

Bay Creek Bulletin

baycreekmadison.org

Coffee, COVID, and Coincidences

By Sarah Kelly

One thing that the pandemic hasn't changed is the fact that new parents need caffeine. From the late nights to the early mornings, it is an absolute necessity. This is why we found ourselves at our favorite neighborhood coffee shop, Lakeside, more than ever in the days, weeks, and months following the birth of our daughter, Kate. It has remained a safe and easy way to get out of the house and go do something with our infant.

This past winter, we met another couple waiting for their coffee outside of Lakeside. Their son looked to be about our daughter's age. After chatting, we discovered both our baby and theirs were born at Meriter Hospital on the exact same day in July 2020! We never met them at the hospital due to COVID precautions, which confined patients to their own rooms, but it made our serendipitous meeting that winter day even more special. We also found out they live in the Bay Creek neighborhood just like us.

Time passed, and we didn't see them for a couple months. One day as I was walking along South Shore with Kate, we crossed strollers with the mom and her son. We exchanged numbers and planned to get together. Eventually, we were able to meet up outdoors for a post-nap happy hour at Funk Factory on Gilson Street. More recently, we had a play date at Bernie's Beach where I was reminded of how much my daughter loathes sand. Not only has it been so neat to see Kate connect with another baby, but with one who is at her same age developmentally.

BAY CREEK BILLBOARD

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) Meetings – Second Thursdays of the Month: October 14 and November 11, December 9, 6:30 pm. See baycreekmadison.org for agenda and information on joining the meetings remotely.

Guided Nature Walks: Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT) – Second Sundays of the Month: October 10 and November 14, 1:30 pm. Meet at the Turville Parking lot off of John Nolen Dr.

Food Pantry – Tuesdays 10:00 – 12:00 pm and Thursdays 5:15 – 7:30 pm. Friday Meal – Free; Fridays 12:00 – 1:00 pm. St. Mark's Lutheran Church 605 Spruce St. Volunteer Contact: Elaine, 608-256-8463; StMarks@StMarksMadison.org

Monona Bay Shoreline Clean-up – Friends of Monona Bay. Second Saturdays of the Month: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Contact Nina for information: Email: ninaj@wisc.edu, phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708. Becoming a parent during the time of COVID has often felt isolating, lonely, and not exactly how we pictured our entry into parenthood. At times, it has felt quite strange to try to establish ourselves in this new role when everything around has also changed so drastically. However, there was something so comforting about meeting a couple whose "first time parent" story also started on the exact day that ours did during such a chaotic and unpredictable time in our world. It was also a reminder that no matter how secluded social distancing and isolation may feel, there are still many ways to connect with those around you. You may find you have a lot more in common than not.

Alder Report By Tag Evers

There's been a lot going on in District 13. On Saturday, September 25, we held the 2nd annual Good Neighbor Gathering at Brittingham Park. Despite lots of other events going on in the city, there was a nice turnout of neighbors from all over the district. It's apparent we are building something here with room to grow in the future.



If you wish to be involved in the planning for next year's GNG, please send an email to District13Cares@gmail.com.

Two murals were unveiled in the month of September. The first one, "Hidden Gem," unveiled on September 19 on Lakeside Street, has a lovely nature theme with bright colors bringing attention to themes reflective of the neighborhood. The second, entitled "The Machine," was unveiled on September 25 as part of the Monroe Street Festival. Located on the side of Neuhauser Pharmacy, this mural has an anti-racist theme in response to racist flyers that were distributed in the district last summer. Both are excellent examples of public art and are worth checking out.

Truman Olson has been a challenging project with lots of ups and downs. Construction has started on the site and an official groundbreaking will take place soon. Luna's has backed out and the City is negotiating with an experienced grocer capable of stepping in. We have received assurances from Kroger's, the owner of Pick 'N Save, that they plan to remain open until the new grocery store is in place, thereby preventing a grocery gap from occurring.

