

# District DIALOGUE

A newsletter for residents of the DeForest Area School District

May 2005

## School board begins discussing growth and facilities: Where... What... When...

This is the second in a series of articles about how the school district is planning for future growth and facilities. Last month information was presented about how the board of education is developing a process through which the community can address three questions: Where, When, and What.

This article explores the *Where* question - factors that will be considered by the Board of Education and the public when making a decision about where to build the next public school in our growing community.

Some day, probably sooner rather than later, there will be another school built in the DeForest Area School District to accommodate our growing student population. Where to build, when to build, and what exactly to build are important questions to be addressed.

It is not as though there aren't choices. Indeed, the DeForest Area School District encompasses over 100 square miles and serves all or part of seven different municipalities.

Recently, the school district's board of education and administration met to identify important factors to be considered in determining a site location for a public school – no matter what the age of the students who might attend. At right are key factors that are being considered in making the decision about where to locate the next school for our community.

### *WHERE?* FACTORS TO CONSIDER

- A site that supports the school district's primary purposes of educating students, nurturing their overall development and well-being, and engaging them in meaningful ways into the community.
- A location in a residential neighborhood – within walking distance for a majority of students who will attend.
- A site that has well-drained land that can be developed and maintained at a reasonable cost to the public.
- A site that allows for efficiencies and economies for student transportation while at the same time not interfering with efficient and safe traffic patterns for the community.
- A site that allows for future expansion as the community grows.
- A site that allows for economies related to purchase and operation of the land and facilities.
- A site that complements existing school facilities and neighborhood attendance areas.
- A site that responds to both immediate and long term needs and development plans for both the school district and the municipalities.

These important factors and more will be considered in making the ultimate decision about where to locate the next school in our district. As with all phases of the decision making process for the board of education, public input is welcome and sought. If you have thoughts or comments as the district moves forward with future planning, please do not hesitate to contact us through the district web site at [districtdialogue@www.deforest.k12.wi.us](mailto:districtdialogue@www.deforest.k12.wi.us).

### Inside this Issue . . .

#### *Page 1*

- Planning for future growth - Where?
- Food Service computer change

#### *Page 2*

- Summer swim registration
- Highlights from kindergarten screening
- Student performances in May
- LINK-ages

#### *Page 3*

- Upcoming youth & family events in the DeForest & Madison areas
- TAG opportunities

#### *Page 4*

- DeForest Area Community Calendar



## Food Service computer change to begin in August

This fall, the Food Service Department will be converting to the Skyward computer program for maintaining meal account payments and purchases. All account balances remaining at the end of this school year will convert to the new system.

See page 2 for new features beginning August 2005.

*continued on page 2*



Over 250 children participated in the school district's annual kindergarten screening activities on April 22 and 25.

*At right: District employee Cathy Spurgat assists a child with vision screening.*



DeForest Area School District

## Summer Swim Registration

### In-District Residents

Wednesday, May 11, 2005  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.  
DeForest Area High School  
Little Theater

### Out-of-District Residents

Wednesday, May 18, 2005  
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.  
DeForest Area High School Pool

For additional information visit  
[www.deforest.k12.wi.us](http://www.deforest.k12.wi.us)  
or call 842-6850.

## Food Service computer changes slated for fall

*continued from page 1*

### New features beginning August 2005:

- Family ID #'s are no longer needed. You will use your student's name with each payment instead of your Family ID #.
- The Skyward Family Access login used to check student grades and attendance will also be used to check your account balance and the purchases made to the account.
- Online account information will be more detailed. All purchases made from the account will be listed by student. All payments will also be shown.

### Returning Features:

- Middle and high school students will have the same lunch line PIN # that they have had in the past.
- Automated phone calls and emails will be generated for negative balances.
- Families will continue to be given the option to have all of their students share one account or have individual student accounts.

### Discontinued Feature:

- The primary guardian contact given to schools will need to be the same primary contact for the lunch system. The lunch system will no longer be able to have a separate guardian name, phone number, email, or mailing address contact unless the school's contact information is updated as well.

