

EAST HIGH SCHOOL

From
ALAN HARRIS



EAST HIGH PRINCIPAL

East Side Stories

A very important step in moving forward is taking the time to look back. During staff development on the afternoon of November 8, we took some time to share stories about the history of East High School. It was an afternoon in which we listened to alumni, enjoyed a reflective video and then shared stories from staff that characterize the spirit of East Side Pride.

The look back is more than sentimental. It serves as a reminder of the values that have guided us and are an integral part of future success. When you speak to a veteran staff member at East High, you are speaking to someone who likely heard stories from another veteran staff member when they began. As the stories are told the core values that have guided this community surface, and our link to history becomes clear.

There are stories about innovation, remodeling, open class systems, and the evolution of special education, curriculum changes, unique staff members and challenges faced. When you begin to understand the breadth of innovations initiated at East High School in the last quarter century, it is humbling. This is an institution that has prided itself in solving issues from within. At the heart of that pride is

determination to meet the needs of students.

One teacher talked about a challenge he recognized and reflected that his thought process was, "I'd like to be a part of the solution."

Many teachers spoke often about the heart of the work being a connection with students. They noted that so many times it was a student who challenged them the most and who needed them the most. Teachers spoke about listening to students and learning from them. They spoke about learning from each other and from parents. Mostly they spoke about what an honor it is to be a part of an institution with history that cares deeply about all students.

As we move forward we will hold tight to our values: kids come first and solutions come from within. We hope that the entire community will join us in sharing stories about East High School as well as in the process of shaping our future. It is a future focused on student needs, with every member of the community being a part of the solution.



East High Calendar of Events

December 8
EAST HIGH UNITED MTG
7:00 PM, The Forum

December 10 - 11
Tudor Fest 2:00
Trinity Lutheran Church

December 14
Choir Concert 7:30 pm

December 19
East High Spanish Speaking Families
6:30 pm, LMC

December 21
Orchestra Concert 7:30 pm

December 24 - January 3rd
NO SCHOOL
Winter Break

January 11
8th Grade Orientation Program

January 12
EAST HIGH UNITED MTG
7:00 PM, The Forum

January 14
ENCORE show choir competition

January 16
NO SCHOOL
Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 18 - 20
1st Sem Final Exams

January 25
Black History Month Dinner
6-8 pm Cafeteria

January 27
EHS Jazz Concert 6:30-10pm
Marriott West, Middleton

January 28
ENCORE show choir competition

January 30
East High Spanish Speaking Families
6:30 pm, LMC

January 31
Early Release
Staff Development



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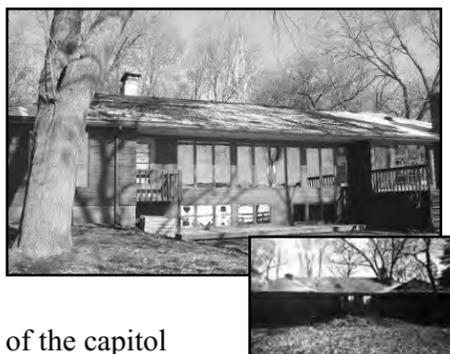
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EAST HIGH SCHOOL

Eastside Players bring to stage the life and times of the dining room



From left to right, Evan Arndt, Lenia Clarke and Drew Wolff in *The Dining Room*.

— misunderstanding, dogma, love, betrayal, joy, pain and confusion.

"I picked the play," explains East High Director Alicia Beckett, "because it has something for everyone in the audience. There are happy kids, overbearing parents and entangled adults. It made it a nice challenge for the actors too." Because the play is made up of many vignettes, it also allowed Ms. Beckett the opportunity to work more closely with her students — some rehearsals were devoted to only 4 actors. With 30 actors graduating last spring, she had a lot of new talent to introduce to the stage.

The play, though humorous, dealt with the grit of life. If you missed it, catch the spring performance set for April 27, 28, and 29. Though the play hasn't been chosen, Ms. Beckett offered that it would be lighter fair. "It is tradition to send off seniors on a happy note."

Photo provided by Carla Shedivy

By Carla Shedivy

East High United

If you ever wondered why we have formal dining rooms when they seem to be empty most of the day, the Eastside Players gave us the answer in their performance of *The Dining Room*. It reveals the dining room as a place for celebrations and parties, but

also as a place for private conversations, secret meetings and stolen looks.

The Dining Room, written by playwright A.R. Gurney, Jr., pays homage to this grand room we have gathered in for centuries to eat and entertain, but which is losing its place to the "great room" with its high tech entertainment center. The play covers birthdays and death and all that happens in between



East High plans 2nd Alumni Basketball Tourney

By Peter Oppeneer

Preparations are underway for the second annual East High alumni basketball tournament to be held on March 11, 2006. Anyone who graduated from East High School can organize and enter a team. Team members must be from the same graduating class, players can be men and women and need not have played for East.

Last year's inaugural tournament was a great success. The class of 1990, captained by Toby Tripalin, used experience and basketball savvy to overcome the youth and athleticism of Keith Muhammad's class of 2004 squad and become the first ever champions of the annual Madison East High School alumni basketball tournament. Also participating in last year's tourney were teams from the classes of 1980, 1999, 2000, 2003 and 2005. The tournament featured plenty of renewed friendships, friendly verbal sparring, intense competition, aches and pains, and just plain fun. Every team vowed to return this year to make another run at the much coveted title.

