



baycreekmadison.org

Bay Creek Bulletin

Community Supported Agriculture in Bay Creek

By David Snook

Many Bay Creek residents take advantage of the rich Wisconsin bounty by subscribing to Community Supported Agriculture, or CSAs. The basic idea is that for a seasonal fee you receive a weekly supply of the freshest vegetables, eggs, honey and other items as they are harvested. The CSA model is an alternative to the Big Ag model of imported abundance year-round at a huge cost in energy. Besides reducing the impact on the environment, many CSA subscribers have found this a healthful approach to food generally.

A couple of Bay Creek residents shared their experiences with CSAs:

- Jeffrey Swiggum has been a subscriber to Harmony Valley Farms for over 20 years! That says a lot about his

satisfaction with the produce over time. His garage is also a pick-up location for Harmony Valley in the neighborhood.

Jeff says that everyone's box gets the same organic veggies, which vary with the season. Occasionally, there will be one vegetable delivered in bulk that supplements subscribers' shares. Sometimes your share may contain something new, as Harmony Valley tries out new vegetables. They also provide preparation suggestions. The options for subscription are quite varied – including some for sustainably raised beef and pork – and listed on the Harmony Valley website.

Jeff says that he really likes the annual farm events Harmony Valley hosts: Strawberry Day in June and Harvest Days in the fall.

- Doug Olson and Sarah Larsen have been long-time subscribers to Keewaydin Farms, near Viroqua. Their garage is also a pick-up location. With this CSA, you will receive seasonal vegetables during a 32-week growing season, either weekly or bi-weekly. Keewaydin also offers options for eggs, beef, and pork. All products are organically produced. With this CSA, you receive what they are harvesting. According to Doug, you will get what is seasonal, and occasionally **(Continued on page 3)**

BAY CREEK BILLBOARD

Tuesday April 6 – General Election. You can register to vote at the polls on Election Day. Bay Creek residents vote at Goodman Maintenance Facility 1402 Wingra Creek Pkwy. Polls are open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Union Cab offers free rides between home and the polls on Election Day, call (608) 242- 2000 for info or to schedule a ride. If possible, please call before Election Day to schedule a ride. Elected offices will include 13th District alder.

Thursday April 8, 6:30 pm – BCNA Emergent Issues Meeting. See baycreekmadison.org for agenda and information on how to join the call.

Sunday April 11 and May 9, 1:30 pm – Guided Nature Walks by Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT). Meet at the Turville Parking lot of John Nolen Dr. See FOOT Notes for details. June walk will be on Sunday the 13th.

Thursday May 13, 6:30 pm – BCNA Bi-Monthly Meeting. See baycreekmadison.org for agenda and information on how to join the call. 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).

Tuesday May 18 – Common Council addresses Zoning change. Watch listserv for time.

Tuesdays 10:00 am to noon and Thursdays 5:15-7:30 pm – Food Pantry open at St. Mark's Lutheran Church 605 Spruce St.

Second Saturday of every month, 10:00 am to noon – Shoreline Clean-up with Friends of Monona Bay. Contact Nina for info. Email: ninaj@wisc.edu, phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708.

June 6 – Ride the Drive, (place(s) to be announced).

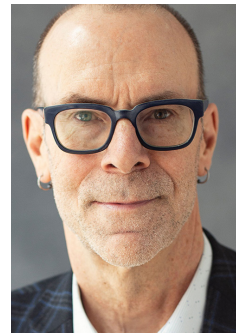
Alder Report

By Tag Evers

At the close of the BCNA meeting on March 11, I took a moment to reflect on our shared experiences this past year. That a year had passed since the World Health Organization had declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic was worth noting. As I shared, I felt the weight of it all and the emotions we all carry – the grief, the struggle, the anxiety and fear, as well as the gratitude for the many ways in which we have reached out to each other to offer support.

Spring is here, flowers are in bloom, and the air is full of hope. By the time you read this, many of you will have received the vaccine and with that the increased freedom to get out of our homes and connect with each other once again. For those of you who are unsure, let me remind you the vaccine is safe and effective. Yes, you have individual choice, but getting the vaccine will not only protect you, the vaccine will protect others with whom you come in contact.

