

“Sauve Urges Supervisors To Relay Info on Newcap Aid”

“Please get the information out to your constituents that this help is available to them,”

Supervisor Ted Sauve of Marinette urged his fellow supervisors at the Marinette County Board meeting on Tuesday, December 20, at the conclusion of his report on Newcap and the various types of assistance it offers to residents of the 10-county area it serves.

Newcap is a 50-year-old private, not for profit organization through which state and federal funds are channeled to assist residents with things like weatherization, food pantries, loans for vehicles needed to get to work, and more.

“Anyone in Marinette County having a hard time, especially in rural areas, should contact Newcap,” Sauve declared. He advised that regardless of the program, “they can provide assistance or advise where to get it.”

He said Newcap, with a staff of 71, is best known perhaps for its food pantries and home weatherization program, but also provides other types of assistance, including programs to make it easier for individuals to get the skill, motivation and opportunities to become independent, including an opportunity for employed persons to borrow up to \$5,000 at no interest to make it possible for them to get to work. Depending on need in various areas they offer housing updates, rental assistance, appliance and heating equipment upgrades.

Marinette County is a very active participant in the 10-county consortium that makes up Newcap, which has headquarters in the City of Oconto. There is also an office at 1939 Hall Avenue in Marinette, and another office in Crandon. The 10-county service area includes Vilas, Oneida, Langlade, Menominee, Forest, Florence, Shawano, and Brown counties in addition to Oconto and Marinette.

Sauve serves on its board of directors, which meets six times a year, and is audited annually to be sure the funds are used correctly. The Board of Directors also includes low-income representatives. The federally mandated mission is to work toward the elimination of the causes of poverty by enabling and assisting low-income people to attain the skills, motivation and opportunities necessary for them to become self-sufficient and independent.

Supervisor Kathy Just asked if Newcap still provides new furnaces, etc. for homes rented by low-income people from landlord who may then sell the property in a short time without needing to compensate the agency for the money spent on the furnace.

Sauve did not know for sure, but did not know that they were trying to change that.

The agency is doing some strategic planning, and has an invited the public to participate in an on-line survey. Goal is to implement the new plan by December 1, 2017.