



Bay Creek Bulletin

JUNE / JULY 2025

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Bay Creek Bulletin
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Neighborhood
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baycreekmadison.org/bulletin



A Human Dynamo and Proud Bay Creeker

By Rob Summerbell

Barry Beske has been a fixture in my corner of Bay Creek for a whopping 50 years, smack in the heart of 'The Forest' as the cabby's call it, otherwise known as 'the tree streets'. The Beske house is the stout red brick one that stands on the corner of Hickory and Spruce. He and Mary Beske raised their 5 children as well as 4 grandchildren in their active happy home. Barry and Mary moved to Bay Creek in 1974 because they thought it would be a good place to raise their multiracial family; it felt more integrated to them than where they were living at the time in Monona. Barry retired from his career as a UW accountant back in 2000, but he loved the short commute into work from the neighborhood, and often rode his bike.

For the past 22 years, I had grown accustomed to looking out my kitchen window and seeing a gaggle of grandchildren playing basketball, while Barry was always set to task, being industrious about some aspect of his yard or cars or house. He was always tending or mending something and served as quite an inspiration to join him in getting out there, and being productive in one way or another. Barry took meticulous care of things, and he and his dog companion, Banjo, always had time for a neighbor greeting. If Barry wasn't outside working, he could often be seen walking the neighborhood with Banjo, or riding his shiny chrome fender Schwinn bicycle down to the Wingra creek dam to see if the fish were biting. To say he is active is an understatement of huge proportion; Barry, at 87 years old was and still is, always moving. I never saw him sitting down, hardly once.

I only speak of Barry in the past tense because he is no longer our neighbor, all things must pass, and it became clear to

Barry that it was time to move on and express his joy for life in a different setting that requires less tending. As of very recently, he has moved to Quarry Ridge Retirement complex in Fitchburg where he loves getting 3 square meals a day, and there are lots of things to do.

One of his favorite aspects of his new home is that it is right on the

Cannonball bike path, and he has traded in his classic Schwinn with the chrome fenders for a sleek new E-bike! He plans to leave his car at home and bike everywhere - in fact he came the full 5.1 miles from his new place back to the neighborhood to show it off on a recent sunny day.

As much as I miss the constant of having Barry as an anchor in our corner of the neighborhood, I am excited for his next chapter of weaving his way into a new setting with new adventures to be had. He has traded his former amenities reachable by bike: to work, the post office, the hardware store, the zoo, the library. For his new bikeable amenities: Target, Walgreens, the U.W. Credit Union, Verizon wireless, and the bike path is right there for him to go just about anyplace else his heart desires.

Bay Creek will always have a special spot in Barry's heart as he goes about his new chapter of life. This place kinda gets in your blood and that's how people end up staying here for so many years.

Speaking of that, we welcome our new neighbors who are here and ready to start the process all over again on the corner of Hickory and Spruce. They are Sundee and Rachel with their small charges, Genevieve and Ewan, and in true Bay Creek fashion, a couple of rambunctious hounds, Hobbes and Nash. Welcome to the Forest, Sundaram family! ❖

Save the Date for GNG 2025!

Madison Good Neighbor Gathering (GNG) is a family-friendly free annual festival in Brittingham Park on the southwest side of Madison. This year's festival is Sunday, September 7th, 2025, from 12-4 PM.

Coordinated by Neighborhood House Community Center and a team of volunteers, the festival is open to the public. Each year it features music and dance from around the world, a climbing wall, bouncy slides, face painting, fort building, circus activities, a scavenger hunt, food carts, kid/family-focused information tables with games and activities, and more. Families are encouraged to bike to the event (bike racks are provided).

This is an alcohol-free event, relying on donations and grants. To support the event, please visit madisongoodneighborgathering.org. You can also help support the festival through "Doughnation Night" if you order an Ian's Pizza (608-257-9248) on Wednesday, May 21st, and mention that you're supporting Neighborhood House Community Center.

Want to get involved? Contact madisongoodneighborgathering@gmail.com. We are always looking for volunteers to help out!

Join us for a day of community spirit, cultural celebration, and active fun at the Madison Good Neighbor Gathering! See you there! ❖

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BCNA Meeting Notes

APRIL – The meeting opens with Tag giving the alder report and letting the neighborhood know about some upcoming events including various park cleanups. Tag expressed concern over the proliferation of fireworks displays, especially large and loud displays. Currently, individuals are not required to inform neighbors or the alderperson when receiving permits, and this could be stricter. There is also a problem of underground fireworks, and these displays likely do not have proper safety or insurance requirements in place. Finally, tag is working on improving conditions for various animal

breeders in the city. He mentioned that some puppy mills also supply pet stores and operate under inhumane conditions, and advocates for adopting pets through rescues, the Humane Society, or responsible breeders, rather than supporting an industry that mistreats animals.

Barb Gilligan did a lot to maintain Quann dog park. She recently passed away. There is a motion to rename Quann dog park in her name. This will be discussed in a future meeting.

MAY – Chris and the by-laws committee are done with clarification changes and ready review from other Bay Creek residents.

John plans to attend the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in person meeting on Thursday 5/8. He is receiving notes and getting up to speed on Carrie's prior work on the transportation committee.

The Bay Creek sign is fixed! Thanks to Irene for lending her truck, to Brian to help planning, and Ryan Chris John and Jim for repairing the sign.

