

MEADOWOOD

Newsletter of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association, Inc.
P.O. Box 45528, Madison, WI 53744-5528

January - March 2023
www.meadowoodneighborhood.org

President's Message – Terry Evanson

mtevanson@gmail.com; (608) 271-6846

I especially enjoyed this holiday season because it's the first since the 2019/2020 holidays that we could celebrate in-person with our extended family members. I hope you, too, were surrounded by caring friends and family. Sheray Wallace, Meadowood Health Partnership, along with many partners and supportive Meadowood residents, helped over 100 children in our neighborhood have a wonderful Christmas by supplying gifts their families could not otherwise provide. We deeply appreciate all of you who contributed money, shopped for or wrapped gifts or helped distribute them. These acts of kindness and willingness to volunteer not only made the holiday season brighter; they also helped bind us together as a community.

The MNA board has completed a calendar of neighborhood activities for 2023. You'll find the dates for our activities elsewhere in this newsletter. Good news this year – **BINGO will be held in person on Saturday, Feb. 18, starting at 6 p.m.** The game will be held at Peterson Hall, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Youth are also invited. You need to be a member of MNA to participate. You can [join online](#) or at the BINGO game. Pizza will be served.

We had a terrific turnout at the last two community suppers, organized by Sheray Wallace. See an article elsewhere in this newsletter and watch our events page (<https://www.meadowoodneighborhood.org/events>) for upcoming community suppers. These are free and a great way to meet and mingle with your neighbors. The suppers are held quarterly at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

MNA recently started to accept membership dues (\$10/year/household) through Venmo. Thank you to all who have joined using Venmo (@MNA-Madison). Please include your address in the comment section of Venmo so we can match your payment to your household.

The New Year is a time of resolutions. I urge you to find a small way you can make a positive difference in a community you care about – our own neighborhood, your church or synagogue, a local school, a non-profit organization, etc. If it “takes a village to raise a child”, commit to participating in the village and help strengthen us all.



The Meadowood Neighborhood Association (MNA) Board of Directors consists of the area representatives and officers, and up to two at-large members. Here is the current board membership with contact information:

- Area 1: Maggie Dugan, **Board Secretary**, maggiedugan24@gmail.com
- Area 2: Miguel Benson & Sammy Clevenger, miguel.a.benson@gmail.com
- Area 3: Mike Edmonds, **Vice President**, m.edmonds@sbcglobal.net
- Area 4: Tony Smick, skyumahwi@aol.com
- Area 5: Lisa Kass, lkpenguins@gmail.com
- Area 6: Lisa Veldran, lveldran@yahoo.com
- Area 7: Heidi Wiley, **Webmaster**, heidijeanywiley@gmail.com
- Area 8: Mark & Janice Bauman, **'Meadowood' Editor (MB)**, msbauman57@gmail.com
- Area 9: Terry Evanson, **Board President**, mtevanson@gmail.com
- Area 10: Maureen Murphy, murphy.k.maureen@gmail.com
- Area 11: Jacob Kriegisch, jacob.kriegisch@gmail.com
- Area 12: Jay Close, yourjaybird@hotmail.com
- Area 13: Sheray Wallace, sherayw@yahoo.com
- Areas 14 and 15: VACANT
- Member at Large: Lisa Schulz, buttonldy@aol.com
- MNA Board Treasurer: Nick Baxter, nickbaxter1992@gmail.com

Two (2) areas are not currently represented on the MNA Board. ***If you live in one of these areas, please consider serving on the neighborhood association's board.***

To determine which area you live in, visit the MNA website at: www.meadowoodneighborhood.org/contact-us

2023 Meadowood Neighborhood Association (MNA) Events:

Saturday, February 18, 6:00 pm: MNA Bingo Game (in person); Peterson Hall, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

Friday-Saturday, May 5-6: Meadowood Community Garage Sale

Wednesday, June 21: Make Music Madison, Meadowood Park

Saturday, August 19: MNA Annual Picnic

Community Suppers: These will be held in the months of January, February, April, & June (dates are not yet determined). Check on MNA's website for the dates of the suppers.

For updates on additional events in the Meadowood area, please refer to the 'Events' page of the MNA website: meadowoodneighborhood.org/events

MNA has Added Venmo as Payment Option!

Joining MNA has never been easier. You can now pay your annual membership dues (\$10/household/year) by Venmo. Our Venmo address is @MNA-Madison. There is \$0.30 Venmo fee, so we ask that if you use Venmo, please pay \$10.30 for the membership and the fee.

The challenge we've experienced with Venmo is that sometimes neighbors forget to fill out the on-line membership form (<https://www.meadowoodneighborhood.org/membership>) when they make the Venmo payment. The membership form allows us to credit the membership to the correct name and address. If you make a Venmo payment, please include your street address in the comment section of the payment so we can match the payment with the correct residence.

