

MEADOWWORD

MEADOWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

www.meadowoodneighbors.org

APRIL 2009

President's Message – Lisa Veldran

Dear Neighbors,

Welcome Spring! We have quite a lot in this issue so I will be brief. Please look over your newsletter to find important dates for a variety of events that are occurring in our wonderful neighborhood. If you are reading this newsletter and find it helpful I want to let you know that starting with the January/February 2010 edition of the Meadowood those neighbors who have not paid their dues for 2009-2010 will no longer receive a copy of the newsletter. Only paid neighborhood association members will receive a copy of the newsletter. The MNA Board voted on April 1, 2009 to take this action. We discussed the rising costs of printing the newsletter and that we did not want to raise our current dues to cover this cost. If you have any questions or comments please feel free to email the board at mnaboard@meadowoodneighbors.org. We welcome your input! Our next meeting is scheduled for May 5, 2009 at 7 p.m. at the new Meadowood Community Center (1st Wednesdays of the month).

Meadowood Neighborhood Garage Sale:

Saturday, May 16, 2009

To have your address listed please contact Tim Johnson at 274-3461 or email him at tjohnson61@yahoo.com no later than Monday, May 11, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.

Attention Residents on Aspen, Gilbert, Raymond, Rae, Riva and Cameron!

Do you live here: Anywhere on the 2100 – 2300 blocks of Aspen Road? 2000-2300 blocks of Gilbert Road? If you do, your Area Representative Cheri McKently needs you to help her with delivery of the newsletter! Please call her 271-6359.

Do you live here: 5900-6100 blocks of Raymond Road, 2000 block of Rae Lane, 5900-6000 blocks of Riva Road, 2000 block, even side of Cameron Drive? If you do, your Area Representative Reid Bowers needs you to help him with delivery of the newsletter! Please call him 354-9313.

Who is that person standing on the sidewalk looking at my house?

Why it's an UW-Madison Art History student! Anna Vemer Andrzejewski, Assistant Professor of American Art at the UW Madison spoke to the MNA Board about her students conducting a Suburban Architecture Project in Meadowood. Starting on April 25 upper level UW students will be surveying the Meadowood Neighborhood studying post-war housing. Our neighborhood will be used as a learning tool/lab. Students will

stay on the sidewalk and not walk around the property (observations will be made from the sidewalk). Research will eventually be submitted to the Wisconsin Historical Society: information such as original owners, builders, etc... They will not knock on doors but will talk with people if they want to talk to them. If you have any questions about the project please contact: Anna Vemer Andrzejewski, Assistant Professor of American Art, (608) 262-9183 or avandrzejews@facstaff.wisc.edu

Check out the Meadowood Neighborhood Center Activities! Some classes may have already started but it is not too late to register. Call 467-8370 if you want more information! Please see the insert in this newsletter edition. Also the center is looking for any donations of fresh fruit for their after-school program: apples, grapes, bananas, etc.

Hammersley Park Community Garden Start Up

Larry Luther is the volunteer coordinator for the Hammersley Park Community Garden. If you are interested in being part of this new community garden or want to know more, please attend the meeting scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2009 at 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at Falk Elementary School, 6323 Woodington Way. For more information contact Larry at 271-8787.

It's Almost Time to Garden!

Meadowood Community Garden held its spring registration on Saturday, April 4th at the Meadowood Community Center. It was very well attended, with about 30 gardeners requesting plots. We did not use all the space allotted to us from the Parks Department out first year, but this year we will be adding eight new plots and expanding to our final size. We will also continue the popular kid's garden program. We hope to get a tool shed and add a compost system this year. If anyone has gardening tools, garden cart, tiller or untreated wood (that we can use for raised beds), that they no longer use and would like to donate to the garden, we will put them to good use. If you would like more information you can contact the coordinator Sheri Rembert at 273-0960 or horseycraft@hotmail.com or Leslie Stephany, registrar/children's garden coordinator at 288-8144 or leslie.stephany@gmail.com

1st Farmer's Market Volunteer Meeting

Wednesday, April 22, 2009 - 6 p.m.

Toki Middle School

Please plan on attending if you are interested in getting a Farmer's Market in Meadowood!

At the meeting we will be updated on the progress in securing funding and a site, brainstorm entertainment/educational programming ideas for the market, and discuss what we want to see in our community's market. Robert Pierce, the farmer and coordinator, will also be there to answer questions. Even if you do not have a lot of time to commit to the farmer's market that is OK, please come though and share your ideas with us. We want this market to be community owned! If you have questions feel free to contact Kim Neuschel, Public Health Nurse, at 516-8317.