Contact Kirk if you would like to take a shift at the tables for the 4th of July potluck at Goodman pool. The potluck has been going on for several decades!

Manuel volunteers to facilitate next month's meeting.. ❖

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FROM MADISON GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (MGE)

Save Energy With Smart Planting and Shading

While we often think of landscaping as a way to add curb appeal, planting smart can also help you save energy. To achieve maximum savings, it's key to plant the proper tree or shrub in the proper place. You need to consider what's located above and below your desired planting location, as well as the mature height and spread of a plant. Use these general planting tips for energy efficiency:

- Plant large, leafy trees on the east, west and south sides of your home to provide maximum summertime shade and lower the surrounding air temperature. They should be planted at least 20 feet from the side of your home. A six-foot-tall tree planted near your house will shade windows in the first year. That same tree will shade the roof in five to ten years.
- Trees with lower leaves and branches work well on the west side of your home to offer shade from lower sun angles in the afternoon.
- Position trees and shrubs to shade air-conditioning units. Equipment that operates in the shade will use less electricity; however, be sure not to block the airflow.
- Plant bushes next to your house to create air space that will provide insulation year-round.
- Prevailing winter winds come from the west and north; use dense windbreaks to protect from cold winter winds.

Plant With Safety in Mind – Be sure to contact Diggers Hotline at diggershotline.com or call 811 at least three working days before doing any digging in your yard. MGE and other participating utilities will mark the location of underground facilities on your property and indicate safe overhead line clearances. This free service will help you stay safe and avoid costly fines.

Add External Shading – External shading devices are another option to help prevent unwanted sunlight from entering your home. Shading devices include awnings, overhangs and trellises. For south-facing windows, a shading device should be based on window size. For example, with a window that is 36 inches tall, the shading device should be placed 10.8 inches from the top of the window. It should be 25.2 inches deep extending out from the house. There are online calculators to help determine where to install a shading device based on window size.

For west-facing windows, the shading device needs a vertical component to block summer sun. Adding hanging vines to the shading device will help further block the sun. Consider creating a grid-like structure with plastic or rope, then add climbing vines. Vines that have leaves in spring and summer that fall off in fall or winter will help keep sun out during the summer and allow in warmth during the winter.

Get Free Advice From MGE Energy Experts – MGE is available to answer your questions and provide tips on landscaping for energy efficiency. Our energy experts are available 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at (608) 252-7117, or you can send them an email at askexperts@mge.com.

Outreach Survey

A Sneak Peak at Preliminary Responses to Two Questions

By Barb Bailly

In April, the Outreach Working Group used neighbors' donations to mail out a postcard with information about the Bay Creek Outreach Campaign and to direct Bay Creek residents to a survey to collect opinions about BCNA's relationship with our community-at-large. That survey is still live at www.tinyurl.com/BCOutreachSurvey.

The Working Group has begun planning the process for communicating survey findings. If you've indicated a willingness to be involved in this task, we will contact you shortly about how you can help. Meanwhile, here's a partial look at responses to two questions.

How well is BCNA doing at community outreach? More than 33% of 101 respondents report being "unaware of consistent outreach efforts". More than 33% said "BCNA should engage in more outreach." About 20% said BCNA is doing an "adequate" job.

How well is BCNA fulfilling its role as a neighborhood association (NA)? Survey respondents rated the importance of NAs' general functions and BCNA's fulfillment of these as follows:

ROLE	% Replying "This Role is Very Important"	% Replying BCNA Does a Satisfactory Job in this Role
Inform residents about issues and plans that affect the community	~ 65%	~ 58%
Work cooperatively with the city to promote and/or protect quality of life in the community	~ 58%	~ 38%
Promote a welcoming spirit among residents	~ 48%	~ 33%
Promote the voices of neighbors on issues that affect the community	~ 44%	~ 42%
Promote social interaction in the neighborhood	~ 36%	~ 48%
Provide a place for neighbors to get to know one another	~ 36%	~ 25%

Combining these two sets of responses seems to place BCNA on the right track with room for improvement. For example, a majority of respondents believe keeping residents informed is very important and rate BCNA as doing this satisfactorily. Given the importance respondents also place on BCNA working cooperatively with the City and promoting neighbors' voices, perhaps we could reach out more in more varied ways to engage and represent a broader cross-section of neighborhood residents' voices. This might simultaneously promote a more welcoming spirit, a role a substantial percentage of respondents ranked "very important," and at which only a third said BCNA is doing a satisfactory job.

BCNA could also come closer to the City's vision for NAs, expressed online as "[bringing] people together to form a collective, united voice," empowering "residents to work together" proactively on such things as preparing neighborhood plans, emergency preparedness plans, or



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undertaking specific projects like starting community gardens, upgrading park equipment, or installing traffic calming on a residential street," and providing "an effective communication link with government officials regarding policy, planning, and projects."

