

TROY GARDENS



Photo by Rebecca Starke

Gardening for Good participants enjoyed their reunion in February.

Gardening for Good winter reunion

By Rebecca Starke

On a cold day in February, some of the Gardening for Good folks gathered to step back into the fun and creativity of our summer gatherings. We viewed some slides, told some stories, ate some snacks and enjoyed reconnecting with this lovely community of people that gardened at Troy Gardens in the summer of 2012.

Last summer, with help from Dane County and Community GroundWorks, we launched a pilot program to introduce Northside people with disabilities to gardening. Many people, with and without disabilities, participated in an extravaganza of gardening fun we called Gardening For Good. Each week for 12 weeks, we tended our plot at Troy Community Gardens, enjoyed delightful and informative mini-

workshops and socialized with friends while enjoying yummy snacks when the work was done.

And now, great news: Gardening for Good will be launching into a second season of the pilot program in the summer of 2013. Plans are in the works for another summer exploring the fun and fellowship of community gardening. Gardening for Good will gather for 12 weeks from 6-7:30 pm Thursday evenings, from the end of May through mid-August.

If you or someone you know who lives on the Northside and is interested in participating in Gardening for Good, please contact Rebecca at wearegardeningforgood@yahoo.com. Check out last summer's blog at <http://gardeningforgoodmadison.com>. Stay tuned to the blog as well as to <http://communitygroundworks.org> for more details.

Community GroundWorks coming attractions

Troy Community Farm - CSA Shares
CSA shares with Troy Community Farm are still available. Members come to our farmstand at 500 Troy Dr. each Thursday evening from June through October to pack their shares, visit the farmers and harvest their own flowers from the farm. See <http://community-groundworks.org/troyfarm> for complete information

Spring Plant Sale

Mark your calendars now for our annual plant sale Saturday, May 11 from 10 am-2 pm. Our plants are certified organic and grown in our passive solar greenhouse. A complete plant list will be posted on our website at the end of April.

Good Food Garden Party in June

CGW's third annual Good Food Garden Party is planned for Saturday, June 22 from 5:30-8:30 pm. Our major fundraising event of the year, the Good Food Garden Party reflects our mission to connect people with nature and local food. Guests will enjoy an elegant al fresco bistro-style dinner at Troy Gardens, prepared by noted Madison chefs.

The summer solstice date will provide guests time to linger in the gardens, enjoying live music, beer, wine and specialty soft drinks. The menu will include spring vegetables from Troy Community Farm and other locally sourced ingredients. As always, the Good Food Garden Party is a Zero-Waste Event sponsored by Purple Cow Organics—from farm to table and back to farm. Watch our website for details. Tickets will go on sale soon and seating is limited.

Capitol Garden

Community GroundWorks' Capitol Garden will be planted at the southwest corner of the State Capitol again this year. You can become a part of it by sponsoring a vegetable in your name or in honor of someone you love.



Thousands walk past and enjoy this garden bursting with vegetables at the steps of the Capitol every summer. By planting and tending this garden, Community GroundWorks demonstrates the beauty and value of urban agriculture. The harvest is provided to the food pantry at the Goodman Community Center on Madison's east side.

Your sponsorship of this garden helps support our good work. You or your honoree will receive a splendid photo of the garden and be recognized on our website, newsletters and on a sign at the Capitol Garden - a charming gesture of appreciation for someone you love or an ideal way to commemorate a birthday, anniversary or Mother's Day this year. See <http://communitygroundworks.org> for more details.

Natural Areas

"Birds and Blooms" Walk at Troy Gardens, Saturday, April 13, 9 am Join naturalist Samantha Bailey on a hike through Troy Gardens' maple woodland and prairie. On this family-friendly walk, we'll watch for birds and look for spring ephemerals and other early blooming plants. Meet at the red sheds at the community gardens. Binoculars provided.

Celebrate Earth Day at Troy Gardens Sunday, April 21, 10 am-12:30 pm. In honor of Earth Day, we invite you to join our land restoration efforts at Troy Gardens. We'll plant trees, pull garlic mustard, an invasive weed, and more. Meet at the red sheds at the community gardens at 10 am.

A sweet potato partnership

By Marge Pitts

This summer local gardeners and farmers will plant sweet potatoes and split the harvest with Madison food pantries. It's the Madison Sweet Potato Project, a team effort by Dane County UW-Extension, the River Food Pantry, Community Action Coalition, Slow Food Madison, Equinox Community Farm and Community GroundWorks' Goodman Youth Grow Local Farm.

Nine thousand organic sweet potato slips will arrive from Kansas State University the first week of June. The slips, a variety that will do well in Wisconsin, will be distributed and planted quickly. Joe Muelenberg, Dane County UW-Extension Horticulture Coordinator, and John Binkley of Equinox Community Farm will provide several trainings during May for growers. Community gardeners, residential gardeners and farmers who would like to participate are encouraged to learn more and sign up at <http://madisonsweetpotatoproject.org>.