## Mark your calendar!

### Elementary Schools (throughout May)

- Grandparents' Lunches
- Music Programs

### Middle School

May 17 Choral Concert  
May 19, 20, 21 Play Performances  
May 24 Band Concert

### High School

May 19 Instrumental Concert  
May 21 Choral Concert  
May 25 Senior Awards Night

More information available at [www.deforestcalendar.org](http://www.deforestcalendar.org).

### Interested in LINK-ages ?



LINK-ages consists of school and community people committed to expanding intergenerational activities in the DeForest area since 1992. Its mission is to develop and support programs and activities in the schools and community that mutually benefit students, families, and older adults.

Meetings are held at the DeForest Area Community Center each month during the school year.

Please contact Debi Shepherd-Wundrow (842-6114) or Susan Hoffman (842-6250) for more information.

## DEFOREST AREA

### DeForest Area Public Library

#### Children's Used Book Sale

Friday, April 8, 9 am - 4 pm &  
Saturday, April 9, 9 am - 4 pm

#### Adult book discussion

(books available at the library)

Wednesday, April 12 6:30 pm

"The Road to Wellville" by T.C. Boyle

#### Summer Reading Program

May 31 - August 6

Includes summer-long reading contest for preschool thru adults, pre-school story hours (Tues. or Thurs.), elementary programs (Wed. am), middle & high school program (Wed. afternoons), and Summer Book Club.

Sign-up in person starting May 31st; class sizes are limited. FREE

#### DragonFest Summer Reading Program

Saturday, June 4

Kick-off includes crafts, games, costume contest and an interactive fencing demonstration by members of the UW-Fencing Club. Flyers available at the library. FREE

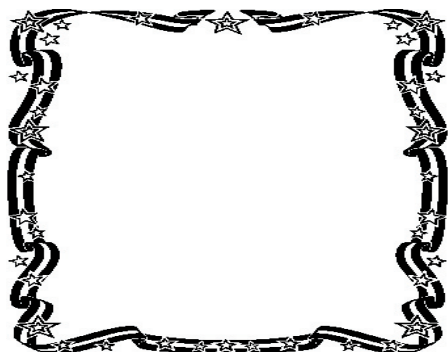
#### Summer Concerts in the Park Series

Tuesday evenings 6:30 pm at Fireman's Park. June 14 - July 26. FREE family fun and entertainment sponsored by local businesses. List of performers is available at the library.

#### Movies in the Park

June 17 - August 5 (no movie July 1)

Friday evenings at dusk at Fireman's Park - shown on a big screen on the west side of the log cabin. List of movies available at the library. FREE



### FRIENDS OF THE DRAGON ART FAIR

Market Street, DeForest, Wisconsin  
June 4, 2005 - 8 AM to 5 PM



Amazing Art, Fantastic Food & Great  
Music in the

"North Star of Dane County"

Special Musical Guest

Regal Blend Barbershop Quartet

Silent Auction

Other Exciting Events on June 4<sup>th</sup>

8<sup>th</sup> Annual DeForest Auto Show

DeForest Area Historical Society

Ice Cream Social

Friends of the DeForest Library

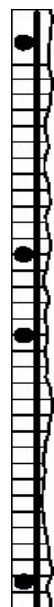
Book Sale

Website: [www.dragonartsgroup.org](http://www.dragonartsgroup.org)

Present this Ad For Free Shuttle to

Art Fair from High School

Don't Miss a special reception to open the Silent Auction on May 11th from 7-8 PM at the DeForest Area Historical Society Gallery in the Library. Guests will have an opportunity to view the auction items and, for a \$5.00 donation, pre-bid on your favorites! Please stop by!



## (TAG) Talented & gifted opportunities for students and parents

A list of academic opportunities is available for students and parents at <http://www.deforest.k12.wi.us/InstServices/InstServices.htm>.

If you would like to learn more about TAG opportunities within the district, please contact Peter O'Neil, Director of Instruction, at 842-6531 or email him at [jponeil@deforest.k12.wi.us](mailto:jponeil@deforest.k12.wi.us).