Missed out on last year's tournament? Think your class can compete for this year's championship? Contact Peter Oppeneer to get all the information and make sure you are in this year. (Oppeneer@tds.net, 249-7519).



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EAST HIGH SCHOOL

East boys dive into their swim season



Brian Johnson, along with Jennie Johnson, are in their second year coaching the East boys swim team.

By Tucker Moore

East High School Student

It's that time of year when the days get shorter, the temperature drops below everyone's comfort level and when half-awake swimmers can be seen on Fourth St. at 5:45 in the morning.

It's winter sports season, and it kicked into high gear on Monday, November 14. Few athletes are as apprehensive about this as the Madison East swimmers, who are about to enter a grueling three month stretch of early mornings and late nights in the East pool.

That's right, two weeks after the season starts the team begins having practice twice-per-day, one of the only

high school team sports that requires that high level of time commitment. On Mondays and Thursdays the team is in the weight room at 6:00 in the morning and then in the pool from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30. And then on Tuesdays and Fridays they are in the water at 5:45 in the morning and then are back in the water in the evening. Quite the practice schedule.

The team will be led this year by the returning coaches Brian and Jennie Johnson. Brian and Jennie are both ex-college swimmers who now teach in Dane County and live in Sun Prairie. This is their second year teaching the team. They had big shoes to fill as they replaced the much loved former coach Troy Blanton, but that didn't stop the duo from quickly gaining the team's affection and respect and having a great year.

The team has shrunk to almost half of its size from last year, having lost many seniors to college. But the spirit of the team hasn't dwindled a bit. In fact most of the team seems to be excited and ready for the challenge ahead of them.

We look forward to seeing all of you at our meets this year, supporting your very hard working aqua-Purgolders.

East Tennis welcomes Vorlander

By Emily Kappel

East High School has a new face for their winning tennis program. His name is Jamey Vorlander. Vorlander is an East graduate and is now teaching tennis professionally at Cherokee Country Club.

Vorlander took over the boys team in April for their spring '05 season, and his first season was definitely a winning one. The team finished third in Big 8 Conference play and rounded out the season with four members advancing to the Individual State Tournament. The advancing players included the #1 doubles team of Zach Van-Hout and Alex Mory, #1 singles player Jonathon Schwerin, and #2 singles player Roscoe Goodwin.

After coming off of a winning season with the boys, Vorlander looked ahead to possibly becoming the girls coach for their fall '05 season. With Gary Mory finishing up his many years of coaching tennis, the girls needed a new varsity coach. Vorlander

did not know what to expect going into the girls season since seven graduating seniors had left a big hole in the five year Big 8 Conference winning streak. Vorlander stepped up to the challenge and put together an excellent team.

The girls ended up getting third in Conference, qualified for the State Team Tournament for the fifth consecutive year, and sent four players to Individual State. Those players included the #1 doubles team of Emily and Kathleen Kappel, #1 singles player Ashton Schwerin, and #2 singles player Lindsay Hughes. The girls had an overall great season with many more in the future.

East High School is definitely glad to have Vorlander as their boys and girls head coach. All of his players love and respect him for all that he does. He knows the game of tennis and loves teaching others how to perfect their game. We are all very excited that Vorlander has joined the winning tennis teams at East and will continue the long tradition of excellence.

"COME ON."

East girls make a splash at State



Photo provided by Jill Jokela

Winning relay team, left to right: freshman Ruby Martin, sophomore Kirsten Lickel, junior Abby Soderholm, and senior Kelsey Koehler.

By Jill Jokela

East High United

The Madison East High girls swim team capped off a record-breaking season with a 5th place finish at the WIAA Division 1 Girls Swim Meet at the UW Natatorium on Saturday, November 12. The relay team of freshman Ruby Martin, sophomore Kirsten Lickel, junior Abby Soderholm and senior Kelsey Koehler raced to 2nd place finishes in the 200 Medley (1:48.54) and 200 Free (1:38.11) Relays, achieving automatic qualifying times for All American recognition.

In addition to the fantastically fast relays, the girls had some fine individual performances as well, with Abby placing 8th in the 200 Free and 14th in the 200 IM, Lickel placing 4th in the 200 IM and 8th in the 100 Breast, and Martin placing 4th in the 100 Free and 5th in 50 Free. According to local swim historians, this year's 5th place was the highest finish for East at State in over 30 years. Way to go girls!

These girls also practically wiped the record board clean this season, setting new standards in 9 of the 11 high school swim events. In addition to the 200 Medley and 200 Free Relays, Martin, Lickel, Soderholm and Koehler also broke the school record in the 400 Free Relay. New individual event records were set by Martin in the 50 Free and 100 Free, by Soderholm in the 100 Fly and 500 Free, and by Lickel in the 200 IM and 100 Breast. Several of the new records were set multiple times this season, prompting Athletic Director Kurt Gundlach's decision to purchase a brand new, more easily updateable, record board. The new board has been ordered and should be on display soon in the East pool!

