

MEADOWWORD

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

September - October 2020
www.meadowoodneighborhood.org

President's Message – Terry Evanson

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

Join Meadowood Neighborhood Association TODAY!

Thank you for your continued support of Meadowood Neighborhood Association! In this issue you will find my Annual Message to the Neighborhood. Due to the pandemic, I was unable to give this message to you personally at our annual membership meeting and picnic in July. We are unable to speak to you directly at your doors this fall but are delivering this issue and our membership materials. Please continue to support Meadowood Neighborhood Association by renewing your membership or joining for the first time. The cost is \$10 per household for the year. You will receive a membership card, subscription to the Meadoword (5 issues per year), free participation in all our activities and free community dinners (once the pandemic has eased). You also help support Meadowood Health Partnership which serves needy families in our neighborhood. The MNA Board works closely with Alderperson Albouras, County Supervisor Veldran, Captain Timothy Patton of the West Police District, Good Shepherd Church, the Meadowridge Library, Common Wealth Development, and others to represent your interests and build a strong, vibrant community. Thank you for supporting us in these efforts!

Re-join/join: On-line at <https://www.meadowoodneighborhood.org/joinold>. Or fill out and return this form and \$10.00 to MNA Treasurer, P.O. Box 45528, Madison, Wi 53744-5528.



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: VACANT
- 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: Tyler Rehm & Sara Wagner, tylerrehm@gmail.com
- Area 6: Lisa Veldran, lveldran@yahoo.com
- Area 7: Heidi Wiley, heidijeanywiley@icloud.com
- Area 8: Mark & Janice Bauman, **'Meadoword' Editor (MB), Board Secretary (JB)**, msbauman57@gmail.com
- Area 9: Terry Evanson, **Board President**, mtevanson@gmail.com
- Area 10: Diane Berry & Gene Masters, dianexberry@gmail.com
- Area 11: VACANT
- Area 12: Arik Grundahl, **Webmaster**, grundahlak19@gmail.com
- Area 13: Sheray Wallace, sheryaw@yahoo.com
- Areas 14 and 15: VACANT
- Member at Large: VACANT
- MNA Board Treasurer: Lisa Schulz, buttonldy@aol.com

Four (4) 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/contactus

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

If you have an email address you will receive an emailed PDF of the Meadoword, unless you check the box below.

Check here if you want a hard copy of the **Meadoword** newsletter delivered to your house. (Meadoword will be delivered electronically to all members with email addresses)

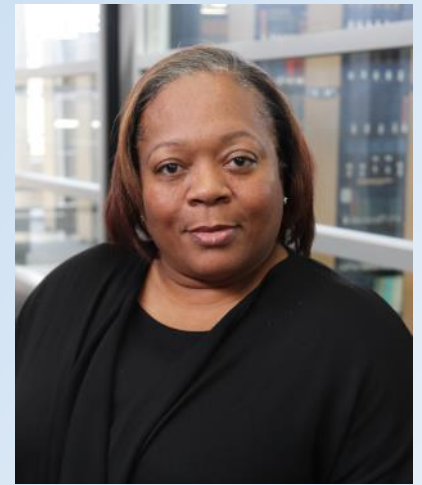
Sheray Wallace: Supporting Families During COVID-19

Sheray Wallace, founder of Meadowood Health Partnership (MHP), member of the Meadowood Neighborhood Association Board, and community leader, has been instrumental in helping families in need during the COVID-19 pandemic. MHP collaborates with many organizations to bring needed resources to residents in Meadowood and surrounding neighborhoods. Sheray connects people who have health, employment, or housing needs to these organizations.