Bridging the gap between low-income people in need and local, sustainably-grown produce is a challenge for urban communities. Madison Sweet Potato

Project does exactly that: feeds hungry people and turns them on to the benefits of choosing good food grown right here. Meanwhile the growers get free plants, free training, half the harvest and a great feeling at the end of the day.

Sweet potatoes are perfect for such a project because they're nutritious, high-yielding vegetables that are easily prepared and delicious. If properly cured, they can last a year without refrigeration, making them ideal for storage in food pantries.

At the Goodman Youth Grow Local Farm, Community GroundWorks' east side educational youth farm, an eighth of an acre is being added this year, bringing the size of the farm to half an acre. In the new space, 1,500 sweet potato slips will be planted, with the harvest to be split between the River Food Pantry and the Goodman Community Center Food Pantry.

A Madison Sweet Potato Project kick-off celebration, open to the public, will be held at the Goodman Youth Grow Local Farm in early June. Check communitygroundworks.org in the coming weeks; the event will be announced as soon as the date is chosen.



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OUTDOOR

Take a guided tour or help out in Cherokee Marsh this spring

By Jan Axelson

Mark your calendar for these events this spring at Cherokee Marsh. For times and other information, and to keep up on the latest news, visit the Friends of Cherokee Marsh website at cherokeemarsh.org or like our Facebook page at [facebook.com/friends.of.cherokee.marsh](https://www.facebook.com/friends.of.cherokee.marsh).

Garlic mustard pull

Sunday, April 7, noon-3 pm Enjoy the woods in early spring and help make room for native wildflowers by pulling invasive garlic mustard. No experience needed. Sponsored by the Madison Area Weed Warriors. Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, North Unit.

Audubon tours

Explore Cherokee Marsh with expert guides on these tours sponsored by Madison Audubon in partnership with the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and Madison Parks.

Friday, April 19 Evening at Cherokee Marsh – View the sky dance of the American woodcock and look and listen for sandhill cranes, snipe and other early signs of spring. Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, North Unit.

Wednesday, May 8 (morning) Warbler Walk Enjoy the show as flocks of colorful wood warblers and other migrating birds stop to refuel in Cherokee Marsh on their way to their nesting grounds up north. Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, North Unit.

Wednesday, May 8 (evening) Cherokee Marsh Mendota Unit Come to see the spring wildflowers and learn about this hidden gem. Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, Mendota Unit. Check website for meeting location.

Earth Day celebration

Monday, April 22, 4 pm Celebrate Earth Day and thank those who helped in the acquisition of 363 acres added to Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park since 2008. The event is sponsored by the Friends of Cherokee Marsh. Meet at the corner of Wheeler Road and Comanche Way.

Help plant shrubs

April, date and time to be determined. Help plant 200 native shrubs in the restoration area surrounding the new stormwater ponds along Wheeler Road in the Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park, South Unit. Check the website for date, time and meeting location. This is sponsored by the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and Madison Parks.

Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park's North Unit is at 6098 N. Sherman Ave. Follow North Sherman Avenue north to the parking lot at the end of the gravel road.



Photo by Madison Parks

Friends of Cherokee Marsh members show off the Volunteer Group of the Year award they received at Madison Parks' volunteer celebration held March 4 at Bolz Conservatory. From left, Jan Axelson, Parks Director Kevin Briski, Janet Battista, Jim Hughes, Muriel Simms, Lydia Maurer, Paul Noeldner.

Friends of Cherokee Marsh
cherokeemarsh.org

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OUTDOOR

Warner Park bridges repair plans being considered

By Jason Cuevas

Northside News

The future of how citizens will cross the water at Warner Park is currently up for debate. The “wedding bridge” and the “Barn Swallow Bridge” are going to have a face lift one way or another.

Currently a decision is being made by the parks commission between a city proposal and a Wild Warner proposal on what to do about the bridges. There is no disagreement that the bridges are in disrepair and in need of some work, though there is debate on what the proper plan is for changing them.

The city would like to take out both of the wooden bridges and replace them with large concrete bridges. They would be wider allowing better access for trucks and bikes. The downside to this would be that some trees would have to be cut down during the construction.

Wild Warner currently has a proposal that would build one wider bridge for cyclists while preserving the trees and bridges. This new bridge would go across one of the lagoon canals and change the direction of the path to go by the community center.

“It’s an easy way for bikes to get to the community center, a more direct route,” said Tim Nelson, Wild Warner chair. “It also takes you out toward North Sherman Avenue. The other benefit would be about saving this large cottonwood that is a beautiful tree and is very beneficial to the park.”

The city’s plan can be found by go-



The two bridges as they currently stand at Warner Park.

ing to www.cityofmadison.com/bike-Madison/planning/project.cfm?id=43. The counter proposal from Wild Warner can be found at madison.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=2350897&

www.cityofmadison.com/bike-Madison/planning/project.cfm?id=43 GUID=F985AC48-7710-407F-B1DDAF7ED9FCC7D7.

The parks commission is going to take a walk down the paths before deciding which plan they will select.



