

# MEADOWWORD

Newsletter of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association

November/December 2010

## MNA President News – Lisa Veldran

[lveldran@yahoo.com](mailto:lveldran@yahoo.com) or 271-0722

I hope that most of your leaves have fallen and have been picked up by the city in the first leaf pick up. Unless you have trees like mine, you won't be really raking until closer to Thanksgiving!

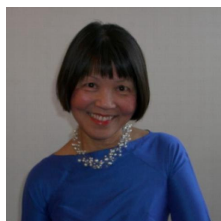
Fall is a time to start "hunkering down". The Meadowood Community Garden and the Russett Road Front Yard Gardens have finished their clean-ups. The Southwest Community Farmers Market finished another successful vending season on October 20.

We also look forward to next year with new initiatives and projects on the horizon: start of the Meadowood Park renovation, the continuation of the work started by the Southwest Community Organizing Committee (SWCOC) and upcoming Meadowood Community Suppers (next one scheduled for Wednesday, January 19, 2011).

What is the one thing that links all of these efforts? **Volunteers.** Dictionary.com describes a volunteer as "a person who voluntarily offers himself or herself for a service or undertaking". It is my sincere hope that if you haven't "voluntarily offered yourself" to better your neighborhood and community that you make it a resolution in 2011 to join the many others in Meadowood who have stepped up to the plate. You can join those who continue to make Meadowood a neighborhood example of community involvement and community pride.

## **Alder Thuy Pham-Remmele's End of Year Newsletter**

(Edited.) [district20@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district20@cityofmadison.com)



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

First good news: I'm quite pleased that on September 7, after hours of debate, the **taxicab pre-pay ordinance** I sponsored passed unanimously, with no amendments that would have watered it down.

This is a positive step to assure small businesses that Madison is sensitive to their needs and will work to provide a safe environment for their operation.

Pastor Brent of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church just asked me to propose an amendment allowing his church to use portable signs to announce events the same way

as area businesses do. Both Pastor Brent and Good Shepherd have done so much for the area community, and I am happy to return the favor. On October 5, my ordinance was introduced to the Council; I don't foresee any obstacles to its passing.

Many of you have expressed strong concerns against the proposal shifting the City burden of clearing snow at bus stops onto abutting property owners. I consulted with Street Superintendent Al Schumacher who assured me that Street crews have the proper equipment to handle even ice boulders formed by hard-packed snow. Given adequate time and resources, he would rather have his crews do this task than shifting it to homeowners already responsible for clearing their sidewalks in a timely manner. I consider this a basic City service. The projected savings is minimal and not worth burdening homeowners who are already challenged by our record-breaking winters.

The Mayor's 2011 Budget as presented raises property taxes by almost 5% and does not include likely tax increases to fund MATC, Madison Metropolitan School District, Regional Transit Authority and Dane County. The City's second largest increase is in debt service and the Police Department's request for 20 additional officers is not included.

The Edgewater Hotel project has been dragging on for 16 months with no resolution in sight due to a pending lawsuit. On top of that, we now have the Overture Center taking up much Council time with no details yet for a final solution. All of the proposed models require large annual subsidies forever. I lose sleep thinking of the numerous challenges many families are facing: loss of job, home and health insurance, the rising cost of living expenses. It's easy to talk about being fiscally conservative, but I would like to see that put in practice.

Many of you have been contacting me about my lonely stand against adversity at City Hall. My deepest gratitude for all your concerns. Please rest assured that your continued support encourages me to keep carrying your voice to City Hall.

Halloween is fast approaching with Thanksgiving and Christmas not far behind. To all of you, my warmest wishes for a joyous time sharing family traditions, blessings and happiness.

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## Santa Visits Meadowood on December 11

Santa and his elves are busy getting ready for his annual pre-Christmas visit to Meadowood children on Saturday, December 11, beginning about 6:00 p.m. Santa can only visit children through age 10 whose families are current Meadowood Neighborhood Association members and also write him a letter. Parents, please make sure the letter includes the name, address, and age of the child. Mail the letters to: Santa Claus, c/o Loehrs, 5810 Crabapple Lane, Madison, WI 53711.

The deadline for letters to be received is Thursday, December 9. If you are not yet a member of MNA, enclose a \$5.00 check with your letters.