Moreover, through MHP, Sheray has the critical ability to respond immediately to the current needs of families in crisis. The money for MHP comes from organizational grants and private donations. As a grassroots organization, MHP has flexibility in spending grant money, which allows Sheray to respond immediately when a call for help comes in. Some examples:

- ◇ Loretta Swanson, Children WI, relates that Sheray stocks their supply closet with diapers, wipes and other items. Sheray is the guiding force behind the UW Pregnancy Support Group held in Meadowood. Sheray is often able to connect a client to Access health care more quickly than social service agencies can. Loretta relates, “Sheray is someone embedded in the community. She knows what is happening and is trusted”.
- ◇ Tracy Cunnigan is a 20-year resident of Meadowood. Many times, during the 17 years Tracy operated a day care, Sheray provided diapers, formula and even showed up with Pedialyte for a sick child. Tracy’s husband was recently furloughed from his job due to COVID-19. It was Sheray they turned to when they needed help with bills. Having never needed assistance in the past, Tracy says Sheray is “the angel who looks out for people”.
- ◇ Anonymous admirer: “I was sick and literally breaking down, at my wits end and really didn't know what to do until the good Lord sent you our way. Thank you to all the people who have made this possible for us to stay in our home.”
- ◇ Mary says, “I had encountered a medical expense beyond my financial abilities that prevented me to get my necessary prescription in order for me to treat a medical condition. I reached out to Sheray who was totally perceptive in helping me to receive the necessary medication.”
- ◇ Ernie Horinek owns several apartment buildings in Meadowood. He relates that during the corona virus, “Sheray contacted us when tenants lost their jobs, were laid off from work & could not pay rent. She reached out this spring to help tenants survive until the economy returns to normal.”

People who know Sheray stand in awe of her energy, determination to serve and her ability to get help to those in need. You may be amazed to learn that Sheray does everything described here as a volunteer. She is not paid for her work with MHP. All grant and donation money goes to help needy families. She personally delivers grocery and gas gift cards; diapers and formula; and works with the Tenant Resource Center to help families receive rent assistance. With the advent of COVID-19, the demand for this help in our neighborhood have skyrocketed. We are deeply grateful for Sheray’s commitment to healthy babies and families, to strong community and to alleviating suffering. If you are interested in supporting Sheray and MHP, you can contact the Meadowood Board at MNABoard1@gmail.com.



Free Food Pantry

A free food and essentials pantry is open to anybody who needs it. Donations are welcome and encouraged! The address is: 1417 Prairie Road, near the intersection with Loreen Drive.

Here’s the pantry’s Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/PrairieRdPantry/>

Annual Message to Meadowood Neighborhood Association

Terry Evanson, President, MNA Board

Dear Meadowood Neighborhood Members and Friends,

My annual report is usually given at our summer picnic and membership meeting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we were forced to cancel almost all 2020 MNA activities, including postponing our board elections until next summer. Though our usual social activities have been curtailed, the MNA Board has been busy with neighborhood business and supporting you, our friends and neighbors.

Meadowood Health Partnership (MHP). Sheray Wallace, Area 13 Representative, has been a dynamo during the pandemic as she has helped families in our community in need of groceries, gas, diapers, formula, and more. She personally distributes these critical goods. This work is possible because Sheray has successfully sought and received grants from United Way, a consortium of local hospitals, and Exact Sciences. MNA donated all funds earmarked for 2020 neighborhood activities to MHP to help needy families. In addition, individuals from our neighborhood have generously donated to MHP to continue Sheray's work.

Neighborhood Safety. The increase in property crimes, shots fired and shootings citywide as well as in Meadowood is of concern to everyone. MPD Officer Lucas Hale accepted the position of neighborhood officer this winter and has been a terrific asset with strong ties to our neighborhood and a focus on keeping us all safe. Captain Timothy Patton, West District Police Office, is a constant support and presence in our neighborhood. He proactively reaches out to Alder Albouras, me, and presidents of surrounding neighborhoods using email and Zoom calls to keep us informed of crimes and other incidents of concern. Concerted efforts are being made by the city, the police and the neighborhoods to decrease violence and increase safety.

New Meadowood Police Liaison Representative. Lisa Veldran, Area 6 Representative, has agreed to serve as our police liaison with the West District Police Office. In this role, Lisa will help keep the neighborhood informed of the ways we can all work toward a safer, more peaceful neighborhood.

