

Bay Creek Bulletin

baycreekmadison.org

Meet Bay Creek Artist Nastia Craig

By Stanley Rubio Jackson

Local artist and designer Anastasiya, "Nastia," Craig has had a lifelong engagement with the creative process. From her first childhood inspirations in Ukraine, to her formal training in New York, to her current multifaceted work while living in Bay Creek, Nastia has sought aesthetic expression for her ideas and feelings. She sat down at the Lakeside Café this fall to discuss her imaginative journey and share some about her life and work.



"Mariupol's Last Flower"

Nastia is mother of a sixth grader, likes jogging around Monona Bay, is a guitar enthusiast and relates that "art is something that's always been a part of me." As a child, she studied music and would spend hours drawing and painting. In school, her parents wanted her to focus on "something more practical" and so when she came the United States to study, she chose interior design as a "middle ground," mastering its structural elements, learning technical skills and certain rules for "filling a white box with volume and shape." If her early work had been more surreal and fantastic, her later work in the U.S. became more representational.

BAY CREEK BILLBOARD

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) Meetings – Second Thursdays of the Month: Dec. 8, Jan. 12, Feb. 9, Mar. 9 baycreekmadison.org has agenda and Zoom link

Guided Nature Walks: Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT) – Second Sundays of the Month: Dec. 11, Jan. 22, Feb. 19, Mar.19 1:30 pm. Meet at Turville Parking lot off 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.

Do you live in Bay Creek? Want more neighborhood discussion in your life? Join the Bay Creek email listserv!

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While working locally and nationally as an interior designer – Nastia founded her Madison based business, Pink House Designs LLC, in 2015 – she notes the continuing appeal of visual arts in her life. She explains, with its "endless opportunities to experiment" and "appeal to try anything" you can always build on it. She feels that she has blended her two creative sides with her art influencing her design. You may have seen some of her creations without knowing it if you have visited Forage Kitchens in Middleton, or Jacknife Restaurant and Sushi RED Restaurant in Madison. The public and

private projects revealed on her Pink House Designs LLC <u>website</u> give a sense of the breadth of her style and ability.

Nastia's own original visual art work expands our view of her creative vision further. On her website, <u>Nastia Craig Art</u>, we find her remarkable mixed media collages. I was particularly struck by her piece, "Something Major" with its bold red, blue, and black wavy stripes layered on top of each other, wild and alive on a stark blank background. Embedded (**Continued on page 2**)

Mad City Story Slam at Lakeside Cafe

By Camille and Karen Dreyfuss

After sitting around all day Saturday, November 12th, I decided to go to Mad City Story Slam with my mother. It sounded cool and lived up to the hype.

As me and my mom rolled into Lakeside Coffee House, we felt sheepish: not really knowing what to expect, we chose a safe table near the back, hoping to go unnoticed. Zach, one of the hosts, warmly greeted us. He explained we could tell a story, all stories and storytellers welcome. He warmly greeted each newcomer with reassuring encouragement. We ordered a few drinks and settled in for the entertainment. Lakeside Coffee House in the evening reminded us of a winter wonderland with soft sparkly lights and frost on the windows. It's a perfect spot for community events. After the first three stories were told, I had ideas and a shred of confidence to tell a story of my own. I timidly pulled over the host and added my name to the storyteller list: Camille.

I had never done this before and it was nerve wracking as I waited in my seat because my ideas were changing quickly. All the adults made me feel even more (Continued on page 2)



Artist and designer Nastia Craig

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NASTIA CRAIG From page 1

inside each curving bar is a subtle geometric pattern that draws you in further. You can find a stop action video of Nastia creating "Something Major" on YouTube.

Sadly, no discussion of her art is possible without mention of Russia's war of aggression currently being waged against Ukraine. Her beautiful and vibrant work "Mariupol's Last Flower" can't help but make the viewer feel the contrast between the creative energy of art and catastrophic destruction Putin has released upon that Ukrainian city. The Stoughton Resettlement Assistance Program (SRAP), who have supported Ukrainian Refugees in Dane County, sought out Nastia to support local Ukrainian artists. They have sold her visual art with Nastia donating a portion of the proceeds to support SRAP's work and the work of other groups providing medical supplies to the Ukraine. Nastia relates that, though she has lived most of her life in the United States, "I am very worried about my country; I have family there that I am extremely worried about... and I want to do what I can to help." Please check out her art when you have the chance. You can find it not only on her website, but also on Instagram, Facebook, and Open Sea. ❖

STORY SLAM From page 1

nervous. "I can do this, I can do this." My name was called and I took to the stage. I was mad at myself for signing up, but masked my emotions and took hold of the microphone. I had never used a microphone before and it felt awkward. Then, my mind went blank.

One story came to mind and I began... "This is the story of the night my little sister was born."

Camille bravely went on to share details of eating dumplings and noodles while eagerly awaiting baby news at our favorite Chicago take-out spot, The Sunshine Café. She told the crowd, "My dad kept texting my grandparents, 'It's a...' and finally, 'It's a girl!'" Camille relayed, "That miso soup never tasted better. The taste of victory" – and the crowd laughed as she shared that she was the ONLY person who thought it would be a girl and she was right.