Photo provided by Janet Battista

2013 changes for the Friends of Lake View Hill Park

By Sue Gleason

The Friends of Lake View Hill Park held their annual meeting in January and welcomed three new members to the board of directors. Northsiders and Lake View Hill residents Pris Herman and Jackie Nikolaus join Brenda Williams, historic landscape architect, for a three-year-term. Sadly, we say farewell to Jim Hughes and Joan Kozel but thank them for their contributions. Jim has put in hundreds of hours in the woods and, we hope, will still be a frequent volunteer on work projects. Joan is putting the finishing touches on the panels that will soon be installed in the two kiosks, one near the water tower and one in the meadow between the drive and the chapel. Joan is a professional graphic artist and, as a board member, has donated countless hours to this project.

Continuing board members are Mike Bacsi, new president; Bill Bauer, new vice president; Nelson Eisman, secretary; and Janet Battista, Sue Gleason, Lisa Pearson and Dorothy Wheeler. Mike will work with Jackie Nikolaus to transition to her new Treasurer duties.

The Board will meet quarterly versus monthly with 2013 meetings scheduled for March 12, June 11, Sept. 10 and Dec. 10. All meetings are 5–7 pm in the Dane County Human Services Building. Friends of Lake View Hill Park members and the public are welcome.

The Friends of Lake View Hill Park is a volunteer membership organization that helps support Dane County Park’s efforts in the park. Please consider joining as a member at the link on our website at www.lakeviewhill.org. Your membership support of time and resources will help us reach our goals for native restoration and cultural understanding of the history of the park.

Spring is here and upcoming events in the park are Saturday, April 20 from 10 am–12 pm and Saturday, May 4 at 6:30 am for the annual Audubon Bird Census. Both activities will start at the water tower kiosk gathering area. For more information, email friends@lakeviewhill.org.

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HOME

Shining some light on LEDs

By Dan Tortorice
Northside News

As our country moves steadily toward more efficient energy usage, the plain old light bulb is going to play a big role. There are hundreds of millions of them lit right now, so any incremental gains in efficiency will multiply quickly.

The federal government is pushing things in the direction of better light bulbs, and consumers are responding.

There are three main groups of A-type light bulbs, the most common kind of bulb for use in homes. Incandescent bulbs, the ones we've always used, are inefficient and waste energy in the form of heat. Compact fluorescent bulbs (CFL) represent a big step forward: They are three times more efficient than incandescent bulbs and can last 10 times longer.

The third group, LED (light-emitting diode) bulbs, use a computer chip to produce light and are more efficient than CFLs. Their main drawback is cost. Last year, with prices at about 20 times that of incandescent, they represented about three percent of sales. This is expected to grow to about 16 percent next year, and they are predicted to become the most popular light bulbs by 2016.

The price of LED bulbs is falling rapidly, which will add to their popularity. They are also cheaper to operate and have a much longer life span than older bulbs. Some bulbs claim to last over 20 years. When assessing these kinds of claims by any energy product it's a good idea to look for the Energy

Star label on the package. Energy Star is the "gold standard" for information about the energy products we use in our homes and businesses. If this label appears next to energy claims then you can assume they are truthful.

Consumers should also be aware of changes in the labeling of light bulbs. We are used to referring to bulbs in terms of wattage, a measure of energy consumption. The new generation of bulbs will

refer to lumens, a measure of brightness. The great news is we'll be getting that brightness with a lot less wattage.

MG&E has a video showing what LED bulbs look like and how they save energy. You can view it at www.storybridge.tv/greenview/energyexperts/story/ledlighting. Also check out their website for more detailed info on LEDs at www.mge.com/ledlighting.

Since LED bulbs contain computer

chips, they open up new and exciting options for the future and present. There are applications already in place to communicate with some bulbs using Bluetooth or Wi-Fi. You can instruct your bulb to change colors or set a program for the bulb to give off more light at certain times to make yourself more energetic or mimic the sunrise of a bright summer morning.

It seems LED bulbs have a bright future.

Finding a trustworthy home contractor

Kimberly Hazen
Better Business Bureau of Wisconsin

Spring is a popular season for home repair. The snow has melted, the sun is shining and it's finally time to tackle some of those big projects around the house. But let's face it, remodeling can be an expensive endeavor and you need to make sure you find a great contractor for your job. Licensing laws, insurance requirements and countless friends offering referrals and advice can be confusing. To help, the Better Business Bureau offers these tips to help you choose a contractor you can trust.

Plan your project

First and foremost, understand what you're hoping to accomplish with your home project. Ask yourself how your new space is going to be used and what problems you wish to solve. Finally, determine your ultimate budget for the job. Once you know the answers to these

questions, you'll have greater control over your project.

Consider many contractors

Checking BBB.ORG for BBB-Accredited home contractors will ensure you find someone who is properly licensed and will do their best to gain and keep your trust. It's also wise to check membership in professional organizations. Many builders and remodeling associations, much like the BBB, require the contractor abide by certain standards to be a member.

