



Northside News

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December 2022/January 2023

Troy Drive railroad bridge to be rebuilt

By Anita Weier
Northside News

The City of Madison has announced that the dangerous and deteriorating railroad bridge over Troy Drive will be replaced. Design work will occur in 2023, and construction will begin in 2023 or 2024.

Currently, the bridge is too low to allow buses or trucks to pass through on Troy Drive. Over the years, several trucks have gotten stuck under the bridge, causing concern about its stability. Also, a sidewalk under the bridge goes through a dark and somewhat scary underpass, which many children must go through to get to Mendota Elementary School.



Troy Bridge from Northside News

The new bridge will span the entire right-of-way, allowing for two vehicle lanes, bike lanes and sidewalks on both sides of the road. Currently the sidewalk is on just one side of the road.

The bridge work will be funded with a \$3.5 million grant from the State of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (DOT) as part of the 2022 Freight Rail Preservation Program.

"I'm grateful to Transportation Secretary (Craig) Thompson and Governor (Tony) Evers for investing in this important project," said Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway. "This will be a much safer, more practical and user-friendly intersection, once we implement the changes, and will benefit the entire Northside."

The Madison Board of Public Works is scheduled to consider plans and specifications Feb. 8, 2023. Plans will be presented to the neighborhood, officials said, and the city will work with the DOT and the Wisconsin and Southern Railroad to ensure the project meets their needs.

The current I-beam bridge was built in 1965. "Many constituents, including parents and staff at Mendota Elementary School, have reached out to me about the bridge," said 18th District Alder Charles Myadze. "This dangerous bridge has been a concern for residents, families, Mendota School and drivers. I am very glad to have been able to assist in making this needed project a reality."



Winter wonder on Lake View Hill

Photo by Jeffrey Affeldt



Image provided by City of Madison

The proposed development on the former Hartmeyer property includes senior and family housing

Third public meeting held on redevelopment of former Hartmeyer property

By Jan Axelson
Northside News

On Oct. 3, Alder Syed Abbas hosted a third public meeting on the proposed development on the former Hartmeyer property located south of Roth Street and east of Kavanaugh's Esquire Club on North Sherman Avenue. The meeting's focus was to present a final site design and provide information relating to the site's environment, archaeological findings and planned methods for soil stabilization.

The project provides 553 units of senior and family workforce-level housing on 7.5 acres, with 15.2 acres preserved as a conservation area and an additional 2.7 acres planned for future market-rate housing. The developer is Lincoln Avenue Capital of Santa Monica, California.

Outdoor spaces include an active play area, courtyard, swimming pool and a designated area for dogs. Public comments at the meeting expressed concerns about providing enough space for dogs and whether a swimming pool is a good use of land due to the expense and limited swim season.

Stemming from the site's past uses, soil contaminants are present, including arsenic and hydrocarbons known as PAHs, which result from burning coal, oil and gas. Eric Oelkers, a hydrogeologist with SCS Engineers, reported that the developer will submit a material management plan for managing the contaminants to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). On approving the plan, the DNR will issue a permit.

Due to the soil condition and groundwater levels, the buildings will have no underground levels. Rammed aggregate piers of crushed stone will stabilize the soil beneath the buildings.

Randy Dickson, principal investigator for Midwest Archaeological Consultants, reported on an archaeological survey of the site. The project area intersects an uncatalogued linear mound site that was documented around 120 years ago and is exempt from state burial law. The soils of the project area have been heavily disturbed over the years including being used for soil borrows, landscaping, fill, buried utilities and development.

The recent survey was the fifth survey of the area performed in the last 29 years. None of the surveys found any surface indications of mounds. The recent survey included only the area planned for development.

The Common Council is scheduled to vote on the project at their Dec. 6 meeting.

FEED Kitchens celebrates 9th anniversary

By Chris Brockel
NPC Director of Food Systems

On Nov. 15 FEED Kitchens will celebrate its ninth anniversary functioning as the premier food business incubator/shared kitchen in our region. During those nine years FEED Kitchens has played a vital role in helping shape and sustain Madison's vibrant local food scene. From beloved food carts to familiar products on sale in local stores and farmers markets, FEED Kitchens allows local food producers to grow and flourish by providing access to equipment and entrepreneurial support, especially to populations that have traditionally been shut out of these services. Currently, FEED Kitchens' business members are 66% people of color and 54% women-owned.

