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**City of Whitewater  
Municipal Building**  
at 312 W. Whitewater St.  
Hours are Monday  
through Friday  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Coming Soon!

The Irvin L. Young Memorial Library will be adding a new service in the near future. Mango Languages offers online courses in **44 languages**, including English for Spanish speakers. The language courses will be available to all Whitewater library card holders and is available remotely so library users can access it at home! Watch our website or follow us on Twitter for the service's availability.

**Visit the Irvin L. Young  
Memorial Library**  
431 W. Center St.  
Whitewater, WI 53190  
Phone: 262-473-0530  
[www.whitewater.lib.wi.us](http://www.whitewater.lib.wi.us)

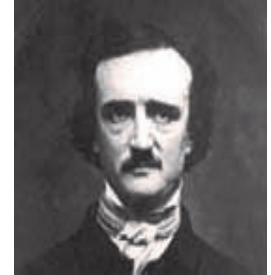
## Big Read 2011: Unmasking Poe

The Big Read, a program of the National Endowment for the Arts, was created to bring reading back to the center of American culture. In partnership with the Young Auditorium, Irvin L. Young Memorial Library and 19 other libraries in the Walworth, Jefferson, Rock and Waukesha counties are featuring Edgar Allan Poe during the month of April.

The Big Read kicks off at all libraries on April 1st with No Foolin', A Free Book. Participating libraries will be giving away copies of *Great Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe*. Programs for all participating libraries and the Young Audi-

torium can be found at <http://als.lib.wi.us/11BigRead.htm> on the internet.

Irvin L. Young Memorial Library is sharing stories by Poe with three local book clubs: The Seniors in the Park Book Club, The Fairhaven Book Club, and the Wednesday Night Book Club. In addition, on April 12th at 7 pm Curt Strutz will speak on *Visiting the Beyond*. He has visited many haunted houses and brings their stories back to you. This program is geared to teens and adults. On April 26th at 7 pm Fox Tales International will host a program titled *The Ghosts of Edgar Allan Poe*. This adult program



recounts the true tales of Poe's life that led to his classic horror tales.

Young Auditorium at UW Whitewater will feature *Edgar Allan Poe's Tales of Terror* with Joshua Kane on Wednesday, April 6th at 7:30 pm. The Big Read Finale will be in conjunction with Arts Alive Gallery Walk in Lake Geneva from 5 – 9 pm on Friday, April 29th. Visit <http://als.lib.wi.us/11BigRead.htm> on the internet for more information.

## 2011 Property Assessment Open Book & Board of Review

The City and its contract property assessment firm, Accurate Appraisal, announce that the 2011 Open Book and Board of Review dates have now been scheduled.

The Open Book sessions with the City Assessor are scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and again on April 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:15

p.m. to 4:00 p.m. These Open Book sessions will be held in the second floor Lakefront Conference Room at the Municipal Building. **In addition to the statutory required day of Open Book, the assessment roll will also be open for examination during regular office hours at the Municipal Clerk's office in City Hall. The City Assessor or his staff will be available dur-**

**ing the Open Book days listed above.**

The Board of Review for the City will be meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 p.m., in the Municipal Building Community Room. Please be aware that the City Assessor cannot make changes to an assessed property value within 15 days prior to the start of the Board of Review under current Wisconsin State Statute.

## Council Approves Water Rate Study

The Common Council this week approved a contract with Municipal Economics and Planning (MEP) to conduct a water utility rate study for the community. MEP, which has recently conducted numerous similar water rate studies for other Wisconsin municipalities, has already started its work.

The Whitewater Water Utility has not presented a water rate study and increase to the Wisconsin Public Service Commission (WPSC) since 2004. Local water rates in the last several years have not been sufficient to generate

WPSC authorized returns on investment to properly operate and maintain the Water Utility System. For example, in 2009 the Water Utility had a WPSC authorized rate of return of 6.5% but only received a 2.0% actual return according to city auditors, Johnson Block and Company.

MEP will be evaluating the current water rate structure and propose alternative rate structures that are adequate, responsive, fair, defensible and understandable. The firm will look at next year's revenue requirements as defined by the



WPSC, and prepare a five-year water utility cash flow forecasts and bond coverage tests. MEP will then serve as our advocate before the WPSC to gain approval of rates that are responsive to utility goals and objectives.

MEP expects to complete its water utility study and presentation to the WPSC by June 15th with the required public hearing before the WPSC scheduled for late summer.

## Lt. Lisa Otterbacher Named Acting Police Chief by Police Commission

On March 16th the Police Commission unanimously appointed Lt. Lisa Otterbacher to serve as acting Police Chief effective, March 19<sup>th</sup>. Police Chief James Coan officially retired from his position on March 19 and will assume his new duties as Police Chief of Centennial Lakes, Minnesota next Monday.



The Police Commission also announced that it will be conducting a national search for a permanent replacement to Chief Coan over the next several months. An outside police executive consulting firm will assist the Commission and city staff in conducting this search and screen process.

## Digital Storytelling Classes

Whitewater Community TV will offer a Digital Storytelling Class to be held on three Thursdays in April (April 7, 21, & 28). Class will meet from 7:00 to 9:00 pm each evening. Limited enrollment is open to Whitewater residents 18 years of age or older. Digital Storytelling uses words, music, and images to creatively present a personal story. At the conclusion of the class, participants will have created a short, narrated video that tells a real-life story that can be shared. For more information contact Alan Luckett by phone: 262-473-8564 or email: [ALuckett@whitewater-wi.gov](mailto:ALuckett@whitewater-wi.gov)

## Office of Emergency Management Announces Disaster Registry and Vulnerability Checklist

Any number of circumstances during a particular emergency could enhance or hinder emergency response efforts during a disaster. Certain types of vulnerabilities could be offset if an individual has a reliable support system in place. Many individuals are able to determine for themselves whether they would be vulnerable to disasters or not.

It is important for emergency responders to understand the vulnerabilities of residents in order to better prepare ahead of time what resources may be needed to respond in

the most efficient manner.

The Whitewater Office of Emergency Management has developed a "Disaster Registry and Vulnerability Checklist" which can be completed by individuals with conditions that would require special assistance in the event of a disaster. The checklist asks basic questions and is strictly voluntary. The information contained in the registry will be placed into a database which will be used by emergency responders to identify vulnerable individuals in any

affected area of the city. Periodic requests to update the information will be sent to those wishing to participate in this program.

The registry and checklist will be mailed out to each property owner in the city along with instructions. This checklist can also be accessed and completed online at the city's website [www.whitewater-wi.gov](http://www.whitewater-wi.gov).

For questions or more information, contact Sgt. Mike Ciardo at 262-473-0570.