The Lake Wingra Heritage Plan working group has developed a mission statement. It reads as follows: The Lake Wingra Heritage Plan will develop **(Continued on page 4)**

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association August minutes

Fred note taker. Alder update. Truman Olson grocery store: Luna grocery store difficulty with financing. The City will take a large financial stake to help guarantee south side grocery access and avoid a grocery service gap. Neighbors asked about city's depth of entanglement and management of Truman Olson; what grocery stores might replace Luna's as a grocery store tenant. Neighbors expressed appreciation for the cooperation of the city, neighbors, alders, developers, and the existing Pick N Save store to provide for food security in South Madison. Construction has started on the Bayview / Triangle apartment building: August groundbreaking ceremony coming. The alder continues to work on protecting Lake Wingra as an area of natural beauty; working together with those involved in the legal protection of the Lower Wisconsin State Riverway.

Transportation Committee report by Allen: Lakeside St. traffic calming speed bumps, planned for before school starts. The Cannonball Path bike path will connect behind Capital newspapers by next year. The Shared Streets program on W/S Shore Drive was also discussed, with neighbors expressing strong opinions on the signs on the shore drives. Debate between some neighbors and alder regarding the shared streets signs. John Nolen Drive is slated



for reconstruction in 2025/2026. We discussed logistics for ice cream social to stay COVID safe.

Update on the **Wonder Bar**. An application for city landmark status of the Wonder Bar to be submitted soon. McGrath Properties potentially intends to modify their development plan to leave the Wonder Bar building onsite. Update W. Lakeside St. buildings landmark status: The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation will apply for landmark status for the buildings near the railroad tracks on W. Lakeside. This application is in response to zoning changes that would streamline development, making it easier for developers to raze or change those buildings with less community input. *

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association September minutes

Kirk facilitated; Fred note taker. Alder Evers update on Alliant Energy Center campus redevelopment: The Dane County managed Center seeks a developer. In contrast with Truman-Olson, the County has not yet made competing developers' proposals publicly available. The county's next major step will be to score/rank these developers' proposals. Tag encouraged neighbors to attend the September 16 development meeting.

Multiple issues. Update from the South Madison Planning Committee: Madison Police Department Captain Hanson has applied for a \$125k federal grant to help younger siblings in households where older children have been involved with crime (Rise Wisconsin). Capitol View Neighborhood has asked to be withdrawn from South Madison planning. The Landmark Commission met September 20th on the Wonder Bar. Continuing debate over the **Shared Streets** program, whose purpose is to cut down South Shore and West Shore traffic. The city will survey the neighborhood on the program as well as on reducing the S. Park St. speed limit and publish the results. The district 13 Lake Wingra

Heritage Plan has issued its mission statement, supporting water quality; preserving the use of the nature around Lake Wingra, and pursuing a heritage trail around the lake. Lighting at Edgewood High School and their sports field was discussed. The Truman-Olson site has broken ground; though the grocery store tenant is less certain, we are still on track to avoid a gap in grocery service having worked with Kroger and the present Pick N Save. The Good Neighbor Gathering is held 9/25, for the benefit of the whole of district 13. A City committee has begun Madison redistricting. ❖

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Bay Creek Resident & Realtor since 2001



By Robert Koehler

"Autumn" By Ali Smith

Autumn is the first in a series of four novels by Ali Smith based on the seasons. Set during the time of Brexit, the novel's narrator (for the bulk of the story) is Elisabeth, an art educator disgusted by how the vote and its aftermath tear apart the community in her British village, with the two sides barely able to exchange pleasantries. While this shadow remains in the background, the focus of her story is on her relationship with Daniel, a man dying in a nursing facility. Already old when she met him at age eight, he is clearly a father figure to her since her own father has long been absent from her life.

Daniel's life story is slowly rolled out through the book. He is a person in love with words and stories, and the two characters' interactions throughout result in discussions ranging from mortality to love to classic novels from the past. Daniel is the spark that ignites her future choice of career and her ability to question authority. But the story's chronology zig zags from past to present, introducing disparate themes that occasionally leave the reader wondering about the purpose of these detours. A masterful author, Smith presents a tale that is deceptively simple on the surface, but layered with a depth only realized when the last page is turned.