On to my updates. **(Continued on page 3)**



BCNA Minutes February 11, 2021

Lisie facilitated. Fred Turkington took notes. Juan Gomes and business partner Francisco presented plans to open “Mundo de Licor,” a **new liquor store**/convenience store at 405 S. Park St. Hours: 9 am to 9 pm, seven days a week. They already own a Park St. auto body shop. They will hire a security firm, partially over safety concerns of nearby La Hacienda. Alcohol sales would not be under 200mL to help avoid alcohol abuse in Brittingham Park and nearby.

City of Madison Traffic Engineering starts to evaluate placing **two speed humps on Lakeside St.** near the tracks/Franklin Elementary. The neighborhood Transportation Committee advocates moving the eastern speed bump closer to Franklin and Lake Ct. Committee members will speak to Franklin’s principal and Lakeside St. businesses for feedback. First, Madison Fire Department and Metro must approve the speed bumps, then 60% of immediate neighbors must approve them through a resident survey.

The Common Council plans to **reform single-family-exclusive zoning ordinances.** On Feb 25, the city Housing Strategy

Committee will hold a feedback meeting on reform. The changes intend: to support additional housing; fill in the “missing middle;” promote conversion of existing small structures (basements and garages) into accessory dwelling units. Alder Evers addressed some background: historically, racist policies – known as “redlining” created the existing zoning restrictions. The ordinance is only a first step and not intended to address other concerns around affordability and sustainability -- though adding housing stock will make housing more affordable; the change will reduce barriers to first-time and small-scale developers, like our neighbor Abby.

Schedule for passing the new ordinance: Plan Commission March 8; full Common Council March 16. Neighbors at the meeting discussed benefits and impact. A clarifying question revealed a three stories height limit on these new buildings, anything larger will require current conditional use approval.

Other: BCNA to organize a candidate forum for the April, District 13 Alder election. We discussed clarifying one of the Guidelines for Civil Discourse. ❖

BCNA Meeting Minutes March 11, 2021

Kirk facilitated. Fred Turkington took notes. We first heard committee reports (See accompanying articles.) **A new BCNA bylaws committee** is forming to clarify the bylaws and bring proposed changes to a future neighborhood meeting for review. **FOOT** still meets monthly, limited to groups of 10, per county health guidelines, and has booked Olin Park Pavilion for a fall concert series. The **Friends of Monona Bay** notes that little is happening on the John Nolen Waterfront Plan; a national architecture competition will happen this summer. The city parks department is moving into the former Medical Society building on E. Lakeside St.

We discussed an update on the proposed **new zoning ordinances.** They are intended to promote medium density in the “missing middle” of housing (2-3 stories, few units, could be embedded in the neighborhood middle, rather than pushed to the fringe). Larger buildings would remain in the corridors along Park St and John Nolen Drive. These zoning changes streamline the process for people who want to expand housing. The scope of changes is limited to areas already zoned multifamily and mixed-use, making it easier to replace existing buildings with multifamily housing.

The proposed approval process would reduce developers’ red tape. Sometimes resident input leads to costly delays, and small developers need a level of predictability to be able to secure financing. Planned changes in the final version of the ordinance are considering requiring developers to meet with the neighborhood. The goal is to consider neighborhood input while still allowing developers to build the missing middle. Such meetings would not be a means of stopping or obstructing development.

The transportation committee met with neighbors on Lakeside St. and the Franklin Elementary principal. The city’s traffic engineering department plans to place two speed humps near the school. The committee recommended that one be moved further east. At a city meeting, Alders Evers and Foster proposed placing two additional speed bumps on Lakeside: they decided to ask the Fire Department if they would approve this addition, and afterwards have further discussion with Traffic Engineering.

Alder Evers gave an **update.** Vilas Park Drive is planned to be closed to through traffic via the shared streets program this year. There’s an additional focus on Vilas Park as part of a heritage plan for Lake Wingra, which would include night sky ordinances among other things.