Meadowood's 2nd Community Supper!

Tuesday, April 28, 2009 - 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Toki Middle School

Come meet and greet your neighbors, share a delicious meal, and discuss what is happening in the neighborhood. Updates will be given on the various southwest community gardens, the new community center, the Dane County Timebank, and the southwest farmer's market project. The supper is free (although a free will offering will be accepted for those who would like to contribute toward the cost of the meal). The event is being organized by the Public Health Department of Madison and Dane County. If you have questions feel free to contact Kim Neuschel, Public Health Nurse, at 516-8317.

COME AND SHARE THE ENDLESS POTENTIAL OF COMMUNITY!!

Free Home Composting Class at Meadowridge Library

Thinking of recycling your kitchen and garden waste? The man with the answers, City of Madison's Recycling Coordinator, George Dreckmann, will teach you the ins and outs of home composting on Saturday, May 2 at 1:00 p.m. Plus, one lucky class attendee will win a brand-new composting bin to take home! Registration is now open. Call 288-6160 or register online at:

<http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/calendar/calendar.html> If you aren't lucky enough to win a bin, you can purchase one at the annual Home Compost Bin Sale on Sunday, May 3 from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Alliant Energy Center. Earth Machine bins retail for \$75-\$90, but can be had at the sale for only \$39 plus tax, while supplies last. One day only, rain or shine, NO CREDIT CARDS.

Madison Police Department 2009 West District Community Survey

The 2009 West District Community Survey is on the MPD website. It's at www.cityofmadison.com/police/west/ Go to the bottom of page and click on "District Survey"

Healthy Yards . . . Healthy Lakes and Streams

What we do in our yards can directly affect our lakes and streams. Before using fertilizer on your lawn or gardens, test your soil. A \$15 soil test will show if your soil is lacking anything so that you don't waste your money on something you don't even need. Instructions and forms from the UW Soil and Plant Analysis Lab are online at <http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu/madison/>. Results will tell you exactly what you need for healthy lawn and gardens. If your test shows you do indeed need fertilizer, be sure to clean up any that lands on your sidewalk, driveway or other hard surfaces. If left on paved areas, it can easily make its way to the nearest lake or stream with the next rainfall. Keeping leaves, grass clippings and other yard waste, which contain nitrogen and phosphorus, out of the street also help prevent lakes and streams from becoming green and scummy. When these nutrients wash into lakes and streams they can promote nasty algae blooms and excessive weed growth (which can lower oxygen levels in the water) and may release ammonia (toxic to fish). Healthy yards add to the beauty and value of your home. They can also help our lakes and streams by allowing rainwater to soak into the soil rather than running off to the nearest storm drain. So, do your part and keep your lakes and streams healthy by using fertilizers only if and where they are needed.

Native plants for your rain garden at a great price!

Thinking about installing a rain garden? Consider taking advantage of the Plant Dane! Cost-Share Program, open to schools, non-profit organizations (homeowner, lake or neighborhood associations, faith centers, garden clubs, etc.), municipalities and individual residents in Dane County. The Plant Dane! Cost-Share Program provides native plants at the greatly reduced price of \$1.80 each—about half the normal retail price. Apply online at www.myfairlakes.com. After you apply, an order form will be sent to you. Then mail your order form with payment before May 29. Plants will be delivered on Saturday, June 27, 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Learn about rain gardens and other ways you can help protect and improve our lakes and streams at www.myfairlakes.com. For more information, contact Marcia Hartwig, Madison Area Municipal Storm Water Partnership Education Coordinator at (608) 224-3746 or hartwig@co.dane.wi.us.

NEW SENIOR DINING CENTER OPENS

A new Senior Dining Center opened recently at the new Lussier Community Education Center, 55 S. Gammon Rd. (next to Jefferson Middle School.) Affordable, nourishing and tasty meals are served every Wednesday and Friday at noon. The meals cost a donation for anyone 60 or over. You are asked to pay what you can afford. (For those under 60, the cost is \$5.75.) For lunch reservations, call 238-7368 before 1 p.m. the day before. Programs usually follow lunch.

Do you need transportation? A bus can take you there for only \$1.00 roundtrip! Make bus reservations when you make your lunch reservations.

Noon meals are also served on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the West Madison Senior Center at 602 Sawyer Terrace. For more information or to reserve meals and bus rides, call 238-0196. These programs are sponsored by Dane County and the West Madison Senior Coalition.

Looking for ALL WEST HIGH SCHOOL GRADS!

Go to: www.madisonwestalumni.ning.com and register on-line. 1975 West High School graduate Dan Mansoor had organized the 75th anniversary celebration of West High School about 3 years ago and is creating an alumni database.

