

ARTS



Photo by Lori Getter

**Manna kitties leaping off the shelves**

By Lori Getter  
*The Northside News*

You don't have to be a cat lover to become a little cat crazy over the little kitties at Manna Café and Bakery. The silent meowers of all different colors, stripes and swirls hang out at the popular Northside café located at 611 N. Sherman Ave., are waiting to be adopted and to bring a smile to their new owner. Manna Café and Bakery co-owner Barb Pratzel discovered the kitties a few years ago at a downtown Madison shop and thought they would be a good fit at the café. Once she began displaying the kitties about a year ago, customers began asking how they could buy them. "I love the little kitties," said Pratzel. "The first few weeks we sold 115 kitties. We couldn't keep them in stock." The kitties are made in Bali and are sold here as part of Fair Trade. They come in all different colors and sometimes have themes such as "snow kitty" and "flower kitty". Pratzel said when she first got the kitties, she would have

signed up for her customers to find a certain kitty hiding somewhere in the café. "They're fun. They're zany. They make people smile. They've become sort of an endearing thing to us," said Pratzel. "I'm amazed how popular they are." Growing up, Pratzel always had a cat. She also has enjoyed collecting kitty items. Over the years, Pratzel and her sister used to exchange kitty-themed gifts. They had to be something eclectic and unique. Some of those gifts including a clock are on display at the café. The little kitties are also bittersweet for Pratzel. Her sister passed away a few years ago before she began selling the kitties. "For me – the kitties have become very personal. They remind me of her." Pratzel plans to continue to sell the kitties and she encourages customers to buy them by the litter. They offer some bobble head animals as well. Unfortunately, for the dog lovers, "no doggies – just little kitties."

**Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton hosts a public reception for The Art of the Marsh: Seeing Cherokee Marsh exhibit**

By Carolyn Gantner

The unique and successful partnership between two Northside groups — The Friends of Cherokee Marsh (FOCM) and the Northside Artist Group (NSAG) — will culminate in the State Capitol with a public reception on April 23rd — and you are invited! Twenty selections from The Art of the Marsh: Seeing Cherokee Marsh exhibit will be displayed in the Office of Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton from April 20 to July 30. The exhibit provides a way for the community to acquire a greater appreciation for the important role of Cherokee Marsh to our local watershed and to celebrate its natural beauty. Since October, The Art of the Marsh has been exhibited at Warner Park Community Center, Lakeview Branch Library and Manna Café. Currently, selections from the exhibit are on display at the UW-Madison Arboretum Visitor Center until April 16. On the day of her inauguration, Barbara Lawton transformed office walls into a special gallery space for state artists. Her gallery is emblematic of her work as Chair of the Wisconsin State Arts Board. On Thurs., April 23 the Lt. Governor will host a public reception for The Art of the Marsh in her office (16 East) from 4:30–6:00 pm. For more information, contact NSAG exhibit coordinator Carolyn Gantner at 244-2909 or FOCM coordinator Steve Ackerman at 244-7099.



Photo by Juliet Rake

This cat tail photograph by local artist Juliet Rake is just one of *The Art of the Marsh: Seeing Cherokee Marsh* pieces that will be on exhibit and displayed in the Office of Lieutenant Governor Barbara Lawton from April 20 to July 30.

**Friends of Cherokee Marsh**

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[www.CherokeeMarsh.org](http://www.CherokeeMarsh.org)



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<input type="checkbox"/> Great Blue Heron	\$ 500
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional donation	\$ _____

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<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	

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Family member(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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Please make check payable to: Friends of Cherokee Marsh, Inc.  
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TROY GARDENS



By Marge Pitts  
Community GroundWorks

**“Grow Local” Greenhouse Is On The Drawing Board**

Community GroundWorks (CGW) at Troy Gardens is the the “grow local” piece of the “eat local” movement. Troy Community Farm has been limited by the lack of an onsite greenhouse since day one.

