

# ASTOR

# OUTLOOK



526 S. Monroe Avenue  
Green Bay, WI 54301

Spring 2013 • Volume 19 • Issue 2 • Published Quarterly

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hopefully by the time you read this letter, our winter will be gone and our basements and yards will be dry again! This spring, or lack thereof, has been tough, but the good news is the Astor Neighborhood has started to come alive. Thanks to those who helped at the Fox River Clean-Up on May 11th and it was great to see a busy neighborhood during the Rummage Sale on May 18th. It's great to see the way the neighborhood is host to other events such as; Designers of Hope (<http://www.houseofhopegb.org/designers-for-hope/>) and Aldo Leopold Legacy Day (May 18th). Mark your calendars for the Multicultural Children and Family Festival in St James Park (July 29th). More information on this event and other citywide events can be found inside this edition of the Astor Outlook.

In a bit of housekeeping news, I want to remind all pet owners to pick up after your dogs. Our historic homes and clean sidewalks make the Astor Neighborhood a popular destination for walkers. Please keep that in mind if you see someone else not picking up after a dog. A friendly reminder is all it takes sometimes.

See you in the neighborhood!

**Andy Rosendahl**  
President  
Astor Neighborhood Association

## BOARD CHANGES

After almost a decade on the ANA board, Jaimee Danen has decided to step down. We will miss her energy, knowledge, and dedication. Thank you, Jaimee, for your many years of service!

The ANA Board has two new additions: Justin Challe & Kevin Vonck (Read more about them inside). We are excited to welcome them to the board. The ANA board still can always use additional members, and we encourage you to join one of our monthly meetings. The Association meets every third Monday at 6 PM at First Lutheran Church at 743 S Monroe. Please join us.

# HOUSE KUDOS

By Skip Heverly

This edition's house kudos go out to Andrew and Katie Higgins of 745 S. Quincy. With the theme of this edition's article being exterior paint, it's worth noting that there are many, many excellent paint schemes throughout our neighborhood. The Higgins's home does stand out as a striking example of harmonious color choice and scheme, both with respect to the house's historical period as well as its unique architectural features. They have lived in the Astor neighborhood since 2004, and in this home, a Queen Anne Victorian, since 2009.

Recognizing that an exterior painting was a significant investment and commitment, the results of which they would live with for many years to come, they were careful to avoid a 'misfire' in color choice. They thoroughly researched the project online, and also perused commercially available color palettes. They also sought consultation with a neighbor, Kathleen Erbeck, who has provided professional consultation on several houses within the neighborhood over the years, as well as with their painter Joel Van Stechelmann and his crew from Green Bay's Perfect Painters.

The typical Queen Anne Victorian turn-of-the-century color palette includes both earth tones and brighter colors that borrow strongly from nature. Whites were not used. The house that they bought had some of its remarkable Victorian features obscured by a monochromatic paint scheme and



*The multi-colored palette utilizes light and dark colors juxtaposed to accent architectural features.*

exterior screens concealing the porch columns. Andrew recalled growing up on the east coast and spending summer vacations in Cape May, NJ, a historic beach town heavily populated by turn-of-the-century multi-toned, "painted lady" Queen Anne Victorians. These historically appropriate painted homes served as their inspiration for this project.

They knew from the outset that they wanted to base their scheme around greens and purples, and worked with Kathleen from there. They describe picking up samplers of palettes they were considering and applying this to paper to see how the colors would flow together and helping decide between different hues as being very helpful. They gave consideration to achieving a balance in their house between color choice, siding type and details. At times, they found the process tedious, but in the end, very worthwhile.

The Higgins family was fortunate in that they had an idea of a basic scheme to start with. Details such as the front column color choice presented challenges. They acknowledged that Kathleen & Joel's insights, especially once the painting was underway, significantly helped them, and they highly recommend their services. In spite of multiple surface designs, intricate architectural features, 6 distinct colors, and three levels being painted, the whole job took about six weeks for Van Stechelmann's Green Bay's Perfect Painters to complete, beginning to end. The surface was carefully prepped with light but thorough sanding, and then meticulously painted. "Joel is a true artist", say the Higginses.