We all have a story. I hope you'll consider joining the next community story slam event and sharing yours. It was a remarkable evening, one we won't soon forget. *



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Now is the time to schedule winter basement remodeling jobs and deck, porch, and small addition projects for spring

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October BCNA Meeting Summary

Fred Turkington recording secretary. Carrie R facilitated. The neighborhood couple who recently bought the 629 Spruce St single-family house plan to raze the house and garage due to significant structural issues that preclude remodeling; they will build a new home in keeping with the neighborhood style. Since the old house's construction, the city has put in place setback requirements; they hope to save the property's large oak tree by maintaining the existing setback and will apply for a zoning variance after completing demolition. Discussion ensued around the required zoning variance; neighbors supported the couple and offered advice on this process.

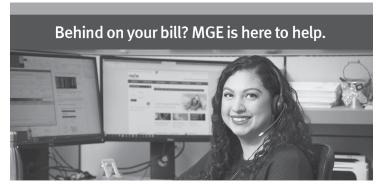
The South Metropolitan Planning Commission (SMPC) report described the police department's request for brainstorming ideas on getting more people to use Penn Park to help discourage illegal nuisance behavior there. An advocate of fare-free transit on the S. Park St BRT line presented on other cities successfully eliminating public transit fares. The BNCA meeting discussed recruiting new members and our public outreach on the website and other potential platforms. ❖

November BCNA Meeting Summary

Editor's note: At November's meeting, I explained my agenda item, "What Happened to the October Bulletin": without my knowledge, permission, or review, individuals had our printer "insert" a page containing two stories by the same author, including one I had rejected. I have reached out to those involved – this month's Bulletin is publishing a new piece by the same author.

Fred Turkington Recording Secretary; Andrew Maier contributing notetaker. Allen A. facilitated. Committee updates: Neighbors have an interest in traffic measurement devices on South Shore Dr. Next, we heard about the Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge: there was a midcourse check-in meeting; the design challenge final proposal submissions are due in January. The public will be engaged through March to help decide the final plan, and then again through the summer after the city selects the final designer. More information can be found at lakemononawaterfront.org

"What happened": Following an introduction by the editor on Bulletin history, himself, and his vision for the Bay Creek Bulletin, we had a confrontational conversation about the October Bay Creek Bulletin's final page – some neighbors circumvented the elected editor by going directly to the printer, representing articles as an ad. Traditionally, the editor has had final say about what ends up in the newsletter, and works with neighbors to edit their pieces. A debate ensued



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about the Editor's role and the Bulletin's nature: some residents expressed an interest in a paid slot for people to express their views, others felt that it was important for the editor to have the final say about what content appears in the newsletter, paid or otherwise. Neighbors took positions on editorial discretion and the availability of other places for neighbors to have their opinions heard and published. A neighbor pointed out that we already have mechanisms as a community to vote on the editorial newsletter's content: annually, we *elect* the editor; bylaw mechanisms also permit removal of editors and neighborhood officers. Many residents expressed their gratitude for the editor's work on the newsletter and appreciated the state of the newsletter. The editor made a plea for more people to submit content to the newsletter, particularly "slower" news and stories about the people who live in Bay Creek.. *



Madison Trust for Historic Preservation Expressed Concerns About TOD-Related Upzoning Impact on Older Neighborhoods

By Carrie Rothburd

Madison's transit-oriented development ordinance comes before Transportation Policy and Planning (12/5), Plan Commission (12/12), and Council (1/3). If approved, 0.25 mile alongside higher-frequency transit corridors can be "upzoned" to increase the density/height of buildings that can be built by-right.

The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation is concerned that plans for overlay districts [ODs] **override the city's former protections for local and national historic sites and** ignore the Comprehensive Plan's insistence on integrating new with existing structures where no historic district or landmarking exists to maintain the design/scale that makes Madison's neighborhoods, work sites, and shopping areas attractive.

According to the Trust's letter, the proposed OD upzoning ends Plan Commission's responsibility to consider new proposals in light of development standard of approval 9,

which states that it must find that new proposals "[create] an environment of sustained aesthetic desirability compatible with the existing or intended character of the area and the statement of purpose for the zoning district."

The Trust states: "Chipping away at some of the safeguards for protecting our historic cultural heritage should be a concern for the inventory of historic and culturally important areas outside of [historic] districts. With this and future zoning changes, it is important to preserve...areas of vernacular structures, so that our landmarks and historic districts maintain their context, and our community keeps its cultural connection to the past. In this way we achieve an important strategy of the Comprehensive Plan, to 'preserve historic and special places that tell the story of Madison and reflect racially and ethnically diverse cultures and histories." Bay Creek (in Park Street OD) has no historic district or landmarked buildings, but is rich in "vernacular" architecture. *

ALDER REPORT

By Tag Evers

2023 Budget – November is not only the start of the holiday season, but it's also the time the city determines its budget for the next year. Common Council met on November 15 and 16 for two marathon budget deliberation sessions to vote on amendments to Mayor Satya's 2023 budget.