Other options for joining MNA: On-line with PayPal (which charges \$0.86 processing fee); check made out to MNA and mailed to MNA Treasurer, P.O. Box 45528, Madison, WI 53744-5528; or cash delivered to or collected by one of our MNA Board members. If you'd like your Area Board Representative to stop by your home for your membership, send us an email at MNABoard1@gmail.com.

We truly appreciate your support of Meadowood Neighborhood Association! MNA is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. While membership dues cannot be claimed as a charitable donation, any other donation to MNA or Meadowood Health Partnership is a tax-free donation, and you will receive an acknowledgement of any donations.

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Partnership of West Madison Police and MNA Helps Local Food Pantry

The West Madison Police Department received funds from the Madison Police Foundation to help purchase items for the Meadowridge Neighborhood Center food pantry that are in high demand, such as diapers and other baby products, cleaning supplies, household paper products, personal hygiene items and gift cards to local gas stations and groceries.

Meadowood Neighborhood Association donated money toward this effort. On December 16, Officers Lucas Hale and Chelsea Wetjen were joined by MNA Board members, Lisa Schulz, Janice Bauman and Ruth Kleban to purchase for over \$1,100 worth of high demand items that were given to the food pantry. These donations make a big difference to families living here in Meadowood!



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Alder Update from Yannette Figueroa Cole, District 10

From my family to yours, we wish you a Happy and Prosperous New Year! It was great to have the entire tribe together for Christmas. The top picture is with my niece, sisters, husband, and all the cousins at the bottom.

Happy New Year! I am looking forward to 2023! Coming this year is the expansion of CARES, Safe Streets, and Vision Zero, and the planning for the second year of Parks Alive is in progress. The [Violence Prevention](#) RFP for community and youth engagement is about to be released. I am excited to meet MPD's new Data Analytics team and to learn about their data collection and presentation plans. Participating in the 2023 far West side's [planning framework](#) activities will be critical for prepping District 10 for 2024 plans. Breaking ground on the [affordable housing development on Verona Rd.](#) is also on the new year's list.

In January's Council meeting agenda, we will discuss the [definition of the term family](#) (marker 40:02) within the zoning ordinances and the [Transit-Oriented Development Overlay](#) Zoning. Register to District 10's blog for upcoming meeting details.



Feliz Año Nuevo!
2023



VOTE
by
April 4

Advocate

Reformer

Collaborator

Yannette
Figueroa Cole **District 10 Alder**

Paid for by Friends for Yannette Figueroa, Joe Maldonado, Treasurer

Thank you for welcoming me as your alder this year! It has been a pleasure to meet you and to learn from your life experiences, and I am honored to run for a second term to serve the district and the city of Madison.

My [priorities](#) will continue to center on healthy and safe communities & advocating for inclusive and equitable systems. Collaborative partnerships are essential to creating impactful change; join us today!

Join the campaign, learn about my priorities, share your priorities, add your name to the list of [endorsements](#), volunteer, and [donate](#).

For more information visit us at:
<https://www.yannette4madison.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/YannetteDistrict10>
<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/dist10>

Ice Dams Can Be Costly

From Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE)

A few inches of snow, freezing temperatures and warm air leaking into your attic are a perfect combination for ice dams. What's an ice dam, and why should you be concerned if you have icicles hanging from your gutters?

Ice dams form when heat in the attic melts the snow on the roof and water runs down to the overhang and then refreezes. The ice starts to build up, holding water which can then flow back up the roof under the shingles. This often results in serious water damage to the ceiling and walls inside the home. Often, the damage can't be seen until it's too late, and repairs can be expensive.

Warm air leaking into your cold attic through attic bypasses (the small holes and paths by which heated air flows into the attic) is usually the culprit. Some sources include electrical boxes, exhaust fans, lighting fixtures including recessed lights and wiring penetrations and attic hatches/entrances. These warm air bypasses have to be fixed first to eliminate the problem. A lack of ventilation and/or not enough insulation can add to the trouble.

If you think you have a problem, your best bet is to have a home energy audit performed. An energy professional can do a blower door test to find the leaks and seal them. He also can tell you if you need more attic insulation or ventilation. Remember, this problem is not going to just go away. It will continue to happen year after year when conditions are right.

Contact the Focus on Energy Home Performance with ENERGY STAR® program at 1-800-762-7077 or visit focusonenergy.com to request an energy audit. (Focus on Energy also has a separate program for the income-qualified.)

Behind on your bill? MGE is here to help.



