes into all of the rules for deduction of mortgage interest. The Publication is number 936 and the web address is: <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p936.pdf>

So to summarize, interest paid by a Cooperative, if it is mortgage interest is deductible. A Condominium, Townhome or Homeowners Association do not have the same treatment and does not pass through to the unit owners. Interest paid on a related special assessment will probably be considered personal interest.

As with all tax matters, your situation may vary from the general assumptions of this explanation and you should consult your personal tax adviser.

Thanks to ACTHA and Brad L. Schneider CPA, President of CondoCPA (A division of Schneider, Cupuro & Associates, Ltd.) for this analysis. For further questions, Brad can be reached at 630-832-2222 or by Email: brad@condocpa.com



Open until
4 pm Mondays
Dec. 20, 27
and Jan. 3

December 2010

The Museum will be closed on the following holiday dates:
Friday & Saturday, Dec. 24 & 25
Friday & Saturday, Dec. 31 & Jan. 1
Please check the website to plan your visit.



...where learning comes in to play®!

Bubble Bash 2010
BLAST OFF!
Friday, Dec. 31 – 9:00 a.m. to Noon
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

9th Annual Family Friendly New Year's Eve

Celebration Featuring

- Music by Mr. Singer and the Sharp Cookies
- Refreshments, art activities, photo ops and more!
- Members \$15/Nonmembers \$20

It's not too late! Make your reservations NOW!

On-line registration available – see website for details.



**Winter Break Mini-Camp,
Kids Design Engineering,
Two different 2-day sessions**

FOR AGES 7-10 – Sign up early and SAVE!

Mon. & Tues., Dec. 20 & 21 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Mon. & Tues., Dec. 27 & 28 – 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Register by Nov. 30 - \$90 member, \$100 nonmember

Register Dec. 1 or after - \$100 members, \$110 nonmembers

On-line registration available – see website for details

GREAT Performances
FREE to Members or with
Museum admission!

DuPage Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet –

Seasonal Music Selections

Saturday, Dec. 4, 10:30 a.m. – Noon

Peter and the Wolf

DuPage Symphony Orchestra Woodwind Quintet

Guest Narrator, **Ralph Covert of Ralph's World**

SAVE THE DATE! Saturday, Jan. 15 – 10:30 a.m. – Noon.

Limited Seating! Details on website.

**FAMILY FUN
FRIDAY NIGHTS!**
DCM's open Fridays until 8:00 p.m.
Different activity every Friday night!

December Friday Night Activities

Dec. 3 **NNHS Theatre Club** *The Jungle Book*, 6:00 p.m. start

Dec. 10 **Steps Dance Center**, 6:00 p.m. start

Dec. 17 **Color and Light**, A Science Discovery, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

DuPage Children's MUSEUM Presents
CHAGALL
for children

NEW Traveling Exhibit Opening Saturday, Jan. 15!*

At DCM Jan. 15 through Apr. 20 – Don't miss it!

The art of Marc Chagall will inspire hands-on, interactive exploration of creativity through the use of color, texture, shapes and more!

*Members-ONLY Preview Night – Friday, Jan. 14, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Details on website

Distribution of information and materials through the schools does not imply District 203 or 204 endorsement of them.

Visit www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org for a complete program schedule.

Keep up with our latest news! Like us at [facebook.com/DCMFanPage](https://www.facebook.com/DCMFanPage)

301 N. Washington St. • Naperville • Illinois • 60540 • 630-637-8000 • www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org

Residents Encouraged to Prepare for Winter Season

The Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation and the City of Naperville remind all residents to educate themselves on how to remain safe during winter weather events.

The city offers the following tips to stay safe during winter storms:

- Have safe emergency heating equipment available.
- Have disaster supplies, such as a flashlight, portable radio, first aid kit and three-day supply of food, available in case the power goes out.
- Stay indoors and dress warmly.
- Conserve fuel.
- If pipes freeze, remove any insulation or layers of newspapers and wrap pipes in rags. Completely open all faucets and pour hot water over the pipes, starting where they were most exposed to the cold.
- If you must go outdoors during inclement weather, dress warmly and wear loose-fitting, layered, lightweight clothing. Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia.
- Remember to help your neighbors who may require special assistance – infants, elderly people and people with disabilities.
- Prior to the onset of winter weather, make sure your vehicle is prepared for weather extremes. Check tires, brakes, the battery and your heating and defrosting systems. Change anti-freeze if needed.



