



WEXFORD WATCH



Issue 150

April - May 2008

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 or
wexfordwatch@yahoo.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Board News
- 2 Note from Dane County Exec. Area Baseball Leagues
- 3 Neighborhood Watch Community Center
- 4 Park News Junior Soccer League

Wexford Board News by Don Michalski

This winter has been physically and mentally brutal on most residents in Madison because of the snow and cold. It has dramatically affected the budgets of almost all municipalities because of snowplowing and salting costs. Wexford Village has been no exception. The usual annual budget for snow removal for Wexford Village is about \$2500 per year. Up to mid March, Wexford Village has spent about \$5000 for snow removal, with potentially another month of snow. Our budget offers some contingencies, but this winter has been very challenging to our financial situation.

Our bike paths are a major physical asset of our organization. This spring, the Wexford Village Board will be evaluating the need for repairs and other maintenance issues with the 30,000 linear feet of bike paths along with the continued review of lights and light poles. We will be considering the utilization of more efficient light bulbs and the strategic placement of poles. Additionally, we will review the need for pruning of the over 30 circle islands within our area.

A huge thank you goes out to all the volunteers who made our ice rinks so nice this year. We heard that Wexford had some of the best ice in town. Thanks for all the hard work. Please consider joining in the effort next year. More volunteers are always needed.

Kelly Hoeft has been assigned as our new Neighborhood Liaison Officer from the Madison Police Department. Ms Hoeft is assigned to the 7AM -3PM shift. If you have any concerns or problems she can be most easily contacted by e-mail at khoeft@cityofmadison.com or call the West Madison Police District office and leave a message.

The issue of ATC (American Transmission Corporation) has continued to be reviewed by local groups. Concerns have been addressed about the aesthetics of the 130 foot towers that would be used verses the burying of the lines along the Beltline adjacent to Wexford Village. It has been suggested that the cost of burying the lines would be about the same cost as a can of soda per month. Individual concerns should be addressed via local city and county representatives.

The intersection of Mineral Point Road and County M has been a focus of recent discussions with the City of Madison. A recent meeting offered three alternatives to relieve the congestion at that intersection. This intersection has been identified as one of the busiest intersections in Madison, and is, perhaps, ill structured to handle that volume of traffic. Concerns may be addressed to Ruth Ann Schoer, County Supervisor District 9 at RSchoer@aol.com.

Note from Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk

It wasn't that long ago your eyes glazed over and sometimes even rolled when the topic of global warming came up in conversation. Times have certainly changed, as now most understand the real consequences of more energy consumption and more pollution. Global warming is no longer a theory, but a reality.

Growing by double, more than any other county in Wisconsin, we are on pace to add an additional quarter of a million people by the year 2050. We have our challenge cut out in front of us.

When you first elected me 11 years ago, we launched energy audits on county buildings that led to improvements that have cut emissions by 12.2 million pounds and even saved taxpayers \$439,000.

In 2000, Dane County became the first county in Wisconsin to adopt an actual policy that says the new buildings we build will be green and the existing facilities we renovate and upgrade will be greener.

We have made energy efficiency improvements to many county buildings: the City-County Building, Alliant Energy Center, the courthouse, the jail, the Badger Prairie Health Care Center and park facilities.

At a daylong forum on global warming at Madison Area Technical College this winter I shared with the leaders of tomorrow how the decisions we make today will shape the quality of life in our communities' decades from now.

That's the real question: are we all ready and willing to do some of the little things, change some of our habits and routines to ensure our children and grandchildren can enjoy the natural beauty of the lakes and lands we relish today?

Riding to work with a neighbor or friend, hopping a bus, changing out old light bulbs, and buying energy efficient appliances are things we all can do to be part of the solution.

By everyone doing a little, together we can accomplish a lot.

Wexford Area Baseball Leagues

The Wexford Area Baseball Leagues are being formed for the 2008 season.

The T-Ball league is for children who in the fall will be entering kindergarten and 1st grade. The Coach Pitch league is for children who in the fall will be entering 2nd and 3rd grade.

The 8-game season for each league begins the first week of June with no games the first week of July. The season will conclude the last week of July.

T-Ball games are tentatively set for Tuesdays and Coach Pitch games on Wednesdays. All games will be played at Wexford Park and each team will play one game per week.

Registration forms are available at www.wexfordvillage.org. Registration forms will also be available at the Wexford Park Easter Egg Hunt on March 22 and distributed in area pre schools, public schools and parochial schools the following week. Registration is \$25 per child and scholarships are available upon request. The deadline for registration is April 18.

This program only works because of the volunteers. Please consider coaching your son or daughter in this fun summer activity.

