



Mayor Requests Flags to be Placed on Monroe Street

By request of the Mayor, the ANA was asked to inform residents on Monroe Street to place American Flags and Packer effects in front of their houses for the Monday Night Football game.

The ANA assisted with this effort by distributing a flyer to the neighborhood and purchasing sixty small flags for placement on Monroe.

A special thank you is extended to Jim Schmitt, Greta Schmitt, Anna Schmitt, Cristina Coleman and ANA Board members for their help in putting up the flags in the very rainy weather.

Luminary Nights

In an effort to distinguish Astor as the premiere historical neighborhood, we would like to encourage all neighbors to place luminaries on their front walks or drives on every Saturday night in December (1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th). Luminaries are candles that you place in some kind of container, such as coffee cans with holes drilled in them, paper bags, plastic jugs, chunks of ice, etc., to light your walkway or driveway. They return Astor to the years before electricity and look wonderful. Make it a family event: let your creativity flow on at least one, if not all, of the Saturdays in December.

Please visit the ANA website at www.astorneighborhood.org for more creative ideas on making your luminaries.

Third Annual Wine Tasting Event

Please join us on Friday, January 11, 2002 at Olde Towne Crossing on Main Street. It is located next to the Chameleon Salon. Park behind the building and enter the main doors for Olde Towne Crossing (glass-enclosed area). The event, which begins at 7 p.m., will take place in the commons area just inside the doors. You **do not** need to bring a bottle of wine this year; the ANA will charge between \$5 and \$7 per person instead.

Wine Premiere, which is located in the complex, will host the event. They will feature wines from four different countries and have their vendors on hand for these products to discuss and further educate anyone who is interested. The ANA will provide hors d'oeuvres, catered by A Bravo.

Don't miss the fun! Come and mingle after the holidays with your friends and neighbors.



Calendar of Events

- December 1st – 23rd** – Hazelwood Historic House Museum Victorian Holiday
- December Saturday Nights** – Luminary Nights
- December 17th** – Hazelwood Open House
- December 30th** – Madison Avenue Church Walk
- January 11th** – Wine Tasting Event
- January 19th** – Ice Skating Party – Astor Park

President's Message

Greetings Neighbors. It's difficult to believe that another year is coming to a close soon. The year 2001 has been such a wonderful year for the ANA and there is so much to look forward to in 2002. Plans for the new St. James Band Shell are progressing well and we should see construction completed in time for the first summer city band concert of 2002. Next year will mark the 100th Anniversary of the band. The ANA will indeed sponsor a dedication of the new band shell and celebration of the band's anniversary.

One of the goals for the ANA board during the next year will be to improve our communication with you. Part of that goal is accomplished by improving our neighborhood website, whose address is www.astorneighborhood.org. The improved website will have a variety of content that is specific and useful to the residents of Astor and to those who are interested in exploring our wonderful neighborhood. Some of these updates include:

- A new link on our web site that will bring you into neighbors' homes to see renovations they have undertaken. Hopefully we will see before and after pictures;
- Links to reputable contractors who are experienced with working on turn-of-the century homes;
- Links to local businesses;
- An improved ANA calendar of events and activities for the entire year;
- A photo gallery of recent ANA events;
- Valuable information regarding city services and links to city and county leaders.

Please share your website ideas with me or any board member. We want to be able to utilize e-mail as a primary communication tool with you. You can get connected with the ANA by simply logging on to www.astorneighborhood.org, clicking on the "mailing list" selection, and entering your e-

mail address. We promise not to clutter your mailbox with unnecessary mail, just important information regarding what is happening in your neighborhood. Your name and e-mail address is not available to anyone but the administrator of our program, and we will not make this information available to solicitors.

I would be remiss if I did not reflect on events that took place earlier this fall. It's certain that the terror that struck our Nation on September 11th will indeed have a profound impact on the way we live and on the way we view life. The unity that unfolded following these events was indeed overpowering. You may have noticed the small flags that we placed along Monroe Avenue shortly after the attack. The flags were a small remembrance of the victims of these attacks, the appreciation for the countless heroes who worked and still work to protect us, and the pride we have in the United States of America.

I sincerely hope that you will join us at the many upcoming ANA events this winter. On behalf of the ANA board, I would like to send best wishes to you and your family this holiday season.

Michael Nass, President

Potluck in the Park

The end of the first day of school was greeted by beautiful weather and a picnic in St. James Park. Over one hundred neighbors attended the annual event. A wide variety of American and ethnic foods were shared. Neighbors chatted and swapped stories; long-term residents mingled with new neighbors; children played for one of the last times in the park.



A hearty thank you goes out to all who helped make this event a success once again. See you next year!