Prior to these deliberations, I successfully moved an amendment to the mayor's operating budget at the October 31st meeting of the Finance Committee to address the 6% wage gap imposed on the city's general municipal employees. Raises in previous years were provided to those employee groups who retained bargaining rights under Act 10, namely Fire and Police, while these same raises were denied to those who had lost their bargaining rights. My amendment will cover half of the gap in 2023 and provide a path to wage parity in the 2024 budget year.

I sponsored several amendments at our November budget hearings. On the capital budget side, I sponsored an amendment to borrow an additional \$3.5 million to pay for the build-out of the grocery store at the **Truman Olson site** on South Park St., which will paid back with interest by the grocer, Maurer Urban Markets.

On the operating side, I sponsored amendments to expand CARES services and to add a Sustainability Program Coordinator to augment the city's climate preparedness strategy. After much deliberation, I voted to provide \$4.5 million in tax-incremental financing (TIF) revenue to the **Madison Public Market**. I am pleased my colleagues agreed as I am now convinced the Public Market will be a wonderful addition to our community and will provide generational wealth to minority entrepreneurs.

I also voted to hire **six additional police officers** funded in part through a Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant from the federal government. Chief Barnes has stipulated these officers will be assigned to each of the six police districts **to work directly with youth**. Several leaders in the Black community supported this grant, including Judge Everett Mitchell, calling for a collaborative approach across agencies, departments, and community organizations to address juvenile empowerment.

Transit Oriented Development and Housing – The TOD Overlay ordinance change was referred for introduction at the November 22 meeting of Common Council. It will be taken up at the December 5 meeting of the Transportation Policy & Planning Board, to be followed by Plan Commission on December 12, and then back to Common Council for a final vote on January 3rd.

I'm aware there are concerns by some in Bay Creek regarding the proposed changes. Change is difficult, yet we have little choice but to address the inevitability of change as our city continues to grow at a rapid pace. I strongly believe TOD to be a common-sense policy approach, the purpose being to incentivize the development of housing along our city's high-frequency corridors. Lastly, as this year comes to an end, I wish all of you a blessed holiday season and a safe, happy and healthy new year. ❖

Prints

By Rebecca Rettenmund

It started with a simple sketch. I wanted to capture the expression of a cat after he had knocked down the Christmas tree to get one of the ornaments. A sly curl in his lips, narrow eyes; he would look as if he had gotten away with the crime of the century.

That was our Dirge.



Isaiah (my husband) and I had adopted him from the Humane Society in 2006. He might have been a monster, but Dirge was also my muse. I hadn't drawn for a year – being fired as

a video game artist left me uninspired. Then Isaiah came up with this crazy idea. If I could make a drawing, he could transfer the image onto wood. He could use the transfer as a guide to carve the image onto a wood block. When ink was applied to the surface, the carved parts wouldn't print. Flipping over the block and pressing down would leave the image on the paper.

Isaiah said it was called a wood block print.

Now, sixteen years later, we still do our wood block print cards every Christmas. We have never missed a year; the subject matter is always our pets. Every year has a different theme. We've done Dirge as a totem pole, Dirge as a super hero, Dirge as a carousel, Dirge as a playing card, and a personal favorite, Dirge as a Haida design of the pacific northwest Native Americans. The year Dirge died, we did a memorial card. Just a sweet image of our beloved pet nestled in the bushes. And that's where he is today, in our back yard.

Yet our tradition lives on.

I always start drawing the cards on October first. Sometimes I do as many as twenty thumbnails to hone my idea. When I have a drawing I like, I take a picture of it and use it as reference for a vector drawing. This is a digital image that Isaiah can use in the GloForge laser engraving machine. See, Isaiah is too advanced to carve the block by hand anymore. He uses the laser to burn the image into the wood.

Lots of our techniques have progressed through the years. We print as many as six colors now. One color per block. With sixty cards, that means we

print 360 times. After the ink has been applied to the block, Isaiah fits the block into a frame to position the image. It has to be precise, because each block has a different color ink on it. The colors fit like a jigsaw puzzle, nothing overlapping – out of alignment would leave gaps, and that's not good. The frame ensures the precise set of the paper before it's printed. Then it's run through the press.

Long ago Isaiah used to press the block with his hands. Later we got a press that would use a top crank to print the ink. Even that got too temperamental, so now we have a rolling press. The block, sandwiched with the paper, is fed into a set of rollers that squeeze the block into the paper.

Maybe that sly look in Dirge's eye was him taking credit for the years of joy we have had making these cards. ❖



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CEDAR CLOSET

By Robert Koehler

Who says dreams have no scent?
Last night, led by a candle
down basement steps,
following an unspooled thread,
redolent in memory
I found what had been contained
for six decades.
Opening Father's cedar closet,
a waft resurrected
from childhood again blossomed.
But then, proving ephemeral,
before I could
breathe it all in, anosmia blew
that candle out.
I inhaled only the vacant dark.

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



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Maximum word target: 500. To bring out your best, I edit everything for length, organization, tone, style, voice, and content – you ok final edits; I ok publishing.