We approved a **change** to one of the **Guidelines for Civil Discourse.** We held our **annual election.** Current officers and area reps all ran for their same positions and were elected as a slate. ❖



Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) Offers Help with Disconnection and Late Fees

On March 18, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin lifted the disconnection moratorium, but MGE is not yet disconnecting nonpaying residential customers. MGE is offering “personalized payment plans” to avoid late payment charges and disconnection. Without a payment plan in place, MGE will charge customers with past-due balances late payment charges starting April 1 – these customers could face disconnection.

MGE customers interested in more information and help should contact: MGE online or call weekdays at (608) 252-7144 (English), (608) 252-7120 (Spanish) or (608) 252-7033 (Hmong) between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Energy Services, Inc. (ESI) may offer residential customers financial support: visit <http://esiwi.com/> to check eligibility, schedule an appointment, and apply for funds online. Or call ESI at (800) 506-5596.

MGE information is available in English, Hmong and Spanish. View MGE resources at mge.com/resources ❖

ALDER REPORT From page 1

The Vilas Park Master Plan was approved by the Parks Commission in March. Nearby residents objected to the recommendation that the park entrance be moved from Drake and Randall to Drake and Campbell. Concern was also expressed about reducing the number of playgrounds from 3 to 2.

There were no objections to the key recommendation to close off Vilas Park Drive to commuter traffic. It will take some years for this recommendation to be operationalized, so plans are afoot to come up with an interim solution that would close the Drive to through traffic but still allow access to the park shelter.

The Truman Olson project remains on schedule with groundbreaking to take place this spring. Meetings will be starting soon with residents and the new grocery store to go over ideas about product mix and the store layout.

Alder Furman and I have set up a **Digital Inclusion Task Force** to address concerns made so evident during the pandemic, that being the challenges low-income families have with respect to internet access, access to devices, and digital literacy.

Mayor Satya has appointed me to the City’s **Guaranteed Income Pilot**, a project where by 100 or so low-income families will receive \$500 per month, no strings attached for a period of 12-18 months. Funded by outside sources, the results of the pilot will be measured to determine the social impacts.

I’m working with the Friends of Lake Wingra to set up a **Lake Wingra Heritage Task Force** to address a number of issues. First on the agenda, we’ll be focusing on the viewshed. Illuminated signs and buildings lit-up at night interrupt the night sky. Lake Wingra is mostly free from such encroachments, but as our City grows, it’s imperative we protect our natural surroundings.

Take care and stay safe ❖



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CSA IN BAY CREEK From page 1

a surprise, like field-harvested strawberries! The secret to their success with this CSA is cooking creatively with what they get in their box that week. Adventurous cooks will love it!

Ask your health plan whether they help you pay for a CSA!

Group Health Cooperative (GHC) provides \$100 total for any “wellness activity,” including CSA membership https://www.ghcscw.com/SiteCollectionDocuments/ManageWell_Program_Flier.pdf

Learn more about CSAs here:

www.harmonyvalleyfarm.com/csa.php

www.keewaydinfarms.com

Home | FairShare CSA (csacoalition.org) ❖

Read! Write! Share!

The Bay Creek Bulletin has always solicited poetry and book reviews. In this issue, we are lucky to have both. If you are a Bay Creek poet, the Bulletin welcomes your poetry. If you are an avid reader, who is also a writer, please consider writing a book review. If you regularly check books out from the library, but only have time to write a sentence of praise, then please contribute to the next Bulletin's recommended summer reading list – kids' books are welcome too! Put "Bay Creek Reads" in the subject line and send the title, author, and what makes the book great to the editor srj29@cornell.edu

BOOK REVIEW

by Robert Koehler

"Things That Are: Essays" by Amy Leach

I'm not sure where you would find this collection of essays shelved in a bookstore. The author deals with nature, cosmology, and the world of fables, often blurred together into a satisfying whole. Perhaps it shouldn't be shelved with fiction or nonfiction at all, but rather in the poetry section as her accounts of the natural sciences sometimes read like fine poems. I found myself marveling every few paragraphs over the inventiveness of her wordplay.

