



# Bay Creek Bulletin

baycreekmadison.org

## ALDER UPDATE

By Tag Evers

**Looking Foward:** Back in March, the prevailing thought was we'd shut down for a couple of months, maybe through the end of the school year, but by summer we'd be back to normal.



Now it's past mid-summer and normal no longer is within reach. This begs the question -- if we can't look to the past for familiar signposts, what do we look to for the future? We're not just dealing with the fallout from the pandemic, but the immense challenges in coming to terms with our racist legacy, both nationally and locally.

To put it differently, what do we lean on as we navigate the future? Yes, there will be a vaccine at some point, and we will get to the other side of Covid. But what do we do in the meantime?

We lost a giant recently in the passing of John Lewis. We could do worse than to look to his words for guidance: "Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

We continue to look out for each other. The District 13 Alliance was set up for this purpose. On July 26, the Alliance

held an "essentials drive," donating much-needed items for our neighbors at Romnes.

District 13 residents have shown a similar spirit by joining the D13 Mask Brigade, sewing handmade face coverings for those in need. We will need more as the pandemic continues. If you'd like to help, please let me know by emailing me at [district13@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com).

### Development Projects Update

The Truman Olson project continues with neighborhood meetings to get input and feedback on a variety of issues. A public information meeting will be held on August 20 via Zoom to discuss design options **(Continued on page 4)**

## Planning and Economic Development (P&ED) Update

By Lisie Kitchel

**VFW Site (133 E. Lakeside St.) Redevelopment** – Nearby neighbors met with Avante's Design Team to discuss revised plans for the project proposed for 133 E. Lakeside St. Concerns about building massing, density, and proximity to Colby St. neighbor's backyard were discussed and taken into consideration by the Design Team. The revised plans include four floors, rather than five, fewer apartments and parking stalls. The commercial space will be smaller. The visual appearance of the building within the neighborhood is still a point of contention. The contemporary façade of the proposed building does not match the natural setting to the east (Olin-Turville Park) or the residential homes and historic businesses of Bay Creek to the west. Nearby neighbors requested a better visual 'fit' of the proposed project with the neighborhood. Avante will present revised plans to the Urban Design Commission for approval on Wed. July 29. A copy of the most recent plans is available on the BCNA website, as well as the link to the recording of the UDC July 29 zoom meeting, since this newsletter will be received after the meeting. Next steps are the Plan Commission and Common Council.

**Truman Olson Project/Cedar St. update** – At a Truman Olson Steering Committee meeting held on July 15, the new Cedar St. plans were the primary focus since they were significantly different than plans presented at a May 24 special informational meeting led by the City. In contention were 1) elimination of onstreet parking on the Cedar Street extension; and 2) reconfiguration of the **(Continued on page 4)**

### BAY CREEK BILLBOARD

**Thurs Aug 1, 6:00 pm** – BCNA Emergent Issues Meeting. See [baycreekmadison.org](http://baycreekmadison.org) for virtual meeting information.

**Sat Sept 12 (Rain date Sun Sept 13) 1:00-3:00 pm** – Annual BCNA Ice Cream Social at Olin Ave. and Lake Ct. with packaged dairy and vegan ice cream treats. Bring your own blanket or lawn chairs; social distancing must be observed.

**Thurs Sept 10, 6:00 pm** – BCNA Bi-Monthly Meeting. See [baycreekmadison.org](http://baycreekmadison.org) for virtual meeting information. Voluntary annual dues of \$10 per household can be paid at any neighborhood meeting or sent to Sara Richards 710 Spruce St 53715. Please make checks payable to BCNA (not to Sara Richards).

**2nd Sat of every month 10:00 am to noon** – Shoreline Clean up with Friends of Monona Bay. Contact Nina for info. Email: [ninaj@wisc.edu](mailto:ninaj@wisc.edu), phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708.

# BCNA Meeting Minutes June 11, 2020

By Fred Turkington

## First we heard an alder update:

Change to the status of 1224 S Park St: Sara Investments had previously gotten approval for a 2-story commercial development, targeting dentists/doctors for a medical practice. They have pulled their plans for no longer being economically viable. Joe Krup is a new developer looking into a mixed-use multifamily development, 5 stories, set back to 4 stories with 61 units, 2 levels of parking, and a large commercial space on the 1st floor. They had their first conversations with the alder on June 11. The current economic climate fast-forwarded conversations around affordability: Alder Evers is not very interested in market-rate development/gentrification/housing displacement for this site.