Operating as a nonprofit as a program of Madison Northside Planning Council, the journey through the past nine years hasn't always been easy but the tenacity and will to succeed of the staff and entrepreneurs at FEED have led to numerous successes for our region. FEED Kitchens has graduated nearly 20 businesses and we are anticipating announcing two more graduates by the end of 2022. A Northside favorite, Beef Butter BBQ, is just one of our many graduated businesses. Besides adding solid enterprises to our local food scene, businesses operating out of FEED Kitchens have generated over \$10 million dollars in revenue that is cycled through our local economy, have created well over 200 jobs, and have helped bolster and solidify our local food system making us less dependent

FEED Kitchens continued on page 3

Where's Nort?

Find Nort to win a prize!

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NORTHSIDE NEWS

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Northside News
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The October/November Winners
John Foellmi & Kate Gallagher

Or, email it to us at office@northsideplanningcouncil.org

Include your full name, mailing address and either your phone number or email address so we can contact you if you win.

Thank you to the FEED Bakery Training Program for their donations to the Nort scavenger hunts.



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FEED Kitchens

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

SATURDAY, DEC. 17 • 9 AM–2 PM

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NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

FEED Kitchens' Holiday Bazaar

By Chris Brockel
NPC Director of Food Systems

The FEED Kitchens' Holiday Bazaar is returning this December as an in-person market to meet the creative makers working out of FEED Kitchens, hear their stories, sample their products, and make purchases for the holiday table or gift giving.

The popular event will be held Saturday, Dec. 17 from 9 am–2 pm at Door Creek Church North, 1181 N. Sherman Ave., in the NorthGate Shopping Center across the parking lot from FEED Kitchens. It is the perfect time to find local food items for your holiday entertaining and last minute gift giving.

Because of space limitations at FEED Kitchens and ongoing production there that should not be disrupted, Door Creek Church North has generously agreed to host the Bazaar. The larger venue will provide a more festive fair atmosphere, accommodate more vendors and make it easier to talk with them about their products

This year's Bazaar will feature bakery and packaged products, however plated meals will not be sold out of respect for the host facility. The Bazaar will feature some of the tried-and-true favorite food businesses coming



Photo provided by Mango Man sauces
Mango Man Sauces

out of FEED Kitchens – Mango Man Sauces, FEED Bakery, Spark Spices, Mojo's Majik, Mad Maiden Shrub and Madame Chu's Delicacies. You will also have an opportunity to meet some new vendors at FEED and sample their creations. These vendors include Firefox Bakery, K&C Bakery, Chai House Teas and a few others that will be added before the event.

Like all food service and production entities, vendors at FEED Kitchens have struggled their way through the pandemic and managed to keep their businesses afloat. The Bazaar is a chance to show support through your spending dollars to the hard-working creative entrepreneurs.

FEED Kitchens

Continued from page 1

on supply chain disruptions. FEED Kitchens also functions as a host for non-profit and community initiatives with Thanksgiving senior meals, FEED to Go hot meals during the pandemic, and social enterprises like Off the Block Salsa/Pizza and Chrysalis Pops.

In celebration of its 9th year, and in preparation for its 10-year anniversary, FEED Kitchens is offering our many friends in the community a special opportunity to support FEED's work. For a limited time only, anyone is eligible to receive a Local Foods Equity Enhancer Team Membership for only \$9.99 a month, or a one-time payment of \$99.99 (facebook.com/FEEDKitchens). While very successful at achieving its mission serving the community, FEED Kitchens' goal to maintain accessibility means it generates little surplus revenue for maintenance, repairs, upgrading the facility or expansion needs. Margins are thin for member businesses so appealing

for community support helps us keep rates affordable so we can continue to serve this vulnerable group of entrepreneurs.

