



Bay Creek Bulletin

SEPTEMBER/NOVEMBER 2025

Read the Bay Creek Bulletin in color with functional links on Neighborhood website: baycreekmadison.org/bulletin



Meet Jeff and Karla!

By Pastor Lisa Nelson



Jeff Dregler and Karla Angel moved into the neighborhood the day before the pandemic lockdown. Let that sink in. Since they still liked each other when the time lockdown ended, they were married on their front lawn in 2021. But let's back up just a bit. Jeff and Karla met while working at Epic, but their new lines of work are more to their liking. Karla is a therapist, and Jeff is a residential realtor.

Karla has a brother in Austin TX where their parents live, and Jeff has a sister in Chicago and a brother in Colorado. They love doting on their nephews and buying the kids noisy gifts like musical instruments. (Hey Jeff and Karla, see if they still make the Chicken Limbo game. That would be tons of fun for your siblings to listen to over and over again!)

This couple keeps busy. Jeff is in the Bay Creek walking group and is getting way into flowers, including being in the West Side Garden Club and on the Friends of the Arboretum board. Together, they have planted fruit trees, lots of berries, and flowers, especially daylilies. Karla loves to read, especially in their garden hammock, and play video and board games. They also love biking, skiing, snowboarding, and going to the Ironman race to cheer on participants.

They are both foodies! I asked what restaurants they liked best, and the list went on and on. Ichiban and Silkroad, both on Park St, Greenbush bakery, Harvey House, Fabiola's Spaghetti House, Leopold's bookshop bar, and Greenbush Pizza in the Italian Workmen's Club.

They're also looking forward to the new Indian place moving into the neighborhood.

And when they're at home, they are entertained by their cats. The two sisters were barn cats, whose

mother stopped caring for them. So Karla and Jeff bottledefed them. Diane pounces on everything, so she's named after Diane, the goddess of hunting. Martha likes food, so she's named after Martha Stewart.

And what do they like best about the Bay Creek neighborhood? You guessed it: Being in a neighborhood where people get to know their neighbors. They both value connections and relationships like those they've formed here in Bay Creek.. ❖

ooh ahhh... everywhere

By Naomi Hasan

I didn't know exactly what I was looking for, but I clicked Confirm under the fine print on the American Airlines website anyway. I spent eleven glowing nights in Iceland. It gave me something I didn't know I was missing. It wasn't the sights and smørrebrød but the way the world slowed down around me.



After the ring road, I returned to my favorite quiet harbor town, Grundarfjörður. I watched as the mountains shifted colors, a painting in motion, from the door of my campervan while I played my

violin to no one. People shuffled in their campers or stepped outside to stretch. Later, someone might strike up a conversation - a simple moment of joy in connection.

Back in Bay Creek, I wondered if that same quiet joy was waiting here, too.

It was a blustery September morning at Lakeside St. Coffeehouse. The kind where you're grateful for a mug of Black & Tan to wrap your fingers around. The line wound to the door. After five bustling minutes, a lull settled in.

A pause that makes you notice shadows dancing on curated art, neighbors chatting, and the well-loved 1910s hardwood floor beneath your feet.

That's when Fleetwood Mac came on. The baristas (Continued on page 3)



In This Edition

Meet Jeff and Karla.....	1
Oooh ahhh...everywhere.....	1
What We've Learned from the Community	2
VFW Band.....	2
Good Neighbor Gathering.....	4
More Pole Mounted EV Chargers	
Coming to Madison	4
Alder Report.....	5
Leave the Leaves.....	6
Make Words Puzzle.....	6
Events.....	7
Will Madison Lose Quality Hardware?	8
Welcome to my Paper Airplane Party	9
VO5 Band at Labor Temple	11
Joke Word Find Puzzle.....	11
Safer Streets and Better Access:	
What BRT Means for South Park Street	12
Potluck Dinner at Lakeside.....	12

Bay Creek Outreach Survey: What We've Learned from the Community

By Barb Bailly

The Outreach Working Group's resident survey focused on why neighbors are or are not involved in BCNA and what activities and outreach methods might encourage more people to join. The survey's 101 respondents live throughout Bay Creek. Under a fifth attend meetings. Most have lived here for 15 years or more. Thus, this survey provides a peek beyond what we know about members' perspectives; however, more outreach remains to be done to newcomers to Bay Creek.

What We Learned from Respondents

- Bay Creek respondents recognize BCNA for its social events, monthly meetings, and newsletter.
- A quarter to a third of respondents have attended at least one social event.
- Respondents see the education and advocacy roles of the NA as slightly more important than the social role: 66% think it "very important" to inform members about relevant issues and plans; 58% to work with the city to protect quality of life in the community; 44% to promote neighbor's voices on issues that affect the community.
- By comparison, 48% think it "very important" to promote a welcoming spirit; 36% to promote social interaction; 36% to provide opportunities for residents to get acquainted.
- Close to 60% of respondents think BCNA has done a "satisfactory" job at educating members about issues and plans; 48% at promoting social interaction; fewer than half think its efforts satisfactory at promoting the voices of residents; working with the city to protect quality of life, creating a welcoming spirit, or creating opportunities for residents to get acquainted.
- All respondents think it BCNA's job to recruit new members; 23% respond that BCNA engages in adequate outreach, 31% that it does not. 28% are unaware of consistent outreach efforts.

