

CAPITOL NEIGHBORHOODS, INC.

DOWNTOWN DIALOGUE

CAP RAPS

Busy Season Downtown

by Adam Plotkin



As you can tell by the turning of the leaves, the drop in temperature...and a calendar...fall is upon us. It is a busy time for the downtown with the return of our student neighbors, the football season, and more outdoor activities than you can count. Personally, fall is my favorite season and so far it has been a good one.



It is also a busy time for activity downtown in terms of policies working their way through our city government that will have a profound impact on the near and long term future for Madison.

Downtown Plan: The draft of the Downtown Plan was released on September 23. Each district of

CNI gave input to city staff prior to release of the report, but it is vitally important that residents downtown review and give additional input now that a comprehensive plan has been released. This document, once adopted, will form a guideline for development downtown for the next 15-20 years.

City Process Reform: The Economic Development Committee will be meeting on October 6 to review recommendations from staff regarding changes to the process for review and approval of development pro-

posals by city committees and the Common Council. CNI's Development Review Oversight Committee, chaired by Pete Ostlind, submitted comments on CNI's behalf that will be considered in the formulation of the recommendations. The results of a citywide Neighborhood Association meeting in July have also been entered in the record. CNI was well represented at the July meeting and received positive feedback from other Associations on the usefulness of our Developer Protocols.

High-Speed Rail: Plans for the high speed rail station to be located at the current state Department of Administration building, 101 E. Wilson, have been moving quickly. Designs for the rail corridor and the station itself are being formed collaboratively by the state Department of Transportation and the City.

Public Market Square: In conjunction with the development of the high speed rail, the City has hired George Austin to facilitate development of what is being called the "Public Market Square." Comprised of the blocks that are currently occupied by the Madison Municipal Building and the Government East parking ramp, plans include creation of approximately 1200 parking spots, a Public Market space, possibly some office space, and also possibly a hotel.

Central Library: The redevelopment of the Central Library branch on the corner of East Mifflin and Fairchild is also proceeding quickly. The city and the architect, in association with CNI, are hosting a series of public meetings to gather and incorporate public comment into the design of the redeveloped

Cap Raps Continued on page 3

Slowing the Scourge of Alcohol Abuse

By Dane County Executive Kathleen Falk

After watching too many families torn apart and needlessly suffering because of alcohol abuse, two years ago this fall I embarked upon a new, aggressive countywide campaign to counter the many scourges excessive drinking causes our families and communities.



With your help, we expanded the county's "Pathfinders" program that rehabilitates alcohol offenders and helps them find housing and work. We launched a brand new program in our middle schools to help prevent the next generation of starting drinking in the first place and created a first-of-its-kind county coalition to spearhead needed change with a culture that's

far too accepting of drinking, just to get drunk.

While we've made much progress with those efforts, there's still much work to do.

I was reminded of that during a recent visit I made to a facility known as "Detox." The center run by Tellurian and funded in part by the county is the place where those who have had many more than one too many, go to sober up.

On a Badger football Saturday, Detox is often full long before the sun goes down. Police cars pull in and drop off drunks who will spend their next 12 hours drying out.

Most law enforcement officials report the vast majority of the calls they respond to after 8:00 p.m. somehow involve alcohol. That probably helps explain why half the sentenced inmates in the Dane County jail on any given day are there for alcohol related criminal offenses. Alcohol abuse costs taxpayers - - the sheriff's department and jail cost over \$60-million a year to operate.

To continue the progress we've made, we're doing more. The Dane County Coalition to Reduce Alcohol Abuse has launched a new tool to help people assess whether those "few drinks" after work each night may be indicative of a bigger problem.

The "eCheckup to Go" helps people learn about their alcohol tolerance and identify personal and family risk factors and strategies to get help before drinking problems escalate.

This new assessment is available at: <http://www.countyofdane.com/commissions/alcohol> ❖

Steady Progress, Tangible Results

by Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin

My overarching priorities in this session of Congress have been rebuilding our economy, creating jobs, and expanding access to health care. These are the greatest needs in Madison and the rest of the district I represent as we work to recover from the worst economic disaster since the Great Depression.