So go for it and write for the Bulletin! Your Editor, Stanley



By Robert Koehler

Imagine a City / Mark Vanhoenacker

Mark Vanhoenacker documented the joys of soaring skyward at the controls of a jumbo jet in his book, *Skyfaring* (highly recommended). *In Imagine A City*, the Boeing airline pilot brings his perspective back down to the earth, while still exploring the globe from his aircraft. Describing cities visited over his career as a pilot – Tokyo, Cape Town, Jeddah, Delhi and numerous others – he includes the readers as companions on his explorations.

Woven into Vanhoenacker's story are chapters recounting growing up in Pittsfield, Massachusetts and his return to his birthplace throughout his adulthood. As a young adult with a speech impediment and the realization he was gay, he spent his youth creating cities on paper, using a globe in his room to imagine their essence. Vanhoenacker's story contrasts these early visions with what he actually found when he later visited the places as an adult.

His book is both a travelogue and a memoir, a love letter to his birthplace and the numerous cities he's visited throughout his career, each with its own special history. He brings to life the spark that guaranteed their growth and continued existence. For armchair travelers, *Imagine A City* provides a thoughtful exploration of tempting destinations, coupled with the importance of one's birthplace.



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South Metropolitan Planning Council (SMPC) November Report

By Cindy McCallum, BCNA liaison to SMPC

Liaison note: SMPC (Zoom) meetings address a variety of South Madison topics the third Monday of every month. I email detailed meeting notes to the Bay Creek listserv, including Madison Police Department Captain Hanson's updates: sometimes he shares bad news — November saw increased fighting in the Waunona area, using lots of police resources; sometimes he shares good news — drug trafficking in and near Penn Park decreased.

In November, we hosted Madison City Planner Angela Puerta who showed slides detailing the *Town* of Madison Attachment to the *City* of Madison, which started in 2002. 6000 residences changed services, requiring a great deal of effort and extensive communication. A lot of the Town of Madison was occupied by tenants and the Town didn't have a Planning Service. For example, 90% of the mobile home residents speak Spanish, typically working 2-3 jobs, making contacting them difficult. Attachment communication tools will remain available through April 2023. Check online for more information: https://www.cityofmadison.com/city-hall/town-of-madison

A group of South Madison neighbors attended the November 9 Transit Redesign meeting. Many people were very unhappy with the Redesign plan. The redesign team is taking in public comments and addressing them. Neighbors noted several problems with the equity analysis and called for a more fine-grained analysis: Technically it meets the requirements, but some saw a problem that the designer of the Redesign carried out the analysis while typically a neutral party does an equity analysis before the design. Others noted that the City used 2018 census block group data instead of the 2020 true blocks – a block group covers a much larger area. Some asked why the City subscribes to, but did not use its Streetlight data, a tracking app that shows where people travel. The group would like to invite City of Madison Transportation Director Tom Lynch to attend the next SMPC meeting to describe how the City uses transit data.

Our Alders try to attend SMPC meetings and provide updates: Construction costs and supply issues have stalled the Coliseum Bar development at Olin and John Nolan.

Help Tutor at Franklin Elementary!

By Stanley Jackson and Barbara Clark

An Open Door for Refugees volunteer has initiated in-person support for English language learning children at Franklin Elementary school. After a year of planning and patience that schools would once more welcome volunteers this fall, Barbara Clark, in conjunction with Jen Klutterman of Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD), has successfully launched a tutoring program at Franklin on Lakeside St.

Volunteers currently serve students at Lakeview Elementary, on the eastside, where there has been a dramatic increase in Pashtuns (also known as Pakhtuns or Pathans) generally native to Afghanistan, Iran, and Pakistan. Families have settled there because housing is more affordable and landlords have been amenable.

Now, Barb's initiative includes Franklin, where MMSD staff are looking for in-class support for children of various backgrounds, many of whom have been through traumatic events in their young lives. Tutors generally would work individually with students and spend 1-2 hours weekly, on the same days and at the same times.

If you have free time and interest, we would love to have you join us – no need to be a current or former educator. Our current tutors are very excited about this opportunity and the relationships they are building with these children. If you are interested, please contact: Barb Clark muchkaman@gmail.com or call 608-332-0770 (Cell); landline 608-709-5209. She will be able to give you additional information. ❖

FROM MGE

Tips to Help Manage Winter Energy Use

The holiday season is here and with it often comes a full schedule of events, including gatherings, shopping and decorating. If you're looking to save energy but don't have a lot of time, MGE has some quick, no- and low-cost tips to help.

Lower Your Thermostat – You can save an estimated 10% on your heating by turning your thermostat down 10 degrees for eight hours a day. Visit mge.com/setthermostat for recommended thermostat settings.

Check Your Vents – Properly opening and closing high and low vent returns will help your furnace to operate efficiently. If your home has these vents, you will see low vents on the wall near the floor. Straight up from the low vents toward the ceiling will be the high vents. Remember that hot air rises and cold air falls. In winter, you want the cold air to be drawn through the return registers so the furnace can heat it. You can achieve this by opening lower vents and closing top vents.

Check Your Furnace Filter – The furnace filter is a small part of your heating system but an important one. A clogged filter can inhibit airflow. It causes your furnace to work harder and use more energy. During heating season, check your filter monthly, and clean or replace it when it is dirty.