BCNA's Challenge

Without more active members, BCNA cannot meet expectations for providing members with education, a voice in city politics, a place to feel connected. Why, if people want more from BCNA, aren't they stepping up to do more? Responses suggest a range of reasons: inconvenient meeting times (n=18); not feeling welcome (n=10); finding discussion topics uninteresting (n=3); lack of time or interest (n=26); not knowing anyone (n=14); being unaware of meetings

(n=26). Comments mentioned perceiving that new or divergent ideas are unwelcome and tension and bullying at meetings.

Importance of Listening

Responses to this survey raise questions none of us can answer. Continuing to listen to community members' perspectives and preferences via short, narrowly focused polls and community discussions creates the potential for soliciting input from an otherwise unavailable cross-section of the community on topics ranging from logistics (meeting times and locations, priorities for discussion) to policy and practice (better meeting design, virtual voting, representative advocacy) and more. Establishing an open and inclusive organizational tone is likely to make more people feel welcome and may encourage them to take part in BCNA.

Working Group's Next Steps

The Outreach Working Group plans a facilitated community meeting for all Bay Creek residents in the upcoming months where we can brainstorm next steps for soliciting broader engagement in BCNA, including potentially:

- Mending hostilities within BCNA (with a professional, if necessary).
- Holding some meetings at high-draw gatherings, such as well-attended talks and potlucks.
- Interviewing more active neighborhood associations, such as Capitol Neighborhoods about their outreach methods.
- Building connections among the Outreach Working Group, the Welcome Committee, and members to create ongoing recruitment for BCNA.

To read the full summary of the survey or join the Outreach Working Group, write to: bcnaoutreach@gmail.com. ❖

Save Democracy With Your Wallet. the MINOCQUA MARKETPLACE minocquamarketplace.com

VFW Band
a volunteer ensemble performing concerts at local nursing homes!

76TH SEASON STARTS September 8, 2025

visit our website ccbamadison.org

* Public Concerts *

VETERAN'S DAY CEREMONY November 11, 2025 at the WI State Capitol

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY May 26, 2026 at Forest Hill Cemetery

Follow us on Facebook at Capitol City Band & VFW Volunteer Band - Post 1318

INTERESTED IN JOINING?
ccbamadison@gmail.com
(608)225-4220

EVERYWHERE From page 1

couldn't resist chiming in during that silky chorus, ooh ahhh, followed by Stevie Nicks' solo. I wanna be with you everywhere. At first, they sang on pitch, smiling as they frothed a macchiato and wiped counters. Then they slipped into silly, out-of-tune versions. Once letting out a tiny scream instead of actual notes. Stealing glances and stifling a laugh. It was a tiny spark, but it blanketed the room with joy.

Music shows up ooh ahhh... everywhere. Sometimes it's a reminder of what music means when you step away from home. Sometimes it's a joke between baristas. And sometimes it's the wail of a stranger.

A few days later, I was in line at Pick 'n Save, Caffè Verona in hand. The line stretched to the produce section. I wondered how they use the extra space from the arched roof. In time, a rhythm settled in. Cashiers opened lanes and neighbors chatting with strangers reached the register.

It began as a hushed longing, pondering piano chords overhead. Without warning, the woman in front of me melded with Adele's perfectly imperfect wail. Hello from the other sideee. I couldn't help smiling. A stranger, caught up in a song, even a lament, reminded me how the joy of music shows up unexpectedly.

Music has been a gift in my life. Iceland reminded me I want it to always feel that way - simple, joyful, and connecting us all. After settling back at home, it's here, in Bay Creek, too.

I hope we all keep finding these small moments. Whether it's the sound of a violin against a shifting sky, a barista willfully singing out of tune, or the wail of a stranger. They're reminders that music is already here with us - ooh ahhh... everywhere.

About the author

Naomi Hasan is a freelance musician and teacher in Bay Creek. She teaches violin and viola lessons out of her cozy home studio on Lake Court. Scan the QR code to learn more and join the collaborative neighborhood playlist. ❖



JEFF DRENGLER - *Your Neighborhood Realtor*

Sprinkman brings 25+ years of trusted local experience in buying, selling, and navigating our unique Madison market.

Reach out today for a **free home evaluation**.



Jeff Drengler
(608) 843.8428
jeff@sprinkmanrealestate.com



Your ad could be here reaching over 1200 households in Bay Creek.

Advertising in the Bulletin is a great way to let people know about your business.

We offer discounts when you advertise 3 or more times.