*The circular accents next to the windows were custom made to replace diamond shapes that were present when the Higgins family bought the house; they later discovered that these shapes were what existed on the original house.*

*Continued on page 3.*

# FILE A CONCERN

The City of Green Bay hosts an online report form (see link below) where neighbors may anonymously file a concern about property exteriors. Upon submission, the report is directed to the appropriate city department for follow up. If you are not computer savvy, you may report a concern over the phone by calling 448-3300 for the Inspections Department.

[http://www.ci.green-bay.wi.us/bldg\\_insp/exterior\\_report.html](http://www.ci.green-bay.wi.us/bldg_insp/exterior_report.html)

## TAKE IT SLOW

By Justin Challe

As we emerge from our homes after a long winter, the ANA would like to remind everyone of the serious problem of speeding in our neighborhood.

A recent study by local law enforcement discovered that 85% of traffic on Riverside/Monroe near Aldo Leopold School was speeding at an average of almost 34 mph in the 25 mph zone. In addition, there were numerous maximum recorded speeds of over 50 mph! This is not only a problem because of the proximity of schools in the area but also because many families cross over Riverside/Monroe on their way to and from the Fox River Trail.

Please be mindful of all crosswalks, especially those marked with pedestrian signs on Riverside and Webster Avenues. The majority of the crosswalks are not located at controlled intersections. During heavy traffic periods it can become almost impossible for pedestrians to cross unless drivers slow down and allow pedestrians to cross. Drivers are required by law to slow down and stop for all pedestrians in crosswalks.

**Please remember to slow down when driving through the neighborhood.**

## CALLING ALL PIE LOVERS!

The Astor Neighborhood Association is hosting **Pie in the Park** on Wednesday June 19, at 6:30 PM in St James Park. Join us at the basketball hoop for a casual gathering of pie and fellowship before the band concert begins. We are looking for donations of your favorite pies. Contact Sara Wall at 430-1628 or [sararwall@gmail.com](mailto:sararwall@gmail.com) to sign up to bring a pie.

## ATTENTION DOG OWNERS

The ANA Board has received a few complaints about the dog droppings left around the neighborhood. As the neighborhood begins to bloom, please remember to clean up after your dog.



## HOUSE KUDOS

*Continued from page 2.*

They expect the current work to last for 10-12 years, possibly with some touch up in between.

Andrew makes note that not all houses are designed the same and the color scheme should be matched to the house, in a historically appropriate way. Whereas for theirs, a Queen Anne with abundant architectural detail, a palette with multiple and varied colors, was appropriate, other house styles would be best suited to simpler palette with only a few, or even a single, color.

House painting can be one of the greater joys of living in a historic home. The results can in some cases be disappointing, in others magnificent. With thoughtful consideration, a willingness to take some chances and move forward and work with peripheral consultants and internet resources, the Higgins family have created a dazzling exterior.



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# CLEAN UP BEFORE THE SPRING FLUSH

By Pam A. Freeman - Storm Water Technician  
City of Green Bay - Engineering

Most people think of spring rain as a way to clean our roads, parking lots, sidewalks and driveways. This is the case, BUT it also means pollution to our waterways. These areas have accumulated sand, garbage and other pollutants from the winter. The spring is a crucial time to sweep-up sediments and garbage before it flushes away. Do not sweep sediment into storm inlet drains (catch basins) or wait for a spring flush. Public involvement and participation in Storm Water Management Program development and implementation provides valuable input and assistance, and enables important connections with other community and government programs. An active and involved community is crucial to the success of a Storm Water Management Program.

Thank You to **Seaway Printing Company**  
for the donation of this newsletter.

# MEET THE ANA BOARD

**Kevin Vonck:** Hello! I moved to Green Bay with my wife, Maggie, in 2007. We lived downtown before buying our house on South Quincy Street in 2010. The following year, we welcomed our daughter, Scarlett Eliza. We really love Astor, especially meeting all the wonderful neighbors when taking walks or partaking in community events. We also like to bike, camp, and travel. I work for the Town of Grand Chute, primarily on strategic planning, economic development, and sustainability projects. I joined the Board earlier this year because I want to ensure that Astor remains great for years to come!

**Justin Challe:** Greetings! I am one of the recent additions to the Board of Directors. My wife Lacy and I have been living at 1018 S. Roosevelt for nearly six years. We absolutely love the area. You will see us almost every day walking our large Goldendoodle, Webster, around the neighborhood, usually on our way to the Fox River Trail. My other interests and hobbies include hiking, fishing, and camping. I look forward to meeting and getting to know more of you this summer!

