

# MEADOWWORD

MEADOWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Madison, WI

November/December 2008

## Santa Visits on December 13<sup>th</sup>!!!

Santa and his elves are all busy getting ready for his annual pre Christmas visit to Meadowood children on Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, beginning about 5:30 p.m. Santa is so busy he can only visit children through age 10 whose families are current MNA members, and he can only stop to see children who write him a letter. Letters should include 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 the letters to be received is Thursday, December 11. If you are not a M.N.A. member, enclose a \$5.00 check with your letter. Please note that a lighted porch or yard light will help Santa find his way on December 13<sup>th</sup>.*

## MNA BINGO Party on January 24<sup>th</sup>

The Meadowood Neighborhood Association has planned a Bingo Party for Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup>, at the Knights of Columbus Hall. The games will begin at 7:00 p.m. ***This event is for adults only who are current 2008-09 MNA members.*** If you are not a member, you can join that night for a \$5.00 membership fee. This building is handicapped-accessible. Free snacks will be provided and a cash bar is available.

*Bingo-party directions: Take Whitney Way south to Williamsburg Way. Turn left on Williamsburg Way and continue to Anton Drive. Turn right on Anton Drive (M&I Bank is on the corner). The KC building is on the left next to the Chalet Ski Shop.*

***Please remember the Food Pantry at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church during the Holidays. For Food Pantry open hours and info about making donations, call 271-6633 during normal hours.***

## Meadowood Board Members By Area

- |                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Jane & Dave Ross               | 271-6696 |
| 2. Cheri McKently                 | 271-6359 |
| 3. Bob Rabehl, <b>Treasurer</b>   | 274-3125 |
| 4. Dorothy Loehrer                | 271-5994 |
| 5. Sheri Rembert                  | 273-0960 |
| 6. Lisa Veldran, <b>President</b> | 271-0722 |
| 7. Lisa Schulz                    | 271-7831 |
| 8. Mark & Janice Bauman           | 277-0860 |
| 9. Dave Glomp                     | 281-9531 |
| 10. Open                          |          |
| 11. Mary Conlin                   | 271-1320 |
| 12. Lorene Wendricks, <b>VP</b>   | 271-5054 |
| 13. Darlene Burrell               |          |
| 14. Open                          |          |
| 15. Tim Johnson                   | 274-3461 |
| <b>Secretary</b> Joyce Dingman    | 244-2665 |

## Message from the President – Lisa Veldran

Dear Neighbors,

It's that time of the year when we finish raking those last minute leaves, wrap up our water hoses and exchange the ice tea for hot cocoa. I hear conflicting reports on what kind of winter we will be having but I know one thing for sure – it will be cold! With that in mind you may want to visit the City's Winter Portal to find out how to sign up for winter alerts via text messaging or email, to find information on snow emergencies, alternate side parking rules, and much more. The Winter Portal can be found at <http://cityofmadison.com/residents/Winter>. Even though we may hibernate in our homes there are lots of neighborhood activities to get us out and about. For ideas you may also want to check out the City Winter Activities webpage for ideas

<http://cityofmadison.com/residents/winter/winterActivities.cfm>

You may have noticed construction activity at the Raymond Road and S. Whitney Way intersection. The city is finally installing the traffic signal that has been in the works for the last four to five years. It may even be installed by the time you receive this newsletter! If you notice the traffic signal not working or there are other problems with the signal please contact Traffic Engineering at 266-4767 (M-F, 8 am-4pm) and at all other times, call 911.

Snow shoveling can also be a burden for some of our neighbors. Please remember to check in with any of your senior neighbors to find out if they need any assistance during the winter months. (See the separate article on snow shoveling in this issue.)

We have four new board members this year:

**Dave Glomp, Area 9 representative.** Dave replaced Larry Luther (also our past president) as Area 9 representative.

**Mary Conlin, Area 11 representative.** Mary replaced Scott Pilgrim as Area 11 Representative. Mary also serves as our **Meadowood Newsletter Editor**, replacing Lolly Howard.

