



# WEXFORD WATCH



Issue 144

March - April 2007

## THE WEXFORD

### WATCH

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### EDITOR

DAVID TOLMIE,  
7434 SAWMILL RD.

SUBMISSIONS IN  
WRITING BY THE  
FIFTEENTH OF  
EACH ODD MONTH  
TO

wexfordwatch@yahoo.com

## *Wexford Board News by Don Michalski*

It was identified in last month's newsletter, that the Wexford Village annual fees have been increased to \$80 for single family dwellings and \$40 for duplexes and condos. This increase reflects the growing need for financial resources for our greenways and light maintenance.

It should be noted that the Wexford Board will continue to explore for savings with our annual budget. We will be assessing the number and locations of the approximately 110 light poles within our area. If we find areas of light overlap, we will ask the adjacent homeowners about their concerns and hopefully eliminate some duplicated lighting. Each light represents about 60 dollars in energy costs each year, in addition to our usual maintenance costs for \$4000 to \$8000 in repair of lights each year. Some of the costs reflect vandalism, but most reflects the aging of our electrical system.

The Wexford Board has also decided to publish the Wexford Directory on a bi-annual basis. The cost of each publishing is about \$2200. This past year, we were able to subsidize some of the expense by advertising in the book. We ask for your endorsement and support of these businesses. We have also explored the concept of an electronic directory or Wexford Watch, but have discovered that it would be too difficult to manage with the frequent movement of residents and changes of email addresses.

During February, we will be engaged in a jury trial challenging the Wexford covenants. This could be a very costly event, but the organization needs to pursue the trial in order to maintain the standards that have been established by the developer and the present Wexford residents.

Social events for Wexford will continue for 2007. Hillary Williams will be the social chair and will truly need the support and participation of many residents for the Easter Egg Hunt in April, Garage sale in May and the Fourth of July party.

With the arrival of spring, many residents will be considering additions for their homes. If there are any questions on this, please contact Darrell Fleming or Matt Thomas (Architectural Review Committee). The City of Madison requires that any issues relating to our architectural covenants must be approved before submission for a building permit to the City of Madison.

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# Note from Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk

## Major projects to become reality in 2007

As you read this, the search for a site for a new County Huber/AODA facility is under way. Public input is so important and it began with the recent release of the Dane County Board's site subcommittee recommendation.

Offenders will continue to be held accountable for their crimes, but inmates in this new facility also will receive treatment to break their addictions to alcohol and other drugs. Why? Because statistics show addictions such as these play a major role in why people commit crimes. Breaking the cycle of addiction will help break the cycle of reoffending.

Another project under way this new year is a new nursing home for our most vulnerable citizens. This new facility will be built on the grounds in Verona of the current Badger Prairie facility that needs to be replaced.

Dane County again will make headlines when we become the first county in the state to implement "Priority Fire Dispatch." This system is aimed at helping our 911 dispatchers determine the appropriate kinds and number of emergency equipment to send to the immediate crisis while – and this is the key feature – making sure equipment remains at the ready for the next call.

Gov. Jim Doyle is being asked to approve our proposal to create the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission. Dane County is growing by more people each year than any other county in the state so long-range land use planning involving the entire county is essential to preserving our quality of life. The key mission of this very important commission will be to work with our local leaders countywide to craft plans for urban growth that protects our land, lakes, and groundwater.

## Neighborhood Bulletin Board

- If you don't get a Wexford Watch or have misplaced it, please go to the Wexford Village website to see a copy online. <http://www.wexfordvillage.org>
- Interested in selling your Highpoint Pool membership? If so, please contact the Tolmie family at 836-8784

## Mark your Calendars

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Sunday, March 11 <sup>th</sup> at 2:00am   | Beginning of daylight savings time.<br>Set your clocks ahead 1 hour.          |
| Wednesday, April 4 <sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm | Wexford meeting on home security and neighborhood watch program. (see page 3) |
| Saturday, April 7 <sup>th</sup> at 9:30am  | Wexford Easter Egg Hunt at the park   |
| Saturday, April 21 <sup>st</sup> at 9:00am | Earth Day Park Clean Up (see page 4)  |
| Tuesday, May 1 <sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm     | Wexford Junior Soccer League Begins (see page 4)                              |
| Early May                                  | Wexford Garage Sale (start getting ready)                                     |

Be sure to check out the Wexford website for events, information, and pictures from neighborhood festivities. You can find this site at: <http://www.wexfordvillage.org>

## Neighborhood Crime Watch Program and Home Security Presentation by the Madison Police Department

It was discussed at the last annual homeowner's association meeting that the crime rate in our neighborhood has unfortunately increased greatly in the past couple of years. To help reduce this trend in increasing crime, it was recommended that we investigate starting a neighborhood watch program. All Wexford residents are invited to attend a presentation by the Madison Police Department on this topic at the Alicia Ashman Library on Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm.