# POPCORN IN THE PARK

Popcorn in the Park is the Astor Neighborhood Association's largest fundraiser, and we need your help. Would you consider volunteering to help sell popcorn and concessions during the City Band Concerts on Wednesday evenings during June, July, and August? Volunteers are needed from 6-9 PM, and this is a great way to get to know your neighbors. Sign up at [popcorninthepark.com](http://popcorninthepark.com) or contact Sara Wall at 430-1628.

Thank you, Jay Erbeck! During the winter, Jay redesigned and updated the popcorn cart! In the process, we discovered that Jay created the original cart over 30 years ago! We can't wait to utilize the new cart this summer!

*Jay Erbeck designed and built a new popcorn cart.*



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# HAZELWOOD "PETALS & PORCELAIN"

By Chris Dunbar

Next time you pass Hazelwood Historic House, take note of the festive banner announcing a very special event happening June 7th to 9th. "Petals & Porcelain" is a celebration of art, flowers, fine china and the unique history and character of the house. This is a celebration of the Martin women who lived in Hazelwood and their good friend, Fredericka Crane, an artist who grew up in the Astor area, studied art in New York City and came back to establish an art studio where she taught portrait and china painting. She became a leading advocate for the arts in the area. Her exquisite hand-painted china was a gift to the family, and lends itself beautifully to this event. Local florists will showcase Miss Crane's variety of patterns with their interpretation of the china.

Local artists will be on the grounds Saturday and Sunday to showcase their work. Lee Somerville, gardener and author of *Vintage Wisconsin Gardens: A History of Home Gardening* will be giving a talk on Sunday afternoon at 2:00 pm. Participants will make an herbal sachet. Learn the art of Ikebana flower arranging at 1:00 pm both Saturday and Sunday and enjoy live music and refreshments on the back porch.

Join us as we celebrate "Petals & Porcelain" June 7th to 9th from noon until 4 pm each day. Admission is \$7.00. Bring in your newsletter for an additional \$1.00 off. Hazelwood is located at 1008 S. Monroe Avenue. For additional information [bchs@netnet.net](mailto:bchs@netnet.net) or 437-1840



*The multi-colored palette utilizes light and dark colors juxtaposed to accent architectural features.*

This event is sponsored by the Brown County Historical Society. Featured floral designers will include "Enchanted Florist", "burst", "Schroeder's Flowers", "Twigs", "Forget-Me-Not", "Echota Gardens", "asterparkfloral" and "Petal Pushers".

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Summer is just around the corner!** Check out the City's complete summer offerings online at <http://greenbaywi.gov/parks/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/2013-summer-brochure1.pdf>

**A few highlights of Summer Fun in the Astor Neighborhood:**

With almost 20,000 runners & walkers congregating at the Webster St. starting line, the 37th annual **Bellin Run** is scheduled for 8 AM Saturday, June 8. As usual, expect increased parking & foot traffic on Friday & Saturday of the event.

Also, on June 8, the **Howe Community Resource Center** is hosting the first annual beer tasting and trivia fundraising event at Titledown Brewery. More information can be found at [www.howeresourcecenter.org](http://www.howeresourcecenter.org).

**Green Bay City Band Concerts** kick off on Wednesday, June 19 at 7:30 PM at St. James Park. Bring your lawn chair and join the neighbors at this weekly event.

The fourteenth annual **Multicultural Children and Family Festival** will be held on Saturday, July 20, at St. James Park, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The festival celebrates our community's rich cultural heritage, with music, dance, arts, crafts, games, free lunch, and other diverse cultural activities. The Multicultural Children and Family Festival is a major event showcasing our area's vitality and diversity, and approximately 1,000 people are expected to attend. This is a chance to meet new people, experience different cultures, enjoy diverse foods, and have a great time. Everyone is invited to attend.

*A Welcoming Friendly  
Parish*



**Mass Times**

Sat. 4:00 p.m.

Sun. 8:30 a.m.

*(deaf and hearing except on  
3rd Sunday of the month)*

Sun. 10:45 a.m.

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Visit us on Facebook

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