Entrepreneurial interest in starting food businesses has really skyrocketed since the pandemic and FEED Kitchens' has really come into its own. It's an exciting time with so many new businesses making this their business home. It's important for us to keep pace with upkeep of the facility so we set ourselves and our members up for ongoing success for the next 10 years. Signing up to make recurring monthly donations or a one-time donation to support facility maintenance and needed upgrades. One-time or recurring donations of any size are genuinely appreciated and can be made by:

- Visit FEED Kitchens' donation page <https://feedkitchens.org/contact/donate/>
- Send a one-time or monthly check to FEED Kitchens
1219 N. Sherman Ave.
Madison WI 53704

The Northside Planning Council is grateful to the following supporters in 2021:

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Dane Buy Local Soup's On!



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BUSINESS

Zippy Lube to bring donuts and "Northside Hot" chicken to community

By **Lauri Lee**
Northside News

Zippy Lube Coffee, Donuts & Fried Chicken, a modern uplift that's mindful of its lube shop roots, will open for customers hungry for classic comfort food in early December. The reclamation of the funky retro industrial building maintains its history from the rainbow stripe on the wall to the creamer carts that look like tool benches. There is still oil, only it is cooking oil used for deep frying donuts and chicken.

The 1,000-square-foot coffee shop at

2013 N. Sherman Ave. can seat 24 people but will primarily be a carry-out style business. The service will be zippy, but in a casual and friendly efficient way.

The exposed kitchen allows customers to watch the donuts being made. "The old fashioned, German-style buttermilk fried donut original recipe came from good family friend George Tuggle of Dane County Farmers' Market fame in the 1970s," said owner Ben Altschul. Modern equipment has replaced George's old kettle fryer to make hot, fresh donuts all day. The frosted and decorated donuts made each morning

will be served until they are gone, and the standard plain and cinnamon sugar donuts will be served hot all day. Plans are to expand and include fun seasonal donuts such as an apple cider donut in the fall and other special holidays.

Classic fried, extra crispy chicken pieces, an eight-piece combo and chicken sandwiches with the usual sides of mashed potatoes, coleslaw, and mac and cheese will be standards on the menu. There's also a chicken breakfast sandwich with egg and cheese. "Northside Hot", a hot style chicken with cayenne and dried chilis and a few other ingredients fashioned after the famed Nashville Hot chicken, will also be

served. The Nashville Hot story is that in the 1930s, a man known for his womanizing ways stepped out on his lady on Saturday night, and so on Sunday morning, she doused his fried chicken with a heap of hot pepper as punishment. But he liked it and shared it with friends.

Altschul has owned the adjacent Busse's Tavern for six years. "We're community people and enjoy being on the Northside." His other Madison enterprises include North Street Cabaret, Tip Top Tavern, Mickey's Tavern, Grandpa's Pizzeria, Gib's Bar, Lazy Janes and Bandit Tacos and Coffee.

Be sure to zip by soon to offer Zippy Lube a Northside welcome.

Dec. 3 NBA Breakfast with Santa is fun for children

By **Northside Business Association**

A yummy hot breakfast, a visit with Santa, and being able to go home with a goody bag makes children giggle and their eyes sparkle at the Northside Business Association (NBA) Breakfast with Santa. The event will be held Saturday, Dec. 3, from 8-11 am at

the Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave., to benefit Northside food pantries.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and youth age 12 and up, \$5 for those age 4-11, and free for children under age 3. Tickets can be purchased at the door. The first 300 children will receive a goody bag from Santa. The event is a fundraiser for The River Food Pantry and Lakeview Lutheran food pantry. The NBA has raised over \$50,000.00 and donated hundreds of pounds of food for the pantries over the years. Bringing a non-perishable food item is appreciated. NBA volunteers plan and staff the event so more money can be donated. The NBA is looking for sponsors and extra volunteers this year. Please contact Steve Nelson at steve@duwaynesalon.com to sponsor the event or volunteer your time.

Shop local to win prizes

By **Dane Buy Local & NPC**

Would you like to be rewarded for shopping and eating local? The Holiday Passport program that supports shopping at local businesses does just that. Just spend \$10 or more at 170 participating businesses around Greater Madison and Dane county through Dec. 18, take a photo of the receipt and email it to enter a drawing for great prizes. Each Monday, through Facebook live ([facebook.com/DaneBuyLocal](https://www.facebook.com/DaneBuyLocal)) you can watch the drawing to see who wins.

