

District 5 Newsletter

Quarterly

Issue Three
April 2012

Getting to know Racine with your Alderman

(Details on Page 2)

Tour:

April 28- ZOO, Behind the scenes

May 3 – Waste Water Plant

Please call or email if interested!

(262-939-8679)

mkb@cityofracine.org

**Limited Capacity, so you must Call
and Reserve ASAP!**

Featured District 5 Event

(Details on Page 3)

Animal Crackers Concerts- Starts July 11

Relay for Life- June 8-9

Safari Saturdays- Starts June 9

Featured Events

(Details on Page 3-4)

Now-July 4th- Recognizing
Beautification Efforts

(Recognition Forms- Page 8)

July 19- America in Bloom Judges Are
Here!



Joyful Greetings!

The journey continues. I am enjoying the people and the expansion of my knowledge base with each encounter this aldermanic role has brought to my life.

I would like to share something about myself with you~

Shortly after entering adulthood, I decided that I wanted to travel as much as I could to explore the world. It started as a once a year thing where I would visit my brother, a Navy Chief, at his different places of deployment. Each trip I was seeing and experiencing life dance around me in new ways. My hunger to see different places and people grew. I took every opportunity to seek out and explore.

Whether I am here locally riding or walking down streets or trails, back packing in Colorado, helping build homes in Armenia, or reaching out to families in South America, I have come to appreciate the differences in which we and nature possess. Meeting, listening, and watching people in their elements and absorbing the surroundings I have realized that my culture and beliefs, that felt so huge to me, are actually so small in this vast diverse world.

People are built up of more than one idea or one belief and it fascinates me that when you shed all of our beliefs aside, we are all the same. Fundamentally, we are breathing air, needing food/water, needing shelter, and needing to be cared about and heard. Also, I have found when there is a connection at the fundamental level differences are more acceptable to others.

Take for example your family members and friends. I am sure you have members that have different ideas on how to manage money, keep house, or have different hobbies, friends, or political views, but yet you still allow them to be in an acceptable part of your life. Now take your neighbors, if you know them well you tend to do the same as you would do with a family member or friend. How about the neighbors or people you don't know? Does their late night or early morning comings and goings bother you, or their hammering during the day, their non-manicured yard, or how about the way they park their car? (I get the calls, I hear your frustrations.)

What I ask of you...Please use your energies to develop and to get to know your neighbors and others as a **person**, not just look at them as the **object** of your frustration. You will see an awakening (and enlightenment) of tolerance between both parties, and also you will find ways to reach out to each other and work with the things that aggravate you. Also take one more step and ***recognize** something about them or their property that you like. ***READ PAGE 4 FOR MORE DETAILS***

Life is precious, and I am honored to be part of yours!

Sincerely Your Alderman,

Melissa Kaprelian- Becker

(262)939-8679
mkb@cityofracine.org



Getting to know Racine With your Alderman

Getting to know Racine with your Alderman Please join me!

Tours

Behind the Scenes look RACINE ZOO

Where: 200 Goold Street
Date: Saturday, April 28
Time: 10:00AM

Reserve your spot **NOW** in one of District 5's exciting Behind the Scenes tours!

Explore different animals and habitats. Spend one-on-one time with a zoo keeper, and get up close with the animals.

This is a \$25 value per person, and it is being offered **free** to us.

I am asking that you please consider bringing a monetary **donation**. I will be collecting donation at the gate.

Waste Water Plant

Where: 2101 South Wisconsin Ave
Date: Thursday, May 3
Time: 10:00AM

Learn about the complexity of treating wastewater and how Racine keeps our community's water clean.

*Due to capacity restraints for BOTH tours anyone interested **MUST call or email me to sign up.** You will obtain more information at that time.*

(262-939-8679)
mkb@cityofracine.org

TOURS

Behind the Scenes at the Zoo and the Waste Water Plant Tour will be tour number SIX and SEVEN!

I thank everyone for your continued interest and your desire to get a better understanding of Departments and functions of Racine.



Recycled Paper and cardboard

The past **District 5 Tour**, on November 30, to our recycling processing plant (Resource Management), was so informative. I, a "green buff", (as I like to refer to myself as) learned more than I ever thought I would. This trip/tour was hard for many to make because of the location and duration of time needed.

I feel the information I and the others who attended gained was so valuable, and needs to be available to everyone. What I am lining up is for the Recycling Center to bring that information to Racine. I will keep you posted on the date, time, and location. VERY educational! I encourage everyone to keep an eye out and mark it on your calendars when posted. (I am hoping for June.)



Recycled glass.(Flint, Amber, and Green)

Featured District 5 Events

Racine Zoo:

200 Goold Street
Relay for Life- June 8-9

- ❖ Relay For Life is an overnight event that joins communities in the fight against cancer. Teams set up campsites and enjoy entertainment, activities, and special ceremonies throughout the night.

More Info at www.relayforlife.org

- ❖ Safari **Saturdays**- Starts June 9 through August 25

Families are encouraged to enjoy these FREE (**with paid Zoo admission**) events having fun, interacting and learning about animals, conservation and more!