Contact Judy Robinson
(608) 469-1218
judysotheremail@
mail.com for more
information.

Snow Scholars

Snow Removal By UW-Madison Students!



HAND-SHOVELED, RESIDENTIAL ONLY!

Every surface cleared by hand — no machines, no commercial jobs.



SAME PRICE, NO MATTER THE SNOW HEIGHT!

Billed the same price, only when it snows — 1 inch and up.



(608) 400-4555



info@snowscholars.com

Limited spots available, sign up online at snowscholars.com

Madison Good Neighbor Gathering 2025 a HUGE Success!

Something magical happens every September in Brittingham Park on the corner of W. Washington and Park Street. Thanks to the support of Dudgeon Monroe, Vilas, Greenbush, Monona Bay, Bay Creek, and Bayview/Triangle neighborhood associations, and local businesses, organizations and individual donors, hundreds of kids and their families get an opportunity to connect across diverse cul-



Ballet Folklorico was one of many groups who entertained the crowd of over 600 at this year's celebration of diverse cultures.

tures and communities for an afternoon of fun, food, and entertainment. Now in its 5th year, the Madison Good Neighbor Gathering (GNG) was the original vision of our Alder, Tag Evers, and a small group of neighbors representing the six neighborhoods that make up District 13. Open to the public and now led by Neighborhood House Community Center, this year over 600 people attended. They enjoyed a wide variety of entertainment, from TaiKo drummers to Hmong dancers to Ballet Folklorico, to the West High Poms and Reggie the Regent and an Afro Caribbean dance class. Kids participated in a scavenger hunt where they each won prizes for participation. They also enjoyed a climbing wall, two bouncy castles/slides, bubbles, face painting, bike decorating, the Trash Lab, MPD mounted police, and more. Over 25 organizations tabled with GNG this year, each offering an activity for kids to enjoy. Families also sampled diverse foods and delicious ice cream from food trucks. Our Mayor proclaimed the day "Madison Good Neighbor Gathering Day" and handed out medals to anyone - big or small! - who wanted to commemorate the day. A big shout out to the businesses and organizations who support this event - DMNA, VNA, Bayview, Neighborhood House, UnityPoint Health Meriter, Orange Tree Imports, Alvarado Real Estate, Taste of India, Neuhauser Pharmacy, Brothers Fence Company, Tallard Apartments, Budd's Auto, Molina Healthcare, New Culture Church, Isthmus, Regent Market Co-Op, and Dane Arts. (Please be sure to show them some love!)

Plans are already in the works for Madison GNG 2026! Contact Taylor Drogemuller at Neighborhood House at 608-255-5337 if you would like to get involved. ❖

FROM MADISON GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY (MGE)

More Pole-Mounted EV Chargers Coming to Madison

MGE's public charging network, powered by renewable energy, continues to grow with the addition of four new pole-mounted electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. The chargers, which attach to existing MGE utility poles, offer residents easy curbside charging. The new EV pole-mounted chargers are located near:

- Commercial Avenue and North Street in east-central Madison
- Lakeside Street Coffee House in south-central Madison
- Quann Park on Madison's south side
- Troy Community Gardens on Madison's north side

Studies show that about 80% of EV charging happens at home. This can be challenging for drivers who don't have a garage or dedicated parking. That's why MGE and the City of Madison part-

nered to find locations that could benefit from easy access to curbside charging.

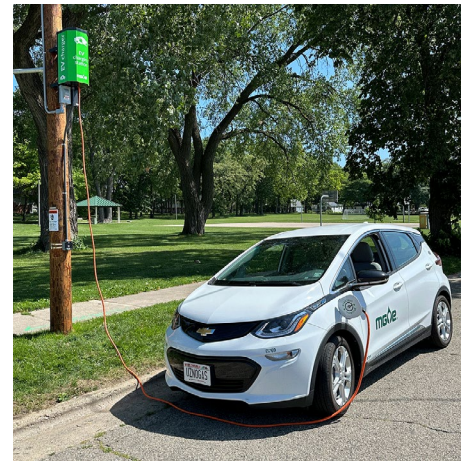
MGE's first pole-mounted charging station was installed in the fall of 2023 on Madison's east side near Worthington Park.

MGE Charging Network

Visit mge.com/evcharging to learn more about MGE's public charging network, which features more than 50 charging stations, all powered by renewable energy.

There's a lot to Love about EVs

Visit mge.com/LovEV to learn about available vehicle models, costs, charging, benefits and more.



ALLEGRA
MARKETING • PRINT • MAIL

INSTY-PRINTS
DESIGN | PRINT | SIGNS

Phone (608) 255 0046
Web www.allegramadison.com

2 E. Mifflin Street Madison, WI 53703

Your Bay Creek Neighbor and Realtor since 2001

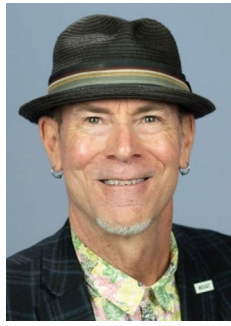
DOUG NOOT
ABR, BRI
BROKER/ASSOCIATE/UW ALUMNI

608-663-8323
doug@noothomes.com

BUYING OR SELLING....THE POINT IS NOOT!

