

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
PAUL RUSK



DISTRICT 12 SUPERVISOR

Airport

As a member of the Airport Commission, please note that winter weather has slowed construction on the parking ramp that will add 1,200 stalls and a "green" exit plaza. Completion should occur late in 2008. Parking fees fund this project.

The Dane County Regional Airport continues to receive awards, including being named one of the Top 20 of the world's most noteworthy airports for 2008 by Passenger Terminal World, a leading industry publication. The airport also won the Airports Council International second place award for Excellence in Airport Concessions. Local favorites The Great Dane, The Wurst German Bar, and Ancora Coffee Roasters offer options.

A thriving airport is critical to economic development in our region. Soon you will be seeing an innovative advertising campaign geared towards business travelers who often use neighboring airports. With the hassles

of flying today, a key priority is more non-stop flights.

Gypsy Moths

As the county board liaison to the Tree Board, we are very concerned about gypsy moths. Next spring a total of 2,429 acres will be sprayed versus 538 acres in 2007. Although spraying is increasing, I'm pleased municipalities are working together with the DNR. The active ingredient in the Btk insecticide is a naturally occurring soil bacterium that kills gypsy moth caterpillars when they eat it. A public meeting was held in January, and most municipalities send informational letters to affected residents.

Child Protective Legal Services

As part of the budget, I shepherded through a complicated transfer of all child protective legal services to the corporation counsel. As we projected, the federal government has promptly approved the dollars to add two new legal positions to work in this challenging area. This initiative will significantly improve services to children in dangerous situations. We received excellent applicants with an early February start date.

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

From

DOROTHY WHEELER



DISTRICT 18 SUPERVISOR

Human Services Budget

The Health and Human Needs Committee focused on helping people get jobs - from teens who are coming off a detention to inmates getting out of jail to unemployed people in the community. Our committee felt that getting people back to work or into some kind of training would be the best way to help both the individuals and our community.

To facilitate this effort, several amendments were brought into the budget for 2008:

- 1) \$100,000 was added to the Youth Gang Prevention Task Force to help with job skills training for disconnected youth.
- 2) We increased the offender re-entry program by \$50,000 to provide assistance for education and employment.
- 3) We added two employment and training specialist positions at JFF sites to bring job information and

training into the communities where disadvantaged individuals need that help.

4) We added another position in the Economic Assistance and Work Services Division to help connect homeless individuals with employment.

Dane County Job Center

Most people on the Northside are familiar with the Job Center on Aberg Ave. where people can get assistance with obtaining a job. When I visited the site, the lines were long with people wanting information about jobs or state-funded benefits. Many people were using a program on the computers to look for employment. This effort is a mixture of state and county initiatives, but the addition of more computers using a program called ACCESS will be up and running soon. This technology will help citizens and county staff because the need for face-to-face interviews will be greatly reduced. Consumers will continue using the computers to search for job opportunities. Those citizens on food stamps or in W-2 will get assistance with locating and obtaining a job so they can have a more productive future.

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

Upcoming County Board of Supervisors Meetings
Feb. 7 ~ Feb. 21 ~ Mar. 6 ~ Mar. 27
All County Board meetings are on Thursdays at 7 pm in Rm. 201 at City-County Bldg. 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

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Saturday
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1423 Northport Dr.

241-0777

From

KATHLEEN M. FALK



DANE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Kids in Challenged Neighborhoods, Criminal Justice Reforms, Lakes, Top 2008 "To-Do" List

How a community invests its precious tax dollars says a lot about its priorities.

The 2008 Dane County budget reflects what matters most to citizens. We increase our investments in vital public safety and human services while enhancing protections for our lakes and land.

We were able to fund these priorities—and still lower county property taxes for most—by implementing reforms in the criminal justice system that make it more cost efficient and, in turn, keep us safer. These cost savings we converted to hiring more deputies and to adding dollars for mental health and homeless services.

In 2008, we will expand our new Lakes and Legacy Fund to preserve

more of our beautiful natural areas for future generations and double our dollars to protect wetlands that help prevent flooding and make our lakes cleaner. We'll continue our work with farmers to find alternatives for disposing of manure to keep phosphorous out of our lakes and streams.

And for our most important priority—our kids—we are expanding in 2008 the work we began in our Early Childhood Initiative to two more neighborhoods in need. Family by family, we're helping moms and dads get jobs and give their children a great healthy start from the get-go.

My most heartfelt hope is that 2008 will be the year we as a community have a thoughtful conversation about what we can do better to solve the human misery that misuse of alcohol has on us all as individuals, families and the entire community.