**Joyce Dingman, Meadowood Neighborhood Association Secretary.** Joyce replaced me as Secretary.

**Darlene Burrell, Area 13 representative.** Darlene has been a resident in Meadowood for 2 years and is taking on an open area.

We have had discussions (and continue to have discussions) on adding an ex-officio business owner representative to the board, current public safety issues in our neighborhoods, updates on the Community Garden and activity ideas to keep our kids busy. **We welcome anyone that is interested or has concerns to come and participate in our discussions.** The Board meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesdays of every month at 7 p.m. at the West Police District Station.

Finally I would like to wish you and your families a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!

*Lisa Veldran*

### From Our Alderperson



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am pleased to report that the Madison Common Council passed the 2009 City Budget after only two nights' debate as compared to last year's three-night marathon. In this challenging economic time, it was indeed a difficult budget to balance. Tough decisions had to be made in order to maintain basic city services without burdening residents already stressed by hard times. We were able to avoid cutting Police and Fire services, keep current library hours, and continue weekly pick-up of large items without a fee increase. However, skyrocketing fuel costs made it impossible not to raise Metro cash fare 50 cents. Property taxpayers shouldn't have to shoulder such an unfair subsidy of Metro costs. I strongly believe now is the time to invest in Metro Transit so it can enhance services and add routes to reach peripheral districts to broaden its ridership.

Now that the Madison Metropolitan School District's (MMSD) referendum has passed, I encourage you to continue your support for public education by keeping close watch and demanding accountability at all levels to make sure tax monies are well spent. I myself am quite frustrated with the way MMSD and the Board of Education keep dragging their feet, refusing to allow Madison School & Community Recreation (MSCR) to bring programs to the proposed Pilot Neighborhood Center at Meadowood Mall, although City funding has been readily available for months. It's hard to understand MMSD's reluctance to cooperate and share responsibility for the ongoing problems of unsupervised Toki Middle School students harassing patrons at both Meadowridge Branch Library and the Mall. This delay jeopardizes program funding and kills the enthusiasm, goodwill and good faith of many area volunteers. One can't help but wonder about MMSD's leadership.

I ask you to be patient with traffic work to install stoplights at the S. Whitney Way and Raymond Road intersection. Once the work is completed, traffic is expected to move smoothly with enhanced safety for all users. Please remember that alternate side parking went into effect November 15. Let's work together to help snowplows navigate more efficiently this winter.

With the holiday season around the corner, I would like to thank all community volunteers who have generously donated time and energy to make life better for all area residents. I wish all of you a safe and very happy time with family and friends.

**Alder Thuy**  
**district20@cityofmadison.com**



### From Our County Supervisor



Hello Meadowood Neighbors!

With winter approaching, our thoughts turn to family and friends as the holiday season is once again upon us. The Dane County Board just passed the 2009 budget and it was the most difficult budget deliberation I have participated in so far.

First off the budget is slightly higher than last year but the increase on the average Madison home for the county portion of your tax bill will be \$2.13. This is due to the board and the executive working hard to preserve important programs while holding the line on property taxes. One of the highest priorities for the board is making sure that all of us have complete confidence in the 911 center. Between the County Executive and the board's actions there will be nine new positions added to the 911 center, which was recommended by a recently appointed consultant in the wake of the Brittany Zimmerman tragedy. Included in the budget is money to increase the infrastructure of the 911 center. The on-going \$30-million project is the second largest capital project that the county has ever undertaken, second only to the new courthouse. One of the other budget recommendations not able to be funded this year was for county-wide first responders for new radios to access the new systems. Since compliance for all of the new systems is not required by the federal government until 2013, the board should be able to address this with confidence next year.

