

Carpenter-Ridgeway Quarterly



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Guess Who's Coming to Dinner on March 24th?

On Tuesday, March 24th, from 6-8:30 neighbors will meet at Bethesda Church for pizza and a evening full of terrific presentations. Pizza arrives promptly at 6, dinner until 7, presentations begin at 7 in the Fireside Room. The lineup includes the following:

Marla Eddy - City of Madison Forester (Spring Gypsy Moth Spraying)

Ryan Orvis - MPD, Neighborhood Watch Tips

HNTB-Presentation on E. Washington Avenue Reconstruction & Aberg Pedestrian Bridge Projects

Sue Barker - Meals on Wheels

The Batman (Ken Boman) will talk about the benefits of having more bats in the neighborhood, and the possibility of releasing more (they love mosquitos)

Tom Snyder (New East District Captain)

Energy Kits will be given away as Door Prizes

We'll provide the salad, pizza, drinks, and the great entertainment, don't miss this event.

2008-2009 Membership Update

If you sent in your 2008-2009 Carpenter-Ridgeway Neighborhood Association Membership, thank you. This year we received more returned memberships than any other year, and neighbors were very generous in giving a little extra to the neighborhood. We appreciate all the support you give the association and the neighborhood!



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Earth Day Neighborhood Cleanup

You know spring is here when it's time for Earth Day. The neighborhood will participate in Earth Day activities this year by doing some weeding, raking, mulching, cutting, & clean up. We will meet at 9 a.m. until Noon on Saturday, April 18th behind Associated Bank at the Gateway Garden. Come with your family to get the neighborhood ready for Spring and Summer.



Will it be 2009 or 2010 for the Pedestrian Bridge?

As we deal with the Hwy 30 Bridge reconstruction, it may be possible the Aberg Avenue Pedestrian/Bike Bridge could also be constructed in 2009. It is slated to be built in 2009, however the city submitted the project as part of the new stimulus funds that Wisconsin will receive.

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Big Clearing Plans Along Starkweather Creek in 2009

For the past several years, we have continued to clear the banks along Starkweather Creek in the neighborhood. This year, thanks to City Engineering and Larry Nelson, the entire length of the creeks, both sides of the bank, will be cleared in late summer, early fall. This is perfect timing with the new pedestrian bridge being constructed over Aberg Avenue in 2010, maybe yet in 2009 if all goes well.

As part of the enhancements to the creek banks, we will reseed the banks in fall with a wildflower mix, similar to what we've done in the past to other cleared areas. In addition, the neighborhood will be applying for a city grant to create 2 interpretive signs with educational information about Starkweather Creek.



Neighborhood Watch Tips: Making Your Home More Secure

Don't give the burglar a helping hand. Most home burglars are amateurs looking for easy targets. They're looking for homes which present the least risk of detection; the greatest opportunity for easy gain; and the maximum potential for escape. They're looking for homes which appear to be unoccupied and unprotected; homes without adequate locks and lighting; open or unlocked doors and windows; and homes sites which provide easy concealment from neighbors and passing motorists.

Unfortunately, the burglar doesn't need to look around very long to discover "Welcome Burglar" signs unwittingly left around many homes. It is even more unfortunate when you realize all it takes to make your home less inviting to a burglar is a little common sense and several easy, effective and inexpensive crime prevention measures. Here are a few thoughts about how you can decrease your chances of becoming a burglary victim:

Survey Your Home

Look at your home through a burglar's eyes. Does it look like an easy target? Are there obvious security weaknesses?

Shrubbery should not obscure doors and windows. Trim the growth so that a burglar cannot work undetected. At night, leave a few lights burning outside your home. Lights over doorways and garages, and strategically placed floodlights (particularly those with motion detectors) will make your home less inviting to a burglar.

Windows and doors should be securely locked. Inadequate locks should be replaced or supplemented. Make your home look occupied at all times. Commonsense is all that is needed to identify most security weaknesses around your home.



Another Successful Food Drive

The annual Carpenter Ridgeway Neighborhood Association "Share the Love" food drive was held on Saturday, February 14th. The food gathered was donated to the East Madison Community Center Food Pantry. We had wonderful neighbor participation with over 40 households providing approximately 70 bags and boxes of food and other household supplies.

EMCC hosts a food, household items and clothing distribution on the fourth Tuesday of each month beginning at 12:00 noon (first come, first served). Pantry parcels include basic staples, specialty/holiday items and a selection of personal care items to choose from. People in our neighborhood have been invited to stop in and visit the food pantry and see what else is going on at the Center. If anyone is interested in volunteering at the Food Pantry or in any other program, call Regina Lloren at 249-0861.

Donations of clean and gently used household items and clothing are gratefully accepted at the Community Center Food Pantry any time, as well as dishes, appliances, furniture, baby and infant supplies, assorted linens and towels, bedding, clothing of all sizes, and more.

Our neighborhood has a reputation of being very generous, donating to the Community Center, Hawthorne School, the Hawthorne Branch Library or our own neighborhood programs. You all deserve a sincere thank you on behalf of those people who have been assisted by your generosity.



Volunteer Opportunity: Meals on Wheels

Home Health United delivers the noon meal 365 days a year to the homebound elderly and disabled in Madison, Monona and Middleton. A route takes about an hour from 4 pickup points in the city. Do you have room in your car and room in your heart? Our volunteers are often the only person the recipient sees that day. If you are able to help we can adapt to any schedule from daily to once a month. We also would be glad to help individuals and groups get service hours. Please contact Sue Barker, sbarker@hhuvns.org or call 276-7598.



Suggestions for New Garden Plants This Spring

Many people in the neighborhood like to garden, but often don't know what to plant. As the 2009 garden season approaches, listed below are a few suggestions for plants this year.

For Sun:

New Coneflowers

Mac 'n' Cheese: 26 in. tall, 18 to 24 in. wide

Tomato Soup: 32 in. tall and wide

Bloom - Summer

Soil - Well-drained soil

Light - Full sun

Hardiness - cold zones 4 to 9

For Shade:

Burning Hearts Bleeding Heart (Dicentra hybrid)

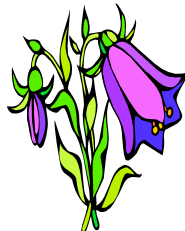
Size - 10 to 12 in. tall, 12 in. wide

Bloom - Early spring to fall

Soil - Moist, well-drained

Light - Part sun to shade

Hardiness - zones 3 to 8



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Windows, doors, skylights, insulation, air sealing, roofing, etc.

No Neighborhood Garage Sale This Year

After having several years of Annual Neighborhood Garage Sales, we have decided to take a year off and let residents collect items for a future neighborhood sale.

Don't forget about the March 24th General Meeting at Bethesda Church, 6-8:30. Free Pizza at 6, presentations at 7 in the Fireside Room.