With the City emphasizing "the important role neighborhoods play in developing a vision and how this helps guide [the City's] decisions," there could be potential benefits to BCNA taking steps to become more welcoming and more active. Contact the Bay Creek Outreach Working Group if you'd like to explore implementing outreach. <https://www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/planning/documents/How%20to%20Start%20a%20Neighborhood%20Associations%20in%20Madison.pdf>. ❖



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FREE! Summer Community Cookouts

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4th Thursdays, 6:00-7:30 pm; June - September

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Food Pantry: Thursdays 5-7pm;
Fridays 11:30am -1:30pm

Worship:
Sundays 10:30 am

Free Community Meal: Fridays 12-1pm



StMarksMadison.org
StMarks@StMarksMadison.org

Proposed Bylaws Revisions

By BCNA Bylaws Committee (Chris Wagner, Chair; Jim Winkle; Stanley Jackson; Kirstin Bloy; Allen Arntsen; Jay Jurado)

The bylaws for the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) have not had a major update in many years. We've realized there are some confusing things in the bylaws and that we need to make other changes to make the BCNA more effective. In May, 2024, the BCNA Bylaws Committee was tasked specifically with these two things:

- Revise and update the bylaws to achieve more clarity with a minimum of structural change.
- Propose any non-cosmetic changes, that is, changes that have an impact beyond just making it easier to read, including filling in the gaps with new, more detailed descriptions as specific line items that can be individually voted on with rationales for each.

The clarified version of the bylaws is below in its entirety. Note that we have used plain language while clarifying the meaning of certain confusing items. We have not intentionally changed the substantive content of anything.

Regarding the second, we are proposing only one change at this time. We are redefining quorum, which is the criteria needed in order to vote. See below the clarified bylaws for information.

Please come to the **July 2 Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) meeting at 6 pm** to vote on these. See our website baycreekmadison.org for meeting details; we've been meeting online.

Clarified Bylaws

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association, Incorporated, Bylaws

Contents

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- 2) Membership
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- 6) Officers and duties
- 7) Area Representatives: Our Democratic Structure
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- 9) Changing the Bylaws
- 10) End of Association

1) Purpose: Friendly Democratic Community Building

Bay Creek is the neighborhood bounded by Lake Monona, Wingra Creek, and the centerline of Haywood Drive extended to Monona Bay.

Goals: The primary purpose of the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association is to improve the Bay Creek neighborhood through democratic participation and involvement in activities that affect our everyday lives.

Methods: The Association works towards these goals by generating and sustaining a spirit of neighborhood community open to diverse opinions. It encourages and provides the means to promote neighborly social interaction; do neighborhood planning; study, discuss, educate, and advocate on neighborhood issues and potential. The Association works cooperatively with the City and with neighborhood groups.

2) Membership

All neighbors 18 and over living in Bay Creek may attend the Association's general and committee meetings as voting members and serve as Association officers, committee chairs, and area representatives. Suggested voluntary annual household **dues** (paid to treasurer): \$10.

The Association's general and committee meetings may welcome **guests** living out-of-neighborhood as non-voting members. Guest members cannot hold Association offices or represent the Association.

3) Neighborhood Meetings: Open and Participatory

Bay Creek neighbors may participate and vote at the Association's general neighborhood and Committee meetings. Neighbors elected as Officers, Area Representatives, or Standing Committee Chairs may participate and vote at Neighborhood Council meetings.

The Association holds general neighborhood meetings **at least every two months**. 10 neighbors may call additional general neighborhood meetings, notifying the neighborhood of the meetings' business.

Whenever possible, the Bay Creek Bulletin announces all meetings. Bay Creek neighbors can **add topics to general neighborhood meetings** at the meeting or beforehand. If the topic will be voted on, it must be posted 48 hours beforehand, except for items of a routine or operational nature.

General neighborhood meetings have rotating neighbor facilitators chosen by consensus. Committees report activities; Bay Creek neighbors address and may vote on agenda items. Agenda items not addressed at one meeting may carry over to the next. General neighborhood meetings must approve Association projects that require **spending \$1,000.00 or more**.

At annual general meetings, Bay Creek neighbors **elect officers, committee chairs, and area representatives**. Between elections, neighbors present at regularly scheduled general meetings may remove officers at any time by a 2/3rds vote.

All Association **meetings follow Robert's Rules of Order**. **Binding votes** require a majority of Neighborhood Council members to be present.

4) Neighborhood Council: Our leadership

The Bay Creek Neighborhood Council consists of area representatives, standing committee chairs, and officers. (Ad hoc committee chairs do not serve on the Neighborhood Council.) Council and Committee **meetings happen as needed** and follow the same procedures as general meetings, following Robert's Rules of Order. Council meetings may use consensus decision making where practical. A coin toss breaks ties.

The Council listens and responds to Bay Creek neighbors' concerns in a timely manner; creates policies and recommends them to the Association; executes policies and programs to benefit the neighborhood.

The Council reports the Association's activity and affairs at general neighborhood meetings; **appoints committees** on matters not addressed by standing committees; manages the Association's business and property.

The Neighborhood Council may remove officers at any time by a 2/3rds vote and **appoint replacements** for retiring or removed officers, representatives, or committee chairs – replacements serve until the next annual election.

Binding votes at Council meetings require a Council majority be present – discussion may happen without a Council majority present. A Council majority may call additional general neighborhood meetings, notifying the neighborhood of the meetings' business.

The Neighborhood Council decides **where to meet** and whether or not to meet in person. General meetings must be within Bay Creek unless a Council majority cannot meet in person because of weather, pandemic, or other extenuating circumstances, permitting video meetings.

