

# MEADOWOOD

## MNA President News – Lisa Veldran

As I write this column it has just snowed all over my crocuses! Ah yes... it is March after all! However, warmer weather is on the way and with it brings the start up of our Meadowood Community Garden, the Southwest Community Farmers Market, and neighbors walking about and for some of us with dogs “clean up time” in our backyards. I hope that you are able to get out and say hello to your neighbors on your block, in our parks and at our Neighborhood Center. I thought that the winter was busy.... but be prepared Meadowood neighbors – we have a lot in store for you this spring! So please read your newsletter and visit our website for up-to-date information: [www.meadowoodneighbors.org](http://www.meadowoodneighbors.org)

## Swim Season is (Almost) Here! New Ridgewood Pool Options for Kids & Adults

The hot days of summer are fast approaching and there is no better way to cool down then spending time at your neighborhood pool. Ridgewood Pool is a neighborhood treasure that many people don't even know about. On the corner of Barton and Lewon, enjoy the lap pool, a regular pool, a kiddie wading pool and a diving well. Pool activities include all ages from swim and dive teams and lessons to adult water exercise classes, lap swimming and, new this year, the Master's Swim Program. The program will offer organized practices for all adult swimmers to improve fitness and/or train for specific goals. If you're new to the neighborhood or have never thought about joining, there has never been a better time. **Available one-time “Non-Stock Summer Member ships” are only \$395 and includes swim and dive lessons, adult lap swimming, swim/dive team, social events and much more.** For more information, contact Patty Otterson at 848-5289 or visit the website: [www.ridgewoodpool.com](http://www.ridgewoodpool.com)

## Project Home' Housing Center Offering 10 FREE do-it-yourself 2010 home maintenance classes - Open to the public

No sales pitch. Space is limited. Call 246-3737 to register. See the entire calendar of classes on <http://www.projecthomewi.org/the-housing-center/class-schedule>

## Basic Plumbing Repair

Wednesday, April 7, 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
Project Home, 1966 S. Stoughton Rd., Madison

Learn how to repair and replace a toilet and faucet in this fun, hands-on class.

## Meadowridge Library News

### Looking for a job? We can help! – Tuesday Mornings

Computer training specific to getting a job is being offered on Tuesday mornings from March 16th through August 31st except March 30, June 22, June 29 and July 13. Topics covered include filling out online forms, resume review, help with paper applications, and writing assistance for cover letters. Please sign up at the reference desk or call 288-6160.

### Book & Bake Sale – Saturday, May 8, 2010

Come one, come all to Meadowridge's Mother's Day Book Sale and Bake Sale! Sale of books and AV materials, plus delicious baked goods! Friends only from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Join at the door: \$5 individuals, \$15 family, \$25 dealers and other businesses. Open to the public 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Bag sale begins at 12:00. All proceeds benefit the Meadowridge Branch Library.

## Volunteer Opportunities

### Gardens on Russett Road

Hi – I am Ann Goth, a student at Edgewood College. I am volunteering with the Joining Forces for Families office, which is located on Russett Road. We are working with the JFF office on a beautification/community garden project, which will entail planting edible gardens on landlord-owned property on Russett Road. So far we have permission from seven landlords to plant gardens on their front lawns. This project will allow residents of the 5700 block of Russett Road to have an opportunity for and access to fresh and healthy foods.

Currently we are looking for 10 community volunteers to help us plant these gardens. **Planting will take place on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> starting at 10 a.m. and ending at 3 p.m. We will also be holding a block party after the planting to give us time to socialize with each other.** Please let me know if you or you know anyone who might be interested in volunteering. I am always willing to talk with you further about this project, so please feel free to e-mail me at [agoth@edgwood.edu](mailto:agoth@edgwood.edu) with any questions you may have or call me on my cell phone at 608-886-6840. I look forward to hearing from you!