Once you find a couple contractors, solicit bids based on identical job requirements. When comparing those bids, make sure you check to see what's included and what's not included in the bid. It's important to recognize that the best bid may not always be the lowest. Once you settle on one or two contractors, check their references. The best way to see if they're worth pursuing is

to talk to past clients.

Have your contractor get the required permits

Once you've chosen a contractor, have them pull the permits for your particular project. This will ensure your job is done to code. It's also important to check their insurance coverage directly with their carrier. If an accident were to happen on your property, this will protect your liability.

Paying your contractor

Never pay for the entire project upfront. The BBB recommends that you pay no more than half of the job until completion of the project. Also, never pay in cash. Checks and credit cards can offer another layer of protection with the transaction.

For more information and other tips for find a trustworthy contractor, visit BBB.org.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

From

SATYA RHODES-CONWAY



DISTRICT 12 ALDERPERSON

As my term of service on the Madison Common Council draws to an end, I would like to thank everyone in District 12 for the privilege of serving you. I have learned a tremendous amount about our neighborhood, the city and about myself. I have a much deeper respect for our hard-working city staff, and for other elected officials, especially those who hold a day job at the same time they serve. I also have a deep respect for all of you who serve your neighborhoods and our city as volunteers, whether it is through a neighborhood association, a nonprofit, or someplace else.

I hope that that each of you reading this will take a moment to appreciate all those who serve our city and think about joining them. There are

numerous worthy organizations on the Northside – our community centers, our parks, our food pantries, the farmer’s market, our neighborhood associations, the planning council and more – that could use your time and energy. I encourage you to think about serving the city as well – there are always openings on city committees. Maybe you will think about running for county board or city council. Government serves us best when we are engaged with it.

I hope that each of you will take the time to get to know your neighbors, both in the immediate geographic sense and in the larger community sense. Madison is too often divided along race, class and generational lines — so much so that we become afraid of each other. Please attend one of the community suppers sponsored by NPC or reach out in other ways. Division begets fear and anger, but it can be overcome with communication and compassion.

Thank you for choosing me to represent you for so many years. I wish you all the best.

From

ANITA WEIER



DISTRICT 18 ALDERPERSON

Two community needs I plan to devote time and energy to in a second term are expanding community garden opportunities for Northside residents and solving some of the problems created by empty or foreclosed properties.

District 18 is well-known for Troy Gardens, and we have community-school gardens at Lindbergh Elementary and Gompers-Black Hawk schools. Mendota Elementary School has a small salsa garden that is mainly a teaching garden.

Community gardens bring people together and allow them to raise healthful fresh produce for their families. Schools benefit from partnership gardens because students learn how food is produced.

Establishing a community garden can be a yearlong process. Three or more people must gather to organize a garden and then contact the Community Action Coalition for more information. Application packets

are available at www.cacscw.org and must be submitted by August at the latest.

Potential sites are evaluated by the CAC and city committees. Parks are ideal locations, but some parks have master plans or restrictions that would prevent a garden. Contact me if you are interested in a specific site, and I’ll try to help.

I also plan to establish a vacant property registration ordinance that would require banks to register and maintain foreclosed properties. Milwaukee has an ordinance that requires banks to inspect abandoned and foreclosed properties and register them. The bank then has the responsibility of maintaining the property and keeping it safe, or penalties are charged.

Last year, 49 homes were scheduled for foreclosure sales in my district, but only 39 completed the foreclosure process. Vacant houses — foreclosed or not — can be a problem due to vandalism and deterioration. I am working with Habitat for Humanity in the hope that vacant homes can be rehabilitated and sold.

Anyone with questions or suggestions about gardens or vacant homes is welcome to contact me at district18@cityofmadison.com or at 320-5820.

From

PAUL RUSK



DISTRICT 12 SUPERVISOR

To complement the dollars budgeted to clean up the Yahara Chain of Lakes, I’m pleased to announce that a new Clear Lakes Task Force made up of business, agriculture and the public and private sectors will now develop a phosphorus reduction work plan to identify the top cost-effective ways to reduce runoff that so negatively impacts our lakes. Coordination of the many clean up efforts now underway will help ensure that we can do the work necessary to substantially improve lake water quality. The Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District is included as they are required to remove additional phosphorus from the watershed to meet federal clean water standards. Representatives from Clean Wisconsin and the Clean Lakes Alliance are also included. I believe improving water quality is critical to promoting economic development in our

region along with enhancing quality of life for many generations to come.

The County board has overwhelmingly voted to acquire and permanently protect 466 acres south of Verona along 2.5 miles of the Sugar River riverfront. Three hundred forty acres will be purchased, and 126 acres go into a conservation easement to limit future development. The substantial purchase price of \$3,054,000 will be reimbursed approximately 50 percent by state stewardship dollars, thus lessening the county’s long term borrowing costs. This area is considered an important natural resource that includes excellent trout fishing and significant archaeological resources which will likely be documented through future volunteer efforts.

