



Waunakee Neighborhood Connection

JULY/AUG/SEPT 2011

# MY NEIGHBOR

A Publication of Waunakee Neighborhood Connection

## CLIENT SHOPPING

Mon July 11th, 5-8pm  
Wed July 20th 8:30am-  
11:00am

Mon August 1st, 5-8pm  
Wed August 17th, 10-1pm  
**Aug 17th noon to 4pm,  
school supply distribution  
at Intermediate school**

**September shopping is  
after registration on  
September 12th**

Mon October 3rd, 5-8pm  
Wed October 19th 10-1pm  
Mon October 24, 8:30-  
12:30pm

## SPECIAL NOTE:

**Address  
Verification  
for everyone**

## DON'T FORGET:

**The Garden of Dreams is  
producing a lot of  
wonderful food. We still  
need help watering and  
harvesting every Tuesday  
at 9am at the girls' softball  
diamond on Simon  
Crestway**

**Remember:  
shop one time  
per month**

# Registration

## September 12th, 9am or 6pm

Everyone is required to attend a registration meeting. There are new policies to discuss, and we like to recognize some of the people who make WNC run. We are offering a morning time, and an evening time, and expect everyone who wishes to utilize our services to attend. **No one will be allowed to shop if they have not attended a registration meeting.** Seniors who just receive the meals at Christmas and Easter do not have to attend a meeting. However, anyone who wishes to shop in the free store must attend.

## New school year-new paperwork!

Don't you just love filling out the same paperwork each year at the start of school? Well, it's the same here at WNC. In September, everything is wiped clean and starts over. We will be having our annual client registration meeting and obtaining all of your information from you once again. Even those of you who just registered in July will need to register again. **This year we'll be requiring verification of your address even if you've lived there for 100 years.** You must bring a current bill addressed to you from the utilities company or a copy of your current lease with landlord contact information to the registration meeting.

# Policy highlights

## Volunteers!

We are a volunteer organization. Each of us (over 100 volunteers monthly) commits to volunteering our time to assist you. As stated in your registration packets/policy information, we have encouraged you to volunteer too! We have age and skill appropriate jobs for everyone. Hundreds of hours go into the organization of the Store as well as the other numerous programs we offer. At the WNC Store, we do this to make it a pleasant and efficient shopping experience. Every item is inspected for wear and stains and then displayed with care. We do this for you because we care about you and your families. With over 750 people now needing help, we need more volunteers and again, are strongly encouraging you to give back to WNC by volunteering at the Store or with one of the other numerous programs or events we host. As with all of our volunteers, we appreciate the time you give back to WNC and to the community who has continued to support and bless you!

## Bed Bath and Beyond

In 2010, we formed a partnership with Bed Bath and Beyond, receive bedding and other household items. We wish everyone to receive new bedding. Therefore we will do our best to give out one set of bedding per bed per year, per family. This might be sheets, a comforter or both. It totally depends upon what we receive. This is why we've been stopping everyone in the doorway on shopping days to ask about the beds you own. We are keeping track of what we've given each of you, so everything is shared fairly.

## Contacting us:

In the past we allowed calls and e mails to our homes, we now have so many of you to care for, that we cannot let that continue. We need our family time to be separate from our WNC time. So, please use the store phone and store e mail only. If it is an emergency, Genna is not the person you need to call. A true emergency should be handled by **911**, Bob Blankenhagen (849-2016) or by United Way **211**. We will do our best to help in any way possible, but **we do not provide monetary support in any type of situation.**

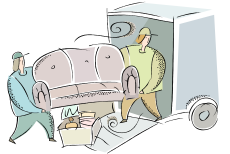


## Greener Shopping!

Bring your own bags. We try to keep the small plastic grocery bags on hand for shopping, but often they are not large enough. Why not bring in your own reusable bags to fill, everyone who gets holiday meals from us has a Piggly Wiggly bag. If you find yourself collecting these bags but not using them, we would love to have them.

