

Third Ward News

A publication of the Third Ward Neighborhood Association

September, 2005

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Steering Committee

Zone 1

Paula Stolp, 32 Newton St., 552-4527
DeWayne Severson, 1325 State St., 834-2137

Zone 2

Garry Sherwood, 1235 Graham, 834-1133
Rick Kayser, 1219 Graham Ave., 835-1165

Zone 3

John Hibbard, 1814 State St., 832-1019
Traci Messner, 337 Jefferson St., 833-7057

Zone 4

Curtis Goodson (Chair),
1532 Drummond, 456-1731
Ken Fulgione, 330 Lincoln Ave., 832-1016,
557-4197 (cell)

Zone 5

Jill Markgraf, 525 Summit Ave., 831-9038
Sue Kayser, 1219 Graham Ave., 835-1165

Zone 6

Sue Miller, 340 Lincoln Ave., 839-9491
Anne Risen, 1329 Wilson St., 832-9858

Zone 7

Bob Schwartz, 401 Lincoln Ave., 839-8111
Mary Mickel, 330 Bartlett Ct., 832-9705

Zone 8

Laurie Forcier, 207 Garfield, 835-6024
Maria Henly, 121 Park Place, 831-8672

Go to <http://www.thirdward.org> for email addresses and a map of the zone boundaries.

Third Ward Annual Meeting

Date: Thursday, September 22, 2005
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: L.E. Phillips Public Library,
Eau Claire Room

This is the annual meeting where we set goals for the coming year, elect members from each district in the neighborhood to serve on the Steering Committee, and gather volunteers for special interest committees. In addition, this year we have two important issues on the agenda: **PROPOSED BYLAWS CHANGES** and **A PARKING PROPOSAL**. See insert and "Comments from the Chair" column for more information on these two items. Please join us to discuss and vote on these items and to enjoy coffee and dessert with your neighbors.

Annual Meeting Agenda

- Establish a quorum and eat dessert
- Welcome and introductions
- Secretary's report
- Treasurer's report
- Presentation of and vote on parking proposal
- Presentation of and vote on proposed bylaw changes
- Eat more dessert and hear committee reports, as time permits

Support Community TV: Support CTV's Fall Auction

CTV's fall auction is a major fund raiser for Community Television, which provides us with local government connections as well as many locally produced shows. CTV also offers behind the camera training and hands on experiences for citizens and youth groups. So, if you value watching city council and school board meetings from the comfort of your home, support CTV by donating an item for auction and/or by participating in the auction Friday and Saturday November 4 and 5 on Cable Channel 11. For more information on making donations, call CTV at 839-5067.



Third Ward Gardens

by Anne Risen

One of my favorite characteristics of the Third Ward is the abundance of beautiful flower gardens. Some are hidden away in the backyard or behind a fence, but here are several you can enjoy just strolling by. Since late August isn't always the best time for flower-peeking, clip this list and save it for next June, when many gardens will be at their peak.

403 Garfield Ave. These residents have recently added an attractive stone patio to their garden.

449 Garfield Ave. Cool, shady garden of white

437 Garfield Ave. Delightful front yard packed with flowers! The sedum will be gorgeous this fall.

525 Summit Ave. This riot of color gets bigger and better every year!

1410 Rust St. A variety of perennials surround this home. This is where I always see the first tulips of the year.

1412 Rust St. Something's always blooming here!

416 McKinley Ave. Flowers between the driveway and sidewalk are a clever way to use space.

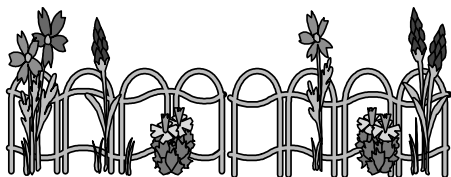
443 Roosevelt Ave. Formal plantings of shrubs and flowers perfectly suited for this home.

1722 Rust St. This home uses colorful annuals differently each year. Love the tiny picket fence!

1610 Drummond St. Check out the large leafed hostas and hydrangeas in front of this house.

320 Summit Ave. Remember this home a few years ago? A few architectural additions and curved sidewalk with new plantings have made it a charmer!

