

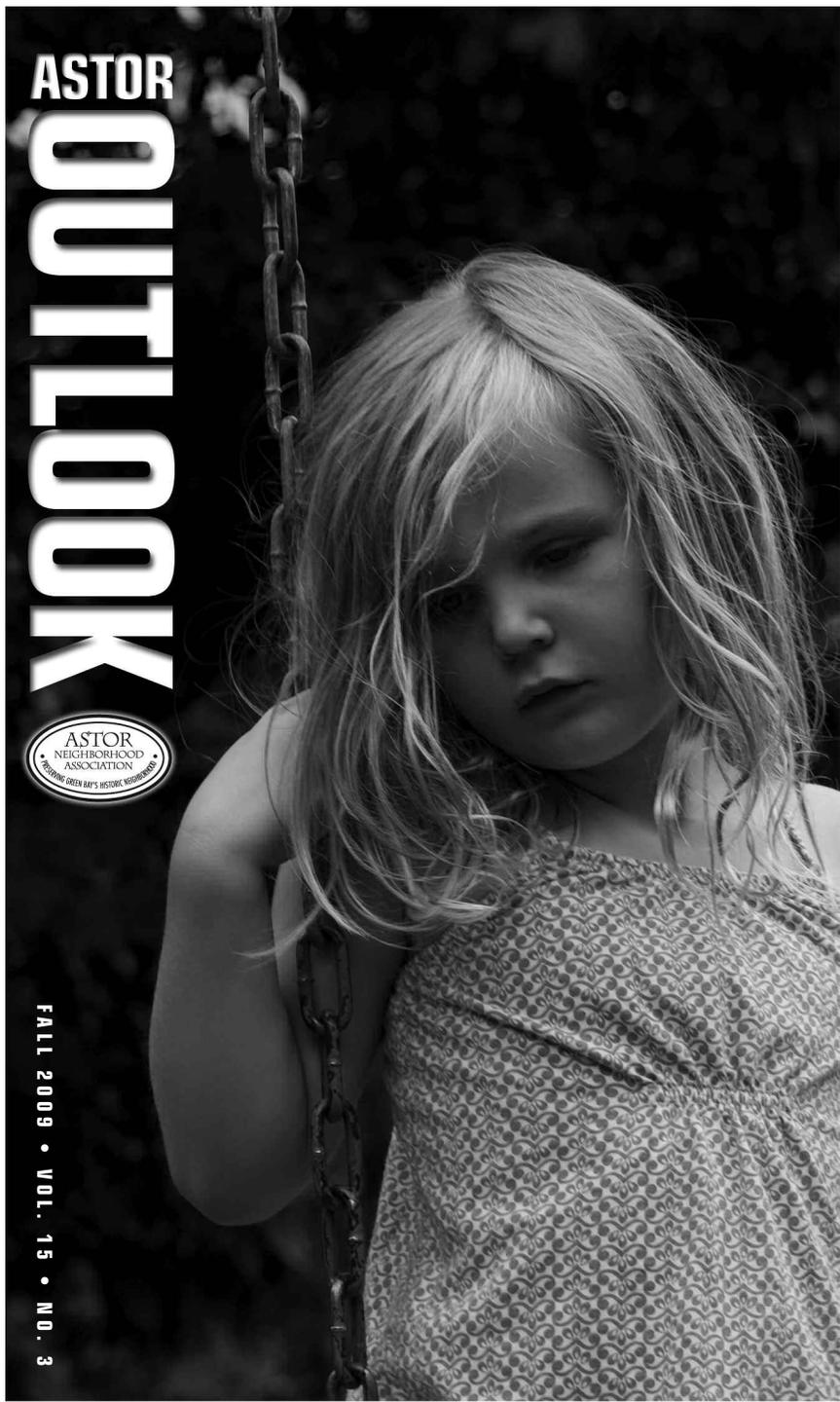
Astor Neighborhood Association, Inc.
526 S. Monroe Ave
Green Bay, WI 54301