The Holiday Passport listing the simple rules and the participating businesses can be downloaded at danebuylocal.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Passport-22-1.pdf. The Northside participants include Beef Butter BBQ, Crone Apothecary, DuWayne's Salon, Kavanaugh's Esquire Club, Kingdom Restaurant, Madison Oriental Market and The UPS Store.

The Holiday Passport is a collaboration between Dane Buy Local, local chambers of commerce and the Northside Planning Council. It is presented by Bank of Sun Prairie and sponsored by Madison Essentials.



Photo by Kit Braith

The Seventh Annual Local Biz Awards held Oct. 12 at Holy Wisdom Monastery recognized Dane Buy Local members who were nominated by fellow members for inspiration, involvement, achievement and leadership in their neighborhoods, communities and Dane Buy Local. There are two winners with Northside businesses (indicated with * in front of their name). From left: Zoe Schuler, Z. Boutique; *Thony Clarke, Cafe Costa Rica Mango Man Cooks; Brittany Graber, Ulla Eyewear; *Patrick Riha, Beef Butter BBQ; Amy Johnson, Madison Essentials; Tim "Pio" Piotrowski, Delta Beer Lab; Michelle "Speedy" Riehn, Delta Beer Lab; and Cathy Yerges, Cambridge Market Cafe.

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 11/04/22. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

COMMUNITY



Photo by SSGT. Cameron Lewis

The 115th Fighter Wing's F-16 jets have left Truax Field.

F-16 fighter jets depart Truax Field

By Jan Axelson
Northside News

Marking the end of an era, the 115th Fighter Wing's last F-16 fighter jets left Truax Field Oct. 5. The Wisconsin Air National Guard held a ceremony to commemorate 30 years of flying F-16s at Truax.

The F-16s, officially called Fighting Falcons but also known as Vipers, have been based at Truax since 1992 when they replaced the A-10 Thunderbolt II "Warthog" aircraft. The departed F-16s will remain in use, flown by other units in locations across the U.S.

To replace the F-16s, 18 F-35A Lightning II fighter jets are expected to arrive at Truax Field in the spring of 2023. The F-35A is the smallest and

lightest of the F-35 variants. In selecting Truax as a site for F-35s, the United States Air Force considered the local weather, the availability of airspace and training range, capacity needs, environmental requirements and cost. Until the F-35s arrive, F-16s from other units will operate out of Truax Field.

Public opinion on the impending arrival of the F-35s has been split. Supporters cite jobs, the positive economic impact of the airbase, and the importance of helping protect the safety and security of Wisconsin and the nation. Those opposed have expressed concerns about increased noise levels, the cost of soundproofing nearby homes, pollution, and a belief that the F-35 aircraft are expensive, unsafe and unneeded for the nation's defense.

DAIS seeks volunteers

By Chris Bailey
Domestic Abuse Intervention Services

Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) is an organization committed to empowering those affected by domestic violence and advocating for social change through support, education and outreach.

We are currently recruiting for several volunteer positions. Applications are due by midnight Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2023,

for the next round of volunteer training. New Advocate Training will be held Jan. 21–Feb. 2, 2023.

Position descriptions, volunteer application and training schedules can be found at abuseintervention.org/volunteer or by visiting our website at abuseintervention.org, hovering over "Work With Us" and clicking "Volunteer."

We look forward to talking with you.

Holidays at Willy Street Co-op

By Brandon Smith
Willy Street Co-op

Thanksgiving foods. Whether you need a whole turkey, a pie, or side dishes, we've got you covered for Thanksgiving. During the week of Thanksgiving, our side dishes will be available on the hot bar and packed up in our Grab & Go case in the Deli. We've got vegan and gluten-free options available as well. See willystreet.coop/thanksgiving for more information.

Double Dollars are back. We are again issuing Double Dollars vouchers at the registers through March 7, 2023, as funds allow. For every \$5 spent using a FoodShare/QUEST card for any FoodShare/QUEST eligible items, the Co-op will give you one \$5 Double Dollars voucher, up to \$20, good for any fresh, frozen or canned produce.

Are you interested in helping to support the continued offering of Double Dollars at the Co-op and local farmers markets? You can use a scan card at our registers to donate, or you can simply bring in your own bags when you shop. For each reusable bag you use when you shop, we'll contribute 10¢ to the Double Dollars Fund. Learn more at willystreet.coop/double-dollars.