For more information contact Barry Vredendregt at 833-0533 or at badams@madison.com.

Neighborhood Crime Watch

The next meeting will be held on April 30th at 7:00pm at the Alicia Ashman Library. Maryann Thurber, from the Madison Police Department will attend the meeting to help lead the discussion on safety issues, neighborhood watch issues, and ideas for making our watch program even more successful. Kelly Hoeft, our new neighborhood liaison, has also been invited and we hope she can attend this meeting as well.

This winter was quiet as far as suspicious activity in our neighborhood. As the snow begins to melt, and the temperatures warm up, the activity late at night will pick up as well. We need a good plan of action to prevent and minimize senseless crime in our area. Please join the watch group to help keep Wexford a wonderful and safe place to live. If you are interested in joining the Wexford Neighborhood Crime Watch program, please contact Dave Tolmie at 836-8784, or e-mail him at wexford_ncw@charter.net.

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>). This way we have a database of all incidents that happened in our area, and we can use this information for the neighborhood crime watch volunteers, as well as work with the MPD to solve these issues.

Lussier Community Education Center

In 2001 – over seven years ago – some people had a dream to build a community space where people of all ages and backgrounds could come together to learn and grow, enjoy one another's company and strengthen the relationships that make strong neighborhoods. We would imagine that many times over, during those seven years, people wondered if that dream would ever come true.



All you have to do is take one look at the grounds of Jefferson Middle School and Memorial High Schools and see that the Lussier Community Education Center (LCEC) is quickly becoming a reality. This summer the doors will open and our neighborhood will enjoy a new community place where we can gather and build a stronger community.

There has been so much progress on the LCEC Capital Campaign. At one time there was \$4.5 million to raise and today, thanks to the generosity of so many; we are within \$1.2 million of our goal. And the news is actually even better than that! **If we raise \$560,000 by this summer we will meet the Kresge Foundation Challenge and be awarded \$425,000 in funding.** These funds, plus a Madison Community Foundation challenge grant of \$150,000, will complete the capital campaign! Remember, we only need to raise \$560,000 in order to receive the Kresge Foundation Challenge grant and make this dream a reality!

Although folks have been at this for a long time, rest assured the work is not over! Please get involved and learn more. Raising money is very important...but there are other ways you can get involved. If you can provide financial support to this great project (first of its kind in Wisconsin!), you can send a check to LCEC, 7011 Flower Lane, Madison, 53717 or contribute at www.lcecmadison.org. If you have other talents that you would like to contribute, please contact jloiselle@psiconnects.com or call 240-1673. Thank you so much.

Wexford Village Residents and LCEC Capital Campaign Committee Members:

JoDeen Hettenbach and Scott Strong.

Park News by Ken Schmidt

The ice skating season at the park has come to an end. It was a great and challenging year for maintaining the ice rinks. We were able to keep the rinks open until the first week in March. The longest I can ever remember them being open for skating. An extra special big thanks to Jerry Watts for plowing the rinks for us. After several big snowfalls this year we were able to have the rinks ready for skating within a day or two. The rinks in Wexford Park are flooded and maintained by volunteers. If any of you skaters or hockey players are interested in helping out next year, we look forward to hearing from you.

Madison parks 12th Annual Earth Day Challenge – Saturday, April 19, 2008 9:00 AM

Wexford Village will again be participating in this Annual clean the parks day event. Join your neighbors and help clean up the park and work on some small projects. This is the time of the year to start pulling out all the **Garlic Mustard** in the park. It needs to be removed before it blooms at the end of May. Lots of helping hands are needed to rid the park and woods of this invasive species.

This is also a great time for neighbors who live on a circle to rake, trim and clean up the green area in your circle. This is Wexford property and not the City of Madison. So we encourage all to help in keeping it looking neat and clean.

Refreshments will be provided at the park shelter. Hope to see many of you there.

Ken Schmidt

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 6th through Tuesday June 10th 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.

Farley's House Of Pianos INC.

- Private Piano & Voice Lessons farleypianos.com
- New Adult Group Piano
- All Ages & Levels

6522 Seybold Rd.
271.2626



A WAY OF LIFE
YOGA & BODY WORKS



YOGA FOR LIFE!
**\$25.00 – Two Weeks
Unlimited Classes!**

- ★ Hatha Yoga
- ★ Pilates Fusion & Core Basics
- ★ Hawaiian Dance
- ★ Monthly Workshops

Ask us about arranging a class that's just for your specialty group!

www.awayoflifevoga.com
(608) 347-9390

6510 Grand Teton Plaza, Ste 102
Madison, WI 53719

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