A full list of tips can be found in the city's Emergency Preparedness Guide, which is available on the city's website at www.naperville.il.us/emergencyprepguide.aspx.

The Illinois Emergency Management Agency has developed a preparedness document that includes valuable information about how to prepare a winter storm survival car kit, driving safety tips and how to prepare yourself and your loved ones for a winter storm. This document is available at www.state.il.us/iema/.

Warming Centers

During normal business hours, Monday through Friday, residents can seek shelter from winter weather elements at the Naperville Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle St. Other shelters are available at the following locations:

- County administrative buildings
- Libraries
- Park District facilities
- Senior centers
- Shopping malls
- Township offices
- Other public places

For relief from inclement conditions after hours and on weekends, residents are encouraged to visit any of the city's ten fire stations.

For more information on winter weather, including terminology, warning and advisory criteria and snowfall statistics, please visit the National Weather Service Chicago/Romeoville winter weather webpage at www.crh.noaa.gov/lot/?n=winter.

**“Read all you
can lay your
hands on.
The rewards
of reading
never
diminish.”**

*Helen Ganz,
literacy advocate*

Reading: Getting Kids Excited about Books

Reading is powerful. When kids know how to read and enjoy reading, they're more likely to succeed in school and in life. Unfortunately, only 22% of kids report having the Asset of Reading for Pleasure. Yet reading is an Asset that parents have a great deal of influence over helping their children attain.

Here are ways to help incorporate reading into your children's lives. Try it!
For all parents:

- Make sure each of your children has a library card (you can get cards at your local library branch). If your kids already have library cards, use them on a regular basis. Visit the library once a week, or at least once a month.
- Show kids how much you enjoy reading. Instead of watching TV, read periodically. Have books and magazines strategically located around your house.
- Talk about what you are reading. Ask your kids about what they're reading.

For parents with children ages birth to 5

- Surround your children with picture books. Give them to your kids as gifts. Or attend a story hour at your local library and check out some of the many books available in the children's section.
- Read aloud to your children every day. If possible, read aloud more than once a day.
- Keep board books with your children's toys so that your kids see books as part of their everyday lives.

For parents with children ages 6-9

- Once your children learn how to read, have them read aloud every day to you.
- Help kids find books that get them excited. Visit the library and browse the bookstores.
- Read a book to your children before they go to bed. Use a book as part of your bedtime routine to help your children relax and connect with you.

For parents with children ages 10-15

- Encourage your kids to find books that excite them. Don't overlook comic books, magazines and other types of reading that may not interest you, but interests them. The point is to keep your kids reading.
- Find out which books your teens are assigned to read in school. Ask them which ones they liked best and why.
- Give books as gifts. Young teenagers often enjoy advice about life books.

For parents with children ages 16-18

- Ask your teenager which book has had the most impact on his/her life. Talk about a life changing book you've read.
- Be patient if it seems your teenagers don't read for fun. Many feel overloaded with homework reading and prefer to spend their free time with friends or listening to music.
- Ask your teenager which books other teenagers are reading and see if there are any that interest your teenager. Choose a book yourself and talk about what you have read.
- Bring up current events or topics you've read about to start discussions with your teenagers. Reference what you're reading, such as "I read in Newsweek today..." or "Did you see that article in the newspaper today?"

* From information provided by Search Institute's MVPParent (www.MVParents.com).



Park District Updates



For additional details, visit www.napervilleparks.org or call 630-848-5000

In advance of the Park District Board of Commissioners vote on next year's budget at special meeting in mid-December, the 2011 Naperville Park District proposed budget is now available for public review.

A link to the document can be found on the home page of the Park District's website at www.napervilleparks.org; it also can be found on the About Us page of the website. Per park district code, the budget must be available for review by the community for a minimum of 30 days.

All are welcome to review the document; a special meeting to be held in mid-December, at which the Park Board will vote on the budget, will be open to the public. Date, time and location information will be forthcoming. The Park District is legally obligated to make the proposed budget document available for public review. Additionally, as a governmental entity (separate from the city government) that is supported in part by tax dollars, it is important for the public to have an understanding of how their tax dollars are being allocated.