The team is coached by Matt Matteson (a former East swimmer himself), Denise Hettrick and Anna Coleman and is managed by Casey Kinney and Kyle Maitland. In addition to our State qualifiers, the East Girls Swim Team included: Margaret Crawford, Alison Govier, Hannah Taschwer, Cathy Martin, Amelia Trumbower, Marianna Daniels, Diane Ladell, Maggie Moore, Jennifer Kellerhuis, Madie King, Brittany Festino, Jenny Slavik, Mara Lynch,

Amanda Petterson, and Veronica Nothnagel.

All of the girls contributed to East's success this year by working very hard, achieving many personal best times, and supporting each other throughout the season.

Congratulations to all of the East High "Swimmin' Women"!



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EAST HIGH SCHOOL

Know Your Purgolder: Virginia Davis, a family tradition at East



Photos provided by Virginia Davis

1955: Virginia's Graduation



Name: Virginia Noyola Davis

Occupation: Owner, Virginia Davis School of Dance, LLC and Davis Dancewear Etc.

Personal Profile: Married 49 years on December 1 to Bill Davis. We have three daughters; Vlyn, Cary and Kay. We have six grandchildren. I have had my own business for 31 years.

When did you graduate? 1955

What extra curricular activities did you participate in? I was a baton twirler for football and basketball.

How many generations of your family have attended East? My mother, Katherine Holick Noyola; myself, Virginia Noyola Davis; our three

daughters, Vlyn in 1975, Cary in 1977, and Kay in 1979; our two granddaughters, Aubrey in 2005 and Ali is a sophomore. Total four generations.

What is your best memory of your East days? *Virginia's answer:* I was prom queen my Junior year. Tim Howe was the king. One week before the prom, Tim put a firecracker in one of the water fountains and blew up the fountain! We almost were not able to attend prom.

Katherine, Virginia's mother, answered this one as well: In 1932 and 1933 - the towers were being built and class was held outside in a small shack.

What do you think has been the biggest change at East? The school has had many additions as well as increase in enrollment.

What was your most embarrassing moment at East? When Miss Vogelbaugh asked me to mouth the words to the songs in choir, as I have no singing voice.

How did East prepare you for life? It taught me to respect my peers and adults. I made lifetime friends.

What have you been doing since graduating from East? I got married in 1956 and raised three children. I studied dance and

received my Master's Degree in Dance Education through Chicago National Association of Dance Masters. My husband and I have done a lot of traveling. We love to go on cruises.

Knowing what you know now, what advice do you have for East students? Study and do the best you can, as your grades are so important to get into a good college, which is so important nowadays.

Favorite class? Science, Mr.

Knipping

Favorite teacher? Miss Conlin, homeroom

If you could travel back in time, what would you do differently? I would have taken my studies more seriously.

Is there anyone you remember from East that you'd like to cross paths with again? No. I still keep in close contact with all my high school friends. Friends I have had for 54 years!

Know an interesting East H.S. alumni member? Send ideas to Teri Gehin at tgehin@tds.net



Four generations of East students. bottom row: Katherine Noyola & Virginia Davis. Top Row: Ali Hellenbrand & Cary Hellenbrand.



Virginia and her husband Bill, taken at her 2005 50th East Class Reunion

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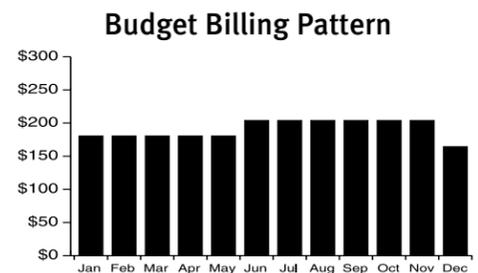
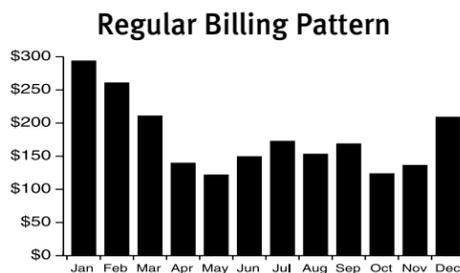
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POLICE NEWS

THE CAPTAIN'S CORNER

**From
RICHARD
BACH
MADISON
POLICE DEPT.**



Holiday Safety Tips

Personal safety and property security are important everyday. However, in the upcoming season of shopping, travel and celebrations, it is especially important that we are mindful of crime and crime prevention.

At home

- Keep your doors and windows locked at all times
- Do not advertise your absence from home: stop your mail and your paper and keep holiday gifts out of sight, keep a radio or TV on, put lights on a timer, have your snow removed and have a trusted person check your home
- Have an inventory of your property to include serial numbers and 800 numbers to your bank or credit card companies
- Test your smoke detectors, if you have a fresh cut tree be sure that it is well watered and use UL approved lights for decorations
- If you have boxes from TV, stereo or other electronics, break them down to avoid advertising new acquisitions

Shopping

- Shop during daylight hours, go with a friend and be alert
- Park as close to a light source as possible and lock your vehicle doors
- Place packages in the trunk
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash and limit the number of credit cards or checks you carry as well
- Leave your purse at home and do not carry your wallet in your back pocket. Both can be taken from you. Cash, credit cards, photo identification and checks should be kept in an inside or front pocket. Keep your receipts with you, rather than in a merchant bag
- Carry only your car key and keep it in a front or inside pocket
- Do not carry a purse or bag with the strap across your body. If someone tries to take the bag from you, you will be pulled down
- Teach your children how and whom to ask for help

