

Westmorland Golf and Social Outing at Glenway

By Dave Blouin

Mark your calendar for the **Second Annual Westmorland Golf and Social Outing**. We will take over Glenway Golf Course on **Saturday, Sept. 11**. Tee times begin at 10 a.m. followed by lunch and social at the clubhouse beginning at noon.

The event is a fun nine-hole scramble so golfers of all levels can compete and raise some funds for the Westmorland Neighborhood Association's programs and activities. Prizes will be awarded for a number of flag events, a putting contest and more. For those who don't golf, you're welcome to register for the noon lunch and social.

Sponsor businesses are needed for prizes and outing sponsorship. If you or your business is interested in helping to support this fun event to benefit the WNA, contact Dave at **233-8455** or **burroak15@charter.net**.

Rates are \$30 per person for golf and lunch, or lunch only: \$12 per adult, \$8 per child under 12 (beverages available for purchase). Register your foursome (individuals will be assembled into four-somes) at: **www.westmorland-neighborhood.net**. The number of golfers is limited so please sign up soon!



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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message	2
History: July 4th in Westmorland	4
Greenspace Crew	6
Sequoia Library Events	8
Real Estate Update	10
Dane County Jewels	11
Arboretum Events	12
Neighborhood News	14
Calendar	15

Beauty in Bloom

Westmorland Garden Tour set for July 18

by Pat Sammataro

The Westmorland Garden Tour will be held Sunday, July 18, from 1 to 4 p.m. Maps will be sold at 3 Birch Circle at a cost of \$2 per family. Proceeds go to the Westmorland Neighborhood Association.

This year Mena Cimino of Turtle Island Landscapes will be available for free garden/landscape design consultations for Garden Tour participants. Mena is a Master Gardener and Horticulturist/Landscape Designer. Feel free to bring photos of your garden/yard so that Mena can make suggestions tailored to your situation.



SAVE THE DATE

July 4
WNA July 4th Celebration

July 18
Westmorland Garden Tour

Aug. 7
WNA Garage Sale

Sept. 11
WNA Golf Outing

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President's Message

The 69th Annual **July 4 Celebration**, Westmorland's signature summer event, is coming up fast. Be sure to save the insert in this issue of the Courier with important details. Note that the **Children's parade assembles this year on the soccer field (north side) of Midvale Elementary at 10 a.m.** and the parade begins at 10:30 a.m. July 4 Organizer Jan Murphy has lined up a great bluegrass band this year: the Squirrel Hunters.

Volunteers are needed for the July 4 Celebration. It takes a small army of Westmorlanders to pull off this event and we need your help. Contact Volunteer Coordinator Mallory Leech at 230-6594 if you can help for an hour or more on the 4th. Help make her job easier and call her so she doesn't have to call you! We need helpers setting up the event early, at the kids games, tearing down at the end and more. Kids love to work at the games and shifts are about an hour and a half. Refreshments will be provided for volunteers.

Look for the article on the **2nd Annual WNA Golf and Social on Sept. 11, 2010** on page 1. Sponsor businesses are needed for prize donations and outing sponsorship. If you or your business is interested in helping to support this fun event to benefit the WNA, please contact me at 233-8455 or burroak15@charter.net.

Slow Down yard signs are still available to help calm traffic in Westmorland. Reminding drivers to slow down is more important than ever with all the kids now home from school. Contact Mike Bell at 238-2223 or me to get a sign. Signs can also be picked up at Madison Police Departments and many American Family Insurance agencies. A list of pickup locations is posted at safercommunity.net. Thanks to MPD and American Family for this great service.

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their support (and the skills of our editor, Jenn Woolson), we would not be able to continue to publish the high-quality newsletter that is the *Courier*. Please patronize these fine businesses and be sure to let them know you saw their ad in the *Courier*.

Here's the current list **volunteer opportunities**: Children's Halloween event coordinator, July 4 Celebration Coordinator for 2011, plus many more volunteers needed for this year's event. We would welcome up to two more WNA Board members. As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 233-8455, or burroak15@charter.net.

Neighborhood Plan Help Needed!

