

# Bay Creek Bulletin

baycreekmadison.org

## Don't Miss the Bus By Barb Bailly

I live on Olin Ave. in Romnes Apartments, which has 160 residents. Many of us are elderly, have handicaps, and live on a fixed income. Most of us don't own cars. I rely on bus 13, which stops in front of Romnes, to go food shopping and visit the doctor and vet. Other Romnes and South Side residents take bus 13 or bus 4 to get to work, childcare, and nearby parks. But Madison's new transit plan proposes discontinuing both these routes that serve South Madison.

We need these local routes. Transit planners say most people will have to walk one-quarter mile to the proposed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) routes, but it will be a half-mile from Romnes to the BRT on Park Street and closer to three-quarters of a mile from John Nolen (which would only have rush-hour bus service with the redesigned transit plan). People in Capitol View would end up walking two-thirds of a mile to Park Street; in Burr Oaks, the winding residential streets and dead ends would also mean longer walks to and from the bus.

Longer walking distances will be hard for many Romnes residents, who may also have to cross that awful intersection at Park and Olin to take the bus. It will be harder for people carrying groceries or those with young children in tow on their way to the Goodman Pool. It will mean walking during the heat of summer and on ice-covered sidewalks in winter, and up and down the inclines on Olin, Beld, or North Rusk, which doesn't have sidewalks along one stretch.

Some able-bodied people might not have trouble with this, but at the presentation I attended about the new transit system, the transit planners couldn't say whether Madison's paratransit (which is for people with disabilities, who can't use the fixed-route bus service) would be funded to fill the

#### **BAY CREEK BILLBOARD**

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) Meetings – Second Thursdays of the Month: April 14, May 12, June 8 6:30 pm. baycreekmadison.org has agenda and Zoom link

**Guided Nature Walks: Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT)** – Second Sundays of the Month: April 10, May 8 1:30 pm. Meet at the Turville Parking lot off of John Nolen Dr.

**Food Pantry** – Tuesdays 10:00 –12:00 pm; Thursdays 5:15–7:30 pm. Free Meal: 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. Information Contact: Nina: ninaj@wisc.edu, (608) 698-9708. gap left by removing routes 13 and 4. I don't qualify for paratransit because I don't have a disability; so even if I can't manage the walk to Park Street, I may have to rely on cab service, whether or not I can afford it.

I am not opposed to the BRT and see the long-term advantages of a Madison regional transit network. But I, and my South Madison neighbors, many of whom are people of low-income and/or of color, depend on public transit. We shouldn't be deprived of easy access to buses because the city says it can't afford the first phase of the BRT and existing local bus routes.

I encourage my neighbors to take the city survey at https://www.cityofmadison.com/metro/routes-schedules/transit-network-redesign and join me in asking the Metro Transit general manager, the Transportation Department director, the Transportation Planning & Policy Board, our alders, and the mayor to treat public transit as a necessary service for everyone. I further ask you to support the proposed Route "O," option "A" or "B," with service to Vilas Park to replace Routes 13 and 4. •

## Bay Creek Housefront in Museum Exhibition!

## By Stanley Rubio Jackson

Internationally renowned conceptual



artist Mel Chin is integrating a Bay Creek housefront into his Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (MMOCA) exhibition. The city's redesign of the South Park, Cedar, and Beld streets intersection will remove the corner house, allowing Chin to use the façade to recreate his three dimensional installation "Safehouse" in Madison - the original could not be moved from New Orleans. Chin's original work transformed the front of a former residential dwelling into an operable 10-foot-in-diameter bank-vault door. The house provided a meeting and art space for the "Fundred Project," a campaign he initiated for a future free of childhood lead poisoning. As MMOCA's website notes, the exhibition is one of "several projects that testify to [Chin's] deep commitment to the intersection of art with social, political, and environmental justice." Visit the free exhibition now through July 31, Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays 12 − 6pm. ❖

## **BCNA Minutes February 2022**

Judy R. facilitated. We first heard Neeraj and Meenu Kaushal's proposed bubble tea and liquor store at 1105 S Park St, The Emerson apartment building. Their corner store floor plan included a deli, bubble tea, as well as local beer, highend wine, soju, sake, and other liquor. Their planned hours would be 11am to 7pm with 2 staff people at a time. The presenters fielded questions from the neighborhood, and highlighted their past experience operating similar stores and working with Wisconsin Distributors (Sun Prairie). Neighbors asked about the walkout outdoor patio: the goal would be to use the patio to host customers from the bubble tea and deli. The presenters have operated similar stores for 8 years, including another store on Park St. They answered complex questions about the reality of operating a liquor store near an MPD-identified crime hotspot, the nearby gas station; and an alcohol addiction treatment center on the alley. Their identified scope is also toward a higher-end experience, but neighbors pointed out that store owners might have limited control over what patrons do after leaving the store.