Check Your Windows – Leaving windows unlocked allows the air to move in and out of the house as energy loss. It's common for the upper sash of a double-hung window to "fall down" a bit, leaving the top of the window "open," which often goes unseen because of blinds or shades. Ensure this doesn't happen by locking your windows!

And, if you have any drafty windows, consider installing inexpensive window film to help keep the cool air out. These kits are sold in stores and online and only require a household hairdryer to install.

Let Sunlight Help Warm Your Space – Just as shade helps keep you and your home cooler in the summer, letting in the sunlight during winter helps warm a room. Open your blinds or drapes during the day to take advantage of the sunshine, and close them at night to reduce heat loss and drafts.

Heat the Person, not the Room – Instead of turning up the heat, put on another layer, get up and move around, or plug in a low-energy-using item such as a heating pad, heated blanket or heated slippers.

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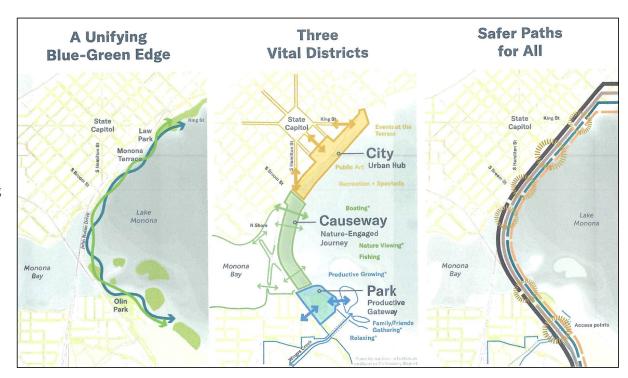
Lake Monona Waterfront Design Challenge Moves Forward

By Allen Arntsen

Three internationally recognized design firms presented plans November 7 live at the Monona Terrace and online to reimagine **Lake Monona's shoreline along John Nolen Drive between Blair and Lakeside streets**. Anyone interested can see the Madison community's first look at the designers' preliminary ideas on the city's channel.

All three presentations focused on improving water quality and aquatic habitat, narrowing and slowing John Nolen traffic, separating the Causeway into fast, slow, and water routes, and providing safer crossings, piers, and boardwalks. They further presented options to activate the lakeshore with dedicated areas to fish, boat, kayak, and engage in winter sports, along with restaurants, picnic areas, and places to watch water ski shows or other entertainment. (Continued on page 9)

Agency Landscape and Planning proposed creating wetlands adjacent to the causeway between North Shore Drive and the beginning of Olin Park, including underpasses at North Shore Drive and King Street, an overpass at Broom street. and a boardwalk for pedestrians and passive uses separated from the road and bike path by a water trail.



James Corner Field Operations proposed changing the causeway to a city boulevard, with above-grade, below-grade, and at grade crossings to the park and creating a "nature-based shoreline" to replace the current stone rip rap lakeshore. They recommended creating dramatic lakeshore viewpoints and destinations to draw people to the park. Finally, they suggested that city planning focus development on lakefacing buildings in contrast with current buildings whose backs face the lake.



Snakes in the Prairie

Editor's note: This piece originally was to be published earlier – the Bulletin is very lucky to have Andria's consistent reports on Olin Turville parks and our animal neighbors. Thank you.

By Andria Blattner

Last summer, a UW student studied snake occupancy at eight Madison prairie restoration sites. The "Baseline Snake Occupancy in Madison-Area Parks" by Will Vuyk and Professor Catherine Woodward found five species and had 140 snake encounters (though he may have caught a snake more than once). One site had no snakes caught; no

sites had all five species. Two Special Concern status snakes, the Plains Garter Snake, and the Red-bellied Snake, turned up. In the Turville Prairie, he found the Dekay's Brown Snake and the Common Garter Snake.



Common Gartersnake (Thamnophis sirtalis). Photo © A.B. Sheldon

The very uneven distribution of snake species reminds us that snakes have very limited mobility in urban areas. They also have a high mortality rate. Think pesticides, pollutants, animals (pets and feral), and human hostility. Roads especially are a problem. This makes recolonization very difficult.

That snakes can find refuge, even in small restored natural habitats, is very encouraging about the value of restoration. The ecology of snakes shows that they are very important animals in the natural food webs both as predators and prey. A study at the U.W. Arboretum shows that common garter snakes actively feed on invasive jumping worms. Every garden needs a few small snakes.

