

MEADOWWORD

Membership Newsletter issue of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association

September/October 2010

MNA President News – Lisa Veldran

In our last newsletter, I talked about spring being in the air. Already, there are days when I can feel fall! The neighborhood has been busy over the summer – another barbeque was hosted by the landlords on Balsam Road in August; a mosaic stepping stone workshop was held in Meadowood Park; MSCR had programming in the Park every day; in July there was another community supper with the Mayor holding a meeting about safety immediately after; and, neighbors have been working on renovating the Park, hoping to develop and fund a community organizer for the southwest side and volunteering at the Southwest Community Farmers Market. I am very happy to live in a neighborhood where I know my neighbors and have a chance to meet more in a variety of activities and venues.

We are a changing neighborhood in many positive ways and the MNA is a proud supporter of and partner with many of the above initiatives. If you are interested in any neighborhood activities and don't know who to contact, send me an email at veldran@yahoo.com or call me at 271-0722

I am looking forward to another year as MNA's president and feel privileged to serve with the wonderful people on the board. We are all working to keep Meadowood a great place to live, work, play and raise our children.

That wonderful time of the year!

MNA Annual Membership Drive 2010-2011

If you feel like you are out of the loop, maybe you aren't a member of our active neighborhood association! Members receive the *Meadowood* five times a year, take advantage of our Santa Visit program, attend the bingo party or the family golf outing at Vitense Golfland, advertise in the Spring neighborhood garage sale and join us at the 4th of July bike parade and picnic – all for a mere \$5! Become a member today! It's easy – area representatives and block captains will be canvassing your street in September/October and signing up households or you can visit the website and download a membership form. So, please, when your representative arrives, consider joining and you will receive a membership card that can be used at all the above events.

There are longer versions of many *Meadowood* articles & additional ones on the website: www.meadowoodneighbors.org

Fresh Approach—Mayor Dave's Blog 8/2/10

(Edited) - Vegetables can make a lot of things better. I stopped by Russett Road the other day to visit the "Clean & Fresh" kids who are spending the summer fixing up the neighborhood and working on a new vegetable garden. The program is putting area kids, ages 14 and 15, to work picking up around the neighborhood and learning how to grow food. The program has a triple benefit. It's keeping the kids positively engaged, it's improving the look of the neighborhood and it's teaching them something about the importance of good nutrition.

The project is a collaborative effort of Public Health Madison and Dane County, Edgewood College, the Madison Area Permaculture Guild, Youth Services, and the Meadowood Neighborhood Center.

Part of the funding comes from the Emerging Neighborhoods Fund, a program I launched a few years ago to provide small, startup grants for neighborhood needs; by private donations; local businesses; Good Shepherd Lutheran Church; Edgewood College Dane Co. Environmental Council and the Community Action Coalition.

Many of these kinds of small efforts are starting to pay dividends on the southwest side. In the last three years, calls for police service involving the kinds of things that usually stem from disconnected youth have dropped. Over the same years we've invested in a new and expanded neighborhood center, youth programs, enhanced building inspections and more. We've invested about a million dollars in city resources, but the important thing is that we are trying to work smarter, listening to the neighborhood and then investing in things that make sense.

By engaging in these kinds of positive, community-building activities, these kids are making a better neighborhood for themselves, their friends and family and, whether they know it or not, they're making my job a lot easier.

Ka-Boom Play Day at Meadowood Park

(Located on Leland Dr. & Thrush Ln.)

Saturday, September 25, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

We will be installing mosaic stepping stones, created by community members, into a path in the Meadowood Kids' Garden. There will be games, a picnic and a neighborhood clean-up. For more information contact Leslie Stephany 288-8144 (H) or 608-438-2109 (C) or by email at leslie.stephany@gmail.com.

Alder Thuy's Fall 2010 Newsletter (Edited.)
district20@cityofmadison.com

I'm very happy that we all enjoyed fireworks at Elver Park once again this Fourth of July. It's wonderful that both Woodman's Food Markets and the Parks Division have publicly announced their strong commitment to keep this long-held community tradition in the coming years. My sincere thanks to all of you who continue to participate and help make our area's great celebration such a fun-filled and successful event for so many.

