



THE

Hornblower

Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association

WINTER 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

Christmas Walk

12 - 4 p.m., December 12
(more in article on p. 3)



Glenwood Park Solstice Celebration

6-10 p.m., December 20
at the Council Ring
Families welcome!



DMNA Is Looking For Help With The Neighborhood Directory

Please contact Bill Barker, 238-1219, barker.bill@gmail.com if you can help with editing, proofing, selling ads, or any of the tasks associated with this publication. Work will commence after the holidays. Should be fun!



Reminder: Winter street parking rules begin November 15 and continue to March 15. Between 1 and 5 a.m., park cars on the side with even-numbered addresses on even-numbered dates; on the other side for odd-numbered dates.

www.dmna.org

The Glory Days of Gas Stations

By Mary Erdman

Fill'er Up: The Glory Days of Wisconsin Gas Stations authors Jim Draeger and Mark Speltz made a book launch stop at Parman's Service Station, 3502 Monroe Street, on October 18.

According to Draeger and Speltz, Parman's is an example of the oblong box structure popular for its efficient use of space. But Parman's wasn't the only vintage gas station dotting Monroe Street. In the 1970's there were 12. Today, there are four strictly service stations left. Gas selling ended due to the law requiring that underground gas tanks be upgraded.

The authors of *Fill'er Up* visited 60 old time Wisconsin gas stations that reflected

the architectural influence of their time. Interestingly, many of these gas stations were designed by professional architects.. Percy's Service Station is an example of a Pure Oil station with its distinctive blue roof and the letter "P" on the chimney.

The traditional gas stations were a local gathering place for the community. Today, at Parman's you can still find the self-described "Lounge Lizards" enjoying coffee and donuts and stories. It's certain that a loyal group attended the book



The famous Percy's Service Station. Daryl Sherman, photo

launch. As Draeger and Speltz believe, saving these historic gas stations saves the stories that help us understand the world.

Winter Solstice Bonfire At Glenwood Children's Park

Join the DMNA Parks Committee for our second annual winter solstice bonfire at the Council Ring in the Glenwood Children's Park (corner of Glenway and the bike-path) on Saturday, December 20, 6 to 10 p.m. Enjoy an evening out-

doors feasting on s'mores, roasting brats and chatting with neighbors and friends. Dress comfortably, pack your drinks and brats, and head on up to the Council Ring! S'more makings and skewers will be provided.



WINTER 2008

The Dudgeon Monroe Neighborhood Association's **Hornblower** is published four times a year

Article deadline for the next issue: February 10
Contact Ann Clark,
238-5612

or
Aileen Nettleton, 238-6053
Hornblower@dmna.org

Ad Deadline: January 15
Contact Christina Kantor,
Hornblowerads@dmna.org

The next issue should be on doorsteps by early spring

For information about DMNA contact:
DMNA President Bill Barker
at barker.bill@gmail.com

This and previous issues of the **Hornblower** are available at www.dmna.org

Visit www.dmna.org for additional information about the Association.

Edgewood College Responds to Neighborhood Parking and Traffic Concerns

By Shawn Schey

Edgewood College is continuing to implement and upgrade its Parking and Transportation Plan to better manage the impact of traffic in the neighborhood and encourage students and staff to use alternative forms of transportation. Measures they are taking to achieve this include:

- Shuttle buses from two off-site locations (new hires must ride shuttle)-- 70 faculty/staff and 60 students
- Carpooling encouraged with guaranteed on-campus parking--8 people (4 cars)
- Off-site storage lot for student resident cars that are only used weekends--6 cars
- Free Madison Metro bus passes to students--1400 issued
- Bike program instigated for staff and students with discounted bikes and gear from Trek
- Parking fees increased for campus lots to pay for the alternative transportation program
- Parents asked to discourage students from bringing cars to campus
- Safe ride shuttle Thursday-Saturday evenings from campus to State Street--roughly 125 riders per night

Shawn, along with Ken Golden and Daryl Sherman, represents the Dudgeon-Monroe neighborhood on the Edgewood-Neigh-

borhood Liaison Committee. She is also a member of the Friends of the Park & Pleasure Drive. If you have questions, feel free to contact Shawn at 238-7937.

Indiana Jones and the Wingra Park Treasures

By Mary Erdman

During the summer of 2008, Paul Guilbault and sons Jacob (4) and Sam (2 1/2) embarked on some archeological digging in Wingra Park's dredged area. Along with old milk bottles and pieces of coal that once fueled the trains hauling ice from the old Knickerbocker Ice Company to the railroad tracks (where the Southwest Ped/bike path is now), Paul and his boys discovered two rocks that looked like something special.