The recovery is slower than any of us would like, but we are making steady progress and there are some recent tangible results to report.

The pace of recovery has been slowed by the lack of available credit to small businesses. With the enactment of legislation signed at the end of September, up to \$300 billion in private sector lending will

be available for small businesses, along with state grants for small business lending. Equally important, because the bill also closed tax loopholes, this lending will not add one dime to the deficit.

The high cost of, and lack of access to, quality health care are the issues that first led me to seek a seat on the Dane County Board representing the Isthmus back when I was in law school.

Because of the new health care reforms, the law now allows young adults to stay on their family health plans until they turn 26. As of now, health plans must cover immunizations for kids and mammograms and cholesterol screenings for adults. Most important, plans can't drop you because you get sick and they must cover kids with pre-existing conditions. In a few years, they can't deny coverage to anyone because of a pre-existing condition.

If you are a small business owner seeking information about new programs to help grow your business or an individual seeking more information on the new health care benefits, I urge you to call my office at 258-9800 or email me through my website: www.tammybaldwin.house.gov. ❖



Elizabeth Link Peace Park

by Mary Carbine

Madison's Central Business Improvement District (BID) is pleased to provide staffing for the new Visitor Center in the renovated Elizabeth Link Peace Park (452 State Street), in cooperation with Madison Parks. Funded by downtown business and property owners, Madison's Central BID supports retail, restaurant, hospitality and service businesses in the State Street and Capitol Square areas, and works to make downtown the region's top destination to shop, dine and play.

The Downtown Ambassador team includes both part-time staff and volunteers—people who love downtown, and who want to help others enjoy downtown as well. Ambassadors work as "downtown concierges," offering maps and brochures, event information, downtown directions, shopping and dining suggestions, and a friendly smile. In 2009, Downtown Ambassadors helped more than 32,000 people, operating out of seasonal booths on State Street and the Capitol Square. Ambassadors help many more people each year from the new year-round Visitor Center, which includes a visitor information desk and public restrooms. Visitors

and residents alike are encouraged to stop by the following hours:

October-December:

Monday-Tuesday: 11am – 2pm

Wednesday – Sunday: 11am – 5pm

January-April:

11am – 2pm daily

May-September:

Monday-Tuesday: 11am – 2pm

Wednesday-Friday: 11am – 5pm

Saturday: 9am – 5pm

Sunday: 11am – 4pm

For more information, see

www.visitdowntownmadison.com ❖

Mary Carbine is Executive Director of Madison's Central Business Improvement District

Cap Raps Continued from page 1

building.

As you can see, there are plenty of opportunities to get involved in current issues that will have a profound impact on the downtown for decades to come. Meetings of city committees and additional information on these proposals are available on the City of Madison website at www.cityofmadison.com.

If you would like to get more information or get involved on any of these issues, please feel free to contact me any time at plotkinaj@gmail.com. Enjoy the rest of Autumn 2010! ❖

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Have Your Pet Groomed on the Square

by Lynn Phelps

If you should walk down West Mifflin Street on the Square, you will notice a new establishment devoted to the most important part of your family, i.e. your pet.

Michelle Lonergan has recently opened Tabby & Jack's Pet supplies and Grooming as a second location in the area. The first Tabby & Jacks was started 3 years ago on Madison's west side, and another store was opened in Fitchburg 2 years ago. The west side location has moved to the Square.

I visited Michelle a few days ago at her new location at 14 W. Mifflin St., and found her to be a person who is very devoted to the animals she works with. She had a little dog named Milo in a cage in her grooming room, waiting for his owner.

Quoting Michelle "We specialize in all natural products, such as foods that don't have any corn, wheat or soy in them, no by-products and no chemical preservatives. A lot of pet owners are really conscious about feeding their pets a healthier diet so that they can live longer and a more high quality life. We specialize in nutrition, even for dogs and cats that may have allergies or some sensitivities, suffering from kidney or liver diseases. We can usually find a holistic alternative for the pets. That is our first and foremost focus.