Now, finally, a passive solar greenhouse for Troy Farm is on the drawing board. The greenhouse will be built between the community gardens and the cohousing community at Troy Gardens. With luck and support the Grow Local Greenhouse will be built this year.

The solar greenhouse will be heated by the sun and possibly by a heat-generating composting system. It will be cooled through passive venting. Fossil

fuel energy needed to operate the greenhouse will be kept to a minimum, if it is used at all.

Troy Gardens’ Grow Local Greenhouse will be put to work in numerous ways. In addition to the obvious, starting the plants for Troy Farm, the greenhouse will allow the farm to extend the season on the herbs and wheat grass it grows for wholesale to local groceries. It will also provide enough space to start organic vegetable and flower seedlings for sale to Madison community gardeners. Worm bins will be installed in the greenhouse for composting vegetable scraps and garden waste. Worm castings from this vermicomposting system will be used to make soil mix to start seedlings in the greenhouse.

Most exciting for the Learning Community at Troy Gardens, the Grow Local Greenhouse will provide new opportunities for educational programming for people of all ages. Troy Kids’ Garden will use the greenhouse as a classroom where youth will learn about vermicomposting, making soil mix, starting seeds, and caring for young starts. As an indoor space protected from the elements, the green-

house will allow Troy Learning Community to extend its youth programming both earlier in the spring and later in the fall when outdoor programming is not possible.

The good news: an anonymous donor through the Madison Community Foundation has recently put up an \$8,500 greenhouse challenge grant. Every contribution Community GroundWorks receives for the greenhouse fund from now until July 1 will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$8500, by this anonymous donor!

If you would like to help, please make a contribution to Community GroundWorks and designate the Grow Local Greenhouse as your desired recipient.

**Troy Learning Community: Growing School Gardens**

Michael Ableman, author and leader in the sustainable agriculture movement, visited Troy Gardens last summer to help promote Community GroundWorks’ (CGW) new program, Growing School Gardens.

“One of the most powerful things you can do is to feed children well,” Ableman said, “to give them a space where they can explore the sciences and the natural world in context.”

School gardens do just that. Nationally and locally, increasing numbers of teachers and parents are eager to develop school gardens that integrate their schools’ curricula-from mathematics and science to art and music-with an outdoor garden, providing kids an opportunity to learn as well as to eat the fruits of their education.

Growing School Gardens will begin its work with five Madison elementary

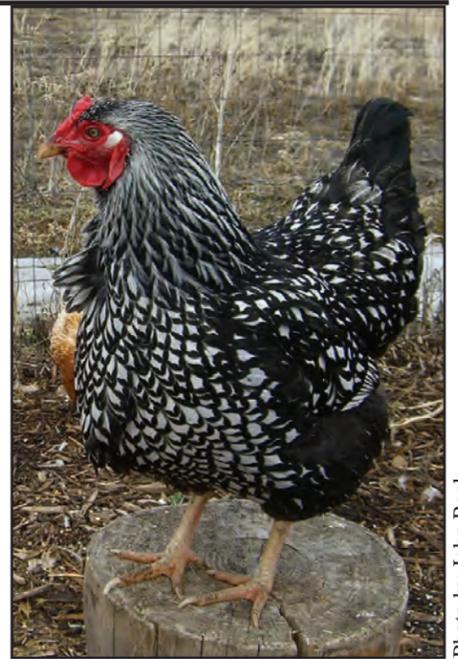


Photo by John Beck

Oreo the Chicken says:  
SAVE THESE DATES!

- Sat. April 18, Troy Community Gardens Opening Day, 9am-noon
- Sun. May 24, Troy Community Gardens Plant & Equipment Sale in front of Pierce’s, 9am-noon

schools which have already started gardens: Midvale, Lindbergh, Glendale, Hawthorne and Frank Allis.

Growing School Gardens has begun conversations with the Madison School District to create garden guidelines and curricula that meet the District’s educational goals.

An interesting short video about the Growing School Gardens program is available for viewing on the web, at <http://mediaproductweb.madison.k12.wi.us/node/132>.

