

WEXFORD WATCH

Issue 136

October—November, 2005

Wexford Watch is for neighborhood edification and does not sponsor any person or activity listed herein, unless so noted.

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Table of Contents

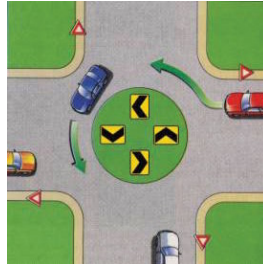
Board News	1
Dane County Executive	2
Library News Wexford Information and Notices	3
Information and Notices	4

Wexford Board News by Don Michalski

We wish to publicly thank Roger Kong, who has been the Wexford Watch Newsletter editor the past three years. Roger has moved from the Madison area for a position out of state. He has always prepared an excellent newsletter edition and established a new standard for our primary method of communication with the Wexford community.

We also wish to welcome Dave Tolmie and Lisa Fangmann, who have offered their talents to continue the work as the Wexford Watch editors. Both will continue to need the support of the community to present a factual and useful newsletter for all Wexford residents.

At the present time, the City of Madison engineering department is reviewing final plans for the traffic circle (roundabout) at the Westfield and Sawmill intersection. After review, it will be given to the contractor, and weather permitting, it will be completed before winter arrives.



Nearly all of the light poles that were vandalized in April have been replaced. Some of the lights were unavailable for installation, but should arrive within a month or so.

Mark your calendars for the Wexford Village Annual Meeting which will be held during the last week of November. A public notice will be sent to each Wexford Household with complete details during the first week of November.

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

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

Messages from Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk:

Fall is here and I'm finalizing the 2006 county budget to submit to the County Board by October 1. I am grateful for the valuable priorities that citizens shared with me through phone calls, meetings, e-mails and public hearings. I genuinely appreciate you taking the time to communicate your interest in the matters that concern all of us. My budget will prioritize public safety and human services. I anticipate that the County Board will finish with the budget around Thanksgiving.

Land use continues to be the number one challenge people tell me they want county leadership on. How do we accommodate more than 60,000 new citizens a decade in a way that doesn't compromise many of the features that we love about Dane County? We've taken big steps by bringing diverse interests together, such as realtors, developers and environmentalists, but the biggest step is still ahead. Now that I've completed six months of listening/working sessions across the county on my Attain Dane initiative, I will produce a map of where citizens tell me they want our county to grow and what we want to preserve.

But kids are why I am in public office. With tremendous partnerships, we've built a number of truly innovative programs to help kids succeed. The Allied Drive Early Childhood Initiative (ECI) is one example, and the Madison Community Foundation is a key partner. The ECI focuses on home visitation and self-sufficiency through employment. The goal is that working parents will become a "natural" part of the home environments of children on Allied Drive. The ECI was selected as one of only thirteen programs in Wisconsin to receive funding from the Wisconsin Partnership for a Healthy Future. The ECI was also selected as one of only six programs in Wisconsin to be a model of how services can be coordinated most effectively.

One continuing initiative is the Huber/AODA Facility Study. It directly relates to my commitments in the areas of the well being of children and public safety. Alcohol and other drug abuse represent a tremendous drain on our community and communities across the country. Some of the costs can be measured in dollars, but the human costs are greater. We must get smarter about how we deal with crime in our community.

As we move into the last quarter of 2005, I am encouraged by the work that we have done together, and we need to do more. With your help we will continue to work smarter and better to reinvent government, use your tax dollars even more efficiently, protect our great natural assets, make sure children have better opportunities by helping their parents to get jobs, and lead on drug and alcohol treatment programs.

Thank you again for all you do to make this an even better community, and I hope that you have a wonderful autumn.

Ashman Library News

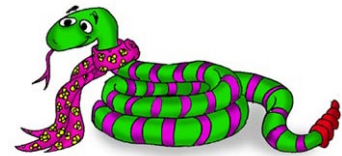
- It's almost time for the Alicia Ashman Branch Library's semiannual used book sale. The pre-sale starts Thursday, Nov. 17, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. for members of Friends of the Alicia Ashman Library. You may join the Friends at the pre-sale – a membership costs \$5.00 for an individual, \$10.00 for a family. The sale will be open to the public on Friday, Nov 18, from 9:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 19, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., with a bag sale from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. The cost of a bag of books is \$5.00.

We welcome your books, which may be brought to the library anytime between now and the sale. Please, no textbooks or magazines.