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ASTOR OUTLOOK



FALL 2009 • VOL. 15 • NO. 3



Autumn has always been an exciting part of the year. Trees change colors and then lose their leaves, the geese regroup for the trip south, squirrels horde food, and the kids go back to school. It is a season where it seems like everyone has returned to serious business after a summer of relaxing. The Astor Neighborhood Association has done this too. As mentioned in our last newsletter, the ANA board began the process of redeveloping its strategic plan with the intent to better serve the neighborhood as a whole. We hope to have our plan finished within the year, as our neighborhood association has a larger impact than simply the activities and projects it sponsors. As an increasing number of neighborhood associations have formed, crime within our city has been cut by seven percent and the sense of community that has developed continues to encourage families to live within the city bounds, preventing urban blight.

These positive changes are important to our quality of life, and in an effort to support the work of the individual neighborhood associations, each association is part of the Mayor's Neighborhood Leadership Council (MNLC). The monthly meetings allow the association's officers to gain insight on city issues as well as information about what other neighborhood associations are doing and how they do these things. The Council is also the source of mini-grants that help sustain neighborhood projects in areas including community safety, leadership and neighborhood development. All neighborhood associations can apply for funds and they are used in wide-ranging ways – often for projects that the neighborhood

association cannot finance alone. This year's mini-grants helped provide new signage, video cameras to monitor unsafe behavior in specific Green Bay parks, repairs within a park and other projects that could be overlooked by the city – but make a lasting difference to the community.

Because the Mayor's Neighborhood Leadership Council's strong funding role, the council periodically takes part in capital campaigns to establish funds for the following three to five years. This year the MNLC is working with the Winston group to raise \$500,000.00. Through donations by the neighborhood associations, well-known Green Bay businesses and individuals, the MNLC will be able to continue to support neighborhood projects. As our own board is undergoing strategic redevelopment to find new ways to better support the Astor Neighborhood Community, this funding has the potential to become vital to any larger initiative – especially in these more difficult economic times. The Astor Neighborhood Association encourages individual donations to this campaign. The amount can be small, but its overall impact will be much larger. My husband and I plan to do this by writing a check addressed to the Mayor's Neighborhood Leadership Council. It can be sent to 100 N. Jefferson Street, Room 608, Green Bay, WI 54301. I hope that you will do this too, so that we can continue supporting our neighborhood community.

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Frank
920.217.8979

Beth Sorenson... Your Astor Neighbor
& Real Estate Agent.



Shorewest REALTORS

bsorenson@shorewest.com

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Nancy DeMille

- Jacqueline Frank**
President
840 S. Jefferson St.
217-8979
Jacqueline_d_frank@hotmail.com
- Christian Kime**
Vice President
645 S. Monroe
Green Bay, WI 54301
437-2832
christianpeterson28@hotmail.com
- Pastor Paul Schleis**
Secretary/Treasurer
740 S. Quincy St.
H: 437-9134
W: 435-7970
C: 621-0460
pschleis@new.rr.com
- Brent & Joanne Weycker**
Astor Outlook Editor
500 Eliza
499-2195
weyckjo@yahoo.com
- Jaime Danen**
636 S. Madison St.
Green Bay, WI 54301
366-4717
jjdanen@gmail.com
- Mike Van Handel**
Popcorn in Park
818 Emilie St.
430-1378
kmvhandel@netzero.net
- Skip (Dr. Dave) Heverly**
826 S. Madison
Green Bay, WI 54301
436-0332
sheverly@new.rr.com
- Andrew Higgins**
745 S. Quincy St.
455-0158
andrewh@astorneighborhood.org
- Jesse Sharp**
919 S. Quincy St.
455-1782
jesse.sharp@gmail.com
- Jennifer Schwenk**
1114 S Clay St
cshwenk@sbcglobal.net

Dear Neighbors, The Odd Fellow Rebekah Home Association has spent the past two years looking at our campus and the services we offer. One of our biggest concerns for our residents at both Odd Fellow Home and Rebekah Haven is providing the best environment for residents whose memories are starting to fail.

