

NEXT MEETING! 04/20/06

When: Thursday, 04/20/06
Where: Coliseum Restaurant and Bar
Time: 12 Noon - 1:15PM
Format: 12:00 Noon - Lunch
 12:15 - 1:15 - Announcement &
 Open Discussion and Meeting

*Please RSVP to Jean Vogel @273-6300 x160 or
 jeanv@sergenians.com by Noon on Tues 4/18*

www.SMBA-Madison.org

This Month's Meeting...

Updates from the City of Madison's Office of Business Assistance (OBR)

South Madison

- *Medical Main Street and Health City
- *Todd Drive Infrastructure Improvements, Development District, and TIF District
- *Brownfield Redevelopment Program in South Madison (East Isthmus and the Northside)

Business Retention

- *TID #24 Projects (Southeast Madison)
- *TomoTherapy
- *Covance Infrastructure Improvements and TID #34
- *Northeast Industrial Park Projects and Kipp Update (if we know anything)

East Isthmus

- *East Capital Gateway Corridor Planning and TIF District #36
- *Four Season's Public Market
- *800 Block of East Wash (Gorman TIF application)
- *Commercial Office and Retail Condos
- *Block 51

Planning

- *Affordable Business Sites (Not Housing) and the Role of Business Associations in Neighborhood Planning for Commercial Areas
- *The Role of NPC's in neighborhood planning and how we work with them as a city.
- *Regionalism
- *The Evolving EDC and Changes in OBR/DPD

- *Disaster Planning—East Washington Avenue Reconstruction Projects and Impacts on Businesses.
- *The Reorganization of the Economic and Business Development Functions of the OBR.
- *What's on SMBA's Agenda for 2006?

This Month's Speaker . . .

Michael Gay, Business Development Manager Office of Business Assistance, City of Madison

Michael Gay is the Business Development Manager with the Office of Business Resources inside the City of Madison Department of Planning and Development. He serves as the official liaison between city government and the business community. He works with the Mayor's Office and Chamber of Commerce on business expansion and retention (BEAR) program for major employers. Michael also acts as a liaison between the neighborhood business associations and the city, particularly for redevelopment projects and small business issues. The other various functions of his position include Brownfield redevelopment, marketing vacant and underutilized sites, and technical and financial assistance to small business startups, major employer attraction, and business district planning. Check out the OBR's web page (www.businessmadison.com) that profiles all these activities.

Michael Gay has a BS in Public Administration and an MS in Urban and Regional Planning. He spent several years in Latin America doing missionary work, master degree thesis research, and working with micro-enterprises. Michael does speak

2005-06 Officers & Board of Directors

Rob Waterman President rwaterman5615@charter.net	Edward Jones Investment	271-5100
Mike Flynn Past President mflynn@mononabank.com	Monona State Bank	223-5148
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Jim Garner jimj@sergenians.com	Sergenian's Floor Coverings	663-2520
Karen Johansen karenjo@madison.tds.net	Johannsen Greenhouse	271-6211
Margaret Miller mamiller@ecidesign.com	Electric Construction, Inc.	271-2046
Amy Hansen ahansen@magnapubs.com	InBusiness Magazine	204-9655
Joe Campana campana@prepaidlegal.com	Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc.	244-4772

Spanish. During the late 1980s he worked for the Wisconsin Department of Development (now the Department of Commerce). Prior to that Michael worked as Manager of a private consulting firm in the states of Iowa, Illinois and Wisconsin.

Board of Directors Call for Nominations

Four SMBA Board seats will expire this summer. We are seeking candidates for the SMBA Board. If you are a SMBA member in good standing, and you regularly attend SMBA lunch meetings, you are encouraged to give us your name for consideration and nomination. Any member may submit their name or nominate another member.

The responsibilities of SMBA Board Members are: to attend and actively participate in the monthly lunch Board Meetings (1st Thursday of each month) in addition to the monthly lunch Member Programs (3rd Thursday of each month).

If you are interested in being considered, submit your name to Rob Waterman at 271-5100 or Jim Garner at 663-2520. New board members will be elected at the SMBA Annual Meeting on June 15, 2006.

