



# Madison Meadow News

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## Madison Meadow on a Roll to the Finish!

Wow! It is really happening. Madison Meadow paid off our \$200,000 promissory note at the end of December. Six loans were made to the Meadow in the form of \$10,000 each in order to accomplish this. By the end of December, we had enough donations to pay back 3 of those loans!

We need to raise only \$23,540.10 to pay off all of the loans and be in the clear!!! You can help us get to the finish line by making a pledge towards our last-ever, final, kaput match challenge!

We are looking raise \$4,000 in match pledges to bring our total match challenge to \$12,000! Another chance to double your donation!

Help us race to the finish!!  
Send your pledge to  
P.O. Box 50743, Eugene, OR 97405.  
*Then the celebration will REALLY begin!!*

## Meadow Receives Grant

Fundraising success in December was greatly bolstered by \$15,000 received from the Gray Family Fund in December. We very much appreciate the kind support of the Gray Family. Thank You!!!

## Website Volunteer Needed

Madison Meadow is looking for someone who is interested in taking over maintenance of our website at [www.madisonmeadow.org](http://www.madisonmeadow.org).

Please contact us at  
[info@madisonmeadow.org](mailto:info@madisonmeadow.org).

## Message from Supporter

Madison Meadow recently received a very heart-felt congratulatory message from Olga Turner. We want to share this message with all of the friends and supporters that helped to save the Meadow. Here is to you! Thank you!

*"Part of me can't believe it...and yet there were always times in the last four spectacularly long years, that I knew, that I felt it WOULD happen. Granted there were also mind numbing moments when it felt it WOULD NOT, COULD NOT happen BUT you made it happen; are making it happen and it's stunning. Breathtaking and to be lauded...Madison Meadow embodies grass roots organizing...or should I say meadow roots organizing!*

*The work load seemed insurmountable.  
The amount of money to be raised was hair raising.  
The obstacles and irritations were heart stopping.  
The time and energy required seemed life threatening.  
The learning curve was off the richter scale.  
It's not over...*

AND YET.....

*Your dedication and drive has been unequalled.  
You all are so different, so very, very different from one another, yet unified by a mission and vision.  
Your camaraderie is palpable.  
Your efforts Herculean.  
Your skills expanded exponentially.  
Your circle of contacts has grown as has your expertise.  
Your patience has been tested and tested and tested...*

*I am amazed, delighted, proud and so pleased with all of you." – Olga Turner*

## Profile of Madison Meadow Board Members

Who is behind Madison Meadow? To help answer this question, we will be profiling board members in upcoming newsletters. This month we profile Susan Jerde and Tom Happy.

### *Susan Jerde*



A member of the board of directors for the last 4 years, Susan Jerde has been one of our most dedicated members, sometimes putting in 15-20 hours a week in fundraising efforts, organizing events, manning booths, watering new plantings and much more.

Susan has lived in the same house on Monroe St. for the last 30 years. Upon moving to Monroe St., she was immediately drawn to the open space down the block. She visited it almost every day, first with her dog and later with her newborn baby girl, who is now grown and moved away. She feels strongly that the meadow is an important piece of the entire community's connection to the outdoors, and is excited about the native plantings that have begun and are planned.

Susan grew up in Southern Illinois and graduated with a degree in art from the University of Illinois. She loves all of Oregon's landscapes, enjoys hiking, gardening, horseback riding, and works on her tango with her husband, Alex. Susan is an artist and illustrator, always drawing inspiration from the endless forms of nature. She can be reached at [susanjerde@yahoo.com](mailto:susanjerde@yahoo.com).

### **Who is Madison Meadow?**

Madison Meadow is the name of the non-profit, 501(c)(3), corporation that was formed in November of 2003 to preserve the two-acre historic, remnant orchard and meadow at 22nd and Madison in Eugene, OR. Madison Meadow is also the name of this two-acre parcel. We are currently in the process of raising funds to purchase the meadow so that we may preserve the beauty and tranquility of the meadow for decades to come. Please call 683-3430 or write P.O. Box 50743 Eugene, OR 97405 if you wish to make a donation or to request further information.

### *Tom Happy*



Having been aware of Madison Meadow for many years, Tom followed the events from the bid to develop co-housing to the current effort to purchase the Meadow as open space. Then one morning, after dreaming about Madison Meadow, Tom woke up with a strong urge to get involved.

He called members of the Board, started coming to meetings and asking questions. A member of the Board of Directors since June, Tom has spent 20-30 hours per week on fundraising efforts and securing loans during the summer and fall of 2007. His wife, Jane, and daughter, Eva, were responsible for making the Madison Meadow Fairies.

"Density is going to happen. Preserving open natural space in the core of the city is forward thinking and will be greatly appreciated in the future. There are very few spaces like Madison Meadow left", Tom said. Asked how open spaces like Madison Meadow are different from parks, Tom replied, "They serve as a habitat for wildlife – both plants and animals. They invite our children to use their imagination to explore and play creatively. I have spent a lot of time in the meadow and have come to really appreciate the wonder of it."

Tom Happy grew up in Eugene, went to Marist High School and ran Track Town Pizza for 10 years. He is currently a real estate investor and stay-at-home "papa" to daughter Eva. Tom and Jane are expecting another child in March.

He can be reached at [tomhappy@aol.com](mailto:tomhappy@aol.com).

### **A Magical Event**

Tsunami Books was home to another Madison Meadow event on December 1. Thank you to Dick Loescher and his wondrous magic, Paul Safar and Nancy Wood for their music and David and Scott of Tsunami books for the space. We appreciate you!