In 2008 we turned down admission to 32 prospective residents with dementia because we felt our current facilities were not the safest environment for those individuals. We transferred four residents to other dementia care facilities in 2008.

We believe it is time for us to expand our services to offer the community a safe haven and quality program for dementia care. At the same time, we hope to connect Odd Fellow Home and Rebekah Haven to the new CBRF (assisted living facility) with a glass enclosed walkway. The new CBRF would be located between the two buildings on the corner of Jackson and Grignon Street,

not the four vacant lots between Jackson and Van Buren Street.

I hope some of you attended our community open house on Monday, August 24 or will attend the Sept. 21 Neighborhood Association meeting to preview our plans; if not please feel free to call for an appointment at (920) 437-6523, Ext. 22 to see our plans. We value our neighborhood input and support over the years.

We will be requesting re-zoning of the space for the CBRF from Green Bay. The first meeting for the rezoning will be Monday, Sept. 21, 2009; the second one on Tuesday, October 6, 2009, and the third meeting would be on Tuesday, October 20, 2009.

—Trudey Peterson
Executive Director
Odd Fellow Rebekah
Home Association
822 Grignon Street
920-437-6523, Ext. 22

litter on the portion of the Fox River Trail for which we are the “Adopt-a-Trail” sponsor (from the trailhead at Adams/Portier south to Grignon St.) The more helping hands we have, the faster we can have the trail looking neat and tidy for the enjoyment of all! Estimated time commitment is an hour or less. Please meet at the trailhead where Adams Street turns into Portier at 9 AM on Saturday, October 24. Wear comfortable shoes and washable clothing. Garbage bags will be provided, but bring rubber gloves if you’d like them. Thanks to Andrew Higgins for coordinating this event!



**MAKE A
DIFFERENCE DAY**
NATIONAL DAY OF DOING GOOD

Consider shopping for the Howe Neighborhood Family Resource Center

Howe Family Resource Center will be providing school supplies to Howe School students whose need is observed by their teachers during the first days of school.

If you’re shopping for school supplies, please consider buying extra for Howe students.

Here’s what’s needed the most! Donations can be dropped off at Howe Family Resource Center, 526 So. Monroe Ave.

- Washable markers
- Ink pens (red, black and blue)
- Loose leaf paper
- Zip lock bags (gallon and quart)
- Spiral notebooks

BACK to SCHOOL FACTS!

- Over 90 percent of Howe School students come from families who live below the poverty level.
- Counting both supplies and activity expenses, parents of elementary school kids should plan to pay about \$473.00 to send one child back to school.

- While there are programs that assist families, the need is great! Howe School was allowed only 16 families into the “Back to School” store sponsored by the Service League.
 - Salvation Army will assist as many families as they are able.
 - Many, many families simply fall through the cracks of these generous support efforts.
- Thank you in advance for your generous support of our children - your donation to Howe Neighborhood Family Resource Center is tax-deductible as we are a designated 501(c)3 organization. Please request a receipt if you choose this option.

—Kathy Kauth, Howe Neighborhood Family Resource Center



2nd Annual Pumpkin Carving & Decorating Contest

To encourage a festive spirit of decorating our homes for Halloween, the Astor Neighborhood Association again invites you to participate in a neighborhood Pumpkin Carving/Decorating Contest. Simply log on to astorneighborhood.org by October 28 and click on “pumpkin contest” to enter your name and address. A small group of judges will visit your porch or yard to admire your creation just before Halloween. Prizes will be awarded for 1st,

2nd, and 3rd place, and the winners will be listed in the next newsletter.