Alder Evers has also discussed with Avante Properties, developers at 133 E Lakeside (VFW site) asking them to be more aggressive in the pursuit of affordability.

Regarding the Truman Olson site, developers and steering committee are seeking resident and neighborhood engagement. This will include meetings and surveys tools to get a clearer idea of what is wanted for the grocery store. The 4 steering committee meetings will be open to the public.

The alder has worked with the owners of the AmStar gas station at S Park and Olin to discuss disturbances, having invited the Focused Interruption Coalition which works to do some de-escalation and uses informal methods of improving community relations. The gas station is currently in violation of its conditional use and neighbors/the police have been in contact with the owner.

## Next, Lieutenant Kelly Beckett of the Madison Police Department joined us for a policing update:

She and other officers are meeting with the AmStar gas station owner on Monday, who seems cooperative and willing to help improve noise issues. The station has received 175 calls for service in the past year, which is a large amount. 100 of them are from the same caller: 90 are noise complaints for loud music etc. For the most part, these calls regard quality-of-life issues and not violent crimes. There was a shooting in March during the day on S Park St. Since then, 5 arrests have been made, and all those people are in custody. Lt Beckett spoke to the detective from the violent crime unit, who believed the shooting was targeted based on people knowing their targets were at the gas station.

Regarding the recent theft of a car on Emerson St – the car in question was a rental car stolen from Los Angeles. It was

ultimately towed to a private tow lot with a large amount of marijuana inside.

A notorious blue car with Nazi stickers upsets neighbors. Bay Creek is not the only neighborhood where this person is active. He rarely does anything unlawful – though his presence is unpleasant and unwelcome, he has a right to express himself. He recently had a road-rage incident and was temporarily jailed.

Noting traffic issues, Lt. Beckett acknowledged that speeding is an issue on Lakeside, Olin and John Nolen. Due to the pandemic, the department is less able to make traffic stops - only 4-5 officers in the city per shift are dedicated to traffic issues.

Goodman Pool is opening in a few weeks with increase in traffic on Olin. If you have suggestions for traffic environment design, email the alder.

Good Neighbor Project has replaced Neighborhood Watch. Neighborhood Watch is an antiquated project that promoted racial profiling. Good Neighbor Project is about getting to know your neighbors: e.g. call your neighbor instead of calling the police. City has a community trailer to organize and could help us do a block party or other enrollment activities. A neighbor commented on her own experience during stay-at-home of making an effort to be outside in her front yard more often, the idea being that neighborhoods where there are more people outside are less likely to be places where people do things they don't want seen.

## Last we heard about some additional topics and committee reports:

VFW Development at 133 E Lakeside: the Urban Design Commission met for an informational meeting with the developers. The next UDC meeting is July 1 at 4:30PM.

Speeding on Lakeside St is a problem, so the city is installing temporary speed boards on Olin and Lakeside and putting a permanent speed board near Franklin Elementary. There will be a late summer meeting by the city to discuss possible solutions. A 2002 traffic study ranked it as number 1 out of 60 streets to need traffic calming.

A reminder of the District 13 Cares group, which was created to provide support for the whole district with the intent of neighbors helping other neighbors in need. A donation drive will be held for Romnes Apartments. ❖

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## BCNA Meeting Minutes July 9, 2020

By Fred Turkington

Kirk Elliott facilitated

**Elections** – BCNA elections were to have been held in March but were postponed due to the pandemic.

We have technically been operating outside the bylaws. Now that we are able to vote via web meeting, we plan to hold elections at the September BCNA meeting.

We're always interested in new folks running for BCNA council positions. The time commitment is low – a 1.75 hour meeting each month.

The Bay Creek Bulletin is looking for a new editor! Contact Sara Richards, Managing Editor, if interested.

**Treasurer Report** – A note on the Treasurer's Report from last month: there is an ash tree fund listed on the report for which we are a custodian of funds. These funds belong to a group of neighbors directly and not to the neighborhood association.

**Planning and Economic Development update** – Avante Properties, developers of the VFW site (133 E Lakeside) postponed their July 1 Urban Design Commission meeting to July 29. They have extensively reviewed and changed the plans for their building. They met on July 8 with a group of Colby St neighbors and P&ED committee members.