Currently, if a passenger does not pay his or her fare, a taxi driver's only recourse is to file a self-report form with the Police Department. Taxi drivers are small business owners who provide a vital service to our community. I believe it's our duty to protect taxi drivers from being ripped off, so I proposed an ordinance amendment that would allow them to charge estimated fares in advance under some very specific circumstances. The amendment unanimously passed the Transit and Parking Commission, but was not approved by the Equal Opportunities Commission at its August 12 meeting:

*"The commission discussed this issue and on a motion made by Commissioner Brian Benford, seconded by Commissioner John Quinlan, they voted **not to approve** the changes. The rationale was that they felt that the language, as presented, had a high potential for discrimination. In addition, they felt that some of the language was so ambiguous that it would be difficult to apply consistently."*

I was very disappointed for the cab drivers of all three Madison taxi companies who have been working so hard to etch out a living while providing a vital service to many residents on a daily basis.

City Traffic Engineering has been surveying area residents for the best solutions to improve traffic safety on Keating Terrace in Midvale Heights as well as alleviating congestion on Gilbert and Russett Roads near Orchard Ridge Elementary, Toki Middle, and St. Maria Goretti Schools. It's unavoidable that summer brings road construction all over town causing endless frustrations. However, please be patient and work with City staff in improving our streets.

Thanks to wet weather and some fungus, the gypsy moths self-destructed and did not ravage our trees as predicted. Nevertheless, I encourage everyone to check their trees for egg masses this fall and report to City Forestry to help them map areas for spraying next spring.

Our City has already started discussion of the 2011 Budget. The Mayor held three public hearings in August, and all Madisonians are encouraged to contact the Mayor immediately and let him know your priorities for the 2011

Budget. I am very cognizant of the heavy tax burdens already levied.

Your concerns or interests about city issues are always welcome. However, I'd like to challenge you to do something first: Before contacting me, please ask yourself whether you voted in the most recent local election. It's wonderful if you did, and I thank YOU! If you didn't, please make a promise to yourself that you will vote in the next election.

August and September are quite a hectic time for me. At the end of August, when the Council is not in session, I travelled to California to carry out my mother's last wish and scatter her ashes in the Pacific Ocean.

County Supervisor Veldran's Column (Edited.)
Veldran@county.dane.wi.us (c) 608-235-8369

As our summer winds down and some very hot weather, hopefully, is behind us, we can look forward to a wonderful fall and all that it brings. I enjoyed seeing many neighbors at the annual picnic and helping at the parade. As my new term on the County Board has started, I am focusing on many areas that concern our neighborhood and the County overall.

I was elected chair of the Public Works and Transportation Committee (PWT). There are certain responsibilities that come with this position which are important throughout the county. I routinely work with the head of the highway department on improving county roads and making road maintenance as cost efficient as possible. We are all waiting for the WI DOT to release its final Environmental Impact Statement on the Verona Rd. project. It will focus mainly on the east side of Verona Rd. I have also contacted the DOT and Rep. Berceau to look at the possibility of installing a sound wall on our side of Verona Rd. when the project begins in a couple of years.

I have been working with the County Executive at expanding and creating more interconnectivity with local bicycle trails around the county. This has the advantage of adding to our economy as Madison and Dane County become a bicycle tourism destination.

One of the other areas that PWT oversees is landfill and sustainability issues. We recently added generators to create more electricity out of methane gas generated from waste at the landfill. Dane County has received \$3 million in revenue annually from MG&E for this project!

I am making sure we are spending federal stimulus money from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 to make County facilities more energy efficient, including hiring people and contracting to complete various green projects.

In my last column, I wrote that I requested County Executive Falk to unfreeze a position that works with the Neighborhood Intervention Program on gang-related issues. That proved to be important as the individual hired, Frank Rodriguez, was instrumental in assisting the gang task force in locating and arresting gang members in connection with the murder on the north side in June.