The ANA’s “Popcorn in the Park” sales at the City Band Concerts each summer are a major source of funding for our neighborhood association and all the programs we support. Thank you to the following individuals who volunteered for popcorn sales this summer, and special thanks to Tanya Sharp and Mike Van Handel for coordinating the volunteer schedule!

Sarah Schwiesow, Lynn, Kayla, and Kevin Heslin, Kristen Rodeheaver, Doug and

Roxanne Chronert, Rose Turba, Sophia Kiernan, Christian Kime, Gail McNutt, Mary Ann Hitch, Kelly Schumacker, Paul and Michele Neumeyer, Laura McCoy, Phil and Barbara Nelson, Jennifer Steffel, Kathy Erdmann, Mike and Kelly Van Handel, Katie and Andrew Higgins, Bill Hoven, Miriam, Mia, Marin, and Saied Assef, Patti Patek, Laura and Dan Madigan, Eric and Jen Hoyer, Brent and Joanne Weycker, Pastor Paul Schleis.

Why fill out the census form?

Every household in the country will receive a questionnaire in March 2010. To ensure an accurate and fair count of all populations at all geographic levels in the nation, the Census Bureau needs you or someone in your household to respond to the census questionnaire.

- **It's important.** Census data affect funding for your community, your community's representation in Congress and your community leaders' planning decisions.
- **It's easy.** The census questionnaire takes only a few minutes to answer and return by mail.
- **It's confidential.** Your responses are protected by law (Title 13, U.S. Code, Section 9). All Census Bureau employees have taken an oath to protect confidentiality and are subject to a jail term, a fine – or both – for disclosing any information that could identify a respondent or household.
- **It's required by law.** The information you provide is combined with responses provided by your neighbors and other households across the country, to provide summary statistical data that are used by various local, state and federal agencies.

Why is it important?

• Census affects funding in your community.

Census data directly affect how more than \$300 billion per year in federal and state funding is allocated to communities for neighborhood improvements, public health, education, transportation and much more. That's more than \$3 trillion over a 10-year period. Spending just a few minutes to fill out your census form will help ensure your community gets its fair share of federal and state funding.

• Census affects your voice in Congress.

Mandated by the U.S. Constitution, the census is also used to apportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and to redistrict state legislatures.

• Census affects your representation in state and local government.

Census data are used to define legislature districts, school district assignment areas and other important functional areas of government.

• Census informs your community's decisions.

The census is like a snapshot that helps define who we are as a nation. Data about changes in your community are crucial to many planning decisions, such as where to provide services for the elderly, where to build new roads and schools, or where to locate job training centers.

ANA Meetings

3rd Mon of month, 6pm – All are welcome! Sept. 21 at Hazelwood Historic House; Oct. 19, Nov. 23 at HNFRC