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Putnam Park Eagles

by Bob Schwartz

We all know the Third Ward has many historic homes, but there is one recent addition that has earned a lot of attention. A few years ago, a pair of bald eagles moved into Putnam Park and constructed a nest, or eyrie. It has been occupied every year since, and in 2005 was home to three eaglets.

Bald eagles will eat a variety of foods but prefer to feed on fish. They also need tall, sturdy trees to support their large nest, which can weigh several tons. Eagles continue to add new nesting materials each year, increasing its size. And yes, some day it will collapse, possibly in a storm.



Eagles are monogamous, and mate for life. They lay 1-3 eggs, which hatch sometime in May. Initially the adults bring food to the nest and stuff it down the eaglets' throats. Later they scatter food around the nest, forcing their young to feed themselves.

Sometime in July they stop bringing food to the nest. Hunger will lead the juvenile eagles to stretch their wings and leave the nest. Eagles reach full size in 12 weeks, and by the end of the summer the nest will be empty. The young eagles will have mottled brown feathers. The distinctive white head and tail will not appear for several years.

The easiest way to see the Third Ward's eagles is to go to the end of Rust St. where it intersects Drummond. Stand on the manhole cover and take a big step left. Sight up from the chimney of the house in front of you and there it is. If you want to see it from Putnam Park there are maps and pictures at <http://www.thirdward.org> under the 'About the Third Ward' link. Just be aware that the landmark 'leaning tree' is no longer there. But if you have eyes like an eagle you will see it about .4 miles east of the State St. tunnel.

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Newsletter Help

Can you help deliver the newsletter to your neighbors two or three weekends a year? Contact Mary Mickel, 832-9705.

Comments from the Chair

by **Curtis Goodson**

This year's Annual Meeting is an especially important one. There is a lot to do: elect area representatives, vote on the bylaw changes, decide on a parking proposal, and volunteer for subcommittee work. I urge you to attend.

There are two issues on the agenda, bylaws and parking, on which we need neighborhood approval. If you can not make the meeting, but want your opinion heard, contact your area representative or send me a message.

Bylaws: The Bylaws Committee was formed to review and propose changes to our bylaws because redistricting changed our boundaries. The proposal corrects this by describing physical boundaries. The proposal also tightens Steering Committee attendance, tightens quorum requirements, and adds provisions for the resignation, removal, and reinstatement of association members. The proposal was amended and approved by the Steering Committee.

The controversial provisions dealt with membership status: the idea of removing a member was deemed offensive but necessary. Both the current and proposed amended bylaws are available for review on our website. If you need a written copy of the proposed changes, contact me.

Parking: The Traffic, Parking and Pedestrian Safety Committee developed a proposal that the Steering Committee would like to take to the City Council.

The proposal is inserted in this newsletter. The University has received the proposal and firmly supports five of the six points. The heart of the proposal is removing the two hour parking limits. It is hoped that this will reduce the churn of traffic through the neighborhood and free up police resources so enforcement efforts focus more on safety issues.

See you at the meeting!

Homes in Historic District Eligible for Preservation Assistance

by **Ken Fulgione**

The Third Ward Historic District was originally established in 1985. In April of 2004 this district was expanded & the Eau Claire Park Company Addition was added. These two areas form a large portion of the Third Ward and are also included in the National Register of Historic Districts. The two districts include most of the homes located west of Farwell up to the river.

25% Tax Credit

Aside from the recognition of the historic significance of these districts, property within the districts is eligible for Preservation Tax Credits to help with the rehabilitation & maintainance of the historic character of the homes. Although rules & eligibility requirements vary, homes within the district can qualify for up to a 25% Historic Preservation Tax Credit for restoration and maintainance projects that are over \$10,000 in scope. This credit applies to owner-occupied and rental properties. The tax credit is a dollar-for-dollar reduction in what you actually owe in taxes. In this program, for example, if you were to spend \$20,000 on eligible work, you would receive a \$5,000 credit against what you owe in state income taxes. If you cannot use the full credit in a given year, you can carry the unused credit into the following years until you use it up.