Help community food pantries. During November and December, Willy Street Co-op is matching contributions to the Double Dollars Fund up to \$15,000. The matched funds will be given to our five neighborhood food pantries: Goodman Community Center Fritz Food Pantry, Lussier Community Education Center, Middleton Outreach Ministry, The River Food Pantry and Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center. The match will be provided in Co-op gift cards for the pantries to acquire fresh items that are harder to come by in the winter season. Like Wisconsin FoodShare benefits, reliance on food pantries remains high due to COVID-19, and this is a great way to support shoppers using FoodShare and those who rely on other food sources at this time.

Holiday Store Hours

- Nov. 24, Thanksgiving Day:** stores are open until 2:30 pm
- Dec. 24, Christmas Eve:** stores open until 6 pm
- Dec. 25, Christmas Day:** Closed
- Dec. 31, New Year's Eve:** regular hours (8 am–9 pm)
- Jan. 1, 2023, New Year's Day:** Closed
- Jan. 2, 2023:** stores open at 10 am

Some of your favorite local restaurants are making soup! A variety of freshly frozen quarts are available including vegan, vegetarian and gluten-free options.

Place your order in advance online danebuylocal.com/soups-on
Then pick up Tuesday evenings 4–6 pm at FEED Kitchens (1219 N. Sherman Ave.) drive-thru
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COMMUNITY

Wisconsin's first PFAS treatment facility approved for Well 15

By Madison Water Utility

Well 15, adjacent to Reindahl Park, has reliably supplied up to one billion gallons of water annually to northeast Madison. As many know, PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) were initially found at Well 15 in 2017, leading to it being shut down in 2019. PFAS are human-made chemicals that do not break down naturally and are commonly used in products such as nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing and firefighting foams. They are believed to build up in people, animals and the environment over time.

Though PFAS levels at Well 15 do not exceed any state or federal standards, the levels do exceed levels above which the state departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Health Services (DHS)

consider safe for drinking water. With this in mind, a promise was made to the community that the well would not be put back into service until a viable treatment option was identified and implemented.

In 2021, the federal government passed a Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), expected to provide \$12.8 million annually for five years for Wisconsin communities to address emerging drinking water contaminants including PFAS. In April 2022, the Water Utility Board authorized an engineering services contract with AECOM to provide bench-scale testing, alternatives analysis and preliminary and final designs for a PFAS Treatment facility at Well 15. The expectation is to have a preliminary treatment design ready in time to apply for BIL funds later this year.

AECOM evaluated five treatment alternatives, each satisfying the following

objectives: non-detect levels for all PFAS chemicals analyzed, meet all WI DHS PFAS guidance, and meet all federal and state drinking water regulations. In October 2022, the Water Utility Board approved a proven technology which utilizes adsorbent media, such as granular activated carbon and ion-exchange resins, to remove PFAS from drinking water. This cost-effective design satisfactorily meets the treatment objectives, while avoiding construction activities that encroach on adjacent parkland and limiting solid waste generation.

Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway said, "Madison Water Utility and the City of Madison remain committed to ensuring the delivery of safe drinking water to all

members of our thriving community. ... I am pleased to see significant BIL funds being allocated for PFAS treatment projects and commend federal and state government bodies for recognizing the importance of addressing these emerging contaminants. We are prepared to do everything we can to seize this opportunity in hopes of bringing Wisconsin's first municipal PFAS treatment facility to Madison's Well 15."

For more information about the Well 15 PFAS Treatment Project, visit: cityofmadison.com/water/projects/well-15-pfas-treatment-project.

For more information on PFAS in the Madison area, visit: cityofmadison.com/health-safety/environment/pfas.

Students of Northport/Packers Apartments receive scholarships

By Margaret Porco

Housing Ministries of Wisconsin

Northport and Packers Apartments Community Learning Centers, part of Housing Ministries of Wisconsin (HMW), celebrated scholarship awards to 29 resident students Sept. 16. The Scholars Banquet brought over 120 guests and scholars together for dinner and celebration at the Monona Terrace. Over the last 10 years, HMW has awarded over \$1 million to residents in its Madison and Milwaukee housing communities.