A facilitator is needed for the August meeting. ❖

## BCNA Meeting Minutes June 27, 2020

By Cynthia McCallum

Editor's note: This was an emergency BCNA meeting to which everyone in the neighborhood was invited. Notice was posted at baycreekmadison.org and sent to the Bay Creek email list.

At 1:00 p.m. on June 27, 2020, nine members of BCNA met in front of the Ba'Hai Center.

In attendance were Jim Winkler, Lisie Kitchel, Sara Richards, Jesse Laz-Hirsch, John Beeman, Doug Noot, Abby Davidson, Kirk Elliott and Cindy McCallum

Jim entered a motion to adopt the changes to the bylaws. Kirk seconded the motion. Jim opened the floor for discussion. Lisie suggested changing the ending to video or phone conference. It was noted it would take another newsletter publication of this change and require another



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in-person meeting. We agreed it would be easier to adopt the language as proposed which would allow us to discuss additional changes via video conference. Then we could publish the next changes in the newsletter and vote during a video conference.

The vote was unanimous to adopt the changes to the bylaws:

From:

\* All meetings of the general membership shall be held within the neighborhood boundaries at a place designated by the Neighborhood Council.

to:

\* All meetings of the general membership shall be held within the neighborhood boundaries at a place designated by the Neighborhood Council, with the following exception. When the majority of the Neighborhood Council cannot meet in person -- such as weather, pandemic, or other extenuating circumstance -- it is acceptable to meet via video conference. ❖



## ALDER UPDATE From page 1

to improve the Park/Cedar/Beld intersection. We need to enhance bike and pedestrian safety at this crossing, being careful to avoid unintended consequences.

The 3-story mixed use development at 1109 S. Park, the Jade Garden site, has sailed through the approval process. Progress has been made at the VFW site, with the development team at Avante Properties and nearby residents working together to come up with solutions. The plan is now for four stories, not five, with less units and less potential impact on traffic and parking. New plans are in the works for 1224 S. Park. The original two-story commercial building concept that was approved is no longer happening and has been replaced with early plans for a 5-story mixed use project.

Things have calmed down a bit at the Amstar gas station, as they are no longer staying open all night. It's a work in progress, and more work needs to be done.

We don't look back. We look forward with hope, optimism and courage.

Be safe. Be well. Be kind. Sign up for my blog updates at <https://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/> ❖

## (P&ED) Update From page 1

existing Cedar/Beld St intersection on the east. The original plans allowed for bike lanes and parking on both sides of new Cedar St. The NEW plans initially called for no on-street parking along Cedar replaced with extra wide bike lanes on both sides as a biking 'street for all ages and abilities'. Those plans were modified to add 10 parking spaces along the southside of Cedar for the grocery store. Subsequent meetings with the Transportation Board added 6 more spaces. The Truman Olson development is still far short of the approximately 200 parking spots it is required to include by zoning. Four new options for the Cedar/Beld/Park intersection were presented at the July 21st Transportation Commission meeting. Staff from Engineering will be at the next Truman Olson Community Meeting, Thursday, July 30, to discuss the Cedar St plans. Copies of the revised Cedar St. plans are posted on the BCNA website, as well as a recording of the July 30 zoom meeting. Stay tuned for more updates on the supermarket and housing at Truman Olson.

### QUICK UPDATES:

**1109-1123 S. Park Street** – Jade Garden site will start demolition soon of four commercial buildings along Park St. to be replaced with a three-story mixed-use building with 2,600 square feet of commercial space and 44 apartments.

**1224 S. Park St** – Strip Mall redevelopment has undergone complete revision and has a new developer. Plans are just now being formulated for a 5-story mixed-use apartment building. ❖

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## Neighborhood Notes

**BCNA Ice Cream Social** – The annual Ice Cream Social will be held on Saturday, September 12, 1-3 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday, September 13. Join us at the site of the sign across from the Goodman Pool between Olin and Van Deusen. This year the ice cream will be individual serving cups and other ice cream treats rather than hand-scooped cones. Bring a lawn chair or a blanket and visit with your neighbors (at an appropriate social distance, of course).

**MadiSUN Solar Energy Program** – MadiSUN is a program sponsored by the City of Madison to make going solar easy and affordable. Since 2016, the MadiSUN Group Buy Program has helped homeowners across the area install solar-electric systems on their rooftops. Nearly 150 households have gone solar thanks to the program's simplicity, reduced price, and customer service.