ALDER REPORT

By Tag Evers



A major concern among many in Bay Creek has been the impact the North-South Bus Rapid Transit route will have on South Park Street businesses. In particular, the claim has been made that the City is taking away parking spaces necessary for the success of these businesses.

More specifically, concerns have been raised about Quality Hardware at the corner of South Park and Olin Ave.

In early September, I joined Metro Transit staff and the owner of Quality Hardware in a meeting to discuss various options. One option that came out of that discussion is to allow off-peak parking in front of the store, which Metro Transit staff believes it's possible this would not interfere with the efficiency of BRT. In addition, staff have offered to move the bus stop on Olin Ave further away from the corner, which would free up additional parking spaces for the store.

Some have suggested staff are calloused to the concerns of local businesses. I have not seen that to be the case. Metro staff have met with businesses up and down S. Park. For example, staff came up with a design solution that maintains BRT bus lanes as well as the parking along the 900-1100 block on northbound S. Park. This means businesses like Taqueria Guadalajara, Asian Sweet Bakery, and The Bounty will not lose the street parking in front of their businesses.

Similarly, turning attention to the 400-600 blocks of South Park Street, home to Falbo Bros Pizza, Mason Lounge, Wayne's Bar-

ber Shop, Dog Haus University, Cordial, Movin Shoes, Edo, Ichiban, and others, the plan is to maintain on-street parking for these businesses on the southbound side. After meeting with these businesses, it was determined they have little to no off-street parking. Moreover, parking studies performed by staff found that the parking there was heavily utilized. Again, staff came up with a design solution acceptable to these businesses that would not negatively impact BRT.

At the September 16 meeting of the Common Council meeting, three new changes were introduced that would further address regulatory obstacles to more housing. The first of these would update existing rules that require upper stories of larger buildings to step down when adjacent to a residential district. The second proposal would allow detached Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) buildings to have two units, effectively becoming duplexes. It would also remove the ADU's footprint area from the maximum cumulative square footage allowed for accessory structures so that ADUs are treated differently than garages and sheds. The third proposal would adjust lot area, lot width, and alley attached-garage rear setback minimums, a series of small changes to further encourage small-scale development and create more opportunities to create new lots for housing.

Lastly, progress continues with the purpose-built men's shelter, which is set to open in the spring. Funding to allow the shelter to be open 24/7 is yet to be resolved, which is one among many issues we will be dealing with as we look to pass the city's 2026 budget. ❖



Interested in 100% renewable energy for your household?

Sign up for MGE's Green Power Tomorrow (GPT) program. Get 100% clean energy for less than \$5 more per month* with GPT 100.

*Based on typical residential energy use.

Visit mge.com/GPT to learn more and sign up.



GS3447



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15

Meet, greet, and socialize with your Bay Creek neighbors

6-8 pm at the Baha'i Center
324 W. Lakeside St

Celebrate Fall, Neighborhood, Community

All are welcome.

Bring a dish to pass and serving utensils.
Diningware and light refreshments provided.
Please label your dish for relevant ingredients
(veggie, vegan, gluten, nuts).

RSVP with dish and number of people: Stanley: srj29@cornell.edu
Questions? Contact Stanley or Kirstin: kirstin@bloy.org



Leave the Leaves?

By Jan Axelson, Megan Saucke, Jim Winkle, Phil Gaebler, Sarah Betzler, Frank Hassler, Anne Buffington, and Athena Salzer

Article from: <https://madison.wildones.org/leaves/>

Tree Leaves Have Many Benefits – We’ve all removed leaves in the fall, but leaving some in place has important benefits. Birds, pollinators, and other creatures rely on fallen leaves for food and shelter over the winter. Keeping leaves also helps yards retain moisture, reduces carbon emissions, and provides free fertilizer in your garden, lawn, and compost bin. Carpets of leaves under trees in autumn have their own beauty.

Here are some DOs and DON’Ts to leaving your leaves:

DO: use leaves as mulch – Leaves that fall naturally around flowers, trees and shrubs can be left as a mulch, and you can add more leaves to form a layer of at least 2 inches. Whole leaves will decay naturally over time as they do in forests, and they enrich the soil to feed nearby trees and other plant life. The leaf mulch also reduces weed growth, retains moisture, insulates plants, and protects beneficial pollinators such as bumblebee queens, butterflies, moths, and firefly larvae. If you mulch heavily over plants in the fall, you can uncover them in late spring, after pollinators emerge. Who knows, you might be inspired to have more gardens now that you have free mulch!