This is, I know, an ambitious agenda for the coming year. Through the good will and hard work of our almost a half a million people, we can and will come together to achieve our hopes.

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

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NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
**JON
ERPENBACH**



STATE SENATOR

**New Year, End of Session:
What's Ahead**

As the Legislature gears up for the end of the 2007-2008 session, I am hopeful we will make serious progress on a number of issues I have heard are priorities for the people of the 27th Senate District.

Health Care: Healthy Wisconsin will be reintroduced with a few improvements in the next few weeks. Healthy Wisconsin preserves our health care system but changes how businesses and consumers pay for it. I continue to be ready to sit down at the table and negotiate on this issue.

Campaign Finance Reform: The Governor's call for special session is an opportunity for us to move ahead with the fair campaign finance reform we all know is needed. I will continue to lobby my colleagues from both

sides of the isle to move ahead with bipartisan comprehensive reform,

Regulation of Traveling Sales Crews: The national neighborhood violent crime toll from unregulated door to door sales crews continues to rise. I am hopeful the Assembly will move ahead with Senate Bill 80 before the end of session.

School Financing: I have been working on a plan to overhaul the way Wisconsin schools are funded. The result would be a system of fairer taxation and a stable source of revenue for the future that is not balanced on the backs of property taxpayers. It is time to roll up our sleeves and consider all of our options.

Do Not Call List Expansion: Wisconsin's Do Not Call law which grew out of legislation I authored has been a widely popular program. Funded with fees charged to telemarketing companies, it is time to expand the applicability of the bill to cover cellular phones and small businesses.

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

From
**DAVE
TRAVIS**



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Rep. Travis did not submit a column for this issue.

State Rep. Travis (a Northside resident) can be reached at 266-5340 or rep.travis@legis.state.wi.us

VOTE

**February 19 (Primary)
April 1 (General)**

*Polls open 7 am to 8 pm
For more info, call 266-4601*

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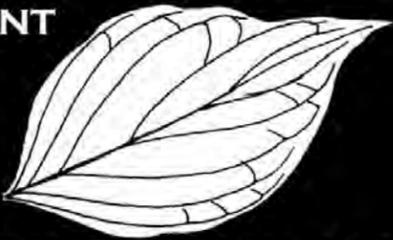


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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

From
**DENNIS
MCQUADE**
241-4849



COMMUNITY SOCIAL WORKER

Tax man cometh: Claim the credits for which you qualify

It is that time of the year again—time to determine whether or not you are eligible for various federal and state tax credits. You may be eligible for a **Wisconsin Homestead Credit** of up to \$1,160, if you made less than \$24,500 (plus \$250 for each dependent). To be eligible for the Homestead Credit you must be over 18 and lived in Wisconsin for all of the year for which you are applying. You must have also either owned a home or rented. Also, the home or apartment cannot be exempt from property taxes.

You may claim the Homestead Credit by filing Wisconsin Schedule HE-Z or Schedule H. For further information contact the Wisconsin Department of Revenue at 266-8641.

There are also three other tax credit programs for which you may be qualify. You may be eligible up to \$4,716 through the **Federal Earned Income Credit**, if you had earned income of less than \$33,241 and had one child, or if you made less than \$37,783 in earned income and have two or more children. For EIC purposes, earned income includes salary, wages, self-employment and cash wages. Income that doesn't count as earned income includes SSI, Food Stamps, child sup-

port, alimony, Workers Compensation, W-2 payments and Social Security benefits.

You can be eligible for the Federal Earned Income Credit whether or not you have children. In addition, you can possibly receive up to \$1,950 from the **Wisconsin Earned Income Credit** if you have at least one child and qualified for the Federal Earned Income Credit.

Also, if you have children under 17 that you were able to claim as dependents and had more than \$11,300 in taxable earned income, you are probably eligible for a **Federal Child Tax Credit** of a \$1,000 per child.

Tax forms for the Homestead Credit and the Earned Income Credit are available at all public libraries.

Also **free volunteer tax assistance** will again be available through VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) at some area libraries, churches and community centers. Call 1-800-829-1040 to find the locations of VITA sites near you.

Please call the JFF office at 241-4849 if you have questions.

**NEED INFORMATION
OR A REFERRAL IN
DANE COUNTY?
Dial 2-1-1
or 246-4357
(from a cell phone)**

From
**KATIE
SCHARF**
246-4547



LAKEVIEW BRANCH LIBRARIAN

Library Hours
Mon - Fri: 10 am-8 pm
Sat: 9 am-5 pm

Quarterly Book Sale! Sat., Mar. 15 from 9am-5pm; bag sale from 3-5pm. This helps the Friends of Lakeview Branch Library pay for all the programs you see below.

FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

Black Light Camp. Sat., Feb. 23 at 11 am. Enjoy a unique black light experience complete with music, stories and a question and answer period to find out how the amazing light effects work!

Art in a Suitcase with Mary Tooley. Sat., Mar. 29 at 11 am. Enjoy folk art, fine art, science specimens and puppets! Includes a take-home art project.

The Love and Langer Magic Show and Balloon Animal Party. Mon., Mar. 17 at 11 am.

School's Out! A creative magic show with audience participation. Langer and Jason Love will stay to make at least one special balloon creation and sign autographs for every child.

Lakeview Chess Club. Mondays, Feb. 11 and 25, Mar. 10 and 24 from 6:00 - 7:45 pm. Drop in chess is the second and fourth Mondays. Any age and level of expertise is welcome!

Knitting at the Library. Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm beginning Apr. 2. Yarn and needles provided!

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Preschool Storytimes. Tuesdays at 10:15 am. Preschoolers enjoy a fun-filled storytime of stories, songs, laughs, and crafts. Siblings welcome!

Book Baby and Toddler Time. Tuesdays through Apr. 15 at 11:15 am. Toddle on down and enjoy stories & songs as you shake your sillies out.

The April 1, 8 and 15 Baby and Toddler storytimes will be Signing Storytimes featuring Beebo. Through children's stories, we will show how you can learn to communicate with your infant/toddler through simple signs. Ages 0-35 months with adult.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Teen Wii Party. Thursdays, Feb. 28 and Mar. 20 at 5:00 pm. Play Nintendo Wii and eat snacks! Bring your friends!

ADULT PROGRAMS

The Daytime Book Discussion Thurs., Mar. 20 at noon in front of the Library fireplace. Join our new adult, daytime book discussion group! We'll discuss Behind the Scenes at the Museum by Kate Atkinson in front of the cozy fireplace. Copies available at the library.

Free AARP Tax Assistance through Apr. 10 on Thursday afternoons by appointment. Call 246-4547 to register for this free tax preparation service.

Scrabble at the Library Wednesdays from 10 am - noon. Attention word lovers! Play Scrabble with other adults.

Free Adult Computer Classes We are still offering our free Beginning Basic Computer Class and our Beginning Internet Class. Call 246-4547 to register or for more information. If you would like to take our new one-session Totally Beginning Microsoft Word Class, give us a call!

GROWING IN OUR FAITH
MADISON COMMUNITY
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Inernet Broadcast
Watch **The Adventist Channel** on our web site! Just go to the 'Links' section launch the viewer. It's free and available 24/7.

Madison Community Church meets on Saturday mornings. Bible Study starts at 9:30 am. Worship service begins at 11 am. **Pastor Swamidass** can be reached at **246-0974**.

Church Location
1926 Elka Lane, Madison, Wisconsin

Upcoming Sermons and Events

February	16 Living with 'Enthusiasm'
	23 Choose an Attitude of 'Confidence'
March	1 Choose an Attitude of 'Persverance'
	8 Youth Rally!! Relate in 08!
	15 Develop an Attitude of 'Encouragement'
	22 Develop an Attitude of 'Faith'
	(Easter Sermon)
April	5 Choose an Attitude of 'Humility'
	(Communion Service)
	12 Why Christ Must Return?
	19 Is Christ's Coming Imminent?
	26 Do Business Until Christ Returns

Hmong Saturday Service
Kawm Vajluskub 1:30 pm.
Pehawm Vajtsww, 2:30 pm.
Pastor Saelee can be reached at **443-6575**.

WWW.MADISONCOMMUNITYSDA.ORG

**Over the
Garden Gate**

By Judy Metz
Master Gardener

After the big snow we had for the holidays...the big thaw and tons of fog. What is coming in February?

THE GARDEN EXPO! So mark your calendars for Feb. 8-10 at the Alliant Energy Center. Go enjoy a little bit of spring.

I am receiving all sorts of flower catalogs trying to tempt me with the latest designer perennial or annuals. I find that it is better to resist the new flower that everyone is trying to sell. I would rather wait several years and see if it does do well in our area.

*Old gardeners never die;
they just go to seed.*

Do you have any spring blooming bushes? That includes any Apple (both Flowering Crabs and edible apples), Cherry and Plums (native flowering), Forsythia, Spirea, Red Maples, Pussy Willows, Flowering Quince, Honeysuckle, Japanese Barberry, Mock Orange, Shadbush and Lilac. While there are no leaves, you can see what could be pruned.

