updated for new buildings

City leaders looking to improve Baraboo's aesthetic appeal are pushing to raise design standards for new buildings along main streets. This week, Mayor Mike Palm appeared before the City Council's administrative committee to gauge its support for establishing higher standards for new construction along "collector" streets. Spurring the discussion is South Boulevard, a key artery that already has begun to lure interest in new construction and home to some buildings city leaders find to be lacking in aesthetic value.

The committee agreed that for new buildings along main streets and referred the matter to the Plan Commission. Palm said now is the time to act. A new gas station, credit union and car dealership already have been approved for construction this year along South Boulevard, and further right now," Palm said. He'd like to see the standards already set for construction on the riverfront - ones that encourage the use of natural materials, and architecture befitting the neighborhood - enforced along the city's main streets.

On Monday, the committee reviewed a slideshow depicting what Palm called the "eclectic" array of design concepts along

Shirley Haugen laughs during the monthly Palm of the Hand memoir workshop at the Baraboo Public Library on Tuesday. She said she hopes to write stories from all the places she has lived.

Palm of the Hand meetings aim to make memoirs manageable

Ellen Schroeder and Shirley Haugen, both 76, have been exploring some interesting stories at their local libraries. The stories are their own, and they've decided to share them.

The two are regular participants in the monthly Palm of the Hand memoir writing workshop, co-sponsored by the Baraboo Public Library and the University of Wisconsin-Baraboo/Sauk County T.N. Savides Library.

"I enjoy writing," said Schroeder, who lives in Reedsburg. She first attended the workshop last year. "When you write, you write what you remember," she said, adding that she has been taking down stories to share with her seven grandchildren.

She wants them to know what her life was like growing up on a Wisconsin farm.

"I like to have feedback from stuff I've written," said Haugen, of Baraboo.

The workshop, based on a Palm of the Hand memoir-writing model developed by poet and author Michael Czarnecki, has been offered in the community for nearly three years. University library director Marc

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Man faces decade-old child sex assault charges

A Wisconsin Rapids man is wanted for arrest and could face prison time if convicted of a child sexual assault.

Second-degree sexual assault of a child under the age of 16. According to the criminal complaint, a young woman told a Sauk County Sheriff's Department detective that Lewellyn began assaulting her in the town of Excellor.

Another person interviewed by authorities is alleged to have witnessed multiple instances in which Lewellyn was engaged in sexual contact with the girl.

Cate Booth tells a story during the monthly memoir workshop at the Baraboo Public Library.
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Boucher said Czarnecki first visited Baraboo and she has been attending the fair since 1988.

The fair has been a tradition for the Allen family.

Anne Getinger, news reporter, Baraboo Public Library director Meg Allen laughs during the Palm of the Hand memoir workshop Tuesday.

"To me, as long as I can remember, the fair has been a part of our family's life," Allen said.

"It's a special day for our family and our community," Getinger said. The fair is a time when people can connect and enjoy the community.