WINDOWS TURN BLUE

By Robert Koehler

Nightfall, when all the windows turn blue, and before a lamp has been employed, disembodied, stripped of skin and bone, you find yourself everywhere and nowhere, the shadows a weightless garment that is now occupied by breath and cricket song and this thought, ghosts aren't lonely after all, just speechless.

— Robert Koehler is a Bay Creek neighbor and poet. See his work at: robertupatdawn.wordpress.com

A Book Recommendation from Your Friendly Neighborhood Bookseller

By Molly Fish, Bookstore Manager at Leopold's Books Bar Caffè on Regent St.

Every home should have a copy of *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. First published in 2013, the essays feel both timeless and spiritual. It is a book to be re-read during changing seasons or life-changing events to ground the reader in indigenous wisdom.

Kimmerer received her PhD in Botany from the University of Wisconsin. Early in the book she mentions working as a caretaker at the UW Arboretum during a pivotal time when she was still trying to find balance between the sterile world of scientific research and her own rich relationship with nature inspired by her Potawatomi heritage. She has clearly found that balance because this book is at once a graceful autobiography, a philosophical exploration of nature and humanity, and soul-nourishing poetry.

Be warned, reading this book may compel you to spontaneously take a long walk. In late August I was reading a lovely chapter called Maple Sugar Moon in which the author described collecting sap with her daughters and boiling it down to make maple syrup (and then accidently making maple candy when it freezes overnight). As I finished the chapter, I looked up at the towering Norway Maple in my neighbor's backyard on Emerson St. and started contemplating the history of that tree and this neighborhood. I then turned to consider my own Honey Locust and got up to do some light pruning, and before I knew it I was walking down the block, surveying the entire tree line with new eyes. After a year of living in Bay Creek, I felt a deepened appreciation of this pocket of land within Madison's waterways and the ancient glaciers that shaped it.

Reading *Braiding Sweetgrass* can change your relationship with nature. Without lecturing, it teaches you about botany and complex ecosystems. Without judging, it invites you to slow down and savor the places and people around you. I found it to be a soothing and rejuvenating read, and I think you will too. •





Family fun at the Good Neighbor Gathering

ALDER REPORT From page 1

and help implement policies and practices that celebrate the unique natural and cultural heritage of Lake Wingra. The plan will focus on three areas:

- addressing water quality concerns by building on past efforts and promoting greater community protection of Lake Wingra;
- preserving and enhancing the natural views of Lake Wingra and its surroundings; and
- identifying and pursuing the creation of a Lake Wingra Heritage Trail.

We continue to meet, working on objectives and strategies to implement our goals, including taking a collaborative approach with the Ho Chunk nation to emphasize the cultural heritage of this precious resource.

Redistricting of aldermanic districts takes place every ten years in response to the U.S. census. This iteration is more accelerated because of the delays in the completion of the census. Further challenges surround

the annexation of the Town of Madison which becomes effective on October 31, 2022. Many Bay Creek residents have expressed objections to splitting the neighborhood between D13 and D14. There will be a final vote at the November 2 meeting of the Common Council.

Get vaccinated, be well and stay safe. Tag ❖



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Shared Streets-Why Should We?

By Tyler Leeper

Following the pandemic related drop in motor traffic and increase in alternative transportation, Madison piloted the Shared Streets Program: barricades closed roads all over town, including our very own West and South Shore Drives; walkers, bikers, scooters, and people pushing strollers took to the streets! I even saw the crew team – oars in hand – running down the middle of the road. Already popu-

lar as a bike boulevard, in 2020 our streets' use reached a unique and all-time high.

The Shared Streets Program was a bright spot in a dismal year. Watching friends and families on the streets helped connect me to the world in a time of isolation.