Credit & debit cards

- Shield card from people around you
- Keep the card in your sight at all times
- Destroy carbons of credit card transactions
- Save receipts to compare with monthly statement
- Do not write a Personal Identification Number (PIN) on your card
- Carry only the card(s) you will use that day
- Check the receipt total before signing it

Parties & social events

- Never lend your credit card to anyone
- Unless you initiate a call, do not give your credit card number over the phone
- Do not mix drinking and driving. Use a designated driver
- Have non-alcoholic beverages available for guests
- Serve food with alcohol
- Be willing to take the keys from an

intoxicated person

Driving

- Know the weather conditions and plan ahead
- Slow down and drive defensively
- Do not engage in aggressive driving behavior
- Maintain your vehicle
- Wear your seatbelt

Wishing you and yours a safe and enjoyable Holiday season!

Writers Needed!

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NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
**BRIAN
BENFORD**



DISTRICT 12 ALDERPERSON

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

I write this after the Common Council's third night of budget deliberations. About the time you read this, the 2006 City budget will have been set. This was my third budget, and I marvel how this process sheds light on the soul of our community. What we hold near and dear is reflected in our spending priorities. Just think: at the federal level, we spend more money on weapons of mass destruction to kill people in other countries than we do taking care of our own. Hurricane Katrina illustrates this point perfectly. At the state level, we spend more money on the Department of Corrections than we do educating our kids, locking up a disproportionate number of people of color and leaving behind the majority of youth of color when it comes to academics.

At the local level, an unhealthy dynamic was created by the Common Council, pitting taxpayers against those in need who don't own homes. As money from the state and federal government becomes harder to get locally, we are forced to tighten our belts as never before. Just as it is in many of our homes, we have to learn to do without and eliminate waste when possible. Regrettably, the basic needs of many in our midst are compromised when this occurs. In Madison, there is a waiting list for

low-income families who need help paying for safe, quality childcare. Roughly 200 families are facing severe challenges because of the lack of childcare. Of course, this means that parents often can't work or go to school to better their lives and get out of poverty because they can't pay for childcare. Some alders, myself included, supported spending the needed money to eliminate this wait and allow kids to attend quality childcare. This would have cost the average taxpayer less than \$4 a year, the cost of a coffee latte at any coffee shop. I believe that if most of you knew of this need, you would have been more than willing to help. From my many years in Madison, I know firsthand how generous Madisonians are.

My point is that, as policy makers, we do a lousy job of illustrating the tremendous need in our community and the value of your tax dollars, creating the dynamic I mentioned earlier – between folks who pay property taxes and the poorest who live here. I hope that, in the future, we can leave behind political ideology and rhetoric to show that in Madison, we will work together to make this city a great place for all.

I want to thank all the hardworking, dedicated community members who put in countless hours and energy to make our neighborhoods better. I truly look forward to the new year and all the prospects for a better future. Happy holidays to each of you, and thank you for the opportunity to serve.

*Ald. Benford can be reached at:
332-3098 or
district12@cityofmadison.com*

From
**DAVE
CIESLEWICZ**



MAYOR OF MADISON

**New City Budget Takes
Balanced Approach in
Providing Services,
Restraining Taxes**

The 2006 city budget I just signed takes a balanced and responsible approach that meets key city needs while keeping property taxes in check. As amended by the city council, it includes a property tax levy increase of 4.35%, somewhat higher than the 3.95% increase in my budget, but well below the 15-year average of 5.75%.

The budget retains key initiatives I proposed, including:

Public safety: The adopted budget reflects my ongoing commitment to investing in public safety. The budget puts 10 new police officers on the street while providing ongoing funding for Madison's first new fire station in 25 years and first new ambulance in 15 years. It also makes a commitment to build another new fire station in 2008 and a new police station for Madison's east side in 2006.

Basic services: The adopted budget includes my innovations to provide basic services such as garbage collection and snow removal at lower cost, by capturing savings from the new automated recycling system and a new automated street repair system. Although Madison continues to grow as a city and provide more services to more residents, the Streets Department budget in 2006 is actually lower in real dollars than the 2005 budget.

Metro bus service: Between funding added in the 2005 budget and the 2006 executive budget, I added \$1.1 million to Metro's budget, a 14% increase. Reflecting higher fuel costs,

the adopted budget added another \$585,000 for Metro, which will reduce the possibility of service cuts.

Responsible budgeting: To avoid balancing the budget with quick fixes, I did not raid the city's fund balance (the "rainy day fund"), and the adopted budget maintained that responsible approach.

Neighborhoods: The adopted budget includes my initiatives to continue investing in Madison's neighborhoods. This includes the program to build five new parks a year in Madison's new peripheral neighborhoods on the far east and far west sides, and the construction of two new neighborhood libraries: Sequoia on the near west side in 2006 and a new south branch library at the Villager Mall in 2007. It also provides funding for a new Central Library in 2009.

Environment: My initiatives for protecting and enhancing Madison's environment are included in the adopted budget. Water-quality initiatives include new street sweeping equipment, the 1000 rain gardens program and a preliminary commitment to purchase the innovative "solar bees" in Monona Bay. To encourage alternative commuting, the budget continues investing in new buses, including the next generation of fuel-efficient, hybrid buses. The budget also continues investments in more energy efficient buildings and lighting retrofits, which will reduce City energy costs.