DO: leave some leaves on your lawn – Some leaves left on a lawn will break down and fertilize the soil. If leaves cover about 20% of the grass, leave them where they fell. If only 50% of your grass is showing, you can mow over these areas if you want to help the leaves break down. Be aware that mowing instead of raking can destroy insect eggs, caterpillars, and cocoons in and on the leaves.

DO: remove leaves from the street – Removing leaves from the street, sidewalks, and driveways is important for clean lakes. When it rains, wet leaves in the street form a nutrient-rich “leaf tea” that flows into stormwater sewers that connect to our lakes and other waters, feeding harmful algae growth. Before rainfall, remove leaves from the street in front of your property and keep nearby storm drains clear. If you don’t want to use street leaves as mulch, pile them on the grass near the curb for city pickup. Sign up with Dane County’s Ripple Effects to receive text or email alerts before autumn rain events. **(Continued on page 7)**

Make Words

By Stanley Rubio Jackson

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

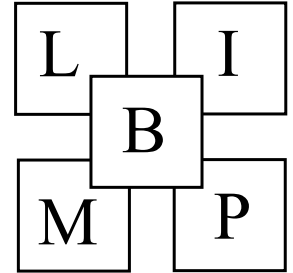


Use the same letter no more than three times in a word.

Two letter minimum.

There are at least 14 words; 6 use the letter B

(Answers on Page 9)



Word Search Solution

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

QUALITY HARDWARE



Family-Owned Since 1971

**1201 South Park Street
Madison, WI 53715**

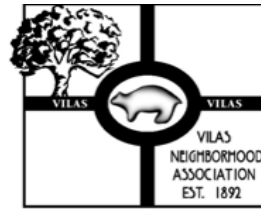
info@qualityhardwaremadison.com
Ph (608)256-8106 Fx (608)256-1539

www.qualityhardwaremadison.com

Ask for the "neighbor discount"!

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

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

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.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Neighborhood Potluck Oct 15 6pm at Bahai
324 W. Lakeside St

Live Muisic at Lakeside Street Coffee House
402 W. Lakeside Street

10/17: The Honey Pies @ 7pm
10/18: Irish Jam Session @ 7pm
10/23: Richard Wiegel @ 6:30pm
10/24: Tumbledown Shack @ 7pm
11/6: Writer's Circle: Songs by Local Artists @ 7pm
11/7: Classical Guitar Society @ 7pm
11/15: Irish Jam Session @ 7pm
11/21: Tumbledown Shack @ 7pm

LEAVES From page 6

DO: compost your leaves – If you have a lot of extra leaves, add them to a compost pile along with other plant matter and kitchen scraps and use the finished compost to improve garden soil. Or you can keep it simple by leaving a pile of leaves over the winter. By spring this will be ready to use as mulch around your other plants!

DO: consider the best way to move leaves – Did you know that using a 2-cycle gas-powered leaf blower for one hour can release as much pollution as driving a car over 1000 miles? Electric leaf blowers are quieter, don't directly produce pollutants, and generally have lower operating costs compared to gas-powered equipment. Another option is a garden rake, low cost and quiet.

DON'T: spread invasive jumping worms – Asian jumping worms are now found throughout many parts of the city in soil and leaves. The worms destroy soil structure and remove nutrients. Help reduce the spread by keeping your leaves on your property. Don't accept leaves from other locations.

DON'T: worry about tar spot fungus – Tar spot fungus on maple leaves may seem unsightly, but keeping the leaves won't cause health issues. More free mulch!

DO: continue to check yourself for ticks – Monoculture grass lawns and planting of invasive species such as Japanese Barberry have disrupted the native ecosystem that once kept ticks in check. So unfortunately, gardening is now associated with an increased risk for tick bites, and leaves provide extra cover for ticks. You may want to take precautions such as wear-

ing long pants and socks and/or insect repellent when gardening, and checking yourself for ticks after spending time outside. Planting native plants can help restore biodiversity and support tick predators

DO: pile extra leaves on the terrace for city collection – If you have more leaves than you can use in your yard, place them in the area between the sidewalk and the curb. Try to keep a foot of grass between the pile and the curb. The city will collect the leaves and take them to a composting facility.

Summing Up – Keeping leaves within each yard instead of having city trucks haul away piles of leaves can reduce air and noise pollution, lower greenhouse gas emissions, and save you time and energy while benefiting your yard in multiple ways. Work smarter, not harder, and you will be rewarded with more fireflies, butterflies, and birds after a year or two. ❖

Naomi Fasan
VIOLIN & VIOLA LESSONS

Join now!
All ages & abilities
Expand your skills & curiosity
Learn in a way that suits you
Study with an experienced teacher of 10+ years
Cozy home studio in Bay Creek

Will Madison Lose Quality Hardware?

Judy Robinson and Carrie Rothburd

Six people gather at the front of Quality Hardware at 1201 South Park Street chatting. One of them says he's been shopping here since 1995. When asked what he likes about the store, he says, "This is the closest hardware store to anything in South Madison, and I can run right in and out."