5) Standing and Ad Hoc Committees: How we work together

Standing Committees monitor neighborhood activity, promote awareness, and coordinate action related to their focus; they represent the Association and neighborhood residents as appropriate, informing the Association of their activities. **Any neighbor may attend** any committee meeting. Bay Creek **neighbors elect standing Committee chairs** to yearly terms at an annual general neighborhood meeting. All Association meetings, including Committee meetings, follow Robert's Rules of Order.

Both standing and ad hoc committee chairs provide the best available **notice of future meetings** to all committee members and interested Bay Creek neighbors who have contacted the committee chair about attending future committee meetings. The Bay Creek Bulletin lists all committee chairs' contact information to enable neighbors to attend committee meetings.

Welcome Committee contacts new neighbors and businesses, conducts recruitment activities, welcomes and orients newcomers to Association meetings.

Newsletter Committee regularly publishes the *Bay Creek Bulletin*, which volunteers aim to distribute to every neighborhood household (regardless of dues paid). The Bulletin publishes general neighborhood meetings' summaries (submitted by the Recording Secretary) and next meeting agendas if available. Each Bulletin announces the Association's yearly voluntary dues. The Bulletin provides advance notice of proposed Bylaws amendments. The Bulletin lists all area representatives, officers, and committee chairs' contact information. Ordinary *Bay Creek Bulletin* operating expenses do not require Neighborhood Council ratification.

Web Committee updates content, edits, and maintains the Association website.

Planning and Economic Development Committee focuses on neighborhood land use, business development and retention, educating residents, soliciting their input, and representing the Association when warranted.

Ad hoc committees fulfill specific functions not covered by standing committees; the Neighborhood Council forms ad hoc committees, which automatically disband after fulfilling their function; ad hoc committee chairs do not serve on the Neighborhood Council.

6) Officers and duties

Contact Person: receives and promptly shares mail affecting the neighborhood, especially from the City, with the neighborhood Council.

Treasurer: administers the Association's monies and assets, and all financial records and files, providing regular oral and written reports, presenting a written or digitally saved financial record to general

neighborhood meetings at least yearly. The treasurer (or designated officer) records all Council ratified expenditures in the Association's financial records.

Recording Secretary: records general and Council meetings; provides Newsletter editor chair with a summary of general neighborhood meetings for publication.

7) Area Representatives: Our Democratic Structure

The Association divides Bay Creek into six areas, each with one representative. (See Website's "Area Map.") **Neighbors vote annually** for representatives from (only) their area; a coin toss breaks ties. Representatives serve one year. All Bay Creek neighbors may nominate a candidate, or a household team of candidates who share a single Council vote, to represent their area.

Area representatives serve and vote on the Neighborhood Council; liaise area neighbors with the Council; report neighborhood concerns; help find their replacements; assist the association as necessary.

8) Association Finances: Open Records

The Neighborhood Council designates which financial institution to deposit Association funds. Only the Treasurer or other designated officer may **withdraw funds** on order of the Association. The Neighborhood Council must ratify any expenditure greater than \$100, except for the neighborhood newsletter's ordinary operating expenses. General neighborhood meetings must approve Association projects that require spending \$1,000.00 or more. No neighbor, officer, chair, or area representative may receive compensation for their Association services.

The Treasurer presents written or digitally saved **financial records** to a general neighborhood meeting at least yearly. These records contain all ratified expenditures. The Treasurer will promptly provide any neighbor the Association's financial records when asked.

9) Changing the Bylaws

Any general neighborhood meeting may amend the bylaws with a 2/3rds majority vote of Bay Creek neighbors present and voting if the neighborhood newsletter, the *Bay Creek Bulletin*, provides advance notice of the amendments.

10) End of Association

If the Association ceases to exist, the Association will donate its assets to the City of Madison after paying all debts and obligations, requesting the City to use them for recreational, educational or environmental purposes within Bay Creek.

New Quorum Definition

Here is the change regarding quorum which is required to vote on things. Quorum is currently defined as more than half of the Neighborhood Council members being present. We often have difficulty attaining this. This proposed definition should make it easier to attain quorum and is more democratic... Neighborhood Council members have no more power to control whether we can vote or not than any resident.

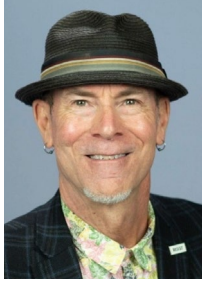
"Binding votes at general neighborhood meetings require ten Bay Creek neighbors to be present."

Again, please come to the July 2 BCNA meeting at 6 pm to vote on these. ❖

ALDER REPORT

By Tag Evers

Summer is upon us. Gardens are bursting with fragrant blooms. Long sunny days followed by cool nights. School's out for summer and there are lots of outdoor activities to enjoy.



This nice weather notwithstanding, all is not sunny in Madison. We continue to learn more of the grim details about cuts to scientific research at UW. It's mind-boggling considering the number of successful businesses that have been started in Madison because of subsidized research.

It's my understanding the funding approved by the Biden administration for the North-South Bus Rapid Transit route remains secure. The public engagement process is ongoing as we are in midstream of the planning phase, with the goal of construction beginning in 2027. A portion of South Park Street will be reconstructed at the same time which allows for necessary upgrades to this vital infrastructure.