**Meals on Wheels**

Can you help make the noon meal an "Event" for the elderly homebound and disabled in Madison, Monona and Middleton? You may be the only person a recipient sees that day, providing a safety check in addition to social contact. Home Health United Meals on Wheels delivers meals every day of the year with a route taking about an hour. Very specific directions are given to each recipient's home and we will work with any schedule. Also, if you know of someone who is in need of meals please let us know. Contact Sue Barker at 276-7598 or our web site [www.HomeHealthUnited.org](http://www.HomeHealthUnited.org) for more information.

**Community Garden Plot Registration April 10**

Meadowood Community Garden registration will be held April 10<sup>th</sup> at the Meadowood Neighborhood Center from 9 a.m. – 12 noon. Returning gardeners have seniority and available plots will be leased to new registrant's based on their dwelling's proximity to the garden. Anyone who enjoys gardening is welcome to come and mingle over coffee and gardening catalogs during registration. The community garden offers opportunities all season long for residents to participate in activities even if they are not community garden members. To receive updates on garden happenings send an email to: [leslie.stephany@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.stephany@gmail.com) or phone: 608-438-2109.

**SPRING PLANTING SEASON IS COMING SOON!  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual Toki Plant Sale – Order by Thursday,  
April 8<sup>th</sup>!**

It's time to plan your garden and Toki PTO is sponsoring its fifth annual Plant Sale!

Choose from a variety of bedding flowers, foliage plants or hanging baskets. Our beautiful and healthy plants come directly from Irish Lane Greenhouse and just in time for Mother's Day! Visit the MNA website to download the order form and return it to school with your check, cash or money order **by Thursday, April 8th**. Make checks out to Toki PTO and attach to your order. Choose from a variety of plants in several different colors and sizes, or choose a gift certificate to Irish Lane instead. You can buy the plants as full or half flats. We also have hanging baskets and 4.5-inch pots that include ferns, ivy, spikes and vines. Our school benefits from every plant and gift certificate we sell, so please help PTO raise funds so we can continue to support Toki programs. Your plants will be delivered on Thursday, May 6th with pick up at Toki from 4:00-6:30. We'll send reminders as we get closer to the date. If you have any questions, please contact Chris Echter: [cechter@att.net](mailto:cechter@att.net) or 278-2961.

**12 Years of Award Winning Pizza!**

**GLASS NICKEL PIZZA CO.**

**608.848.4877**  
3191 Muir Field Rd.



<p><b>GLASS NICKEL PIZZA CO.</b></p> <p>Two 14" Two-Topping Pizzas <b>\$21.10</b></p> <p>online code: 2142T</p> <p><small>Please mention coupon when ordering. One coupon, special or discount per order/table. All prices subject to change. Sales tax not included. Expires 10/31/10</small></p>	<p><b>GLASS NICKEL PIZZA CO.</b></p> <p><b>Family Special</b> <b>\$25.40</b></p> <p>One 14" Specialty Pizza One 14" One-Topping Pizza &amp; One 2-Liter Soda</p> <p>online code: FAMSPEC</p> <p><small>Please mention coupon when ordering. One coupon, special or discount per order/table. All prices subject to change. Sales tax not included. Expires 10/31/10</small></p>
--	---

**For our menu & more coupons check out [www.glassnickelpizza.com](http://www.glassnickelpizza.com)**

### City of Madison Cultural Art Plan

The City of Madison has launched its first cultural plan, a citywide effort to identify action steps that will make Madison a center for creativity and innovation. Mayor Cieslewicz is asking Madison neighborhood associations to participate in this process. See the Mayor's letter on our website which was sent to all neighborhood associations. For more information or to learn more about the Madison Cultural Plan visit its website at: [www.cityofmadison.com/MAC/culturalPlan/index.cfm](http://www.cityofmadison.com/MAC/culturalPlan/index.cfm)

### Time for MNA Board Nominations

Annual MNA Board elections are coming up and your participation is needed. There are openings on the Board for next year and we need you. Share interests and thoughts about our neighborhood. The Board meets monthly except in July. Each Area Rep represents a specific Meadowood district and works with block captains to distribute newsletters and conduct the annual membership drive. Area Reps and Board officers serve one-year terms. There are no term limits for Area Reps but Board officers are limited to five consecutive years. Incumbents must nominate themselves or be nominated by others in order to run. Nominees must be members of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association. Check neighborhood boundaries on the website or call any current Board member. Send your nominations to Robert Rabehl, 2117 S. Whitney Way, Madison WI 53711 by May 31st. Please include your name and phone number or the name and phone number of the person you are nominating, and what area the nomination is for. **Nominate yourself or someone you know to represent your area.** Nominations will appear in the June newsletter and voting will take place at the MNA annual July 3<sup>rd</sup> picnic or by arrangement for absentee ballots.