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**NORTHSIDE HOME**

**Free homebuyer education courses offered**

**By Steven Potter**  
*The Northside News*

Even amid the current economic climate, achieving the goal of homeownership is still very much a possibility. And Dane County wants to help you reach that goal.

Since 2000, the Dane County Housing Authority has offered first-time homebuyer education courses through its Housing Center. So far, almost 2400 individuals have graduated from the course.

The free program, which is offered 16 times per year, educates residents about the mortgage process and what it takes to become "mortgage-ready." This includes one-on-one counseling and information on budgeting and credit, working with real estate agents, homeowners insurance, home inspections and much more, said DCHA's homeownership coordinator Kate Nardi.

"(Homebuying education) is as important, if not more important, than before," she explained. "This class gives you the tools to understand the questions you need to ask and why they are important."

"For people to be successful, they need to understand the parameters (of the homeownership cycle)," added Nardi. "Without a roadmap, you're destined for a financial struggle."

Once county residents complete the two-part, six-hour course, they are awarded a pre-purchase education certificate and then may apply for down-payment and closing cost assistance as well as deferred loans for up to \$10,000.

The course utilizes a team-teaching approach which includes lenders, real estate agents, home inspectors and insurance agents as instructors. It takes place over two consecutive Tuesdays per month and is held at the DCHA office in Monona.

Successful completion of the education class also plays a role as lenders consider loan applicants, explained AnchorBank's affordable housing coordinator Susan Day.

"Lenders find that homebuyers who educate themselves about home-ownership honor their payment obligations," she said. "Educated homeowners who face financial hardship are more likely to take early action and work with their lender to avoid delinquency and foreclosure."

The DCHA courses are thorough and cover all aspects of the home purchase, added Day. "(Class attendants) discover the different types of mortgage loans available and are taught to define the various pros and cons of the different programs," she continued. "They learn to consider strategies to avoid financial mistakes."

In addition to the free first-time homebuyer courses, DCHA now also offers a post-purchase maintenance course, through a partnership with Project Home. These courses illustrate how to maintain the interior and exterior of your home and other tips from a licensed home inspector, including energy-saving ideas, basic plumbing and many other topics.

For more information, visit the DCHA's Housing Center website at [www.dcha.net/housingcenter](http://www.dcha.net/housingcenter). To register for one of the courses, call 224-3636.

**Habitat for Humanity seeks families to build a home within 2009-10**

Tired of moving from apartment to apartment? Families interested in learning more about building with Habitat for Humanity of Dane County are encouraged to attend one of our upcoming informational meetings in April. Habitat for Humanity of Dane County is seeking several families for single family homes, town homes and duplexes that will be constructed on the North Side of Madison, Middleton, Oregon and South East Madison. To apply for a Habitat home, applicants must attend

one of the following informational meetings to receive an application:

- Wed., April 15, 6:30 p.m. Boys & Girls Club of Dane County 4705 Jenewein Dr. Located off Allied Drive, Madison
- Sun. April 19, 6:30 p.m. Warner Park Community Recreation Center 1625 Northport Dr., Madison

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## New smoke alarm ordinance for the City of Madison

All too often, the City of Madison Fire Department responds to fires in which the occupants never heard a smoke alarm sounding. And in the worst-case scenarios, someone dies as a result.

That was the case on the morning of Nov. 18, 2007, when a 23-year-old died in a house his brother shared with friends. Fire that was caused by discarded smoking materials swept through the house. The smoke alarms had been disabled and the young man, who was visiting his brother for the weekend, never made it out.

In memory of that tragedy, the City of Madison Common Council passed a new smoke alarm ordinance on Mar. 3. The new ordinance requires smoke alarms with 10-year lithium batteries designed to last the life of the smoke alarm.

Under the newly adopted ordinance, all smoke alarms must have a 10-year battery in a tamper-resistant alarm unit. Nine-volt batteries will no longer be used *unless* they are being

used as a battery back-up to a hard-wired alarm.