Exact Sciences Grant. The MNA Board approached Exact Sciences earlier this year and asked them to underwrite our community suppers. Following a meeting with Sheray Wallace, Lisa Schulz and myself, Exact Sciences provided double the funds we originally sought and offered to underwrite the community suppers as well as support the work of Meadowood Health Partnership. Because of the pandemic, we canceled the community suppers; thus, the full grant was provided to MHP to help families in Meadowood affected by COVID-19.

Community suppers. With her amazing drive, Sheray also plans the community suppers, usually held quarterly at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. Suppers were held in December 2019 and February 2020. Sheray organizes, purchases and cooks the food, gathers the volunteers, and invites non-profit community organizations to share expertise with those attending. These suppers are free to all Meadowood residents and held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church when we can meet again, come and meet neighbors and get a flavor of our neighborhood at these suppers.

Installation of new Meadowood Welcome Signs. City of Madison Streets Department generously installed new supporting posts last fall that allowed us to mount our new welcome signs. A BIG thank you to Duane Wilson (Golden Oak Ln), Mike Edmonds (Russett Rd), and Tony Smick (Bartlett Dr) for maintaining the gardens beneath the signs.

Adopted Ash Tree in Meadowood Park. Three large ash trees shade the children's playground in Meadowood Park. The city uses donated funds to treat two of these trees. MNA adopted the third tree. That tree (marked with a #6) is treated biennially for Emerald Ash Borer, with the latest treatment occurring in August.

New MNA Board members. MNA exists only because of volunteers – our Area Representatives and our Block Captains. Thank you to Alex Grundahl (representing Area 12) and Heidi Wiley (representing Area 7) both of whom joined our board this year. We have board openings and invite you to join our board!

We urge you to renew your MNA membership or join for the first time. Your association dues (\$10/year per household) provides the bulk of our budget. To limit face-to-face contact, Area Representatives are dropping membership renewal forms at your door. You can [join on-line](#), using PayPal; mail a check to MNA Treasurer at P.O. Box 45528, Madison, WI 53744-5528, or return cash or check to your Area Representative in an envelop they will provide.

Hello Neighbors All!

It seems like we are all being pushed to our limits. Between the pandemic and Social Justice and unrest, it is trying our will. Currently, some are being impacted by Public Health Order No. 9 which restricts all schools to in-person learning for K-2 only, if they so choose to do so. Hopefully this will not last long and the rest of students can go to school according to each district. I know this is a heavy burden for families with school aged children of different ages who are affected by different rules, but we have seen that simply by wearing masks and distancing is working and Dane County's numbers have steadily decreased since spiking again earlier in the summer. If we all continue to do the simple things we may be able to be closer to normal soon.



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

Our other main focus right now at the county level is to continue to work with the community to battle our social and racial justice struggles. The county board has a proposal that it will be reviewing and debating in the fall that is designed to respond to many of the concerns that have been raised since the outrage of the murder of George Floyd and now closer to home, the shooting of Jacob Blake. I have heard from some of you that I should support an earlier version but I did not agree with all of the points it stated. This new proposal is more in line with what the county board can actually accomplish.

An event that is part of the county board's charge to take action to improve social justice was held (too late for the newsletter) on September 1st: The Community Presentation on Triage Centers and Crisis-Care-Continuum. It is being recorded so please take some time to look at it and if you have questions please forward to either myself or to engagedane@countyofdane.com. Here's a link to the information: <https://www.countyofdane.com/PressDetail/10697>

We also will begin our 2021 budget deliberations, which will be done remotely and another challenge for all of us to make sure to engage county citizens. Upcoming hearings are scheduled for September 10th, 16th & October 21st.

The county board is in the process of choosing people to sit on the redistricting commission pending the results of the 2020 Census. Applications were closed on July 31, but though many applications were received, the applicants did not represent a diverse cross section of the county, which is one of the goals of the commission. You can still apply to serve. Applications are now due on September 11th and we are looking for a more diverse pool of citizens. Here is a link to apply: <https://www.danecountyplanning.com/Projects/Redistricting>

Some good news for all of us! The zoo is open and it is going well. The parks are a great place to go in the fall, and if you want to help your neighbors, RSVP is still (and always) looking for volunteers to help our senior population distributing meals. They are located on Struck Street so they are in our neighborhood.

