

VNA Good Neighbor Digest



01-15-2024

Vilas Neighborhood News

From the VNA President

You are invited to join the VNA meeting this Wednesday 1/17 at 6:30pm via Zoom (link to connect below). In addition to regular updates from committees and Alder Evers, we'll be joined by our neighborhood MPD Liaison, Officer Jeff Hayes, with updates about incidents in our neighborhood and guidelines for reporting. We'll also discuss repair and replacement of the Vilas Neighborhood signs and a grant opportunity.

We hope that you can join us on Wednesday!

-Doug Carlson

VNA President is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: VNA January 2024 Meeting

Time: Jan 17, 2024 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85454399942>

Meeting ID: 854 5439 9942

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,85454399942# US

+19294362866,,85454399942# US (New York)

VNA Book Club

Is reading more books one of your resolutions for 2024? Then we have a great book for you!

Our next book is *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese.

We will be discussing it on February 22nd at 7pm in person.

Please note the new time of 7:00. We'll choose the next book at that meeting.

Please let me know if you would like to volunteer your home for our meeting place.

Happy Reading!

Sarah Bahauddin

Monroe St. Library

Public Health has sent all the libraries more Covid test kits. You are welcome to pick some up (two boxes per household) as long as supplies last.

Tuesday morning storytimes for kids ages 5 and under will start again on Jan. 16 at 10:30.

MPL's latest book club kits:

Paved Paradise: How Parking Explains by the World by Henry Grabar, an entertaining, enlightening and utterly original investigation into one of the most quietly influential forces in modern life: the humble parking spot.

Let Us Descend by Jesmyn Ward. In the years before the Civil War, Annis, sold south by the white enslaver who fathered her, struggles through the miles-long march, seeks comfort from

memories of her mother and stories of her African warrior grandmother, opening herself to a world beyond this world.

Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club by J. Ryan Stradal. A story of a couple from two very different restaurant families in rustic Minnesota, and the legacy of love and tragedy, of hardship and hope, that unites and divides them.

Pineapple Street by Jenny Jackson. A deliciously funny, sharply observed novel of family, wealth, love and tennis, this zeitgeist debut follows three women in an old Brooklyn Heights clan: one who was born with money, one who married into it, and one, the millennial conscience of the family, who wants to give it all away.

Monroe Street Library is open weekdays 10 - 6 except closed Thursdays, and Saturday 9 - 5. Call us at 608 266-6390.

See you soon,

Jill Maidenberg

Assistant Librarian

Madison Public Library Monroe Street

[Tag Evers blog](https://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/blog/)

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/blog/> for complete text.

Once Per Week Parking Restrictions In Effect Today, January 15

I've received multiple complaints about the amount of snow that blocks driveways once the snowplows have passed. I understand the frustration, but here's something to keep in mind:

Madison has 1,818 miles of traffic lanes. That's like driving from Madison to the Mojave Desert in California.

That is actually underselling the job a little bit, too, because you have to drive up and down these streets more than just once to get them plowed. And it doesn't factor in bus stops, bike paths, carriage lanes/alleyways, city-maintained sidewalks, etc. We've

received practically a season's worth of a snow in the past week, and there is significant amount of clean-up to do in the days ahead. Let's ease up on the complaints about our hard-working city staff, working around the clock to keep our streets safe.

There is another plow update to share, but let's talk about Monday and parking rules first.

Starting Monday, January 15, we're asking residents to follow the posted parking restrictions to help us widen the areas. We will have plows ready to push back snow on these Clean Streets, Clean Lakes marked streets during the dates and times on those parking signs. All of District 13 is now included in the CSCL program. Important work starts on Monday, January 15 to clear our streets to the curb.

Residents can help keep their street passable for the rest of winter by following the posted parking signs starting on Monday morning, because our plows will be through during those times to plow back the snow.

As for today and tonight, crews are out sanding, plowing back snow, working on bus stops and sidewalks, watching for drifting on outlying areas. Roads are snow-covered as expected due to another helping of snow last night and the sub-salting temperatures. Here is the latest snow plow update published this morning: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/residents/winter/SnowIce/snowPlowUpdates.cfm>

Take care and stay safe,

- **2024 Neighborhood Grant Program:** The application deadline is February 12, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. Refer to last year's [guidelines](#) for assistance. Once you are ready to start please contact the Planning Division at Neighborhoods@cityofmadison.com, and share project ideas with me (Tag).