Next, two city presenters – Metro Transit's Tim Sobota and the Transportation Department's Philip Gritzmacher – joined to discuss Metro Transit's Network Redesign (https://www.cityofmadison.com/metro/routes-schedules/transit-network-redesign). They explained the reasons for Metro network changes, including recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic

and incorporating Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). They presented a choice between Ridership and Coverage: aiming to cover more of the city can actually result in net losses in coverage because of the impact of transfers and lower-frequency service. The final Draft plan will be a mixture, focusing on more frequent service at high ridership locations to reduce wait times and transfers. The proposed system will be much less oriented toward peak times, with better access to rides at other times. Citywide public redesign meetings begin in late February: implementation is planned for summer 2023. The proposed Park St BRT corridor will have increased frequency for longer hours starting then. BRT buses will run every 15 minutes during the day and every 30 minutes on off-peak hours. Some neighbors have expressed issues with the elimination of bus service down Olin Ave, especially to the Romnes Apartments. Some neighbors gave a strong preference for focusing on Ridership, but had strong desires for Romnes to still have direct bus service. Neighbors and the alder asked questions about access to Goodman Pool and to schools. The presenters emphasized that new transit times include both new increased walking times as well as the offset of reduced transfer times.

The meeting discussed voting on a transit redesign letter to the city, but lack of quorum prevented the vote. The city transportation staff indicated that they wouldn't make final decisions before May at the earliest, and that the Common Council will eventually need to vote on the proposals. An informal, nonbinding vote was held regarding the letter. •

## Friends of Monona Bay Monthly Shoreline Cleanup

#### **By Nina Emerson**

The second Saturday of every month, volunteers meet at the Brittingham Beach House, 701 W. Brittingham Place (home to Brittingham Boats) from 10:00 a.m. to noon to pick up trash along Monona Bay's shoreline and in Brittingham Park. I started this grassroots effort in August 2005 after being astounded by the amount of trash picked up around Monona Bay during the annual Take a Stake in the Lakes. I decided we needed a monthly rather than yearly cleanup, and since the City of Madison and the Parks Department knew Friends of Monona Bay (FOMB), I decided to work with them.

At the first cleanup (which just happened to be the second Saturday of the month), an impressive number of volunteers showed up, responding to leaflets, email, and word of mouth. Since then, we've met every month, year-round. In January 2006, I started keeping track of the number of volunteers and bags of trash collected, a process the Parks Division Volunteer Registration and Release Form facilitates. When volunteers show up, they sign in on that form, which protects the City should someone get injured and allows them to use photos of volunteers in promotional material. To date, no one has ever been injured while volunteering with the FOMB Monthly Shoreline Cleanup.

Monona Bay and the adjacent Brittingham Park provide a year-round, urban oasis for all types of activities. In the summer, Brittingham Boats serves as an anchor for non-motorized water sports and allows access to Lake Monona. In the winter, Monona Bay is popular with people who ice fish. In addition, all the downtown Madison storm sewers flow to Monona Bay. Some of the litter that is picked up may have originated elsewhere. The dynamic nature of the Bay and the popularity of the Park have provided a monthly opportunity for volunteers to help out by picking up trash.

By the end of 2021, the cleanup had a cumulative total of 2,748 volunteers who collected 2,400 bags of trash. Since the first cleanup in August 2005, volunteers have not missed a month. I think it is fair to say that the FOMB Monthly Shoreline Cleanup has made a difference. Feel free to join us on the second Saturday of any month from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Coordinator Contact: Nina Emerson, ninajemerson@yahoo.com

Check out our Facebook page: FOMB Monthly Shoreline Cleanup

# **BCNA Meeting Minutes March 2022**

Jim facilitated. We first had a logistical discussion around structure of **BCNA meetings**, when to have committee reports during BCNA meetings, and when to prioritize emerging topics. We voted to have each monthly meeting reflect the general meeting style. Next were **annual elections**, and a short discussion about bringing new members into BCNA. The existing officer slate all agreed to continue in their roles for the next year and the slate of offices was voted in.

Alder Evers gave us his report. Neighbor Abby Davidson is working to set up a housing co-op in the neighborhood - if you know of a suitable plot of land or houses. A neighbor asked about the corner/liquor store at The Emerson, and the matter was referred to the alder, but appears that it may not go forward, pending future meetings. Neighbors brought up issues with the traffic circle at Whitter and W Lakeside, and traffic calming on W Lakeside in general.

We heard from some committees. The South Madison Planning Commission is having active discussions about the Metro Transit Network Redesign, and they expect to have 2 more public meetings. We had a discussion on whether to have shorter meetings (1h 30m vs 1h 45m). Next we had a deep discussion on whether BCNA should allow voting on items electronically, but did not have a vote or propose a change at this time.

We had an update on the development at the Olin Triangle proposed by McGrath Property. At UDC informational meeting, commissioners had feedback for the building. It is proposed at 12 stories, and the main criticism voiced at the meeting was that the building appeared too institutional or drab and McGrath was asked to enliven the building. Lastly, we had a discussion about how quorum can be better reached, and a possible future modification to the bylaws to ensure BCNA Council members attend meetings. ❖





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## **Lake Wingra Watershed Gathering**

### **By Lisie Kitchel**

Dudgeon-Monroe Neighborhood Association's WATER Team invites you to a family friendly event at Vilas Park, Saturday, May 21, 1-4:00 pm. Join neighbors from throughout the Lake Wingra Watershed. Special activities for children.