Why not bring some of those branches indoors to flower? It is very simple to get them to bloom. To ensure success, prepare the branches to take up as much water as possible— either slice the ends with a knife or hammer the ends to crush them.

Be sure to allow an extra six to eight inches of stem length when you cut your branches. Don't go out and do heavy pruning of all your shrubs or trees. Wait until later for that.

Start fertilizing your houseplants in March. There are four ways to clean some of your larger leaved houseplants:

- ✳ Wipe down the surface with the inside of a banana peel. It removes the dust on the leaves and makes them shiny.
- ✳ Put a bit of hair conditioner on a soft cloth and rub the leaves to remove the dust and provide a shine.
- ✳ Professional florists use a little mayo on a paper towel. The only problem with that is if you have a cat or a dog they may smell it and try to lick it off.
- ✳ Add a few drops of shampoo to a bowl of water, and with a cloth, wring it out and wipe the leaves clean.

If you have hanging baskets that are up high and you are short, like me, try watering by using a turkey baster.

Gardening is decorating on the outside. Stay warm and dream of greener times.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

HEALTH TIPS



From Your Neighborhood Chiropractor

By Dr. Ross Royster, D.C.

Keep Rocking!

People often ask me where their low back pain came from. I have to admit that, although I can find the problems and correct them, I can only speculate on what caused them. If there is no apparent mode of injury, the most likely culprit is lifestyle. In fact, the experts say that anywhere from 85% to 95% of our ailments are caused by our lifestyle. Back pain, our most common structural malady, can easily be blamed on what we do habitually every day. The problem is that we generally do not move enough.

Our joints were made to move. Movement pumps fluid and nutrients into joint cartilage so that our joints don't deteriorate as we age (use it or lose it). Joint movement stimulates nerves in the joint. Besides monitoring the activity of the joints, these nerves also inhibit pain nerves, which relaxes muscles. These nerves also stimulate the healing process and the entire nervous system.

Lack of joint movement leads to just the opposite of the benefits listed

above: pain, tight muscles, poor coordination, sluggish nerve function, reduced healing capability and osteoarthritis. When you don't move a joint, it tends to lock-up or subluxate.

I find the sacroiliac joints most frequently subluxated and causing back pain. These are located just behind the hips on either side of the sacrum, the "tailbone," and they are the major joints of the pelvis. When these "SI" joints lock up, they often distort the pelvis, causing the base of the spine to be uneven. The entire spine is affected. It's like trying to build a house on an uneven foundation.

How do you avoid this most common cause of back pain? Keep the sacroiliac joints moving. Here's a simple exercise. Stand with your feet apart just a bit wider than your shoulders. Rock your hips side to side but keep your head from moving. It's almost like doing the hula, but without the arm business. You don't have to be really obvious. Subtle rocking still moves the joints.

If your muscles in the pelvis are tight, it may take about 30 minutes of rocking to loosen them up. If the joints are already subluxated, rocking will not release them. You will need a chiropractor. It is best to rock regularly to keep from locking up in the first place. I find myself rocking frequently throughout the day. So, put on the music and keep rocking!

NUTRITION TIPS



By Deborah Roussos, MS, RD & Ann Martin, RD, CD, CDE



Easy Ways to Enjoy Key Nutrients at All Ages

Chances are that you are missing some of the key nutrients you need to look great, feel better, and be stronger. Get the power nutrition your body needs with these tasty foods!

Enjoy GRAINS for fiber, folate and energy

Go with the grain - especially 100% whole grains - at least one serving at every meal. Start off quick and easy with a bowl of whole grain cold cereal (or hot oatmeal) for breakfast. Move onto a satisfying sandwich on whole wheat bread for lunch. Then finish up with brown rice or whole grain pasta at dinnertime.

Enjoy PRODUCE for vitamins A, C and potassium

Fruits and vegetables - fresh, frozen, dried and canned in their own juice - are nature's most appetizing vitamin "pills." Get your 5+ per day the easy way: 2 servings at every meal and 1-2 snacks per day. From A to Z, the choices are endlessly delicious - from a sliced apple snack to steamed zucchini for supper.

Enjoy MILK PRODUCTS for calcium and vitamin D

Packed with body-building nutrition,

dairy products - like fat-free or reduced-fat milk, yogurt, and cheese - are creamy and good for you too. To get the calcium and vitamin D you need (plus protein, potassium, phosphorus and more), all it takes is three servings a day - eight ounces of milk

with every meal meets the goal.