With the new Westmorland Neighborhood Plan nearing final city approvals, help is needed on our Planning and Development Committee (PDC) to begin work on implementation of many plan elements. The Plan has many ambitious goals and strategies for improving Westmorland. The Committee needs help with prioritizing and implementing the goals. Please contact Dave Blouin at **233-8455** or burroak15@charter.net if you're interested in working on the PDC to make Westmorland even better.

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Westmorland Celebrates the 4th of July Holiday

by Tom Martinelli, History Committee

Westmorland residents have been gathering to celebrate the 4th of July Holiday since 1939. That year, 50 residents attended a picnic held on the side lawn at the James March family home at 4001 Mineral Point Road (The former Otto Toepfer house). The gathering was described as the “first large venture in community fellowship (in Westmorland) and was a great success” in the April 1952 issue of the *Courier*. Fireworks were shot off by neighbors from one of the vacant lots on Paunack Avenue. A huge bonfire was started after the fireworks were completed.

The second annual 4th of July picnic was held on one of the vacant lots on Toepfer Avenue between Birch Avenue and Meyer Avenue in 1940. The newly formed Westmorland Community Association sponsored the third annual 4th of July picnic in 1941 as its first social event after the association was formed in April of that year. Again, a vacant lot, at the corner of Toepfer Avenue and Birch Avenue, was used for the picnic grounds. The program for the day included games, races, baseball, bingo, and pony rides. Refreshments included Cracker Jacks, candy, ice cream and Fauerbach beer for the adults. The Runaround Nursery School provided a play area for young children. Fireworks were shot off from the future Westmorland Park area



by neighborhood volunteers. Two hundred people enjoyed the day’s activities from noon until after the fireworks.

In July 1942, after the entry of the U.S. into World War II, the 4th of July celebration was held at the south end of Westmorland Boulevard in the area that would soon become the neighborhood park. The day’s activities included softball, pony rides, children’s games, bingo, horseshoes, adult games and movies for the children. No fireworks were launched that year due to World War II restrictions but an adult dance was held after dark in place of the fireworks. The “confectionary stand” served candy, ice cream, pop, milk, cigars, cigarettes, Red Dot potato chips and, again, Fauerbach beer. Families brought their own picnic lunches and dinners.

In 1943, the tax delinquent property that was to become Westmorland Park was sold to the Town of Madison and the neighborhood’s 4th of July celebration then had a permanent home that continues until this day.

Due to the war efforts, fireworks were not held again as part of the celebration until 1948.

Highlights of other 4th of July celebrations included:

1946—The Boy Scouts Drum and Bugle Corps entertained. Other events included children’s games, a mother’s card party, a magic act for the children, a square dancing exhibition, a jukebox dance for adults and a concession stand.

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Neighbors enjoy the 2009 Westmorland Celebration.

1948—The fireworks display was reinstated.

1949—6,000 people gathered in the park for the day, including hundreds of people from outside Westmorland who came to enjoy the only fireworks display held in Madison that year.

1952—The calendar of events included a family picnic lunch and supper, a quiz show, a variety show, movies and a penny scramble for the children.

1953—Midway games for the youngsters were added for the first time.

1954—Door prizes were added for the first time. The penny scramble was changed to a peanut scramble for 5-year-olds and under.

1956—A Ferris wheel was added to the Midway games.

1957—The Midvale Heights neighborhood became a co-sponsor of the day's events. Approximately 3,500 to 4,000 people attend the celebration.

1958—A model airplane and custom auto show were added to the day. For the first time, fireworks were shot off by "professional pyrotechnicians."

1960—The Gardner Bakery merry-go-round became a Midway attraction.

1961—The 20th annual event included a "Wild West" stage coach drawn by ponies.

1961—The Sunset Village neighborhood joins Midvale Heights as co-sponsors. For the first time, a warning is issued that "underage beer drinking, bottles and sparklers being thrown, fireworks being set off, and other incidents of misbehavior would not be tolerated." The City of Madison Parks Department was reluctant to issue a park permit for the day based on events that had occurred in previous years. The Westmorland Community Association assured the Parks Department that these types of behavior would not be tolerated and hired extra police officers to be on duty during the day. After the celebration, the association received a letter from the Parks Department congratulating the association on the "excellent 4th of July celebration with no complaints."

1967—A teen dance was held on the new tennis courts planned for and run by the teens.

1970—Collection barrels for fireworks donations were placed around the park for the first time. A Bar-B-Q chicken dinner was offered for the first time.

