
◆ WEXFORD WATCH ◆

Issue 133

April—May, 2005

**WEXFORD WATCH
IS FOR
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**SUBMISSIONS IN
WRITING BY THE
FIFTEENTH OF
EACH ODD MONTH
TO wexfordwatch
@yahoo.com**

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JIM RATHER.**

Wexford Board News by Don Michalski

The annual Wexford Village Garage sale will be held on Friday May 6th and Saturday May 7th. Any resident of Wexford Village can participate by logging on the Wexford Village garage sale website <http://www.wexfordvillage.org/garageSale.htm> or contact Don Michalski at 836-1659 or at michalsd@svm.vetmed.wisc.edu. Please indicate address, contact person, items for sale, and any special notes about your sale. Advertisements will be placed into area newspapers and signs will be placed at all Wexford entrances publicizing the event.

The Wexford Village Board has established a separate and designated fund of \$5,000 for the future maintenance and any major work for our 30,000 feet of bike paths. Future excess revenues could be placed into this fund.

Tom Grosse is the new Wexford Village police liaison officer from the West Police District. Any issues that you may have may be addressed to him at 608.288.6178 (2PM -10PM shift) or at tgrosse@cityofmadison.com.

Wexford Village has about 34 islands on our cul-de-sacs. The extent on landscaping varies with each island, but the Association has responsibility for the grass cutting and the trimming of trees (done every 3-5 years). If you have any ideas or concerns about improvements, please feel free to address them with the Wexford Board. We encourage any assistance that you may provide to improve the aesthetics of these islands.

On Saturday, April 23rd the Madison Parks Department will hold its annual Parks clean and spruce up day. Wexford Village will be part of this project, working in our own park and wooded area. Start time: 8:00 AM Coffee – Juice – Soda – Donuts will be waiting for you.

***Wexford Village Website: <http://www.wexfordvillage.org>
Submission to Wexford Watch: wexfordwatch@yahoo.com***

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Free advertising on the Wexford Neighborhood website. Update your directory information online at <http://www.wexfordvillage.org/associationUpdate.htm>

Alder News:

Greetings from your Alder,

The effort to construct Madison's first municipal swimming pool has taken another huge step forward. At the end of February, the Mayor announced that the Swimming Pool Committee had met its fundraising goal. The committee raised the additional funds from private individuals, corporations, and another generous donation from the Goodman brothers. The additional funds will allow the City to construct the larger pool with more amenities. No additional City funds will be needed to construct the pool. Groundbreaking for the new pool is scheduled for July 2005. The pool is scheduled to open in July 2006.

Over the last several months a task force of the Common Council Organizational Committee (CCOC) has been discussing changes to the City's lobbying ordinance. The purpose of these changes would be to simplify and strengthen the ordinance, while eliminating some perceived loopholes. A number of individuals, lobbyists, and interest groups have been a part of these discussions. Over the last several months the Plan Commission has been discussing a proposed "Big Box" ordinance that would regulate new and existing large retail developments. Examples of "Big Box" stores include: West Town Mall, Shopko, Kohls, Menards, and Home Depot. I am in general support of this ordinance and inclined to vote for it. I support the size limit, design requirements, and design standards for buildings larger than 40,000 square feet.

At a recent Park Commission meeting, MG&E and their consultants announced that they had selected a site in the Odana Golf Course to be the storm water infiltration area required for mitigating the ground water impacts of the new Co-Gen power plant on the UW campus. Previously, MG&E was also considering installing a storm water area in Wexford Park. This proposal was met with considerable neighborhood concern. I relayed these concerns to MG&E and City staff, who eventually agreed that Wexford Park would not be a good choice for this project.

There are a couple of upcoming issues that I will be tracking closely: 1) The ad hoc committee that is discussing the creation of the Madison Department of Civil Rights continues its discussions. I expect the Common Council will be discussing their proposal in the next couple of months. 2) Discussions regarding the 2005 Mifflin Street Block Party are well under way. As in the past, I have serious concerns about public safety and public costs about this year's event. Some Block Party proponents are suggesting that the date be switched from the traditional May 7th to April 30th so final exams would not interfere with the party. This is a terrible idea. The Police Department has been planning and preparing for this event for almost a year. Changing the date would create many additional problems and costs. 3) The police and fire departments will need to add staff and facilities to meet public safety requirements as the 9th District and City continue to grow. I will actively support efforts to add fire fighters, police officers, and additional support facilities and equipment to meet these needs.

E-Mail: district9@council.ci.madison.wi.us Phone: 829-3425 **Paul Skidmore**



Wexford News:

- **Wexford Park Cleanup** *By Ken Schmidt, Board Member*

This year's Earth Day park cleanup will be held on Saturday April 23rd. I would like to thank Ben Emmel for all the work he did last year on the Wexford sign on the corner of Sawmill and Gammon Road. This was part of Ben's Eagle Scout Project last year. Thanks to Ben we now have a beautiful landscaped corner welcoming people to Wexford. The plantings around the 2 Wexford signs and the flower gardens in the park are all cared for by volunteers. We need more volunteers to help maintain these areas. If you are looking for a summer project or just have some time that you can spare, your help is greatly needed. The circles in the cul-de-sacs are also Wexford Villages property. Some of the residents have taken it upon themselves to do plantings and maintenance on their circles. This really helps improve the beauty of the village and we encourage others to do the same. If you have any questions or concerns about your area please let me or any other board member know. If you want to see any improvements or additional equipment installed in the park please let me know and I will check into it.