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Based on City Council direction, city staff has met with representatives of the Naperville Municipal Band and the Naperville Park District to formalize a seating plan, which includes the following elements:

1. Modification of the existing topography to eliminate uneven grades and preserve trees on site.
2. The provision of new bench seating.
3. Improved lighting around the seating area.
4. Maintaining the portable restrooms in their current location until permanent restrooms are purchased at a later date, however the cannon will be relocated slightly to north to minimize conflicts with the operation of the restrooms.
5. Relocation of the audio platform to allow better visibility of the Community Concert Center.



Initial work on the project will begin in Spring 2011 and is anticipated to be completed before the first concert. The total cost of the improvements is approximately \$340,000. Opportunities for public input on example benches will be available in the coming months.

For more information on Central Park Renovation, visit www.naperville.il.us/centralparkplan.aspx.

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Naperville Park District's Santa House on the Riverwalk at Jackson Avenue and Webster St

Take a magical trip to visit Santa right on the Naperville Riverwalk where his special little house will reside for the holidays. Have your picture taken with Santa. Don't miss this unique opportunity!

- December 3-5 and 10-12
 - Fridays: 5-8 p.m.
 - Saturdays and Sundays: 12-6 p.m.
- December 16-19
 - Thursday and Friday: 5-8 p.m.
 - Saturday and Sunday: 12-6 p.m.
- December 20-23
 - Monday-Thursday: 2-8 p.m.

Special Needs Nights at Santa House December 6-9, 5-8 p.m. - For Families with Special Needs only - 630-848-5000 (Reservation required)

Naperville Park District's **Pet Night** at Santa House - December 2, 5-8 p.m. Have your pet's picture taken with Santa. Don't miss this unique opportunity! 630-848-5000 (Reservation required)

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Winter is coming...here's where you can enjoy it:

Riverwalk Sled Hill

The Riverwalk Sled Hill provides fun for the entire family. Bring your own inner tube or plastic sled; wooden sleds and metal-runner sleds are not permitted. Parent/adults are responsible for supervising their children under 8 years of age. The hill closes at 9:00 p.m. except on Fridays and Saturdays when it remains open until 10:00 p.m. The sled hill's official daily schedule will begin Dec. 1 and continue through Feb. 28, weather permitting.

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Neighborhood Park Sled Hills

The following hills are located in neighborhood parks. They have no concessions and close at dusk.

- Arrowhead Park, 711 Iroquois Avenue
- Brook Crossings, 1015 95th Street
- Country Lakes Community Park, 1835 North Aurora Road
- Gartner Park, 524 W. Gartner Road
- May Watts Park, 804 S. Whispering Hills Drive
- Old Plank Park, 583 Milton Drive
- Riverwalk Sled Hill at Rotary Hill, Riverwalk and Aurora Avenue, across from Naperville Central High School

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Centennial Park Ice Rinks, 500 W. Jackson Avenue

Centennial Park features two lighted hockey rinks as well as a lighted free-skating area. Lights may be turned off before 9:00 p.m. in the event of low attendance. Please do not skate after 9:00 p.m. since this is when the ice is flooded and groomed.

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Gartner Park Ice Rink

Gartner Park Ice Rink located at 524 W. Gartner Road is not lighted. Hockey sticks are not allowed.

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Snowboarding Hill

Naperville Park District has designated one hill in its parks to be used as a snowboarding hill. The hill at Weigand Riverfront Park, located at Washington Street and Ring Road, 2436 S. Washington Street, will be used as a snowboarding hill **only**. Snowboards are restricted on all other Park District hills. Sledding is **not** allowed at Weigand Riverfront Park.

Library News



For more information go to <http://www.naperville-lib.org>

Nichols, 95th Street, and Naper Boulevard libraries will all be closed Friday and Saturday, Dec. 24 and 25. They will resume normal hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 26. All buildings will also be closed at 5 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 31 and remain closed on Saturday, Jan. 1, 2011. Normal hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. will resume on Sunday, Jan. 2. Drive-up returns for all Library materials are available 24 hours a day at the Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave.; the Naper Boulevard Library, 2035 S. Naper Blvd.; and the 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr. Materials may be renewed on our website, <http://www.naperville-lib.info> and click on "My Account" or you can check due dates by calling 1-630-961-0460.