FARMERS' MARKETS

Farmers Market Downtown

(E of Monroe between Cherry & Pine) Saturdays 7am to noon, through Oct 31

Farmers Market On Broadway

Wed 3-7pm through Oct 14

Belgian Days

Sept. 12, Heritage Hill

British Encampment

Sept. 19 & 20, Heritage Hill

Art-Craft On Broadway

Sept. 26, On Broadway District

French and Indian War Encampment

Sept. 26 & 27, Hazelwood Historic House

The House of the Dearly Departed

Oct. 17, 24, & 25, Hazelwood Historic House

Halloween at Heritage Hill

Oct. 23 & 24, Heritage Hill

Trail Clean Up for Make a Difference Day

Saturday, Oct. 24, 9 AM, Meet at trailhead near Porlier/Adams

ANA Pumpkin Carving/Decorating Contest

Submit your entry at www.astorneighborhood.org by Oct. 28

Peace Tree Lighting Ceremony

Nov. 18, 6 PM, Brown County Courthouse

Green Bay-De Pere Antiquarian Show & Sale

Nov. 20 & 21, KI Convention Center

Green Bay Holiday Parade

Nov. 21, 10 AM, Downtown Green Bay

Neville Public Museum Exhibit-Holiday Memories: Prange's Christmas Windows

Nov. 27, 2009 - Jan. 17, 2010, Neville Public Museum

Green Bay has a Nuisance Abatement Ordinance which allows the City Attorney to take aggressive action to remedy 'excessive' problems in your neighborhood. The Nuisance Abatement Team (NAT) meets every month or so to review 'nuisance' properties. The NAT meetings are chaired by an assistant city attorney. The NAT members are from the Neighborhood Division of the Planning Dept, the Captain and Lieutenant of Community Policing, and a housing inspector. Ald. Celestine Jeffreys and I are the City Council representatives.

Properties are referred to the NAT by a police officer, an inspector, the Mayor, an

On Monday, August 17, Mayor Schmitt conducted a "Walk & Talk" with the Astor Neighborhood Association. The session was held during our regularly scheduled board meeting time but began at St. James Park, where we were joined by City Fire Chief Jeff Roemer, Community Police Lieutenant Bill Bongle, Community Police Officer Paul Van Handel, and members of Mayor Schmitt's staff.

Among the challenges facing the city, the Mayor noted that unemployment has risen in Green Bay during the recession, since Green Bay is 80% residential and many of the service sector jobs held by city residents were among the first to be lost when the recession began. On the flip side, APAC Customer Services is hiring 200 people at its downtown office and Ace Marine is bringing in over 100 good paying downtown jobs. Other areas of the city also have growth potential, such as the Military Ave. reconstruction project and the Hwy 54/57 industrial park where WVS Packaging has recently located. In addition, the city is pursuing the potential to be the selected site for a Veteran's Administration clinic—a \$30 million project that will be taxable property.

The downtown area faces a variety of challenges and opportunities. Mayor Schmitt shared his passion for downtown as the "heart of the city" and a critical area to ensuring the health of all the surrounding areas. He displayed renderings of the City Deck, a 1400-foot waterfront park on the east side of the downtown that features a mix of high-end and living wage housing, commercial and retail property, dining, and entertainment, including a new \$4 million, 15,000 square foot Children's Museum. He also touched on the potential to redevelop the

Alderman, your neighborhood association or any citizen. The NAT reviews referred properties and determines, according to criteria in the Ordinance, if they are a 'nuisance'. The criteria includes numerous police calls and/or unresolved inspection issues. If a property is determined to be a 'nuisance' the city can send the owner bills for police calls and inspections.

Please let me know if there are any properties in your neighborhood that may be a 'nuisance' property.

Tony Theisen theisentony@yahoo.com
433-9331 321-6385

former Northland Hotel into a grand downtown hotel. This would involve constructing two new facilities for the elderly and/or physically challenged residents currently living there so they could relocate to facilities better suited to their medical needs. Mayor Schmitt feels that the former Port Plaza/Washington Commons Mall needs to come down. All of the options have been examined, but the fact remains that 600,000 square foot enclosed malls just do not work in city downtowns. The best solution appears to be removing the mall and developing that 4 acre site into 4 separate parcels, which could all bring in up to \$7-8 million per acre, as compared to the approximate \$2 million value of the current property. The City has submitted a request to the federal government to receive stimulus funding to remove the mall structure.

Throughout Green Bay, with 31 neighborhood associations going strong, the City will likely see seven-year lows in both violent and non-violent crimes, with a decrease in the overall crime rate. There's always room for improvement, though: the Mayor shared his own experience with crime when his wallet was stolen from his unlocked car! To keep making progress on fighting crime, Lieutenant Bill Bongle and Officer Paul Van Handel emphasized the importance of neighbors communicating with community police officers and offering them tips. This is invaluable to them as they work on drug busts, following up on break-ins and many other safety/security issues. As always, you are invited to contact Paul Van Handel or Brian Schilt, our Community Police Officers, at 448-3143, or Lt. Bill Bongle, at 448-3215, with your questions or concerns.