

MEADOWORD

Newsletter of the Meadowood Neighborhood Assn

www.meadowoodneighbors.org

June-July 2012

President's Message – Lisa Veldran

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Spring has sprung and we are warming our way to summer. The Meadowood Community Gardens are in full swing, the Meadowood Neighborhood Center will be very busy when school is out June 12th with summer programming, the Southwest Community Farmers Market opens Wednesday, June 6 and our annual July 4 MNA Bike Parade & Picnic will bring our Meadowood neighbors together for some fun and food. I hope that you are able to take advantage of many summertime events in and around our neighborhood.

For the most up-to-date information please "Like" our Facebook page:
facebook.com/Meadowood.Neighborhood.Association

SW Community Farmers Market Opens June 6!



**Wednesdays 3:00 - 7:00 pm,
Orchard Ridge UCC Church,
1501 Gilbert Road**

Fresh, healthy produce, baked goods, cheese curds & more!
Fun, entertainment & information

No need to wait until Saturday and

have to go downtown!

Look no further! Visit your local Farmers Market to pick up food & other goodies, mingle with neighbors, hear great entertainment and pick up information about local groups.

For more information contact Karen Boedecker at 274-2574 or kmb3238@aol.com

Facebook: Southwest Community Farmers Market

FREE Slow Down yard signs: thanks to a grant by American Family Insurance. Signs are always available at the MPD.–West District, 1710 McKenna Blvd. It is important to remember now that the school year is ending, children will be outside more. They are more vulnerable due to their short stature and more likely to dart out between cars midblock without looking. A child was recently hit on Raymond Rd. when he ran out in traffic. Thankfully, he was not seriously injured. Mortality rate and injuries increase with speed. If a child pedestrian is hit by a car traveling at 40 mph, 85% are killed. At 30 mph, 45% are killed and many are injured. But if struck at 20 mph, most injuries are slight, 30% suffer no injuries at all, and the mortality rate drops to 5%. Driving at a slower speed allows more reaction time.

Meadowood July 4th Parade and Picnic

Join us Wednesday, July 4th for MNA's premier summer event!

Enjoy the fun with your family and neighbors at the children's parade in the morning and picnic in the afternoon.

July 4th Schedule

10:00 a.m. – Bike Parade at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. This year's parade theme is "Celebrate the Red, White and Blue". There will be treats for all parade participants and prizes for the best-decorated bikes/wagons and children in the following categories:
Individual ages: 0-5 years, 6-8 years, 9-12 years
Groups: 2 or more children
Assemble at Good Shepherd (corner of Whitney Way and Raymond Road):
10:00 a.m. Bikes Assemble
10:15 a.m. Judging begins
10:30 a.m. Parade begins
12:30 p.m. Picnic/MNA Election at Elver Park shelter.

Food will be served from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The picnic is free to MNA members. You must show your membership card for check-in or join the Association at the picnic for just \$5. MNA guests are welcome for \$1 per person. Volunteers needed to help serve. Contact Patsy Ragland at 273-4040

Election for 2012-13 MNA Officers and Area Representatives/Call for Nominations

Nominees are listed below. You are encouraged to run for an officer or area representative position! If interested, contact Lisa Veldran, by Friday, June 15 to be placed on the ballot. There will also be a write-in option for each position.

Nominees must be members in good standing of the MNA. You can check neighborhood boundaries (under the "About Us" link), the duties of an officer or area representative and the MNA Bylaws online on the website.

Request an absentee ballot. Mail or drop off a written request to Andy Halada at 6121 Raymond Rd, 53711 no later than Monday, June 25. Absentee ballots must be returned to Andy by Sunday, July 1.

Current MNA Board Officers and Representatives:

President: Lisa Veldran

Vice President: **vacant: 2012-2013**

Treasurer: Lorene Wendricks

Secretary: Joyce Dingman

Newsletter Editor: Sally Stix

Area 1: Sally Stix

Area 3 : Bob Rabehl

Area 5: Sheri Rembert

Area 2: Krista Ralston

Area 4: Dottie Loehrer

Area 6: Lisa Veldran

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

Area 7: Lisa Schulz Area 8: Janice & Mark Bauman
 Area 9: Dave Glomp Area 10: Rose Mary Wise
 Area 11: Linda Kubly Area 12: Patsy Ragland

Areas 13, 14 & 15: VACANT

Elver Park Fireworks, July 3, 9:30 pm

Presented by Woodman's Food Markets, Z104 Clear Channel, & Madison Parks. Postponement in case of rain will be made by 8 pm and announced on Z104 and www.cityofmadison.com. Bring a picnic and enjoy Elver Park beginning at 7 pm. Limited food served at the park. Remember to keep your park clean. Want to volunteer? Contact Anne Whisner at awhisner@cityofmadison.com.