"We also do holistic grooming, meaning that we eliminate as many stressors out of the grooming room as possible to make the dog's visit as comfortable as possible. As an example, we do no cage drying here. Cage drying is something that about 90% of grooming salons use to dry the dogs after their bath. They attach a drier unit to the cage door and the drier blows on the dog constantly for sometimes up to an hour to dry them.

"Here we use a velocity drier, talking to the dog constantly as we brush and groom them. This makes it a more comfortable environment for them. That way they can tell us if there is an area that they are sensitive to. It's more hands on. The idea is to make the animal as comfortable with the procedure as possible.

"We take our grooming by appointment only. We don't do such things as 9 o'clock drop offs and return to pick up at 2. Your dog doesn't want to be here for 5 hours. It's a very stressful time for them. We encourage the owner to pick up the dogs an hour after dropping them off to avoid the stresses of an unfamiliar environment. The products used for grooming are com-

pletely chemical free in that the products are natural and include healing oils."

Michelle's parents started a holistic pet products distributing company over 25 years ago. They distribute in Wisconsin and Illinois. Therefore she grew up in the environment of holistic care of animals. Her brother will be taking over the wholesale company, which is located in Rockford, Ill.

She mentioned that there are quite a few grooming places in the Madison area, but she has the only one downtown.

She did some research regarding moving the Westside location to a larger drawing area. She was looking for an area lacking in a pet supply store and there wasn't anything within a 6 block radius of the Square. She learned that 26,000 people work within the 6 block radius of the Square, and that there are 23,000 people living in the area, not counting the 40,000 students who attend the University. Ergo, the Square would be a good place to settle.

Tabby & Jacks has been open a few weeks and by far the population is more cats than dogs.

Although she and her staff groom dogs in the store, they also have a mobile van unit that goes to the home. They groom the cats in the mobile unit. We have found that cats get stressed out just getting to the store and we try to be as holistic as possible. A dog has a mouth to bite you with and a cat has a mouth as well as claws. They have two groomers for the Square store. Marcelle Richards does the grooming at the store and Elicia Ross does the mobile grooming. We can do cats and dogs in the mobile unit and there is a surcharge for using the van.

The price for grooming is \$45.00 an hour in the store. Small dogs usually takes about an hour. If it's a larger dog, it may take longer. A lighter groom costs about \$35.00. Full groom includes a hair cut to the client's specification, cleaning the ears, cutting the nails and expressing the anal glands. They specialize in dogs belonging to senior citizens.

They don't have a veterinarian attached to the store, but they work closely with Whole Pet veterinary clinic on Park Street (see their ad on page 6). Michelle considers Tabby & Jacks as a holistic clinic, so it is natural that they would work with a holistic veterinary service.

I took the picture of Michelle holding Milo. She is obviously a lover of animals and I wish her the greatest success in her new cat and dog digs on the Square. ❖



More Info From Joe

by Joe Bonardi

My story this issue has two topics, one being my usual updates on Period Garden Park, and the other is concerning the state of our historical designation plaques around the city.



With Fall coming on, there is still much to see and enjoy at Period Park at this time of year.

Granted, the flower displays are somewhat less, but it is far from over until the first frost. The cannas are magnificent this year, and it is no wonder that the Victorians loved them so much.

They are still in bloom at the time of this writing, along with

four o'clocks, salvias, chrysanthemums, impatiens and asters. The garden took a beating with the advent of a hail storm a few weeks ago, but the hostas are struggling through, and will return better than ever next year.

It was nice to see so many more wedding party's visit this year for photo's, so many in fact, I lost count. There was no destructive behavior to speak of since the beginning of the season, thanks in part to the services of JBM security patrol that walks through the park three times each night, April through October. The patrol service is paid for through our private funding and is very necessary to insure the safety of the park.