Mark Your Calendar

Mark your calendar for our May 18th meeting. You won't want to miss it! SMBA is co-hosting with the Fitchburg Chamber of Commerce to present Wisconsin Health Plan. This is a thoughtful presentation on addressing the current crisis in health care.

The Wisconsin Health Plan was unveiled on June 15, 2005, before a committee of the Wisconsin State Assembly. The plan's authors are David Riemer and Lisa Ellinger of the Wisconsin Health Project, and State Representatives Curt Gielow (23rd District) and Jon Richards (19th District).

Wisconsin currently faces a triple crisis in health care: the skyrocketing cost of health care, increasing numbers of uninsured, and a severe deficit in the state's Medicaid program.

Data show that employers now spend an average of 15% of payroll for employees' health care premiums. With health care costs rising 10-25% per year, this results in an adverse economic effect on wages, profits, job creation and new investment in Wisconsin.

At some point over the course of the year, over 500,000 Wisconsinites -- 10% of our population -- have no insurance coverage. Lack of insurance is a significant factor in premature death and bankruptcy.

Wisconsin's Medicaid program is facing a structural deficit because costs and caseloads are rising significantly faster than state revenues. The state has relied on short-term fixes to get by, yet this ongoing structural deficit continues to undermine other state priorities.

The authors introduced the Wisconsin Health Plan to encourage a genuine, thoughtful public debate about how we should address the

health care crisis in our state. **One of the main goals is to reduce the cost of doing business in Wisconsin, by lowering both health care costs and taxes and making it easier for Wisconsin employers to create jobs, pay higher wages and earn solid profits.**

The proposal has changed in a number of significant ways in response to feedback over the past several months. Finding reasonable solutions to such a complex problem is going to require patience, open mindedness, and a willingness to move forward in the spirit of compromise.

Business and labor leaders, the insurance industry and health care providers, consumers and advocacy groups, elected officials, and the people of Wisconsin are all encouraged to share concerns, ask questions, and offer suggestions to further improve the proposal. Solving Wisconsin's health care crisis will not be easy. It will require input, discussion and compromise from all involved.

Park Street Ready to Bloom

Park Street is about to bloom with the help of volunteers willing to plant flowers on Saturday, April 29. Join your neighbors planting flowers in the Park St. medians from the Villager Mall area to near St. Marys Hospital. Bring gloves and garden tools if you have them (green thumbs not required). Food and refreshments before and after the event.

Date: Saturday, April 29
Time: 1 pm - 3 pm
Place: 1602 South Park St. (meet at the South Madison Farmer's Market on the Labor Temple Lawn)

For more information call 770-1043. Thanks to our sponsors: Irish Lane Greenhouses, Cargo Coffee, Rotary Club of Madison South, St. Marys Hospital Medical Center, Goodland Tree Works, South Metropolitan Planning Council, and Park Street Partners.

And don't forget to catch the season opener of the South Madison Farmer's Market 9 am - 2 pm this same day!

New Member Welcome

As always please try to do business with fellow members and let them know that you are supporting them as part of the South Metropolitan Business Association. Please welcome the following new members and their representatives:

Detex Agency & Associates – Debt Collection Nationwide
- Eric Schultz

Rouse Management Company – Property Management/Development Company
- Joanna Rouse



Mark Your Calendar

S.M.B.A. MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

When: April 20, 2006

Speaker: Michael Gay
Office of Business Resources
City of Madison

SMBA meetings are held on the **third Thursday of every month at The Coliseum Bar from 12:00 Noon to 1:15 pm** unless otherwise indicated in the newsletter. Following is the meeting schedule for 2006:

May 18, 2006 – Wisconsin Health Plan Presentation
June 15, 2006 – Annual Meeting
July 20, 2006 – Denis Collins, Edgewood Professor
August 17, 2006 – TBA
September 21, 2006 – TBA

October 19, 2006 – TBA
November 16, 2006 – Craig Culver and Susan Bulgrin, Culver's Restaurants
December 21, 2006 – Mitch Henck, Radio Talk Show host

 **South Metropolitan
Business Association**

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