With spring coming soon, the annual 2013 Art Poster entitled “Crabapple” from the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission is now available by voluntary donation at locations throughout Dane County, including Room 421 of the City-County Building. This beautiful etching was done by Dane County resident and internationally recognized artist Jayne Reid Jackson.

Supervisor Rusk can be reached at 249-9667 or rusk@countyofdane.com.

From

MELISSA SARGENT



DISTRICT 18 SUPERVISOR

A small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world

- Margaret Mead

As a citizen, one of our greatest responsibilities is to elect legislators who represent us. Our role in democracy does not end at the polls, it is also important to share our opinions and ideas with our elected representatives, at all levels. Through these contacts you impact the decisions that affect us all.

I value all of your suggestions and ideas. I count on your thoughts, concerns and ideas to help guide me. Each of you plays a vital role in informing me of our priorities, especially as I work on specific legislation and take votes on proposals that affect the quality of our community and state.

A few tips that advocacy groups share with their members to help them be more effective in communications with elected officials:

1. Know your elected officials: www.cityofmadison.com/election/election/electedOfficial.cfm
2. Contact your elected officials as early as possible before votes are made
3. Decide if you want to write, email, or call - or if you want to testify at a public meeting
4. Explain how the proposed idea or legislation will affect you personally
5. Be polite
6. Offer a course of action
7. Include your full name and address

It is vitally important that we all take the time to vote as well as reach out and share our thoughts, opinions and values with our elected officials at all levels. We each play an important role in strengthening democracy and making our community the best place it can be.

As your county supervisor, I need to hear from you, please take the time and let me know your thoughts and share your concerns. I’m easy to get a hold of: melissa4dane@gmail.com or 608.220.2273

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

From

PAUL SOGLIN**MAYOR**

As I write this there continue to be concerns regarding Rhythm and Booms at Warner Park. As I am sure you know there have been recent news stories regarding environmental testing at the park before and after the fireworks display. While I absolutely understand the concerns raised by neighbors, and supported a budget allocation to fund the testing, it appears, the news stories were potentially misleading.

Public Health Director Janel Heinrich in response had some important points concerning The Capital Times Jan. 24 article on the fireworks at Warner Park. Quoting Director Heinrich:

"There are several problems with this article that need clarification and correction. First, the information used to develop this article was derived from draft reports that were still in the review

and editing process. ... in fact, the report written by Dr. Jim Bennett was labeled as "draft – do not quote or cite."

Second, the article exaggerates the findings of the study. It correctly states that a temporary spike in the levels of perchlorate was detected in the surface waters of Warner Park lagoon but what it does not mention is that these levels rapidly decrease and return to near background levels within 30 days due to microbial degradation and dilution. The rapid decrease in perchlorate concentrations mirrored other previously published studies and was expected. The article also implies that there was significant and persistent trace metal contamination in Warner Park's wetland. The report, however, states, "with the exception of chloride, trace metal concentrations in lagoon surface waters showed no discernible change after the event."

The planning for this year's event is delayed, but City Police, Fire, Streets, Parks, Traffic Engineering and Mayoral staff are working out logistics for a scaled-down celebration to keep costs down, keep neighbors safe and happy, and protect the natural elements of the park.

From

JOE PARISI**DANE COUNTY EXECUTIVE****Exciting things ahead for cycling in Dane County**

Dane County is a nationally recognized leader in biking, with over 200 miles of trails, premiere events like the IronMan competition, and numerous cycling industries calling our region home.

This year we're continuing to move forward on a number of key recommendations from our biking community.

This spring, communities and organizations will be able to apply to fund projects such as signage, road striping, bike trail crossing improvements and lighting from the \$25,000 included in my county budget to enhance safety.

A number of trails will move forward this year, adding to our extensive network of on and off-road trails for cyclists and pedestrians that link our parks, natural spaces and communities.

First we will connect the Military Ridge State Trail to Brigham County Park. The trail will be a little over one mile long and traverse through some of the most scenic areas of Dane County. Construction will most likely begin sometime this summer with completion anticipated by July 2014.

Planning for phase one of the Lower Yahara River Trail will also be finalized, with construction anticipated in 2014. This trail would connect the Capital City Trail in Madison to McFarland and eventually will extend to Stoughton.

The county continues to partner with the City of Madison on the Ice Age Junction North Trail, connecting county highway PD to Raymond Road in Madison and County Highway M.

Development of a missing trail link between the Glacial Drumlin Trail and Capital City Trail that could connect Madison all the way to Milwaukee continues as well as a countywide trail signage project, allowing cyclists to better navigate across the county.

Our efforts are making this fun and easy sport for people of all ages safer and even easier to get into. For more cycling info and area maps, please visit: www.countyofdane.com/lwrparks/bicyclists.aspx.

