



# WEXFORD WATCH



Issue 155

Spring 2009

## THE WEXFORD WATCH

IS FOR  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
EDIFICATION AND  
DOES NOT SPONSOR  
ANY PERSON OR  
ACTIVITY LISTED  
HEREIN, UNLESS SO  
NOTED.

### EDITOR

DAVID TOLMIE,  
7434 SAWMILL RD.

SUBMISSIONS IN  
WRITING BY THE  
FIFTEENTH OF  
EACH ODD MONTH  
TO

[dtolmie@charter.net](mailto:dtolmie@charter.net) or  
[wexfordwatch@yahoo.com](mailto:wexfordwatch@yahoo.com)

## *Wexford Board News by Don Michalski*

The Wexford Watch will be following a new format, effective with this issue. Rather than being published every two months, the Wexford Watch will be presented four times a year, i.e., spring, summer, autumn, and winter.

This is in partial response to the limits of valuable resources (i.e. editing, publishing costs and distribution). The Wexford Watch is always available on the Wexford Village website. Another consideration that could be made is the electronic distribution of the newsletter with a carrier such as Constant Contact. Your thoughts and insights on this subject are very welcome to the Wexford Board. If anyone is interested in helping with the editing of the Wexford Watch, please contact Dave Tolmie, or any board member.

Wexford Village is arranging the final details of the new mowing contract for our greenways (2009-2012). We have had bids and proposals for this project. Typically, we ask for an "up to four year proposal". Since the grass mowing maintenance consumes over 40% of the Wexford annual budget, we view this proposal with great diligence. After all, it is our money.

The social events for Wexford Village are on the horizon, Easter Egg Hunt (April 11th), Garage Sale (May 8th and 9th), and the Fourth of July Picnic. We always need volunteers, so please consider giving an hour or two of your time. It appears that the demographics of Wexford Village are changing again, as the first generations of residents are leaving, we are seeing a new generation of young families, as evidenced by the popularity of the primarily children events: Easter Egg Hunt and the July 4th picnic/parade.

A very big thanks goes out to Ken Schmidt, Jerry Watts, and all volunteers for their hard work on the ice rinks this year. They were enjoyed by many skaters.

Additional work on the bike paths will occur again this year. A major reason for the increased dues (\$10) for this year has been the specific designation of those funds to maintain our 6 miles of bike/walking paths. Again, periodic maintenance will prevent costly replacement in the future.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Board News                                    |
| 2 | Wexford Scoop<br>Library News<br>Water Safety |
| 3 | Neighborhood Watch<br>Neighborhood Scoop      |
| 4 | Park News<br>Neighborhood Fun                 |

## *Wexford Bulletin Board*

- ❖ "I'm a knitter and, in my little part of our village, I've met two other knitters both of whom expressed an interest in a neighborhood knitting group. If you are interested in participating in a Wexford knitting group, please e-mail me and I'll get a discussion going about who and when and where and maybe carpooling to Madison Knitters' Guild meetings. Carol Spiegel: [lookingglass18@hotmail.com](mailto:lookingglass18@hotmail.com)"
- ❖ Please remember that cleaning up after your dog is required by the City of Madison. It is also required to keep your dogs on a leash when walking them. It is also required to keep your dogs within your yard if they are not on a cable or leash. Animal Control should be called for animals found roaming without their owners. Please also note that in Wexford Village the covenants limit the number of domestic animals per household to 2 animals.

## Library News

### **Used Book Sale, Friends of Alicia Ashman Branch Library, Thursday to Saturday, May 28, 29, 30, 2009 at the Library.**

Pre-sale Thursday, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., Friends only, may join tonight, (\$5.00/individual, \$10.00/ family). Public sale Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bag sale - 2:00 to 3:00 Saturday - \$5 a bag, our bags only. Donate books at the library reference desk at any time. Please, no textbooks or magazines. For pickup or to join Friends, contact Jane Kessenich at 836-8429

There are lots of fun things to do at the library. The library is for all ages, and has so much to offer. See the website for further details: <http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/about/ashman.html>

## Water Safety Tips from SwimWest

Summer is a great time to enjoy the pools and lakes of Wisconsin. It is important for adults and children to know how to be safe in and around the water.

- Drain kiddie pools when they are not in use.
- Never let your children swim unattended. Supervise children closely even when a lifeguard is present.
- Learn how to swim, tread water, float, and get yourself out of the water.
- Set water safety rules for each member of the family based on swimming abilities.
- Know potential hazards of the area such as deep water, drop offs, currents, and obstructions.
- If a child is missing, check the water first.
- Alcohol and boating don't mix. Over 50 percent of drownings result from boating incidents involving alcohol.
- When boating, all passengers should wear Coast Guard-approved life jackets.
- Watch for anyone getting too tired, too cold, too far from safety, too much sun, or too much strenuous activity.

SwimWest Swim School hopes you have a very fun and safe summer. For additional water safety tips or to learn more about SwimWest visit [www.swimwest.com](http://www.swimwest.com) or call 608-831-6829.

See the Wexford Village website for all your neighborhood information: <http://www.wexfordvillage.org>.

# Neighborhood Crime Watch

It has been a very uneventful winter in Wexford Village as far as vandalism or crime goes. We did have our ice rink signs damaged, but that is about as far as it goes. We usually don't see much activity in the winter months. Now that it is starting to warm up, please keep your eyes and ears open for unusual activities or strange people in our neighborhood. With the current state of the economy, burglaries and theft will most likely be on the rise. I hope to schedule our first meeting of the year in mid-May. Check the website or call Dave Tolmie for more information.