## Neighborhood Events

### Winter Bingo Party - Saturday, January 29, 2011

The Bingo Party is normally put on at the local Knights of Columbus hall in early November. Refreshments are served and prizes are awarded for game winners. Unlike many of our other events, the Bingo Party is for adults only!

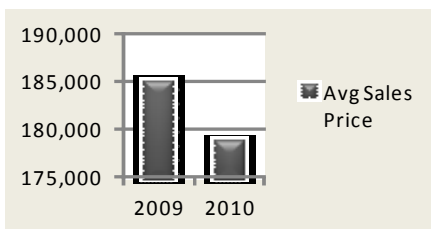
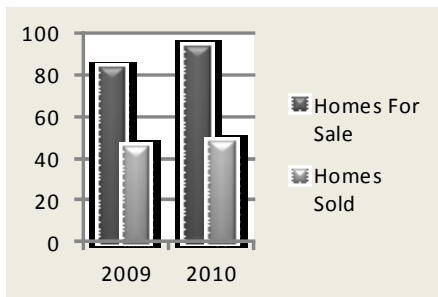
### Vitense Golf Event - Saturday, March 5, 2011

Come join the fun! Free pizza, soda and 1 round of mini-golf for kids 12 and under at Vitense Golf and Country Club.



# Meadowood

## HOUSING MARKET UPDATE



Stats based from January –September of each year

Would you like more information on the value of your home or to learn what we do to sell homes in today's housing market?

Contact your neighbor and Realtor **Matt Winzenried** of **Cooper Spransy Realty**.

- Home Sale
- Estates
- Short Sale

*Call or email for a free home value report. Be sure to ask about the unique marketing tactics we use.*



## West Community Police Team K9 Update

An update from K9 Slim of the West Community Policing Team! Since he hit the streets in April, he has conducted over 50 vehicle sniffs for illegal narcotics. To date, Slim has assisted in recovering:

- + 3556 grams of Marijuana
- + 4.6 grams of cocaine
- + .5 grams of heroin
- + 4 guns

- + 1 facsimile hand gun
- + \$13,000.

The West CPT is very happy to have Slim join the team. He has contributed to the team's success. When he is not out on the street working he can often be found in the West Police District enjoying a great game of fetching tennis balls with his team.

Slim turned 2 years old on September 21<sup>st</sup>.



Slim with a recent seizure that probably would not have been made without him! A lot of marijuana and a gun off the street!

### Schools of Hope – Volunteer Opportunity at Toki Middle School

Schools of Hope (SOH) is a program run through the Urban League and Juventud which aims to address the gap in academic achievement between African-American, Latino and Southeast Asian students and their white counterparts in the Madison schools. We recruit, train, and match tutors with struggling students to ensure that all students are adequately prepared to successfully complete academic subjects when they enter high school.

We currently need volunteers and work-study tutors at Toki, a Schools of Hope site. Tutors meet one-on-one or with small groups of students at least an hour each week. Tutoring happens throughout the school day Monday - Friday. Tutors provide students with academic guidance including assignment completion, test preparation, study skills, organization and time management skills.

Schools of Hope volunteers at Toki Middle School:

- Tutor one or two students at a time, working on various subjects
- Are matched with students based on the volunteers' interests, geographic preferences and availability
- Are placed between the hours of 8:00 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.
- Commit at least 1 hour per week on a consistent basis for at least one academic semester
- Receive on-site orientation and training


To VOLUNTEER: Call Sara Ullmer or Melissa Nehmer, SOH tutor coordinators at Toki Middle School: 204-4763. Or email Sara at [slanderson2@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:slanderson2@madison.k12.wi.us)

### Meadowood Talk – Friday, November 12 *Understanding Today's Youth*

You are invited to attend the upcoming Meadowood Talk on Friday, Nov. 12 at 10a.m. While the Meadowood Neighborhood Center has a variety of topics, this one will be particularly informative and insightful. The presenter, RJ Knight, is the recipient of the 2010 Youth Worker of the Year presented by the Youth Resource Network! She works at LaFollette High School with the MSCR Community Learning Center and was formally at the MSCR Youth Resource Center at Sennett Middle School.