John Nolen Drive reconstruction will be starting this summer. Phase One of the project includes the segment from E Lakeside Street to S Broom Street and has been selected for funding and is expected to be constructed in 2025-2026.

The following is a message from South District Captain Harrison Zanders that I'm sharing with you in Bay Creek:

The Madison Police Department's South District is committed to reducing hazardous driving behaviors throughout the South District. Unfortunately, we have experienced far too many accidents that could have been prevented if we slow down and adhere to the traffic laws that accompany the responsibilities of operating a motor vehicle. This summer commencing on June 1 to September 1 we will be participating in a department wide data driven proactive approach to traffic enforcement.

While we will use a variety of strategies to accomplish this goal, we know that we are most effective when we partner with our community.

To partner effectively I am asking community members to do the following:

- Monitor your speeds
- Obey traffic signals
- Consider posting (signage in your residential lawns). With a special thank you to Safe Communities,

"slow down" signs can be located at the South District Police station 825 Hughes Place Madison, WI.

- Report erratic driving behavior by calling 608.255.2345.
- Report areas of hazardous driving behavior

Here are some things that you can expect from my team:

- Officers to be more proactive in enforcing hazardous driving behaviors (i.e. speeding, signal/sign violations)
- Application of the speed board throughout the district (major thoroughfares and intersections)
- Increased traffic enforcement operations
- Collaboration with other community partners, city agencies and personnel such as elected officials, metro and streets.

I know that our efforts will take time, but I also know that by working together we can make a positive impact.

Thank you, Captain H. Zandersmetro

Aurora Holidays

by Judy Robinson

For me, 2025 started with a fabulous trip to Aurora Holidays in Utsjoki, Finland.

The entire trip was perfect; cozy accommodations, delicious food for omnivores and vegans and a thoughtful variety of activities.

The cabins are very comfortable and each one has a private sauna. I was lucky enough to be in a cabin that faced the river so woke up every morning to a lovely view.

The food was incredible with a delicious vegan option each night. Aurora Holidays is also certified as a gluten free facility; the owners make every effort to ensure that dietary concerns don't limit anyone's travel plans.

The business is also very inclusive, they were chosen as the 2023 LGBTQ+ Friendliest operator in all of Lapland

Another thing that was much appreciated is that you don't have to pay for your trip all at once. You can hold your place with a small deposit of about \$170 (150 euros). Half of the balance is due 2 months (60 days) before your arrival and the remainder must be paid on your arrival date. If you book your holiday less than 60 days before your arrival, they send you a payment request link right after you book for the first half of the balance.

Groups are small, generally no more than 16 people so you get a chance to spend time with everyone.

The activities included a tour of the local village, a trip to the village of Vestre Jakobselv in Norway (with an option to take a dip in the Arctic Ocean), snowshoeing, snowmobiling and dog sledding.

We saw the Northern Lights two of the nights I was there. The lights were really strong the first night, they danced all over the sky for several hours. It was breathtaking and something that I'll never forget.

They weren't quite as vibrant the other night but they were still spectacular. The trees were coated in snow which added to the ethereal, other-worldly beauty.

The guides were phenomenal. Even though they have done this many times, they made it new and exciting for each of us.

If traveling to a colder climate in January isn't something that interests you, they also have summer and autumn tours. During the summer tours you can 'experience the magic of the nightless night, which here in northernmost Finnish Lapland lasts for over two months!'

The autumn tours include a fall foliage hiking tour which is available for two weeks each year.

The best viewing times for the Northern lights is late September to March. A woman in my group had friends that were there in October 2024 and they saw some incredible lights.

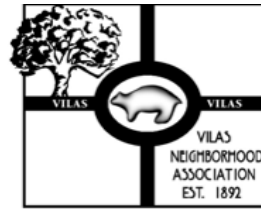
I highly recommend putting Aurora Holidays (<https://auroraholidays.net/>) on your must-see list!

If you have questions, please feel free to email me at judysother-email@mail.com or text me at 608-469-1218. ❖

Like reading your neighborhood newsletter?

See what other neighborhood's are up to in their newsletters:

Read the [Vilas Ink](#) and Dungeon Monroe's [Hornblower!](#)



Neighborhood Events

ONGOING EVENTS

Madison Bikes is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization (comprised of volunteers) with the mission to create a community where anyone can ride a bicycle conveniently and comfortably to any place year-round. They engage with community partners to advocate for bike-friendly city planning and transit options. Madison Bikes sponsors community events to promote biking as a fun and healthy mode of transport and recreation in all weather. Check out the online community calendar for upcoming events: <https://www.madisonbikes.org/madison-bikes-calendar/>

Monona Bay Shoreline Clean-up – Friends of Monona Bay. Second Saturdays of the Month: 10:00 am–12:00 pm. Information Contact: Nina: ninajoemerson@gmail.com, (608) 698-9708. Next is June 14th

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

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) Meetings – First Wednesday of Month. 6:00 pm. baycreekmadison.org has agenda and Zoom link.

St. Mark's Food Pantry & Free Meal

Free Meal – Every Friday, Noon-1:00 pm, Inside Seating or Carry-Out – All are welcome! Hot meals are served in-person or as carry out. Guests enter at the southwest entrance by St. Mark's playground. Sometimes people come to the Friday meal for economic reasons. At other times people come to see friends, for companionship and to be a part of a community.