Budgets are not just about numbers, they reflect our values and priorities as a city. The budget adopted by the council reflects the balanced and responsible proposal that I made earlier this fall. It funds important city services while increasing the property tax levy substantially less than last year, and less than the 15-year average.

*Mayor Cieslewicz can be reached
at 266-4611 or Fax: 608-267-8671 or
mayor@cityofmadison.com*

From
**PAUL
VAN ROOY**



DISTRICT 18 ALDERPERSON

As I am writing this article, the City Council has adopted the budget for 2006. There are certainly opinions on both sides of the budget debate regarding the amount of the tax increase but I feel that we have a responsible budget. The adopted budget represents an increase of 4.35%, or about \$65.20 on the average home. I would have liked to see it kept at 4.1%, the Mayor's target, but when all was said and done I feel we have a reasonable balance between those wanting to spend much more and those of us who would have liked to keep the spending level lower.

Much has been said about the increases in recent years in the City budget, but the reasons for the increases are not because the City Council members are big spenders, but rather because the State shared revenue received by Madison has continued to decrease over the past fifteen years. In 1990 the share of the City budget represented by the property tax (a regressive tax) was about fifty percent. Since that time the State Legislature has continually revised the formula so that today Madison property taxes represent about 74 % of the budget.

One of the amendments to the budget that was considered by the Council concerned City funding for the Planning Councils (PCs). This amendment was never intended to take away the funding for the PCs, however that is how some people characterized it.

Currently the approximately \$150,000 that is provided to the three PCs and the Grassroots Leadership College is administered by the Office of Community Services. The proposal would have transferred that oversight to the Planning Unit. Both entities are part of the Department of Planning and Development.

Whether this transfer of oversight is appropriate or not can be argued, but after hearing some of the objections to it coming from PC representatives, I agreed to withdraw my initial support for the amendment because it was introduced for consideration without adequate input from the public. There were many people testifying in opposition to it at the public hearing, and after some debate before the Council, the sponsor of the amended version of the amendment, Alder Larry Palm, asked for it to be referred for 120 days. The Council did refer it and asked the director of Planning and Development to prepare a report on the merits of the proposal. Details of what should be in that report must still be worked out.

As chair of the Common Council Organizational Committee (CCOC), I plan to bring this matter up for discussion at a future CCOC meeting to detail what we would like to see in the report and to have a broader discussion of the subject of PC funding.

Once again the end of the year is upon us and the holiday season is rapidly approaching. I would like to extend my best wishes for a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year for everyone.

*Ald. Van Rooy can be reached at
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district18@cityofmadison.com*

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NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
KATHLEEN M. FALK



DANE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

I am writing this article during the first snow of the season. The outdoor farmers markets will not return until spring, and we are about to enter the winter holiday season. I'd like to take this opportunity to highlight a couple of recent activities and accomplishments as 2005 draws to a close.

The 2006 county budget process is now complete. The Dane County Board of Supervisors approved the budget on November 9. I signed it, with no vetoes, on November 10. The \$427 million budget includes an operating budget of \$403 million and a capital budget of \$23 million. Working together with the County Board, we have increased public safety, preserved human services programs and protected our natural resources for Dane County citizens.

The second activity that I would like to share with you is related to gangs. We all know that Dane County is a unique and wonderful community to live in. And there are ways in which we are not so unique. We are not immune to the kinds of challenges that confront other communities of comparable size across the country. Dane County is affected by the presence and allure of gangs for some of our young people, and we must respond in an effective and coordinated manner.

The Dane County Neighborhood Intervention Program (NIP) has worked with gang involved youth and

those who were susceptible for gang involvement for many years. NIP does this critically important work with the many partners who have joined together to participate on the Dane County Gang Prevention Task Force, the wonderful and committed body of people that has representatives from schools, the juvenile court system, law enforcement and other interested and dedicated agencies and individuals

We know that gangs change over time. For example, the face of gangs is literally changing. There are increasing numbers of females involved in gangs, and rising violence among girls and young women is a cause for community concern. And gangs don't look the way they used to. Some gangs are incredibly diverse, with members of several racial, ethnic and economic groups belonging to the same gang. One challenge we face is how to extract the positive (for example, an interest in diversity) from the negative which manifests in violence and other behaviors that threaten to dilute the assets of this community.

To add to the work we are already doing in the gang prevention area, the 2006 county budget adds two full time gang squad positions to the Neighborhood Intervention Program. These efforts coordinated with the broad range of community partnerships represented by the Dane County Youth Gang Prevention Task Force will provide Dane County with positive approaches to tough and persistent challenges.

Thank you for all you do to make this an even better community. I hope that you have a wonderful winter, and I look forward to writing you again in the spring.

County Executive Falk can be reached at 266-4114 or falk@co. dane.wi.us

From
PAUL RUSK



DISTRICT 12 SUPERVISOR

County Budget Approved. The 2006 \$427 million county budget was approved on November 10 with little floor debate as there was a great deal of back and forth discussion and negotiation at the committee level. The increase in spending is 4.2%, the maximum allowed by state law, which is consistent with the county executive's growth plus inflation standard. For the average Madison home valued at \$222,928, the county portion of the property tax will increase \$14. However, if the value of your home is increasing faster than the county average, including most Maple Bluff homes, your increase will be more under the equalization system mandated by state law. County government continues to struggle with rising costs for basic services while state and federal dollars decline, but I think we passed a reasonable budget.

