



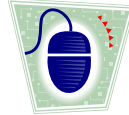
# Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Association

## 2005 Newsletter



November 2005

Volume I, Issue IV



CHECK US OUT ONLINE AT  
[WWW.DAVENPORTGOLDCOAST.ORG](http://WWW.DAVENPORTGOLDCOAST.ORG)

## Holiday Tour

*By Pj Slobojan*

A Holiday Showcase will be held on the following dates:

Thursday December 1	5-8PM
Friday, December 2	5-8PM
Sunday, December 4	2-6PM

Four homes will be on tour:

633 Ripley Street (Cristina Bucksbaum and William Rogers)  
 519 West 8th Street (Marion Meginnis & Jack Haberman)  
 532 W. 7th Street (Pam & Dennis LaRoque)  
 624 Western Avenue (Steve Andrews)

The homes are within a one-block radius of each other to provide an easy walk for attendees. Please note that the tour is being held relatively early in the holiday season.

The tour committee is looking for assistance from neighbors:

Decorations--If you decorate your home's exterior during the holidays, please try to have your decorations up in time for the tour. We know that our neighborhood continues to suffer unfairly from old stereotypes. We want to make sure that the entire neighborhood presents an inviting aspect for our visitors that will reflect the true warmth we all know exists!

Assistance is needed to install a lighted pathway connecting the tour homes on 7th and 8th. Also neighbors on the tour will be looking for tour guides to assist during the three days of the tour.

If you can help please contact the home owners or chair-people Sara Bartholomew, 322-8911 or John Smith 323-3037.

## Upcoming Events

- ❖ November 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00p.m. Social  
6:30 p.m. Annual Membership Meeting  
321 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St.
- ❖ Holiday Home Showcase  
Thursday, December 1, 2005 5-8pm  
Friday, December 2, 2005 5-8pm  
Sunday, December 4, 2005 2-6pm

## Annual Meeting

Our Annual meeting and election of officers will be **Sunday, November 13th at 6:00PM**. Location is 321 W. 6<sup>th</sup> St.

This year, we will be holding elections for President, Secretary and two members-at-large. Please let one of the current board members know if you are interested in running for a position. The current board is:

President	Marion Meginnis (Term Expiring)	marion.meginnis@wqad.com
Vice President	Dennis LaRoque	dlaroque@machlink.com
Secretary	Sara Bartholomew (Term Expiring)	sbartholomew@jtmconcepts.com
Treasurer	Cristina Bucksbaum	324-4770
Members-at-Large	John Smith	kieransmith@peoplepc.com
	Terry Genz (Term Expiring)	terryble64@hotmail.com
	John Dodd (Term Expiring)	JOHNFJODD@aol.com

"I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so his place will be proud of him."

-Abraham Lincoln

## Thank you for Volunteering

Thanks to the following who beautified the Gold Coast Park and the Western Steps this year. (Apologies if we left out any names): Sara Bartholomew, Terry Genz, Jack Haberman, Marion Meginnis, Karen Miranda and Kids, Marcia Canfield, Gordon Muller, Penny Rhomberg and Collin, PJ Slobojan, Charlie Stone, Mike Tollenaer.

## Don't Forget to Vote

By Dani Trout

Tuesday, November 8 is the Davenport city council election. There are two candidates to vote for in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward. Our current Alderman is Keith Meyer. Opposing Keith is Bill Boom, the first president of the Gold Coast. Also being voted on are Mayor and Alderman at Large. Please take the time to vote and make your voice heard.

### Third Ward Alderman

Keith Meyer [www.meyer3rdward.com](http://www.meyer3rdward.com)  
Bill Boom [www.billboom.com](http://www.billboom.com)

### Mayor

Steve Ahrens [www.ahrensformayor.com](http://www.ahrensformayor.com)  
Ed Winborn [www.winbornformayor.com](http://www.winbornformayor.com)

### Alderman At-Large

Jaime Howard [www.jaimehoward.org](http://www.jaimehoward.org)  
Dan Vance [Danv118@aol.com](mailto:Danv118@aol.com) (no website)

Ian Frink [www.ianfrink.com](http://www.ianfrink.com)  
Doug Cunningham (no e-mail/website)

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## Suggested beautification projects

By PJ Slobojan

Listed below are suggested beautification projects. There is no particular order of priority, cost, short or long range etc. These are projects we have discussed or that have been suggested to us. We'd like to continue to set our goals with your input. Let us know if you have a particular priority to any of these items, or if there are other projects you'd like to see done, Terry 326-2964, PJ 326-2894.

- Historic lights throughout neighborhood, as on Ripley between 5-6th and 6 ½-7<sup>th</sup>, Scott Hill, Gaines St., other
- Dumpsters at multi-family units that reflect numbers of people living at property (in other words, some are too small and overflowing)
- Repair and return brick to safe and stable condition - alley between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> St.
- Period railings on Scott and Western St. hills
- "Entry" at Scott (like the one at Western)
- New curbs and sidewalks on 8<sup>th</sup> St.
- Repair wall at GC Park
- Repair wall at 7<sup>th</sup> and Warren
- Trash receptacles throughout neighborhood
- Plantings next to Entry at Western
- Replace dying/dead plants and trees
- Install park benches at top of Western steps

"The heights by great men reached and kept were not obtained by sudden flight. But they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night."