City News

For further details check:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/>

Follow Posted Parking Restrictions to Help Ongoing Snowstorm Cleanup

Starting on Monday, January 15 and continuing throughout winter, the Streets Division will be using the posted daytime parking restrictions to prevent streets from narrowing due to the accumulating snow.

The Streets Division asks that all residents that park on the street to please follow these posted restrictions in order to help plow drivers work as they push the snow back, so the roads can remain passable for all traffic throughout the rest of winter.

As snow piles up, cars park further and further out from the curb, creeping out into the travel lane. This makes it where certain streets can become impassable for emergency service vehicles (like fire trucks and ambulances) essential services (like recycling and trash collection trucks), and also just normal passenger vehicles. The only way for the streets to be widened so they can be safe for travel are for people to follow the posted parking signs so plowbacks can be performed.

Additional Information

More details about the ongoing response from the Streets Division regarding the repeated winter storms of late, subscribe to receive [Snow Plow Updates](#).

More information about all City of Madison winter services can be found at www.cityofmadison.com/Winter.

More information about all other Streets Division services can be found at www.cityofmadison.com/Streets.



Christmas tree collection (after the snow is cleared!)

The second and final round begins on January 16, 2024, following the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday.



From the MPD

Traffic Investigation Unit

The Traffic Investigations Unit ensures that the Madison Police Department provides professional investigative services in the aftermath of vehicular crashes. Typically most vehicle collisions only require patrol response for investigative and safety purposes. The responding officer(s) will complete all necessary aspects of the vehicle collision investigation, and involved parties are provided with a case number used to access all related police reports documenting the collision. Traffic investigators, on the other hand, participate in ongoing police investigations of substantial vehicular crashes and/or hit and run collisions.

To self-report an accident <https://wisconsindot.gov/Pages/safety/crsh-rpt/default.aspx>





In case you missed it and For Reference

For your calendar **2024 VNA meeting schedule**

These are mostly on the fourth Wednesday at 6:30, with a few changes noted below. We'll use Zoom through April and consider in-person meetings over the summer and for the annual meeting in November. A few noteworthy items:

- The January meeting is the **THIRD** Wednesday, January 17th due to schedule conflicts and the gap from December.
- The March and April meetings are combined to April 10 to avoid Spring Break. Usually a slow period anyway.
- The May to October meetings are all on the fourth Weds. and are scheduled in Zoom as "recurring" (one invite below for all). Any in-person locations TBD.
- The November and December meetings are the **THIRD** Wednesdays, 11/20 & 12/18 to avoid holidays.

Thanks to all of you for your contributions to our neighborhood.

Doug Carson (president)

Monroe St. Library

Here's a list of winter break activities to enjoy from home. Keep this link handy for snow days.

<https://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/winter-break>

Twice-monthly Saturday morning art workshops will continue into 2024 with Annie and Holly. Put these dates on the calendar and stay tuned for specifics. Each drop-in workshop runs from 10 a.m. - noon.

February 3 and 17

March 2 and 16

April 6 and 20

May 4

Jill (librarian)

City of Madison

Announcements & News Releases

- [Mayor, Common Council, Madison Police Department Joint Statement on Recent Acts of Vandalism](#): We believe that all residents and visitors of our community should have the right to feel safe on our streets, at their businesses, and in their homes. I urge everyone to help us with that by reporting potential crimes of hate or bias to MPD immediately.
- [Large Items Free with Work Orders for Resource Recovery Charge Ratepayers](#) : Starting December 27, 2023 and continuing through all of 2024, Madison residents who pay the Resource Recovery Special Charge will not be charged for items that require a fee when they make their required large item work orders.
- [How to Have Your Christmas Tree Collected](#): The Streets Division provides two rounds of curbside collection for Christmas trees. Crews collect trees only. Wreaths, boughs, and other evergreen decorations go into the trash.

City of Madison

How to Have Your Christmas Tree Collected

- The Streets Division provides two rounds of curbside collection for Christmas trees.
- Crews collect trees only. Wreaths, boughs, and other evergreen decorations go into the trash.
- The second and final round begins on January 16, 2024, following the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day holiday.
- Both collections are weather dependent as snowstorm response takes precedence.

Round Two Information - January 16, 2024

- In order to have your tree collected set your tree to on the terrace or right-of-way space near the public street by your home on or by 6:30am on January 15

Wreaths, Garlands, Boughs, Other Evergreen Decorations

- Do not place wreaths, evergreen rope, garlands, and boughs out for tree collection.
- These belong in the trash.
 - They contain wires or metal that can damage wood chipping equipment.