Wednesday, Dec. 1

Build Your Job Search at the Library

Learn how Naperville Public Library premium online resources can help you organize your job search, improve your writing and computer skills, connect with a live career specialist for resume help, prepare for interviews, research companies, and locate unadvertised job openings. Online registration and a Naperville Public Library card are required to attend this program. Register at www.naperville-lib.info or the Adult or Children's Service desks at the three Library buildings. Library Computer Classroom, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Introduction to Microsoft Excel 2007®

This class is based upon Microsoft Excel 2007®, a component of Microsoft Office 2007®. The class will start with an introduction to the structure of a Microsoft Excel® worksheet window. Definitions of various components and location of common commands will be described. The class will cover data entry into cells, organizing and formatting the data tables and basic charts. Printing options for tables and charts will be shown. A basic understanding of keyboarding and mouse operation is required for this class. Each class is free-standing and not part of any series. Computer class registration must be done either in person at any Computer Lab or by calling 1-630-961-4100, ext. 4990 for the 95th Street Computer Lab or 1-630-961-4100 ext. 6335 for the Nichols Computer Lab. Please have your Naperville Public Library card ready. You may sign up just once for each computer class. If you wish to take the same class more than once you will be placed on a waiting list. There is a \$10 non-refundable attendance fee for each class that must be paid at the time of registration. Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 3 - Get In The Game!

Feeling "board"? "Picktureka®" yourself, your friends, and family having a fun time playing from our collection of games! "Checkers" out our extra large and regular size games, too. Play an old favorite or try something new. Game selection will vary at each library. This is a program for children and families. No registration is required.

Children's Department, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Children's Department, Naper Boulevard Library, 2035 S. Naper Blvd., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Children's Department, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 4 - Beat the Holiday Blues with Online Help

Stressed about your holiday party? Need to find new recipes? Looking for decorating ideas, or wondering about the history of some holiday traditions? Let our librarians show you how much information you can find in our online databases to help you handle the holiday madness. Online registration and a Naperville Public Library card are required to attend this program. Register at www.naperville-lib.info or any of the Adult or Children's Service desks at the three Library buildings. Library Computer Classroom, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 7 - Finger Knitting

No knitting needles – or experience – needed! Learn the super-fun and super-easy method of finger knitting, and before you know it, you'll have a great handmade creation right at your fingertips! Take home a finished scarf that same afternoon. For children grades 3 to 5. No registration required. Children's Storyroom, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 9 - Introduction to Basic Computing

This class is an introduction to computers for users who are not very familiar with personal computers. The concept of Windows Explorer® will be introduced. Folders, sub-folders, files will be defined and how to create new folders will be shown. Attendees will be introduced to mouse clicks, double-click and right-click and how to switch between left-hand right-hand mouse operation. We will use Internet Explorer to practice keyboarding and the patrons who do not have an e-mail address will be assisted in creating one. This class will be based upon the Windows XP® operating system which is in use at the Library's Computer Labs. Each class is free-standing and not part of any series. Computer class

registration must be done either in person at any Computer Lab or by calling 1-630-961-4100, ext. 4990 for the 95th Street Computer Lab or 1-630-961-4100 ext. 6335 for the Nichols Computer Lab. Please have your Naperville Public Library card ready. You may sign up just once for each computer class. If you wish to take the same class more than once you will be placed on a waiting list. There is a \$10 non-refundable attendance fee for each class that must be paid at the time of registration. Library Computer Classroom, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 10 - Get In The Game!

Feeling "board"? "Picktureka[®]" yourself, your friends, and family having a fun time playing from our collection of games! "Checkers" out our extra large and regular size games, too. Play an old favorite or try something new. Game selection will vary at each library. This is a program for children and families. No registration is required.

Children's Department, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Children's Department, Naper Boulevard Library, 2035 S. Naper Blvd., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Children's Department, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Dec. 13, 2010 through Jan. 30, 2011 - Winter Reading Program -- "Chill Out With a Good Book!"

Sign up for Naperville Public Library's Winter Reading Program beginning December 13, 2010. All participants have a chance to win family packs of tickets to a Chicago Wolves Hockey game and other fun prizes from our sponsors. The Winter Reading Program is for all children through 5th grade. Listeners and all reading levels are welcome! Sponsors are the Chicago Wolves, Choo-Choo Johnny's, Odyssey Fun World and Aurelio's of Naperville. Watch for more information on our Winter Reading Program just for babies.