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## who to call to take the chill out of the bill



How do you control heating costs when temperatures plummet? Let our MGE Home Energy Line provide the high points on saving money and energy this winter. And we're just warming-up. We answer all kinds of home energy questions. Our experts have more than 200 combined years of energy-saving experience.

Ready for a heated conversation?  
We have a line for you. 252-7117.



**mge**<sup>®</sup>  
your community energy company

GS1446 10/24/2008

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](http://www.meadowoodneighbors.org)

**Around Town--Mayor Dave's blog** (excerpted & edited)

Oct. 16 Our leaves add up to a whopping 16,000 tons every fall. For the cost of about \$1.1 million, we pick them up and take them to a central site where they are composted. Then you drive to the city compost sites and pick up the stuff to return to your yard and garden. Wouldn't it be better if we cut out the middle man? We'd save money and fossil fuels and your lawn and garden would get the benefits of organic fertilizer if we just composted on site. There are a couple of options. You can pile them into a compost bin and let 'em cook over the winter or you can mulch them right into your yard with a lawn mower. Higher volumes of leaves still may have to be hauled off site, but we can do a whole lot better than we are today.

Oct. 14 Buildings: The Overture Center. This is a bigger facility than the Madison region would have built for itself. It's a facility we will grow into in the coming decades. The real question is how to fill the gap between what a building of that size demands and what taxpayers in a community our size can be expected to support. The real challenge is to demonstrate that we have the civic capacity to wrestle with a big, complex problem and arrive at a solution that works without shutting the place down.

The Train Station. Cities have to grow and move to stay alive. High speed rail will get us around the Midwest faster, and it will provide another transportation option, especially for an aging society. But what it really means for Madison to be among the first cities on a new American fast rail network is that it marks us as relevant, a community that wants to catch the wave and keep up. Things like rail, bikability movements, local food and public markets, high speed internet and eclectic music and other arts scenes show we're a place that welcomes new ideas, change and diversity.

The Edgewater. The Edgewater Hotel will provide jobs and a tax base when both are needed more than ever. The city approval of it sent a strong and clear message that a big, bold project can move forward. Madison should want to be known as a city with high standards where quality development is not just welcomed but encouraged.

The Police Training Facility. This \$6 million city investment on the far southeast side has gotten little attention because it hasn't been very controversial. But it's a big deal. For the first time in recent history, Madison will have its own police training facility. It means that our unique approach to community policing will be institutionalized for future generations more than we could have hoped before.

**NEW IN 2010 -See the *Holiday in Lights Show* at Olin Park by Hay Wagon! Bring extra blankets to stay warm, For details on times available, see the website.**

Enjoy a crisp fall evening with a hayride in Madison Parks. Madison Parks is offering hayrides in Elver, Warner and Olin Parks this November. Perfect for scout troops, church groups, or family outings – Madison Parks hayrides will treat your group to a tour of a beautiful park and enjoy friendly campfire with 'smores.

Each hayride is one hour: 30 minute ride, 30 minute campfire and 'smores. The wagon, pulled by a tractor, will take your group on a scenic tour of the park. Participants will need to enter/exit the wagon using a step ladder.

**REGISTRATION:** Madison Parks Office 608.266.4711  
**COST:** \$80.00 + tax per group (1-24 people). Advance registration required.

**DATES/TIMES** - See website for listings -  
<http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/hayrides.html>

**Monona Terrace Events**

Dane County Winter Farmers' Market  
Saturdays, November 13 - December 18  
7:30a.m. - Noon

The Dane County Farmers' Market will once again call Monona Terrace its winter home on Saturdays during the months of November and December. Come inside and enjoy this great Madison tradition. The Farmers' Market offers a wonderful assortment of homemade and homegrown Wisconsin products. The market takes place in the Exhibition Hall.

Monona Terrace Gift Shop  
Annual Holiday Sale  
November 27 - December 23

Save 20 - 50% on everything in the store! Choose from a wide selection of Frank Lloyd Wright inspired merchandise, home decor, apparel, books, and other specialty items. For more information, call 608.261.4036. You can also shop online at [giftshop.mononaterrace.com](http://giftshop.mononaterrace.com)

Open Mon-Sat: 10am-5pm and Sunday 11am-3pm. The Gift Shop will be closed November 25 and 26.



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