Finally, my usual and important note to all, as fall approaches and we are starting to rake the falling leaves, PLEASE keep the leaves out of the gutter and street. It is the best way for us to keep the lakes clean!

As always and especially now, if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Matt Veldran,
Dane County Supervisor, District 7
608-235-8369
veldran@countyofdane.com

An Important Message to Our Valued Customers

From: Madison Gas and Electric



As your community energy company, we appreciate the trust and confidence you have in us to provide safe, reliable energy.

Sadly, scammers seek to exploit this relationship by portraying themselves as representatives of Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) to take advantage of our customers.

We have heard recently that some businesses throughout our community have been called by someone pretending to be MGE and demanding immediate payment of their bill.

The impostors continue to get more sophisticated – it may appear as though the call is coming from MGE. Or, in some cases, scammers may claim to know recent bill amounts.

Do not call a number left by a scammer. Always call MGE at 608-252-7222.

The scammers typically claim accounts are past due and give instructions to pay with a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. Scammers often threaten disconnection of services within an hour.

MGE would not contact a customer to request payment either by prepaid debit card, wire transfer, or green dot cards.

MGE will never threaten that we are coming within the hour to disconnect service. When a customer faces disconnection for nonpayment, there are several past due notifications that come in writing through the mail.

Never allow anyone into your business or home for an unannounced visit to check your meter, electrical wiring, natural gas pipes, or appliances unless you have a scheduled appointment or are aware of a confirmed problem. Always ask for identification.

Please visit our website—mge.com/scam—to know when to spot a scam.

Never give out personal information. Always call MGE at 608-252-7222 if you have questions about your account.



Clean. Local. Sustainable.



Go green.
Power your home or business with solar energy from Madison Gas and Electric.

MGE is planning a new Shared Solar installation at Morey Field in Middleton. Join the program to get locally generated solar energy for your home or business. It's easy, affordable, and it helps grow renewable energy in our community.

Shared Solar—Make it your energy.
Visit energy2030together.com/SharedSolar to learn how to participate.


your community energy company

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ANNUAL MADISON COMPOST BIN AND RAIN BARREL SALE RETURNS ON SATURDAY OCTOBER 10TH

After a one-year hiatus, the annual Madison compost and rain barrel sale is back at a new location. This year's sale will be held at the Garver Feed Mill on Saturday, October 10th. The new location provides easy, contactless pick-up and experts will be on hand to answer questions.

When it comes to easy, cost-effective ways to lessen your impact on the planet, rain barrels and compost bins provide an eco one-two for your home! Harvesting rainwater for your plants saves money and reduces stormwater run-off into local waterways.

It is estimated that our urban communities contribute about 30% of the total phosphorus that enter in lakes Mendota, Monona, Waubesa, Kegonsa, and Wingra from runoff. And rather than sending more stuff to the landfill, compost bins will help you create nutrient rich soil by turning yard waste and food scraps into organic fuel for the garden.

Compost bins and 50 and 100 gallon rain barrels with diverters are available at discounted prices. Pre-orders before Oct 2nd receive an additional \$10 off. Supplies are limited and due to Covid restrictions, pre-ordering is strongly recommended. For more information visit <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/compost/CompostBinSale.cfm>

USEFUL LINKS TO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Pre-ordering information <https://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/compost/CompostBinSale.cfm>

Link to Facebook event announcement - <https://www.facebook.com/events/612321003004442/>



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The *Meadowood* is published in January, April, June, September and November. Submissions are encouraged.

Contact Mark Bauman, editor, (608) 692-7354 or msbauman57@gmail.com

Dear Parents of students in Madison Schools,

This letter is to White parents sincerely interested in giving your children the best quality of life you can. I am white and grew up in a small town in Ohio that was a stop on The Underground Railroad during slavery. It was founded by Quaker people and welcomed escaped slaves. The town's "old money" was as often that of African Americans as Whites. Growing up there, I took integration and racial coexistence for granted.