There are a number of positive changes included in the budget. My standing committee, Public Protection and Judiciary, was able to recommend and fund within the cap increases in drug court treatment slots to lessen jail overcrowding, capital improvements for the Sheriff's Office to enhance equipment needs, a new paralegal position to prosecute white-collar crime, and keep the Atwood Avenue juvenile shelter home with its excellent reputation fully operational. The "super-amendment" adopted by the board further enhanced several of my priorities by adding a project position for gang related activities, \$15,000 for

minority hiring outcomes for Sheriff's deputies, an internal affairs investigator for the Sheriff and a nurse who can prescribe medications at Dane County Mental Health. Throughout the year we hear about gaps in the public safety system that we were able to partially address.

The capital budget includes funds to plan for a new Badger Prairie Nursing Home for our most vulnerable citizens and construction funding for the new juvenile detention center, two projects I have worked on. I'm pleased that public officials with a wide variety of political viewpoints have come together on the future needs of both facilities.

For the first time the budget includes \$5 million for the conservation fund to purchase land for parks and recreation. With the rapid increase in population and land values in Dane County I'm pleased we can continue our commitment to the voters who approved a referendum by a large margin. Green-space significantly enhances quality of life today and for the future.

Email Smear Convictions. The former county board supervisor who perpetrated the email smear has been convicted and must pay a fine of \$1000 plus court costs, along with 250 hours of community service. Judge Diane Nicks said it very well when she stated that the totality of the case has poisoned the political atmosphere and possibly dissuaded others from entering public service. The county board chair was convicted for his role in lying to investigators and must pay a \$1000 fine with 100 hours of community service. This sorry saga is coming to an end. I continue to believe public officials who are involved in illegal activities should step down from leadership positions, certainly after being convicted. Anything less condones this behavior.

Supv. Rusk can be reached at 249-9667 or rusk@co.dane.wi.us

debate which does happen on the floor of the county board as part of the democratic process.

The budget is prepared after four public hearings, two for the Department of Human Services exclusively were held at the Alliant Energy Center with room for large audiences, another hearing was held for the department directors to report to the whole county board and finally the county board held a general hearing for the public to comment on the expenditures for all county departments. The changes that were made to the budget as a result of these hearings were significant. Just a few of these

changes were \$20,000 to aid Kajsiab House located in this district which is a safe haven for elder Hmong refugees, additional funding for mental health, \$400,000 for wage increases for non-profit agency workers delivering hands-on services for long term care consumers, and funding for about 30 more slots in the drug court which is a vital component of jail diversion. All of these additions will improve the quality of life for the recipients!

Happy Holidays to everyone!

Supv. Wheeler can be reached at 244-4711 or djwheele@juno.com

From
DOROTHY WHEELER



DISTRICT 18 SUPERVISOR

Lake View Conservancy

Following is the first portion of the statement I prepared to read at the county board meeting on October 20 when the two resolutions I sponsored and shepherded through five committees - where they passed unanimously - finally made it to the whole board. The resolutions were on the "Consent Calendar" which means they went through committee without any amendments or other challenges. As usually happens with this section of the calendar, all the resolutions passed on a voice vote and were recorded as having passed unanimously.

I am extremely pleased to have sponsored these resolutions which will give to Lake View Hill and Lake View Woods in the 18th District the best protection we have devised for parks and open space - to be under the jurisdiction of the Parks Commission

whose mission as defined in Wisconsin Statute is to preserve parkland. I want to thank County Executive Kathleen Falk for her support. I want to thank all of the county staff who helped out so enthusiastically. Thank you to the supervisors who supported this venture and to the Park Commissioners who were so willing to take this urban green space under their protection. Last but not least, I want to thank the Friends of Lake View who helped in the writing process of these resolutions and who will now be able to work with the Parks Department to manage this wonderful urban open space with renewed vigor and authority.

The County Budget

On November 9 the county board passed a budget of \$427 million in about one hour. This would not happen if the budget amendments were not taken up in committee first and discussed thoroughly in the Personnel and Finance Committee before they come to the county board floor. This year and last a bipartisan effort avoided any floor fights or "bickering" as some people like to call it. I personally don't call any honest differences of opinion "bickering" but a respectful

**Raymond Ostling EA
Tax & Accounting**

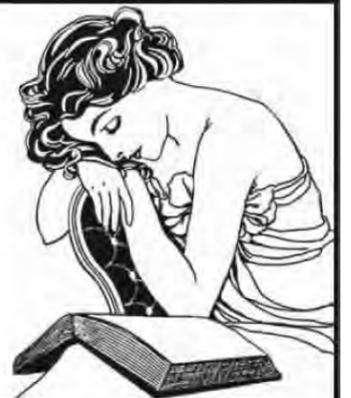
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NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
DAVE TRAVIS



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Energy Costs Soar

Wisconsin residents reeling from the enormous hikes in gasoline prices are now going to be socked with home heating fuel increases around 50% above last winter's bills. That's really going to make budgets tight for lots of families in this part of town.