The ordinance also requires additional alarms in the residence:

- In each bedroom
- In each sleeping area
- Within six feet of each door leading to a bedroom or sleeping area of each unit
- On each floor of the building

The ordinance goes into effect on Aug. 15 of this year for all residential buildings in the City of Madison, except for owner-occupied, single-family homes; on Aug. 15, 2010 it goes into effect for all residential structures, including owner-occupied, single-family housing.

Information on the ordinance, placement of the alarms, and safety education materials is being made available on the Department's website at [www.madisonfire.org/](http://www.madisonfire.org/).

## Be aware of tornadoes

By Lori Getter

*Wisconsin Emergency Management*

Most people in Dane County don't realize that tornadoes are a serious risk. In fact, Dane County has had 68 tornado touchdowns since 1982, the most recorded tornadoes for any county in Wisconsin.

Governor Doyle has proclaimed Apr. 20-24 as Wisconsin's Tornado and Severe Weather Awareness Week. The campaign is to remind people of the dangers associated with tornadoes, thunderstorms, flooding and hail and to encourage citizens to take protective safety measures.

Wisconsin averages 21 tornadoes a year. Last year, the National Weather Service confirmed 38 tornadoes in Wisconsin, with five occurring in Dane County. One of the tornadoes that touched down in Dane County included a small twister that hit near Token Creek that downed some trees and caused minor damage.

To encourage citizens to be prepared for severe weather, a statewide tornado drill will be held on Thur., Apr. 23, 2009 from 1-2 pm. Many schools and

businesses participate in the annual day-time drill. The drill is an ideal opportunity for everyone to practice their safety procedures for severe weather.

It is important to understand the difference between a tornado watch and warning. A Watch means, "Watch" the sky. Weather conditions are right for

tornadoes to form. A Warning means a tornado has been sighted. *Take cover immediately!* Seek shelter in your basement. If you don't have a basement, go to a bathroom or closet with no windows on the first floor. Remember to cover and protect your head.

Families, schools, and businesses should also have an emergency plan in case of threatening weather. This includes knowing where to go for shelter,

what to do if severe weather strikes, having a NOAA Weather Radio to monitor conditions, and putting together a Disaster Supplies Kit that contains a flashlight with fresh batteries, bottled water, a first aid kit, and blankets. Remember your safety depends upon knowing what to do should a severe storm strike. For more safety information, go to <http://emergencymanagement.wi.gov>.



### Wisconsin Tornado Weather Facts

Wisconsin averages 21 tornadoes a year.

In 2008, 38 tornadoes hit the state, including an extremely rare and strong January twister in Kenosha County.

The peak tornado season in Wisconsin is April to August, but tornadoes can occur any time of year.

Wisconsin has had a confirmed tornado touchdown every month except for February

Tornadoes can occur any time during the day or night, but are most frequent between 4 pm and 9 pm.

About 80 percent of tornadoes that hit Wisconsin are relatively weak, with winds under 110 mph. Only one percent are violent with winds over 170 mph.

*Statistics provided by Wisconsin Emergency Management*



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SCHOOLS

Photo by Rosy Bayuk



**Emerson Family Fun Night is a FUNTASTIC success!**

By Rosy Bayuk

Cake walk! Karaoke! Bingo! Face painting! Games of skill and chance! Making art! Silly photos! Pizza! All this was happening at Emerson Elementary's Family Fun Night held Feb. 13. A record number of families attended this yearly event, sponsored by the Emerson PTO. Kids and parents purchased tickets to participate in the fun-filled action from 6

to 7:30. Organized by Events Committee chairperson Mark Geistlinger and supported by many, many wonderful Emerson volunteers, Family Fun Night is a great opportunity for the Emerson community to come together, get better acquainted, and have some FUN! Thank you to all the Emerson parents, school staff, and Safe Haven staff members who made it happen. See you again next year!