Food Pantry Hours – Thursdays from 5:00 to 7:00 PM, Fridays from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm
People may participate once every twenty eight to thirty days.

Bay Creek Neighborhood Pro-Democracy Protests – Every Saturday, Jun through Oct: 1 - 3 pm. At Romnes apts. sidewalk, facing Lakeside Street
Bring chair/kids/dogs! mdgayner@yahoo.com

LAKE SIDE EVENTS

June 14 – Irish Jam Session @ 7pm

July 26 – Irish Jam Session @ 7pm

Bay Creek July 4th Potluck

Welcome to the 29th Annual Bay Creek Neighborhood July 4th Potluck. It will be held in and around the park shelter among the oak trees, behind the Goodman Pool on Olin Ave, at noon. Bring a dish (with food in it) to pass, and utensils. You might also bring a couple of lawn chairs, or a blanket to sit on. If you would like to help clean up beforehand, or help reserve the shelter (you have to 'reserve' it by being there in person early that morning), please contact Kirk Elliott at 608-2136100.



PARK STREET PIANO LESSONS

M-F, June 16-20, 9:30AM-12PM: Jump into Jazz (ages 8-11, piano camp)

Tuesdays, June 17-July 29 – 6:30PM: Group Jazz Piano (14-adult)

Tuesdays, June 17-July 22 – 7:45PM: Topics in Composition (14-adult)

M-F, July 21-25, 9:30AM-12PM – Jazz Foundations (ages 11-14, piano camp)

Park Street Piano, 1421 S. Park St. Details at www.parkstreetpiano.com/events



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To learn more
about Woodland
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BOOK REVIEW

By Judy Robinson

The Other Public Lands by Steve Davis

Bay Creek's own Steve Davis has written a very comprehensive book on state lands: The Other Public Lands.

He explored another aspect of public lands in his 2018 book: In Defense of Public Lands: The Case Against Privatization and Transfer.

Steve starts the book by providing a very useful explanation of how state lands came to be. I was surprised to learn that two pieces of legislation in the 1780's contained processes for moving land into statehood.

Steve makes note of the fact that as the United States expanded, all lands that became part of this country; federal, state, public and private, were taken from their native inhabitants. That acknowledgement is important as is the current practice of acknowledging that the land in and around Madison originally belonged to the Ho Chunk Nation.

Steve explains that public lands have three primary purposes: Preservation (protecting native ecosystems, biodiversity, etc.) Resource Extraction (to produce marketable commodities to support local economies and produce revenue for agency operations among other things.) Recreation (to provide recreational opportunities to the general public both as a public service and as a source of economic development.)

Steve analyzes how each of these purposes factor into the management of the different types of state lands (parks, forests, wildlife management areas and trust lands). He also factors in the impact of state natural areas programs and state wilderness systems.

Steve's superb teaching skills are in evidence throughout the book. There is a lot of data to absorb but he adeptly helps the reader understand the significance of each piece of information as well as the correlation between them.

The information on funding was particularly interesting. In 1990 general fund support for state parks dropped from 59.1% of state park budgets across the U.S. to 31.2% by 2015.

During this same period, park-generated revenues went from 30.6% to 42.5% of park budgets. The drop in funding of Wisconsin's state parks is truly alarming; general support funding comprised 50% of the budget in the 1990's and that funding has dropped to 0% (yes, zero) today. New Hampshire and South Carolina have also ended all state funding for their parks.

Steve explains that according to critics, there are two problems with the revenue only model; sustainability and the impact to equity and access. Regarding sustainability, Steve makes the point that parks are "public goods, like schools, libraries, or lighthouses, which, by definition, cannot be provided by the market alone". He notes that to truly pay for all costs, state parks would need to charge exorbitant entrance fees, especially for isolated and less used parks.

When he addresses the topic of equity, Steve explains that "charging fees...unavoidably rations use, and this burden, of course, falls most heavily on the less affluent". While Wisconsin's \$28 cost for an annual pass and \$13 cost of a daily pass seem reasonable to me, it could be enough to prevent a family or anyone who has a lower income from going to a state park. He stresses the importance of equity and uses the example of access to parks by African Americans during Jim Crow to help explain why it is of so much significance.

Steve explains that he wrote the book because as a political scientist, he is interested in how states approach the management of public lands. His passion for the topic resulted in a compelling treatise. It is a book that is suitable for people who are looking for an in-depth analysis of the topic as well as for readers who are just beginning to learn about the subject.

Make Words

By Stanley Rubio Jackson

Rules: Make as many words as you can with these letters.

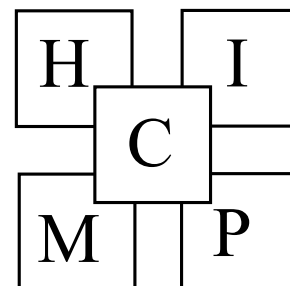
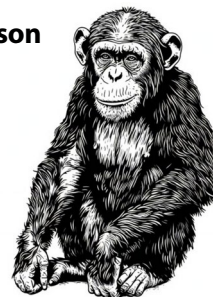
Use the same letter no more than three times in a word.

Two letter minimum.