Movie Nights

The second Movie night at St. James Park this summer entertained approximately 125 people in August. Fair weather prevailed this year for both movie nights.

A change was made in the seating: children have been allowed to sit on the stage in the past, but this proved too distracting for many in the audience. Although the change was not announced ahead of time, it was well received by the audience and will continue to be the practice.

Please contact John Corpus at 430-1429 or Michael Nass at 430-3226 with any comments regarding this year's events or suggestions for movies for next year. We thank those who attended this year, the coordinators, and those who assisted with the event.

Astor/Navarino Booyah, Brat, & Bake Sale A Success

The 2nd Annual Booyah Brat and Bake Sale was held on September 29th. This event was sponsored by the Astor and Navarino Neighborhood Associations and raised over \$600.00 for programs that operate out of the Howe Resource Center.

The annual meeting of the Howe Resource Center and election of its board members were held at the same time as the event. Mary Ann Hitch, President of the center's board, presented an overview of the activities, programs, and budget.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the Howe Resource, how to volunteer, or how to make a donation should contact Executive Director Lisa Clark at 448-7340.

The ANA Needs You

The ANA is always in need of board members. Please give Michael Nass a call at 430-3226 if you are interested.

The ANA Is Online!!

Read current and prior editions of the *Astor Outlook* newsletter and minutes from the ANA board meetings, sign up to receive e-mail on current events in the neighborhood, send e-mail to board members, request an Historic Plaque order form, order the ANA calendar, view our sponsors, and link to other sites of interest to Astor neighbors at <http://www.astorneighborhood.org>

Antiques for Sale...

Family heirlooms dating back to the civil war. Items include:

- 1850 Violin, manufactured in St. Petersburg, Russia by the Rubus Company, with two bows
- Six green wine glasses and server,
- Amber glass pitcher and six glasses,
- Table with marble top and brass body, early 1900s
- Shirley Temple cut-out dolls with various clothes, 1935
- Twenty pictures printed on tin, most of family members during the civil war
- Various household items, magazines, and tools dating back to the 1920s

The owner of these articles does not reside in the neighborhood, but would like to see the items housed in the homes of the Astor neighborhood. For more information, please send an e-mail to camerai@netnet.net.

Ice Skating Party

This season's event is scheduled for January 19th, at the Astor Park skating rink. We are happy to provide hot chocolate, cookies, and music this year.

Last year, the temperature was very mild for January: many suspected that the rink was in poor condition for skating due to the unseasonably warm temperatures. To the surprise of everyone, the rink was fine, and those who participated enjoyed a fun evening. The ANA will e-mail cancellations and updates to all who sign-up for e-mail on the ANA website so please join the e-group.

Meet Your Neighbor

Mary Pecore has lived at 934 So. Clay Street since her birth in 1915. Martin and Bridgette Gittens, her parents, bought the home with no electricity, furnace or bathroom in 1914. It was illuminated by kerosene lamps and heated by two small wood stoves. Mary wed Joe Pecore in 1950; by 1952 the couple began remodeling the home.

Living across from Astor Park, Mary's fondest memory from childhood is playing crack the whip on a crowded ice rink. She was usually skating backwards at the end of the whip! These days Mary is unable to get out and skate with the neighbors, but she loves to play Schafskopf (Sheepshead) with her friends at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. She always valued the neighborhood because everyone knew each other and felt safe walking after dark. Mary hopes that the neighborhood continues to be a unique place to raise a family for generations to come.



House Kudos

It seems that the prairie style house at 709 So. Quincy Street has been under constant construction or renovation since

Mike and Sonya Coppo

moved into the four-bedroom home. Most noticeable about the construction is the addition at the back of the house. The garage was removed and rebuilt with a second story that connects to the couple's master bedroom. The new second-floor space serves as Sonya's studio for interior decorating, and can be accessed from the garage as well. A mudroom separates the garage from the house at ground level.

Mike owns a flooring company so it is a given that the wood floors have either been

refinished (second floor) or replaced (first floor). Currently, the kitchen is gutted. An enclosed first floor laundry will take up some of the current kitchen space near the back door; the new kitchen will flow better with the dining room in the style of a galley.

A half-bath is located on the first floor between the foyer and the kitchen. The upstairs has two full baths with the original tile on the walls.

A living room (with gas fireplace) and library/sitting room round out the first floor. A second gas fireplace is in the basement. Frank Lloyd Wright style leaded glass makes-up the front door sidelight and door window, which is uniquely round, and was special-made for the Coppo.

All of the light fixtures have been or will be replaced; all of the rooms in the house have been or will be painted; the main staircase has the carpet removed and the wood has been stripped.