**Lakeview Cooperative Preschool 50 years and going strong**

By John Nordbo

A year from now, a northside institution will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Lakeview Cooperative Preschool opened its doors in the fall of 1959 and "is as successful as ever," according to Deb Fields, Preschool Director and Lead Teacher. "Enrollment is strong and a number of families have already secured enrollment for their children in 2009-2010."

The 50 year mark is all the more remarkable because of the preschool's unique partnership with the Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church. Although Lakeview Preschool has no religious affiliation and is non-sectarian, it has occupied space in the church for every one of those 50 years. When the founders of the preschool, Grace Shaw and Roberta Francek, approached the church to inquire about using space in the church three mornings a week, the church leaders heartily agreed and the partnership was struck. It's been a win-win arrangement ever since. Lakeview Preschool has the use of a large and flexible space during the school week and SAUMC has a steady source of revenue from a space that might otherwise go unused during the day.

Fields attributes the ongoing relationship with the church as one of two key factors to the preschool's longevity and continuity. The other is the truly cooperative approach to operating the school. This too is a win-win arrangement. The preschool keeps costs down—and tuition low—by relying on parents to "work" at the school in assisting with in-classroom activities, serving as board directors, participating on one of several committees, and through fundraising. "And," says Fields, "the parents get the unique opportunity to be directly involved in their child's first educational experience."

Fields was active in the school and the

board during the four years her two daughters attended Lakeview. She chose Lakeview then because of its philosophy and approach to early childhood education—an approach that has remained the same since the preschool's inception. Teachers and committed parents work together to create an environment that promotes a sense of community among preschool-age children while stressing social development, respect for others, listening skills, intellectual exploration, creative expression, and kindergarten readiness. In looking forward to the next 50 years, Fields and the current board of directors have worked extremely hard to ensure that the preschool will remain a strong northside business while continuing to offer a high-quality, low-cost preschool program.

Lakeview Preschool will hold its annual open house on Apr. 16 from 6-8 pm at the preschool to provide an opportunity for interested families to learn more about the preschool. From now through the end of the calendar year, the preschool's 50th anniversary committee will be promoting the spring 2010 anniversary event and trying to locate past parents and students. If you have information to share about the preschool or are interested in helping with this event, please contact the committee at [Lakeview50@gmail.com](mailto:Lakeview50@gmail.com) or John Nordbo at 608-669-7266.



Photo by Melissa Sargent

**Battle of the Books**

The winners of the Fifth Grade 2009 Battle of the Books at Lakeview Library were (from left) Colton Rohde, Devin Sargent and Elias Schwalbe. The students, from Mrs. Karen Kann's class, are pictured above with Dorothy Wheeler, Northside resident and Dane County Supervisor.

**Buffalo Soldiers: A play by East's minority student coordinator**

By Carla Shedivy

Richard Scott has many passions and one of them has been devoting his days to minority students at East High School supporting student achievement and raising cultural awareness. Another of his passions will appear on the Overture Center stage on May 29-30 when the play Buffalo Soldiers, the

Legacy premiers. Scott, who is the playwright, director and an actor, has formed a community theater group to tell this story that highlights the historical contributions of African American soldiers in the 1860s during the "Indian Wars." The soldiers, who represent former slaves, civil war veterans and northern free men, must confront many challenges and are for-

ever changed by their encounter with the proud people of the Apache nation.

There will be two matinee performances on Fri., May 29 at 10 am and 1 pm. Matinee tickets (\$15/person or \$7/person for groups of 20 or more) can be purchased from Mr. Scott at East High School. Evening tickets (\$20) for the May 30 performance can be purchased at the Overture box office.

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SCHOOLS

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**MADISON METROPOLITAN  
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**Moving beyond budget drama**

The first days of warm weather should be a time of joy. But for veterans of the Madison Metropolitan School District budget battles, warm weather brings anxiety. For some, the feeling is specific: what beloved program will be targeted for cuts this year? For others, it is a general dread based on past experience and expectation that whatever happens will be painful.