A brief update on Dane County's implementation of interoperable radios for all first responders: the County Board was recently presented with a new alternative called "DaneCom-light". Without making fun of the name, it is a scaled down version of the original DaneCom proposal that was rejected last year by some municipalities due to operating costs. We scaled back the plan and are, again, working with all cities, towns and villages to reach a compromise that both addresses the needs of public safety and is affordable.

There has been concern expressed about the creation of the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) and the authority to develop a referendum question before any sales tax is implemented. I will reiterate my stance on this issue. I voted to create the RTA to explore transit options and the use of a sales tax only if supported by a referendum. I am not against a referendum and never have been. The RTA Board voted unanimously at its first meeting to bind itself to the outcome of a referendum. The Board has been meeting regularly and is in the process of formulating a "Plan for Transit". When they have completed their work, they will propose a county referendum to be put to the voters, including District 7 residents. I am confident the referendum will focus on all transportation areas. I wish the referendum was ready, but it is not.

County budget deliberations are in September and October. While there have been positive signs in the local economy and sales tax revenues are up, we still expect a tight budget. At this time, County departments are to submit their budget proposals to the County Executive. She will present her budget to the Board in October. I have been told there will not be any cuts in the area of Joining Forces for Families as occurred last year.

I am proud of all of the residents from this area who came and spoke at the budget hearings or contacted me last year. Feel free to contact me about your county concerns.

July 4th in Meadowood

We held the 4th of July celebration on Saturday, July 3rd. About 40 children came to the Bike Parade. This year's theme was "Let's Have A Parade!" A MFD fire truck led the parade and every participant received a treat and the opportunity to climb aboard the fire truck and ambulance (a big thanks! to MFD personnel for taking the time to stop by). Thanks to judges Linda and Bob Rabehl, Dottie Loehrer, Matt, Max and Lily Veldran. Cash prizes and ribbons were awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

winners in each age category and group as follows:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 0-5 year | 6-8 years | 9 - 12 years |
| 1 st Shaw Jackson Jr. | 1 st Erin Roseboom | 1 st Tyler Loving |
| 2 nd Kevon Swenson | 2 nd Abby Mutch | 2 nd Lillian Griffin |
| 3 rd Ruth Griffin | 3 rd Cameron Moll | |

Groups

- 1st Maxwell & Samuel Knight
- 2nd Rachel Roseboom, Laura Whitt and Lydia Swanson
- 3rd Maddie, Caleb and Reed Van Horn

We had a great turnout for the picnic! 90 adults and children joined us at Elver Park. Thank you to Lorene Wendricks for her hard (and VERY dedicated) work, Lisa & Al Schultz, Patsy Ragland and Dave Wendricks for serving food.

And who can forget the great door prizes! A BIG THANKS to Dave Glomp, Mark Bauman and Dottie Loehrer for their hard work in procuring door prizes. Meadowood Neighborhood Association asks you to patronize our generous donors!

- | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Ace Hardware | Anchor Bank |
| Babe's Restaurant | Best Cleaners |
| Copper Top Restaurant | Copps Food Store |
| Curves | Dane Co. Credit Union |
| Gino's Italian Deli | Griff's Restaurant |
| Jung Seed Co. | Klinke Cleaners |
| McDonalds | Pizza Extreme |
| Picasso's Pizza | Ten Pin Alley |
| Touch of Class Hairstyling | Walgreens |
| WI Community Ban | |



www.fiorepairs.com fiorepairs@gmail.com

Help the World and Meadowood!

Sixteen Madison-area neighborhoods, including Meadowood, are competing to become leading supporters of green power. The competition is sponsored by Madison Gas and Electric. **There are cash prizes for the two neighborhoods with the highest percentage increases in participation in MGE's Green Power Tomorrow program.** It would be nice to win the cash prize and bragging rights. But the bigger picture is that a cleaner environment depends on making green power a larger portion of our electricity use. MGE, like all Wisconsin

The Meadowood Neighborhood Association Board of Directors meets at 7:00 pm the first Wednesday of every month (except July, when there is no meeting) at the Meadowood Neighborhood Center. **Meetings are open to the public.**

www.meadowoodneighbors.org

utilities, must provide a small percentage of their electricity from renewable energy sources to meet the state requirement of 10% by the end of 2015. Area residents have asked to go beyond the minimum requirement. Green Power Tomorrow gives you an option to do more.