The four HMW Community Learning Centers — two in Madison and two in Milwaukee — were founded by the Rev. Dr. Carmen Porco, who believes higher education is a way to break the chains of poverty. He established a learning center as well as the educational program bases, computer labs and scholarship funds in each of the housing communities he manages for HMW. He is grateful for the dedication of his resident staff and thanks them for the long-term success of the learning center programs.

The work of Pat Wongkit, program director at the Northport and Packers Community Learning Centers, is one of the main reasons for the educational success. She has

supported the achievement of resident scholars who have gone on to higher education and graduated. In fact, some of those students are now going on to graduate schools.

We are grateful for the residents at our Madison communities. The way in which they have dedicated themselves to their goals and their community demonstrates not only their potential but the significant contributions they make to the larger Madison community. These individuals are contributing to enhancing institutions in our community, such as schools, churches, employment centers, volunteer organizations and other groups to which they belong. They are also using their success to mentor the next generation of scholars.

Our communities and the residents within those communities are serving the Northside and supporting it as the unique and amazing community it is. The work and success of your neighbors at Northport and Packers demonstrate the importance of shared humanity, dedication and a spirit of commitment to something other than ourselves.

When all people begin to see the dignity of each other then, and only then, will we be able to say that justice rolls down like a mighty stream that fills the village with lifegiving qualities and substance.

His challenges are his gifts

By Virginia Scholtz

Northside News

Glen Gordon's childhood was different from that many of us experienced. It wasn't until he was 3 years old that his grandfather figured out that Glen couldn't see. Once his parents realized Glen's needs, they encouraged him to make the most of his abilities. He never expects sympathy for his blindness nor praise for his abilities.

In his early years, Glen's father took him out into the everyday world. The hardware store was one of his favorite places. He also liked car engines. He knew better than to try driving so he would sit in the driver's seat, turn the key and work the accelerator. Glen's mother encouraged him to take on the world in a no-nonsense way. "Okay, you fell down. The next thing to do is get back up."

He attended an elementary school dedicated to teaching blind children. Glen developed strong abilities in math, typing and braille, participated in activities at the "Y" and in Cub Scouts, and formed friendships. He attended UCLA, achieving a bachelor's degree and an MBA.

At UCLA he became well-versed in the world of information technology and was introduced to Freedom Scientific (FS), a fledgling software company in Florida that would become his life's career.

In 1986 Glen met Jan in LA, and they



Photo by Jan Gordon

Glen Gordon at the controls

were married before the end of summer. In 1994 they moved to Ithaca, New York, where Glen continued working for FS and was valued for his ability to facilitate the release of new software.

When their daughter, living in Chicago, gave them a grandchild, the couple was eager to move closer to them. Glen worked from home so they had a wide choice of possible locations. As a fan of the Wisconsin Public Radio show "Whad'Ya Know?" Glen promoted a move to our town. They settled on the Northside to be near their church community.

For 30 years, Glen has worked to adapt and improve the applications used by people whose vision loss prevents them from seeing screen content or navigating with a mouse. He hosts a podcast that includes discussions with software users and interviews with people who have expertise in disability issues.

Looking forward, Glen expresses his hopes for Madison and humanity, "There is not enough civility. I hope people will learn to be more respectful of differences."

Read about the software, JAWS® (Job Access With Speech) at freedomscientific.com. Listen to Glen's podcast at blog.freedomscientific.com/fscast.

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Proceeds go to 2 Northside Food Pantries
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COMMUNITY

Rising costs, rising requests for holiday groceries and meals

By Rebecca Carpenter
The River Food Pantry

With inflation driving up prices for turkey and other holiday fixings and society returning to traditional gatherings, The River Food Pantry is expecting a higher number of requests for holiday groceries and meals for Dane County residents in need.

Through community support of The River's HOPE (Help Other People Eat) Holiday Food Drive, each year the pantry provides a bountiful variety of holiday groceries and freshly prepared holiday meals to thousands of children, seniors, veterans and adults facing food insecurity leading up to Thanksgiving and the holidays in December.