Enjoy NUTS/SEEDS for vitamin E and magnesium

You can get the magnesium and vitamin E that most Americans are missing with sunflower seeds, pumpkin seeds, almonds, pecans, cashews, and other nuts. Just add a serving or two (one ounce or a small handful each) to your day. Sprinkle nuts on cereal or fruit salad. Enjoy sunflower seeds as a quick snack.

Enjoy LEAN RED MEAT, POULTRY and FISH for iron, zinc and protein

Red meat is a satisfying source of several power nutrients, including several B-vitamins and selenium. A 3 ounce serving of the 29 lean cuts of beef (like top sirloin, brisket, and T-bone) has less than 200 calories and less than 10 grams of fat, but plenty of ZIP (zinc, iron, protein) and flavor!

- Adapted from Dayle Hayes, RD, Billings Clinic, MT

Eat As Well As You Can As Often As You Can!

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A Spanish language version of the schedule is available at: www.cityofmadison.com/health/coalitions/pdf_files/Schedulejan-jun2008-Sp.pdf

Since the vaccine takes two weeks to work and since adult vaccine supplies are limited, it's best to take advantage of this opportunity soon and get yourself and your kids protected against the flu.

Information provided by Public Health for Madison and Dane County

SENIOR

From
**CHERYL
BATTERMAN**
cbatterman@nescoinc.org



NESCO Executive Director

Survey Says...

Each year the North/Eastside Senior Coalition aggressively seeks feedback to determine the effectiveness of our programs and services offered to senior adults. This includes distributing surveys to seniors receiving our case management services, our generous members, our dynamic volunteers and the participants in our programs (i.e., senior dining sites, African American and Latino Cultural Diversity events, trips, card players, etc.). After carefully analyzing the data, the results are publicized while staff make improvements or minor tweaks to vital programs and services.

While numbers are not always viewed as exciting reading, we are pleased to report the 2007 survey results. Of the 51 surveys returned, the English-speaking case management clients reported that 84 percent rated their overall satisfaction with their case manager and the information received from their case manager as satisfactory or excellent. Also, 73 percent felt case management services have assisted them in remaining independent in their own home.

Of the 11 surveys returned by our Spanish speaking case management clients, 100 percent rated their overall satisfaction with their case manager as satisfactory or excellent, and 73 per-

cent rated the information received from their case manager as satisfactory or excellent and also felt case management services have assisted them in remaining independent in their own home.

The surveys also addressed narratives on how the case management program has assisted our clients, how the case management program could be improved and how the client heard about our case management program.

By combining the data submitted by our program participants, 100 seniors reported that 97 percent strongly agreed or agreed our educational programs are interesting, our programs are an important part of their day and our programs have a positive impact on their life, and 90% strongly agreed or agreed our staff are helpful, supportive and caring.

Over 97 percent of our awesome volunteers also reported our volunteer program made good use of their time, they enjoyed the work, it helped them feel better about themselves and they felt they are making a difference through their volunteer efforts.

We are challenged each year to obtain meaningful data through these surveys. Our deepest appreciation is offered to those seniors, volunteers and families who provided feedback. As one senior reported, "I felt I was drowning and didn't know where to turn in getting help for Mom. I appreciate the information your staff provided and help selecting the community resources that were right for her."

Give our staff a call today at 243-5252 and learn more about how we can help you or older loved one.

SENIOR Activities

Programs and services are offered at Warner Park Community Recreation Center/WPCRC (1625 Northport Drive) and Bashford United Methodist Church (329 North Street).

Bingo

First Tuesday each month & all Fridays, 10:30 am, WPCRC, 5¢ per game with cash prizes

Book Discussion Group

Third Thursday, noon, WPCRC

Cards & Puzzles (FREE)

Monday-Thursday, 10 am, Bashford and WPCRC

Caregiver Support Group

First Tuesday, 10 am, WPCRC

Case Management

Provides support, resources and community services to enable seniors to safely remain living in their own homes.

Cultural Diversity

Hosts monthly programs for African American and Latino seniors.

Foot Care Clinics

NESCO and Home Health United co-sponsor six foot clinics each month for individuals who can not do their own foot care and do NOT have diabetes. The cost is \$15. Call 243-5252 to make an appointment.

Home Chore Program

Volunteers are needed to shovel snow for seniors. This is a flexible volunteer opportunity that can fit into

your busy schedule and is very rewarding. Ask Breena for more information.