This year the trial program continues with mid-intersection signs on branded pedestals replacing the barricades. As a resident of West Shore Drive with an infant and a toddler, I spend a lot of time looking out the window. As runners, bikers, e-bikes, scooters, strollers, dogs, and cars pass by, I find myself reflecting: Who should our streets serve? Why should we share our streets? Most importantly, who should we share our streets with?

Last winter, the city removed barricades to make room for snowplows with little communication about the Shared Streets Program. Therefore, the new pedestals' mid-summer arrival, and the pedestrian and non-auto traffic surge in use that followed, surprised most people (including me). But what most surprised me was learning how upset the Program's return had made many people.

I have heard people's concerns and below I respond to them.

The program makes people feel unwelcomed.

Some worry that the phrase "Local Traffic Only" means we are building a gated community. There *are* better terms; however, at the signs' top, big bold letters say – SHARED STREET. The increased use and diversity of use makes clear that people view the signs as welcoming and inclusive.

The signs make it dangerous - inconvenient.

If I go 25-30+ mph down the street, the signs (and the increase in runners and bikers) could be a problem. But I feel quite comfortable driving 15-20 mph, and I have pulled a 25' pontoon boat behind a full-size truck at 10 mph with no problem. Clearly, the danger is relative to the speed we travel. Our streets should not be a Park Street by-pass. If drivers use it as such, they should slow down and enjoy the beautiful drive.



Rude and verbally explicit reactions from some in the cycling/running community.

We are in agreement: no one should swear, spit, or deliberately try to impact another's use. I have seen unacceptable behavior on both sides: a cycling couple nearly ran over my toddler, then called me "stupid" for not making room for them; big pickup trucks getting as close to bikers as possible, revving their engines, yelling at people walking in the street. This is not shared streets – this type of behavior is not acceptable – ever!

So, why should we share our streets?

To give everyone in our community the opportunity to

appreciate the lakefront; to connect with others and improve our well-being; to make us a stronger, healthier community by providing opportunities for outdoor recreation. Shared streets mix homeowners, commuters, fisher persons, runners, bikers, walkers, and dogs all appreciating a truly beautiful place. When we move at a slower speed, we get the chance to check in on our neighbors and greet the stranger passing by. Our community benefits from diversity and we need more opportunities to break down barriers and connect with people. The Shared Streets Program makes our urban city streets a place where kids can learn to ride a bike and where healthy recreation is encouraged.

I am excited that many young families are choosing these streets and the neighborhood to raise their families. As one of these families, I will end my argument by stating that, for me, the Shared Streets Program makes me and my family safer and our quality of life higher. I hope it does the same for you and your family. ❖

Board of Supervisors Report

By Cecely Castillo

It is currently a very busy time on the Dane County Board as the county budget season has kicked off. The importance of our county's role has never been clearer than during this pandemic, so I wanted to take this opportunity to provide some budget process information, and ensure that anyone who wants to learn more or weigh in knows how they may do so.

A good place to start for general information about the budget is https://board.countyofdane.com/budget, where you will find a great video that breaks the process down. The Dane County Executive will release his budget proposal by October 1, 2021, and then the committees will start the review process. The County Board's budget deliberations will start November 8, 2021.

Save the Date:

We want to hear from you! A virtual budget public hearing is scheduled for October 20, 2021 at 6:00pm, and anyone can register to attend and speak at this virtual meeting. The instructions on how to register and join the virtual public hearing will be on the agenda, which will be posted closer to Oct. 20th at https://dane.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx.

Some of my budget priorities are:

- Adequately fund our public health department to keep us safe through this pandemic. Staff has worked tirelessly, has done an amazing job, and unfortunately, we need them to keep it up as we deal with delta, increased need for testing, and so folks that need to get their vaccines can do so easily.
- Support affordable housing and initiatives to end homelessness. Especially during a pandemic, we need to make sure our neighbors have a safe space to call home.
- Protect our lakes and waterways. This includes monitoring water levels, managing algae growth, and reducing the entry of nitrates and other pollutants such as PFAS.
- Fund our amazing county parks. One bright spot of the pandemic is that it encouraged many of us to visit our county parks. One of my favorites is Donald County Park (https://parks-lwrd.countyofdane.com/park/Donald), which I have explored with my kids and our pandemic puppy who loves a good family hike.