Interact with people from 30 organizations committed to clean water needed by all life forms. Learn more about water stewardship and practices. Leave with new ideas to collectively ensure healthy lakes, streams, and the lands in-between.



Image: Colleen Manner

Itinerary at <a href="https://fb.me/e/2fBr0YwrY">https://fb.me/e/2fBr0YwrY</a>

Contact Taylor water.wingragathering@gmail.com

Supported by UW-Madison Arboretum's agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency. �

#### **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).



## Density By Jim Winkle

This past year's neighborhood debate over the height of McGrath's development at the Coliseum Bar on Olin Avenue has brought out good arguments on both sides about density. I understand and share many concerns neighbors have raised: we worry that the (often unappealing) modern architecture of a tall building would be too different from – and cast a shadow over – the neighborhood's relatively small single-family houses; we worry about bird strikes, traffic, congestion, and changed views from Olin-Turville woods.

I'll detail here what I have heard and learned about the benefits of density, which can help protect the environment, build a tax base, support affordability, and make neighborhoods walkable

**Environment**: Dense development is better for the global environment compared with single-family houses or five story apartments because it saves energy, land, and even birds.

- Taller buildings contribute less to climate change: shared apartment walls reduce energy consumption; downtown workers have shorter commutes, and can bike or walk if able
- Taller buildings save land: Using 4 story buildings instead of a single 18 story building requires at least 4 times the land for the same number of apartments. If we don't build up, we have to build out, which ultimately means paving Dane County's spectacular farmland and increasing runoff into our lakes (remember the 2019 floods?)
- Taller buildings save birds: Madison's Audubon Society says tall buildings actually have fewer bird crashes because most collisions occur on lower floors. Following the

American Bird Conservancy recommendations, Madison's birdsafe glass ordinance covers lower floors (first 60 feet). In fact, because cats kill four times as many birds as windows do, tall buildings save even more birds: cat owners in tall buildings keep their cats inside more than those in single-family houses.

**Tax base**: Dense development increases our tax base better than single-family homes. Bay Creeker Jim Kreft <u>created a map</u> showing how much properties generate in tax revenue. The Peloton annually generates ten times that of a single-family home per acre (\$371k vs. about \$36k per acre); it alone generates a total of \$591k per year. Dense development generates higher taxes that fund city services, including our schools, parks, transit, and libraries.

Affordability: Dense Bay Creek development can slow gentrification in Madison, which happens when more affluent people move into an area and inadvertently displace lower-income residents. We all care about affordability – we raise the issue with every development. Todd Litman, city planner and author, writes "infill development increases affordability... benefiting lower-income residents." Providing housing in Bay Creek can reduce the neighborhood-changing market pressures on affordable housing to the south of us.

**Walkability**: Increased density builds a market for local services, including Madison Metro, grocery stores, and new retail options, which in turn make Bay Creek even more walkable.

Madison is adding 2780 people per year. McGrath's new Coliseum Bar proposal means we have the opportunity to again consider how density's pros and cons align with our values: will a 12 story, 200 apartment complex leave Madison and the world better off than the equivalent development of single-family houses and/or smaller apartment buildings? I made a Google spreadsheet to help me reach a decision that might help you too: tinyurl.com/density2022. ❖

## Madison CycleWorks to Open on North Side By Pepe Barros

Madison CycleWorks will open its doors on April 15th, 2022 on 2418 Pennsylvania Ave. We were really excited about having our shop in Bay Creek. In the end, it made



business sense to open on the North side of Madison – but we can still work together! We will offer mobile bike repair services including at-home tune-ups and pick-up/drop-off tune-ups. We have also put together a free subscription model to eliminate any potential headache or stress coming from not having your bike working properly. Our promise is: Your bike is always ready to roll. Always. Check out, sign up for appointments and share our Facebook and Instagram @madisoncycleworks and website <a href="https://www.madisoncycleworks.com">www.madisoncycleworks.com</a> launching on March 15th.

Thank you for your support and hope to get to work on your bikes soon!

- Madison CycleWorks Team

Madison CycleWorks abrirá sus puertas el 15 de abril de 2022 en la dirección 2418 Pennsylvania Ave. Estábamos muy emocionados de tener nuestra tienda en Bay Creek. Al final, por una decisión netamente económica, tuvo sentido ubicarnos en el lado norte de Madison, ¡pero aún podemos trabajar juntos! Ofreceremos servicios de reparación de bicicletas a domicilio, incluyendo recoger su bicicleta, repararla y luego pasar a dejarla. También hemos creado un modelo de suscripción gratuita para eliminar cualquier posible dolor de cabeza o estrés que surja de no tener su bicicleta funcionando correctamente cuando usted quiera utilizarla. Nuestra promesa es: Tu bicicleta siempre estará lista para rodar. Siempre. Echa un vistazo, regístrate para citas a domicilio y comparte nuestro Facebook e Instagram @madisoncycleworks y el sitio web www. madisoncycleworks.com que estará disponible a partir del 15 de marzo de 2022.