Low-Vision Support Group

Fourth Thursday, 10:15 am, WPCRC

Nutrition Education (FREE)

Second Thursday, 11 am, Bashford and fourth Wednesday, 10:30 am, WPCRC

Nutritious Lunches

Monday-Friday, 11:30 am, Bashford & WPCRC. Door-to-door bus service is available (50¢ each way & free on Tuesdays and Fridays). Guests 60 years of age and older are invited to enjoy their meal on an anonymous donation basis. Anyone under 60 is asked to pay the full cost of the meal (\$5.75). Reservations required by 11:30 am the day prior.

Senior Exercise (FREE)

Wednesdays, 10:30 am, WPCRC and Thursdays, 10:15 am, Bashford



For more information on NESCO programs, please NESCO at 243-5252.

responsiblEnergy



how can you turn this down?

It's that time of year for a simply irresistible energy-saving opportunity. By setting back your thermostat just 1° Fahrenheit, you could save \$25 per heating season. Bigger setbacks save even more. If we all set back just 1° Fahrenheit this winter, we could save enough gas for 3,100 homes. To learn how to program your thermostat, visit mge.com/savingenergy and click on the 'thermostat' video.

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WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER NEWS

From
BRAD WEISINGER
245-3690



WPCRC Facility Manager

**Greetings Northsiders
Another banner year**

We thank you for your support and participation in 2007. The table (see sidebar) highlights the 2007 use of the Center. Our commitment to all of you is providing excellence in programs and service.

Where from here

As well you know, Warner Park is a popular and growing park. Long range planning is currently happening. Potentials include: pool, Warner stadium and expansion of center. The WPCRC participation numbers are amazing. For over three years now we have been letting folks know about the growth and facility concerns for space needs. We are at the crossroads of finding the balance of services in WPCRC. Thank you, Mayor Dave, Alder Satya Rhodes-Conway and Alder Michael Schumacher for your continued guidance and support.

Your 2008 WPCRC Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee's structure for 2008 is as follows: JoAnn Walker, Susan Ihler, David Carpenter, Satya

Rhodes-Conway, Michael Schumacher, Sonci Clair-Thomas, Emy Imhoff, Maggie Dohm and David Wallner.

The meeting schedule is Mar. 27, May 22, July 24, Sept. 25 and Nov. 20. All meetings start at 7:15 pm at WPCRC.

Back in the saddle

Come on in folks and jump into the saddle of one of WPCRC's state of the art recumbent bikes or just roam the fields on an elliptical or treadmill. Spring, believe it or not, is just around the corner and sweaters will be in the closet for another year. The WPCRC exercise room has first class equipment and an atmosphere that is welcoming and non-intimidating. Call 245-3690 for more information.

Let's play

What to do with your child? While you're getting fit in the exercise room, your child can have fun in the playroom. It's staffed with caring and qualified MSCR staff. Call 245-3690 for more information. Hours are Mon., Wed., Thurs., 5-8 pm and Tues., Wed., 8:30-11:30 am. Fees for Annual Membership holders are, \$2 first child, \$1 second and WPCRC ID card holder, \$3 first child, \$2 second.

Come on in, Northsiders, and be part of Fit City Madison. See the Fit City Madison web site at www.fitcitymadison.com.

*Share your Center with a friend.
It's where you belong.*

Warner Park Center Mission

The Center is a gathering place which provides innovative growth and enrichment opportunities for the Madison community and connects people of all ages, races and cultural backgrounds.

2007 By-the-Numbers

WPCRC User Statistics	2005	2006	2007	% Change
Facility Reservations	1,267	1,246	1,253	1%
Exercise room visits	29,739	32,318	46,056	43%
Gym Visits	2,482	3,157	4,301	36%
Game Room Visits	4,544	3,500	2,122	-39%
Gross # of Drop-in Visits	36,765	38,975	52,479	35%
MSCR participations	57,904	60,700	59,773	-2%
Facility Rental participations	145,297	145,412	143,696	-1%
Special Events	8,150	8,575	9,500	11%
NESCO lunches served	6,398	6,103	6,773	11%
Senior Other	8,847	9,800	10,100	3%
WPCRC hourly participations	263,361	269,565	279,012	4%

2008 Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee is a subcommittee of the Madison Park Commission and represents the citizens of Madison, who invested in and support this city-owned facility.