In fact, the reader is guaranteed to encounter words no dictionary has ever cataloged, but which on the tongue (and the imagination) delight nonetheless. Examples include mouldywarps, sagittaries, starflakes, vasty, argle-bargle, and Crocodilopolis. While Leach writes in a whimsical style, one still comes away with a better understanding of the natural world, the universe, and humankind as well.

This book is a rich dessert, best sampled in small doses. Each of the twenty-six essays is just the right size to be consumed in a single sitting. Except for one brief instance, the author does not insert her own voice into any of the essays. Rather, the observant narrator seems an omnipotent presence. For the serious writer, reading these essays will inspire and also humble. Amy Leach's prose is so sumptuous, thoughtful, and inventive that an author is sure to wonder, "how dare I try to compete?" It is the rare dessert that also proves to be so nutritious.



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APRIL IS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH

IRON BELLS *By Robert Koehler*

Both of us have chosen
to remain invisible this afternoon.
The bird well-hidden
beneath a leafy veil while I am
obscured by solitude.

The splendor of silence
pondered from separate perches.

Probe as it will,
whispering restlessness, the wind
fails to dislodge us.
We're two suspended iron bells,
mute without a rope.

But even the weight
of stillness in time decomposes.

A revealing need
from within, the bird feels a tug
as it lifts its head
to succumb to the imponderable
presence of a song.

I too am discovered,
betrayed by my heart's response.

— Robert is a long-time resident of the
neighborhood and poet. You can find more
of his poetry and book reviews on his website:
<https://robertupatdawn.wordpress.com/>

FOOT Notes

By Andria Blattner

Spring is finally here. And unbelievably, the Corona virus is still here too. What a saga this past year has been. Now, some places are slowly, cautiously, and partially opening up.

The **Bird and Nature walks will resume in Turville Conservation Park**. The group will be smaller than 20, masks and social distancing required. The walks start from the Turville parking lot at 1:30 and continue to 3:00.

- The **Sunday April 11** walk will be led by Julie Melton. Appropriately, the topic will be "Spring is everywhere" And it will be, too, the snowdrops and Scylla are already blooming. Many of the winter migrants will be returning.
- The **Sunday May 9** Turville Tree Walk will be led by Sean Gere. He is an arborist and does a great tree walk. May is also a great time to see the Spring Wildflowers, and the retuning warblers.

To honor Earth Day, the **Bird & Nature Festival** will be held at the Warner Park Rainbow Shelter on April 25 from 12:00 to 4:00pm. The Festival celebrates and shares the understanding of the importance of our environment. As an open venue, many local Environmental Organizations will have Nature displays and children's activities. Kites and food carts will also be available. The main attraction will be live Raptors and a Turkey Vulture from the **Open Door Bird Sanctuary** in Door County. The festival will be open.

A little further into the future FOOT will sponsor Tuesday evening concerts in the Olin Park Pavilion: September 7, 14, 21 and 28 have been reserved. It will be wonderful to hear live concerts again; we will announce the Bands a little later. Let's hope the Covid-19 situation continues improving.

May is American Wetland Month. In 1991, the Environmental Protection Agency designated this month to celebrate the importance of wetlands for ecological, economic, and social health. One of the most distinctive sounds of spring

is the call of frogs and toads. A great way to learn the calls of Wisconsin's 11 species of frogs and toads is to join the DNR Frog and Toad Survey. There are videos of each species at <https://wiatri.net/inventory/frogtoadsurvey/WIfrogs/SpAccounts.cfm>

There are actually 2 different surveys that can be joined. The Wisconsin DNR Frog and Toad Survey is the longest-running frog calling survey in North America. For this we should give a shout out to Ruth Hein. Ruth was the first woman to get a PhD in Zoology from the U.W. and worked for the Wisconsin DNR. She was very active in establishing the endangered species program and creating the endangered species list. As part of that work, she started the research project and set up the system for keeping records and involving volunteers as Citizens Scientists. That project continues to this day – the Frog and Toad survey.