It is hard to believe this was the first baseline study of snakes' population in this area. Hopefully it will be followed up by others. It was a real pleasure to join Will and try to catch garter snakes on the run as he lifted the boards. I did manage to get most that came my way. ❖

WATERFRONT From page 8

The design firms will present proposed conceptual master plans at a Madison **public meeting** at the new Parks Department facility in Olin Park on **January 26, 2023**, at 6:00 pm. The Lake Monona Waterfront Ad Hoc committee, which is overseeing this process, will sponsor a public engagement process to get community input on the plans,

with the goal of selecting a final designer in the spring of 2023 and presenting a detailed master plan to the Common Council and Parks Commission for consideration in late 2023. Additional information can be found at www.lakemononawaterfront.org or contact the committee chair, Allen Arntsen, at allenarntsen@gmail.com

park divided into four components. They proposed (moving east to west): 1) a Law Park Ledge featuring a **boat** house, waterfront amphitheater, public beach, and pier; 2) a Lake Lounge with a playground, piers, art areas, and stormwater treatment; 3) a **Community Causeway** with areas dedicated to lakefront amenities and transportation modes: and 4) an Olin Park Overlook with a beach, boat launch, dock, and

Sasaki envisioned the



nature center

Fertile Ground

By Patricia Weiner

I couldn't breathe and my heart was pounding so hard I thought the sound of it would echo across the mountain valley. Wyoming's Grand Tetons aren't polite. They don't ask for your attention, they command it. I was 20 years old and had traveled 1000 miles from the Midwest to see mountains up close for the very first time. I was love-struck. To live in the mountains became my cause.

Twenty years later, still in the Midwest, my husband and I packed up our belongings to move to Colorado with our son. Life had gotten in the way of moving there sooner, but I was no less excited at the prospect than when I was 20. My cause had come to fruition and was less than 1000 miles away.

It's a slow climb in elevation from the heartland and as you rise, you begin to see the entire range from an impossible distance. But the closer you get to the foothills, the peaks dissolve from view, as did my cause. I felt a little lost, a stranger to myself, propelled forward by just the momentum of the car and a shaky leap of faith. We were quiet inside the car, lulled by the thump-thump-thump of the tires on the asphalt, each of us deep in thought.

When I was a girl, I used to fantasize I was a pioneer or an explorer, traveling west to the frontier by covered wagon or canoe. I devoured stories about those whose dreams and imagination compelled them to leave their homes and livelihoods and travel into the unknown. For them, the slow speed

of a covered wagon nurtured an intimate relationship with the surrounding world and gave them time to adapt. There was no turning back and by the time they reached their destination, their former lives, their former selves, were a faint memory.

Traveling by the speed of car, the changes in landscape blur, the towns are indistinct. I arrive at my destination still clothed in a former self, scrambling for the wardrobe I would need to assert the self I hoped to become.

But I learned, as I settled into my new frontier, to let go, to shed my old dreams and find new ones. Sometimes old dreams tumbled away in pieces so small, I hardly noticed; and sometimes they collapsed around me like an avalanche, sweeping away all in their path and stripping me bare. But parts of my dreams remained, and upon those I rebuilt, one dream at a time.

Sixteen years later, I drove another 1000 miles, back to the heartland, to settle in Madison. This time, I was not seeking a new dream; rather, I was continuing the dream I built in Colorado. This time, as I sped across the miles, I knew to breathe-in the changing landscape, to distinguish the towns along the way. Better, I was comfortably clothed in who I was meant to be and who I was continuing to become.

Denver never felt like home. There were no roots to pull up. But Denver is where I evolved to become someone who knew where my home was waiting and where my roots would find fertile ground. Here, in Madison, where my neighbors' roots run deep, I planted myself and feel mine grow. ❖

Round Robin Holiday Gift-Giving Tradition

Janet Braun

Gathering at Grandma Naomi's big house on the Wisconsin River in the north woods for the Christmas holiday celebration was the season's highlight for all our extended family. Staying for days together in that big house gave us time for all sorts of outdoor and indoor fun.

A lot of gifts were exchanged from under the tree on Christmas eve. Most of the kids were young adults by the time I brought the idea of limiting gift buying and replacing it with a blind gift exchange: we'd each bring something we already owned and liked and would be willing to give away. Well, the idea really took off and turned out to be the most fun part of all the Christmas gifting.

Each of us brought our treasured gift from home, wrapped inconspicuously and hidden, so it remained unknown to everyone, including members of their own household. We put all the 'secret' gifts into a special pile and after dinner, when the dishes were done, we all gathered around the tree in the family room.

We start the exchange like this: everyone picks a number from a hat. The #1 person picks any gift from the pile and opens it.

The #2 person can then "steal" that gift, or select a different gift from the pile and open that one. When a gift is stolen, the person without a gift then can take from another person (but not their same gift back), or select from the pile. The #3 person can steal either of the opened gifts, or select from the pile. The rounds get drawn out as the stealing goes on and certain "popular" gifts get passed around a lot. There's always the enticement of a new gift from the pile that we haven't yet seen. The final person takes a gift either by stealing or choosing the last unopened one. Stealing ensues until everyone has a gift and the gift pile is gone.

People brought fun and interesting things: a jar of home canned peaches, a World War II helmet, a Ruth Bader Ginsberg doll, a vintage metal door handle from an old bread delivery truck with our family surname commercially painted on it: "Braun Bread." As a baker of all my family's bread for 15 years, I picked that one and was thrilled with my gift! But alas, it was stolen from me! After it made a couple of suspenseful rounds, in which I was robbed again, I finally stole back the gift I really wanted, luckily just in the nick of time! ❖

Neighborhood Notes

EVENTS:

St. Mark's will hold **winter soup suppers** in February, March, and April to help bring people together. They will provide soup, salad, bread and some desserts. Folks are welcome to bring a dessert to share. Watch for final plan details. St. Mark's "strives to be a welcoming place for our neighbors. A place for community and friendship. A place to gather and be nourished." They hope you can join them.