I truly look forward to when we can safely meet in person, but until then, the board is conducting all business virtually. Thank you all for staying engaged in local government and your work in our community.

Cecely Castillo, Dist. 4 Supervisor: castillo.cecely@countyofdane.com ❖



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The Bay Creek Bulletin is your neighborhood newsletter and we'd love to hear from you!

Have you taken a trip, read a good book, discovered a great hiking trail, met an interesting neighbor? If you have an idea for a story or an article, please see last page for contact info. Thanks!

Crass Grass: Thinking about Pesticides

By C. Snyder

"The good thing about science is that it's true whether or not you believe in it." - Neil deGrasse Tyson

In Madison, we live in a natural paradise; we have bodies of water, beaches, fishing, swimming, woods, trails, bike paths, neighborhoods, community and home gardens. However, it is disheartening to see so many yard tags advertising pesticide applications in the neighborhood. We then have to inhale poisons as we pass by. Many living organisms are impacted by this process, and this does not have to happen.

Just what are pesticides? According to the EPA, the government body that regulates pesticides in the U.S., a pesticide is any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. Though often misunderstood to refer only to insecticides, the term pesticide also applies to herbicides, fungicides, and various other substances used to control pests. Pesticides also include plant regulators, defoliants and desiccants.

There is a well-documented negative effect of run-off to water sources such as our beloved Monona Bay. In 2009, a documentary "A Chemical Reaction" was released. It spotlighted the town of Hudson in Canada. It tells the story of how the townspeople banded together to make their town safer for children and animals. A dermatologist had brought to light that children and animals were getting sick from chemicals sprayed in yards and parks. After a long battle with the chemical company *ChemLawn*, the town was victorious in banning all grass chemicals. That company later rebranded to the somewhat misleading *TruGreen*.

It is critically important to make people aware of both the hazards associated with cosmetic lawn care pesticides,





Postcards of the Lakeside Street mural may be purchased for a dollar each. All funds donated to the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association. Contact Stanley at srj29@cornell.edu to place an order.

and the availability of alternatives practices and products. Beyondpesticides.org lists specific issues associated with the 30 most commonly used lawn pesticides, noting that there are 17 possible and/or known carcinogens in them. These pesticides have the potential to disrupt the endocrine (hormonal) system, are linked to reproductive effects and sexual dysfunction, have been linked to birth defects, several are neurotoxic, are known to cause kidney or liver damage, and most are sensitizers and/or irritants. Many of these lawn pesticides are detected in groundwater, and have the ability to leach into drinking water sources. Toxicity to fish and other aquatic organisms vital to our ecosystem is also rampant. A majority of these 30 pesticides are known to be toxic to bees, mammals, and birds. Children, pets, pollinators, and water quality all suffer from the devastating impact of toxic chemicals.

Living sustainably means realizing that small choices can have a big impact. Beyond Pesticides offers a factsheet for information on how to create your own pesticide-free yard - Read Your Weeds: A Simple Guide to Creating A Healthy Lawn. Some suggestions include: 1) Mow high until the season ends; 2) Aerate; 3) Fertilize; 4) Over-seed with the right grass seed; 5) Keep an edible yard. Fall is the best time to intervene and make your yard free of toxic chemicals. ❖

Neighborhood Notes

28th Annual Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Sale

Sponsored by the City of Madison. Saturday, October 23rd at the Garver Feed Mill, located at 3241 Garver Green, off S. Fair Oaks Ave near Starkweather Creek. Additional information can be found online at: https://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/compost/CompostBinSale.cfm