●July 3- Day of volunteers from 9:00 pm-10:45 pm to assist with set up, crowd management, and parking.

Camarones, Ecuador–Meadowood's Sister Community Project

In September 2011, former MNC staff member, Emily Kalnicky, helped co-found the Camarones Community Coalition; a small, Wisconsin-based non-profit to assist the rural coastal community of Camarones, Ecuador with sustainable development and to provide cultural exchanges with youth and adults in the US. Camarones is located in a biodiversity "hotspot", a region that has one of the highest concentrations of species in a given area and is important to protect. There are at least 6 species of endangered felines, and 2 endangered primates species found in the area.

The immediate focus of the non-profit is to provide local employment by constructing a community center and a forest reserve. They will eventually house educational and health services (the closest doctor is an hour away), community projects directed at generating income, a guest house/space for visiting researchers and volunteers and ecotourists, a library, a museum/space to preserve items from the local culture, a meeting space, and a place for the community to come together.

The community is comprised of about 70 families, 160 children, 80 men and 64 women. Schooling exists through 7th grade, but students who want to continue have to take a bus to another community. There are currently very few jobs in the area, so many young people leave to study and search for jobs.

The CCC is working on cultural exchanges with youth at the MNC and Madison. The current focus is on trying to establish weekly video chat exchanges online, but we are still working on some logistical challenges in Ecuador, since the closest internet is an hour away. They are currently trying to raise \$1000 to install internet in the community for use for these cultural exchanges and for future educational programming with youth and adults. To learn more about this project, or other projects, please check out the website, <http://www.camaronescommunitycoalition.org> or email Emily: emily.kalnicky@camaronescommunitycoalition.org

Another Inspiring Front Yard Garden Year!

coordinator Emily Jones, Public Health Intern: (608) 225-8154; e-mail: EJones@publichealthmdc.com

The Front Yard Garden Project is back. Tuesday, May 22, began regular garden days in Meadowood. Interns lead workdays every Tuesday and Thursday from 10 am-4 pm and everyone is encouraged to join the fun! You can help a valuable project improving our neighborhood, in a number of ways. You can help water the gardens once in a while. If there is a hot, dry weekend, we might call you to water one or two gardens. Join the FYG steering committee which meets biweekly and makes decisions regarding activities, outreach, design, partnerships, and the future of the gardens.

This year, the FYGP received a very generous grant from the Willy Street Co-op that will go towards funding a teen work crew hired by Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin, the Clean & Freshies. Local teens will earn their very first paychecks, learn a life-long skill and grow in a number of ways by helping to maintain the gardens. The FYGP is halfway to the goal of being able to hire five teenagers and is looking for input on how to raise the remaining funds...

"Like" FYGP on Facebook! This is a great way to get updates on the gardens and see the progress being made throughout the season. Invite your friends to like FYGP, too! <http://www.facebook.com/FrontYardGardenProject>
<http://frontyardgardenwi.wordpress.com/>

Update from Meadowood's Neighborhood Resource Team

The Balsam-Russett NRT is one of 12 teams designed to improve delivery of city services and directly connect City government to neighborhoods. The B-R NRT requested the Streets Dept. pick up large trash items more frequently than every two weeks. We hope to find out more soon. This was an issue raised at the April Meadowood Community Supper.

Craig Wilson, an NRT member and Madison Housing Rehabilitation Specialist, will be conducting an informal meeting at the Meadowridge Library on June 20 from 6:30-7:30 to discuss Madison's Home Help Funds where qualifying residents may obtain below market interest rate loans to help improve or remodel your home or rental property. Everyone is welcome, no registration is necessary.

Have you noticed the new tree in Meadowood Park? Marla Eddy, Madison arborist, and students from Toki Middle School celebrated Arbor Day by planting the tree on April 25th.