¡Gracias por su apoyo y esperamos poder trabajar en sus bicicletas muy pronto!

-Equipo de Madison CycleWorks

# **Bay Creek Transportation Projects**

**By Allen Arntsen** 

As warm weather approaches, it's time for Bay Creek road projects. The City Transportation Commission has approved Park Street crossing upgrades, including Beld/Cedar Street, Olin Avenue, Lakeside Street, Fish Hatchery Road, and Haywood Street. The Cedar/Beld/Park Street intersection is being reconfigured so that Beld runs into Cedar, which then intersects with Park Street. Additionally, Cedar Street will be extended from South Street to Fish Hatchery, (replacing Appleton Street) through the old Dean Clinic's parking lots as the Clinic is demolished. A Cedar Street to High Street easement for a bike route has been reserved along the SSM/Pick N Save lot line – to be completed with the Pick N Save property's future redevelopment.

While the bulk of **John Nolen Drive's** changes will be part of 2026 rebuilding of the causeway, the city will reduce the speed limit from 45 mph to 35 mph on the stretch between North Shore drive and Lakeside Street in hopes of slowing down John Nolen traffic turning onto Lakeside. Similarly, the bulk of the Park Street changes will be done in Park Street's reconstruction to accommodate the Bus Rapid Transit route later this decade.

Turning to bike and pedestrian infrastructure, this summer the **Cannonball bike path** should finally be completed between Fish Hatchery and the Wingra Creek path (running behind Capital Newspapers and Wright school), crossing Wingra Creek near the post office. There are also plans for a Rowell



and Van Deusen streets **bike boulevard** to connect the Shore Drive bike boulevard to the Wingra Creek path. The city is still working, and accepting public comment, on the actual design, which includes crossing Lakeside between Gilson and Rowell, crossing Olin near the pool, routing through the Goodman maintenance center parking lot, and perhaps reversing the stop signs at Colby and Van Deusen. In addition, the City is looking into how to best implement the **Shared Streets** program on South Shore and West Shore.

Finally, the proposed redesign of the bus network is in the works, which may affect routes serving the Bay Creek neighborhood, such as bus routes 4, 5, and 13. Bay Creek residents may provide input on these projects through Alder Evers or the Bay Creek Transportation Committee, which typically meets the first Monday of the month by Zoom .



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### ALDER REPORT

**By Tag Evers** 

**Updating Madison's Lighting Ordinance**: For several months, I've been working with city staff and fellow alder Grant Foster to update the City of Madison's exterior lighting ordinance for the first time since 2004. We are close to introducing a resolution that commits the City to the Five Principles of Responsible Outdoor



Lighting, set forth by the International Dark-Sky Association and the Illuminating Engineering Society.

According to these five principles, lighting should be:

**Useful:** All light should have a clear purpose.

**Targeted:** Light should be directed to only where needed. **Low Light Levels:** Light should be no brighter than necessary.

**Controlled:** Light should be used only when useful. **Color:** Use warmer color lights where possible.

The resolution states Madison will apply for designation as an International Dark Sky Community through the International Dark-Sky Association. In addition, in order to further reduce light pollution, the resolution calls upon the Common Council to adopt changes to MGO 10.085 (3)(a)2 of the outdoor lighting code so that "all fixtures greater than 500 initial lumens (equivalent to 40 watts incandescent or 10 watt LED) shall be

full cutoff, or shall be shielded or installed so that there is not a direct line of sight between the light source or its reflection and a point five (5) feet or higher above the ground at the property boundary. The light source shall not be of such intensity so as to cause discomfort or annoyance."

Special thanks to Bay Creek resident Andy Meessmann for his advocacy and encouragement.

Transit Network Redesign: There's been a great deal of anxiety about the possible loss of Route 13. I understand these concerns and have been forthright in my conversations with staff about the need for adjustments to the Draft plan, particularly with respect to anticipated hardships on residents at Romnes Apartments and users of Goodman Pool. I remain confident collaborative solutions are within our grasp and that resident input will guide staff in the final version of the Plan. For more information, please check out the project website: https://www.cityofmadison.com/metro/routes-schedules/transit-network-redesign

McGrath Development Project: On March 14, residents heard from the McGrath Property Group regarding their 12-story development project at 222-232 E. Olin Ave. The Zoom meeting was late getting started, and some residents dropped off before the presentation began. The meeting was recorded, however, and the link can be found here: https://media.cityofmadison.com/Mediasite/Play/2637809be661487d 9ce929f5322dcd0d1d

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please contact me at district13@cityofmadison.com or 608.424.2580

# FOOT NOTES By Andria Blattner

Spring is here and all of Madison's Parks are bustling with activity: nature outings, a festival, and volunteer activities – all to celebrate and share our understanding of the natural environment's importance for our wellbeing.