"Last year, we served 2,500 holiday meals and holiday groceries for over 1,500 households through curbside pickup and delivery," said Rhonda Adams, executive director of The River. "Considering over 1,300 new households have registered for The River's services since January, we're gearing up for an even busier holiday



The River will provide fully prepared holiday meals for customers to simply heat and eat together at home, in addition to holiday grocery items for households to prepare their own meals.

season this year."

Based on survey feedback from over 350 customers, this year's Thanksgiving grocery offerings will include a turkey or roasting chicken as well as a green bean casserole, stuffing, potatoes, gravy, corn, mac and

cheese, pie, dinner rolls and more. Holiday groceries will be distributed at The River (2201 Darwin Rd.) the week before Thanksgiving and Christmas during normal pantry hours. The list of December holiday groceries will be available at riverfoodpantry.org.

Thanksgiving meals will include turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, green bean casserole, pie and a roll. These meals will be distributed curbside Nov. 21-23 from 9 am-3 pm. The River's website will list the menu for holiday meals before Christmas. The meals will be distributed curbside Dec. 20 from 9 am-4 pm, and Dec. 21 from 12-6 pm.

Customers are welcome to pick up a meal for each household member once

before Thanksgiving and once before Christmas, on whichever day works best. There is no need to sign up in advance for the holiday meals or groceries served curbside. However, sign-up is required as usual for online orders and delivery.

To make this possible, volunteers and donations are greatly needed throughout the holiday season. Get involved at riverfoodpantry.org.

MGE's My Account offers convenient features

By Madison Gas and Electric Company

More customers are enjoying the benefits of MGE's My Account and paperless billing. If you haven't signed up for My Account, read on to learn how you can help save paper, get easy access to your account information, and more.

Sign up for paperless billing

You can skip the mailbox and help conserve resources when you sign up for paperless billing. Here's how:

Log into My Account. Not registered yet? Visit mge.com/myaccount to sign up.

Once you're logged in, go to the Payment and Billing menu on the left. Select Paperless Billing.

Select the "Edit Paperless Billing" settings button to change your preferences and enroll.

Read the Terms and Conditions and accept. Your next bill will be sent to your email.

Paperless billing participants get emails with links to important information from MGE, news and updates, along with reminder emails when their bills are ready to view.

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COMMUNITY

Library's Book Baby Storytime creates a community

By Anita Weier
Northside News

Mothers, fathers, aunts and a nanny brought their young charges to the local library on a recent Wednesday to give the babies a head start with reading and socializing.

They spent a half hour reciting songs and creating sound effects to go with a story that Youth Services Librarian Madeleine Kain read from a book. Then came playtime.

"We are starting our journey toward literacy," said Kain, known to library users as Madeleine or Ms. Madeleine. She added that the free-form event sometimes means that "anything goes."

The first song recited was "Hi, hello, and how are you? How are you today?" An animal sound book brought out "moos," "oinks," "quacks" and varied imitations.

The adult caregivers had varying reasons for bringing the babies to storytime at Lakeview Public Library.

"His parents mentioned the idea and I saw it on Facebook," said Jenny Nye, a nanny who brought 5-month-old Will. "There is not a whole lot out there for babies. He is an only child, so it's good to be around other babies."

Brooke Arenz, who brought 11-month-old Alice, explained that "We came to socialize and interact with other babies in the community."

Adrienne Demmer arrived with her children Carson, 2 years old, and Graham, just 2 months. "It is fun and good for them and for me as a parent to get out," she said, adding that Carson learned to jump at the library.

Annali Smucker-Bryan came with



Photo by Anita Weier

This baby is really interested in the book Youth Services Librarian Madeleine Kain is reading to the youthful group.

8-month-old Arlo. "I love storytimes," she said. "It's good to connect with babies of the same age in a positive baby space. They can learn rhymes and songs to do at home."

Kain said the events create a community for parents and caregivers. "They share experiences and get support, as well as introducing babies to songs, stories and rhymes."

Check at Lakeview Library for current baby storytime schedules. Siblings are welcome, and the library also offers storytimes for older children.

Ascendium warns to steer clear of student loan scams and find free, trusted assistance

By Ascendium
Education Group

Ever since President Biden announced a student loan debt relief plan in August 2022, student loans have once again taken center stage in the news. But with hopes for student loan reform in the limelight, the stage is set for some bad actors to enter the scene.