[Monona Terrace to Close for Renovation in January](#)

Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center will be closing to the public for just over two weeks in January for facility improvements. The closure will begin on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 following the Madison Home Expo, through Friday, January 26, 2024. Planned projects include replacement of the facility's signature carpeting, restoration of wood doors and furniture, resurfacing of the kitchen flooring, painting throughout the building, and other repairs.

Madison Police Dept.

Job shadow program looks to connect officers, community members in new way

The Madison Police Department has created a special job shadow program allowing community members and officers to learn from one another.

The Madison Proximity Project pairs a Madison resident with an officer. The officer will shadow this person at their place of employment, and in return, that person will participate in a ride-along with the officer.

There are six pairings in the inaugural round. The co-learning experiences will take place throughout the month of January. The first occurred on Thursday when a sergeant shadowed the program manager for [Operation Fresh Start](#).



Participants will come together, over dinner, in February to share what they've learned.

"We believe in the power of "proximity" as a force multiplier in our efforts to connect with the Madison community," Madison Police Chief Shon Barnes said. "You cannot increase trust and bridge gaps from a distance. You must be willing to establish meaningful relationships in order to increase trust.

"I believe this opportunity will do just that, by creating a program that we hope will lead to a lasting relationship of mutual trust and understanding between a valued community member and a member of our police department."

Anyone interested in participating in future rounds of the project can email Madison Police Department's Community Engagement Specialist Alex Ricketts at aricketts@cityofmadison.com.

Winter advisory from Wisconsin Salt Wise

How to stay safe while using less or no salt to slow the harmful salt pollution of our lakes - <https://www.wisaltwise.com/documents/PDFs/Handouts/homeowners.pdf>

VNA

We would still like to receive updated information for VNA emails. Please provide: Street address, Names, Emails, One phone # (not required, just helpful) to Mary Clare Murphy, (608) 235-4281 maryclarem@charter.net or Rachel Bennet (treasurer) (214) 538-0400 cashdollarb@gmail.com.



Winter Updates: What happens when the City of Madison [declares a snow emergency](#)? **Don't let the snow lead to a ticket or a tow!** Sign up to get notified via [Text Messaging](#).

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Alternate Side Parking Rules [Español](#)

Don't let the snow lead to a ticket or a tow. Here are few things you need to know to avoid a ticket or a tow:

- Alternate Side Parking is in effect city-wide with the exception of the [Snow Emergency Zone](#) (unless there is a [Declared Snow Emergency](#)).
- Alternate Side Parking is in effect from November 15 - March 15, seven days a week, regardless of weather conditions.
- Park on the **EVEN** house numbered side of the street on even numbered days from **1:00 am – 7:00 am**.
- Park on the **ODD** house numbered side of the street on odd numbered days from **1:00 am – 7:00 am**.

Fines

- Violations of the Alternate Side Parking rules are subject to a **fine of \$20** when a Snow Emergency **has not** been declared.

- Violations of the Alternate Side Parking rules are subject to a **fine of \$60** when a Snow Emergency **has been** declared.

Get Reminders

Sign up for [Daily Alternate Side Parking Reminders](#) via text messaging!

You will receive a text message every day at 5:00 pm telling you which side of the street to park on. Announcements & News Releases

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Boards, Commissions, and Committee Meetings

All meetings and their details can be found [here](#).

Streets Division Updates

- **Drop-off Site Hours:** Drop-off sites are on winter hours. Check the hours before loading your car. Drop-off site information is available at www.cityofmadison.com/DropOffSites.
- **Winter Information:** Is available at www.cityofmadison.com/Winter



Trash and Recycling

www.cityofmadison.com/DropOffSites

Trash & recycling calendar for 2023 is available at www.cityofmadison.com/CollectionSchedule.

- **Large Item Pickup:** Large item collection rules changed a few years ago and now you need a work order to get on the crew's pickup schedule. Learn more about the process at www.cityofmadison.com/LargeItem
- **Recycle Right:** Be sure you're putting the right things in your recycling cart. Get the rules at www.cityofmadison.com/recycling.



Electronics Recycling Now Free

The Streets Division no longer charges recycling fees for televisions, computers, laptops, and monitors. Click [here](#) for more information.



Recorded city meetings you have missed can be watched on the on [City Channel](#). If you have questions and/or concerns about the budget, please email Tag Evers at district13@cityofmadison.com

Unless you're surrounded by deadbeats and sociopaths, everyone you know must have virtues. Take a moment to observe them.
Rick Hanson