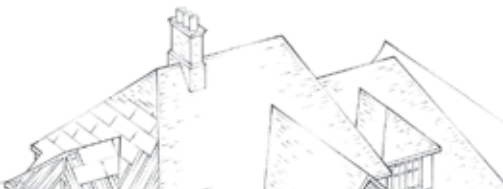
Photographs of the finds sent to the UW Archeology Department confirmed that the Guilbault family found some Native American tools. One was an awl probably used for poking holes in leather and the other was some sort of scraping tool. Although the tools are not of museum quality, the discoveries provided a summer adventure for the Guilbault family worthy of Indiana Jones.

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Our neighborhood is blessed with a varied and delectable array of potential gifts in its 93 businesses. In many cases (like our druggists who organized a buying coop that matches Walgreen's prices) you will pay no more while having many more unusual and often unique items to choose from. And money spent at a locally owned business circulates within the local economy many times over while it minimizes transportation costs.

One approach is to take our annual Christmas Walk on Monroe Street on Sunday, December 7, from noon to 4 p.m. when

the Monroe Street Carolers will stroll, and the participating stores and restaurants will provide refreshments and special events.

Another take is to use the new "Monroe Street Guidebook," available in most Monroe Street shops, which provides a framework for your own walking tour of the many Monroe St. businesses with descriptions of their offerings. Or use the guide to remind yourself which shops might have something special for your Aunt Susie and shop selectively. Look beyond the gift shops for businesses that may offer a service or a gift certificate,

say for framing a favorite artwork, a dinner together, a massage, or a trip.

In addition, a new guidebook, "Dane Buy Local: Your Guide to Local Shops and Services," lists many Dane County businesses classified by their products. The group that produced the guide is made up of locally owned businesses, community organizations, and citizens working together to support a healthy Dane County economy. It is available at the Monroe Street Branch Library and at many shops. Consult their web site danebuylocal.com.

A Future for Glenwood Children's Park

By Dina Corigliano

The DMNA Parks Committee has been busy this year planning how to revitalize the Glenwood Children's Park. The Glenwood Children's Park is designated a "neighborhood park," which means that residents who live near the park and use it are responsible for the care of the park. The City Parks Department only provides basic services such as limited mowing and emergency tree removal.

Community members, City Parks Department staff, UW landscape professors, invasive species experts, arborists, and others have given input to the committee for planning how to best manage the park. To protect its forest-like character, forest management is a priority. We need to deal with

dead and falling trees and limbs, diseased and damaged trees, invasive trees, and invasive undergrowth. We have applied for an Urban Forestry Grant from the DNR to get professional expertise and planning to address these issues. The grant would fund a tree inventory and a management plan which will be the basis for developing a master plan, along with community input and Jens Jensen's original plans for the park.

We need volunteers to help with publicity, grant writing, event planning, and park maintenance. Please contact Margaret Nelson mvnelson@wisc.edu or Dina Corigliano corigliano@sbcglobal.net if you are interested in joining us.

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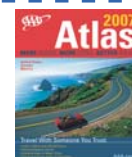


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Alder Brian Solomon Reports

Library and Budget

The Mayor announced at the Library Board meeting on October 2 that libraries, including the Monroe Street Branch Library, will be fully funded. Thanks to Alder Kerr and members of DMNA and Vilas who have spoken loudly about the importance of this issue. Congratulations everyone!

Unfortunately, the rest of the budget does not look as promising. The Mayor has proposed a zero percent increase in community services and cost of living increases to agencies, meaning cuts to vital community services. He has also proposed a 50-cent increase in Metro fares, up to \$2.00. I am very concerned about this and have asked Metro to analyze impacts on ridership, especially low-income riders.

Traffic Calming and Monroe Street Planning

Nakoma/Monroe continues to see in-

creased traffic and speeding issues.

Given the increased volume from commuters, major redevelopments in our district, speeding, two schools, and clear intersection problems at Edgewood, Knickerbocker, and Seminole, it's time to look at the whole corridor and see what traffic improvements make sense. I've met several times with Traffic Engineering to begin discussions.

Arboretum Projects

UW, DNR, the City of Madison, the Arboretum, and other partners are working together on a long-term project to protect the Arboretum from storm water runoff.

Madison Parks Watch

The Madison Parks Department is working on a new program called "Parks Watch," fashioned after the Neighborhood Watch, asking neighbors who overlook the parks, visitors who use the parks, and volunteers who regularly tend and raise money for the parks to serve as park ambassadors. Volunteers will be trained and signs will be posted in parks adopted by the neighborhood. For information, contact Laura Whitmore at 266-5949 or at lwhitmore@cityofmadison.com.