-Thomas S. Monson

# Featured Home

*Editor's Note - Each newsletter we will be featuring history and/or news about one home in the neighborhood. This home will also be the location of the next neighborhood meeting.*



## The Frahm Mansion (1880)

*By Terry Genz*

The Frahm mansion was built in 1880 by Henry Frahm who with his father owned Davenport's first brewery which sat right next door. The brewery is currently the Salvation Army building on the corner of Harrison and West 6<sup>th</sup>. Originally the house had just 3 rooms on the first floor and 3 rooms on the second with the staircase running all the way to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. In 1883 the Frahms added a 3 story addition with a rooftop tower, then added again in the 1890's a 2 bedroom on the second floor. Because of these additions the Frahms removed the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor section of the main staircase and ½ story addition with a new dining room, sunroom, kitchen and large butler's pantry and a added a servant's staircase

instead that rises from first floor to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. The dining room walls were once covered with embossed leather. The basement kitchen had a dumbwaiter that rose up to the butlers pantry. The house was piped for gas lighting (the pipes are still in the walls and ceilings).

As the Frahms increased in wealth and then increased the size of their house(from 6 rooms to 16), they also increased the size of their property. They removed a small frame house that sat on the corner of Ripley and 6th, and added a brick, circle drive, 11 foot round water fountain and a small fishpond. These all still exist in my yard today. Henry Frahm died in the 1890's and his widow eventually married August Steffen Jr. and moved to "Overview", across the street. August Steffen's sister then moved into the Frahm house when she married Doctor Matthey, the next owner.

In the 1940,s the house was purchased by the Clough family. Donna Clough visited me years ago and showed me many exterior photos that showed the original iron fence, slate roof, roof top tower (now gone), rock garden and fishpond. One photo showed the stained glass front doors leaning against the house when they were removed to convert the house into 15 apartments. Donna gave me a marble top plant stand that was left in the home by the Mattheys. Donna also remembered her mother removing the embossed leather wallcovering in the dining room and her father removing the dumbwaiter from the basement kitchen and butler's pantry. Recently, I have been in contact with a Frahm descendant who gave me photos of Henry Frahm, his wife Julia Tritschler Frahm Steffen, his father Matthias Frahm and the next owner, Dr. Matthey.

Mike and I love living in this home and plan to grow old here (maybe by then the renovations will be complete). This 5,500 square foot house keeps us quite busy and provides plenty of exercise for us and our pets.

Please join us for our Annual Meeting here on Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6p.m.

"Do not let your fire go out, spark by irreplaceable spark, in the hopeless swamps of the approximate, the not-quite, the not-yet, the not-at-all. Do not let the hero in your soul perish, in lonely frustration for the life you deserved, but have never been able to reach. Check your road and the nature of your battle. The world you desired can be won. It exists, it is real, it is possible, it is yours."

*-Ayn Rand*



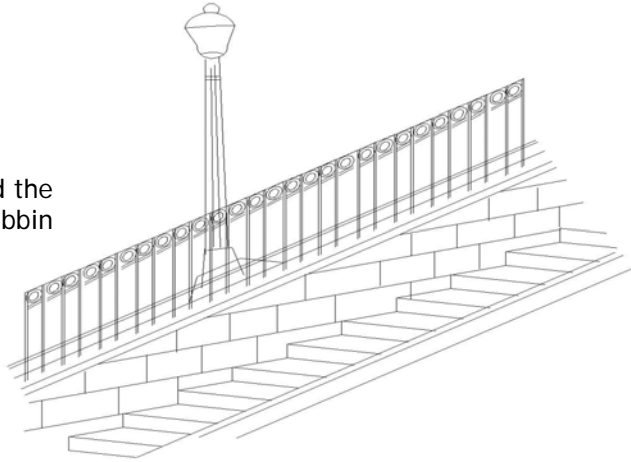
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## Ripley Hill Progress

*By PJ Slobojan*

The heavy equipment is there, the workers are there, and the work is in progress! Beginning the week of Sept. 19, McCubbin Construction started the work on Ripley Hill, first tearing out the sidewalk on the west side. They are projecting the work will be done the end of November. Currently we are applying for grants and negotiating with the City for the final phase of money needed for the project, and at this point, it looks favorable for us.



## Gateway Redevelopment Group Update

*By Jack Haberman*



Gateway has been selected as a participant in the Davenport HAPPEN program!! This makes us eligible to receive a \$30,000 incentive payment when 822 Gaines is rehabbed and sold as a owner occupied single family home.

Presently the county is going through the Right of Redemption process to get us clear title. The restoration of the Jipp is continuing and we hope to have it completely enclosed for the winter. We still need volunteers to help with everything from removing plaster, painting, hauling and salvage. For contact information as well as details of all our work checkout our new web site at [www.grgdavenport.org](http://www.grgdavenport.org).

## 2006 Directories

*By PJ Slobojan*

We are preparing the 2006 neighborhood directory. If you aren't included in the directory, but would like to be, let us know by Dec. 15. We'd also like to know if any editing needs to be done to the current directory. The new directories should be out in January '06. Contact Sara B. 332-8911 or PJ 326-2894.

## Free Leaf Pick-Up

*By PJ Slobojan*

From now through the end of November the City will pick up yard waste *free*. Usually you have to purchase a sticker to attach to the paper bag, but not this month! Sorry, there are no leaf bags left to distribute.

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Do you know of something you'd like to share with the neighborhood? The next newsletter is scheduled to be distributed in early 2006. E-mail [DaniTrout@yahoo.com](mailto:DaniTrout@yahoo.com), call Dani at 563-323-0089.