MUSIC AND MORE:

Lakeside Coffee House Wine & Beer Bar

(Bar opens at 6pm)

Thursday Dec 8 – "Fort Unicorn & the Duchess of Nothing" Book signing Open House 5:30pm

Friday Dec 9 – Trio Soleil 7pm

Friday Dec 16 – Honey Pies 7pm

Saturday Dec 17 – Richard Weigel 630pm

Tuesday Dec 20 – MAUI 7pm

Friday Dec 23 – Irish Session 7pm

 $Saturday\ Dec\ 31-Close\ at\ noon.$

Friday Jan 6 – Don't Spook the Horse 7pm

Friday Jan 13 – Trio Soleil 7pm

Friday Jan 20 – Dance Around Molly 7pm

Friday Jan 27 – Classical Guitar 7p

Friday Feb 3 – The Honey Pies 7pm

Friday Feb 10 – Tumble Down Shack 7pm

Friday Feb 17 – Trio Soleil 7pm

Friday Feb 24 – Richard Weigel 630pm

CITY:

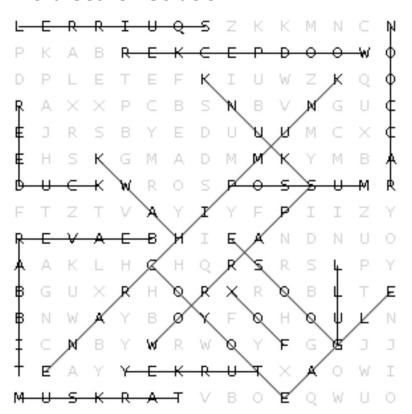
Want to **skate** at the Goodman Field pond at Olin and Colby!? Contact your Welcome Committee chair Doug Noot. He wants to write a grant, restore the shelter, have a neighborhood skating party! Send messages of interest to dnoothomes@gmail.com_

Winter street parking: Alternate side parking rules in effect every night November 15 to March 15. Check out winter parking rules and more at www.cityofmadison.com/Winter

Madison Parks moving its offices Friday, December 2 from City-County Building to Olin Park! (330 E. Lakeside St., 53715 – Staff only answers email and phone during move.) Madison Parks invites you to visit new location, starting Dec. 5. See Olin Park Facility Renovation for more information.

Neighborhood Kids' Newsletter 2023 Calendar! Features from Bay Creek kids to bring you joy throughout the year. \$20 per calendar (\$18 for 4 or more). 100% proceeds go to charity. Order (by Dec 14) to: ASKtheNKN@gmail.com

Word Search Solution



Editor's Note: No, you are not crazy! Last month's puzzle did not match the solution. The layout artist replaced the Word Search solution from August, but not the puzzle! And while editors catch those small punctuation errors, they sometimes miss the big "picture". Brownie points go to the reader who brought the error to our attention. More points will be awarded to the first reader to find the error on each page of the October issue.

Crossword Answer

	S	² T	³ E	⁴ T		Ν	⁶ A	⁷ P		Α	D	A	11 M	S
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33 L	Α	Ν	C	Ε		34 E	Α	R		35 S	Т	U	D	Y
36 O	U	Z	C	Ε		37 D	R	Υ		38 E	S	S	E	X
39 E	S	Α	U								Α			
	⁴⁰	P	R	41 	N	G	Α	R	R	42 	V	43 A	44 L	S
		⁴⁶ O	R	C						47 L	I	N	Ε	R
M	⁴⁹ E	L	Ε	Ε		50 E	51 L	F 52		53 	N	G	Ε	S
⁵⁴	W	I	N	Ε		55 L	Ε	Α		⁵⁶	G	Ε	D	
57 T	E	S	Т	S		⁵⁸ K	I	Т		⁵⁹	S	L	S	

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: 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.)

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 works to improve the neighborhood by building community with original cultural and social contributions from its residents. We welcome your submissions: articles, personal essays, neighborhood interviews, drawings, photos, poetry, announcements, book and restaurant reviews. Volunteers deliver the next Bulletin the first week of February. Submission deadline is Wednesday January 25.

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Area 2 – Jody Clowes Northwestern RR tracks, east to Olin-Turville Park jclowes72@gmail.com • 608-213-3455

Area 3 – Janelle Munns Lakeside St to Monona Bay & west to Park St janellemunns@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

Bay Creek Government Representatives

Police Dept Liaison

Neighborhood Officer, Jessica Wolf #5444 Office: (608)720-9049 Email: jwolf@cityofmadison.com

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 • www.pocan.house.gov

U.S. Senators

Tammy Baldwin

264-5338 • www.baldwin.senate.gov

Ron Johnson

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



Skunk Tongue Twister

By Jane A Smith

As acknowledgement of the various skunk sightings reported in Bay Creek, try saying this a few times quickly:

A skunk sat on a stump.
The stump thought the skunk stunk,
and the skunk thought the stump stunk.

(As recited by my father, more than a few times, when I was growing up.)

