

ASTOR

OUTLOOK

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526 S. Monroe Avenue
Green Bay, WI 54301

President's Letter

As we move into the cooler days of fall, there seems to be a frantic pace of preparing our yards and houses for winter. As I begin the process, yet again, of moving my storm windows from their place of summer storage and onto the house, I need to sometimes remind myself why I chose to live in this old house instead of a new one.

I love my old house because it is unique. I love the fact that the basement door knob turns the wrong way and it probably has for nearly 100 years. I love that the materials that were used in constructing it are big and solid and firm, and they don't make woodwork and flooring and hardware like these anymore. I love the big old wavy glass windows. I love the thick stone walls that keep it cool in the summer, especially since we don't have air-conditioning. I love the high ceilings and the plaster and lathe walls. I love my front porch that says "welcome and sit and rock here a while". I even love the fact that some windows need to be held up with sticks and some doors don't close properly! I love that my house tells a story.

This summer has seen some great work from your Astor Neighborhood Association including: our second Movie Night in the Park with the showing of *How to Train Your Dragon*; Popcorn and Pie in the Park; the annual Back-to-School Potluck; and working with the young men of Ethan House on landscaping the neighborhood sign.

Please keep an eye out for information on upcoming winter events that include the luminaries and wine tasting. If you would be interested in making sure that the wine event, which raises money for area nonprofits, takes place this year please contact me and I can fill you in on the details.

Remember to check out the Facebook page or sign up to receive emails on the Astor Neighborhood Website so you can stay connected. Otherwise, you are always welcome to attend the monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month at First Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Molly Martzke
President
Astor Neighborhood Association

The ANA Board Needs You!

If you are looking for a way to become more involved in the neighborhood, look no further than the Astor Neighborhood Association Board! We have two positions open that we would love to fill. Come find out more at our next meeting: Monday, October 19 at 6:00 p.m. at First Evangelical Lutheran church, 743 S. Monroe. If you have any questions, or if you would like more information, contact any of the current board members. Thanks!

ANA Wine Tasting – Help Needed!

We would love to bring back the **ANA Wine Tasting** this year, but we need volunteers! This event was not held last year due to a lack of help. Consider helping out by coordinating the event, securing donations, or hosting the event in your home. We can help with logistics if you can help with manpower! For more information contact **Molly** at **437-7370** or **mpmartzke@yahoo.com**.

Please consider helping out this year!



Brown County District 4

The county 0.5% “stadium” sales tax, which was voted in a referendum and enacted in 2000, has concluded after almost 15 years. Though the fiscal impact on our citizenry varied according to their purchases during this time (\$100 on a \$20,000 car or 5 cents on a \$10 toy car), the positive impact of this investment on our community has been substantial. The money from this sales tax paid for a little over half of the atrium, added seats, and other renovations in the 2003 construction project. Since then, there have been continued growth, changes, and renovations in and around the Lambeau facility, including the Hall of Fame, restaurants, pro-shop, and more – from other investors, bonding, and team stock sales, but not our county sales tax.

Initial estimates for the duration of the tax were not met due to decreased consumer spending and recession; continuing to collect the tax for several months after the costs were reached as well as collecting money to fund continued building maintenance were both consequences of state rules and regulations

that were understood, though perhaps not by all, at the onset of the tax. The next step will be determining how the excess collected taxes are utilized or refunded, which will likely fall to individual municipalities within the county.

By the time you are reading this, the county 2016 budget will have been finalized; most of our neighbors will see the county portion of their property tax bill remain steady or decrease slightly from last year. The county budget for 2016 is over a quarter of a billion dollars, with almost a third of that collected from property taxes. Key additions to this year’s proposed budget, feasible due to a broader tax base, include investments in mental health, child protective services, the county library system, and economic development.

Erik Hoyer

District 4 Brown County Supervisor
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Police Calls Remain Low on Fox River Trail in Green Bay

The Fox River Trail, which begins in downtown Green Bay and extends some 25 miles south along a former rail corridor, has seen growing popularity over the years. The trail has been a great place for families, walkers, and cyclists. When my colleagues and I patrol the trail on bike we see what a special place it has in our community.



I say this because an incident that occurred on the Fox River Trail this summer on August 7th in the Town of Rockland, does not reflect the status of the whole trail. On August 7th 2015, at 2:00 pm near mile marker 9 (just north of Old Martin Road), Town of Rockland, a 14-year-old boy was attacked in what was believed to be a robbery attempt. The suspect, who was on a motorized pedal bike kicked the teens bike forcing it off the trail and then attempted to steal a set of headphones belonging to the teen victim. The news stories that came out that August 7th day were headlined "Teen Attacked on Fox River Trail" and "Teen Attacked while biking on Fox River Trail." For frequent trail

users, these stories certainly did and should cause alarm or potential apprehension about safety. Those thinking about using the trail may wonder if it is really safe anywhere at all.

In Green Bay however, the calls to the trail have remained low over the years. Since 2011, a total of 19 calls have been dispatched. Total calls since 2011 show four calls that year, nine in 2012, two in 2013, two in 2014 and two so far in 2015 as of September 10th. This year the calls were for a juvenile issue and a 911 hang up. Last year the calls were a welfare check of a citizen and a 911 hang up. The 911 hang up calls did not result in an emergency situation needing police services. In 2013 an ordinance violation and a suspicious person call were reported.