1973—A dunk tank was added with local celebrities, including Mayor Paul Soglin and UW National Champion hockey players, volunteering to sit on the dunk tank seat.

1974—A history play entitled "Life During the American Revolution" was staged by the Freedom House players and folk singers "Tom and Dan" performed.

1976—A two-day celebration was held to commemorate the U.S. Bicentennial.

1978—Bingo was added back on the agenda for the first time since the early years of the celebration.

1982—The Midvale Heights neighborhood drops out as a co-sponsor of the event while Sunset Village continues to provide volunteer help for the day.

1986—Fireworks are held for the last time due to the increased cost of the fireworks, increased cost of liability insurance, and a crowd that had grown to be too large for a safe event as determined by the Madison Police Department. Pony rides were also discontinued due to the increased cost of the having the ponies at the park.

1987—The first year without fireworks. Events were ended at 7 p.m. An increased number of games for children and adults were provided to replace the discontinued fireworks.

1988—Pizza slices were added to the concession stand menu. Fire engine rides and a tethered hot air balloon ride were added.

1989—Midvale Heights rejoined as a co-sponsor. The festival closed at 6 p.m.

1990—Sunset Village dropped out as a co-sponsor.

1991—50th anniversary of the 4th of July celebration.

1993—Festival closing time extended to 7:30 p.m. Neighborhood volleyball games were held.

1995—The festival ends at 5 p.m. Neighborhood "pick-up" softball games were held.

1996—The "Pretty Bad Jugglers" performed.

1997—The last year that a beer tent is provided.

1998—A neighborhood "Talent Show" is held.

1999—The festival is ended at 4 p.m. A dunk tank and a "Big Bounce" return to the day's events. A door prize raffle is held.

2000—The celebration is ended at 1 p.m. A "Founder's Ceremony" was held to honor longtime Westmorland residents who had lived in the neighborhood for more than 40 years.

2001—60th anniversary of the 4th of July celebration. A "Faces of Westmorland" local history presentation was held. The festival closed at 2 p.m. Support for the day was again provided by the Midvale Heights neighborhood.

2003—The "Mama Digdown Brass Band" performed.

2004—The "Kweku Ananse and the Sweet Vibrations" group performed.

2005—"Macon Dew" performed.

2006—65th anniversary of the 4th of July celebration

Westmorland Greenspace Update

It's hard to plan your gardening when you have summer in March, autumn in April and a heat wave in May—but this is Wisconsin.

SW Bikepath Ravine Restoration:

We were disappointed to see garlic mustard back at the ravine this spring. We immediately did some burning with a propane torch to set back the GM seedlings and the City has agreed to continue with some additional herbicide spraying that is formulated to minimize impact on the native grasses and forbs that were seeded there last fall. The City also provided a hardy turfgrass mixture which we seeded on the north side of the trees along the Bikepath Ravine adjacent to the other turfgrass.

MG&E site

We received a grant of \$500 from MG&E to purchase trees, shrubs and groundcover for the wooded area of the MG&E site which we brushed out last fall, with MG&E's assistance. A

very energetic group of diggers put everything in the ground in one evening. Jack and Ruth, Glen Drive neighbors next to the site, have watered the shrubs through the initial growth period. There is still garlic mustard here that will have to be strategically dealt with so that we don't harm the new plants.

Westmorland Park Woodlands

We also received a grant from the City of trees and shrubs, as well as rain garden plants, for Westmorland Park. This, too, required some hearty digging as well as staking and fencing to protect the new plantings from mowers and critters (human and otherwise). Westmorland Park lost several large trees in 2009 and these new trees are the beginnings of replacements for the future.

Gypsy Moths

And we are continuing our gypsy moth work by burlapping some of the largest healthiest oaks in the woodlands and collecting the

Join us for happy hour!

Otherwise known as our Sunday morning services. Where people gather together to gain inspiration, grow in faith and perform good works. So it's only natural that plenty of good times are going to happen along the way. Check us out at bethanymadison.org, call **608.238.6381** or stop by 3910 Mineral Point Road. We'll buy the first round. (Of coffee.)