Add renewables to your energy mix and help our fragile planet. The cost is as little as \$3.75 each month. **Visit www.mge.com/greenpower and sign up by September 30, 2010!**

Upcoming Events at Meadowridge Library

For information on upcoming events at the Meadowridge Library visit the Madison Library website at <http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/calendar/calendar.html>

Wednesdays at 3 p.m. – Chess Club – All Ages

Learn to play or find someone to play with. All skill levels are welcome. No registration needed. Drop in any time 3-4:30 pm.

Thursday at 3 p.m. – Knitting Club – K-5th grade

Learn the basics. Bring a project in-process to show and tell. Get help if you are stuck or need new ideas! We'll provide the supplies. Children under 8 must have an adult helper present.

September 14 at 4 p.m. - Gaming @ the Library – K-5th grade

See if you have the right moves or learn how to play. For kids ages 7 & up. We're playing Wii Super Smash Bros Brawl.

September 20 at 7 p.m. – Book Talk for Adults

Please join us for a discussion of anything and everything you have been reading. This is a great opportunity to share titles and authors with your neighbors.

September 28 at 4 p.m. - Learn 'n Craft-Greek Mythology - K-5th Grade

Greek Mythology: Discover something new then make a craft. For kids age 7 & up. Registration begins two weeks before event.

2010-11 MNA Board Officers & Area Representatives

These officers and area representatives were elected at the 4th of July Picnic (**We are looking for an Area 10 rep. before Reid Bowers leaves Madison! Contact Lisa Veldran or Reid at 354-9313 if you are interested in being on your neighborhood board.*)

Officers 2010-2011

President -Lisa Veldran Vice President-Bob Rabehl
Secretary -Joyce Dingman Treasurer- Lorene Wendricks

Area Representatives 2010-2011

1. Sally Stix 271-7609
2. Krista Ralston 274-2210
3. Bob Rabehl 274-3125
4. Dottie Loehrer 271-5994
5. Sherri Rembert 273-0960
6. Lisa Veldran 271-0722
7. Lisa Schulz 271-7831
8. Janice/Mark Bauman 277-0860
9. Dave Glomp 271-9531
10. Reid Bowers 354-9313*
11. Linda Kubly 271-4530
12. Patsy Ragland 273-4040

13. Darlene Burrell 608-317-3294
14. & 15 Vacant

Annual Budget Report (09/01/09 -08/19/10)

Lorene Wendricks, Treasurer

It has been several years since a treasurer's report has been printed in the *Meadoword*. Even though the current membership year is not quite over, most major expenses have been incurred.

Income	
Memberships (642 members x \$5.00)	\$3210.00
Donations	140.00
Newsletter Advertising	150.00
Miscellaneous Income	72.00
Total Income	\$3572.00
Businesses Expenses	
MEADOWORD Printing	\$1248.58
Directory Printing	1614.15
Website	258.33
PO Box	70.00
Sub-total Expenses	\$3191.06
Event & Miscellaneous Expenses	
Santa Visit	\$ 48.97
Bingo Party	217.76
Golf/Pizza Outing	267.53
Garage Sale	107.00
July 4 th Parade and Picnic	548.75
Bank Charges	33.50
Miscellaneous	87.90
Sub-total	\$1311.41
Total Expenses	\$4502.47

Don't forget to visit the Southwest Community Farmers' Market on Wednesdays in the Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ parking lot at 1501 Gilbert Road from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. through October 28.