One incident from August should not define how safe a 25 mile stretch of trail is. That being especially true for the portion in Green Bay going through downtown and the Astor Neighborhood. We see every day what a quality, recreational resource the trail is. Yet, the incident serves as a reminder to be vigilant and aware of surroundings when walking or biking in areas more obscure. Wear reflective clothing at night, carry a cell phone, and let someone at home know where you are going. Walk or bike with someone if possible, and report suspicious activity to police.

Have a great fall season and I look forward to seeing you in the neighborhood.

Thanks,

Paul Van Handel

GBPD Community Police • Director NE Wisconsin Association of Community Oriented Policing (WACOP)

paulva@greenbaywi.gov

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Stay Connected With Astor

Stay informed with events in our neighborhood by visiting the Astor Neighborhood Association's Facebook page! Just go to **www.facebook.com/AstorNeighborhood** and click the "like" button.

Another way to stay connected: Create an account on our neighborhood's Nextdoor page! Nextdoor is a private social network for you, your neighbors and your community. Join the 99 neighbors already using Nextdoor Astor. Maybe you could be the 100th person to join! Visit **https://astor.nextdoor.com/choose_address/** to sign up.



Movie in the Park

by Katie Houle



Thank you to all our neighbors, friends and families who came to our second annual Movie in the Park event on Wednesday, August 26th. We had an amazing turnout of nearly 75 people joining us at St. James Park to watch *How to Train Your Dragon*. It was great seeing people gathering early to enjoy the evening, get their blankets spread out on the grass, and eat their free popcorn (thank you ANA for the treat!). We will plan it again next year, so stay tuned for details! It's been a great way to say goodbye to summer the past two years. Thanks again for making this event so much fun and a great success!

Meet the ANA Board

I'd like to take a moment to introduce myself as one of the newest board members of the Astor Neighborhood Association. My name is Ron Dehn and I moved into the neighborhood in June of 2014 when we purchased our home at 1010 S. Jackson Street. I am a UWGB alumnus, with a bachelor in Interdisciplinary Studies; I have worked most of my adult life here in Green Bay. I have spent most of my time in service industries, with an emphasis in food and beverage, followed by sales and distribution of various products and services. I am currently a technical representative for P&G Proline which is focused primarily on Hospitality and Healthcare laundry systems.

I joined the ANA board in the hopes of gaining firsthand knowledge of what it takes to preserve an historic neighborhood, as well as the challenges we face in doing so. I also hope to get personally involved in local projects within our community. This is my first run as a board member in a neighborhood association, and I look forward to making a positive difference within our neighborhood.

Astor Neighborhood Sign Landscaping

by Jim Frisk

On one of the hottest days of the summer in July, you may have noticed the landscaping around our neighborhood sign on Monroe Avenue was updated. For this project, we wanted to make sure that the plants we selected were both historic to the area and drought tolerant. To accomplish this, we engaged Green Bay Nursery to help develop a plan. The plan included plants such as Shasta Daisy, Russian Sage and Porcupine Grass. To clear out the old overgrowth around the sign and put in the new plants, we got help from some of the boys at Ethan House on Quincy St.

“Ethan House Group Home provides a temporary living arrangement for boys, ages 12-17, who are court-ordered into placement or referred from the county or state due to behavioral, emotional or legal issues.” It took us several hours to complete the project and during that time the boys had a nice visit from Mayor Jim Schmitt. We hope you like the new and improved look.



Dear Astor Neighborhood Gardener,

I am very interested in planting some raspberry and blueberry bushes by my house next spring. Do you have any recommendations as to how to plant them, where to plant them, and how to maintain them?

Thanks!

Thank you for the question. I myself am not experienced with blueberry bushes, so I am not able to help you there, but I have had raspberries for nearly 20 years. Wait until the ground has thawed in spring. The first thing you'll want to do is find a place to plant them, in full, or nearly full sun. After you obtain your plants, you will want to dig a roomy hole, fill the hole with water, and then place the roots into the hole. Fill around the plant with the leftover soil, pressing firmly. Make sure you water it often after planting to ensure that the plant has adequate moisture. Depending on the variety of raspberry, you will need to prune. Good luck to you.

Astor Neighborhood Gardener

Send your gardening questions to **AstorNeighborhoodGardener@gmail.com**.



Ask A Gardener

Luminaries by Jennifer Lenz

Each holiday season, the Astor Neighborhood Association encourages the residents of our neighborhood to participate in the beautiful tradition of lighting luminaries on Saturday nights in December. In years past, we have coordinated the sale of luminary kits, consisting of white paper bags, sand, and tealight candles.

This year, we are hoping the neighbors will take time to create their own luminaries, using whatever materials they have around the house. For example, something that I've been seeing a lot recently is when people use glass jars to hold the tealight candles. I've also seen a few people opt for LED tealight candles instead of the traditional candles.

Please consider participating with us this year. Here are the dates when we would like to have our luminaries lit:



December 5, 6-8 p.m.
December 12, 6-8 p.m.
December 19, 6-8 p.m.
December 24, 6-8 p.m.
December 26, 6-8 p.m.

Watch for an announcement from Downtown GB, as they will soon be scheduling their annual Holiday Lights Tour. We are lucky that they come right through our neighborhood! Anyone with luminaries will be encouraged to light them on that date as well. We will be posting the date on our Facebook page, and it will also be posted on Nextdoor. Thank you for making our neighborhood even more beautiful this holiday season.

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