- David Carpenter (Northside Planning Council Representative)
- Soncerethia Clair-Thomas (Citizen Representative)
- Maggie Dohm (North/Eastside Senior Coalition Representative)
- Susan Ihler (Citizen Representative)
- Emy Imhoff (Madison School Community Recreation Representative)
- Satya Rhodes-Conway (District 12 Alder)
- Michael Schumacher (District 18 Alder)
- JoAnn Walker (Citizen Representative)
- David Wallner (Park Commission Representative)

2008 Advisory committee Meetings

Fourth Thursdays of odd numbered months
March 27, May 22, July 24, September 25 and November 20
All meetings are open to the public and begin at 7:15 pm at the Center. Public testimony on any topic relevant to the Center is taken at the beginning of each meeting.



MADISON SCHOOL & COMMUNITY RECREATION
Warner Park Community Recreation Center
1625 Northport Drive

Register Now for Winter Classes

- Cooking
- Preschool & Youth Dance
- Karate for Kids
- Scrapbooking
- World Music Yoga/Dance
- Pre & Post Natal Pilates
- Photography

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GOOD WORKS

East High geometry class learns Lakota quilting, culture

By Alex Douglas
East High School

This fall, Ms. Paulson's geometry class began learning a little bit about the Pine Ridge Reservation and the poverty with which people struggle. Just south of the Badlands National Park in South Dakota is the Pine Ridge Reservation.

Sprawling over 1.7 million acres, Pine Ridge is located in both Shannon and Jackson counties. It is the second largest Indian Reservation in the country with a population of 30,000 Lakota people.

Shannon is also the poorest county in the nation, with an average annual family income of \$3,700. The unemployment rate is around 80%, and the alcoholism rate is the highest in the United States.

The class learned about Lakota history, culture and the Lakota star quilt. Lakota native Kelly Looking Horse visited our class, spoke about conditions on the reservation and taught us how to make authentic dream catchers.

After learning about the Lakota, we began to construct our own Star

Quilts. In groups of four, we designed quilts using a geometry program on the computer. We used math to calculate the fabric we needed and to measure the strips that would be sewn together to make our quilts. After months of hard work after school, the quilts are finally finished, and they look wonderful.

To top off the project, a group of Ms. Paulson's geometry students will travel to South Dakota over Spring Break. They will deliver our blankets to families and help out by building bunk beds and painting houses.

I found this project to be a great learning opportunity. Not only did I learn the many skills needed to make a quilt (including how to use a sewing machine on my own), I learned a lot about working with other group members to achieve a goal.

This project also opened my eyes to the poverty that some are struggling with in our country.

For more information, please contact Mary Paulson at mpaulson@madison.k12.wi.us or 204-1531.



Photos provided by Mary Paulson

Top left: David Aguayo uses the sewing machine to make the quilt. **Bottom left:** Garrett Farin sewing at the machine. Ms. Paulson always has animal crackers. One "snuck" into this photo. **Top right:** Ivy Martin, Libby Fitzgerald and Meredith Van Rensselaer iron quilt material. **Below:** Henry Otto, Ashley Parinello, Jon Amundson and Kylan McClintock demonstrate the final Star Quilt product.



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Sun 3:30 pm-9 pm



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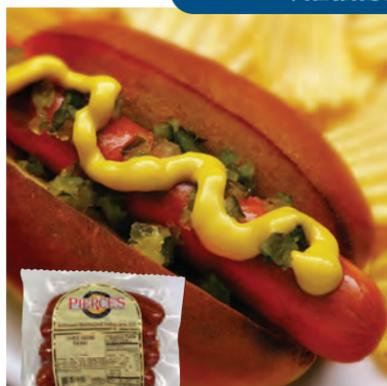
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What's Happening in Your Neighborhood

"Two-fer" Valentine's Day Suggestions

10. A colorful coffee mug from the **Coffee Gallerie** that gets your favorite coffee drinker 50 cents off each time it's used, \$5.95.
9. A Jubilee bouquet of fresh flowers, \$6.99, from **Pierces** plus two cream puffs or éclairs.
8. Dog biscuits, \$2.59, and cat treats (for the other love of your life) from **Family Dollar**.
7. A savings account for your son or daughter at **AnchorBank**; take home a Morrie Sea Creature mascot for \$8.50.
6. Valentine cards, a "Be Mine" furry toy dog from **Walgreen's**, \$19.95, a box of Russell Stover nut chewy crisp caramels, \$10.
5. Potting supplies from **True Value**, plus the Garden Hopper, a wheeled plastic seat for the gardener in your life and his or her tools, \$29.99.
4. A bottle of Cook's Champagne, \$5.69, plus a six pack of Kaluha Mudslide, \$5.69, from **Spirits Unlimited**.
3. A heart-shaped pizza from **Rocky's** and an order of cheese bread sticks.
2. A Valentine's basket from **Serenity Salon** which includes a gift certificate that can be applied to a him or her Swedish massage, \$60 value for \$50.
1. A romantic evening at **Benvenuto's**: Smothered Haddock and shrimp for her, \$11.99, and Smoked Barbecued Ribs for him, \$12.99 for a half rack. Garlic mashed potatoes for everyone.