Allied Drive Update

The redevelopment is going well. Construction is slated to begin in late October. The relocation of residents to the two remaining buildings went well. So far, 11 residents have been hired for redevelopment projects and 12 more residents will be hired during the construction of phase one.

Sign up for more complete, regular updates from Alder Solomon if you are interested: briansolomon@charter.net

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Neighborhood News Briefs

We welcome a new business into the neighborhood, **the fit**, at 1863 Monroe. It is an independent personal training facility, specializing in customized individual and small group training for all ages and sports. Owner Jeff Liggon, an ex-college football player, can be reached at 350-5116 for more information.

TileArt (255-8453) has moved from Knickerbocker to 1719 Monroe St. They are featuring new tile collections, workshops, and regular open hours again.

Wingra Shores architect Randy Bruce reports that the 5500 sq. ft. two-story building under construction at 2607 Monroe (just south of Michael's) should be completed within approximately three months. The first floor will be a temporary sales office for Wingra Shores condominiums, although condominium construction dates are not clear at this time. The second

floor is already-leased office space.

According to owner David Keller of the Keller Real Estate Group, the former futon store at **1709 Monroe** will be leased in its present configuration "given the state of the market." The Group hopes to be able to announce a new tenant soon.

Sieger Architects at **1501 Monroe Street** is still working to comply with the city's requirements for its demolition permit.

Mallatt's Pharmacy is extending its weekday hours to 7 p.m.

Edgewood Elementary School is adding three new rooms for program use. Enrollment will be unchanged and access from the Park & Pleasure Drive will continue to be for special event parking and building services only.

DMNA Stands Up For Monroe St. Library

The DMNA Council sent a strong message to the Mayor and Library Board in support of saving our Monroe Street Branch Library from becoming a "budget cut" in the 2009 city budget. The statement pointed out several vital reasons to maintain our "tiny, well worn, heavily used and much loved neighborhood library:"

- The Monroe Street branch has the highest circulation per sq.ft. in town
- The library contributes space for public meetings, classes and programs in addition to traditional library services.
- In a vision for a "green city," the library allows residents to walk or bike to it.

Background: Representatives of the DMNA, along with many residents, packed the October 2 budget meeting of the Library Board in support of the Monroe Street branch. Janet Niewold, who spearheaded the DMNA efforts, wishes to thank "all the enthusiastic library lovers who have been working to keep our library open."

The Regent and Vilas neighborhood organizations and alders Julia Kerr and Brian Solomon have also been key supporters.

In a letter to area neighborhood organizations, the Mayor has recently stated: "High fuel prices and the economic downturn made this the toughest budget in at least two decades. So, I worked to find responsible, innovative ways to save money and maintain excellent basic services. And despite all the challenges, I'm glad to say my budget keeps the Monroe Street Library open." The City Council votes on the budget in November, so watch for final results.

"Use It or Lose It!"

The future of the Monroe Street Branch Library depends on us. Vote now to keep it open by checking out your next book or DVD at the Monroe Street branch or by choosing the Monroe Street branch for pick-up when you request books or other materials online.

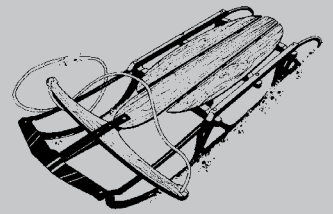
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Five Ideas To Beat Cabin Fever

By John Boughman

When cold weather hits, there are plenty of opportunities for staying active in and around the Dudgeon Monroe neighborhood. Here are five ideas for beating those wintertime blues.

- 1. Go sledding:** There are many great hills around, including one behind the 7th green of the Glenway Golf Course (toward the cemetery), the Glenwood Childrens' Park, Dudgeon School, and Wingra Park.
- 2. Go cross-country skiing or snowshoeing:** Good areas include the Arboretum, the Glenway Golf Course (you need permission according to Parks and Rec), the Odana Golf Course (ski rentals available), or the Southwest Bike Path (half of the path is left unplowed).
- 3. Go ice skating:** The Vilas Park lagoons offer a warming hut and rent skates. Hillington Green offers a small rink that is lovingly tended by neighbors.
- 4. Enjoy the natural world:** Check out the springs in the Ho-nee-um area of the Arboretum (near the Wheeler Council Ring across from Dudgeon School). Because it rarely freezes, many creatures come to drink at the springs.
- 5. Try something new indoors:** Check out the Monroe St. Fine Arts Center for art and music classes, look into cooking classes at Orange Tree Imports, or

take Knitting Tree classes.

For more ideas, check out www.cityofmadison.com/parks.