Thursday, Dec. 16 - 'Tis the Season

The season is here, we're ready for cheer! Come to the Library for our holiday drop-in craft program. Drop in anytime during the two hour program with a grown-up and we'll be sure to help make your holidays merry and bright with some special holiday crafts. For children of all ages. No registration required. Program Room, Naper Boulevard Library, 2035 S. Naper Blvd., 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 17 - 'Tis the Season

Meeting Room A/B, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 17 - Get In The Game!

Feeling "board"? "Picktureka[®]" yourself, your friends, and family having a fun time playing from our collection of games! "Checkers" out our extra large and regular size games, too. Play an old favorite or try something new. Game selection will vary at each library. This is a program for children and families. No registration is required.

Children's Department, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Children's Department, Naper Boulevard Library, 2035 S. Naper Blvd., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Children's Department, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 5:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 20 - Exam Cram

We know finals can be a drag, so let's try to make it a little more fun. Just for teens, the Library is opening up our big meeting room for group study. We'll have lots of big tables, Wi-Fi for your laptop, and reference help will be available. Then sometime in the evening we'll take a break for fun and snacks. Grades 9 to 12. No registration is required. Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 4:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 21 - 'Tis the Season

The season is here, we're ready for cheer! Come to the Library for our holiday drop-in craft program. Drop in anytime during the two hour program with a grown-up and we'll be sure to help make your holidays merry and bright with some special holiday crafts. For children of all ages. No registration required. Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 30 - New Year's Dance Party

Get ready for the New Year with a 12 o'clock countdown. Design your 2011 hat and noisemaker before the dancing begins. We'll be dancing the Hokey Pokey, Chicken Dance, and other favorites. At the stroke of 12 noon we will celebrate!!! For children of all ages and their caregivers. No registration required. Meeting Room A/B, 95th Street Library, 3015 Cedar Glade Dr., 11:15 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. and Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 11:15 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 31 - New Year's Dance Party

Get ready for the New Year with a 12 o'clock countdown. Design your 2011 hat and noisemaker before the dancing begins. We'll be dancing the Hokey Pokey, Chicken Dance, and other favorites. At the stroke of 12 noon we will celebrate!!! For children of all ages and their caregivers. No registration required. Program Room, Naper Boulevard Library, 2035 S. Naper Blvd., 11:15 a.m. to 12:05 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 8 - Test-Taking and Tutoring Help for Teens

Teens! Improve your grades and test scores using the Library's online databases. We will show you how to use *Learning Express Library* and *Live Homework Help* to raise your test scores and your grades. This hands-on class is free to Naperville Public Library cardholders. Online registration and a Naperville Public Library card are required to attend this program. Register at www.naperville-lib.org, or any of the Adult or Children's service desks at the three Library buildings. Community Room, Nichols Library, 200 W. Jefferson Ave., 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

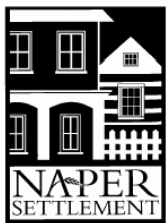
Confederation Schedules 2011 Candidate Forums

The NAHC is proud to announce its schedule for 2011 Spring Election Candidate Forums.

Continuing this award winning voter education series, the following dates and times have been set:

- 2/23 - City Council (7 PM)
- 2/24 - Mayor (7:30 PM)
- 3/14 - Park District (7:30 PM)
- 3/22 - SD 203 (7:30 PM)
- 3/24 - SD 204 (7:30 PM)

Watch the January and February newsletters and our website for more information. If you would like to volunteer to help with our forums, please contact us at nahc-naperhomeowners@wowway.com.



A Historic Museum Village

News from Naper Settlement

www.napersettlement.museum

523 South Webster Street

Naperville, Illinois 60540

(630) 420-6010

(630) 305-5255-fax

Accredited by the American Association of Museums, Naper Settlement has 30 historic structures ranging from a rustic log cabin to an elegant Victorian mansion, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Admission is \$5.25 adults, \$4.75 seniors and \$4 youth 4-17. Enjoy the free audio tour as you stroll through the village to see the beautifully restored exteriors of 30 historic structures. The Pre-Emption House Visitor Center, galleries and Museum Store are open, but the building interiors are closed. Visit www.napersettlement.museum or call (630) 420-6010 for more information.

Naper Settlement recently was honored with awards from the Illinois Association of Museums and the MarCom Awards competition.