## Needs list:

Remember, once we contact you about a needs list item, you have two weeks to arrange for someone to pick it up. After that, it goes to the next person and **we remove that need from your list for the rest of the school year.** Several times people have promised to come to the store, but do not show up. Far too many times we've agreed to meet someone on our own time, only to not have that person come. When it's bigger items like furniture, we just don't have the space to store it. So if you can't arrange for a truck or for a friend to help you, please let us know, we may be able to make other arrangements.



## Address verification:

Every piece of advertising we do states that we support local families. **You must live in the Waukeek school district.** (We also help families in Dane because they do not have similar services.) We will be checking with landlords when it appears that far too many families are living at a particular address. We reserve the right to ask for address verification from anyone who uses our services.

## No Rain Checks:

Items given out in the store are only available during the month they are made available. If you miss laundry soap month, you will have to wait for the next laundry soap month. Same policy for the extras like Mothers Day or Valentines Day.

# Additional services

## Family Friends:

Recently we started working with a local group that is part of Safe Families for Children. They've started up a family friend program. Their goal is to pair a struggling family with a family trained to support and encourage. A family tried this new program out this past month and this is what the mom had to say:

"I really love the program. If I have a need, I can call my family friend and she gets to work right away on tracking down a resource for me. She has also been there to provide dinner for me when life has been stressful and I could use some help. She helped me get new ideas for shopping for foods to give us healthier choices and new meal ideas. We have even spent time together to just talk things through and get to know each other."

Everyone struggles from time to time. We all need friends to vent to and friends to help us get back on track. This program wants to strengthen families. If you would like more information we have it at the WNC store. We can answer questions and connect you with the Safe Families Coach who will work to find a good fit for you.

## Resumes and interviews:

Does anyone really enjoy interviewing? Possibly the person who approached WNC with the offer to help people out with writing resumes and preparing for interviews. In this economy, **everyone should have a resume** ready to go. Jobs are so hard to get and to keep that anything that sets you apart in a good way is valuable. If you are interested, contact WNC, we'll connect you.

## English Language Classes:

Beginning in September, our English language classes will again meet on Tuesdays from 12:30-2pm. We believe they will again be in the Teaching/Learning Center behind the library, but at this printing the location was not confirmed due to some remodeling. If you are interested, watch for notices on facebook and on our website. Students and volunteers of every age and ability are welcome. **If you have a friend or neighbor who might like to practice their English, please let them know about this class.** It's well worth the time, especially if you/they have children in the school district. Navigating the school web pages and parent portal can be intimidating when you understand English. This class is fun, friendly, and very useful.

## Summit Credit Union:

Our friends at Summit Credit Union continue to offer resources for budgeting and cutting expenses. We can connect you.

**August- Toiletries, bug spray/Sun Screen**  
**September-Laundry Soap**  
**October-Toiletries**

## The Sun Prairie Access Health Center

The clinic opened at the end of February, they are currently offering dental care and eventually will be offering medical care. They take Medicare, Medicaid, Badgercare, and for the uninsured they have a sliding scale. Call and find out what they can help you with. For more information:

[www.accesscommunityhealthcenters.org](http://www.accesscommunityhealthcenters.org).

**Dental Appointment: (608) 825-7100**

After Hours Care, please call the same number. **Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Sun Prairie Clinic  
1270 W. Main Street  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

## Bob Blankenhagen

Bob is an important resource to get to know. He helps people find financial resources, and he's probably talked to every landlord in Waunakee at one time or another. Generally he tries to come to the Wednesday OPEN hours. Once we know his schedule, we'll post it. This would be a great time to talk to him, instead of waiting until the day you are evicted, or your electricity is turned off.

## Thank You's:

Every program we offer is dependent on the support of our donors. Because we realize how important they are, we make every effort to thank them profusely. We don't underestimate the power of a thank you note to make people feel good about the time, money or services they've provided. That good feeling keeps them coming back. If you participate in some of the extra programs, like adopt a family at Christmas, build-a-bed, computers for families, or furniture delivery; we ask you to write a thank you note, that we pass on to the donor. We don't want a preprinted card that just says thank you, **we are asking for a heart-felt note that makes the donor feel appreciated.** At Christmas we described the thank you we have in mind as a mushy, sappy, detailed note that brings tears to the eye. The kind of thank you note that a person will reread, and feel good about again and again and will donate again and again! If you do not write a thank you note at our request, you may be passed over for some of the extras we try to arrange for you. At Christmas we actually had to remind people multiple times to write thank yous. Those people may not find themselves invited to participate the next time. So even if we don't ask, if you really appreciate some of the items you've received, send us a thank you note to share. It's a small thing that goes a long way toward keeping WNC going.