Have an Education Adventure at College Days 2009

June 2 – 4, 2009

Expand your mind as UW-Extension Family Living Programs hosts the 46th College Days conference June 2nd to June 4th on the beautiful campus of the University of Wisconsin—Madison. Experience college life, stay in university dorms and attend seminars taught by UW-Madison faculty and local experts. There are seminars and tours to interest everyone at College Days 2009. Hear experts on a variety of current topics like investing in volatile markets, UW Madison environmental stewardship, creating your own will or advance directive, and stem cell research. Learn about places near and far during our seminars on the lost mansions of Milwaukee's Grand Avenue, Daily Life in Ancient Times, and Russian art and architecture. Try your hand at silk scarf painting. Or learn about glass bottle production and collection, writing in the e-mail age, or basic computer use. Choose from many more timely and interesting seminars. Kick off College Days with First Lady Jessica Doyle. She will discuss education in Wisconsin and the importance of continuing to invest in education, especially in these challenging economic times. Joan Houston-Hall, editor of the Dictionary of American Regional English, will help us wrap-up College Days with a discussion of the differences in our language across our great country! Tuesday night we'll enjoy the musical theater and variety show provided by "I Hear Singing". On Wednesday, we will host a game night featuring bingo and popular card games with prizes available. Participants will have the opportunity to tour the West Madison Agricultural Research Station, Second Harvest Food Bank, the State Capitol, the Governor's Mansion, and more! There's something for everyone at College Days 2008. For more information, visit the College Days web site at www.uwex.edu/ces/flp/conference. For a brochure, call 608-262-1411 or toll-free 1-888-391-4255.

Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed

Home Health United delivers the noon meal 365 days a year to the homebound elderly and disabled in Madison, Monona and Middleton. A route takes about an hour from 4 pickup points in the city. Do you have room in your car and room in your heart? Our volunteers are often the only person the recipient sees that day. If you are able to help we can adapt to any schedule from daily to once a month. We also would be glad to help individuals and groups get service hours. Please contact Sue Barker, sbarker@hhvns.org or call 276-7598.



Dear Meadowood Friends and Neighbors, Madison just experienced several beautiful days heralding spring. Melting snow and recent rains soaked the ground and have generated many calls about sewer backups and flooded basements and garages.

Like dandelions, potholes are already appearing, so if you spot any, please contact the Pothole Patrol at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/ReportaProblem/Potholes.cfm>? Funding has been approved to replace decaying trees on various medians within District 20, especially along Raymond Road and S. Whitney Way.

Gypsy Moth numbers have been growing in our area, so aerial spraying will resume in May. Please log on to <http://www.gypsymoth.wi.gov> for more information. As the stoplight at the S. Whitney Way and Raymond Road intersection has proven to be well-liked by many, I expect the next traffic calming project at the Segoe, Tokay, Constitution intersection (slated to start after spring thaw) will also be well received.

The tough decision for a 50-cent Metro bus fare increase was passed by the Common Council. I voted in support of this much needed increase to improve Metro efficiency and safety at transfer points. Metro desperately needs resources to enhance routes and services to attract more riders. Delaying the increase would require the inevitable cuts in Sunday and holiday services and further route elimination. Eventually, a fare increase is unavoidable.

While our city still faces the Overture Center financial dilemma, we also are waiting for details to be worked out with the recently approved stimulus package that promises to revitalize our economy. With safety as my top priority and as a Commissioner for Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), I am encouraging Dane County Habitat for Humanity to explore opportunities to purchase troubled spots within our district (based on calls for police service). Once renovated, these units will be offered to screened buyers, who are expected to be new, contributing members of our community.

Although saddened that Cub Foods on Verona Road has closed, I am quite excited with the opportunity presented to the languishing Westgate Mall by employee-owned Iowa Hy-Vee Groceries' proposal to build and operate a store at Westgate. This will bring hundreds of jobs to the area and ensure the current 29 small local business owners in this mall can continue to serve our community. I do believe the positive rewards of business competition will benefit consumers, who must watch spending during this economic downturn. The developers are working with City authorities to address area traffic safety. My sincere gratitude to all who have participated in this process to ensure that everyone gains from this joint effort.

The pilot neighborhood center got Madison Metropolitan School District/Board of Estimates approval just in time to execute the lease and start remodeling work at Meadowood Mall. A successful open house was celebrated on Monday, February 23, and operation started the very next day. Since this is only a one-year "pilot center," please volunteer your time and service, and make your best use of it. City and Madison School & Community Recreation staff will assist us and collect data for a feasibility study to secure permanent funding beyond next year. Your suggestions on HOW we can all pitch in to make this mixed-use neighborhood center a permanent success are welcome. Please drop in to check it out and volunteer. I encourage you to contact Christine Reid, the Center Director, at creid@madison.k12.wi.us or 467-8918 for information on volunteering or to sign up and reserve space for your group meetings and activities.