Bird & Nature Walks, 2nd Sunday monthly: 1:30 to 3:00. Turville Conservation Park. Start at Turville's parking lot, across John Nolen Drive from Olin Ave. Sunday April 10 Julie Melton leads the walk on the topic, appropriately, "Spring is everywhere." The early wildflowers, snowdrops and Scylla will be blooming; many winter migrants will be returning. It's a lovely time to walk in the woods. Sunday May 8 Sean Gere leads the "Tree Walk" – Sean does a great tree walk! May is also the peak of Spring Wildflowers, and the retuning warblers.

Earth Day Challenge, Saturday April 23, 10:00 to 12:00. A City-wide volunteer activity sponsored by Madison's Parks Department. They are setting up clean-up projects, providing bags and equipment. Register online here https://www.cityof-madison.com/isevents/event\_detail.cfm?eid=2361 If you have a special project that you would like to see done or help with in Turville or Olin Parks – Burdock Removals comes to mind – give me a call and I can get the tools needed and some other helpers and we can join the Challenge.

**Bird & Nature Festival, Sunday April 24,** 12:00 to 4:00 pm. It's the Friends of Urban Nature and City Parks' 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary festival held at the Warner Park Rainbow Shelter. This celebration is an open venue with many children's activities and displays presented by many local Environmental Organizations and Friends' Groups. Food carts will be available. The most popular event is seeing live raptors up close. The **Open Door Bird Sanctuary** in Door County is bringing some of their rescue birds.

May is American Wetland Month. In 1991, the Environmental Protection Agency designated May for celebrating the importance of wetlands for ecological, economic, and social health. One of the most distinctive spring sounds is frogs and toads calling. All amphibians, frogs, toads, and salamanders need wet places to lay their eggs and develop into adults. Go to <a href="https://www.eekwi.org/know-your-frogs">https://www.eekwi.org/know-your-frogs</a> to learn how to identify our species of frogs and toads. It would be a great loss not to have their wonderful songs every spring.

Olin Park Pavilion will be filled with music in May too. FOOT's spring concerts series is back on Wednesday evenings. I hope you enjoy our two new bands, the frogs, the returning birds, the leaves rustling, and all the other wonderful sounds of spring. ❖

# INVITED GUESTS

By Robert Koehler

Having just received regrets from invited guests, I'm gray as the day Anticipation disconsolate, ponderous the minutes passing Tomorrow's forecast, high-spirited with sunshine, mocks in its absence No consolation, the companionship found in tonight's clearing skies

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



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## BOOK-REVIEW

#### **By Robert Koehler**

# The Ghost Map: The Story Of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic–And How It Changed Science, Cities, And The Modern World / Steven Johnson

The Ghost Map is a riveting account of London's cholera epidemic of 1854. Setting the stage for the outbreak, Steven Johnson describes what the world's largest city at the time would have smelled like to its inhabitants. Lacking proper sewage systems, access to clean water, and with garbage and waste dumped into basements or cesspools outside homes, he invokes the overpowering stench of London's neighborhoods. During the cholera outbreak, most officials and scientists attributed it to "miasma," a disease caused by air-borne transmission.

One physician, though, believed that the spread of cholera was waterborne. During the outbreak, John Snow set out to prove his theory, mapping where those who fell ill got their drinking water, finally focusing on a single well in the affected neighborhoods. Simultaneously, a young clergyman, Henry Whitehead, also began to investigate the epidemic's cause. It would take some years before the wider scientific community accepted their findings, but ultimately their detailed "ghost maps" of the epidemic provided the evidence showing that drinking water was indeed the smoking gun in the disease's transmission.

Johnson addresses the histories about the spread of disease and how often medical science is blinded by established beliefs. But thanks to the detailed maps that Snow and Whitehead created during that particular outbreak, future epidemiologists gained a valuable tool still in use today. Thanks to these two men (and a few other scientists across the globe), their findings ensured the growth of large cities in which the transmission of disease has been mostly controlled. While published in 2006 before our current COVID pandemic, Johnson does address the likelihood of future infectious disease outbreaks, providing suggestions on how the scientific community should deal with them. In the author's user-friendly prose, this book makes for an informative and fascinating read as we again grapple with the issue of infectious disease in a world where disease pays no heed to countries' boundaries.



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# Read All About It – Bulletin, Get Your Bay Creek Bulletin!

#### By Jane A Smith

For fifteen years, give or take, I've delivered Bulletins, mostly to the same route bounded by Fish Hatchery, South Park, and West Wingra, and inside that triangle to South and Midland Streets. My route includes many single-family homes or small apartments that no longer stand. Fewer houses means fewer house-to-house deliveries, but also fewer chance encounters and moments of wonder about my neighborhood.