From

MARK MILLER**STATE SENATOR****Mining Bill in Wisconsin**

Once again, Republicans sold out the best interests of the citizens of Wisconsin to a private interest. The state Senate passed the open pit mining bill. This legislation weakens Wisconsin's environmental protections, ignores federal law and tribal treaties, severely restricts the consideration of the public interest, imposes new costs on taxpayers, and creates new ambiguity and uncertainty in the permit process.

The open-pit mining bill allows mining operations to destroy lake bed by filling it in. Current law prohibits the destruction of a waterway. This prohibition is consistent with the Wisconsin constitution which provides that the waters of Wisconsin belong to the people. The bill tries to circumvent this constitutional provision by declaring that mining will result in adverse impacts to wetlands and that those adverse impacts

are presumed to be necessary.

Under the bill, stakeholders other than mining interests, such as local citizens, municipalities, school districts, environmental advocates, sportsmen and tourism cannot have their concerns heard until after the DNR makes the decision to grant a permit. Under current law other interested parties have an opportunity to formally present their concerns prior to the DNR making a decision on granting a permit. This provides an advance opportunity to resolve differences and thereby reduce lawsuits.

Unfortunately, with the exception of Senator Dale Schultz, we have lost the bipartisan support for protecting the environment that has been a Wisconsin tradition. This is a disastrous bill with drastic consequences for the folks who actually live near any potential mine site. We had the chance to work together for a common sense solution that wouldn't weaken environmental standards and risk the health of our neighbors. But that is not what happened. Instead, Legislative Republicans let a coal company from West Virginia dictate the standards that Wisconsinites will live under.

From

MELISSA SARGENT**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**

Governor Walker passed the largest cuts to public education in Wisconsin history in the last budget. Unfortunately, we are now seeing more of the same. Most troubling is the proposal to expand funding to unaccountable, private voucher schools. Numerous school districts would qualify under this formula, including MMSD.

This is very concerning for multiple reasons:

First, despite Walker's claims of increasing funding for public schools, none of it will be reflected in our classrooms. Because of state-imposed spending caps that money will not result in any additional classroom spending. This is simply a shell game in which the state will give more funding to school districts to allow property taxes to be reduced slightly. I do not want to risk our children's future over my property tax bill going down by a

few dollars each year.

Second, because no additional funding is being given to public schools, many will struggle to survive. Doing more with less is only possible for so long. The Northside has numerous small neighborhood schools. These schools cannot keep open year after year with flat funding as the cost of education continues to rise.

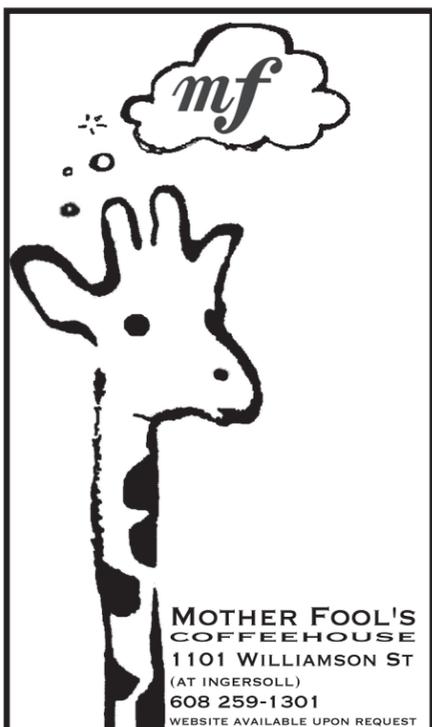
Finally, this is another example of the Governor putting private interests over the public good. Republicans love to speak about how the government should not 'choose winners and losers', and yet when it comes to education, they are choosing private, voucher schools as winners, and leaving our public schools behind.

I know that public education is not the failure Walker wants people to believe it is.

I believe in our public schools.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office regarding education or any other matters facing the state Legislature. Your opinions are important to me, and allow me to better serve you as a state representative.

Contact Info: 608-266-0960 or Rep. Sargent@legis.wi.gov

Remember to vote Tuesday, April 2


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Feeling off?

SENIOR

SENIOR Activities

NESCO North/Eastside Senior Coalition • 243-5252 • info@nescoinc.org

From
JIM KRUEGER
NESCO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



that would often cost you money and get your questions answered by the experts. Special thanks to our major sponsor MG&E.

Adult Prom

Come join the North/Eastside Senior Coalition staff and students from Black Hawk Middle School for a wild west evening of dancing and listening to your favorite songs. NESCO's Annual Adult Prom is at a different location this year and will take place Wednesday, May 15 from 6:30-8:30 pm at WPCRC. This is a free event. Our theme is the wild west. Come dressed in your best western attire. Prizes awarded for the best dressed cowboy and cowgirl. A disc jockey will play songs, both slow and fast, from the past and a few from the present for you to dance the night away. A senior king and queen are crowned at the end of the evening and share the last dance together. The rooms at Warner Park will be decorated western style and there will be plenty of light snacks, cake and refreshments to enjoy. Senior adults, both young and old, always have lots of fun. I hope to see you there.

