HISTORIC DISTRICT BROADWAY
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BROADCAST

Holiday Tour Highlights the Season

The Broadway Historic District Association will be hosting the second annual Broadway Holiday Tour of Homes on Sunday, December 10th from 4:00 to 7:00pm. Three homes and a neighborhood church will be open for the public to enjoy the festive holiday trimmings of these historic Victorian structures. Visitors may begin their tour at Broadway Presbyterian Church, located at the corner of 7th Avenue and 23rd Street. There, the church's Bell Choir and Choral Group will entertain visitors, while they enjoy a selection of holiday desserts and drinks. Visitors will then follow the luminaries that light the sidewalks to the three residences that are featured on the tour.

The Beardsley House, the Rock Island Landmark located at 536 23rd Street, will be open for the first time since it was the 1998 Quad City Designer Show Home. Bill and Wendy Rowand, owners, have personalized the residence and made it their home. The 10-foot natural Christmas tree with white lights and ornaments spanning four generations of their family is the focal point of their holiday décor.

The home of Sue and Dan Carothers at 839 23rd Street has a small sampling of Santa decorations and Sue's homemade quilts displayed all year around. For the holidays, though, their entire collection of Santa Claus primitives and vintage quilts are brought out for use. Visitors will feel right at home in their inviting 1897 Queen Anne style home.

The 1904 Wagner House at the corner of 9th Avenue and 23rd Street with its Classical Revival design, is one of the most recognized and elegant homes in Rock Island. Suzanne Curry will highlight the innate elegance with the use of greenery and lights to showcase the grace of her home. A Christmas tree decorated simply with lights and one thousand hand-crocheted snowflakes will be featured in the graceful foyer.

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, located at 1600 20th Street, will also be holding an open house simultaneously with the Broadway holiday tour. All Broadway visitors are invited to enjoy a free tour of the Parish House and church. The site of the church was originally the 1907 Prairie style home and carriage house of Stuart Harper and his wife, Grace Velie Harper. Each room of the Parish House has been adopted and will be decorated for the holidays by a different parish ministry or organization. The sanctuary will be decorated with chrismons and Christmas trees. The First Lutheran Church is celebrating their 130th Anniversary.

Admission to the Broadway Holiday Tour, which includes refreshments, is $5.00 donation per person. Children age 12 and under are free when accompanied by an adult. Tickets may be purchased at the beginning of the tour at the Broadway Presbyterian Church. Free and convenient parking is available there. Broadway Church is handicapped accessible but the homes are not. For more information, call 786-3927.

Volunteers Needed for Holiday Tour

We are in need of volunteers to help "man" the homes, serve at the church, and cleanup afterwards. Please contact Sue Carothers at 786-5768 if you can spare a couple of hours that day to help us make this event a success. We are also looking for bakers in the Broadway area. We would like to serve home baked cookies at the church. While doing your holiday baking, please bake a couple dozen extra cookies. Contact Deb Magnuson at 786-3927 for further information.

The 2001 Community Leadership College

The City of Rock Island and Neighborhood Partners presents four educational seminars to build your skills as a community leader and better your organization. *Getting Wired To Philanthropy* will be presented on Jan 11, 2001, 6:30pm at the Rock Island Public Library. *Motivating Yourself and Others* is scheduled for Jan 29, 2001, 6:30pm at the Quad City Botanical Center. On February 13, 2001, 6:30pm at First United Methodist Church, *Planning Special Events* will be the featured topic. The final in the series, *Bowling Alone Book Club*, is planned for Feb 27, 2001, 6:30pm at the Arsenal Club. Please contact Jill Doak for further information at 732-2900.

The Broadway Board

Martha Dismer
Ed Hanna
Sue Carothers
Colleen Simpson
Kati Bushur
Kathy Matherly
Linda Rowe
Bill Rowand
Bob Braun

Board Meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of each month. If you wish to attend a meeting, please contact a board member for the time and date for the next meeting.

Broadway Historic District Association
P.O. Box 5362
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Broadway Pledges Support for RI Aquatic Center

It's hard to imagine, as wind chill factors are a daily concern, that we will ever want to go swimming again! But even as we bundle up, the Rock Island Park Board is moving ahead on plans for the new Family Aquatic Center, which will open in Summer 2002 in Longview Park. For years now, debates about the pool and park have kept many Broadway residents fighting for a swimming pool in Longview Park. Now the City and Park Board have voted to invest $4.2M right here in the heart of Rock Island. This kind of capital expenditure on a single project has not happened in years and we can all be glad that it is being invested here!

Longview Park, with the pool, lagoon and other historic features, has always ranked high on the list of Broadway priorities. The City Council and Park Board have agreed that they want to see private funds involved to make this facility a reality. In other words, they are looking for donations. The Broadway Historic District Association has pledged a donation of $3,000.00 to show our support. This is a substantial portion of the funds we have on hand and which we anticipate earning with our usual fundraising events, like the Mothers Day and Holiday Tours. We feel that it is money well spent and count on pool supporters who live in Broadway to help ensure that we are able to raise the balance of the pledge.

A challenge has been issued: the Council and the Park Board are looking to Broadway residents, as well as all citizens, to show their financial support. Broadway needs to have a strong showing of donations. While the total dollar amount is important, we also need to have a strong show of the number of people making donations. Please read the enclosed flyer about the Aquatic Center and send your donation to the Park Office at 1320 24th Street. Whether $10, $100, or $1,000, your donation will help ensure that Rock Island has a top quality, fun recreational facility for your family to enjoy for decades.

Name the Aquatic Center

The new aquatic center doesn't have a theme or name! Can you help? What is your idea for a great name for the facility? The Parks Department wants to hear everyone's ideas. Let them know your idea by filling in the form or calling 732-7275.

Broadway Vision Meeting Scheduled

"The best way to predict the future is to invent it." – Alan Kay

What do you see in the future for Broadway? Share your dreams for Broadway at our next Vision Meeting on February 15th. This is your chance to help chart the course for ***your*** neighborhood's future! Mark your calendar & come to the meeting.

Beat Winter Doldrums with Porch Party

It happens to most of us every year: the dreaded cabin fever. Well, the Broadway Historic District Association has a remedy for this inevitable condition – its annual Porch Party.

The porch party is an event held each February where neighbors throughout Broadway open their homes to guests. The party is a wonderful opportunity meet new neighbors and renew old friendships.

This year's event will be 1 to 4 p.m., Sunday, February 25. Don't worry, you don't have to actually sit on your neighbor's porch (unless we get a huge February thaw!).

Organizers are looking for neighbors who would like to be hosts and those who just want to attend this event. If you're interested in participating, please call Bob or Barb Braun at 788-1769.

Broadway Officers Elected

Officers were elected at the October board meeting of the Broadway Association. Elected to serve for the 2000-2001 term were: President, Martha Dismer; Vice-President, Kathy Matherly; Treasurer, Ed Hanna; Secretary, Linda Rowe. Congratulations to the new officers and thanks to outgoing board members Yvonne Tingle and Diane Oestreich.

Homes Needed for 2001 Mothers Day Tour

It's not too early to be thinking about the Mothers Day Tour of Homes. It is a fun opportunity to showcase your home with others in Broadway. Please contact Deb Magnuson at 786-3927.