Summer Sequoia Library Events

by Gregg Drexler

SEQUOIA CHESS CLUB

1st and 3rd Tuesdays: June 15, July 6 & 20, Aug. 3 & 17, Sept. 7 & 21, Oct. 5 & 19

Times: 4 to 6 p.m. School-age kids with a basic knowledge of chess (knowing how the pieces move)

6 to 8:45 p.m. All ages! Adults, kids, families and beginners are welcome!

NEW! MYSTERY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

July 7th 7-8 PM

We'll be reading *The Breaker* by Minette Walters for this meeting. Set in small town Ireland, Kate Sumner's murdered body has washed up on a local beach and her 3 year old daughter is found wandering the streets alone. The first suspect is a young actor, obsessed with pornography, but now the constable has doubts about the victim's husband. Was he really out of town when the murder occurred? Why does the child scream every time he comes around? Holding readers in anticipation, Walters guides them through a startling maze where nothing is as it seems.

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July 22 4:30-6pm

Over 80 percent of jobs are gotten because of networking. Learn about what effective networking looks like and what techniques you can do to expand your network and utilize what you already have. Be ready for a fun, engaging conversation!

JOIN THE SUMMER READING CLUB AND "MAKE A SPLASH @ YOUR LIBRARY"

Preschoolers through high schoolers can register in person or online beginning June 1. First day for prizes is June 18!

SUMMER FUN!

Come join us for library fun on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. from June 15–Aug. 10. Programs include Duck Tape Mania III, a Black Light Show, Snakes Alive and more. Some programs require registration check our calendar www.tinyurl.com/sequoyaprograms for details.

DONUTS FOR DADS

Saturday morning fun with stories, movies and snacks, especially for dads and their kids. Saturdays, June 26, July 31, Aug. 28, 10 a.m.

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FRIENDS OF SEQUOYA LIBRARY BOOK SALES

Two sales in July! Saturday July 3 and Saturday July 17.

Also Saturday August 7 From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

At the Friends Book Shop located next to TJ Maxx in Westgate Mall. Bag sale on selected books from 2-4 pm.

For a complete list of summer programs at the Sequoya Branch, go to www.tinyurl.com/sequoyaprograms.

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Westmorland Real Estate Update

Compiled May 28, 2010, by Amy Onofrey, Coldwell Banker Success

Homes Sales: 2008, 2009 and 2010

There are more "For Sale" signs in Westmorland in 2010 than 2009 due to tax credits for both first-time and existing homeowners, low mortgage interest rates and pent-up demand. We'll see a jump in sales closed in advance of the June 30th tax credit deadline. Homes that sold so far this year did so briskly - only an average of 27 days on the market.

Midvale Heights, Sunset Village and Westmorland

	2008	2009	2010
Number Sold	176	164	54
Avg List (asking) Price	\$269,750	\$248,493	\$259,575
Avg Sale Price	\$261,326	\$240,071	\$250,075
Sale Price / List Price	96.8%	96.6%	96.3%
Avg Days on the Market	46	57	79

Westmorland

	2008	2009	2010
Number Sold	35	26	12
Avg List (asking) Price	\$244,208	\$248,738	\$247,020
Avg Sale Price	\$239,111	\$239,765	\$239,266
Sale Price / List Price	98%	96.4%	96.8%
Avg Days on the Market	29	48	27

Westmorland

#sold by price range	2008	2009	2010
Under \$199,999	5	3	3
\$200,000 to \$249,999	17	11	6
\$250,000 to \$299,999	11	10	1
\$300,000 to \$349,000	2	2	2
\$350,000 to \$399,999	0	0	0

Market Absorption Trend: Buyers', Sellers' or Balanced Market

One way to identify whether a location is in a buyers, sellers, or balanced market is determining how many months of home supply is on the market in a given time frame. This is an estimate of how many months it will take to sell current inventory assuming no new listings enter the market. Keep in mind that our market is seasonal, peaking in the spring and summer. Real estate professionals use these guidelines nationally:

- More than six months is a buyers' market
- Less than six months is a sellers' market
- Six months is a balanced market

Midvale Heights, Sunset Village and Westmorland

	12 Months 5/28/09- 5/28/10	6 Months 11/28/09- 5/28/10	3 Months 2/28/10- 5/28/10
# Homes Sold in Past X Months	150	58	33
Avg # Homes Sold Per Month	12.5	9.6	11
Current # Homes on the Market	81	81	81
Months Supply on the Market	6.4	8.3	7.3

Source: South Central Wisconsin Multiple Listing Service. Residential home sales only; condos and income properties are excluded. This does not include all homes sold; only home sales entered on the MLS as of May 28, 2010, for areas W11 and W13.