The Wild, Wild NESCO

At the North/Eastside Senior Coalition (NESCO) we like to celebrate the end of winter with two major events, one full of information and the other full of fun.

Free Health Fair

On Friday, May 10 NESCO will hold our annual bilingual Health Fair from 9-11:30 am at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center (WPCRC). The Health Fair includes more than 12 FREE screenings such as strength testing, vision, bladder health, mobility and blood pressure. There will be more than 30 informational booths staffed by various agencies who assist senior adults with health issues or assisted living. This is a great opportunity for those 55-plus to get tests done

For over 35 years, the North/Eastside Senior Coalition (NESCO) has been enhancing the quality of life for all senior adults by providing programs, advocacy and resources that assist them to remain independent, active and influential in the community. The following programs will be offered at Warner Park Community Recreation Center (WPCRC), 1625 Northport Dr., unless indicated otherwise.

Upcoming events:

- April 2, 10:30 am** – Presentation on senior planning
 - April 16, 10 am** – Intergenerational activity with Sherman Middle School
 - April 22, 11 am** – *Euchre tournament and lunch at Lake View Church
 - April 23, 10 am** – *Annual Meeting and Volunteer Recognition Luncheon
 - April 30, 10 am** – Boomerang's Resale Store Spring Fashion Show
 - May 7, 10:30 am** – Presentation on Cap-Tel phones
 - May 10, 9-11:30 am** – Multicultural Health Fair
 - May 15, 6:30 pm** – Senior Adult Prom
 - May 20, 11:30 am** – *Euchre tournament and lunch
 - May 21, 10 am** – Intergenerational activity with Sherman Middle School
 - May 31, 10 am** – Intergenerational picnic with Lakeview Elementary School
- NESCO office is closed Monday, May 27.
* Must pre-register at 243-5252

Bingo – Fridays, 10:30 am, 5 cents a card (two card limit per game) with cash prizes.

Book Club – First Tuesday, 10 am

Cards and Puzzles – Kings Corner, Monday–Thursday, 10:30 am; Euchre, Mondays, 9:30 am; Sheepshead, first and third Wednesdays, 1 pm – Call ahead to assure correct numbers.

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 Interim Health Care co-sponsor four foot clinics each month for individuals who cannot do their own foot care and do NOT have diabetes. The cost is \$15; call 243-5252 for an appointment.

Home Chore Program –Volunteers are needed to help with cleaning for seniors. This is a flexible volunteer opportunity that can fit into your busy schedule and is very rewarding. Call Laura at 243-5252.

Low-Vision Support Group – Third Thursday each month, 10:15 am

Nutrition Education – Fourth Wednesday each month, 11 am

Nutritious lunches – Monday-Friday, 11:30 am; door-to-door bus service available (50 cents each way and free on Tuesdays and Fridays). Guests 60 years and older are invited to enjoy their meal on an anonymous donation basis. Suggested \$3. Anyone under 60 costs \$6.15. Reservations required by noon the day prior.

Senior Exercise – Wednesdays, 10:30 am

For more information on NESCO programs, please call 243-5252 or email info@nescoinc.org.

Ongoing programs:

The following ongoing programs and services are offered at WPCRC, 1625 Northport Dr.:

Visit www.NorthsideMadison.org for the online version of the Northside News



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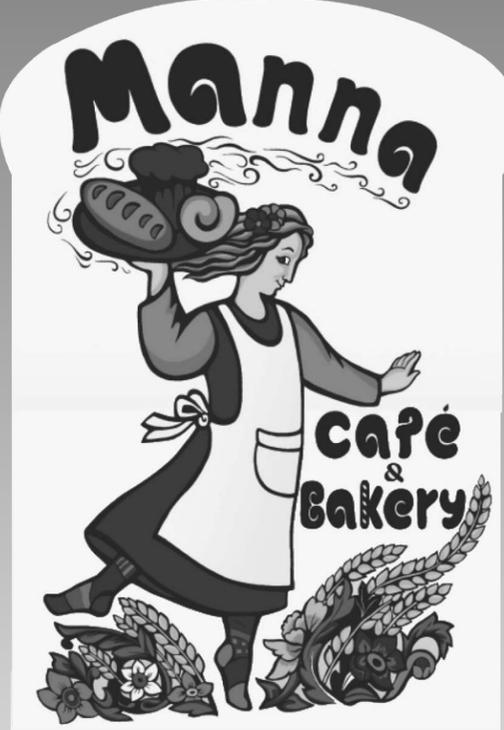
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Spring classes:

St. Mary's Hospital, 700 S. Park St.
Tuesdays, April 2 - May 14, 1-3 pm
Cost: \$35.00 (\$25.00 GoldenCare)
Call 258-5995 to register

St. Bernard's Catholic Church, Middleton
Wednesdays, May 15 - June 26, 9-11 am
Cost: \$35.00
Call 831-6531 ext. 223 to register

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WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

From

**BRAD
WEISINGER**

245-3690



WPCRC FACILITY MANAGER

Summer Fun

Early out and into fun

We encourage students to partake in safe activity, socialization and basketball at Warner Park Community Recreation Center. WPCRC offers free open gym and game room use for middle and high school students on Mondays, 4-5:30 pm. No ID card or admission fee is required for this timeslot (some basketballs are provided). We only ask that you wear proper gym shoes and display good behavior.