It is sad to report that with all the people that are beginning to visit and appreciate our lovely park, that donations have all but dried up this year compared to the last few seasons. I do understand that economic times are difficult, but it only takes a total of \$4,000 annually to keep the park in good, safe condition. To the few who gave this year, I am grateful. To the many possible donors that live near or come to visit, please find a way if you can to contribute, or there will be less to enjoy in the coming year. There is no money from the city budget, and we are totally dependent on donations. To make your much needed, tax deductible financial gift, make a check out to;

Capitol Neighborhoods Inc./ Period Garden Park

Send to the address of CNI in this newsletter.

All labor and care for the park is done

with volunteer help, coordinated by me. A special thank you to Sandra Jones for her dedicated help and great company in caring for the park.

The other project I'm excited about is the new historical designation plaques that have long ago been promised to the city. I understand there are over 80 bronze plaques that are waiting to be made and installed through out the many districts, and the city has been slow to get this project done. The mandate was passed several years ago, and it is the duty of the city to see the project carried through. This is now getting serious attention, and I urge everyone to contact all Alders to make sure the city does not let this opportunity slip away and become a victim of a budget excuse. A mandate was made, and the city needs to be reminded to keep their promises.

There are many existing, older plaques, and I have undertaken a plan to refurbish the ones in my neighborhood. Most are unreadable and over grown with weeds. I found a method using oil based metal paint and gold leaf for the letters that makes them seem like new and readable again. I have done only three, but I hope to get more done next year.

Remember to contact all Alders concerning the new plaques for all the districts, as we owe our past to the future of Madison. ❖

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Community Car, The Key to Green

by Alison Hohl

Community Car is the Madison-based carsharing organization that rents cars by the hour throughout the city, with a large concentration in the downtown area. In fact, 3 of the 19 cars available are located around the Capitol Loop and 15 cars are within 2 miles of downtown! Whether you are a student, faculty or staff at the University or a professional in the downtown area, Community Car can be a great alternative transportation method. Carsharing helps reduce traffic congestion and alleviates parking demand. Community Car allows its members to access any car with a reservation to a wide variety of fuel efficient cars. Rates range from \$3-\$9.75 per hour, gas and insurance included.

Interested in joining or learning more? Visit Community Car online at www.communitycar.com or by phone at 608.204.0000. Questions? Feel free to contact Alison Hohl, Member Relations Manager at alison.hohl@communitycar.com.

Community Car: Gives You the Key to Green ❖



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Fall Events at the WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM

🎃 Halloween Week

Experience a fun-filled week for all ages interested in the spooky and supernatural! From October 27-29, enjoy **Ghost Crafts** and **Colorful Character Appearances** from 10 am-3 pm daily. And from 2-3 pm daily, see three of Wisconsin writer August Derleth's horror stories come to life on the screen.

More Special Programs:

Tue, Oct. 26: *In Badger Boneyards: The Eternal Rest of the Story.* 12:15-1 pm.

Wed, Oct. 27: *Weird and Strange Wisconsin.* 12-1 pm.

Thur, Oct. 28: *I'm Not Scared: Ghostly Songs and Stories from Wisconsin.* 12-1 pm.

Fri, Oct. 29: *The Works and Life of August Derleth.* 12-1 pm.

For more details, please call 608-264-6555.

Taste Traditions of Wisconsin:

APPLES Thursday, November 11, 6:30-8:30 pm.

Discover apples with author Dan Bussey. Sample an assortment of apples and learn which are best for eating, baking, and storing. Cost to attend is \$10.00. Registration and payment needed by November 4. To register, call 608-264-6563, email museum@wisconsinhistory.org or visit shop.wisconsinhistory.org



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Madison Masonic Center Opens Its Doors For Some Fun Films For The Holiday Seasons.

by Ryan Helgeson, AH-HA Productions

Kick off your Halloween celebration with the classic film ABBOTT & COSTELLO MEET FRANKENSTEIN on Sunday, October 17th, at 1 PM.