Enjoy the frog and toad calls this spring and try to identify who made them. ❖

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Senior Notes

COVID-19 Services – NewBridge helps Madison and Monona older adults ages 60+ through COVID-19.

Vaccine Rides – NewBridge provides rides to COVID vaccine appointments for people 60+.

Bridge Buddies and Friendly Callers – NewBridge matches older adults to volunteers who do safety-check calls and/or friendly social calls.

Case Management – NewBridge makes Case Managers available by phone (608) 512-0000 and by email at info@newbridgemadison.org to help older adults connect to available resources.

Diversity & Inclusion Activities – For Dane County Black and Latinx older adults, NewBridge focuses on socializing, health education, and support groups. Check out the NewBridge website and newsletter for specifics.

Face Mask Delivery – Volunteers deliver one reusable cloth mask to your door – depending on availability.

Food Bridge Delivery – Volunteers deliver groceries from a food pantry to an older adult's door on an ongoing basis as needed.

Zoom Classes & Activities – NewBridge is starting online classes and activities. To see the full list, check the NewBridge website or call (608) 512-0000.

Take-Out Meals – NewBridge makes meals available for pick up at several locations for older adults 60+. (Meals provided for free, but NewBridge accepts donations mailed to 1625 Northport Dr. Madison, 53704.)

- NewBridge West Office, 5724 Raymond Rd. Monday between 10:00-11:30 am Wednesday between 3:00-4:00 pm. One meal catered by Kavanaugh's Esquire Club
- Kavanaugh's Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. Wednesday between 3:00-4:00 pm. One meal catered by Kavanaugh's Esquire Club
- LJ's Sports Tavern and Grill, 8 North Patterson St. Friday between 3:00-4:00 pm. One meal - Hot Fish Fry

Place meal orders by Thursday by 10:00 am, one week prior with Candice at (608) 512-0000 Ext. 4006.

*Meals for residents only – Romnes Apartments
Monday-Friday, 11:30 am*

For more information on how to get NewBridge services, call the main number at (608) 512-0000 and ask to speak to

the Case Manager on intake. You may also Email: info@newbridgemadison.org or check out their website: newbridgemadison.org

For a complete list of programs, services and activities, pick up a monthly NewBridge News newsletter at all Madison and Monona libraries. For up-to-date information on COVID-19 services and information regarding reopening of regular services, see the NewBridge website and Facebook pages. ❖



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Mural Update: Art coming to 338 West Lakeside St.

By Stanley Jackson

Thank you to the scores of people who filled out the online mural survey, who offered their support, volunteered to work on paint days, and/or donated. Fundraising and volunteer sign up will continue, but now your ideas are being turned into art by Bay Creek's own muralist, Alicia Rheal. Alicia has made murals for 30 years, lived in the neighborhood for 20, and been a part of Dane Arts Mural Arts since its inception in 2014. She wants you to know how excited she is to be working on this Bay Creek project! Starting at the April 8 Bay Creek Neighborhood Association meeting, several of Alicia's mural design options for the neighborhood to choose between will be presented. A second online survey will further poll people's preference.

If you wish to donate to the mural, Ryan Schmitz, the building owner who, with his wife Katie, has helped make this happen, has set up a PayPal account, linked below; or you can send a check to his Park Bank mural account: make checks out to Ryan Schmitz and include 338 Mural in the memo line.

https://www.paypal.com/donate?token=xgkflLhUGEuXVyhITQRXxZE9dKf96FXmV3g7x1ATteHyy7jGCKYSjUaEgmTaYpbpNvtuK_YFGMdJsgW5 ❖

New Bay Creek Bylaws Committee Forming

By Jim Winkle

An ad-hoc committee to review and clarify the bylaws of the BCNA has formed. We're identifying areas in the bylaws that may have caused some confusion. For example: Can we vote via email? Should the Neighborhood Council be allowed to vote on things without the general membership? When and through what process should the Neighborhood Association – or a committee of the NA – take a position and represent the neighborhood?