The game room provides space for youth to do homework (free Wi-Fi), play Wii or X-Box or play a game of pool or foosball. There are board games and puzzles upon request. Please call 245-3690, ext 0 for more information.

Ninth Annual 2013 SpringFest

Come for the fun, stay for the day and shop at the ninth annual SpringFest Arts and Craft Show. The show is Saturday, April 6 from 9 am-3 pm. There will be music, good food and fun aplenty. For more information call 245-3690, ext 0.

Bat Festival

The Wisconsin Bat Festival will be Saturday, June 1 at WPCRC. Families can learn about and see live bats from around the world and participate in hands-on activities.

Get in the swim

The City of Madison Parks Division is now taking summer registration for swim lessons and memberships for the Goodman Pool. The website for registration is www.cityofmadison.com/parks/pool. If you don't have an active account at the Goodman Pool, just email bweisinger@cityofmadison.com, and I will be glad to set up your account. Please provide your full name, phone number with area code, email address and mailing address, including street, city, state and zip.

A great award-winning activity at the Goodman Pool for 2013 is the Waves swim team. This is a community partnership between the Shelley Glover Sports

Education Foundation, the Irwin A. and Robert D Goodman Foundation and Madison Parks. Registering for the Goodman Pool Waves Swim Team is easy and convenient. Go online to www.cityofmadison.com/parks/pool, and click on "Online Registration." Use the following course numbers to register: 19900-1. You may also register by mail through the form at the back of the Goodman Pool 2013 Catalog. This team will do some traveling via bus to various swim meets. Scholarships are available. Children in fourth through twelfth grade are encouraged to register. The team is for children ages 8-17 years-old by June 1. Questions, call Brad Weisinger at 245-3691.

Kids love summer camp

Registration for MSCR Summer Programs at WPCRC, including Kids Kamp, begins March 11. Please call 245-3667 for more information.

Madison Audubon Art Fair

The Madison Audubon Society Art Fair, now in its 37th year, is a major fundraising event that helps support the Society's missions of wildlife habitat restoration and preservation, community education and advocacy on behalf of birds and the environment. The event is hosted at WPCRC and grounds. Come and enjoy Saturday, May 4 from 9:30 am-4:30 pm.

Fundraising tips for the Alzheimer's Walk/5K Run

By Brianna Scoville

More than \$130,000 was raised in the 2012 Alzheimer's Walk/5K Run, and the goal is to raise even more in 2013. The Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin (ADAW) will host the 15th Annual Alzheimer's Walk/5K Run on Saturday, Sept. 28 at Warner Park. Help ADAW reach its goal and put your fundraising efforts into high gear.

If you are looking for new ways to promote and fundraise, here are some ideas to inspire you:

Avid bicyclists, Jeff Tews and Susan Rather, embarked on a cross-country ad-

venture to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's disease. Owners of Bright-Star LifeCare, they rode a tandem bike from the Pacific Ocean in Washington back to Madison in 2012. This summer they will complete their journey by biking from Madison to the Atlantic Ocean. Susan will be blogging about their adventures along the way.

Holly Bieghley earns the title "Team Captain Extraordinaire" for her masterful use of third-party events to raise funds for her Memory Makers team. In 2012 Holly held nine events to raise money for her family team. From yard sales to dart tournaments to the Memory Motorcycle Ride,

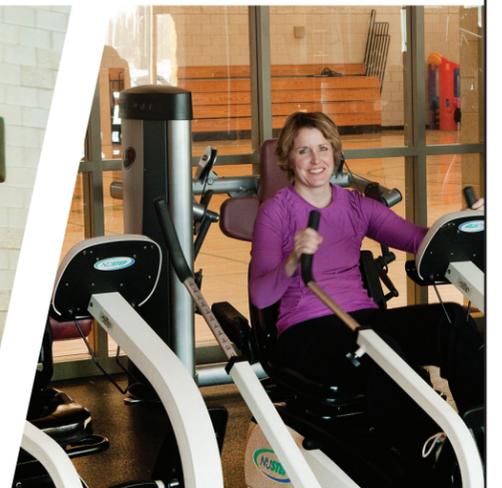
she raised more than \$6,000 for her team.

All it takes is a little imagination. Gather gently used purses, jewelry and scarves for a specialty auction at work. Sell Lia Sophia, Scentsy Candles, Silpada, or Pampered Chef and dedicate a percentage of your sales to your team. Contact a local restaurant to host a fundraising night with a percentage of the day's sales going to your team. Want more third-party fundraising ideas? Email Brianna Scoville, Marketing and Development Coordinator at brianna.scoville@alzwise.org for a list of what other Alzheimer's Walk/5K Run teams have done.

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