I moved to Madison in 1975, expecting a cosmopolitan experience. I was shocked and horrified at the common use of the n-word in the workplace. I soon realized that I saw and interacted with very few African Americans because of segregation. The shock manifested in grief and silence for decades of my life in Madison.

Through becoming active in The Transformation Action Network, (TAN), I am finding my voice and learning to be part of standing up against racism such as that entrenched in the Madison Schools and Police Dept. It is painfully obvious given the stark disparities in well-being exposed by "The Race to Equity", that our legacy of slavery and Jim Crow continues to have a dire effect on our citizens of color. And more to the point of this letter, I know the manifestation of racism also limits a white person's quality of life as well.

If you believe that all of our children deserve better, there is a solution. We can stop the normalization of violence and criminalization of children of color. It won't be easy but it can be done by:

Acknowledge the increased likelihood that youth who are suspended or otherwise punished will not graduate and will be vulnerable to the school to prison pipeline. When Black and Brown youth make mistakes or cause harm, do not punish them. Use a Restorative Justice approach which is empowered with 360 degree accountability for structural, cultural and physical harms as manifested in mass incarceration. Accountability for teachers should include education about Black adultification and other anti-Black filters. Racial Justice training taught by Black leaders approved by The Network. Training around the impact of anti-Blackness and criminalization. In 2014 there were 239 Black and Brown youth in Lincoln Hills. an astounding 78%! Where did they go to school and what was their experience there? Require teachers to receive Restorative Justice training within the first 6 month of the new school year or before. Release all incarcerated youth and provide them with quality housing and equip them with medical care, mental wellness services, food and other essential resources.

Support and fund a committee designed to address needs of repairing damage around racist violence in the form of structural cultural and physical impacts.

Using the recommendations of this committee, launch a public awareness campaign to decriminalize Black/Brown youth specifically and all youth.

Support reparations to Black/Brown-lead efforts to create alternative culturally enriched schools for marginalized youth that prioritize relevant curriculum and black and brown instructors.

There are dynamic, creative people working to transform our city. There are many ways you can join this effort. Learn more at <https://danecountytimebank.org/projects/restorative-justice> and be part of the solution.

Ellen Magee

Tennyson Lane, Madison

We need YOU!

(Message from Terry Evanson, MNA Board President)

Currently, no one is representing the following area of Meadowood on the MNA board:

Area 1, Tawhee and the Courts off of Tawhee, Teal Dr, Aspen Rd, and associated area of Raymond Rd.

Area 11, Malabar, Mayhill, Jonquil and the associated area of Prairie Rd.

Area 14 and 15 – Apartments north and south of 5700 to 6000 blocks of Raymond Road

Anyone over 18 years old who lives within Meadowood boundaries can serve on the MNA Board. You do not need to live within the boundaries of an Area to represent that Area of Meadowood. We also have openings for At-Large board members. At-Large members usually take on specific roles, such as Web Master or help organize social activities.

Our board meets from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month, except July. You can find more information on board responsibilities in our bylaws at our web site, meadowoodneighborhood.org. Please contact me at MNABoard1@gmail.com to volunteer or ask for more information.

Common Wealth Breaks Ground for the Alliance

Common Wealth Development celebrated their newest project, The Alliance at Meadowood Park, 5802 Raymond Road, at a groundbreaking ceremony on August 20. The Alliance will provide affordable, healthy, safe and stable and housing opportunities for low and moderate-income families. It will also include a co-work space for social service providers. (Dane County Joining Forces for Families and Early Childhood Initiative as well as CWD).



Unlike most of the affordable units available in the area, The Alliance will be focused on increasing the number of one- and three-bedroom units to accommodate both larger families and singles who live and work in the Meadowood neighborhood. Occupancy of the building is anticipated in Spring, 2021.