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Our county parks host everything from campers and hikers to swimmers and disc-golfers. To make an online park reservation or see a listing of the county's parks and their many features visit: www.countyofdane.com/lwrdr/parks.

This summer we're opening a historic swimming area and beach at the newly restored Stewart Lake near Mount Horeb. Staff and volunteers have been busy improving our first county park—this treasure, tucked along County Highway JG first opened in 1935.

A new group campground is opening at McCarthy Park near Sun Prairie. A new shelter, made from trees harvested from the property, is being built at Scheidegger Forest near Verona. Planning is underway to add a disc-golf course and dog park at Lake Farm Park south of Monona.

A bike trail along Koshkonong Creek linking Cambridge and Rockdale is in the final stages of construction and the Ice Age Junction bike trail in Verona connecting the Military Ridge State Trail to Highway PD is nearing completion as well.

Dane County was one of only three places in the entire state recently awarded a prestigious honor for the work we've done together to protect our lakes and water quality. And we're doing more.

We're breaking ground this summer on the first manure digester in the country that will be used by several farms and take phosphorus out of manure. Phosphorus runs into our lakes and is the biggest reason our blue waters turn green.



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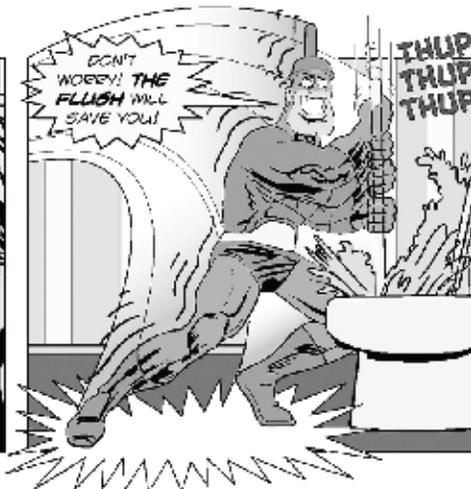
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Arboretum Events

June 23, Wednesday, 7-8:45 p.m.: Arboretum Native Plant Garden Tour: "What's Blooming?" Find, compare and learn about flowers on native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants—and see what's new in our collection of plants native to southern Wisconsin.

June 26, Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon: Arboretum Ecological Restoration Work Party: "Core Area and Curtis Prairie." Volunteer for restoration activities and learn about prairies and savannas. Tools and training are provided, and groups are welcome with advance notice. Meet at the front steps of the Visitor Center. For more information: 265-5214 or mlfarrior@wisc.edu

June 27, Sunday, 1-3 p.m.: Arboretum Walk: "Greene Prairie and the Grady Knolls." Greene Prairie was restored almost single-handedly by Henry Greene beginning in 1941. We will visit this amazing restoration effort and a nearby restored black oak savanna. Meet at the Grady Tract parking lot, located at the southeast corner of the Beltline and Seminole Highway intersection.

June 27, Sunday, 12:30-4 p.m.: Arboretum Family Day: "Moth Madness." June family day at the Arboretum is a drop-in event where we will learn fun ways to identify insects while discovering how plants and animals depend on these six-legged creatures. To adopt a cecropia moth caterpillar to rear, bring two clear 2-liter plastic soda bottles (empty and clean) to make a rearing cage and go home with eggs and information. A naturalist-led hike takes place from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

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July 3, Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon: Arboretum Ecological Restoration Work Party: “Wingra Oak Savanna.” Volunteer for restoration activities and learn about prairies and savannas. Tools and training are provided, and groups are welcome with advance notice. Meet at the gravel parking lot along Arbor Drive just off Monroe Street. For more information: 265-5214 or mlfarrior@wisc.edu

July 3, Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon: Madison Butterfly Count. If you can identify butterflies, help spot them, or just want to see and learn about butterflies, join us. Bring binoculars, if you have them. The North American Butterfly Association (NABA) requires a \$3 fee per participant collected on site. Meet at the Grady Tract parking lot at the corner of Seminole Hwy and the Beltline frontage road.