\*\* Openings for the coming year include – Area Representatives for Areas 2, 10, 13, 14 and 15

Current MNA Board Representatives by area:

- Area 1 - Sally Stix, 271-7609
- Area 2 – **Representative needed**
- Area 3 - Bob Rabehl, Vice President, 274-3125
- Area 4 - Dorothy Loehrer 271-5994
- Area 5 - Sheri Rembert 273-0960
- Area 6 - Lisa Veldran, President 271-0722
- Area 7 - Lisa Schulz, 271-7831
- Area 8 - Mark & Janice Bauman, 277-0860
- Area 9 - Dave Glomp, 271-9531
- Area 10 – **Representative needed**
- Area 11- Mary Conlin, 271-1320
- Area 12 – Patsy Ragland, 273-4040
- Area 13 – Darlene Burrell, 608-317-3294
- Area 14 - **Representative needed**
- Area 15 – **Representative needed**

Treasurer – Lorene Wendricks, 274-5054  
Secretary – Joyce Dingman, 244-2665

### Save these Dates on Your Calendar!!!

#### **Friday, May 14 AND Saturday, May 15 - Meadowood Neighborhood Garage Sale**

You can be a part of the annual Meadowood neighborhood garage sale! MNA will place an ad in the paper on Friday, May 14th. **To include your address in the ad, contact Patsy Ragland at 273-4040 by Friday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.**

#### **Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> – Celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> with Annual Bike Parade and Picnic**

This year's theme is "Let's Have a Parade"! Come join us for the children's bike parade in the morning and at Elver Park for the picnic lunch. See details in the June Meadowood.

#### **Yard Signs Encourage Traffic to Slow Down**

As part of a campaign to encourage drivers to watch out and slow down for children and pedestrians, over 4,500 "slow down" yard signs will pop up in yards across Dane and Jefferson counties this month. If you would like to reserve a sign for your yard, contact Lisa Veldran at 271-0722 or [lveldran@yahoo.com](mailto:lveldran@yahoo.com)

#### **Parks Watch Program**

**Monday, April 19, 2010, 7:00 p.m.**

#### **Meadowood Community Center, 5734 Raymond Road**

In 2008, the Madison Parks and Madison Police launched a Parks Watch initiative to better protect our community's beautiful park system;. Neighbors joined together to learn how to organize a watch program, what to watch for and how to communicate their concerns to the city officials.

Anyone who is interested in starting a Parks Watch program for Meadowood Park or is just looking for more information should plan to attend. In much the same fashion as Neighborhood Watch, park neighbors extend their watchful eyes and ears to the public spaces throughout the City of Madison. The City is particularly interested in securing the cooperation of citizens whose homes or businesses overlook the public parks and public spaces as well as asking visitors who use these attractive and friendly facilities to serve as park ambassadors. The many generous volunteers who regularly tend to the parks and raise money for the park system will also be included in the process. **Successful Neighborhood and Parks Watch programs depend on grassroots efforts.** Madison Police Department and Madison Parks

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)

representatives will be available to train residents in the processes of Parks Watch, focusing specifically on how to be a good witness, best communication methods with your neighbors, Police & Parks officials, as well as, when and how to contact the 9-1-1 Center.

### Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

We are still in need of a Neighborhood Watch Coordinator. It seems that people in the community are looking for ways to prevent crime and this is a perfect opportunity for someone to step up to help our community. If anyone in Meadowood is interested in picking up the program please give Lisa Veldran.