I usually meet very few people while delivering the Bulletin, but over time, the encounters add up. I remember a resident on Midland exclaiming, "I love getting the Bulletin." Of course, I felt very happy upon hearing that. That still happens. Once, a young girl around ten came to the door who reminded me of my niece, and at that moment I realized I didn't visit her enough. Another time, I walked up to a door and seemed to startle the man standing on the other side: I just reassured him by holding up a copy of the Bulletin, "delivering the neighborhood newsletter." One Fish Hatchery house took back porch deliveries; the first time I walked around back I was delighted to meet a cat on the screened-in porch. We studied each other as I figured out a way to deposit the Bulletin without letting her out.

Something about the garden decorations and yard seating of the now gone last house on South St. made me sure they were free-spirited folks – and when I met them, yes, they were. The house next door with shades drawn any time of day, I dubbed "the party house" because empty beer cans sometimes lay near the front door and once I found a car parked halfway across the walk to the front steps. Devout Badger fans lived on Wingra: game-day broadcasts came from inside; a large red and white flag with a prominent W decorated the garage. One house's front door had a sign that read, "The Palace of Culture Welcomes You." I was curious: Now, what was the story behind that? It sounded like a translation into English and I imagined the UW Engineering students who I learned live there bringing the sign back to Madison after studying abroad.

Thinking back on the many times I delivered Bulletins to these now gone dwellings, I realize how I often approached them wanting to know a little bit more about our neighborhood. If someone came to the door who I didn't know, I'd get glimpses of personality – a sense of humor, wariness, or loneliness – and I'd start imagining a story. How long had the residents lived there? Were they happy? Delivering the Bulletin piqued my curiosity.

These days I deliver to more businesses than homes and my encounters are quite pleasant. When I hand over the Bulletin to the 1102 S Park UW Health clinic registrar, I'm greeted with a smile and a, "Oh, good. We appreciate getting this." In at least three businesses, I truly look forward to a small exchange with the owners or managers who I've seen over so many years. I don't find myself making up stories about them; delivering to businesses seems more predictable. Perhaps predictability is a gift in a time of change.

Editor's note: Contact Kirk Elliott if you are interested in helping to deliver the Bulletin Kirk Elliott@hotmail.com \*



## Worship

Sundays at 10:00 am

## **Food Pantry Hours**

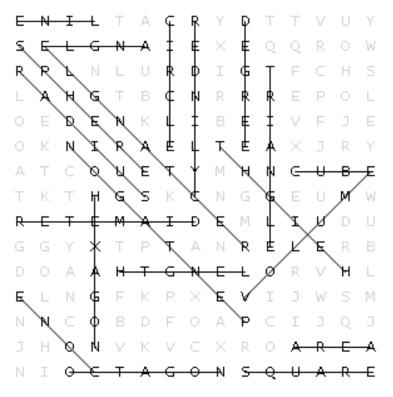
Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Thursdays from 5:15 PM to 7:30 PM Order at Main Entrance on Spruce Street

## **Free Friday Community Meal**

Fridays, Noon-1:00pm: Hot Meals
Inside Dining & Carry-Out Available
Physical Distancing is Maintained; Masks Required
Southwest Entrance by St. Mark's Playground
Handicap Entrance/Elevator on Spruce Street

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

### **Word Search Answer**



# **Turville Point Conservation Park Update**

### By Paul Quinlan Madison Conservation Resource Supervisor

If you have visited Turville Point lately, you probably noticed how much it is changing. Thanks to capital project funding approved by the Common Council, new tools in our toolbox, and partnerships with community organizations, Madison Parks is making real progress on restoring the oak woodland habitat here.

- Last spring, we were able to burn about 10 acres in the southern end of the park. This helped control brush and allow more sunlight to reach the ground, allowing plants like Jacob's ladder, purple joe-pye weed and black-eyed Susan to flourish. Then, the goats returned and worked their way through another 17 acres of the park, defoliating and diminishing invasive buckthorn and bush honeysuckle, as well as brambles and a few garlic mustard seed heads.
- In the fall, our crew from Operation Fresh Start worked hard on the east side of the park, on the slope above the lake, cutting and burning buckthorn that were too tall for the goats to reach. When the buckthorn sprouts back, the goats will eat them again, continuing to weaken the root

- systems, while making space for a wider range of native plants to grow.
- This year, we plan to conduct prescribed burns in a few
  of the areas that have recently been cleared and grazed.
  This will be followed by sowing seed of native grasses and
  wildflowers adapted to the shady conditions found in the
  oak woodland.

We will also be working to remove invasive species such as garlic mustard and dame's rocket - and we need your help! We are looking for volunteers to spend a few minutes - or a few days - to help pull garlic mustard in areas that have been opened enough to allow people to walk through. We will designate a few garlic mustard compost sites in the park, where people can pile their harvest. Since garlic mustard can continue to grow and produce viable seed even after it has been pulled, piling it all in a central location will limit the dispersal of those seeds, and eventually reduce the proportion of the park that is infested with it. While bagging the plants and hauling them to a landfill is the best solution, we are hoping this strategy will invite more casual volunteers and result in a net increase in the amount of garlic mustard pulled.