But 2009 is looking different. The referendum gave us the space to work on new ways to manage our budget. As a result, the assistant superintendent for business services arranged a school bus contract that will save over \$900,000 a year without cutting service (about 1/3 of the \$3 million in cuts needed to balance the 2009-10

budget). And it is safe to predict that we will be hearing about other ways to reshape district spending.

At the same time, there are several important "unknowns" that will make a difference in where we go from here. The first is the strategic planning process that is expected to produce a plan this summer. The plan will play will be central to decisions next year; the early results will inform our choices for 2009-10.

We also don't have a clear commitment of federal economic stimulus funds, nor do we know how we will fare when the state budget is set. Simply put, we need to be careful in our decisions until we know whether stimulus funds will provide additional resources or be used to offset expected cuts in state funding.

With other districts closing schools and laying off large numbers of staff, Madison's public schools are in pretty good shape this year. In fact, we may just have a second year without the pain and drama of the past. Wouldn't that be a refreshing breath of warm spring air?

*East High School reports good news*

By Nicole Resnick

Many interesting and noteworthy achievements by East High School students and clubs often go by unnoticed. Below is a sampling of good news coming out of East High.

East High students had a successful outing to the Wisconsin State Scholastic Chess Championships in late March with nine players participating on two varsity teams. The varsity A team, comprised of Cherd Chai Thao, Andres Saenz, Patrick Last, Arren Alexander and Wit Yen Thao, finished in a five-way tie for third place in Division II after losing a very hard fought final match against the division champions from University School of Milwaukee. The B team played in Division III and consisted of Orin Kurth, Len Roder-Guzman, AJ Abeyta, and Maikou Yang. Wit Yen Thao won all five of his games and is a Board Five State co-champion, and Arren Alexander is a Board Four State co-champion.

In February, a number of East High

School students competed in the annual MAA (Mathematical Association of America) Contest. The top three finishers for East were Neil Robmann (first), Scott Wilton (second), and Duncan Skinner (third).

Also in February, the East Forensics Team participated in competitions that resulted in a number of top finishes. Nelson Auner took first place in Public Address at the Lodi Invitational, while Minaira Sungan advanced to Finalist and took Notable Novice in Four-Minute Speech. In a competition in Sun Prairie, Mosis Diaz advanced to Finalist in Extemporaneous Speaking. The entire team qualified for the district-wide competition in March.

A noteworthy musical achievement was earned in February when East trumpeter Ansel Norris received Honorable Mention in the Bolz Young Artist competition. He was one of four finalists in the state-wide solo competition, performing Tomasi's Concerto for Trumpet and Orchestra, accompanied by the Madison Symphony Orchestra. Norris performed the same piece in the National Trumpet Competition recently held at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia and earned first place. As first place winner, Norris receives a full scholarship (\$6,700) to the 2009 Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan.

In mid-March students Jolee Lippit and Dominic Daram won the high school poetry slam contest. Both qualified for the slam finals, which were held at the University of Wisconsin last month.

**East High School math department seeks runners and guest speakers**

By Cynthia Chin

There is still time to sign up! Our tenth Annual Pi Mile will take place at Warner Park on May 23 with registration at 9 am and the Run/Walk beginning at 10 am. Support the East math community, have a nice walk or run, and get a t-shirt plus pie. For advance

registration information, contact Pat Meloy at [pmeloy@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:pmeloy@madison.k12.wi.us) or 204-1540.

The math department is still seeking guest speakers from the community to talk about how mathematics is used throughout the Madison area. We have several openings in our "Math Week" schedule, May 18-22, especially for mid-day and afternoon pre-

sentation times. Artistic, social, and political applications are of interest, as well as technical and business uses. Presentations celebrating the 2009 International Year of Astronomy would be especially welcome. Contact Cynthia Chin at [cchin@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:cchin@madison.k12.wi.us) or 204-1534 if you are interested in participating.

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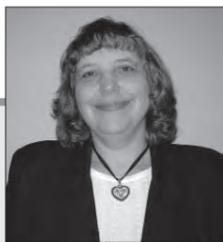
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**NORTH DISTRICT POLICE**

Greetings from the North Police District!