Two more customers come in, and Sherry Novotny goes off to help them. Al and Clara Suter started this hardware store in 1956. Gloria and Ralph Novotny bought it from them in 1971. Scott Novotny, their son, started working at the store when he was 11, and purchased it from his parents in 2006.

Scott ran a successful business. He began to service commercial accounts, which today account for about 60 percent of Quality Hardware's revenues. As part of a contract with Porchlight, the store started selling "paper supplies," paper towels, garbage bags, cleaning products, and more, setting it apart from other hardware stores in Madison.

Scott made sure the business developed deep and lasting ties with the Madison community, especially with residents in need. "My husband prided himself on working with all the homeless shelters. He had such a big, good heart. He believed everybody deserves a second chance. Some of our best employees have come from Chris Farley House. They've gone on to do bigger, better things, too, just from what they learned working here."

Scott Novotny died in 2017, and Sherry took over the business. It was hard at first. "I'm still learning," she says, but her role as business owner makes her proud, "especially because there are not many women-owned hardware stores." Looking over at Shauna, her daughter, who is helping a customer, she adds, "That spitfire knows more than some of the maintenance guys that come in here."

The family put Shauna through college, a bachelor's degree and then a master's in accounting. With Shauna doing the books, Sherry is able to be back on the floor. Shane and Skyler, Scott and Sherry's sons, also work the floor at Quality Hardware. In 2019, the family took the business back to its roots as an independent hardware store.

Still the store has seen some hard times since the pandemic. It did not receive government support and lost all six of its employees. With sales down, it can't afford to hire them back; so the family is working longer hours with less vacation and lower wages.

On top of that, "Amazon, Menards, and Home Depot Supply are crushing us," Sherry says. "We buy from two suppliers who've been around since the 1800s, and it actually makes our pricing way lower than the big box stores, but a lot of people think we'll be way more expensive because we're small. So we've lost some of our commercial business."

They've lost business with the city, too. "Henry Vilas Zoo still comes in often, but many of the city's departments go to Menard's. They've stopped shopping local." This doesn't sit well with Sherry. "When you don't support your small businesses, how do you expect them to thrive?"

Fortunately, during and after the pandemic, Quality Hardware picked up a lot more neighborhood business. They've always

offered a special neighbor discount. Now as much as 40 to 50 percent of their revenue is residential, depending on the day and time of year. "Our niche is helping you learn how to fix things. People know and appreciate that."

As for the future of Quality Hardware, Sherry is scared. Plans for the North/South Bus Rapid Transit call for eliminating the store's on-street parking. "They're telling us we'll have 30 feet of curb space, but our suppliers' and commercial customers' semis are at least 50 feet long. They'll stop coming here if they can't park."

Sherry is also concerned she'll lose residential customers. "Especially my customers with disabilities, who park out front, and call us so we can run what they need out to them. Half of my business is for the convenience we provide."

The city also plans to take two to three feet of the store's parking lot for sidewalk and to narrow the existing pavement, which would force the store to move its bagged goods (top soil, potting soil, landscaping bark, sidewalk salt, rolls of straw, and bales of hay) from curbside to the parking lot. "There won't be any off-street parking left," Sherry says.

Although Sherry didn't make it to the community BRT meetings because she was working, she has discussed her parking needs with the city and hopes that the city will retain on-street parking for her business and others along South Park Street that rely on easy customer access for their sales. Currently BRT implementation plans call for on-street parking southbound between West Washington and Emerald streets—where buses will run in mixed traffic with other vehicles—to accommodate business need.

Sherry and other South Park Street businesses in Bay Creek don't oppose the BRT. They just want the city to respect their needs and point out that traffic volume along Park Street diminishes greatly south of Fish Hatchery. "We could be a plan to retain our parking, too. It shouldn't be an either/or game—business or BRT," says Sherry.

"And how'd you get here today?" Sherry asks Rayce, a building maintenance professional, as he enters Quality Hardware. He points to the vehicle parked at the curb. Rayce has been shopping at Quality Hardware since 1990 because the store has everything he needs and offers outstanding service. "It's easy to get in and out, too. I don't have to walk across a parking lot. A lot of maintenance companies, they time us. So every minute is important."

"No one stays parked for more than five or 10 minutes," Sherry says. "Sometimes I think I should keep a log of how each of my customers gets here. 'Bike, foot, car, taxi...?' I've yet to see someone get off the bus and walk into my hardware store. Can you imagine carrying five bags of mulch or a couple of 10-foot-long PVC pipes on the bus?"

She stops and her expression is troubled. "City staff and my alder keep saying, 'Change is hard, but it's good for Madison,' and I'm thinking: This is not a matter of change for me. It's a matter of survival. Look at all those empty storefronts on South Park Street where we used to have local small businesses. I could be next. How is that good?" ❖

Welcome to my Paper Airplane Party!