Duzzlo by Stanloy Jackson



Worship

Sundays at 10:00 am Christmas Eve: December 24 at 5:00 pm Christmas Day: December 25 at 10:00 am

Food Pantry Hours

Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Thursdays from 5:15 to 7:30 PM Main Entrance on Spruce Street Take elevator to lower level

Free Friday Community Meal

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

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

Winter Creatures You Might See (Solution on page 11)

Puzzle by Stanley Jackson	L	Ε	R	R	Ι	U	Q	S	Z	К	ĸ	М	Ν	\subset	Ν
Find the following words forwards, backwards,	Р	К	А	В	R	Ε	К	\subset	Ε	Р	D	0	0	W	0
and diagonally.	D	Ρ	L	Ε	Т	Ε	F	К	I	U	W	Z	К	Q	0
BEAVER	R	А	\times	×	Ρ	\subset	В	S	Ν	В	٧	Ν	G	U	\subset
CHIPMUNK COYOTE	Ε	J	R	S	В	Υ	Ε	D	U	U	U	М	\subset	\times	\subset
CRANE DUCK	Ε	Н	S	К	G	М	Α	D	М	М	К	Υ	М	В	А
EAGLE FOX	D	U	\subset	К	${\sf W}$	R	0	S	Р	0	S	S	U	М	R
GOOSE	F	Т	Z	Т	٧	А	Υ	I	Υ	F	Р	I	I	Z	Υ
GULL HAWK	R	Ε	V	А	Ε	В	Н	I	Ε	А	Ν	D	Ν	U	0
MUSKRAT POSSUM	А	А	К	L	Н	\subset	Н	Q	R	S	R	S	L	Р	Υ
RABBIT	В	G	U	\times	R	Н	0	R	\times	R	0	В	L	Т	Ε
RACCOON SKUNK	В	Ν	W	А	Υ	В	0	Υ	F	0	Н	0	U	L	Ν
SPARROW SQUIRREL	I	\subset	Ν	В	Υ	W	R	W	0	Υ	F	G	G	J	J
TURKEY	Т	Ε	А	Υ	Υ	Ε	К	R	U	Т	×	Α	0	W	I
DEER WOODPECKER	М	U	s	к	R	Α	Т	V	В	0	Ε	Q	W	U	0



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).

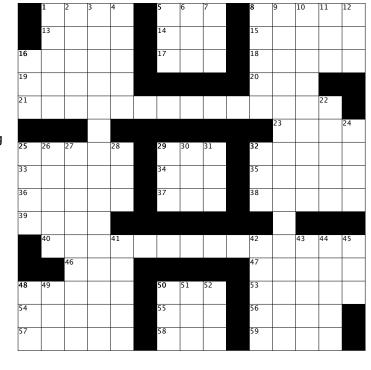
Festive Crosswords By Jennifer Vernon (Solution on page 11)

ACROSS

- 1. editor's notation
- 5. "...a long winter's
- 8. White House name
- 13. angelic glow
- 14. be in debt to
- 15. sings the praises of
- 16. Batman's nemesis
- **17.** lair
- 18. "Tattooed lady" of song
- **19.** spew
- **20.** Lisbon hello
- 21. 3:47 p.m. December 21, 2022
- 23. hightails it
- 25. once more
- 29. archer's need
- **32.** make oneself heard
- **33.** jouster's weapon
- **34.** Mr. Potato Head piece
- **35.** cram
- **36.** prevention unit
- 37. like some humor
- 38. New York or English county
- **39.** Genesis name
- 40. crocus, narcissus, daffodil and tulip
- **46.** Tolkien creature
- 47. ocean vessel
- 48. free-for-all
- 50. Will Ferrell Christmas movie
- 53. playwright William and infielder Brandon
- **54.** sty dwellers
- 55. grassland
- **56.** like some cheddar and wine
- 57. trial runs
- **58.** fox cub
- **59.** some PC connections

DOWN

- 1. rice paper screen
- 2. kidnapped



- 3. source of power
- **4.** patisserie purchase
- ...with a blick and a
- **6.** amazement
- 7. it has a point
- 8. divvy up
- 9. what happens after we fall back
- 10. brazen
- 11. start of the 16th century
- **12.** ID issuer
- **16.** Hanukkah observer
- 22. piano student's exercise
- 24. hellish river
- 25. sunburn salvation
- **26.** magnetic induction unit

- 27. Naval Academy locale
- 28. born, in society pages
- 29. resting place
- 30. rower's need
- **31.** sardonic
- 32. compass reading
- **41**. brain-freeze culprits.
- **42.** epic poem by Homer
- **43.** Broadway benefactor
- 44. England's fifth largest
- **45.** next year's grads
- 48. Colo. clock setting
- **49.** farm female
- 50. could be confused with a reindeer
- **51.** Hawaiian souvenir
- 52. frying need





1337 Gilson St. 608.255.4802 6:00am-2:00 p.m. Or by appointment

We're in your neighborhood!

Since 1985-in the green building with trucks that deliver to lots of restaurants and other food places in the area.

> Check out our web site: www.regoldenproduce.com. Want to peek inside? Call Brandi at 255.4802