MadiSUN also offers incentives for business, nonprofits, and affordable housing providers. Check out [madisunsolar.com](http://madisunsolar.com) to learn more about how to go solar!

**Pollinator Garden** – Carissa Wegner of the City's Engineering Department provided an update about the pollinator garden in the 1200 block of Park Street where the Midland Building used to be. She reports that it was seeded and mowed in June to help establish the native plants. ❖

# Bare Knuckle Arts

By Sara Richards

Amy Mietzel, founder of Bare Knuckle Arts, moved into the Bay Creek neighborhood a few months ago. She offers art classes for children and for adults at 312 W. Lakeside St. She graciously consented to an email interview.



**What kind of art you teach?** I teach visual arts classes to people of all ages. The studio works to be inclusive to all people. Classes range from drawing, to painting, to glass mosaics, wood automatons, take apart labs, mixed media. I do not have a kiln so clay classes are not an option but I offer other methods of sculpture like Fairy Houses, Junk Yard Art, and Bri-Collage.

**Who is your audience?** I offer elementary classes, tween/teen classes, family and multi-generational workshops, and adult classes as well.

**What about your own work?** Do you still find time to pursue your own art? Yes, I am a practicing artist... mainly in mixed media. The last show I had was at Capitol Lakes. I have been creating some commissioned mixed media pieces this spring. I am, like many people missing in-person interactions with my friends and started to think of many as flowers and what they embody to me... I also finished a mixed media commission for someone's birthday. It represents the light of our bright star, the sun [and] eight grandchildren; it has many marks on it to symbolize all the students that passed through this teacher's classroom.

**What drew you to Bay Creek?** For the past six years, my studio has been on the east side of Madison but the building I was renting is being demolished and re-built. I found this lovely building in Bay Creek available to rent and it feels perfect in the friendly neighborhood, exactly across from Franklin Elementary and down the way from Lakeside Coffee.

**What is your background?** My background is grounded in the public school systems. I was an art educator in Janesville and... then at Cherokee Middle School for 20 years. I am still a Wisconsin state-licensed art teacher... I partner with organizations in Madison, including art classes at Bayview Foundation Community Center, Madison Public Libraries, several assisted livings, and I do large community/school projects in Dane County Schools.

**What are the challenges of teaching at this time of social distancing?** My classes in the new studio are capped at eight students. We follow all mandates of Dane County including mask wearing within the studio and distancing. Hand washing and sanitizer are encouraged and all commonly used materials are sanitized after use. We will go outside to work as much as the weather and bugs will cooperate with us.

Amy adds, "This fall I will offer daytime art opportunities for children, tweens and teens. I'm doing this because the school district will not have in-person classes till November."

For more information check her website at [www.bareknucklearts.com](http://www.bareknucklearts.com). Welcome to Bay Creek, Amy! ❖

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## FOOT Notes

By Andria Blattner

The goats are here!! You can smell, then hear them long before you see them. And there are a lot of them; all sizes. It would be a real challenge to count them all. They have already made a dent in the thick vegetation within their enclosure bounded by an electric fence. There are three large areas of Turville that will be getting the Goat treatment. Goats are becoming very useful in the battle against invasive species. Greg Haak and Brooke Hushagen have started a business ‘HaakHagen Goat Grazing’ that has become important in the land management of the city parks. Goats are browsers and well suited to removing invasive trees and shrubs. They can cover a lot of land without destroying the soil layer and generously leaving behind a layer of fertilizer.

After visiting the goats take a walk, with plenty of mosquito spray, in the deep shade of the forests. This is the time that the forest floor gets the least amount of sunlight. Also visit the prairie where the sunlight is full strength and each successive species grows a little taller to get out of the shadows and reach the light. By the end of summer there are plants and grasses up to 10 feet tall.

The Bird and Nature Walks have been cancelled for August.

FOOT is still considering whether there will be concerts in the pavilion this September. We will have to wait to see what the State and City decide to do.

Since there are so few organized activities you can explore a new park on your own even though these times are dominated by the coronavirus. This activity can even be done with friends. All you need is a facemask each and a good sense of what 6 feet looks like.

There are a great many parks in Madison to explore.

Happy Exploring ❖

## Storyteller Gilles features Naturalist Activities for Kids

By Sara Richards

Naturalist activities information was omitted from the profile of Coral Conant Gilles that ran in the April-May issue of the Bulletin.