July 4, Sunday, 1-2:30 p.m.: Arboretum Walk: “Curtis Prairie.” With as many as 14 new species coming into bloom each week, this walk could reveal 28 new species blooming from just two weeks ago.

July 10, Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon: Arboretum Ecological Restoration Work Party: “Core Area and Curtis Prairie.” Volunteer for restoration activities and learn about prairies and savannas. Tools and training are provided, and groups are welcome with advance notice. Meet at the front steps of the Visitor Center. For more information: 265-5214 or mlfarrior@wisc.edu

July 11, Sunday, 1-3 p.m.: Arboretum Walk: “Grady Tract.” If it is a warm, sunny day, you may see many species of butterflies throughout the prairie and savannas. Meet at the Grady Tract parking lot, located at the southeast corner of the Beltline and Seminole Highway intersection.

July 11, Sunday, 1:30-2:30 p.m.: Arboretum Family Walk: “Butterflies Flutter By.” This naturalist-led family walk explores the prairies and gardens looking for beautiful native butterflies.

July 17, Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon: Arboretum Ecological Restoration Work Party: “Grady Tract.” Volunteer for restoration activities and learn about prairies and savannas. Tools and training are provided, and groups are welcome with advance notice. Meet at the Grady Tract parking lot. For more information: 265-5214 or mlfarrior@wisc.edu

July 18 - Sunday, 1-2:30 p.m.: Arboretum Walk: “Curtis Prairie.” Celebrate a “Prairie Birthday” while examining and enjoying compass plant, prairie dock and other species that Aldo Leopold featured in his essay of the same name.

July 24, Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon: Arboretum Ecological Restoration Work Party: “Core Area and Curtis Prairie.” Volunteer for restoration activities and learn about prairies and savannas. Tools and training are provided, and groups are welcome with advance notice. Meet at the front steps of the Visitor Center. For more information: 265-5214 or mlfarrior@wisc.edu

Midvale Community Lutheran Church

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Worship Schedule

Saturdays 5:00 pm

Sundays 8:00 and 10:00 am

Staffed Nursery—10 am—summer

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5:30 pm—simple meal

6-8:00 pm—opening, games, crafts,

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Everyone in the Westmorland neighborhood (and friends) is welcome!

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Neighborhood News

- After almost 60 years on Paunack Avenue, Lourdes Anderson is moving. She has decided to move to an apartment on the West side of Madison. She lived at 3814 Paunack. She will be missed by many in the neighborhood.
- The 500 Block of Holly Avenue welcomes our newest neighbors, Christopher Harrison and Huimin Zeng. Chris is a system engineer in the School of Medicine & Public Health Department of Biostatistics & Medical Information. Huimin is a Science Ph.D. student. Chris and Huimin are only the second owners of their home at 518 Holly, built in 1952.
- The 4100 block of Birch Avenue welcomes the following new neighbors: Master William Thomas, son of Brian and Darci Bauman, 4110 Birch Ave., was born on May 7, 2010. He has an older sister, Sophia, and shares his birthday with his father.

John and Emily Grams recently moved to their new home at 4129 Birch Ave. from Meyer Avenue.

Submit neighborhood news items to jdwolson@gmail.com.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS IN AND AROUND WESTMORLAND

Date	Event	Place/Time	Contact
July 4	Westmorland July 4th Parade and Celebration	Westmorland Park, watch for the June issue of the Courier for details	Jan Murphy, 236-9209 , murphy007@sbcglobal.net
July 18	Westmorland Neighborhood Garden Tour	Westmorland neighborhood, 1 to 4 p.m.	See the June Courier for details.
Aug. 7	WNA Garage Sale	8 a.m. to noon (rain or shine)	Betsy Hauser, 236-4211 , betsyhauser2206@yahoo.com
Sept. 11	2nd Annual WNA Golf Outing	Glenway Golf Course, details to come	Dave Blouin, 233-8455 , burroak15@charter.net

Please send calendar submissions to Jenn Woolson, at jdwoolson@gmail.com.

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Courier is Aug. 11.

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current ad rate sheet, visit
**westmorland-
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and click on Contact Us.

Please direct newsletter
editorial submissions to:
The Westmorland Courier
c/o Jenn Woolson
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Madison, WI 53711
238-7803 or
jdwoolson@gmail.com



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