During its annual awards ceremony held Nov. 4 in Naperville, the Illinois Association of Museums presented Naper Settlement/Naperville Heritage Society with two Superior Achievement Awards, one for its Collections Care and Storage Improvements, and one for the Naperville Heritage Society 40th Anniversary Celebration.

In 2007, the Naperville Heritage Society, administrator of Naper Settlement, partnered with the City of Naperville to construct a purpose-built storage facility to house collections, as part of the city's Multi-Purpose Public Works Service Center. The successful completion of the storage project has allowed for the preservation and sharing of the museum's important and unique collections of Naperville's history. The Naperville Heritage Society marked its 40th anniversary in 2009 in several ways, including a proclamation from the City of Naperville declaring Feb. 5, 2009, as "Naperville Heritage Society Day," a commemorative anniversary edition of *Treasures Magazine* and a documentary produced by Naperville Community Television, Channel 17, titled "A Hallmark of Heritage."

Naper Settlement also received a Gold Award from the MarCom Awards for its Garden Guide informational brochure and an honorable mention for its Wedding & Rental Guide brochure design. An international creative competition, the MarCom Awards recognize outstanding achievement by marketing and communication professionals around the world. There were almost 5,000 entries from throughout the United States and several foreign countries in the MarCom Awards 2010 competition.

Holiday Mansion Tours

It's time to spice up the holidays with a tour of the splendidly decorated Victorian-era Martin Mitchell Mansion, the only home in Naperville on the National Register of Historic Places. Come learn about 19th century customs on three weekends in December: Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 4-5, 11-12 and 18-19. Tours run continuously from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and include an informative tour of the two-story 1883 Mansion and its Carriage House. The fee is \$8 general admission; \$1 off for Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining Members; no advance registration required. Please come directly to the Mansion to purchase your tickets. Walk-ins are welcome for this holiday-focused tour with historic ambiance.

Traveler's Dream Concert

Traveler's Dream will present, "A Celtic Holiday Celebration," a concert of songs and carols celebrating the winter season from 3 to 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 5 at Naper Settlement's Century Memorial Chapel, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. Michael Lewis and Denise Wilson will share how each song relates to the ancient traditions and unique holiday customs of Ireland, Wales, England and Brittany. Advance tickets are recommended due to limited seating. Tickets are \$12 per person; \$10 for Naperville Heritage Society Sustaining Members. Call (630) 420-6010 or visit www.napersettlement.museum.

History Speaks Lecture Series: Charles Dickens

Actor and historian Terry Lynch portrays "Charles Dickens," the great 19th century author, from 4 to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 12, in this presentation of the History Speaks Lecture Series. Mr. Dickens has a big birthday coming up in 2012 - he's about to commemorate the bicentennial of his birth! As this date quickly approaches, Dickens reflects on his life and discusses some of his best known works including the beloved classic, "A Christmas Carol." Advance tickets are \$6 for adults, \$5 for students, youth and Naperville Heritage Society sustaining members; tickets at the door are \$7 for adults, \$6 for students and youth. For tickets, call (630) 420-6010. Visit www.napersettlement.museum for more information.

Victorian Holiday Traditions presentation and Martin Mitchell Mansion Tour

Take a guided tour of the historic Martin Mitchell Mansion decorated in traditional Victorian holiday splendor from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, at Naper Settlement, 523 S. Webster St., Naperville. The tour is followed by an informative presentation on holiday traditions, such as Christmas trees and straw ornaments, in the historic Pre-Emption House Tavern, where visitors will enjoy a sweet

treat. This presentation is perfect for groups or to start your own holiday tradition. Advance registration is required. Tickets are \$18 per person. Call (630) 420-6010 or visit www.napersettlement.museum.

Victorian Holiday Group Tours, Dec. 1 through 31

Call ahead to arrange a group tour of the historic Martin Mitchell Mansion decorated in traditional Victorian holiday splendor. There are several group tour options available. For prices and reservations, call (630) 420-4161 or e-mail grouptours@naperville.il.us.



The NAHC is looking forward to seeing all of our members and interested parents and homeowners at our meeting on Saturday Morning, December 18th. Come early, enjoy a cup of coffee with the Confederation Board, and tell us what is on your mind.

Keep an eye on www.napervillehomeowners.com for late-breaking news and information of importance to homeowners and neighborhoods.

The next newsletter will be on or about January 1st

***Bob Fischer
NAHC Newsletter Editor & Webmaster***