All activities are from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- ❖ Animal Crackers Concert Series:

- July 11
- July 25
- August 8
- August 22

Call 262.636.9189

This year, Racine is participating in “America in Bloom” (AIB), a national beautification campaign and contest that promotes beautification and community involvement through the use of flowers, plants, trees, and other environmental and lifestyle enhancements. 38 states and nearly 22 million people have participated in AIB since 2002. Racine is competing against other communities with similar population in six different categories. Racine has titled their participation as “Belle City in Bloom”

HOW YOU CAN HELP!

- Spruce up your property
- Help a neighbor tidy up their yard
- Plant flowers in your yard or business
- Pick up litter in your neighborhood (parks, roadsides, etc.)

JUDGES WILL BE HERE JULY 19!!!!



Featured District 5 Events



Continue...

I am expecting everyone to be making efforts in the **America in Bloom (Belle City in Bloom)** contest. We are suggesting the use of red flowers (can be in addition to your other color choices) in your flower gardens, to represent your participation in Belle City in Bloom. Also, I am encouraging you to come up with unique ways to get your neighborhoods, church, school, or other groups/individuals involved. If you come up with ways, **let me know** and I will showcase them.

Here are a few examples that have already been presented and will be carried out on selected dates.

- In concurrence with the Nehemiah Project, the surrounding neighborhood (By West Park) will be doing a “Prettiest Porch Contest”
- An individual resident will get her neighborhood involved by buying flats of flowers and yards of dirt. She will ask for a donation to help with the expense. All the neighbors will have a planting day, each helping the other.
- A group of individuals has organized a day to pick trash on some public walkways.

Those are just the start of great ideas....I can't wait to hear about yours!!

Recognizing Positive Beautification Efforts “Beauty in our Community”



I NEED YOUR HELP!

I would like to give recognition to residential, municipal, and commercial properties (and individuals) that attract your attention, and you feel add to the beauty of our community. I have named this event “**Beauty in our Community**” (*clever, I know ☺*)

You will be able to submit a recognition form describing what attracted your attention. There is no limit on how many residents or businesses you identify. You can fill them out anonymous or leave your name. The property owner/or individual will receive a letter of recognition and thanks for their beautification efforts. They also will be invited to our celebration of the Judges arrival for America in Bloom, on July 19th, and be in the running to win a prize.

Featured Events



“Beauty in our Community” Continued...

I am opening this up to all of Racine, but am encouraging the 5th District to stand out and shine!
(It does in my eyes already!) ☺

Where you can get recognition forms, and the different ways to submit them are:

- I have supplied two for you on this newsletter. 📄 You will have to mail them to me, or dropped them off. (2050 La Salle Street)
- Call me with your nomination. ☎️ (939-8679)
- Fill out the online recognition form on the city’s website, Main page. 🌐 (www.cityofracine.org)
- Pick them up at Belle City in Blooms official Headquarters, DP Wigley (234 Wisconsin Avenue, 53403)
- Pick forms up at Community Centers, local businesses, or at City Hall in the Council Chamber (Room 205)

(Form pick-up locations and the online form will not be available until the last week in April.)

I am running this in conjunction with the American in Bloom contest, so I will close all entries on July 4th. To allow for me to distribute recognition letters. Again, those recognized will receive a letter of recognition and thanks for their beautification efforts. They also will be invited to our celebration of the Judges arrival for America in Bloom, on July 19th, and be in the running to win a prize.

I was downtown and saw the owners of Dover Flag picking up cigarette butts from the side walk and street curb. I also was driving down Yout Street and saw two ladies working on putting new landscaping in. The end results looked great!

I have marked them for recognition and will be out seeking for more...How about you?

Want more information on Belle City in Bloom?

“LIKE” us on Facebook to get up-to-date information www.facebook.com/BelleCityInBloom

Call Me or Email me **939-8679** or mkb@cityofracine.org

Or Chris Flynn at DP Wigley **633-8239**

Mail To:
Beauty in Our Community
2050 LaSalle Street
Racine, WI 53402

Recognizing Positive Beautification Efforts
"Beauty in our Community"



Recognition Form

Give recognition to residential, municipal, and commercial properties
(and individuals) that attract your attention, and you feel add to the beauty of our community.

Address of nominated property _____

Name of individual (If known) _____

Why is this property (or person) being recognized? _____

Optional: Your name _____

(If you provide your name it will be mentioned on the "Recognition and Thanks for their beautification efforts letter".)

Please submit no later than July 4, 2012.

Recognizing Positive Beautification Efforts
"Beauty in our Community"

Mail To:
Beauty in Our Community
2050 LaSalle Street
Racine, WI 53402



Recognition Form

Give recognition to residential, municipal, and commercial properties
(and individuals) that attract your attention, and you feel add to the beauty of our community.

Address of nominated property _____

Name of individual (If known) _____

Why is this property (or person) being recognized? _____

Optional: Your name _____

(If you provide your name it will be mentioned on the "Recognition and Thanks for their beautification efforts letter".)

Please submit no later than July 4, 2012.