On the outside, the house has new stucco that has been sealed and painted, new gutters, extensive landscaping, new faux brick concrete front steps and driveway, a new brick walkway in front, a fountain in front, a finished front door, and a new roof on the house.

As for future projects, a smaller, decorative wrought iron shaker porch will replace the one that was removed on the second floor over the driveway. Mike and Sonya desire to add a sauna in the basement, to fix-up the recreation room, and to add some exercise equipment to the soon-to-be-vacated laundry area.

We applaud Mike and Sonya's efforts to maintain the 40's era look and feel of the house.

If you know of someone in the neighborhood who has worked hard at fixing, improving, or updating a home, please call or e-mil any board member for some Astor Outlook Kudos.

Beat Cops

Once again, many miles have been logged on the bicycles of the Astor Park Community Officers. Understanding that visibility is important to the people of the neighborhood, officers Mike Hansford and Terry Tyler spent as much time as possible on bike patrol, dealing with neighborhood concerns and problem solving. The concept has formed a good foundation for community/police relations as well as a community/police "team" to deal with neighborhood issues.

Get to know the officers. They are more than willing to spend time with the neighborhood kids and neighbors. They are here to keep our neighborhood safe. Please feel free to contact these officers with your questions and concerns. You may reach them at 448-7334.

TREASURER'S REPORT – is available on request.

Victorian Christmas Fantasy

The Hazelwood Historic House Museum, located at 1008 So. Monroe Avenue, is sponsoring a Victorian Christmas Fantasy December 1st through December 23rd, which features ten elegantly bejeweled rooms and its recently restored nineteenth century kitchen.

Julie LaPlant
professionally decorated
the rooms.



The event runs Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m. Special weekend activities include:

- First person vignettes depicting trimming the Christmas tree, wrapping gifts and a Christmas tea on December 1st and 2nd
- Live holiday music on December 8th and 9th
- First person vignettes depicting the reading of Christmas stories, preparing Christmas dinner and dressing for a

Christmas ball on December 15th and 16th

Complimentary refreshments and shopping in the Hazelnut sales gallery will be available. Admission is \$4.00 for adults, \$3.50 for senior citizens, and \$2.50 for children between six and twelve years of age. Children under six years of age enter at no charge.

Hazelwood will also hold a free open house for all Astor neighbors on December 17th, from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The Astor Neighborhood Association will hold its December board meeting at Hazelwood immediately after the event.

You may call the Brown County Historical Society at 437-1840 for more information.

Many thanks to Seaway Printing on East Main for printing the *Astor Outlook*, gratis. We appreciate its continued support!

Madison Avenue Church Walk

Please join the Astor Neighborhood and Navarino Neighborhood on December 30th for a night of caroling on the Madison Avenue Church Walk. The evening begins at 6 p.m. at Union Congregational Church and concludes at the Episcopal Church with cookies and hot chocolate! Two full songs are performed at each church along with a scripture reading and a short history of these long standing historical churches.

This is a family or friends event, open to everyone for an evening of sharing mutual Christmas spirit. Many of us have driven past these churches for years, wondering about and admiring their beauty. On this evening, you can see these churches in their Christmas splendor. Call Dan Madigan at 432-4722 or Jim Schmitt at 437-7740 for more information.

The ANA wishes everyone a happy and safe holiday season!!

**Astor Neighborhood Association,
Inc.
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Please contact any board member with comments, questions, or concerns about the neighborhood or the Astor Neighborhood Association. Contact John Corpus if you have any questions or concerns regarding this newsletter. The board wishes to thank John for editing the newsletter.

Directors:

Roxanne Chronert	433-9263
Pat Frase	437-6969
John Gower	435-4441
Michael Hale	437-2302
Mark Jackson	435-4667
Dan Madigan	432-4722
Laura McCoy	437-4853
John Oelbracht	432-1441
Bob Brault (Emeritus)	

Officers:

Treasurer:	Denise Schleis	437-9134
Secretary:	Paul Schleis	437-9134
Vice-President:	Teppie Schueller	432-0523
President:	Michael Nass	430-3226

The mission of the Astor Neighborhood Association is to maintain the integrity, vitality, and diversity of the Astor community through the protection and preservation of its history, neighborhoods, and architecture.

Board meetings are open to the public and are held from 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the East Central Family Neighborhood Resource Center. All residents of the Astor neighborhood are welcome. The next three **board meetings** are on:

December 17th at Hazelwood
January 15th
February 19th

Advertising

Please visit the web page or e-mail address of our sponsors, or link to them via hyperlinks on the ANA web page. Postal regulations prohibit the Astor Neighborhood Association, as a not-for-profit entity, from advertising the phone number and address of any for-profit entity. To place an ad, contact John Corpus at 430-1429 by the next article-submitting deadline. Cost: \$20 per business card size ad.