Rental and Utility Asistance

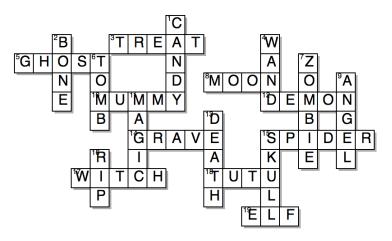
Dane CORE, a partnership between Dane County, the City of Madison, Urban Triage, Tenant Resource Center, Community Action Coalition and other community partners, works to assist eligible households in need of rental and utility assistance with funding to ensure those bills can be paid. For information: City of Madison residents, contact Community Action Coalition - 608-237-1255; Dane County residents with an Eviction Court date, contact Tenant Resource Center - 608-257-0006 x7; Dane County residents outside of the City of Madison, contact Urban Triage - 608-520-0741; The City's Landlord and Tenant Issues Committee will meet October 21, November 18. https://www.cityofmadison.com/city-hall/committees/landlord-and-tenant-issues-committee

Lakeside Coffeehouse Live Music Schedule

(Immunization record or negative test [72 hours] required for entry.)

October 8 – 7 pm: Tumbledown Shack October 15 – 6:30 pm: Irish Jam Session October 22 – 6:30 pm: Richard Weigel October 29 – 7 pm: Trio Soleil ❖

Halloween Crossword Answer Key



FROM MG&E

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Smart Plugs – Did the kids turn off the TV? Did we leave the lamp on? Investing in smart plugs, or smart outlets, can help you remotely control almost anything from electronics to lamps with a smartphone. They are available in a variety of styles and prices online and in local stores.

Save with FOCUS ON ENERGY® – Our energy efficiency partner, Focus on Energy, offers an incentive on smart thermostats for eligible MGE customers. Focus on Energy also offers free energy-saving kits, which include items like smart power strips that can cut off power to electronics when they are not in use. To learn more, visit focusonenergy.com/smart.

Free Energy-Saving Advice – MGE can provide tips and answer your questions about using technology to save energy. Call the MGE Home Energy Line: (608) 252-7117. Or email: AskExperts@mge.com ❖

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GS3343 05/12/2020

Your community energy company

New Transportation

by Allen Arntsen

This summer has seen numerous transportation related projects planned, tested and implemented in Bay Creek. Madison has reduced **South Park Street**'s speed limit to 25 miles per hour and begun planning the **North South** Bus Rapid Transit route planning along S. Park St. (to be implemented after installing the East West, University and East Washington avenues route). Lakeside Street has had speed bumps and a traffic circle installed in hopes of slowing speeding traffic. The city is testing various types of signage and traffic management on South Shore and West Shore drives to better accommodate pedestrian, wheelchair, bikes, and recreational uses of those streets. Planning is beginning for the reconstruction of John Nolen Drive, scheduled for 2026 and the completion of the Cannonball **bike path** from Fish Hatchery road to the Wingra creek path will occur next year. The completion of Cedar Street, including the Cedar/Beld/Park streets intersection and the segment between South Street and Fish Hatchery road is also in the works. In addition, there's neighborhood interest in slowing traffic on Olin Avenue and increasing safe bike routes through the neighborhood.

So, there's a lot. Bay Creek residents who want to provide input as to these and other transportation developments should keep an eye out for city announcements asking for neighborhood feedback, such as filling out surveys or offering written or oral testimony at city Transportation Commission or Common Council meetings. In addition, the Bay Creek Transportation Committee meets regularly (presently by Zoom) to discuss these and other transportation items affecting our neighborhood. Meetings are announced in the Bay Creek listserve or, if you want to be on the committee invite list or have agenda items, contact committee chair Allen Arntsen at allenarntsen@gmail.com





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Wonder Bar/222-223 Olin Ave Development Proposal Update

By Lisie Kitchel

September 20th, the Landmarks Commission referred decision on the Wonder Bar to an unspecified later date. The developer McGrath pledged to support landmark status for the Wonder Bar as a Condition of Approval after his project receives overall approval; prior landmark status would have required that building changes have City certificates of appropriateness. McGrath's plans do not require notifying neighbors because the site remains outside any neighborhood association, but he may move the Bar closer to Olin Ave.

