



Country Grove Courier

August 2006

The Country Grove Neighborhood Association Newsletter

www.countrygrove.org

Country Grove Neighborhood Association Board Members 2006-07

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president@countrygrove.org

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OPEN

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Social@countrygrove.org

Head Block Captain

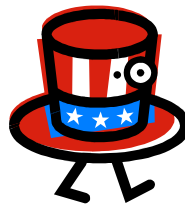
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SALUTE TO RED, BIKE & BLUE



The CGNA third annual Red, Bike & Blue was held on July 4, 2006.

Neighbors rode bikes, scooters, and skateboards, or rode in wagons and strollers (along with their parents - and some pets!). Participants were dressed in red, white, blue and other patriotic attire.

A squad car with one of Madison's finest announced our arrival as we trekked through the neighborhood. After the one-mile ride participants were rewarded with popsicles at the park. Every parade participant also received festive patriotic wristbands, bracelets and star-shaped sunglasses.

Thank you to those neighbors who came out to wave and cheer us on our way! It was wonderful to have your smiles greet us along the parade route.

We are already planning how next year's Red, Bike & Blue will be bigger and better! Thank you to all those who participated in this fun event! And, a special thank you to the Trummer family for making our parade a success.

We want to know what you would like to see in your neighborhood newsletter. Interested in submitting an article? Issues you'd like to see addressed? Email us at newsletter@countrygrove.org

A word from CGNA President Pam James:

Dear Neighbors,

Each year the CGNA board, committee members and block captains focus on how best to allocate our time and our collective membership funds across various services and events for the neighborhood. As we have grown and changed as a neighborhood (we are 15+ years old!) we would like your input as to whether we are focusing on those things that are most important to you, if there are things you would like to see added, changed or discontinued.

Over the years, the annual budget and expenditures have been in balance and or slightly favorable. The allocation of funds has been fairly predictable, with similar events and services provided each year. As we make significant changes to that, I would like to keep you informed of decisions we as a board are making. An example of such a change was our decision to devote a portion of the 2006 budget to the upkeep and maintenance of the entrance at Tanglewood & PD and Country Grove & PD. As the plantings have aged, and we have been unable to keep up with them with volunteers, we have contracted with Nature Scape, for regular mowing and treating the grass for weeds. I hope you will all agree (and have noticed) that this was an improvement! At the same time, you may have also noticed that the beds and bushes are also getting out of control with weeds. While we have had a few "weed and mowing elves", who we would like to thank for trying to keep things under control, we are investigating additional options for this upkeep.

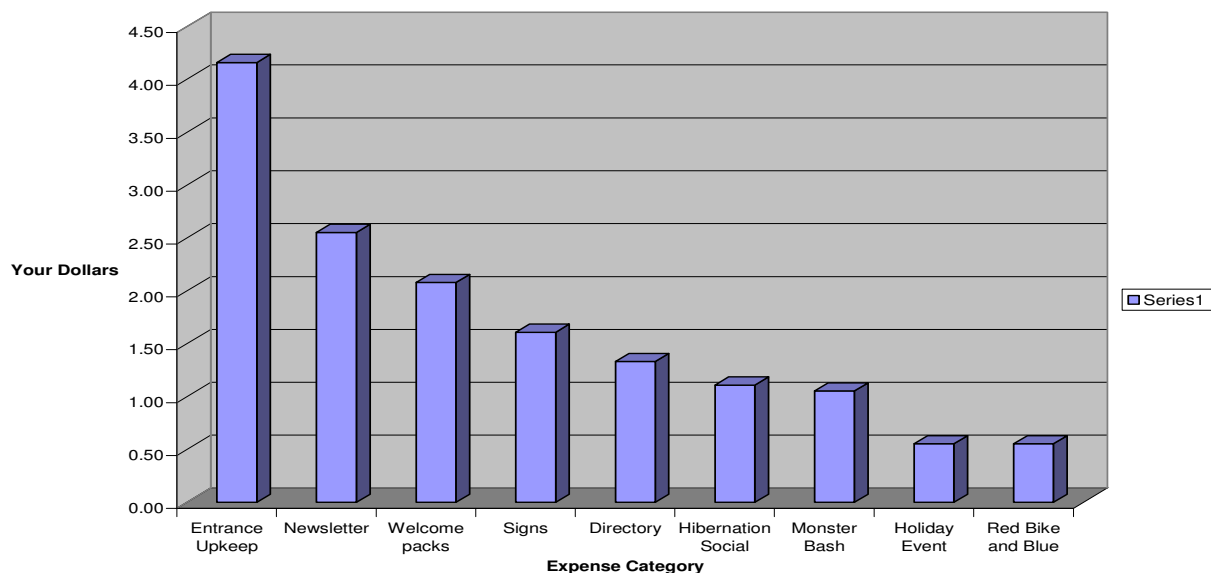
With all that said, and as one example of an improvement we felt was important to the neighborhood, we will be conducting a short survey to assess how well we are meeting your needs and gather your input on ideas for improvements. We will be circulating the survey as a pre-cursor to our annual membership drive this fall. The results of this survey will be shared with all of you, used to guide us in the use of our time and financial resources to improve the neighborhood and help us focus efforts on those issues most important to you as homeowners.