More information about the B-R NRT can be found at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/nrt>

Supervisor Veldran's Column

Dane County, District 7, Veldran@co.dane.wi.us (608)235-8369



Hello Meadowood neighbors!

The Dane County Board just started its new term with many new faces from all parts of the county. Committee assignments were made and I was re-appointed to the Public Works & Transportation Committee. I was also appointed to the University Extension Committee, which is one of the more interesting committees overseeing a myriad of programs, including reviewing and supporting agriculture in Dane Co., supporting economic activity in communities (we are already working with staff to create an economic plan for the Meadowood Shopping Center), and providing free tax preparation services for low income residents. We also utilized its gardening education staff by holding classes at the neighborhood center. I was, again, reappointed to the Youth Commission, Specialized Transit Commission (which focuses on public transportation for disabled citizens and seniors getting to medical appointments and activities) and to the Solid Waste and Recycle Commission (which will be an additional oversight for the new landfill expansion).

Dane Co. is moving forward with a plan to expand the current landfill as opposed to siting a new facility. This is much more cost-effective than building a new landfill (\$100 million for a new landfill vs. \$10 million for the expansion). We will also divert more waste out of the landfill through a waste transfer station, which diverts construction waste from the landfill that can be recycled. We will also create more renewable energy through converting methane gas (a waste product from decomposing trash) into electricity which is, in turn, sold to MG&E, for about \$3.6 million, with the possibility to increase to over \$5 million. We will continue to expand the county's use of CNG in many of its vehicles. This fuel is far cheaper and much cleaner than diesel or gas.

We will be addressing allowing animal trapping in specific areas in certain county parks. This is precipitated by a change in the DNR's policy in the use of state stewardship funds. Dane Co. often applies to the state for stewardship funds when it makes land purchases in the county to lower the overall cost of the purchase. The DNR now forces any land purchased with stewardship funds to permit trapping on all land purchased. The time period and the number of permits are extremely limited, but this land purchase will possibly be coming before the board in the next month.

"Take a Stake in the Lakes" begins in June with many events recognizing the lakes importance to Dane County. There are several ways you can get involved in preserving and celebrating our lakes, please visit <http://www.danewaters.com/events/tsiSchedule.aspx> for details.

Finally, I have announced my candidacy to run for Dane County Treasurer. I was asked by several people if I would consider running for this open position, as the current treasurer, David Worzala, is leaving.

"See My Story:" a Successful Photography Project of the Meadowood Neighborhood Center & Wisconsin Youth Company

Middle and high school girls from the Meadowood and Prairie Hills neighborhoods met throughout the school year and explored current issues like bully prevention, internet safety as well as techniques for taking artsy pictures of favorite places and people. It was a way for them to build awareness of their surroundings and their actions at the same time. Those who completed the program were rewarded with a trip to Wisconsin Dells as well as a worthy art show.

The photography component was led by Sandra Wojtal-Weber. Sandra is a professional fine arts photographer and clinical social worker. She is founder of On the Borderline Project, a self-esteem building photography program for adolescent girls, earning her the North Star Award for outstanding contributions to the Northside Community of Madison.

This project was a joint venture with the Wisconsin Youth Company (WYC). Funding was provided by an Emerging Neighborhood Fund Grant to target 30 key participants to reverse the trend of female violence and negative behavior.

If you were unable to attend the gallery opening and artist reception on May 23rd you missed some really original and spectacular works of art **but** you can view the photographs at the following locations throughout the summer:

June – Madison Children's Museum, 100 North Hamilton Street
 July – Hoyt Building, 3802 Regent Street
 August – Madison Municipal Building, 210 ML King Jr. Blvd.
September – Wisconsin Youth Company and Meadowood Neighborhood Center

DreamBikes' Coming to Meadowood Park

Got a flat? Brakes sticking? Need a tool to fix something on your bike? DreamBikes Mobile Repair Unit in collaboration with the Meadowood Neighborhood Center will be at the Meadowood Park (Leland and Balsam) on Tuesday, July 3 from 5 pm-7 pm.

Great Father's Day Idea!

Register for the MSCR Family Day Trip to the "Field of Dreams" Movie site and the "Mississippi River Museum" in Dubuque, Iowa on Saturday, June 16th. Price is only \$45 and includes transportation and admission! For more information or to register go to our website www.msgr.org and search program code 39441.