There are at least 15 words;

7 use the letter C

(Answers on Page 11)



Word Search Solution

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

Crossword Solution

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

Be a Bay Creek Birder

By Rebecca A Rettenmund

If one mentions bird watching, you probably think of taking a pair of binoculars to a forest far away from civilization. However there's plenty of birds to see right here in the Baycreek neighborhood. True, most people are familiar with Robins, English Sparrows and Red-Winged Blackbirds, but over the years I've seen less common varieties as well.



Wood Duck Drawing by Rebecca

About 15 years ago, I started recording sightings of unusual species in my Birds of Wisconsin book. I find the page with the picture of the bird on it and write down the place and the date where I spotted it. For instance, on May 28, 2019 I saw a flock of Eastern Kingbirds at Quann dog park. Though they look a lot like Tree Swallows when perched on a branch, Kingbirds have a distinctive white tip on the end of their tail. On April 29, 2022 I saw two Yellow Warblers on the bike trail near Quann as well. You might mistake the bright yellow birds for American Goldfinches, but they don't have black caps or black wings. While Goldfinches are yearly residents, Yellow Warblers migrate here in the spring from Central America. They must like Madison's parks too. On May 2, 2022 I recorded seeing white Egrets on Wingra Creek. They like to wade in the water by the treeline. You can't mistake their S shaped necks.

This year, Wood Ducks have been sighted in Wingra Creek too. If you haven't seen a picture of the colorful drakes, you should look them up. Their head is iridescent green with a white chinstrap, collar and pinstripes that traces the contours of the hood. The wings also have striking marks on them, and the eyes are cherry red. A splendor to behold!

White pelicans migrate here from Central America around March. I counted a flock of fifty of them in the bay. With a nine foot wingspan, they are really quite a sight. The pesticide DDT had decimated pelican populations. The only remaining American flock was in North Dakota. In the 1990s, drought drove 30,000 of the birds to Wisconsin. Their population has been growing here ever since.

A pair of Ospreys are back this year to nest on the light post in the softball field across from Quann park. Adult Ospreys have more white on their bodies than eagles or hawks. I've seen them carry-

ing fish in an aerodynamic position while they fly. One year I came home from work, and I found a fish lying in my back yard. When I got over laughing about how odd it was, I figured an Osprey must have dropped it there.

I also had the good fortune look out my front window to see a sharp shinned hawk chase a rabbit. I'm surprised he chose such big prey. The males are smaller than a crow and I wondered how he planned to carry a rabbit bigger than he was.

Nearly every year I see a blue colored Kingfisher right where the creek turns the corner under the railroad bridge. They have a distinct cackle when startled and their head feathers look like they're blown back by the wind. You'll enjoy watching them dive head first in the creek for fish.

If you want a more high tech way of identifying birds than writing dates in a book, check out the free Merlin app by Cornell University. All you have to do is press the record button when you hear a song or any kind of vocalization, and the app will find the bird for you. There's even a feature that keeps a log of all the birds you've recorded so far. In no time, you'll be able to identify birds like a seasoned birder. ♦





We want kids to write for the bulletin this summer! Send stories, poems, songs, photos or artwork to nataliecbcb.editor@gmail.com

Welcome aboard

By Carrie Rothburt, Welcome Committee Chair


As the new chair of BCNA's Welcome & Recruitment Committee (generally referred to as the Welcome Committee), I want to take a moment of your time to welcome you to join me in performing the very important task of enhancing the vitality of BCNA. A neighborhood association can only fulfill its role of serving the community to the extent that it represents the members of that community, their interests and their perspectives. To do so, we need to get to know our neighbors and to make them feel a welcome and valuable part of BCNA. Help come up with a plan to coordinate with the Outreach Working Group to reach out neighbor-to-neighbor to bring new as well as long-time Bay Creek residents on board. Write to me at crothburt@gmail.com if you would like to join the Welcome Committee.





VIOLIN & VIOLA LESSONS

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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. The newsletter available free via email, regular mail for a small fee. *Masks for in-person activities will be determined on a program-by-program basis.*

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 Hispanic older adults; **feeds** older adults.



NewBridge congregate free meals sites: Make meal and transportation reservations one week prior by Thursday 10:00 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; *Monona Senior Center*, 1011 Nichols Rd. Friday, Noon

West Madison: *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. *Kavanaugh's Esquire Club*, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. Wednesdays, 11:00 am-1:30 pm

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).

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 Bulletin the first week of every other month. Submission deadline: Second to last Friday of every other month, noon.

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(608) 770-4935 • kirstin@bloy.org
Northwestern RR tracks, east to Olin-Turville Park

Area 3 – Jay Jurado
608-960-7020 • jj@lakesidestreet.com
Lakeside St to Monona Bay & west to Park St

Area 4 – Ryan Moreno
541-740-9121 • moreno.ryanr@gmail.com
Central area between Lakeside St & Olin Ave

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

Area 6 – Barb Bailly, Romnes Apts.
608-421-2380 • sewjung14@gmail.com

SMPC Representative – Cindy McCallum
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State Senator – Kelda Roys
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U.S. Representative – Marc Pocan
(608) 258-9800

U.S. Senators
Tammy Baldwin (608) 264-5338
Ron Johnson (414) 276-7282



The neighborhood sign at the Labor Temple blew over during the strong winds we had in March. Thanks to the nine Neighborhood Council members and a few others who offered to attend the meeting to discuss how we'd repair it, Irene for driving the sign to temporarily store it, Bryan Whiting for advice, Tom DeChant for the unsolicited donation, and Council members (pictured left-to-right) Jim Winkle, Chris Lukas, Ryan Moreno, and John Rider for their physical labor.