To give you a perspective on the current allocation of funds the graph below shows how the current \$15 per household is split between maintenance, several social events and several communication avenues.

We are looking forward to your input from the survey. Look for the survey to be delivered by your block captains later this month. We would greatly appreciate your open and honest feedback so that we can all work together to continually improve our neighborhood.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and stay cool! - Pam

CGNA Membership Fee Allocation



County Board Supervisor Update:

Greetings:

I hope this finds you well as the summer comes to an end and school is just around the corner. This summer has really gone fast as it seems like we were just watching the Fourth of July fireworks.

The summer has been stagnant on the County Board as there really have not been a lot of resolutions brought forth. I did just sign off on several training grants for the Sheriff's Office and equipment purchases through Homeland Security grants. With shrinking county dollars, any federal grant dollars are widely appreciated.

Specifically I supported a resolution to purchase 64 new radios in which they replaced some from 1988. In addition to serving on the Public Protection and Judiciary Committee, which has oversight of the Sheriff's Office and Courts, I also serve on the Human Services Board. The Human Services Board will begin public hearings shortly on their proposed budget. It is at this time that leaders receive feedback as to how the programs are performing and how to best spend taxpayer dollars. I was recently in a meeting in which it was stated that Madison is a magnet for those with mental health issues, to the number of 4,000 current residents needing public assistance with their mental health. As this number continues to grow, due to our

services, the waiting list becomes longer and longer.

Another rise in cost is the number of days the County has to pay for individuals housed at Mendota Mental Health on the north side of Madison. Some individuals cost thousands of dollars a week to house at this facility due to their situation. In response, the County is already hundreds of thousands of dollars over budget for this line item because of the unanticipated increase in individuals needing crisis intervention.

As you know, I am running for Dane County Sheriff this November. The campaign is in full gear and it is going well. Many of you have offered to help with the race and please know that I appreciate your efforts. The important issues that I will pursue as Sheriff are: traffic safety, jail overcrowding, addressing a large gang issue in Dane County and recruitment and retention of a diverse workforce. I have proven success in the corporate sector as a human resource manager and success on the County Board as well.

Thank you and enjoy the last "dog days of summer". As always, please feel free to reach me at 206-5550 or via email at hanson24@hotmail.com if you have questions.

Take care.
Mike Hanson
County Board Supervisor

NEIGHBOR NEWS

"Girls Just Want to Have Fun" may be the theme song for some of our newest neighbor gals because they just could not WAIT to get here:



Ashley Ruth Dawson came 5 days early on June 14 - weighing 7 lbs 4 oz and 20 ½ inches long. Matthew & Andrea Dawson are the proud parents of not only Ashley, but Emily, Daniel and Amanda.

Kelly & Craig Weisensel welcomed baby **Leah** on July 11 - 15 days early. Leah weighed 8 lbs 2oz and measured in at 20 inches. She joins big sister Eryn in the Weisensel family.

Clay Geenen is the proud big brother of **Sophia Marie** born on July 14 - one month early. Baby Sophie weighed 5 lbs and was 18 inches long. Completing the Geenen family of four are Dad Stuart and Mom Joy.

We wish all these families much happiness with their new daughters!

If you know of other new babies in the neighborhood, accomplishments by any of our wonderful neighbors (graduation, weddings, milestone anniversaries, etc.), as well as new neighbors to Country Grove, please contact your block captain or membership@countrygrove.org so we can welcome them with a small gift from the CGNA.

