



## Hearthstone at Oktoberfest!

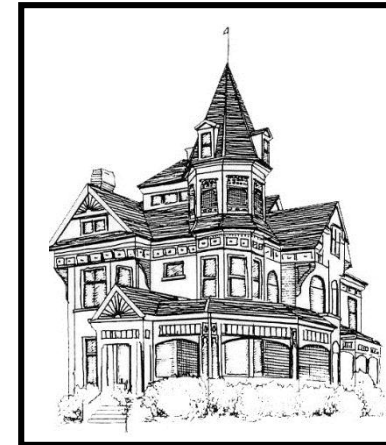
Would you believe Appleton's very first Oktoberfest took place on September 30, 1882, the exact day Hearthstone was lit by country's first hydroelectric central power station using the Edison system?

Well, we made that part up about Oktoberfest. But there WILL be an Oktoberfest celebration on Friday, September 26 and Saturday, September 27, 2014 in downtown Appleton. On Saturday Hearthstone will be selling Manderfield's large, soft pretzels in a booth in front of Evans Title, across the street from the Radisson Paper Valley. Buy a pretzel or two and support Hearthstone.

Keep informed about what's going on in the Old Third Ward:

- Event calendar: [http://www.focol.org/oldthirdward/event\\_calendar.html](http://www.focol.org/oldthirdward/event_calendar.html) (includes Hearthstone events)
- Website: <http://www.oldthirdward.org>
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/oldthirdwardappleton>

Or contact us: [oldthirdward@focol.org](mailto:oldthirdward@focol.org)



# Neighborhood News

The Newsletter of the Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association, Inc.  
Fall - 2014

## The Old Third Ward Picnic Was a Huge Success!

The weather was perfect, as promised, and the yellow jackets even stayed away! Everyone lingered well after the appointed ending time, eating the delicious food, visiting and soaking up the sun. New neighbors were welcomed and current residents caught up.

Special thanks to Dean Gazza and Appleton Department of Facilities & Construction Management for providing picnic tables with benches and trash containers – delivered and picked up!



Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association  
P. O. Box 2574  
Appleton, Wisconsin 54913-2574

## The OTW and Black History

Currently the History Museum at the Castle is exhibiting *A Stone of Hope: Black Experiences in the Fox Cities*, a traveling display about the history of Blacks in Appleton. The newsletter will publish ongoing articles about African Americans in the Old Third Ward. See the exhibit's stops: <http://www.myhistorymuseum.org/a-stone-of-hope.html>



**Gertrude Louise Hollensworth**

Image from the First Congregational Church UCC Archives  
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### Gertrude Louise Hollensworth

Gertrude Louise (known as Louise) Hollensworth was born in Neenah on February 28, 1887, the daughter of Sarah Emma Cleggett and Albert Hollensworth. Her grandparents were William and Rebecca Cleggett, both successful mixed-race business people who lived on S. State St. between W. 6<sup>th</sup> St. and W 5<sup>th</sup> St. Louise, her mother, and her sister Rebecca moved from Neenah in the late 1890s to live with William and Rebecca.

Louise “exhibited marked elocutionary ability” while she was a student at Appleton High School. She won a prize at a declamatory contest held at Ryan High School, besting another participant, writer Edna Ferber. Immediately upon high school graduation in 1905 she secured a teaching position at the Island School in Dale where she was described as “an instructor of rare ability” despite her age.

She was forced to leave the school just before Thanksgiving vacation when she was stricken with consumption. She died on January 6, 1906 at the age of 18. Louise, her grandparents, mother, and sister are buried in Riverside Cemetery.

Old Third Ward resident Antoinette Powell will present the story of these families, their lives in the Fox Cities, and the families’ history at the History Museum at the Castle in October. Watch <https://www.facebook.com/myhistorymuseum> and <http://www.oldthirdward.org> for details.

Let us know how you would like to receive your Old Third Ward Neighborhood News

Clip and mail this form to:

**Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association**

**P. O. Box 2574**

**Appleton, Wisconsin 54913-2574**

or call or email one of the Board members

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send an electronic version of the newsletter to the email address above

Please mail a paper copy of this newsletter to the address above

I wish to become involved in the Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association



The house on the southeast corner of Fifth and Walnut was built by the Boldt Company in 1897 for Matthew and Anna Rodermund. The Rodermunds lived here for just a few years. By 1901, their son, Dr. Matthew J. Rodermund had become quite infamous, as noted in the August, 1909 *Post Crescent*. “Dr. Rodermund is well remembered in Appleton, having some years ago startled the community as well as practically the entire country with his declaration that small-pox is not contagious. Appleton residents have not forgotten the doctor’s attempt at open verification when he smeared himself with small-pox virus and paraded the streets here until arrested by the police and forced to remain at his home in quarantine ... One morning it was discovered that he was not in the house that had for days been carefully guarded by the officers.” (Dr. Rodermund’s home

was on Lawe between Washington and College and he did not contract small-pox.)

The Doctor left Appleton and was subsequently captured in Milwaukee. Here he continued to lecture, publish tracts, and petition the Board of Health to stop all vaccinations and quarantines in Milwaukee and elsewhere in the state. His actions ultimately aroused “much bitter opposition by the medical profession.” By 1909 he was bankrupt.

## WE DO WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We would like your input on any concerns or ideas for our neighborhood. For example: special assessment, bike lanes, speed of traffic on 6<sup>th</sup> St, safety, traffic, the riverfront. The city is currently conducting a parking needs study and the county is looking at their own space needs. How would you like to see Jones Park developed? What if a parking ramp is needed in the current County parking lot? What would you like to see on the riverfront between Vulcan Heritage Park and Oneida Street? Contact the Old Third Ward with your questions or comments:

### Old Third Ward Neighborhood Association Board of Directors:

Brian DeGroot, President

Chris Vander Wielen, Vice President

Hugh Bayer, Treasurer

Antoinette Powell, Secretary

Keith Bilyeu

Jon Corelis

Linda Muldoon

Keith Dom Powell

Peggy Samsa

### Old Third Ward Elected Officials:

Patti Coenen (City of Appleton Alderperson, District 11) ..... [patti.coenen@gmail.com](mailto:patti.coenen@gmail.com), (920) 378-8429

Katrin Patience (Outagamie County Supervisor, District 4) .... [katrin.patience@gmail.com](mailto:katrin.patience@gmail.com), (920) 202-3767