The board also added three new child protective service workers that addressed an understaffed department, which is extremely necessary especially in difficult financial times when families can feel extremely stressed. We were also able to restore part of the Human Services cuts to our private partner providers. Because of the tight budget, I unfortunately was not able to expand on a very successful job program for youth in our area. It started earlier this year with great enthusiasm on the Westside of Madison. Its main goal is to give kids alternatives to gangs, especially in our area. While the program is currently funded, I was hoping to expand it this year. But as I said the difficult budget this year made it impossible to expand the program.

Positively, the board, for the first time, was able to fully fund the county-wide library system. While we won't notice it here, it does affect the city, when Madisonians choose to use any library in the county. When you use a library outside of Madison, the city loses revenue. This will also be important in tough economic times when people choose to borrow instead of purchasing books and audio/video materials. An investment in libraries is certainly important. Finally, the board is keeping its commitment to protect the lakes, rivers, streams and the watersheds in Dane County. This is an important investment to our county for generations to come. The money initially recommended for these programs were also cut by \$1.5 million because of budget concerns.

Some of the budget cuts and changes we made for 2009 will help what right now is considered to be a tougher 2010 budget. We added nearly \$800,000 to the County Treasurer's budget to shore up anticipated shortages due to the economy. These preparations will hopefully soften the impact of a tighter budget next year. We all hope that

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the economy will turn around in the coming months and will make the next budget more positive

As the snow begins to fly, a reminder to all who have a storm drain on your property, please keep it clear as to aid the flow of water out of our streets to prevent area flooding. If you would like to discuss any matter, please feel free to contact me.

Matt Veldran

Dane County Supervisor, District 7

veldran@co.dane.wi.us

(H) 608-271-0722w

(C) 608-235-8369

### Shoveling Snow

This year be prepared! It is wise to contact a snow removal service before the snow arrives. Prices will vary. Most companies will come out and give you a free fee estimate.

Here are a few contact resources:

Action Professional Window & Gutter Cleaning - 277-7740

(does rooftop snow removal)

Barnes - 845-3230

Boley - 831-5638

Coldwell Banker Concierge Service - 276-3161

Johnny on the Spot - 206-1999

Maple Leaf, Incorporated - 845-2203

SAIL (Support for Active Independent Lives) - 230-4321

S& N Construction, Incorporated - 850-6282

### Volunteer Snow Shoveling Efforts

People 60 years and older and the disabled who are frail, income eligible and cannot afford to hire someone can contact one of the following community agencies that recruit for and coordinate VOLUNTEER shoveling efforts:

Independent Living - 274-7900

West Madison Senior Coalition - 238-7368

Per the Department of Planning and Community & Economic Development, the Shoveling Extension List requirement is that the property must be owner occupied in order to qualify for the extension list, no rental property. If you qualify for either of the above, talk to your case manager or leave a message for the volunteer coordinator. If you qualify and don't have a case manager, ask to speak to the intake case manager and they will determine if you are eligible for our Home Chore Program assistance. Please remember that community agencies do not hire out or pay for shoveling help. Help is done by generous community minded volunteers that give their time and physical stamina. You, the home owner must be home if a volunteer comes to shovel, provide them with safe, functional snow removal equipment, and have at hand a telephone in case the volunteer gets hurt and needs medical assistance. Dial 911 if the volunteer is hurt.

Reminder: Volunteers have to shovel themselves out first before they can shovel you out. Volunteers perform tasks around their time availability. Patience is required if asking for volunteer help.

*This information is from the West Side Senior Coalition website: <http://www.westmadisonseiorcoalition.org>*

### Public Safety Tidbits

Visit the West Police District website to take the **2008**

**West District Community Survey:**

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/police/west.html>

Our **Community Policing Team** contact: **Officer John**

**Amos**, 243-0532 or email: [jamos@cityofmadison.com](mailto:jamos@cityofmadison.com)

Officer Amos can be seen in the area of Balsam Road and Russett Road and the Meadowood Shopping Center during the day. He can also be found at our neighborhood association meetings, Ald. Pham-Remmele's quarterly public safety meetings and our Community Garden!