This past month, the Madison PD completed our annual shift change process, during which personnel have the opportunity to select different job assignments. We have been fortunate again this year in retaining the majority of our personnel. There is a strong bond that develops between our employees and the Northside community, and that is a very good thing!

One of my goals for the year is to continue to improve the communication and degree of collaboration between our personnel and the community. There are a number of mechanisms available to you in order to get to know, and communicate with those officers of this Police District who are in the best position to be familiar with and available to assist you in dealing

with problems in your neighborhood.

First, the new MPD Website ([www.cityofmadison.com/police/north](http://www.cityofmadison.com/police/north)) has been improved to allow me to post more up to date information on events and issues affecting your neighborhood. On the left side of the page, you will see a link to the Community Policing Team. Each officer assigned to our CPT is assigned a geographic area of responsibility. By clicking on the link, you will see the name and face of your CPT Liaison, as well as email and phone number. You will also see a link for the Patrol Officer Liaisons. Each of our officers is assigned responsibility for interaction with some entity within their area of responsibility (or Beat, as we call it). By going there, you can see if someone is assigned to your neighborhood association, school or business. There are also links to our two Neighborhood Officers, showing their contact information and area of responsibility as well. You can, of course, always contact me, or my Lieutenants Brian Ackeret and Trevor Knight with questions or concerns. We will either help directly, or find the best officer to assist you. At this website, you can

also find copies of each of my district newsletters.

I urge you also to check out [crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com). Type in our address, and you will see all incidents in your area for the parameters you have set. You can change those parameters on the left side of the page to show the information of most use to you.

Police are only effective in dealing with issues of community concern if we fully understand the problems that are occurring, and are getting timely and accurate information from those seeing the issues firsthand.

Speaking of crime trends: the Eastside Madison Little League Field, East Towne Mall and other Northside areas were heavily hit with graffiti causing extensive damage in the past several months. An investigative effort by Detective Tom Helgren and East High Education Resource Officer Kat Riley led to the identification of several individuals responsible for these crimes. The suspects (four juveniles and one adult) were arrested and eventually charged with approximately (26) counts of graffiti between them.

Take care and Be Safe.

*Capt. McLay can be reached at  
[cmclay@cityofmadison.com](mailto:cmclay@cityofmadison.com)  
or 245-3652*

**Northside Police Officers  
You Should Know**

**Warner Park/Woodlands areas**  
Officer Scott Templeton

**Brentwood/Northport Corridor**  
Officer Ed Bernards

**Brentwood Neigh. Intervention**  
Officer Susie Gonzalez

**Northport/Packers/Kipling Dr.**  
Officer Katie Adler, 245-3679

**East High School Resource**  
Officer Kat Riley, 204-1673

To contact any CPT Officer or  
Sgt. Jason Freedman, call the  
North District at 243-0542.



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**Paul Benrud**  
4512 E Washington Ave, Ste 13  
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NEWS & VIEWS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

From  
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**DISTRICT 12 ALDERPERSON**

Happy Spring!

Lots of things are happening this April. First, the election – please remember to vote on Apr. 7. There are contested races for County Executive, Superintendent of Public Instruction and County Circuit Court. I am running for my second term unopposed, but I'd still appreciate your vote! Next, Earth Day – I hope you'll take a moment to appreciate nature and think about how we can care for our common environmental heritage. Also in April, we'll start to see funds from the Recovery Act being spent. The City has a long list of things we've proposed for this stimulus money. At this writing, very few of them are confirmed. My priorities for this money are that we spend it responsibly, transparently and in a way that supports working families.

There are several things going on at

the Council that you should know about. We passed an ordinance requiring property owners to switch to hard-wired or 10-year battery smoke alarms to make all of our homes safer. There's a proposal to make the youth curfew start at 10:00 p.m. instead of 11:00 p.m. on weeknights. There's also a proposal to end alternate side parking during the winter, except during snow emergencies. I've heard strong feelings on both sides of these two issues, so I'm interested to know what you think.