We expect the process to involve four or five hour long meetings over the next few months. Then we'll post changes for all to see and vote on them at a future meeting. So far, seven people have volunteered to be on this committee, which is great! If you'd like to participate, please contact Jim Winkle at 259-1812. ❖



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Bay Creek Neighborhood Association

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 June. Submission deadline is Friday, May 24.

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Transportation – Andy Meessmann
515-249-8371 • bikeitorwalkit@gmail.com

NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES

Area 1 – Abby Davidson
Wingra Dr., west of Park Street
1025 High St • abby.s.davidson@gmail.com

Area 2 – Jody Clowes
jclowes72@gmail.com • 608-213-3455

Area 3 – Janelle Mums
janellemums@gmail.com • 608-320-7085

Area 4 – Jim Winkle
Central area between Lakeside St & Olin Ave
259-1812 • jimwink-madison@yahoo.com

Area 5 – Jenny Hayes
Tree Streets
608-630-9102 • letsdisco79@yahoo.com

Area 6 – John Beeman
Romnes Apartments
520-7173 • jbeeman53715@gmail.com

SMPC Representative – Cindy McCallum
dotckk@gmail.com

Police Dept Liaison – Carrie Cotter
Neighborhood Officer
chemming-cotter@cityofmadison.com
Michael Goodnight 608/640-9499
Office phone: 608/266-4830

Bay Creek Government Representatives

City Council – Tag Evers
2329 Keyes Ave Madison
608-255-4071
district13@cityofmadison.com

County Board – Cecely Castillo
608-616-0312
Castillo.Cecely@countyofdane.com

State Representative – Shelia Stubbs
266-3784
Rep.Stubbs@legis.wisconsin.gov

State Senator – Kelda Roys
266-1627
Sen.Roys@legis.wisconsin.gov

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

U.S. Senators
Tammy Baldwin
264-5338 • www.baldwin.senate.gov

Ron Johnson
(414) 276-7282
www.ronjohnson.senate.gov

New to the Bay Creek neighborhood?

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

Neighborhood Notes

Edgewood Summer Programs for Kids – Edgewood College offers in person and virtual summer science camps for grade schoolers and science workshops for high schoolers. For more information see <https://www.edgewood.edu/outreach/science/summer-camps> or contact Jeanne Benink at jbenink@edgewood.edu or 608-663-6912. Limited scholarship funds are available.

Homestay hosts sought – WESLI, a Madison based, private English as a Second Language (ESL) school, is looking for Homestay hosts for students arriving in May. English speaking, culturally sensitive hosts, on a bus line, provide friendship, meals, and a private room; WESLI compensates hosts for the students' room and board. To find out more about the WESLI Homestay Program, contact the Housing Coordinator at 608-257-4300 or email housing.services@wesli.com ❖

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Find Twenty Spring Words

By Stanley Jackson

The words can go up, down, backwards, forwards, diagonally, and cross each other.

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- BASEBALL
- BLOOM
- BLOSSOM
- BUD
- DAFFODIL
- FLOWERS
- GRASS
- GREEN,
- HATCH
- MAY
- NEST
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- RAIN
- ROBIN
- SHOWERS
- SPRING
- SPROUT
- THAW

B	B	D	S	E	L	D	D	U	P	H	L
E	G	L	R	N	E	K	U	H	C	G	N
E	S	H	O	W	E	R	S	T	M	O	F
R	L	I	D	O	F	F	A	D	S	W	L
G	Y	Y	M	B	M	H	M	P	P	I	O
R	A	I	N	G	M	H	X	I	R	L	W
M	O	S	S	O	L	B	L	P	I	L	E
N	Z	O	H	T	G	L	A	H	N	O	R
T	I	F	S	P	R	O	U	T	G	P	S
D	U	B	L	L	A	B	E	S	A	B	I
S	U	C	O	T	S	N	E	S	T	D	N
B	S	B	V	R	S	W	A	H	T	N	N