



# Madison Meadow News

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## *"I Thought They Paid Off The Meadow???"*



Our cheers at the end of the year may have sounded as if we had paid off our mortgage and were done with fundraising. In fact, some large-hearted donors gave us loans which we are in the process of paying back.

This is why you received a Madison Meadow fundraising letter in the mail recently!!! We really do need to raise that last \$20,000. If we do it before the spring warmth sets in, we will definitely have something to celebrate at the first picnic!

**Send your pledge today to  
P.O. Box 50743, Eugene, OR 97405**

### **Joan Rich**

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Joan Rich on March 24 at age 81. Joan and her husband Stuart lived on Madison Street for over 40 years and have been devoted friends and neighbors to many.



### **One Gallon Jars Needed!**

Do you remember that we planted milkweed in the Meadow last summer in an effort to help reintroduce the Monarch Butterfly to the Willamette Valley? Well, the next phase of the project is being planned. This summer we will place milkweed leaves in jars, along with Monarch caterpillars. With milkweed for food, we hope the caterpillars will mature into beautiful Monarch butterflies that will lay their eggs on the milkweed plants in the Meadow.

You can help by looking around for 1 gallon jars, clear glass or plastic. (There is no lid needed, we will cover it with cheesecloth.) If you have jars to donate, please contact Lora Byxbe at 344-8781.

Madison Meadow is proud to support the Oregon Monarch Project.

## Let Your Vision Enhance Downtown

Is there anything you would really LOVE to see happening downtown? Here is your chance: Citizens for Public Accountability is sponsoring four public events in April to give everyone the opportunity to present ideas and network with others to advance tangible projects. These ideas will be presented to the City Council with the request for serious consideration.

There are three events left:

Wednesday, April 9 at 7pm – WOW Hall, 291 West 8<sup>th</sup> at Lincoln.

Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 12-5 pm – The Tango Center, 194 W. Broadway

Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm – Wow Hall, 291 West 8<sup>th</sup> at Lincoln.

All events are free and open to everyone. For additional information visit [www.lanecpa.org/cpa](http://www.lanecpa.org/cpa) or [www.downtowneugene.org](http://www.downtowneugene.org).

## The Happy Family Grows!

Congratulations to Tom, Jane and Eva Happy who welcomed a 10 pound, 1 ounce baby boy on Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. The baby has yet to be named and we hope to see him in the Meadow as soon as he is ready!

### 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.

## Linda Prier



Linda Prier is the grand initiator of the effort to save Madison Meadow. Thank you Linda!!

Linda saw the “For Sale” signs in 2003 and started making calls to find out what could be done to save the Meadow. Her efforts led to a meeting where 35 neighbors pledged \$70,000 toward a down payment. The hours she put in the first year amounted to “almost a full time job.”

Having served on the Madison Meadow board ever since, Linda has taken an active role in doing whatever is necessary, including fundraising, tabling and answering all phone inquiries!

Linda moved to the neighborhood in 1992 from New York City where she worked as a psychotherapist and also at The Cloisters, a branch of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

As a little girl on Long Island, Linda watched as potato fields for miles turned to houses within weeks. She remembers rescuing wild violets to replant in safety at home. These memories made finding the natural areas in Eugene much more special. She found Madison Meadow to be a “wonderful place to sit and breathe,” taking walks to “smell apple blossoms, pick sweet peas, Queen Anne’s Lace and blackberries. The Meadow speaks to the importance of nature itself, not just what man does in this world,” she says.

Over the years Linda has enjoyed the children in the Meadow. “I love the way children seem to experience nature, the wonder they have. They have access to a deep connection to nature that we often lose as we get older.”

Linda can be reached at 683-3430.