Lakeview Library Staff Reading Picks

Katie: *River Wife* by Jonis Agee

Jill: *Digging to America* by Anne Tyler

Todd: *I'll Sleep when I'm Dead* by Warren Zevon

Emily: *The Daring Book for Girls* by Miriam Peskowitz

Dan: *Reasonable People: a Memoir of Autism and Adoption* by Ralph James Savarese

Katy B.: *The Stephenie Meyer series: New Moon, Eclipse, Twilight*

KiKi: *The Family That Couldn't Sleep: A Medical Mystery* by D.T. Max

Exciting Things in the Year Ahead

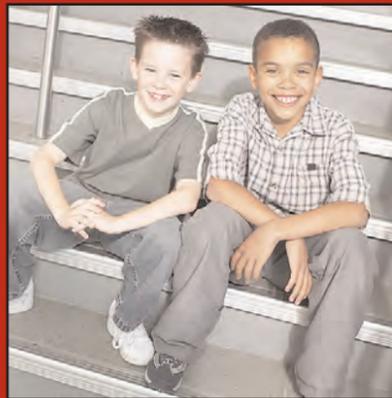
Don Bruns tells us there is some extraordinary news with regard to the old Hancock Fabrics space. It's a little too early to talk about it, but expect something unique for Madison from a familiar, well trusted company. Serenity Salon is also launching an interesting promotion this year. Three existing customers can each nominate someone for a complete makeover, free. The dramatic results will be featured in the Serenity Salon Northside News ads. Finally, we are interested in hearing from you. E-mail or mail your answer to one or more of these questions and the best replies will be published right here in the Almanac:

Who is your favorite employee at the TownCenter and why?

What is your nicest memory involving the TownCenter?

What is the best kept secret about any of the businesses in the TownCenter? (We want to uncover surprising values and services.)

Send your response to John@NorthsideTownCenter.com or mail to The Northside TownCenter, attn: John, 1865 Northport Drive, Madison, WI 53704



An Interview with Pierce's New Manager

Question: What is your function at Pierce's?

Eddie Robertson: My office is out on the floor interacting with customers. Since I've arrived I have had frequent meetings with employees. My message is always the same: "Anybody can sell a can of beans or a bunch of bananas, but it takes a special store to offer great customer service. A customer is anyone who benefits from the good work you do or suffers when you do your work poorly." Helping people find an item or choose between two that are similar can save the customer time and money.

Question: What makes Pierce's special?

Eddie: We are a market. We specialize in fresh perishable goods, whether that's produce, meat, deli or baked items, rather than just canned goods and processed foods. We have a great organic section. We also have a fantastic new program in which customers can win up to a thousand dollars in cash. I think it's interesting that some people shop four or five times a week, others come in and do a huge shopping once a week. In either case we have the convenience and good prices to give them what they want. Brennan's closed and we are welcoming many of their regular customers. I checked with Copp's the other day and we either match or are lower than them on dairy prices.

Question: Tell us a little bit about yourself.

Eddie: I've been in the grocery business for thirty-nine years. In the six and a half years I was at Pick N Save, people would say when asked who the manager is, they would answer "Eddie." I'm originally from Biloxi, Mississippi, but now live in Cross

Plains, and, believe it or not, I have ten children.

In the year ahead we will make Pierce's everything this community wants it to be. I know how hard the neighborhood fought to get a grocery store here. This is their store, not Pierce's or the TownCenter's.

Throughout the winter please remember all of the businesses and services that are conveniently located here for you: **Walgreen's, Suey Wong's Acupuncture, Anchor Bank, Subway Subs, True Value, Serenity Salon & Day Spa, Altered States Alterations, Benvenuto's Italian Grill, Chris Bruns—Century 21 Realtor, Sherman Plaza Hairstyling, Rocky's, Taco City, Lakeview Library, Family Dollar, Associated Podiatrists, ABC Mortgage, Pierce's Northside Market, Spirits Unlimited, Coffee Gallerie, Road Ranger, Cash Express, Madison's Hair Transplant Clinic, Curves, State Farm Insurance and The Trafalgar Apartments.** See you again in Spring! ♥



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