Snow, Salt, And Lake Wingra

The arrival of winter is a good opportunity to reconsider how we can reduce our use of salt on sidewalks and streets. Sidewalk and road salt (sodium chloride) create a major problem for Lake Wingra. "At the surface, we now measure more than 100 milligrams of chloride per liter, compared to 4 to 5 milligrams normally. At the bottom of the lake, more than 400 milligrams have been measured, which are toxic levels" according to Jim Lorman, Edgewood College biology professor and a member of the Dane County Lakes and Watershed Commission. Our drinking water is also affected, with water from some of the city wells now exceeding levels for low-sodium diets, he explains.

What can we do, as residents who live close to Lake Wingra? What is the city doing to reduce salt use?

Recommendations for homeowners and businesses include:

- Shovel often to keep sidewalks free of snow. This will reduce melting, icing, and the need for de-icers.
- Use sand on sidewalks to create traction. A bag of sand is inexpensive and harmless to plantings and the lake. Dorn Hardware and other stores carry bulk quantities of salt.
- Use minimal amounts of alternative de-icers on sidewalks instead of rock salt, if ice remains. Ingredients in de-icers include calcium magnesium acetate, calcium chloride, potassium chloride, or magnesium chloride. Calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) is safer for pets, humans, vegetation, and is biodegradable. Two commercial products are Paw Thaws Ice Melter (Mounds Pet Store) and Majestic

continued on back page

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AS I SEE IT...

By Bill Barker, DMNA President

For many years, geologists divided themselves into two camps--uniformitarianism and catastrophism--representing the two competing lenses through which we viewed and attempted to explain the natural world. Uniformitarians held that commonly observed processes such as rock weathering and erosion had always occurred. Given enough time, an incremental change such as the small amount of erosion in a field after a rain could create a large river valley. Catastrophists thought many observed features could be more accurately attributed to large destructive events such as floods and volcanoes.

In the fullness of time we have come to realize that both processes operate in concert. Millions of years of evolution produce a complex ecosystem dominated by dinosaurs, and then an asteroid impact triggers a mass extinction event. Given enough time, the resilient Earth recov-

ers with a new ecosystem of astonishing complexity.

Being a geologist, I view our neighborhood in much the same way. Many small incremental changes, fostered in large part over the last thirty-five years by our neighborhood association, formed the exceptional part of town known as the Dudgeon Monroe neighborhood. From adequate bike parking in our Eastern Monroe Street business district, to the fine ecological restorations underway in virtually all our public spaces, to the very recent, fervent advocacy to the Mayor in support of our little library, vigilance and advocacy of neighbors for multiple small projects has shaped our part of town.

Now, for the first time in many years, the very real possibility of catastrophic change is upon us. None can say how direct the impact of severe economic downturn will be on our neighborhood.

What I can say without question is that the resiliency of committed neighbors working together and caring for one another will make all the difference.

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Salt and Lake Wingra *continued from page 6*

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Keeping our sidewalks shoveled makes them safe for neighbors who walk and is required by the city. Snow must be removed by noon the day after a snow accumulation. Elderly and disabled residents who cannot afford to hire someone to shovel may contact Independent Living (274-7900) or Westside Coalition for the Aging (238-7368). To report sidewalks that have not been shoveled, call the Building Inspection Unit (266-4551).

The City of Madison Streets Division is working to reduce the impact of salt in our lakes and water supplies in its snow plowing policies. The city's salt reduction policy, in effect since the 1970's, applies salt only on main streets, bus routes, and direct routes to schools and hospitals. A reduced amount of salt (300 pounds per lane mile) is used on these streets.

Sand is used on all other

streets with a minimal mixture of salt to help the sand stick to the street and keep the sand from freezing up. This year the city will experiment with reducing the salt in the sand/salt mixture to 10% from 20% in past years, according to George Dreckmann of the Madison Streets Division. For further information check the city website: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets>.

Implications for us as drivers include:

- Remember to drive slowly on snow and ice. We can learn to be patient and accept some snow and ice on streets in

exchange for cleaner water.

- Take the bus or walk when possible on snowy days. Let the city drive for you.
- Follow alternate parking rules to assure better plowing.
- Encourage the city to continue to study ways to reduce salt use. Contact Alder Brian Solomon or the City Streets Division with your feedback.

Together, we can reduce the damaging impact of salt on Lake Wingra and its vegetation, as well as our well water, by changing some of our behaviors and our expectations. *Sources: City of Madison and Sustainable Times*

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We thank the Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association and all our neighbors for your wonderful support in helping Wingra School make its home here. We can't imagine a better community for our school.

Upcoming Events at Wingra School:
Election Day - Tuesday, November 4
Open House - Sunday, January 11
Open House - Sunday, February 8