CITY ELECTION SCHEDULE

Polling Places open at 7am and close at 8 pm

- September Primary Election - **Tuesday, Sept. 14th**
- General Election - **Tuesday, Nov. 2nd**

For information on how to register to vote, change your voting address, obtain an absentee ballot or where you vote, visit the City Clerk's website at:

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/election/voter>

Absentee ballots are now available for the September 14 Primary Election. City of Madison voters are now able to check the status of their absentee ballot request through the Voter Public Access website, <https://vpa.wi.gov>. This online resource allows voters to verify that the City Clerk's Office has processed their absentee ballot request, mailed their absentee ballot, and received their voted ballot in the mail.

The Madison City Clerk's Office has a goal of zero absentee ballots rejected at the polls. In the November 2008 General Election, 13 percent of the absentee ballots cast by Madison voters could not be counted. Here are four things you can do to make sure your absentee ballot is counted on Election Day:

- Return your ballot on time. Allow plenty of time for the Postal Service to deliver your ballot by Election Day. Don't wait until the last minute!
- Check the address on your absentee certificate envelope. This is the address where you are registered to vote. If you have moved, you must re-register before you may cast a ballot.
- Sign the certificate envelope.
- Have a witness sign the certificate envelope.

Absentee ballots are mailed to registered voters who have submitted an absentee request that contains their name, Madison address, address to which the ballot should be mailed, and original signature. **The deadline for requesting that an absentee ballot be sent to you by mail is Thursday, September 9. Requests can be sent to:**

City Clerk
City-County Building Room 103
210 Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703

Absentee forms are available at
<http://www.cityofmadison.com/election/absenteeVoting>

Madison voters can vote absentee in the City Clerk's Office Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Clerk's Office will also be open for absentee voting on Saturday, September 11, from 9 a.m. to noon.

Walk Our Children to School Week/Walkable Neighborhoods Campaign, October 4-8, 2010

Safe Community Coalition joins with Madison Area SAFE KIDS and many school and law enforcement partners to coordinate this campaign. Twenty schools, 7,000 children, and their families participate in Walk Our Children to School Week in Dane County each year. Walk Our Children to School Week is aimed at improving driver behavior and teaching children to be safe pedestrians. *Watch for special announcements about the campaign that will be occurring in the Meadowood Neighborhood the week of October 4!*

Dane County TRIAD 8th Annual Crime Prevention and Safety Conference & Expo

"To Be Aware is to Be Prepared"

September 14, 2010, 8a.m.-3:15 p.m.

Blackhawk Church, 9620 Brader Way, Madison, WI

Come and learn how to keep you, your family and friends safe in your home and community. All ages are invited. Seniors, law enforcement, EMS, fire personnel, neighborhood associations, city/county officials, human service professionals and the general public are invited to attend. **Workshops will focus on Juvenile Gangs,**

Internet Safety for You and Your Children and Grandchildren, Fire and Falls Prevention, Scams and Frauds, Elder Abuse, Options for Senior Living, To a Healthier You in 2010, How to be a Safe Grandparent, All About 911, and Prescription Drugs, Use and Misuse.

Speakers include: Judge Brian Blanchard- District 4 Court of Appeals; Donna Weihofen, Nutritionist, UW Health; Marilyn Lawler, Independent Living; Officer Jason Weber, Town of Menasha; Dr. Andy Kosseff, St. Mary's; Detective Joel Wagner, Dane County Sheriff's Dept., Eric Dahl, Madison Fire Department; Ann Dorschel, Area Agency on Aging; Jim Savage, Kohl Center at U.W. Hospital; Dane County Community Deputy John Nelson; Glen Lloyd, Retired, Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

Over 20 organizations will be exhibiting and providing important information. There will be blood pressure screening by St Mary's. The cost is \$15.00 which includes lunch, breaks and materials. Continuing Education Credits will be available and limited scholarships for seniors. If you need an interpreter, translator, materials in alternate formats, or other accommodations to access this program please call 608-441-7897, 10 working days before September 14th.

This conference is a collaborative effort by Dane County Sheriff's Office-Community Deputies, RSVP, Blackhawk Church, St Mary's, Colonial Club of Sun Prairie, Colonial View Apartments, Madison Fire Department and Sun Prairie Triad.

