

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

For immediate release --

School's out for summer, but the Shenk-Atwood-Starkweather-Yahara Neighborhood Association (SASYNA) on Madison's eastside would like to award a capital "F" to the Dane County Regional Airport for its noise control efforts this past weekend. While Madison enjoyed the beautiful summer weather this past weekend, eastside residents needed to contend with an armada of incoming flights. "Plane after plane, it was like the Berlin Airlift", says Steve Klafka, SASYNA representative for the Circle Park area, which lies directly on the flight path of the main airport runway. The SASY neighborhood lies directly south of the airport between Lake Monona and East Washington Avenue. Despite being 2 miles from the airport, incoming jet airliners fly close over the neighborhood roof tops. They are loud enough to cover the sound of a gas lawn mower and bring conversations to a halt.

John Steines, Environmental Committee Chair for SASYNA, notes that "The county airport has always had a significant impact on the environmental and economic health of eastside neighborhoods. With increasing flights every year, impacts will only grow as the airport must ignore its noise control plan and send planes over our neighborhood."

Klafka adds, "It's great the airport reported another record year for passengers, but it's too bad the success has be on the backs of eastside residents. Perhaps some of that extra income should be directed for better noise control or eastside community projects."

For further information, contact Steve Klafka at 249-0231.

SASYNA represents the neighborhood bordered by the Yahara River, Lake Monona, Starkweather Creek, and East Washington Avenue. Recent events participation in planning for the reconstruction of East Washington Avenue, clean up of the Hudson Beach this past weekend, and an upcoming Starkweather Solstice Celebration at Olbrich Park on June 22nd. Events and activities can be seen at www.sasyna.org.