In this 1948 classic, the world of freight handlers Chick Young (Bud Abbott) and Wilbur Grey (Lou Costello) is turned upside down when the remains of Frankenstein's monster and Dracula arrive from Europe to be used in a house of horrors. When the full moon rises, the Wolfman, Dracula, and Frankenstein all run rampant. Distributed by NBC-Universal; 1948; black & white; sound: 83 minutes.

The old 1947 classic MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET is slated for Sunday, December 5th.

Built from 1923 - 25, the Madison Masonic Center continues to house the activities of Freemasonry and is available to the community as a resource for events and meetings. The center also houses the Madison 32nd Degree Masonic Learning Center for Children, one of the Scottish Rite Masons 32° Learning Centers, providing free, one-on-one tutoring to children with dyslexia. Approximately 30 students are served through this program.

Additionally, it houses an 800+ seat auditorium/theater space, featuring a Wangerin pipe organ (1925. Opus 387). It is one of two original, working pipe organs in the building. Prelude music will be played on this magnificent instrument by local musician Michael Hillstad beginning at 12:30 PM before the film.

Free, guided tours of the building will be offered following the film.

The Madison Masonic Center is an official state and local landmark, and is listed on The National Register of Historic Places.

For more information about the building, parking or the movie series, please visit: www.madisonmasoniccenter.org

Collector Plate Cinema is a fundraiser for Madison Masonic Center Foundation, produced in conjunction with AH!-HA! Productions and WKOW - Channel 27. ❖

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Letter to the Editor:

Madison West High School's PTSO will include a huge rummage sale as part of its fourth annual West Fest Saturday November 6 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the West High cafenasium. More than 40 vendors representing West clubs, artists, and sports will have handmade gifts, food items, jewelry, pottery and other items for sale just in time for the holidays. Well-known companies like Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Lia Sophia, and others also will be part of the festival. The Regent Resale will include kid and youth sports equipment, gently used West gear, nice teen and adult clothes, electronic and board games, housewares, and much more. Face painting and other kiddie activities to keep the family busy while you shop! All proceeds to West High classrooms, clubs, and athletics. Donations can be made starting November 3 in the tech ed area off the Van Hise teacher parking lot. For questions, contact Beth Swedeen at ineedmycoffee2@aol.com Thanks!

Beth Swedeen

Letter to the Editor:

Would you like to help make a difference "One Meal at a Time?" Home Health United Meals on Wheels delivers the noon meal to the elderly and physically disabled in Madison, Monona and Middleton. A route takes about an hour and very specific directions are given to each recipients' home. We will work with any schedule. This is a great family activity, and we can also help with community service hours, projects for scouts, churches and school groups! Contact Sue at 276-7598, sbarker@hhuvns.org or view our web site: www.homehealthunited.org.

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GS1339 10/29/2007

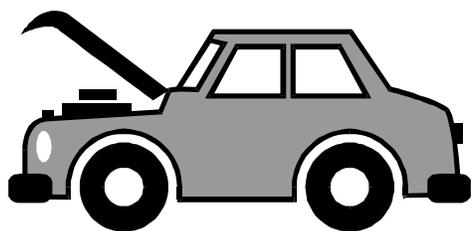
New and Renewed Members of Capitol Neighborhoods August-September, 2010

Christine Beatty
Eliot Butler
Mary Jane Carpenter
A. S. Earl
Peter Giese
Rev'd D. J. Grieser
Gertrude Hall
Howard Johnson
Jan Klund
Scott Kolar
Peggy LeMahieu

William May
Ruth Meier
Anne Monks
Lupe Montes-Tydrich
Jerome Pasdo
Lynn Phelps
Sally Phelps
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Dean Richards
Kathy Richards
Peg Scholtes

David Schuster
Barbara Schwab
John Sheean
Dorothy Slivicki
Florian Smoczynski
Bert Stitt
Sharon Stumbras
Ruth S. Tsotsis
Brian Tydrich
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*Madison Magazine's 2008 Reader Poll

MMoCA's Upcoming Programs
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FILM

The Fog of War (Dir: Errol Morris, 2003, 35mm, 107 min.) —
Fri, Oct 15 • 7 pm

The Fog of War tells the story of America as seen through the eyes of the former Secretary of Defense, Robert S. McNamara, who takes us on an insider's view of the seminal events of the twentieth century. From the firebombing of 100,000 Japanese civilians in Tokyo in 1945 to the brink of nuclear catastrophe during the Cuban missile crisis to the devastating effects of the Vietnam War, *The Fog of War* examines the psychology and reasoning of the government decision-makers who send men and women to war. Presented with the UW-Madison Arts Institute as part of the "Elusive Truths: The Cinema of Errol Morris" retrospective.