I'd like to remind everyone to keep their doors locked, and walk in groups when it is dark. We can already see an increase in the robbery rate in downtown Madison, so let's not let it come into our neighborhood. The people committing these crimes are looking for easy victims and entry into homes, so by keeping in groups and locking our homes and vehicles, will help discourage such crime.

The Madison Police Department (MPD) reminds us that when we witness suspicious activity to call dispatch immediately at 255-2345. If we don't call the police, they won't know what is happening in our area. We request that when you report an incident to the police that you also fill out an incident report on the Wexford Village website

<http://www.wexfordvillage.org/associationIncidentReport.htm>

# Neighborhood Scoop

- ❖ The next Wexford Village telephone directory will be coming out this year. We are currently working on it, and hope to have it to you this summer. If you would like to update your information, volunteer for Wexford events, or anything else related to the directory, please go to the Wexford Village website to make your changes (<http://www.wexfordvillage.org>). You can also contact Patricia Bear-Watts if you have questions or concerns. You can reach Patricia at: 827-0018 or via e-mail [pwatts@tds.net](mailto:pwatts@tds.net).
- ❖ Dave Tolmie had put together a petition to have cross walks painted around the traffic circle at the intersection of Sawmill and Westfield. He was able to get over 70 families to sign the document. He then worked with Paul Skidmore, and was able to personally present the petition to the Madison Common Council. According to Alder Skidmore, the council was impressed with the presentation and concern by the neighborhood. Alder Skidmore has told us that city engineering will now redesign this intersection to make it safer for both vehicles and pedestrians. We will also have crosswalks painted. At this time, we don't have anymore details on what the city will do, when it will be done, but supposedly it will be done this year. We will keep you posted. A very big thank you to all who signed the petition and helped make a difference.
- ❖ Wexford Village is still scheduled to have work done on the side walks this summer. We are not sure of the dates, but when we know, we will post it on our website and put it in the next issue of the Watch.
- ❖ Help is needed for editing the Wexford Watch. If you would like to help out, please contact Dave Tolmie at 836-8784 or via e-mail at [dtolmie@charter.net](mailto:dtolmie@charter.net). All ages are welcome!

## Park News by Ken Schmidt

The ice skating season ended early this year due to the rain and a couple warm spells. Thanks again to Jerry Watts for doing a great job on keeping the rinks plowed for us. Spring is here and it is time to think about park and woods clean up and planting time. There is always a need for volunteers to help with projects and maintenance in the park and woods. If any students or scouts are looking for a summer project we would like to bark mulch the trails through the woods again this year. Please contact me if you are interested in helping. Thanks

## Brush Collection

The city of Madison will resume brush collection again starting in April. Pick up for Wexford is the week starting with the second Monday of the month. Please do not pile brush at the curb prior to 5 days before pickup. Brush should also not be placed at the ends of the walking paths. Brush can also be taken to the drop-off-site at 1501 W. Badger Rd.

## Wexford Area Baseball League

The Wexford Area Baseball League is now taking registrations for the 2009 season. The T-Ball league is for boys and girls who this fall will enter kindergarten and first grade. The Coach Pitch league is for boys and girls who this fall will enter second and third grade. All games are played at Wexford Park. The cost is \$25 per player and includes a hat, t-shirt and loads of fun. Scholarships are available. The eight-game season begins the first week of June. For registration forms, go to [www.wexfordvillage.org](http://www.wexfordvillage.org). Questions can be directed to WABL commissioner Barry Vredenburg at 833-0533 or at [badams@madison.com](mailto:badams@madison.com). We also need coaches.

## Wexford Junior Soccer League

All four and five year olds are welcome to join us for soccer at Wexford Park on Tuesdays this spring. We will meet from Tuesday May 5th through Tuesday June 9th from 6:00 - 6:45 pm (six sessions). All skill levels are welcome; the goal of this league is to have fun! Have your child bring a water bottle, no other equipment is necessary and there is no cost to participate. If you have any questions, please contact Randy Ruplinger at 836-9170.

## Wexford Board Members

If you would like to contact any board member for any reason, please don't hesitate. We are always trying to improve our neighborhood and we can always use new ideas.

Position	Name	Phone #	E-Mail Address
President and Covenants	Don Michalski	836-1659	<a href="mailto:michalsd@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu">michalsd@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu</a>
Vice President and Parks	Ken Schmidt	831-8089	<a href="mailto:kschdt@charter.net">kschdt@charter.net</a>
Secretary, Website, and Directory	Patricia Bear-Watts	827-0018	<a href="mailto:pwatts@tds.net">pwatts@tds.net</a>
Treasurer	Paul Stang	836-3857	<a href="mailto:paulstang@msn.com">paulstang@msn.com</a>
Architectural Review	Darrell Flemming	831-8538	<a href="mailto:capnan@charter.net">capnan@charter.net</a>
	Matt Thomas	827-7930	<a href="mailto:scc2001@tds.net">scc2001@tds.net</a>
Block Captain	Jim Rather	831-9638	<a href="mailto:therathers@aol.com">therathers@aol.com</a>
Wexford Watch and Crime Watch	David Tolmie	836-8784	<a href="mailto:dtolmie@charter.net">dtolmie@charter.net</a>

See the Wexford Village website for all your neighborhood information: <http://www.wexfordvillage.org>.