“Almost all of my programs are part storytelling and part hands-on nature activity or hike... My favorites are Pond Critter Exploration, Vermicompost (Worms!) Discovery, Tracking Stories, Nature Wands, Make and Take Bird Feeders, and Fall Leaf Art. [In] Pond Critter Exploration... we search through pond weeds and water finding... backswimmers, water boatmen, damselfly nymphs, snails, and water striders. With Nature Wands I tell fanciful pourquoi stories, those that explain how and why, like why oak trees keep their leaves in winter or why the crow is black. Then we all make Nature Wands and use them to listen to the stories of natural things around them – trees, rocks, the sky, birds, etc. The kids then get to share their stories... Tracking Stories starts with all of us surrounding a scene or story I created using tracks. Kids tell... what they see in the tracks, elaborating into stories as they care to. Then they get large paper and full-size track replicas of real tracks to create their own stories in tracks with paint. Adults float around the room asking questions and listening to the stories they’ve created.” ❖

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# Staying Informed in Bay Creek

Events can seem fast and furious in our neighborhood – newly scheduled neighborhood meetings, changes in venue, etc. Three ways to keep informed are the Bay Creek website, the email list, and the Facebook page.

The website can be found at [baycreekmadison.org](http://baycreekmadison.org). Take advantage of the feature to set up email reminders about events posted on the schedule. You can select reminders for all events or customize your reminders to cover only items that you select.

To subscribe to the Bay Creek email list, send a blank email message to [baycreek-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:baycreek-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). You'll receive a message with instructions, usually within a day, with a confirmation request to which you should respond. If you aren't approved within a day, contact Jim Winkle at [jimwink-madison@yahoo.com](mailto:jimwink-madison@yahoo.com)

To join the Bay Creek Facebook page, search Bay Creek Neighborhood with Facebook's search function. When Bay Creek Neighborhood appears as a search result, click the Join button. ❖

## Senior Notes

**COVID-19 Services** – NewBridge is helping older adults, 60+ in Madison and Monona through COVID-19. Below are the services we are providing. For up-to-date information on COVID-19 services and information regarding reopening of our regular services, check our website and Facebook pages.

**Case Management** – Case Managers are available by phone (608) 512-0000 and by email [info@newbridgemadison.org](mailto:info@newbridgemadison.org) to help older adults connect to available resources.

**Food Bridge Delivery** – Groceries from a food pantry are delivered to the older adult's door by a volunteer and done on an ongoing basis as needed.

**Necessity Kit Delivery** – Necessity kits are delivered to the older adult's door by a volunteer. Kits may contain depending on availability: toilet paper, soap, toiletries, shampoo, cleaning supplies, etc.

**Bridge Buddies** – Friendly Callers: Volunteers are matched with older adults to do safety check calls and/or social friendly calls.



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For more information on how to get services, call our main number at (608) 512-0000 and ask to speak to the Case Manager on intake. You can also email us at [info@newbridgemadison.org](mailto:info@newbridgemadison.org).

For a complete list of programs, services and activities, pick up a monthly NewBridge News newsletter at all Madison and Monona libraries.

Phone: (608) 512-0000;  
Email: [info@newbridgemadison.org](mailto:info@newbridgemadison.org);  
Website: [newbridgemadison.org](http://newbridgemadison.org) ❖

# BAY CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION CONTACTS

## BCNA BULLETIN

The **Bay Creek Bulletin** is published every other month by the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA). The Bulletin provides news and information about our neighborhood and helps connect neighbors to one another. We welcome your contributions: comments, articles, drawings, photos, poetry, announcements, book and restaurant reviews.

**Next Bulletin** will be delivered the first week of October  
Submission deadline is Friday, September 25.

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266-3784 • Rep.Stubbs@legis.wisconsin.gov

**State Senator** – Fred Risser  
266-1627 • Sen.Risser@legis.wisconsin.gov

**U.S. Representative** – Marc Pocan  
258-9800 • pocan.house.gov

**U.S. Senators**  
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Ron Johnson • (414) 276-7282 • www.ronjohnson.senate.gov

## New to the Bay Creek neighborhood?

Contact the Welcome Committee  
at baycreek.welcome@gmail.com

## BCNA COMMITTEES

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**Area 5** – Bob Lockhart  
Tree Streets  
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**Area 6** – John Beeman  
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520-7173 • jbeeman53715@gmail.com

**SMPC Representative** – Lisie Kitchel  
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