Party Planners R Us at CGNA

If you are interested in renting the large white tent that you have seen used at CGNA picnics, please contact Glori at social@countrygrove.org. It's perfect for the festivities in your very own backyard

If you're interested the tent also comes with a volleyball net for further enjoyment at your gathering. The rental cost is \$20 for CGNA members and \$30 for non-members who are residents of Country Grove Estates.

Be sure to contact your insurance agent to see if there may be hail damage to your roof or siding.



Interested in placing a business ad in the Country Grove Courier?
The newsletter is delivered to over 300 homes.
advertise@countrygrove.org

As a courtesy to our neighbors, please remember to keep trash and recycling bins in your garage.



702 N. High Point Road
Madison, WI 53717

I'M YOUR NEIGHBOR
on Maple Point Drive.

*I sincerely care about
our neighborhood.*

*With over 30 years of experience,
I can help you with any
of your real estate needs.*

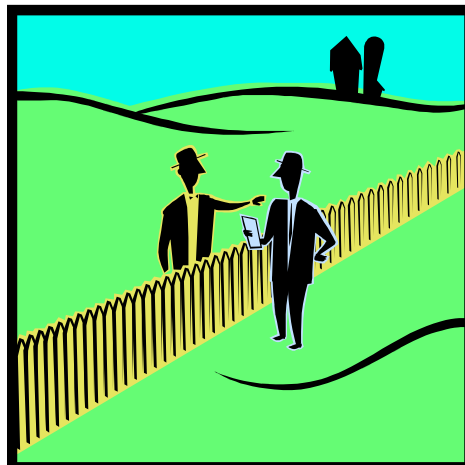
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www.libbymonson.com



Alderman Zach Brandon

has a blog to keep constituents updated on developments in our district. Look for updates regarding traffic calming along East Pass as well as the addition of a shelter at Country Grove Park.

www.zachbrandon.blogspot.com

Madison All City Swim



Did you know that every year Madison holds one of the largest outdoor swimming competitions in the country? This year saw over 1500 swimmers competing from clubs all across the city. Look how well some of your neighbors did in 2006:

Rachel Burke -

9th in 11-12 Breaststroke

11th in 11-12 Free relay

12th in 11-12 Medley relay

Patrick Corcoran -

12th in 12-14 Medley relay

Rachel Gage -

15th place in 15-18 diving

15th in 15-18 free relay

Amber Hermus -

6th place in 15-18 diving

Mackenzie King -

1st in 15-18 Medley Relay

4th in age 15-18 freestyle

7th in 15-18 fly

1st in 15-18 free relay

Roark Lundal -

14th in 8 & under Medley relay

16th in 8 & under Free relay

Ryan Menninga -

9th place age 9-10 Medley Relay

11th place in 9-10 Backstroke

9th place in Free relay

Nick Menninga -

8th place in 11-12 Medley Relay

11th place in age 11-12 freestyle

13th place in 11-12 Free Relay

Andie Smith -

13th place Age 9-10 Medley Relay

Sam Smith --

9th place Age 10 and under diving

Erik Thiessen --

10th place Age 15-18 diving

Cole Turner -

10th in 8 & under Backstroke

10th in 8 & under Freestyle

14th in 8 & under Medley relay

16th in 8 & under Free relay



Monster Bash 2007 needs your help to be a success...

We are looking for a number of volunteers to help with this event that has been such fun for our kids and the young at heart in years past. We will once again be combining this party with the Glacier Ridge Neighborhood Association. If you can help out, please contact Glori at social@countrygrove.org.

The Vinery

Stained Glass Studio

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Madison, WI 53711
608.271.2490



Classes are starting now
mosaics
fused glass
beadmaking
stained glass

www.vineryglass.com



Register Now for Spring Session
which runs from March 13—June 9.



Call 833-2785 or Visit us on the web
at kittelsonswim.com.

Wondering how your CGNA Membership Dues will be spent in 2006?

Current projections:

Entrance Upkeep	\$750
Newsletters	\$352
Neighborhood Directory	\$840
Signs	\$288
Welcome Kits	\$375
Website	\$50
Social Events	\$694



2935 S. fish Hatchery
608.278.2488 (phone)

Madison, WI 53711
608.278.2489 (fax)

For more information about our neighborhood and its happenings, Check out our web site



www.countrygrove.org

LISA MOHAR, CRS, GRI
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Wishing all the students and teachers in our neighborhood a safe and successful school year!