Where in the Library is the Dreaming Reader? Find it and Join the Summer Reading Club

Last year over 6,400 children and teens participated in Summer Reading Club (grades PreK-6) and Teen Reads (grades 6-12). The library's Summer Reading Club prevents learning loss by keeping kids reading over the summer, and it's just one of the fun learning opportunities for children happening in our libraries this summer. Children visiting the library can search for the Dreaming Reader (each branch has a picture of a Dreaming Reader hidden somewhere. Find it, tell the librarian, and get a prize! The Dreaming Reader will move around the libraries regularly - children can find the Dreaming Reader and claim their prizes once per day through June 30. For more information on the summer reading program stop by Meadowridge Library or visit <http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/kids/about-summer-reading-club>

Important Dates

June 1: Summer Reading Club registration begins.

June 15: Summer Reading Club prizes are available.

August 31: Reading Club ends. Prizes must be picked up.

Prizes

This year, prizes can be earned in any order. Read for:

- one free book
- one ticket to a Madison Mallards game (June 1 - August 11)
- one coupon for a free dish of noodles from Noodles & Company OR one coupon for a free slice of pizza from Rocky Rococo's
- one mega punch ball toy

Bicyclists, Motorists Share the Same Road, Same Responsibilities

By Peter Flucke, WE BIKE, for Safe Communities

Summer is a great time to enjoy our community on a bicycle. Bicycling is not inherently dangerous, especially when everyone follows the rules of the road. What's dangerous are the often-illegal interactions that occur between bicyclists and motorists every day, increasing the danger for everyone.

More than 90 percent of bicyclist fatalities involve a collision with a motor vehicle. According to bicycle/motor vehicle crash statistics, when an adult bicyclist is injured, it is typically due to motorist error. When a child bicyclist is hit, it's typically the child's.

Motorist-caused collisions with bicyclists occur most often when a motorist: (1) turns left (or right) into the path of a bicyclist at an intersection; (2) fails to stop for a stop sign or other traffic control device; or (3) exits a driveway or alley without first stopping and then looking.

To safely interact with bicyclists on the roadway, motorists must follow these laws:

- Yield the right-of-way to oncoming vehicles, including bicycles, before turning left at intersections or driveways.
- Stop for all traffic control devices (stop light/stop signs) and

yield to all traffic before proceeding.

- Leave at least three feet between you and a bicyclist (or any other vehicle) when passing.
- Do not exceed posted speed limits, and reduce speeds when necessary (especially at night).
- Do not drink and drive.

Bicyclists need to follow all the rules of the road - especially stopping for stop lights and signs.

Parents can do a great deal to teach their kids to be safe bicyclists, and to help children develop habits to last a lifetime:

- Don't allow children to ride their bicycles unless wearing a properly fitted bike helmet. (A helmet should be parallel with the ground and fit snugly.)
- Set a good example and wear a bicycle helmet too.
- Only buy a helmet that has Snell, ASTM or CPSC approved labels. Hockey, football or other sports helmets are not bike helmet substitutes.

-Teach children to be safe bicyclists:

- Look left, right and left again before entering the street.
- Go to the edge of parked cars to search for traffic when crossing the street.
- Look over your left shoulder before moving toward the center of the road.
- Be alert for cars leaving or entering driveways or making turns across your path.
- Obey the same signals and signs as motorists, e.g., stop signs, traffic signs, yield signs.
- Warn pedestrians if you are riding on sidewalks and paths.
- Be sure to learn and use hand signals when biking.
- Make sure children are visible. Use lights and reflectors at night. Wear bright-colored clothes by day.

For guidance on fitting your child's bicycle helmet, visit Safe Communities' website at www.safecommunity.net

responsible energy

Make your home more comfortable and energy efficient while adding value

- New program from the City of Madison for homes to help offset the cost of making energy improvements.
- Work with a local energy advocate that will help guide you through the process.
- Get a professional evaluation, testing and written recommendations from Focus on Energy, Wisconsin utilities' statewide program for energy efficiency and renewable energy.
- Get access to low-interest financing from Summit Credit Union (summitcreditunion.com) to finance your project and Cash-Back Rewards from Focus on Energy to help offset the cost of eligible improvements.

Call Green Madison at 877-399-1204 or visit cityofmadison.com/greenmadison



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