- **Easter Egg Hunt Volunteers**

Big thanks to the following volunteers who helped this event: Trish & Jerry Watts, Don Michalski, Sandy Abplanalp, Joel & Fran Vizek, Yolanda Torres, Vaishali Bakshi, Jennifer Giesler, Sujatha Gunasekaran, Shari Joslin, Margie Tolmie, Susan Sutherland, Sarah Strong, Susan Addamo.

- **Volunteers for Architecture Review Committee Needed**

The Board invites you to volunteer in serving in the Architecture Review Committee. The committee will review and approve plans involving room and deck additions and changes in external appearances of homes. Please call Don Michalski at 836-1659 to volunteer.

- **Wexford Garage Sale**

A village-wide garage sale event will be held 8 AM—4 PM, May 6 to 7. Further details will be announced.

Ashman Library News:

- Library hours: M—F 9 AM to 9 PM, Sat. 9 AM to 5 PM, 824-1780.
- The Ashman Library Mystery Book Group will meet on Monday, April 11, at 10 a.m. Our book this month is "Flight," by Jan Burke.
- The Ashman Library Book Group will also meet that week, on Tuesday, April 12, at 7 p.m., and will discuss Rose Tremain's "The Colour." All are welcome!
- Our Anime Club meetings continue through spring, with a film screening on Friday, April 15. Please call 824-1780 to register, or with any questions regarding the film.
- We'll also be hosting Preschool Storytimes in the evenings through April; they start on April 12 and registration is required (824-1780).
- It's time for the Alicia Ashman Branch Library's semiannual used book sale. The pre-sale starts Thursday, May 19, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for members of Friends of the Alicia Ashman Library. You may join the Friends at the pre-sale – a membership costs \$5.00 for an individual, \$10.00 for a family. The sale will be open to the public on Friday, May 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 21, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. A bag sale will be held from 2:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. The cost of a bag of books is \$5.00. Volunteers are needed in the week of May 16.

More News:

- **Wexford Junior Soccer League**
 All four and five year olds are welcome to join us at Wexford Park on Tuesdays this spring. We will meet from Tuesday April 26th through Tuesday May 31st from 6:00 - 6:45 pm (six sessions). Have your child bring a water bottle, no other equipment is necessary. If you have any questions, please contact Randy Ruplinger at 836-9170.
- **Wexford Area Baseball League**
 The Wexford Area Baseball League is now forming its t-ball and coach-pitch teams for the 2005 summer season. The T-Ball league is for children entering kindergarten or first grade in the fall of 2005. The Coach Pitch league is for children entering second or third grade in the fall of 2005. Games are played at either Wexford Park or Walnut Grove Park. The season starts the week of June 13th and continues for 8 weeks. Contact Anne Franken (afranken@charter.net) by April 10.
- **Volunteer Home Chore Program**
 The Volunteer Home Chore Program was developed in 1986 to assist frail, limited income older adults with basic home chores to help them remain independent and in their own homes. Volunteers are matched with older adults in one-on-one situations. Matches are made based both on the need of the older adult, and the interests and time constraints of the volunteers. For more information about the Home Chore program, please contact Kryn Hoyer-Winfield at 243-5252 (or khoyerwinfield@nescoinc.org).
- **RSVP of Dane County Programs**
 In honor of Older Americans Month, we invites the community to attend the “Spring Celebration of Life”, featuring the Wisconsin Singers. The benefit event is Thursday, May 5th, 2005 from 5:00-8:30 p.m. at the Great Hall of the Memorial Union. Call 238-7787 by April 25.
- **Keep Storm Water Clean**
 Storm drain inlets located along the curbs and in parking lots collect the runoff, which flows untreated to nearby streams and lakes. Here are things that everyone can do to help keep our lakes clean. (1) Keep leaves and grass clippings out of the street. (2) Clean up pet waste – bury it or flush it down the toilet. (3) Compost your leaves and yard debris. (4) Wash your car on the lawn. (5) Prevent soil erosion. (6) Don’t let anything but rain go down the storm drain or ditch. Go to www.myfairlakes.com for more ideas on how you can help our lakes and streams.
- **Messages from Dane County Executive**
 The county devotes considerable resources to helping families and children who are fighting to survive. We spend about \$213 million a year through Human Services programs, most of which help people on the front end stay out of crisis. Through research, we have learned a lot about who is in our jail, and in response, we have instituted a variety of programs to help people with mental illnesses and non-violent offenders with alcohol and other drug addictions stay out of the criminal justice system. We are planning a new AODA-Huber treatment facility that will better serve the needs of citizens with addictions. Because not many places have done this, we did a national search to find the best consultant we could to help give us options and recommendations. We have also conducted focus groups with community organizations, religious groups and charities that deal with each of these issues every day to ask their best advice.

More information on the Wexford website including items to be given away, for sale, or missing, etc.