For more information or to register contact: RSVP of Dane County: 517 N. Segoe Rd., Madison, WI (608) 441-7897

Bike News - Badger Trail Connector Update

Paving of the seven mile connector section of Badger Trail from the end of the SW Bike Trail to Purcell Road is continuing. It's still a construction zone and the trail is closed. The work should be completed the middle of September with a tentative Grand Opening scheduled for September 18, 2010 (when the date is confirmed we will post it to the Meadowood Neighborhood Association website) For information about the Badger Trail visit: <http://www.badger-trail.com>

Remember the bike path is close to Star Theatre and a great link to Military Ridge (crosses CTH PD south of the USH 151 (Verona Road) Intersection). Please give some thought to trip planning on the Badger Trail this fall!

New Smoke Alarm Ordinance for Homeowners

The second half of the City of Madison’s new smoke alarm started Sunday, August 15. The new ordinance passed by the City Council in March, 2009 requires smoke alarms with 10-year lithium batteries designed to last the life of the smoke alarm. Under the newly adopted ordinance, all smoke alarms must have a 10-year battery in a tamper-resistant alarm unit, **OR** a hard-wired system with battery back-up. **9-volt batteries will no longer be used UNLESS they are being used as a battery back-up to a hard-wired alarm.**

The ordinance requires additional alarms in the residence:

- In each bedroom or sleeping area
- Within six feet of each door leading to a bedroom or sleeping area of each unit
- On each floor of the building

The City of Madison Fire Department has been awarded a Fire Prevention and Safety grant to purchase and install more than 3,000 smoke alarms for homeowners who are at the greatest risk of injury or death in a fire. The United States Fire Administration considers young children, older adults, people with disabilities, and people living in poverty at highest risk. The grant program, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, enhances fire departments’ ability to protect the public and fire service personnel from fire and related hazards. The City of Madison Fire Department received \$35,268 to help at-risk residents receive early warning in the event of a fire in their home. Smoke alarms provide early warning of fires, allow people more time to safely escape, and reduce fire deaths and injuries. Early detection of fires often results in smaller fires which cause less property damage and present less danger to the firefighters who must respond to the fires.

The Madison Fire Department is working with community organizations to identify the homes needing smoke alarms. Members of Madison Fire Fighters Local 311 are helping to install the alarms in residents’ homes. Besides the alarms, residents will also receive fire safety information and materials. Smoke alarm manufacturers First Alert and Kidde donated 348 smoke alarms to assist in this effort.

For more information, please contact the Madison Fire Department Community Education Office at 266-4709 or visit

***In addition if you are a member of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association you can receive a DISCOUNT at Ace Hardware in the Meadowood Shopping Center on these new fire alarms. Please be prepared to show your membership card at the time of purchase to receive the following discounts.**

Smoke Alarm Special Pricing at Ace Hardware/Meadowood Shopping Center

Quantity Based Price	SKU 5194782	SKU 5164538	SKU 5069026
Regular Price	15.99	15.99	25.99
1 to 10 alarms	12.65	14.25	20.05
11 to 20 alarms	11.95	13.55	19.35
21 to 40 alarms	11.30	12.90	18.70
<i>For larger quantities ask in store</i>	BRK Brand #9120B-12ST 120V AC 60 Hz hardware	First Alert #SA305	First Alert #SA340
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 volt battery backup • Slide door access for battery • Adapter plug fits Kiddie, Fireex units • No rewiring necessary • Single test/silence button • Intell. Sensor reduces nuisance alarms • Ionization smoke sensor • Automatically performs internal test • Interconnect up to 18 units • Quick connect plug with 8" pig tails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 year lithium battery included • Single test/silence button • Tamper resistant locking pins • Loud 85 db alarm • 10 year warranty • Ionization smoke sensor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 year lithium power cell included • Single test/silence button • Tamper resistant sealed alarm • Loud 85 db alarm • 10 year warranty • Ionization smoke sensor • Blinking power indicator • Smoke & fire alarm