## Community bulletin board:

In the entryway to our WNC store we have posted a community bulletin board. When we hear of job opportunities or new services, we will post it there. We've also noticed that people have been sharing coupons on our bulletin board as well. So **if you have something to share let us know!**

# July 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-11:00 am	7 School Supply help 9-11am	8	9
10	11 Volunteer 8:30am-11:00am CLIENT Shopping 5-8pm	12	13 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-11:00 am	14	15	16
17	18 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-11:00 am	19	20 CLIENT Shopping 8:30am-12:00pm	21	22	23
24	25 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-11:00 am	26	27 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-11:00 am	28 WaunaFest Food Booth 3-11pm	29 WaunaFest Food Booth 3-11pm	30 WaunaFest Food Booth 9a-11p
31 WaunaFest Food Booth 9a-6pm  Parade at 11:00am						

# August 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Volunteer & Donations 8:30-11am CLIENT Shopping 5-8pm	2 9am Garden of Dreams at girls softball diamond on Simon Crestway.	3 Closed	4	5	6
			Fill the Bus - M&I Bank			
7	8 Volunteer & Donations 8:30-11am	9 9am Garden of Dreams	10 Volunteer & Donations 8:30-11am  National Night Out Village Park 5pm-7pm	11	12	13 Presbyterian Church Project LOVE
	Fill the Bus - M&I Bank		Fill the Bus - Meffert Oil Company			
14	15 Volunteer Donations 8:30-11am	16 9am Garden of Dreams	17 CLIENT Shopping 10am-1pm	18	19	20
	Fill the Bus - Meffert Oil Company		Fill the Bus - Pizza Hut			
21	22 Volunteer & Donations 8:30-11am	23 9am Garden of Dreams	24 Volunteer & Donations 8:30-11am	25	26	27
	Fill the Bus - Pizza Hut					
28	29 Volunteer & Donations 8:30-11am	30 9am Garden of Dreams	31 Closed preparing for school			
Aug 17th, 12:00-4:00pm School Supply distribution at Waunakee Intermediate School (Waunakee students only)						

# September 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 First Day of School	2 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	3
4	5 CLOSED Labor Day	6	7 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	8 Intermed. Students 2:30-4pm	9 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	10 Diaper/ Soap Drive Starts
11	12 Mandatory CLIENT Meeting 11am OR 6pm (shopping after meeting)	13 English Group Class 12:30-2:00p Learning Ctr	14 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	15 Intermed. Students 2:30-4pm	16 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	17
18	19 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	20 English Group Class 12:30-2:00p Learning Ctr	21 Make-Up CLIENT Meeting 10am	22 Intermed. Students 2:30-4pm	23 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	24
25	26 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	27 English Group 12:30-2:00p Learning Ctr	28 Volunteer Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	29 Intermed. Students 2:30-4pm	30	

# October 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Volunteer 8:30am-12:30pm CLIENT Shopping	4 English Group Class 12:30-2:00p Learning Ctr	5 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	6 Intermed. Students 2:30-4pm	7 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	8
9	10 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	11 English Group Class 12:30-2:00p Learning Ctr	12 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	13 Intermed. Students 2:30-4pm	14 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	15
16	17 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	18 English Group Class 12:30-2:00p Learning Ctr	19 CLIENT Shopping 10am-1pm	20 Intermed. Students 2:30-4pm	21 Closed No School	22 Diaper/ Soap Drive Ends
23	24 CLIENT Shopping 8:30am-12:30pm	25 English Group Class 12:30-2:00p Learning Ctr	26 Volunteer & Donations 8:30am-12:30pm	27 No School	28 Closed No School	29
30	31 Closed for Halloween parades					