TALK

Errol Morris Discusses Photography and Truth — Fri, Oct 22 • 4-5 pm

Noted filmmaker Errol Morris will speak in MMoCA's lecture hall on "Photography and Truth," a subject on which he has written extensively. The lecture caps "Elusive Truths: The Cinema of Errol Morris," a month-long program of film screenings, talks, and discussions, and a symposium planned in tribute to Morris, a 1969 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

TALK

Fred Stonehouse on the Clayton Brothers — Thu, Oct 28 • 12:30-1 pm

Acclaimed artists and UW-Madison assistant professor Fred Stonehouse will discuss works on view in *Clayton Brothers: Inside Out*. Stonehouse will focus on the artists' references to popular culture, stylistic and painterly choices, and creative process.

FILM

Spotlight Cinema — Thu, Oct 28 • 7 pm

Winnebago Man follows Jack Rebney, an RV salesman whose hilarious, foul-mouthed outbursts circulated underground on VHS tapes in the 1990s before turning into a full-blown Internet phenomenon. Free for MMoCA members; \$7 general admission.

EVENT

Arts Ball — Sat, Nov 6 • 7 pm

Join the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art and the Madison Symphony Orchestra for an enjoyable evening in support of the arts. Tickets include dinner, drinks, and dancing with the band *public i* of Chicago and Las Vegas.

FILM

Spotlight Cinema — Thu, Nov 11 • 7 pm

Pedro González-Rubio's sumptuously photographed second feature, *Alamar*, tells the story of Natan, a five-year-old boy who travels with his father to the pristine Banco Chinchorro—the richest coral reef in Mexico—where he learns to dive for lobster and fish for barracuda. Free for MMoCA members; \$7 general admission.

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Keep Your P Out of Our Lakes

by Genesis Steinhorst

Phosphorus (or P for you chemists out there) is important for the growth of plants. It is commonly found in lawn fertilizers. It is also found in the beautiful fall leaves that homeowners rake each autumn. It is possible to take advantage of this nutrient by mulching the leaves with your lawn mower, then either leaving them on your lawn, raking them into your gardens, or tossing them into your compost bin for use next spring as fertilizer.

If you have too many leaves to use on your own property, then rake them to the terrace for city crews to collect (or haul them to the yard waste collection sites). Please be careful they don't end up in the street – they can clog storm drains that could lead to flooding. They may also end up in our lakes, providing nutrients for weed and algae growth.

The leaves don't even need to move from the street to cause problems. As storm water flows through a pile of leaves, it creates a nourishing "leaf tea" for unwanted weeds and algae.

It is good to appreciate the beauty of fall leaves on the trees, and wise to appreciate their potential contribution of nutrients for your lawn and garden. It is also important to appreciate the negative impact they may have to the quality of our lakes.

Remember: Love your lakes, don't leaf them.
 For more information, or for a *Love Your Lakes, Don't Leaf Them* yard sign, go to www.myfairlakes.com.
 Genesis Steinhorst is the City of Madison Water Resource Specialist. He can be reached at 266-4059 ❖



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These are two pictures of the south flower plot of the Capitol Grounds.

The first one was taken early last spring when it was planted with vegetables, rather than the usual flowers. The second one was taken on 10/2/10, showing the results. May we hope that the persons responsible for the vegetable garden, the results of which will be donated to a local pantry, will do the same next summer. Perhaps they will expand to other plots as well.

More power to them!

Photos by Lynn Phelps