The Plan Commission unanimously rejected McGrath's 18 story residential development without prejudice for not complying with zoning standards, in particular Conditional Use: current zoning limits the Wonder Bar and adjacent sites to 5-stories; the City's 2018 Comp Plan and Future Generalized Land Use map designates them Employment/commercial use. One Commissioner objected that his plan would set a development precedent for the John Nolen, Olin, and Wingra Creek area; nearby streets currently contain businesses and low to mid-density owner-occupied and rented affordable housing. Neighbors have asked for the South Madison Plan Update to include this area. ��

FOOT NOTES By Andria Blattner

Welcome to Fall! Or so the calendar says. Still feels like summer.

This September the Foot Concert series replaced the Dance Groups due to concern with close contact. The weather was perfect each evening. And many people did enjoy dancing (all with masks), especially the Ballroom Meetup Group.

We missed Ron as the leader of the September walk on the history of Turville and hope he will be able to lead his walk next Spring. The September walk was led by Melissa Kesling and Chuck Henrikson, excellent birders. It was a nice day and 40 species were seen. (Not all by me.)

Sean Gere will be leading the next 2 Bird and Nature Walks.

Oct. 10 Fall Tree Walk – Identification and natural history

Nov. 8 Restoration with Goats. Sean will discuss the effectiveness of the goats as a technique for eliminating invasive plants. This is the second year we have had goats in Turville Conservation Park.

The group meets in the Turville Parking Lot. The walk is from 1:30 to 3:00. ❖

Help Our Health Care Heroes in Midst of Covid Resurgence

By Dane County Executive Joe Parisi

We are naturally a hopeful people. It's one of the qualities of this community I appreciate most. Not that many weeks ago, we had every reason to feel renewed optimism. Our vaccination rate was among the best in the country. We saw precipitous declines in the numbers of Covid cases, hospitalizations, and deaths. Life as we knew it seemed more "normal," and the start of summer brought a renewed sense of living.

The anxiety and worry we thought was in the rear view is now back front and center, magnified by the return of kids to school and a change of seasons that results in us gathering once again indoors.

For many of us the resurgence of Covid has meant more changes in plans, readjusting daily routines, and a resumption of anxieties that come with the countless unknowns of this unrelenting virus. Moms and dads with kids too young to be eligible for vaccines face renewed, understandable angst as classes resume. Unfortunately, this virus has a staying power that's outlasted our hopes and a resiliency



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The Food Pantry and Friday Community Meal Continue With Adjustments for Physical Distancing

Food Pantry Hours

Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Thursdays from 5:15 to 7:30 PM Order & Pick-Up by the Gazebo in the Parking Lot

Free Friday Community Meal

Fridays, Noon-1:00pm: Carry-Out Hot Meals Physical Distancing is Maintained; Masks Required Southwest Entrance by St. Mark's Playground

605 Spruce St. Madison StMarksMadison.org StMarks@StMarksMadison.org



that's putting our science and medical communities to the test.

As we rally once again, it is important we be mindful of the many faces of human sacrifice, those who go to work day after day uncertain of the difficulties they will face, but well aware they're the last line of defense separating a family from a painful loss to celebrating a joyous recovery. For the countless health care workers across our community, every new iteration of this virus brings new trauma. For 18 months they've had to console, guiding patients and families through the uncertainty and sometimes loss that comes with combating Covid-19.

To everyone thrust back into the front lines of this pandemic, you are not forgotten, your sacrifice is recognized, and your patience, persistence, and dedication are appreciated. •

Senior Notes

NewBridge Madison provides services for older adults, 60+. For up-to-date services, classes, and activities information, check newbridgemadison.org, and Facebook: @NewBridgeMadison, call (608) 512-0000; or email info@newbridgemadison.org. *Participants must follow all Madison Dane Public Health guidelines*.