## MADISON AREA

### Health & Wellness Days

May 6-7

Take a break at UW-Madison!

Experience two days of educational, interactive and fun activities for all ages. Enjoy free massages, food, entertainment, workshops and much more!

Call 263-2400 for more information.

### Kids in the Rotunda - May 7

(formerly Kids in the Crossroads)

Playtime Productions Children's Theatre  
"If the Shoe Fits....A Cinderella Story"

Location: Overture Center for the Arts,  
201 State Street, Madison

Free performances presented on the Rotunda Stage. Performance times are at 11:00 am & 1:00 pm. For more information, call 608.258.4177.

### Mother's Day Concert - May 8

Olbrich Botanical Gardens,

3330 Atwood Ave., Madison, WI

Bring your mother to the gardens for a stroll through the spring blossoms. Also enjoy a concert by the New Horizons Concert Band in the Evjue Commons, 2:00 - 3:00 pm.

For more information call 246-4551.

### Tour de Cure - May 21

American Family Insurance, 6000

American Parkway, Madison

7:00 am - Check in, 8:30 am - Start

American Diabetes Association's Tour de Cure, a bicycling event to raise money for research for a cure for diabetes.

For more information or to register call 608-833-1060, 1-888-DIABETES, or register online at [www.diabetes.org/tour](http://www.diabetes.org/tour).

### 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Monona Memorial Day Parade - May 30

Monona Drive to Owen Road, Monona

10:00 am - Everyone enjoys the thrill and pageantry of a parade! Join the

Celebration of 50 years for the Madison area's largest and longest running

Memorial Day Parades. After the parade brief Memorial Ceremonies will be

held at Blooming Grove, Roselawn Cemeteries and Highland Memory

Gardens. To honor those who have and are serving our country.

Call 222-8565 for more information.



• **Up-to-date information on activities in our community!**

- |                        |                            |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Arts & Entertainment   | Civic Groups               |
| Clubs                  | Municipal Groups           |
| Other Community Events | Recreation                 |
| Religious Groups       | School Activities & Events |
| School Athletics       | School Facilities          |

• **No cost publicity for your upcoming event!**

Any non-profit group within the boundaries of the DeForest Area School District may submit an event.

*Sponsored by DMB Community Bank, DeForest Area Chamber of Commerce and DeForest Area School District*

**[www.deforestcalendar.org](http://www.deforestcalendar.org)**

District **DIALOGUE**

The *District Dialogue* is a newsletter for residents of the DeForest Area School District. It is given to building principals to add to their individual school newsletters and is distributed to organizations throughout our community. *District Dialogue* represents another step in our commitment to improve communication with parents and the community at large.

**Superintendent of Schools**  
Jon Bales, Ph.D.  
DeForest Area School District  
520 E. Holum Street  
DeForest, WI 53532  
(608) 842-6577

**Board of Education**  
Jan Berg, President  
Sue Paulson, Vice President  
Glenn Olson, Treasurer  
Mike Hirsch, Clerk  
Tony Capozziello  
Rick Herschleb  
Marty Palus  
Janet Klosterman  
Dave Miller

If you would like to be added to the mailing list or if you have questions or comments, please contact the Office of School/Community Relations  
(608) 842-6581

**On the Web:**  
[www.deforest.k12.wi.us](http://www.deforest.k12.wi.us)  
**Email:**  
[districtdialogue@deforest.k12.wi.us](mailto:districtdialogue@deforest.k12.wi.us)  
**School Closing/Delay Hotline:**  
(608) 842-6668

*The DeForest Area School District does not discriminate against pupils on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability or handicap in its education programs or activities.*

**D**istrict Dialogue  
DeForest Area School District  
520 E. Holum Street  
DeForest, WI 53532  
(608) 842-6500

& **M**iddle **M**atters  
DeForest Area Middle School  
404 Yorktown Road  
DeForest, WI 53532  
(608) 842-6000

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
DeForest, WI 53532  
Permit No. 24