Since 2007, when Clear Channel dropped sponsorship of Fourth of July fireworks at Elver Park, Midwest Family Broadcasting Service (MFB) has graciously stepped in to take over. The costs for police, EMS, insurance, and park permits/fees, etc. total about \$60,000, in

addition to \$20,000 for the fireworks display. The City contributes nearly \$20,000, while MFB absorbs the remainder. In January, MFB alerted me that unless additional funding and sponsors could be secured by March, our area's 20-year plus tradition of July Fourth fireworks wouldn't happen this summer. Three years in a row I've had to make special efforts to continue this celebration. I enlisted assistance from the Mayor's Office, Police Chief Noble Wray and West Police District Captain Jay Lengfeld, and we agreed to hold Elver Park Fireworks on Friday, July 3 (instead of Saturday, July 4), to save on police holiday overtime costs from \$60,000 to about \$12,000. We just successfully wrapped up final details. My warmest wishes for a happy spring break.

Thuy Pham-Remmele, District 20 Alder
district20@cityofmadison.com Phone 957-4433



Hello Meadowood neighbors!

We have survived a cold winter but with less snow than last year and finally welcome spring in. I have been working on a variety of local and county-wide projects that will hopefully benefit the neighborhood and the county. Locally, I have been working with Dane County University Extension staff to provide some meaningful programming

at the Community Center. The programs range from bringing in a master gardener to help out with planning your upcoming garden, either at the Community Garden or at your own garden. Other programs that I would like have hosted by the Extension staff could be nutrition seminars, financial seminars and information about getting city kids involved 4-H as there is a new county 4-H coordinator, who is actively trying to expand 4-H in the city. There is also the possibility of having the early childhood

I would also like to possibly have a member of the Family Living Educator come here for an occasional session on what it offers. Here is a description from the website. Family Living Educators work with University Specialists to provide research-based information on topics that affect today's families. Family Living programs focus on encouraging family self-sufficiency through:

- Building supportive communities for children and families
- Housing education
- Nutrition education and resource management for limited resource families
- Parenting and early childhood caregiver education

Here's the website for more information:

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/dane/index.html>.

If there is something else you see on the website of interest, please contact me and I'll see what can be done. As program times become available, I will work with the community center and will post dates/times on our neighborhood website.

I am also working on a variety of stimulus funding sources that are available from the federal, state and county governments for possible projects in the county. Some include making funds available for insulating homes, lowering diesel emissions in county vehicles and for making county buildings and facilities more energy efficient. If you have any specific ideas, there is still time to discuss the possibility of seeking funds for energy efficient projects.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone that the annual "Take a Stake in the Lakes" is approaching. With lake levels already at summer highs, it is imperative that all of us do what we can to keep as much debris and chemicals out of our lakes. For more information on the upcoming activities in June please visit

<http://www.takeastakeinthelakes.com/>. Dane County Extension can also help you implement ways at home to keep rainwater out of lakes, by making rain gardens, adding a rain barrel or other ways you can help the lakes in our "land locked" community. As always, please feel free to contact me with any concerns or ideas you may have.
 Matt Veldran, Dane County Supervisor, District 7
 (H) 271-0722 or (cell) 608-235-8369 veldran@co.dane.wi.us

Important Phone Numbers

West Madison Police Dept.	243-0500
A.A.R.P.	(866)448-3611
Animal Control	267-1989
Mayor's Office	266-4611
Dane County Executive's Office	266-4114
Social Security Admin.	270-1141
Madison Metro	266-4466
Meadowood Neigh. Center	467-8370

MNA Board Members By Area

1.	Jane & Dave Ross	271-6696
2.	Cheri McKently	271-6359
3.	Bob Rabehl (Treas)	274-3125
4.	Dottie Loehrer	271-5994
5.	Sherri Rembert	273-0960
6.	Lisa Veldran (Pres)	271-0722
7.	Lisa Schulz	271-7831
8.	Janice/Mark Bauman	277-0860
9.	Dave Glomp	271-9531
10.	Reid Bowers	354-9313
11.	Mary Conlin	271-1320
12.	Lorene Wendricks	271-5054
13.	Darlene Burrell	608-317-3294
14.	OPEN	
15.	Tim Johnson	274-3461
Secretary	Joyce Dingman	244-2665