NewBridge: matches older adults to volunteers who do safety-check calls and/or friendly social calls; provides Case Managers to connect older adults to resources; delivers food pantry groceries to older adults' door on an ongoing basis; does home chores — only case management clients may receive home chore assistance; gives Zoom and In-Person Classes & Activities; runs Zoom Diversity & Inclusion Activities, for Dane County Black and Latinx older adults; feeds older adults.

NewBridge congregate free meals sites:

South Madison: *Madison Senior Center*, 330 W. Mifflin St. Monday-Friday, 11:30 am.

East Madison/Monona: Messiah Lutheran Church, 5202 Cottage Grove Rd. Tuesday and Thursday 11:30-12:30 pm; Hy-Vee East, 3801 E. Washington Ave. Wednesday, 10:00 am-1:00 pm and Fridays, 10:00 am-1:00 pm

West Madison: *Hy-Vee West*, 675 S. Whitney Way Wednesday, 10:00 am-1:00 pm; *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church*, 5701 Raymond Rd. Tuesday, Thursday, Noon; *Meadowridge Commons*, 5734 Raymond Rd. Tuesday, Thursday, Noon; *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church*, 5701 Raymond Rd. Friday, Noon.

North Madison: Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Dr. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 11:30 am; Goodman Community Center, 149 Waubesa St. Monday-Friday, 11:45 am.

Make meal and transportation reservations one week prior by Thursday10:00 am with Candice at (608) 512-0000 Ext. 4006. (NewBridge accepts donations for meals mailed to 1625 Northport Dr. Madison, 53704.) ❖

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 December. Submission deadline is Monday, November 22.

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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

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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

Keep Our Lakes Clean by Keeping Leaves Out of the Streets!

By Lisie Kitchel

The choices we make with falling leaves today can impact the health of our land and waters. Leaves can fertilize your lawn or flower beds, or promote algae growth in the lakes, depending on where you put them. Rain washes leaves in the street down storm drains into our lakes. Rain seeping through leaf piles and leaves crushed by car tires makes a rich "nutrient tea" that flows along the curb into the storm drains. These nutrients then fuel algae growth. Brown leaves in the street this fall make green lakes next summer.

Leaves and grass clippings naturally contain nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen. If leaves and grass are raked or blown into the street gutter, the leaves and the nutrients they contain can be washed away before collection and end up in our lakes, contributing to algae blooms. Street sweeping is not intended to capture large quantities of leaves. The good news is that together we can take simple actions to keep leaves and nutrients out of our waters.

So, here are some options for leaf management that will help our lakes.

Keep fallen leaves out of the street gutter. Many leaves naturally fall into the street. Use a blower or sweep them up. Follow guidelines for leaf collection if you rake.

Compost your leaves. Place composted leaves in your vegetable and flower beds. Composted leaves amend soil

that's healthy for plants and it's free! The leaves will take longer to break down if they are not shredded or mixed with other wastes, but they will eventually decay, leaving a nice crumbly humus which can be put on gardens and lawns to enrich the soil.

Use leaves as mulch. Rake leaves to vegetable and flower gardens, under shrubs or around trees to help suppress weeds and help prevent weed seeds that sprout in the spring. Decayed leaves enhance the soil for any planting bed and save money on purchased mulch.

Mow leaves. Leave the leaves shredded by your lawn mower right on your lawn. The small pieces quickly break down, releasing nutrients for a green, well-fed lawn. If using a bagger, use the chopped-up leaves as mulch. ❖

Enjoying the Bay Creek Bulletin?

Please join the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association! Voluntary annual dues: only \$10 per household. May be paid online at the Neighborhood's website https://baycreekmadison. org/ – click on the Contacts page link, then look for Treasurer to find the PayPal link. Or checks may be mailed to Sara Richards 710 Spruce St. 53715. (Please make checks payable to BCNA not to Sara Richards).

ACROSS

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Halloween Crossword Puzzle

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