While American troops, including hundreds of local people, fight in the Middle East, and hurricanes devastated the south and its energy production facilities, international energy corporations gleefully enjoyed record profits. Conoco Phillips' quarterly profits grew 89%, and, the world's largest oil company, Exxon Mobil's profits grew by 75% to \$10 billion—the largest profit of any American corporation in history.

Wisconsin can't do much to fight national and international energy policies, but we can do some things.

Governor Doyle is using his authority to issue subpoenas to the executives of big oil companies at a hearing to explain how they can justify making enormous windfall profits at a time of national sacrifice and national tragedies—much like Harry Truman did with the war profiteers during WWII. Hopefully, in early December, we will get some answers from big oil.

The State Legislature is finally ready to consider the recommendations from

Governor Doyle's Task Force on Energy Efficiency and Renewables. The task force, comprised of energy experts, asked for a significant increase in energy efficiency and renewable resources though wind power, other alternative sources, changes in building codes and other state policies. Hopefully, the Legislature can adopt the task force proposals to trim energy usage and replace fossil fuels with cleaner power. In the meanwhile, we can all shut off our computers and lights when they are not in use, turn our thermostats down, and do those tiny things that individually save a little energy, but cumulatively can reduce our dependency on fossil fuels.

There are no good sources of energy:

Coal provides 70% of our electricity, but it also sends tremendous amounts of pollutants into the environment, including mercury that goes into our lakes—Wisconsin is building several new coal plants to meet our energy needs that are cleaner than the old plants. Coal mining, of course, is devastating to the environment.

Nuclear power is clean, but we all know the problems, dangers and costs associated with that. Disposal of nuclear waste is a major national concern that hasn't been addressed.

Wind power is a miniscule percentage of our power. It's often controversial to site facilities but usage is increasing. Still, wind will only bring us a small percentage of power for energy.

Solar power isn't very cost efficient for the Midwest and is unlikely to be a major power source anytime soon.

From

JON ERPENBACH



STATE SENATOR

New Medicare Prescription Program Enrollment Begins

Starting November 15, all people who have Medicare have the ability to enroll in a prescription drug benefit program called Part D plans. The coverage would begin January 1, 2006. This isn't a perfect prescription drug plan, and it's important to research all of your options before making a decision on whether or not to enroll, or which of the programs to enroll in. Participation is voluntary. There are about 60 different plans to choose from in Wisconsin.

The part D coverage will work differently from parts A & B. In order to receive part D coverage you'll choose a plan from a private company. Each plan is a little bit different. If you already have existing prescription drug coverage, you should compare your plan to those offered by Medicare to see what is best for you. The difference between most plans is the drugs that they cover, and you'll want to

choose one that best fits the medications you are taking. If you enroll in a plan and decide that you don't like it, you can change plans once a year.

Seniors can also choose SeniorCare, Wisconsin's existing program, until at least June 30, 2007. Wisconsin legislators, and senior advocates such as the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, and AARP worked hard to make sure that SeniorCare, a program that has been available for several years in Wisconsin, was one of the many choices available to seniors. Over 90,000 seniors have utilized this program since its inception.

This process can be complicated. There are people available to help answer any questions that you might have. In the 27th Senate District, each county has a benefits specialist to assist seniors. You can contact the following agencies in your county for assistance:

Dane County Benefits Specialists: 608-224-0660

As always, you can call my office for assistance about the new Medicare Part D program, or any state issue that is on your mind.

Sen. Erpenbach can be reached at 266-6670 or 1-888-549-0027 or senator.erpenbach@legis.state.wi.us

Ethanol may be able to save us energy while providing markets for Wisconsin producers, or it may consume as much energy to produce as it generates—the jury is still out.

Most other technologies are in their infancy.

In any event, as individuals and as a state, we must wean ourselves away from dependence on foreign oil.

Rep. Travis, Northside resident and State Representative, can be reached at 266-5340, rep.travis@legis.state.wi.us

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

LIBRARY NEWS

From Lakeview Branch Library
246-4547

By Katie Scharf,
Librarian



Library Hours Mon & Wed: 12-8 pm; Tue, Thu & Fri: 10 am-6 pm; Sat: 10 am-5 pm; Sun: Closed; **Closed Dec 24-26, 31, Jan 1-2**

Knitters Unite!! Every Wed, Jan 18 thru Feb 22, 6:30-7:30 pm

Knitters young and experienced, beginning and advanced, are invited to join Jayne Coster for knitting fun in the library fireplace room. If you are a beginner, here's a chance to learn to knit in a cozy environment. Experienced knitters can drop in and work on any project or get help if they are stuck. Beginners, call 246-4547 to register and get instructions on what to bring to get you started.

Community Writing Assistance Wednesdays, Dec 14 & Jan 18, 5 - 7:30 pm. Need professional advice about a writing project of any sort? This increasingly popular one-on-one free assistance is available from the UW-Madison Writing Center for help with letters, creative writing, resumes, job/school applications, newsletters, business writing, research papers or articles. Beginning January 18, this service will again be available every Wednesday.