**MPD Officer John Amos**

[jamos@cityofmadison.com](mailto:jamos@cityofmadison.com)

### Meadowood Neighborhood Watch Program

Sign up at Yahoo Groups at

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/meadowoodneighborhoodwatch>

Contact Tim Johnson for more information at 274-3461

The Meadowood Neighborhood Watch yahoo group is a project of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association in Madison, Wisconsin. The goals of this group are: 1) to report criminal, suspicious or nuisance activity occurring within the Meadowood neighborhood to all members of this yahoo group; and 2) to encourage and foster a sense of community within our neighborhood. Please post messages that relate to these 2 specific goals -- please no "off topic" messages and definitely no political or religious messages. Politics, local or otherwise, or discussions of religion can be discussed/debated elsewhere.

Expectations of Volunteer Watchers:

- 1) Take an active interest in your community.
- 2) Attend periodic training sessions on community safety issues.
- 3) Contact several surrounding neighbors to request their participation.
- 4) Be observant of your neighborhood and be alert for suspicious activity.
- 5) Report any suspicious activity to the police and this Watch yahoo group.

When you report any criminal, suspicious or nuisance activities to this group, please also immediately report what you are seeing, even if you do so anonymously, to police dispatch at 255-2345 and/or to Madison Area Crimestoppers at 266-6014.

### Personal Safety Handout

Officer Mary Ann Thurber has a 6-page handout that can be downloaded on-line at

[http://www.cityofmadison.com/police/PDF\\_Files/PersonalSafetyGuidelines.pdf](http://www.cityofmadison.com/police/PDF_Files/PersonalSafetyGuidelines.pdf). This handout has a variety of tips on

safety at home, safety on the street, safety in your car, safety on public transportation, safety in public places and safety in social situations. Her main website,

<http://www.cityofmadison.com/police/crimepre.html> has a variety of crime prevention handouts that can be downloaded.

### Neighborhood Watch Update

According to MPD Lt. Tony Bitterman, police were dispatched to a home on Rae Lane, 1700 Block, at about 4:30 a.m. on October 30. A resident just returning home was confronted by a suspect with a knife as she was exiting her vehicle. The suspect grabbed the victim's purse and a struggle ensued. The suspect took the purse before fleeing. The victim did receive some minor injuries as a result of the struggle. The suspect is described as male, possibly caucasian, approximately 5'7" with an average to slender build. He was wearing a black waist length jacket, a white sweatshirt with an unknown design on the front, and dark pants. Suspect was not located. The victim did receive minor injuries in the struggle.

Some possible takeaways from this incident: Please take extra caution when coming home in the wee hours especially. Remember to approach your house slowly, visually scanning the area around your home as you approach so nothing takes you by surprise when you exit your vehicle. It is always recommended that you leave your exterior lights on all night, which discourages people

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from trying any criminal activity around YOUR home, and allows you to see the area around your home better when you come home at night. Also, if anything like this should happen and if you have a "panic" button on your car remote, you can try to remember to hit that to scare them off. Take the keys out of the ignition get in the habit of immediately placing your thumb on that button just in case you should ever need it.

In terms of Meadowood Neighborhood Watch, our watch Yahoo group has been relatively quiet lately. I think things are still happening – they just have not been regularly reported on the Yahoo group. If you witness or experience a criminal or nuisance activity, please remember to always call the incident into police, either on the non-emergency number 255-2345, or if the situation is urgent or an emergency, 911. In addition, to let everyone else know about an incident so we can all be alert and watchful, please consider joining our Yahoo group (for more information, please email [meadowoodneighborhoodwatch@yahoo.com](mailto:meadowoodneighborhoodwatch@yahoo.com)) and reporting your incident in a SALUTE report format (Size, Activity, Location, Uniform (Description of Persons and Vehicles – Make, Model, License Number), Time, Equipment). SALUTE report formats are not required, just encouraged – it is one way to make sure you have all the important information together.