Volunteers are welcome to help with the book sale the week of Nov. 16. If you would like your books picked up, are interested in volunteering or would like information on how to become a Friend of the Alicia Ashman Library, please contact Jane Kessenich at 836-8429. We hope to see you at the Alicia Ashman Library, located on the corner of Old Sauk Road and High Point Road, on Nov. 17, 18 or 19.

- **Alicia Ashman Branch 5th Birthday Celebration.** Please join us in celebrating our first five years at the Alicia Ashman Branch. There will be balloons and live music. Other events will include: A visit from Bucky Badger at noon, a Branch retrospective and acknowledgement of donors and guests at 1:00, cake and punch at 1:30 and the Snakes Alive Reptile Zoo at 2:30.

Snakes Alive! Tom Kessenich presents Snakes Alive! Featuring live snakes and information about native snakes of Wisconsin. All ages welcome. Call 824-1780 to register two weeks in advance.



Wexford Information and Notices


- Leaf pick up begins Monday the 3rd of October. Crews will be collecting in a cyclic pattern starting in the Monday's refuse collection district and when completed will move on to the Tuesday's refuse district and so on until the completion of the Friday's refuse district. Then this cycle will start over again. Each neighborhood will receive a minimum of three collections weather permitting. This cycle will most likely stop at the end of October.



Brush collection will occur on October 17th. Brush should be made ready for pick up by 7 a.m..

- Reminder that the recyclables collection is every other Wednesday, not weekly as before. Please remember to roll your new bin to the curb in an area away from overhead obstruction. Also make sure that the arrows on the lid are pointing toward the street.
- Garbage collection remains on Wednesdays as usual. The city will be providing garbage bins similar to the recycle bins some time next year. It will help our neighborhood stay litter free and looking nice if we refrain from putting out our garbage until the night before or morning of collection day.

More Wexford Information and Notices

- **Wexford Walking Paths:** The walking paths should be kept clear of any brush or tree branches hanging over them. If you have trees and shrubs along the paths, please be sure that they are properly trimmed so they are not interfering with the walkways. Also please remember to trim any branches that are near a lamppost so the light is not being blocked. Thank you for your help. Note: The city picks up brush on the 3rd week of the month.
- **Ice Skating:** It won't be long before the ground is white and the air is cold and refreshing. Time to start thinking about sledding and ice-skating. We want to flood the ice skating rink in the park again this year, but we need your help. Many volunteers are needed to put a fresh coat of water on the rink every night and to clear any snow off the rink. (The Parks Dept. will plow it for us if the snowfall is 3 or more inches). A great opportunity to get a little exercise this winter, meet your neighbors and enjoy the fresh clean air. Hoping to get about 40 volunteers so we can create a calendar to have 2 – 3 people assigned each night. Then you will only be scheduled about once every 3 weeks. Great fun for students to sign up with your friends and skate, keep the ice in shape, play hockey and enjoy some hot cocoa. Please call or email me for more info or to sign up. Thanks Ken Schmidt 831-3089 kschdt@charter.net 
- **Wexford Babysitting Co-op:** The Wexford Babysitting Co-op has room to accept two new families. The Co-op offers convenience in location, experienced parents, expanded circle of friends for your children AND is free! Find out more information by calling Sue Hunt at 831-3133, or cghunt@wisc.edu or check out our link at <http://www.wexfordwatch.org>.
- **Wexford Park Playground:** A sincere THANK YOU to all the individuals and businesses who have generously donated to the improvement of Wexford Park Playground. Phase One is complete! We now have four more swings, a platform with steering wheels and a merry-go-round. A special thank you to the Wexford Village Homeowners Association for their financial support and encouragement in this project. Also a special thank you to TDS for their significant contribution through their Corporate Give and Grow Program.

A special thanks to the families that contributed: Baer, Bass, Bell, Boycks, Diamond & Cedergren, Elliott, Felcyn, Giesler, Hamblin, Hill, Hodgkiss, Hunt, Ihlenfeld, Koch, Mackey, Marx, Mathur, Murphy, Novak, Piper Kessenich, Duffy & Rhodes, Roberts, Ruplinger, Schmidt, Torres & Schulte, Schwartz, Silverman, Skinner-Roy, Tolmie, Underwood, Weibel.

- **Wexford Park Family Work Day: Saturday, October 15, 2005, 8:30 am - 1:00 pm :** We will plant and water trees, spread mulch, and pick-up litter. Feel free to come to all or part of the day. We need as many volunteers as possible, including kids of all ages, so bring the whole family! Morning treats and lunch included.

The Family Work Day is organized by the Wexford Park Playground Improvement Committee and sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, who has donated \$1,600 for park improvements! Please bring shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows and trash bags. Contact Jeanne Duffy at 831-3078 for more information.

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