Police Officer Mary Anne Thurber will give a presentation on what is involved in getting started with a neighborhood watch program. Some of the topics to be discussed include: how to recognize and report suspicious activities in the neighborhood, implementation of crime prevention techniques, benefit of being a good neighbor, how to be a good witness, and home/apartment/condo security and crime prevention.

A neighborhood watch does not require frequent meetings. No one will be asked to take any personal risks to prevent crime. The neighborhood watch leaves the responsibility of apprehending criminals with the police.

A Block Captain will need to be selected for this program. The responsibilities of the Block Captain include: being the spokesperson for the group, serve as a liaison between law enforcement and the group, and maintaining a master list of active members. If you are interested in volunteering for this role, please let it be known at this meeting.

We hope to see many of you there.

## Library News

- 📖 Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> 4:00 to 5:30pm -- **From Asparagus to Zucchini - All About Community Supported Agriculture.** Everyone knows that fresh fruits and vegetables are the basis of a healthy diet but getting started can be a challenge! Join members of the [Madison Area Community Supported Agriculture Coalition](#) to learn how you can reap the benefits of fresh foods from a local community supported agriculture (CSA) farm. CSA farms provide weekly deliveries of fresh produce, meats or dairy products to members who pay a flat fee at the beginning of the growing season. You'll learn about how CSA works, how to choose a farm, what to expect as a first year CSA member, and options to make CSA affordable for households on a limited income. They'll also provide tips on to use and store fresh seasonal foods and you'll take home free recipes! [From Asparagus to Zucchini: A Guide to Cooking Farm-Fresh Seasonal Foods](#) will be available for sale for \$15. Call 824-1780 to register.
- 📖 Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am -- **The Way Kids Work: Parenting Counts!** Join us for a new library-sponsored series for parents and caregivers. Each month, we will discuss different topics that will help you understand what's really going on in your child's development, and help you to achieve more effective parenting and caregiver techniques. Limit: 25. Call 824-1780 to register.
- 📖 Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm -- **Rip-n-Stitch.** Sewing projects for teens! Do you have a sweater that shrank in the dryer? A t-shirt that you love that is falling apart? Bring them to the library and learn how to make them into something new and cool. The library will also provide fabric. A new project will be featured each month. Limit: 15. Call 824-1780 to register.
- 📖 Wednesday, April 4<sup>h</sup> at 2:00pm -- **Dance Dance Revolution.** Show off your dance moves on the big screen. Always wanted to try DDR? Beginners welcome.

See the website for further details: <http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/about/ashman.html>

## Park News

### ★ Earth Day Challenge April 21, 2007 9:00 AM

Wexford Park and Woods - Clean up and Project Day

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 1st through Tuesday June 5th 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.
- ★ A very special thank you for those of you who helped out with the ice rink this year. It was a very short season for it, but the help was greatly appreciated.

## Arboretum Event Information

Many migrant birds are returning. By the second week in March, you can usually see geese, cranes, killdeer, song sparrows, bluebirds and woodcocks in the Arboretum and surrounding area.

Usually April bursts with spring events — more birds returning and the first wildflowers in bloom. Look for pasque flowers on the west Grady Knoll, and hepatica in Gallistel Woods early in the month.

Wingra and Gallistel woods are usually full of spring ephemeral wildflowers by the third or fourth week of April. These are plants that complete their yearly growth cycle in about six weeks in the spring when sunlight gets to the woodland floor before the trees develop leaves.

Please go to the website for all event information: [www.uwarboretum.org](http://www.uwarboretum.org).



### **NEW, available to Wexford Village residents in March HATHA YOGA!**

Classes Tuesday (5:45-6:45pm/7:00-8:00pm) and Thursday (7:00-8:00pm) at Madison Christian Community located on Westfield and Old Sauk (aka Community of Hope/Advent Lutheran Church).

Call 347-9390 for your FREE CLASS!