By Rebecca A Rettenmund

First phase: Building Your Squadron. I've purchased a kit from Barnes and Noble called the Ultimate Paper Airplane Kit. There were four different ones on the shelf, but I wanted to fold planes from regular paper, not premade models. For the next hour, the pilots lined up along tables in my living room and folded airplanes.

If they just wanted to wing it and make them up from memory, that was fine with me as long as they were unique. The kit came with a variety of colored papers featuring wild patterns, so creating a unique plane wasn't difficult. I also provided colored markers allowing pilots to decorate them with flames, skulls, teeth, flowers, hearts, or sign their initials.

Second phase: In-Flight Meal. After an hour of intense folding, the pilots were hungry. It was a potluck, but I did offer a sheetcake from Costco. The previous night, I held a cake decorating party. My niece made homemade frosting, mixed three colors, and followed my design. Costco wrote out the title "Paper Airplane Party 2025" in blue frosting, then my niece used a piping bag to create a light green plane emerging from powder blue clouds. At the top of the cake were four gray shadows of planes drawn in frosting. Wooden skewers poked into each shadow, and actual paper airplanes were taped to the top of the skewer to appear like they were flying over the cake.

Third phase: Dog Fight. Here's where the action unfolded. My husband made a goal out of wire: a circle about two feet wide with a post on the bottom so it could stand up. The test pilot stood twenty feet away, and at a count of three, threw their plane at the goal. Lots of planes were duds. They flipped head over heels or did a nose dive, but if you folded it well, the plane soared effortlessly towards the circle. Sounds simple, right? Wrong! This was a dog fight, remember? And at the same count of three, all the rest of the pilots standing on the side launched an attack on the test plane. It would have to make it past everyone else's planes before reaching the goal. This was a lot harder than it sounded. Twenty test pilots had three chances each, and only one plane soared through the goal. That pilot got a prize. Having unique planes made it easier to see who won.

Fourth phase: Long Distance. Everyone stood in an alley and launched their fastest planes at the same time. The one that went the farthest got a prize. And, out of pity, I gave a prize to the shortest flight as well. Hint: don't tell the kids that before launching though, or they would just drop their plane at their feet.



The final phase: Make a Fast Buck. Anyone who wanted to participate in this tournament had to fold a dollar into an airplane. This gave you one chance to launch it into a six-inch can from twelve feet away. If you missed, your buck went into a box. Here's a trick: fasten a safety pin on the nose of the plane to make it fly straighter. A plane needs to be front-heavy or it will just flip around like a leaf in the fall. Even with a safety pin attached, this was quite a challenge. Of the 50 one-dollar bills I provided, only one made it into the can. When my husband's plane hit the target, everyone roared with excitement. He won all 50 bucks in the box!

He won all 50 bucks in the box!

I got the idea for this party from something I found at a garage sale. It was a propeller you could attach to the back of a paper airplane. In theory, you could control it with your phone, but this item was so old that the app wasn't available anymore, so I had to dump the idea. If anyone wanted to have a paper airplane party in the future, you can purchase a working remote control propeller on Amazon.



Bay Creek!
Meet Your Neighbors & Build Community
Every Friday, Noon-1:00pm
Free Hot Meals at St. Mark's
Meals are Open to Everyone

Inside Dining & Carry-Out Available
Southwest Entrance by St. Mark's Playground
Handicap Entrance/Elevator on Spruce Street

St. Mark's Food Pantry
Thursdays 5:00-7:00pm
Fridays 11:30am-1:30pm
Main Entrance on Spruce Street
Take elevator to lower level

Worship at St. Mark's
Sundays at 10:30 am

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



Make Words Answers

- 5 Letter Word: blimp;
- 4 Letter Words: blip, limb, limp, bill, mill, pill;
- 3 Letter Words: bib, imp, pip, lip, ill;
- 2 Letter Words; bi, pi.

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 meals sites: Meals are not free. We ask for a suggested donation of \$5 per meal. Please pay what you can afford.

Reservations are due two days in advance at all sites EXCEPT Goodman Community Center and Kavanaugh's Esquire Club (No reservations are required at these two locations)

Specific phone extensions have been added to contact each site to make a meal reservation for a much easier/better experience.

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.

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.

Newsletter Managing Editor – Natalie Eisner
nataliecbcb.editor@gmail.com

Newsletter Distribution – Kirk Elliott
225 Van Deusen St • (608) 255-5646 • kirk_elliott@hotmail.com

OFFICERS

BCNA Contact Person – Cindy McCallum
(608) 212-7934

Recording Secretary – Chris Lukas
(314) 601-1380

Treasurer/Advertising – Judy Robinson
(608) 469-1218 • judysotheremail@mail.com

COMMITTEES

Planning/Economic Development – Lisie Kitchel
225 Potter St. • (608)-220-5180

Welcome – Doug Noot
663-8323 • baycreekwelcome@gmail.com

Web – Jim Winkle
(608) 259-1812 • jimwink-madison@yahoo.com

Transportation – John Rider
608-225-5520 • jjrider@tds.net

Welcoming and Recruitment Committee – Carrie Rothburd
608-467-7170 • crothburd@gmail.com