## Come One! Come All!

### Meadowood's 6<sup>th</sup> Community Supper

Wednesday, April 21, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
(Doors open at 5:30 p.m.)

Meadowood Neighborhood Ctr (5734 Raymond Rd.)

Meet and greet your neighbors, make new friends, enjoy a free delicious meal (there will be enough food), learn about all the great things happening in your area and get involved! To help assure that we can have a comfortable and peaceful meal seating will be limited – plan to arrive early! Free children's activities next door at the Meadowood Library after the meal from 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. For further information contact Public Health Nurse Kim Neuschel at 243-0343 or Jessica LeClair at 242-6296

## Southwest Community Farmers Market

2<sup>nd</sup> Season Starts Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>!



The Southwest Community Farmers' Market reopens on Wednesday; May 19<sup>th</sup>. The market is in the Orchard Ridge United Church of Christ parking lot at 1501 Gilbert Road from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday through October 28. (Hours during the fall will be adjusted.) Market manager and farmer, Robert Pierce, estimates the market will have 15 returning vendors who will, again, offer their fresh food products. "Of course, the market's continued success depends on community support by buying food there," he added. A process will be implemented to accommodate people shopping with Quest vouchers. Those participants will be able to exchange Quest funds

for farmers' market tokens, which can then be used to purchase approved products such as fruit, vegetables, meat, cheese and more. Our Farmer's Market will once again feature neighborhood talent and highlight organizations at the Community Table. So plan to stop by to pick up something fresh and tasty, socialize with neighbors and enjoy some entertainment.

**If you enjoy or have time to be part of this communal effort, please consider volunteering. We will be at the Meadowood Neighborhood Center on Saturday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. – noon with information on how you can get involved and will be selling our newly created reusable shopping bags!**

Contact Lisa Veldran or Marlys Miller [mmskyumah@aol.com](mailto:mmskyumah@aol.com) for more information.

### 2010 United States Census—Important information

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is underway as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The question is - how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? BBB offers the following advice:

- If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.
- Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information.
- Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.
- REMEMBER, NO MATTER WHAT THEY ASK, YOU REALLY ONLY NEED TO TELL THEM HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE AT YOUR ADDRESS.
- While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, you don't have to answer anything at all about your financial situation.

• The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Any one asking for that information is NOT with the Census Bureau.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will not contact you by Email, so be on the lookout for Email scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an Email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFO WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

Source: BBB (14 January 2010)

\* \* \*

## 911 Saves Lives

**By: Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk**

Over a year ago, an outside audit firm hired by the County Board told us what we could do to improve our 911 system. We went to work immediately and recruited and hired John Dejung, the best 911 director in the country, to implement the audit. Dejung came to Dane County after many years of directing the nationally award-winning Minneapolis 911 Center.

Fast forward a year and I'm proud to report that Director Dejung is on schedule with improvements to help our team of highly-trained dispatchers focus on the job they should be doing – quickly getting police, fire, and emergency medical services to people in need.

We added staff and improved training. We enhanced a rigorous quality assurance program. Those efforts are paying off. On average, 911 calls are answered in less than a single phone ring. Most impressive. In the past year, 911 operators literally saved 19 lives by giving emergency medical directions over the phone to callers needing help resuscitating a friend or family member.

That audit also found over 70% of the calls handled by the 911 Center weren't even 911 calls and didn't even come in on 911 phone lines. To address that, the audit directed the county to buy new automated technology that's used across the country to reduce the number of non-emergency calls that come to our dispatchers. It works. This technology has greatly reduced the number of non-emergency calls coming into the Center -- two to three times what had been expected.

To ensure 911 continues to improve we must make sure dispatchers aren't doing the non-emergency tasks that

911 Centers across the country long ago stopped doing. One example of that is Madison's expectation that 911 dispatchers be responsible for answering calls about parking complaints and then dispatching civilian parking ticket writers.

911 dispatchers need to be focused on saving lives, not worried about which cars are parked in the wrong stall.