All involvement of individual properties is strictly voluntary. The historic recognition has no effect on any properties in the district that do not choose to be involved in the Preservation Programs. For more information on Preservation Tax Credits visit the Wisconsin Historical Society website at <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org>.



Code Enforcement Committee Meeting

by **Garry Sherwood**

Over the past five years the TWNA has talked about ways to deal with problems that negatively affect the quality of life in some areas of the Third Ward. The purpose of the Code Enforcement Committee is to identify and deal with continuing problems such as homes used as "tavern houses," properties in need of major repair, and neighborhood theft and vandalism.

For example, currently many code enforcement issues are only handled if someone calls in a complaint. Yet, some neighbors fear that to complain opens them up to retaliation. To deal with

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Kerm's on Water Street

DON'T OVERPAY AT CONVENIENCE STORES!
DON'T WAIT IN LINE AT BIG SUPERMARKETS!

Welcome to our new and returning student neighbors!

Many of you may be living on your own for the first time, which brings with it great rewards as well as responsibilities. To assist you in transitioning to life off campus and understanding your rights and responsibilities as a tenant, the University has developed a website providing the information you need. Check it out at <http://www.uwec.edu/home/offcampus.htm>. And don't hesitate to call on a neighbor if you have a question or need a hand. This is a neighborhood where people like to meet their neighbors and where people look out for each other. Enjoy your new neighborhood.



Third Ward Gardens, continued from page 2

1329 Wilson St. The flower garden on the south end of this home has a variety of antique and shrub roses, clematis, and perennials. Check out the daffodils in May.

1327 Wilson St. Here is one rental property that is beautifully maintained! The Moon Apartments gardens have a summer long display of color and are very well cared for.

And, a few homes with charming window boxes: **1415 Park Ave., 306 Jefferson St., and 1628 Drummond St.**

Code Enforcement, continued from page 3

this problem the Code Enforcement Committee is working to set up email addresses and phone numbers which neighbors may contact to anonymously report code violations. The committee would then investigate and register the complaint for them.

The committee is also investigating neighborhood watch programs as a way to assist authorities to identify and rectify dangerous situations and serious code violations. Such a neighborhood watch program could also serve to notify areas of the neighborhood if and when dangerous activity is occurring near them.

Your thoughts are appreciated as we form our plan of action. Garry Sherwood, Code Enforcement Committee Chair, 834-1133 or gbsherwood@sbcglobal.net

Old house humor

While carpenters were working outside the old house I had just bought, I busied myself with indoor cleaning.

I had just finished washing the floor when one of the workmen asked to use the bathroom.

With dismay I looked from his muddy boots to my newly scrubbed floors.

"Just a minute," I said, thinking of a quick solution.

"I'll put down newspapers."

"That's all right, lady," he responded. "I'm already trained."



A window salesman phoned a customer. "Hello, Mr. Brown," said the Sales Rep, "I'm calling because our company replaced all the windows in your house with our triple-glazed weather-tight windows over a year ago, and you still haven't sent us a single payment." The customer replied, "But you said they'd pay for THEMSELVES in 12 months."

Explore

<http://www.thirdward.org>

The Third Ward website, designed for current and prospective residents, continues to grow. New on the website is a link to resources for researching and restoring your historic home. Other features include:

- contact information for reporting problems in the neighborhood (such as noise, occupancy, parking, maintenance, etc.),
- TWNA information, including meeting times, Steering Committee members, meeting minutes, and bylaws,
- a list of and links to those features that make our neighborhood so special, including pictures,
- a list of (non-commercial) neighborhood events,
- lots of neighborhood pictures.

If you have suggestions for the website or have a neighborhood event you'd like posted, please contact Jill Markgraf (831-9038 or email markgrjs@uwec.edu)

Newsletter Committee

Ken Fulgione Sue Miller
Jill Markgraf Christine Shaw
Mary Mickel