Bylaws Committee – Chris Wagner
608-658-2272 • cwagnerz@yahoo.com

NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES

Area 1 – Manuel Rammingier
(608) 444-9542 • manuel@ethicaltradeco.com
Wingra Dr., west of Park Street

Area 2 – Kirstin Bloy
(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
(608) 212-7934 • 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

Mayor – Satya Rhodes-Conway

(608) 266-4611
Mayor@cityofmadison.com

County Board – Chuck Erickson

(608) 212-8753
erickson.chuck@countyofdane.com

State Representative – Shelia Stubbs

608-237-9178
Rep.Stubbs@legis.wisconsin.gov

State Senator – Kelda Roys

(608) 266-1627
Sen.Roys@legis.wisconsin.gov

U.S. Representative – Marc Pocan

(608) 258-9800

U.S. Senators

Tammy Baldwin (608) 264-5338
Ron Johnson (414) 276-7282



VO5 Labor Day concert at the Labor Temple

Mon. 12-6
Wed.-Sun. 12-6
(Closed Tues.)

Oriental Groceries
Seafood
Fresh Vegetables
251-7991

東芳

1029 South Park Street
(just beyond Fish Hatchery Road)

Madison, WI 53715

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 6)

Dad started a boat business in the attic – the sails are going through the roof.

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

Curt Dimmig
owner/designer
608 212-0633

Looks like it's.....

TIME 2 REMODEL

www.time2remodel.com
curt@time2remodel.com



Sonja Darlington brought classical violin music to the potluck gathering on July 28 at St Mark's.

Safer Streets and Better Access: What BRT Means for South Park Street

By Liz Callin, City of Madison Department of Transportation

As many neighbors know, the City of Madison is moving forward with the design of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) along South Park Street. This project is about more than buses—it's an opportunity to reimagine the corridor so that it works better for everyone. It will reconstruct the most dilapidated segment of Park Street (between the railroad tracks and Fish Hatchery Road) where asphalt and concrete are failing and will add improvements like a usable bike route and two new traffic signals.

The goals of the project are to improve safety, provide faster and more reliable transit service, and create a street that supports the vitality of local businesses and the surrounding community now and into the future.

Designing a project of this scale means making choices about how the limited right-of-way is used—between sidewalks, bus lanes, travel lanes, parking, and loading. This is an important corridor in Madison: 20,000 cars a day drive down S. Park Street, and Route B carries over 5,000 people a day even before BRT improvements. The project team is working block by block with businesses and property owners to balance those tradeoffs. First and foremost, we are prioritizing safety: safer crossings, clearer traffic movements, and better access for people walking, biking, riding transit, and driving. At the same time, we are committed to maintaining—and where possible improving—loading and access for businesses along the corridor.

To make these choices well, we have been talking to the general public, residents, business owners, and other stakeholders. As we've learned about issues and opportunities, we have addressed them. On Park Street between West Washington Avenue and Erin Street, we changed the design to keep on-street parking on the west side of the street because of a row of small businesses that do not have parking lots. We are continuing to refine that design

so that bus lanes and signal priority mean that transit speed and reliability isn't compromised. We've concluded that in this location we can do both: convenient short-term parking and great transit. In other places, we don't know the answers yet.

One example is Quality Hardware, a long-standing and valued business on South Park Street. City staff have been working closely with the owners to understand their operations and delivery needs since our initial meeting in early 2024 and develop solutions that ensure both suppliers and customers can continue to access the store conveniently. Early design options included a dedicated bump-out space for loading and short-term parking south of Olin Avenue. We've learned from the owners that this brings up other problems. We are now exploring three possible options that allow some parking on Park Street and will meet their needs. Conversations with the owners have been productive, and we think we are on a good path forward. This type of collaboration is happening with businesses all along the corridor.

South Park Street is one of Madison's busiest and most important gateways. The goal of this project is to make the corridor safer and more reliable for all who use it—neighbors, customers, commuters, and visitors alike. The success of this project depends on partnership, and the City will continue working closely with businesses and residents to balance needs and make sure the benefits of this investment are shared throughout the community. In the end, we measure our success in how projects help the community. In the past year we've seen BRT make transit trips faster and more reliable, incentivize a significant increase in ridership, support businesses along the line, bring people to events, and stimulate new development. At the same time, the fears raised while that project was under construction have not come to pass. We think we'll see the same on Park Street.

More information about the project can be found at madisonbrt.com. ♦

**STOP IN AND VISIT YOUR
BAY CREEK NEIGHBORHOOD
AMOCO**

**1129 South Park St
Corner of Olin Ave
& Park St**

GREAT FRIENDLY SERVICE

We offer a Wide Variety of Convenience
Store Products, including a NEW Selection of
Beer & Wine

We look forward to seeing you soon!