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Make Words Answers

- 5 Letter Words: Chimp, Mimic
4 Letter Words: Chic, Chip
3 Letter Words: Chi, Hic, Him, Hip, Imp, Mic, Pip
2 Letter Words: Hm, Hi, Mi, Pi,

Dig Safely. Plant Wisely.



**Know what's below.
Call before you dig.**



mgoe

Joke Word Find Puzzle

By Stanley Rubio Jackson

Find the words in this joke: Up, Down, Diagonally, Forwards, Backwards, and Overlapping. Find repeat words once.

(Answer on page 9)

Singing in the shower is fun till you get soap in your mouth – then it becomes a soap opera.

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

The Friends of Monona Bay

Monthly Shoreline Cleanup May/June 2025 Next cleanup June 14

Thank you to everyone who showed up on May 10, 2025, for the Friends of Monona Bay (FOMB) Monthly Shoreline Cleanup. We had 35 volunteers who collected 28 bags of trash, a couple bags collected directly from the Bay, and one chair. Thanks to Lisie Kitchel, we had 6 volunteers at Bernie's Beach. They collected 3 buckets of trash and raked 10 buckets of weeds! Special thanks to Chris Blattner for all his hard work raking and piling weeds, as soon as he cleared an area the kids would start using it!!

Nora Kollar chose to invite 20 friends and her parents to volunteer in honor of her birthday. Thank you, Nora!

The cleanup was the kickoff to a great Monona Bay Neighborhood Association Meeting and Potluck! Thanks to the many people and sponsors who made that happen. The great weather certainly helped.

I want to thank Jeff Dregler and Julie Pfluger for donating pikstix to the monthly shoreline cleanup. Volunteers love using the gadgets to pick up trash!

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Spring into Summer Crossword

(Solution on page 9)

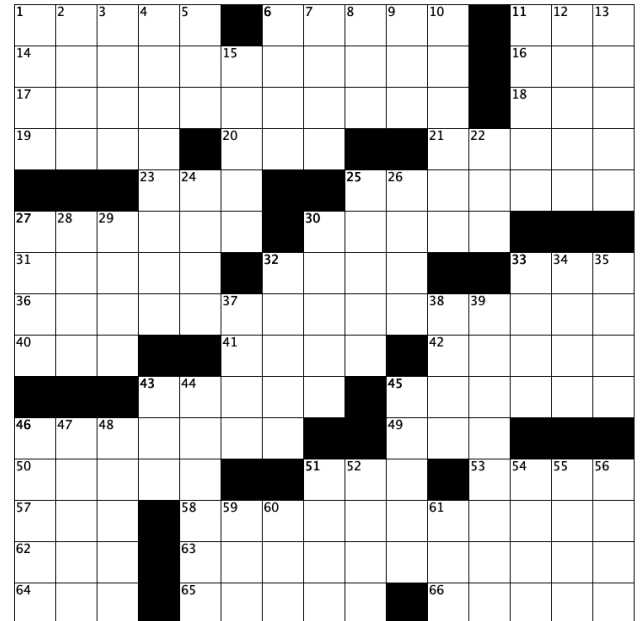
By Jennifer Vernon

ACROSS

1. Come together
6. Estuary
11. Question
14. Rooftop energy generators
16. Sorority letter
17. Water bird
18. Break down
19. Wine holder
20. Sibilant sound
21. Dimwit
23. Txt
25. Fine
27. Pinches
30. Doctor's request
31. Words to live by
32. Meager
33. Farm sound
36. Sign of spring
40. Perfect score
41. Listening devices
42. Brought forth
43. Rome home
45. Settled in for the night, with "down"
46. Radar or scuba, e.g.
49. Alkaline solution
50. Facial features
51. Altar declaration
53. Fontanne's acting partner
57. -- --relief
58. Catkin bearer
62. Palindromic woman's name
63. The teenage years
64. "Affirmative"
65. Tom, Dick, and Harry
66. Wipe out

DOWN

1. Mil. branch
2. U.S. weather agcy.
3. Troubles
4. "The View," for one
5. Period
6. Root beer brand



7. Completes
8. Romanian coin
9. "No Scrubs" group
10. Imploring
11. Spring month
12. "Fiddlesticks!"
13. Money in the middle of a poker table
15. Word on a button
22. Morse morsel
24. Same, in France
25. Joins together
26. Prefix with centric
27. Bananas
28. Car bar
29. "Pen" or "ten" stick-on
30. Hooded menace
32. Song of praise
33. Frequent flier
34. Queenly name
35. On in years
37. Depend (on)

38. Comply with
39. Actuary or plane builder (British)
43. Promise
44. Yoke harness
45. Strikes
46. Mont-Saint-Michel, e.g.
47. Desire
48. Derby prize
51. Majorca or Minorca
52. Tints.
54. It's out on a limb
55. Short for something that brings things closer
56. Excessively sentimental
59. Paramilitary group in Northern Ireland (abbr)
60. currency of Kyrgyzstan
61. Cooler cooler

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