The west district MPD will reportedly have a neighborhood watch guru on staff to better liaison with neighborhood watch groups on the southwest side and throughout the city. Stay tuned for future updates on what this may mean. **Tim Johnson**

**Do you live in this area?** Raymond Road (5900-6100 blocks), Prairie Road (East side of 2000 block), Mulberry Lane, Mulberry Circle, Rae Lane (2000 block), Riva Road (5900-6000 blocks, North side of 6100 block), Cameron Drive (1900-2000 blocks) **If so, you need a representative!** Please contact Lisa Veldran at 271-0722 if you want to know more!

**Do you live in the Orchard Village Apartments? If so, you need a representative too!** Please contact Lisa Veldran at 271-0722 if you

#### About Our Organization

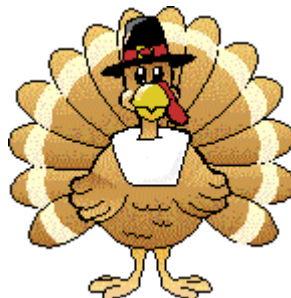
The Meadowood Neighborhood Association was organized on July 11, 1958, with the purpose to "work for community betterment," and to "promote fellowship" for the residents of the then-new Meadowood Subdivision area of Madison, Wisconsin. To this end, over 45 years later, the Association still works for the Meadowood Area in Southwest Madison, Wisconsin by sponsoring activities for residents, promoting civic involvement, and representing the area with the City of Madison and other entities to benefit Meadowood residents.

The Meadowood Neighborhood Association encompasses approximately 1350 single- and multi-family units. We believe in taking the "neighborly" approach to community through face-to-face contact and grass-roots organization on a democratic model. We are one of the largest and oldest Neighborhood Associations in the City of Madison.

The boundaries of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association can be roughly described as the area in a square bordered by Hammersley Road on the North, Tawhee Road on the East, the Madison City Limits on the South, and Prairie Road on the West. A map of the area can be found on the City of Madison website <http://www.ci.madison.wi.us!> or at our main website at <http://www.meadowoodneighbors.org!>

#### Important Numbers For You

<b>A.A.R.P.</b>	<b>(866) 448-3611</b>
<b>Animal Control</b>	<b>267-1989</b>
<b>City Assessor</b>	<b>266-4531</b>
<b>Dane Co. Exec. Office</b>	<b>266-4114</b>
<b>Dane Co. Veteran Service</b>	<b>266-4158</b>
<b>Home Health United</b>	<b>242-1516</b>
<b>Madison Metro</b>	<b>266-4466</b>
<b>Madison Sch. &amp; Comm. Rec.</b>	<b>204-3000</b>
<b>Mayor's Office</b>	<b>266-4611</b>
<b>Social Security Admin.</b>	<b>270-1141</b>
<b>Tenant Resource Center</b>	<b>257-0006</b>



#### Thanksgiving Word Puzzle

S C F A M I L Y M D  
H G S F O O D H U X  
E U H R C C L A A C  
L B A E M T U P V O  
T Z R E V W T P H M  
E B I D L V P I E F  
R R N O Q K T N A O  
V O G M X V B E L R  
F R I E N D S S T T  
O S A F E T Y S H A

#### HIDDEN WORDS:

Food	Shelter
Family	Friends
Health	Safety
Happiness	Comfort
Freedom	Sharing

Happy Thanksgiving To All!

**We appreciate hearing from you!**

**Meadowood Neighborhood Association**  
**P.O. Box 44528**  
**Madison, WI 53744-5528**

E-mail to:  
[mnaboard@meadowoodneighbors.org](mailto:mnaboard@meadowoodneighbors.org)  
Webmaster to:  
[webmaster@meadowoodneighbors.org](mailto:webmaster@meadowoodneighbors.org)