Learn more about volunteer opportunities to really immerse yourself in the park: visit <a href="https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/volunteer/">https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/volunteer/</a>. Spring is here! Hope to see you out there! <a href="https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/volunteer/">https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/volunteer/</a>.

## McGrath Olin Triangle Development Update By Lisie Kitchel

McGrath's new proposal for 222-232 Olin Ave would leave the Wonder Bar intact while replacing the Coliseum Bar with an independent 12 story building (as South Madison Plan recommends), containing roughly 200

market rate apartments. The bottom 2 floors would have mixed commercial business space. Alder Evers sponsored a March 14th neighborhood meeting at which neighbors expressed concerns about the proposed building's 'look,' requesting that the design better complemented the Wonder Bar, park, neighborhood, and its gateway-tothe-city location. The architect indicated the design was early in the process and still a work in progress. He also indicated they would follow the City's bird glass ordinance. When asked, McGrath indicated limited

funding options made affordable housing not an option. A link to the newest plans and the recording of the neighborhood meeting are posted on our BCNA website: <a href="https://baycreekmadison.org/">https://baycreekmadison.org/</a>. <a href="https://baycreekmadison.org/">https://baycreekmadison.org/</a>.



## **Grow Where You're Planted**

#### By Rebecca Ann Rettenmund

When I was in my twenties, I was a professional artist living on the west coast. When the man I was dating dumped me, I hit rock bottom and in my grief, I lost my job and my apartment. Having nowhere else to go, I moved to Madison to live with my mom and wallowed in depression. My mom would drag me out of bed in the morning and always say: "Grow where you're planted." At the time, I really didn't know what that meant.

My mom tried hard to get me back on my feet. We'd go for long bike rides together and when we got back, she would feed me homemade lasagna. Yet, still my soul suffered. One day my mom stepped out of her house and pointed at the sky. "At one point, I had a beautiful ash tree there. It used to shade the house all summer. Then the tree got infected by the Emerald Ash Borer. The city had to come in and take it down."

I looked at the vacant space, thinking that's what I felt like. "That's sad, mom."

"Not really. It's all a matter of how you look at it. Without the tree there, my lawn got direct sunlight. Perfect for growing a garden."

Throughout the year, I watched my mom maintain her garden. In the fall, she put down a layer of cardboard over the grass and spread six inches of leaves on top of it. By the following spring, the cardboard had disintegrated and all that was left was rich top soil. She planted all kinds of fruits and vegetables. She raised tomato seedlings in a southern window. Oregano had beautiful blooms on it. Garlic grew best of all. In fact, most of her homemade lasagna grew right in her yard. She liked to add kale to it. (People call kale a "superfood" because it has so many nutrients – it's a great source of vitamin A, C and fiber – with so few calories.)

People would come over to trade goods with my mom. She'd give them tomatoes and garlic, and they'd give her eggs. I asked my mom if the garden helped her meet people. Yes. Mom said: "Sometimes they drive by and say: You sure are working hard! I just tell them this is my grocery store and my gym."

Today I rent a house five blocks from my mom in the Bay Creek Neighborhood. I live there with my husband, someone I met because of biking. We like to walk the dog to visit mom and find her in the garden. She offers us a pear. It's the biggest one we have ever seen. Taking a bite, I savor the fruit of this land. Now I think I understand what it means to grow where I'm planted. •



## **Neighborhood Notes**

#### **CITY**

Earth Day Challenge: Saturday, April 23, 10am to 12pm. Madison Parks seeks 850 volunteers (all ages) for trash pickup, raking, weeding: Check: <a href="https://www.cityofmadison.com/calendar/earth-day-challenge-2022">https://www.cityofmadison.com/calendar/earth-day-challenge-2022</a> call (608) 266-4711

Madison Arts Commission: Silver Lining Awards. Thursday, May 12, Garver Feed Mill. Check: https://www.friendsofmadisonarts.org/silverlining.html (Bay Creekers have been nominated.)

**Low-Income Housing Forum:** Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 PM 8:15 PM. *League of Women Voters* https://www.lwvdanecounty.org/forums/2022/5/12/low-income-housing-where-do-we-go-next

#### NEIGHBORHOOD MUSIC

**Make Music Madison** June 21 citywide musical celebration: learn more at <a href="http://www.makemusicmadison.org/">http://www.makemusicmadison.org/</a>.

Free Olin Pavilion Concerts: Wednesday 6-8 PM May/June.