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2023 County Budget Seeks to Make Opportunity Out of Adversity

Each year around this time local leaders set work priorities for the coming year by building a budget. As County Executive, I take what I hear from you throughout the year and create a vision for a county government that works the way you want it to. What we have in store in 2023 reflects what I hear time and time again—a desire for highly livable communities where empathy and compassion for our most vulnerable thrive.

We are the first county government in the region to achieve 100% renewable energy status—meaning we will soon produce more clean electricity through our solar developments than all our facilities use. We are leading the way on the hard work needed to stem the advance of climate change, setting the template for how communities can make themselves both more sustainable and resilient.

We're also advancing our work to improve access to behavioral health services. My 2023 budget adds more teams of mental health professionals in our schools and our rural sheriff's precincts and adds staff to our Dane County Behavioral Health Resource Center, which continues to see increasing call volumes. These comprehensive efforts will improve access to mental health care.



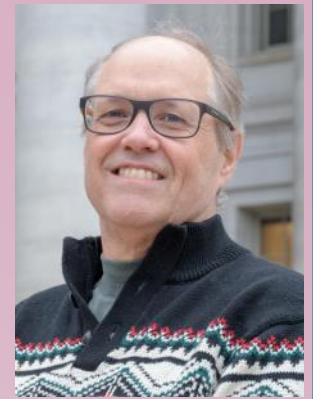
Dane County Executive
Joe Parisi

— Continued on Page 6 —

Hello to All and Happy New Year!

I hope you had a wonderful, safe and healthful holiday season as we turn the page on 2022 and start 2023. As the county board starts its new year, the issue that I had hoped was behind us will start our new year addressing the shortfall in jail funding. I wish we were past this issue and project, but unfortunately we are not. We will also be addressing the other aspects of the newly passed budget.

- The jail is likely underfunded which is still in need of county board consideration. An item in the budget that passed was to have the consultant redesign the space with the existing funding. The issue that many of us had was that the level of funding would create a smaller facility which was unacceptable to the members who voted against the budget proposal. This is why the county executive vetoed this provision. So two new resolutions were just introduced, one calling for directly making up the shortfall, about \$13 million. A second resolution calls for a referendum to be placed on the April ballot that will again ask the voters to approve this funding if the county board cannot. I am against governing by referendum, but as I voted against the last attempt to place this same question on the fall ballot, I will vote in favor of it this time because I believe the funding is necessary to complete the project properly. I hope the board will vote for the funding without turning to referendum. This also would delay the project even further.



*Matt Veldran, Dane Co. Board
of Supervisors, District 7*

These delays have added to the new issue of jail overcrowding. This has resulted in the sheriff sending residents of the current jail to other counties, thus adding costs at the minimum, and separating families making their stay worse. This is not only a result of lack of progress on the jail project, but also a shortage in staffing at the jail forcing the sheriff to close a portion of the antiquated floors in the CCB. I hope that this part of the equation to house people out of Dane County can be addressed shortly so we can stop wasting thousands, is not eventually millions, on adding to other counties' budgets!

- The county executive added \$500,000 to the budget for the county board partly to address the overcrowding issue due to, among other things, racial disparities. This is just one part of the newly created Dane County Office of Justice Reform and Equity. We are expanding our work to lower the disparities throughout the justice system.
- The new budget continues to address our chronic problem of homelessness by adding funding to the city's men's shelter, more funding to the housing development fund, which continues to address the needs of housing more people at the low end of the income spectrum to get them to safe and secure housing so they can address other aspects in their lives.
- Another aspect of the issue that drives too many people into the justice system is mental health. We continue to forge ahead with development of the Behavioral Health Resource Center, open to all residents of Dane County. Along with this resource, we have expanded our mobile crisis intervention team to aid the sheriff's department in helping people outside of Madison. And finally, we've added funding to address the mental health needs of students in our schools, already a valuable and successful program.
- We have also added funding for lake management, development of more alternative fuel sources for county vehicles through the work at the landfill, and finally park expansion of facilities that all of us can enjoy year round.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Matt Veldran, Dane County Supervisor, District 4
608-235-8369; veldran@countyofdane.com

— Continuation of Article by Joe Parisi on page 5 —

My 2023 budget infuses \$6 million into our food pantries and local growers to keep Dane County's "Farm to Foodbank" initiative going through the coming year. Teamed with another \$1.5 million to build a new pantry and \$2 million in emergency food grant awards, we can help buffer the impacts of high grocery prices on those in need.

In the midst of all the noise and distraction of these times, it can be easy to tune out—but it's important people know their county government is hard at work, always innovating and building smarter ways to do the work they value. It's an honor to serve as your County Executive and I'm grateful for all of the ideas I heard from you this year that shaped my 2023 Dane County budget.

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