

The President's Perspective Don Postler - Village President

It is an exciting time in the village. For this edition of the Dane Dispatch I invite you to join me for a little bit of time travel!

The Past. We start by traveling back to January of 1899. Town of Dane residents G.A. Meek, Joseph Zeimet, Math Schmidt, Ambrose Dickert, M. O'Dwyer, R. Anholt, John Lockwood, and Michael Kelly submitted an application for incorporation of an area of the town which was proposed to be named the Village of Dane. On April 4th of that same year fifty-six residents turned out to Koltes' Hall on North Military Road to cast ballots, with fifty in favor of incorporation and six opposed. Two days later, on April 6th, 1899 A.J. Jorgenson, clerk of the Dane County Circuit Court certified the order of incorporation and the Village of Dane was born, boasting 307 initial residents. Next April we will celebrate the village's 125th birthday! We need your help. Do you have any historical photos of the village or our residents? Do you recall any stories of notable events that are woven into the fabric of our community? If you are willing to share, please contact Teresa at village hall so we can scan your photos and document your stories!

The Present. There is always time to start a new tradition and make history. On Monday April 24th, I had the high honor of joining village public works staff and our talented resident arborist Cathy Brodbeck to host our first ever Arbor Day celebration in the village's 124 year history! Students from Blessed Trinity school grades 5-7 walked over to Bert Deans park where they learned how to plant a tree, including: digging safely by calling the Digger's Hotline, the proper depth to plant, how to mulch leaving a "doughnut" around the trunk, and how to give the tree a good drink to promote root growth! Five trees were planted in the park, including two mature trees (one Maple and one Honeysuckle) that were brought in from a nursery so that they can provide immediate shade to be enjoyed by park users. I want to extend my gratitude to all who made this day successful, and I look forward to next year!

On May 1st the village board held the first meeting after the April election and had a new look. We said goodbye to outgoing board members Don Lord (serving since 2007), and Jen Esser (serving since 2021) as they did not seek re-election. Additionally, Nancy Lindow (serving since 2017) announced her retirement from the board after the April meeting as she intends to move closer to her grandkids. I want to thank them all for their service and dedication to the village, and to wish them the best on their next ventures! At the May meeting we welcomed Capitol Valley resident Joe Morgan to his first term on the village board, and we welcomed longtime trustee and former Village President Roger Schmidt back to the board! Julie McKiernan was appointed to fill the final year of Nancy's term.

The Future. The community survey was just one portion of our Comprehensive Plan update. We will continue to work on goal-setting in both Parks & Recreation and Plan Commission meetings throughout the rest of the year. Keep your eye out for meeting dates and times! Ever want to ask our "Dane Cop" a question? Jot those questions down and stay tuned as we will be having our first *Coffee With A Cop* in the village in the coming months! You will also see a new Ford Explorer patrol vehicle in the village soon as our Dodge Charger is being retired. Have a very happy spring!



Thank You!

Jen Esser



Nancy Lindow



Don Lord