May 4: Evan & Tom Leahy (Irish folk/rock)

May 11: Mark Croft Trio (Americana)

May 25: Panchromatic Steel (Steel drums)

June 1: Cris Plata (Texas Twang)

#### **Lakeside Coffee House**

Friday April 1, 7pm – 8pm: Tumbledown Shack Friday April 8, 7pm – 8pm: The Honey Pies Friday April 15, 7pm – 8pm: Dpartures Bossa Nova Saturday April 16, 6:30pm: 7:30pm – Richard Weigel Friday April 22, 7:30pm: 8:30pm: Dance Around Molly Friday April 29, 7pm – 8pm: Neighborhood Irish Session Friday May 6, 7pm – 8pm: Tumbledown Shack Friday May 13, 7pm – 8pm: Classical Guitar

Saturday May 14, 6:30pm: 7:30pm – Richard Weigel Friday May 20, 7pm – 8pm: Don't Spook the Horse

Friday May 27, 7pm – 8pm: Neighborhood Irish Session

Friday June 3, 7pm – 8pm: Trio Soleil Friday June 24, 7pm – 8pm: The Honey Pies

#### KIDS

**Edgewood Summer Science Camps** in-person summer camps/ workshops. 608-663-6912 Kids read to therapy dogs second Saturday of the month: Check: Guardian Whiskers "Book Buddies" www.guardianwhiskers.org

**Good Neighbor Gathering**: September 11. Help D13 Alliance organize this Brittingham Park festival. Contact: <a href="mailto:district13cares@gmail.com">district13cares@gmail.com</a>

## **Senior Notes**

**NewBridge Madison** provides services for older adults, 60+. For up-to-date services, classes, and activities information, check newbridgemadison.org, and Facebook: @NewBridge-Madison, call (608) 512-0000; or email <a href="mailto:info@newbridgemadison.org">info@newbridgemadison.org</a>. 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: Make meal and transportation reservations one week prior by Thursday10:00 am with Candice at (608) 512-0000 Ext. 4006. (New-Bridge accepts donations for meals mailed to 1625 Northport Dr. Madison, 53704.)

**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; *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.



### **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: articles, drawings, photos, poetry, announcements, book and restaurant reviews. Volunteers deliver the next Bulletin the first week of June. Submission deadline is Wednesday May 25.

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**Transportation** – Allen Arntsen 608-692-4293 allenarntsen@gmail.com

#### NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES

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**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) 424-2580 district13@cityofmadison.com

County Board – Chuck Erickson (608) 212-8753 erickson.chuck@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

## February Snow Snake Games at San Damiano

#### by Janet Braun

How will we build a Snow Snake course with no snow on the ground?... I tried to imagine it. The Native American game is played on a long berm of snow with a groove down the center, but there's no snow here today! The games are tomorrow, and I'm helping to run them. We'll have to come up with something.

Friday's bright morning sunshine in a magical sparkling sky greeted us with the answer: a billion tiny, glittering snowflakes. The ground was white again! Who could've picked a better day for a Snow Snake Festival? Off to the games at San Damiano in Monona I went.

Snow Snake is a traditional Great Lakes Region Native American winter sport that brings people together to have fun during the cold winter and build community and camaraderie outdoors. -Native tribal members play the game to celebrate the winter together, and to keep their spearing arm strong for the coming spring spearfishing season.

That morning, we built a long, curved berm from freshly fallen snow, the shape of a huge snake slithering across the ground sporting a big grin. Dragging a log all the way along the center of the berm formed a groove, beginning at the head's higher end so that when players launched their wooden "snakes" they would accelerate and gain momentum traveling down its back.

Bill Quackenbush, the Ho-Chunk Nation's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, hosted the games at beautiful San Damiano's public lakeshore on Lake Monona – Ho-Chunk ancestral land. Several members of the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska drove all the way here to participate. Bill treated us to a history lesson about his tribal nation's long local history on Lake Monona, with native burial sites on the grounds.

He brought a variety of hand-carved, 4 foot long, wooden "snakes." Each player had 3 tries to project their snakes down the track as far as possible. He started with the small children, ages 1 through 9, patiently showing each child how to hold the snake and slide it forward with as much might as they could muster. Then Bill taught each individual player, ages 10 through 14, and 15 through 99. I had the best job of all, retrieving the snakes, marking

# **BCNA Special March 2022 Membership Meeting Minutes**

Meeting minutes will be published once a copy of the meeting recording is available.

their distance, and sending them back to the starting line with each player. The kids were thrilled to hear how far their snakes had gone, some 40 feet, others by the "big kids" nearly 400.

Plaques made of ash and oak from San Damiano's fallen trees were prizes for the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in each age group. Friends of San Damiano and City of Monona sponsored the event with hot cider and cocoa around the fires. A gorgeous sunset across the lake closed the Snow Snake games, the perfect event to initiate public use of San Damiano as a new park, recently purchased by Monona, while honoring ancestors. Watch for the Snow Snake festival next winter – you won't want to miss it! ❖

## **Geometry Word Search**

Solution on page 8

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Find geometry math words forwards, backwards, and diagonally.

ANGLE, AREA, CIRCLE, CONE, CUBE, CYLINDER, DEGREE, DIAMETER, HEIGHT, HEXAGON, LENGTH, LINE, OCTAGON, PENTAGON, RADIUS, RECTANGLE, SPHERE, SQUARE, TRIANGLE, VOLUME