We're still working on updating the Zoning Code. If your neighborhood is interested in what the new code means for you, please let me know, and we'll schedule a briefing with City staff. We're also working on the new Northside Plan. If you haven't yet checked this out, please come to the next open house, or attend one of the neighborhood coffees. We need your input!

I always appreciate your emails and phone calls. It's been a pleasure serving you, and I look forward to the next

*Ald. Rhodes-Conway  
can be reached at 242-4426 or  
district12@cityofmadison.com*

From

**MICHAEL  
SCHUMACHER**



**DISTRICT 18 ALDERPERSON**

Even a long winter and a dreary economy cannot discourage us from appreciating the great efforts going on in our community.

Within the next few months the Northport-Sherman Ave Steering Committee will recommend a "Northside" neighborhood plan to the City. Their effort included open houses and meetings with neighborhood groups and businesses over a 16 month period. Next steps will be to approve the plan and allocate City resources to implement the desired improvements.

Another effort involves the upcoming Warner Park stadium renovation, which will start this April and be completed in 2010. The City partnership with the Mallards is a testimony of how to balance the needs of a great local team while keeping Warner Park accessible to all users. In response to many citizens we have decreased the

number of fire works to reduce noise and environmental pollution.

On the business front we are seeing exciting times, too. The Alexander Company's purchase of the Northgate center allows for substantial improvements including a new façade, more greenery, and outdoor restaurant seating. Also, the old Brennans store will soon be demolished to give way to a UW Credit Union and possibly a micro brewery and pub.

Another effort involves filling the empty "Kohl's" store. It is one of several potential local sites for a Veterans Affairs Call Center that could create up to 350 jobs. Finally, there are talks underway for a senior housing complex. Needless to say, nothing is done until it's done. So stay tuned.

When times are tough, we get going. Our commitment and pride makes a difference! It's been a pleasure serving you as your Northside Alder. Thank you for the great support and friendship. I kindly ask you to elect me on April 7 to another term. Your feedback is always welcomed. Best wishes.

*Ald. Schumacher  
can be reached at 242-1779 or  
district18@cityofmadison.com*

**Upcoming Common Council Meetings:**

April 21 ~ May 5 ~ May 19

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in Rm. 201 at the City-County Bldg. 210 MLK, Jr. Blvd.



From

**DAVE  
CIESLEWICZ**



**MAYOR OF MADISON**

**Transformative Recovery**

I went to Washington recently for the winter meeting of the Mayors Innovation Project. Since I was there, I stopped to see our representatives on the Hill – Tammy Baldwin, Russ Feingold and Herb Kohl.

My pitch was for one basic policy: give cities a chance to see what we can do with some substantial portion of the stimulus package.

I also dropped off our list of potential projects. Now, this isn't a list of specific projects that would be funded, but it's a way of painting a picture of what the stimulus package could do here in Madison. On that list, I highlighted three projects I think are especially important.

**The Central Library**

Because of its price tag, this project probably wouldn't happen (or at least happen anytime soon) without the stimulus. And it will put a lot of people to work in family supporting jobs to get it built. This is the poster child for what the stimulus could accomplish.

**High Speed Rail**

Imagine getting to Milwaukee or Chicago via clean, fast trains. You could be riding in about three years from the word go from the Feds.

**Energy Efficiency Improvements**

The idea here is to offer free energy audits for homeowners. The homeowners pay for improvements, but if it's done right, they'll still save money on lower energy bills with more efficient homes.

If there was one take home theme that resonated through all our discussions, it was the idea of transformative recovery. As Van Jones, our keynote speaker said, the economic bubble burst because it was based on consumption, foreign credit, and environmental destruction. Now our goal should not be just to rebuild the old economy, which was based on so many unsustainable foundations. Instead, we should build an economy based on production, thrift and environmental sustainability.

*Mayor Cieslewicz  
can be reached at 266-4611 or  
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