Lakeview Chess Club: Mondays, Dec 12, Jan 9 & 23, 6:00-7:45 pm. Drop-in chess dates are the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Chess will not meet on December 26 as the library is closed. Any level of experience, all ages and beginners are welcome. Learn a new game, polish your skills with help from neighborhood chess lovers, or just come to play.

Toddler Time: Thursdays, Feb 2 - Mar 9, 11am-11:20am. Storytime for children 18-35 months with an adult. One adult per child is recommended. Call to register for the entire series beginning January 19.

Evening Storytime: Wednesday, Jan 25 & Feb 8, 7pm. Bring the whole family and enjoy an evening of stories, crafts, and book-based short films. Fun for everyone!

Preschool Storytime: Tuesdays, Jan 17 - Apr 4, 10:15 am & 11:15 am. Note: No storytime March 14. Bring your preschoolers in for a fun-filled storytime. We'll share stories,

songs, laughs, and crafts. Siblings are welcome. No registration required.

Book Baby Storytime: Thursdays, Feb 2-Mar 9, 10:15-10:30 am. Bring your baby to the library, watch them coo, crawl about, clap hands, hear stories, and meet other babies! You'll meet other parents too! Lots of fun! For babies 0-18 months and their grownups. No registration is required.

The Magic of Believing in Yourself with Gerry Schrank: Wed, Dec 28, 2pm. A fast paced, fun filled, family oriented, vaudeville style variety show including magic with live doves, a rabbit named Elvis, lots of comedy and audience participation. Sponsored by the Friends of Lakeview Branch Library.

David Stokes presents "Winter Wildlife... Who's Awake and Who's Not?" Sat, Jan 14, 2pm. Take a walk on the wild side. Explore the winter animal kingdom with naturalist/educator/entertainer Stokes. There will be live critter companions and lots of hands-on activities. Parents: Bring a camera to capture special moments. Sponsored by the Friends of Lakeview.

Yu Gi-Oh! Sat, Jan 28, 11am - 2pm. If you're a beginner, learn to play Yu-Gi-Oh! from Pegasus' game experts. Already know how to play? Then bring your own deck and compete in a tournament. Ages 15 and under. Call after January 6 to register.

Tales of Wizardry and Magic: Sat, Feb 11, 11am. Whether he's spinning tales about England in the time of Merlin or about Guatemala a century ago, storyteller Jim Winship brings magic and drama to his presentation. Kids of all ages will be mesmerized. No registration necessary. Sponsored by the Friends of Lakeview.

Used Book Sales: Saturdays, Dec 15 & Jan 21, 10 am - 5 pm. Our used book sales are held the third Saturday of every month. Drop off your used book donations anytime the library is open. Book sales help the Friends of Lakeview fund programs for both children and adults.

New Medicare Prescription Drug Program: Thu, Jan 12, 10:30 am Jill Watskey, an attorney with the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups, will discuss the details of Medicare Part D (the new prescription drug plan). Please come with your questions, as this will be a very informative and interactive workshop for seniors who need to make a decision about their prescription drug coverage.

Local utility gives seniors the cold facts on lower bills

By Kryn Hoyer-Winfield
NESCO

This fall, Madison Gas & Electric speaker Ruth Miller visited both the Warner Park Center and Bashford United Methodist Church nutrition sites of the North/Eastside Senior Coalition to inform seniors on how to save money on their energy bills. These nutrition sites offer the elderly a comfortable place to have lunch, socialize, and receive important information on how to remain independent.

Miller educated seniors on different tricks to use around the home to stay warm and not waste energy. With most of the attendees coming from an era that required as much thrift as it did hard work, the information came as a matter of practicality. Just like the rest of the population, seniors are facing an especially difficult season in terms of balancing their budgets.

In addition to the important knowledge that Miller shared with the participants, MG&E also gave attendees free energy saving products, such as light bulbs, outlet covers, and showerhead adjusters.

For those that couldn't make it to either of the talks, here are a few of the tips to avoid a cold home and a thin wallet:

- Check furnace filter monthly & replace as needed to maintain furnace efficiency.
- Seal around sewer vent pipe in basement & attic to keep in heated air.
- Let the sun in during the day to reduce heating costs & close drapes and shades at night to save money and improve comfort.
- Wash clothes in cold water. Save 10 to 20 cents per load.
- Install a low-flow showerhead. Save on water and heating costs.

Al Capone Does My Shirts brings readers of all ages together

By Krystal Klapatch
RSVP

On November 9 RSVP volunteers and middle-school students met at Sherman Middle School to discuss *Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Jennifer Choldenko. The intergenerational discussion was the third of its kind organized by Lakeview Library, RSVP, and Sherman Middle School. For the discussions, a book is selected by the school and then volunteer students and adults are recruited to read and discuss the selection.

The book facilitated wonderful conversation for both its history and its currency. The older adults remembered a time when Alcatraz was the country's most famous prison. They were also familiar with the notorious circumstances surrounding Al Capone. Some of the adults grew up during the time the book took place. However, the names Alcatraz and Al Capone are still familiar to students today. The seniors were eager to hear of the student's



impression of the book's time period and circumstances. The students were brought closer to the time period of the book by the personal recollections of the adults. Rollie Krogstad, a notable RSVP volunteer, wore a sweater he purchased only four years after the book took place.

As with the previous two discussions both age groups left impressed with the other. The book provided a wonderful opportunity to find common ground for discussion.

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