## Madison Westside Track Club

Long-time Meadowood resident and twice former president of the MNA, Glenn Rindfleisch, is gearing up for his 27<sup>th</sup> season as founder and coordinator of the Madison Westside Track Club. Boys and girls ages 8-16 can participate in the program.

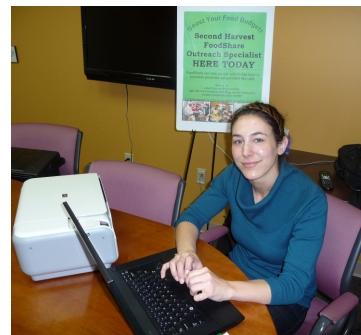
Practices are held on Mondays and Wednesdays at Memorial High School from 6:00 to 7:30 pm starting in mid-April through July.

Last year the club had 95 members with 22 winning state titles during the summer.

The "kid-friendly" program has the philosophy of come when you can, get out of it what you can and have fun by joining any time through June. The cost is only \$40-\$70 based on year of birth. Contact Glenn at 274-1449 for more information and a brochure.

## Need Help Boosting Your Food Budget?

Laura Wichert, FoodShare Outreach Specialist assists families and individuals with completing applications for FoodShare benefits.



Have you or someone in your household recently lost a job? Do you have to choose between buying food and paying for your heat, childcare, medications or other bills? Wish you could eat healthier, but just can't afford it? Many individuals and families are struggling to make ends meet these days. If you could use help boosting your food budget, it's worth the time to find out if you may be eligible for FoodShare Wisconsin (food stamp) benefits.

Call Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin's FoodShare Helpline toll-free 1-877-366-3635. You'll speak to a friendly volunteer who will ask you some questions and let you know if you may be eligible for FoodShare benefits. If it looks like you might be eligible, the volunteer will give you some convenient places and times to meet with a Second Harvest FoodShare Outreach Specialist, based on your language preference of English or Spanish. During this meeting, you will receive help, for free, to complete the FoodShare benefits application. So your application is processed more quickly, the specialist can also help you copy and send in all the required documentation. The specialist can also use the same application to help you apply for state healthcare and child care benefits.

**Before you assume aren't eligible for FoodShare benefits, do you know...**

- FoodShare is an entitlement, or right, not welfare.
- Everyone who applies for FoodShare and meets all program rules will get benefits.
- You aren't taking away from anyone else when you receive FoodShare.
- Most FoodShare members are employed.
- FoodShare information is kept private.
- You don't have to go to a state or county office to get FoodShare benefits – your application can be done online and your interview can be by phone.
- FoodShare benefits come on a plastic card that looks just like a credit or debit card.
- You may be able to get FoodShare benefits even if you get Social Security, SSI or other insurance payments.
- You may be able to get FoodShare, even if you have a car and own your own home.
- By using FoodShare benefits at local grocers, FoodShare recipients help support the local economy. Every \$5 spent in FoodShare benefits brings \$9.80 into your community.

Don't miss out on money that may help put food on your table. Call Second Harvest Foodbank's FoodShare line at 1-877-366-3635 today.

**West Police District News**

Read the latest issue of the West Police District Newsletter:

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


**STIX LAW  
OFFICES**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

700 Rayovac Dr., #117  
Madison, WI 53711

Tele 608-271-9888  
Fax 608-271-9889  
[www.stixlaw.com](http://www.stixlaw.com)

Sally A. Stix, Atty.  
Timothy M. Scheffler, Atty.  
Andrea L. Sumpter, Atty.

*Representing unions and  
employees for more than 30  
years.*



Labor • Employment



Wildtree believes food should be all natural, nutritious, delicious, and easy to prepare - all at the same time.

**Connie Phair**  
[www.cphair.mywildtree.com](http://www.cphair.mywildtree.com)  
608-358-8525

Contact me today to get free groceries by hosting a fun and simple home tasting.

*Wildtree is looking for reps nationwide, choose your hours - choose your pay!*

\*\*Thanks to Meadowood neighbor Barb Pickhardt for helping with the production of this newsletter in the midst of syruping season.