The excitement around student loan debt relief makes conditions just right for scammers looking to take advantage of borrowers. Student loan programs are confusing by nature, and many borrowers don't know that support and access to programs like forgiveness are always available at no cost to them.

These are some of the ways borrowers can identify and avoid student loan debt relief scams:

- They ask for fees upfront. It's illegal for companies to charge someone before they help them.

- They promise fast loan forgiveness or a balance reduction. Loan forgiveness is not immediate and is only for borrowers who meet specific qualifications. If a company promises quick loan forgiveness or a drastic balance reduction before understanding a borrower's unique situation, it's a red flag that warrants attention.

- They use names and seals that seem official. Companies may use names, seals and logos that suggest they are affiliated with the U.S. Department of Education (ED) or other government

entities or programs. Companies may say or imply that they have access to certain special repayment plans or forgiveness programs; they don't. ED has tons of good information about their approved contracted servicers on their website (studentaid.gov).

- They rush decision-making. Scammers count on borrowers not having all the information necessary to make an informed decision. They rely on salespeople to close deals, which means not giving borrowers a chance to reflect or research. If a company states that certain options are expiring or pressures borrowers into making immediate payments or signing up right away, be wary.

- They ask for Federal Student Aid (FSA) IDs. If a company claims that they need a borrower's FSA ID to help them, look out. Dishonest people could use that information to take control of the borrower's account and their personal information.

Now that you know who not to work with, here is a trusted resource borrowers can reach out to for no-cost student loan guidance: Wisconsin Student Loan Help Hotline (debtsmart.org).

Created by the Wisconsin Coalition on Student Debt in partnership with Ascendium student loan borrowers in Wisconsin can call 833-589-0750 with student loan repayment questions. Expert counselors will take the time needed to understand each individual's questions and provide support and guidance, at no cost to them.

Book sale benefits library programs

By Anita Weier
Northside News

Much hard work by volunteers — and book donations from many generous Northsiders — raised \$1,189 for Lakeview Public Library at the Friends of Lakeview Library book sale in October.

An estimated 20 hard-working Friends volunteers accepted and sorted books prior to the sale, organized and sold books during the sale, and packed

remaining books afterward, said Friends President Pat Tully. Others, including the boys from BSA troop 127 and girls from BSA troop 7127, moved books from storage to the library.

Proceeds will benefit Lakeview Library, a branch of the Madison Public Library. The Friends of Lakeview fund many library programs.

Tully said the Friends group would benefit from more book sale volunteers. Interested Northsiders should contact lakeviewlibraryfriends2020@gmail.com.

Women invited to join new chapter of Medicine Women Threshold Singers

By Casper Soluna
Medicine Women Threshold Singers

Women who love to sing, are fully COVID-19 vaccinated, and would like to become volunteers who sing for people who are seriously ill, dying or grieving, are invited to the first rehearsal of the Medicine Women Threshold Singers Wednesday, Dec. 7, from 12:30–2 pm, at Lakeview Library, 2845 N. Sherman Ave.

Rehearsals will continue once a

month on the first Wednesday (same time and place). Please RSVP to Casper Soluna at caspersoluna@gmail.com or call her at 608-417-0400 with any questions.

The Medicine Women Threshold Singers will be a new Threshold Choir chapter added to the more than 200 chapters throughout the United States and other countries. More information about threshold singing can be found at thresholdchoir.org.

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SCHOOL AND YOUTH



Brett Lindquist from Ascendium Education Group



Second Harvest Food Bank



Kris Rasmussen

Math extras gearing up at EHS

By Cynthia Chin
Madison East High School

The East Engineering Club has hosted two virtual visitors this fall: Director of the UW-Madison Engineering Summer Program Sara Rothe, along with recent East attendee Tessara Clark; and Ramon Maldonado, former East Engineering Club SHPE liaison and UW Madison graduate, presenting on his work for Universal Studios Amusement Park.

We are preparing for the state level Kidwind alternative energy competition, a family science event in collaboration with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and a campus visit hosted by the National Society of Black Engineers. New members are always welcome. See Ms. Chin to learn more.

Math Club participated in the first math meet of the year in October. Join our math team now to get in on the action for the next meet. We can always use more competitors. See Ms. Paschke or Mr. Galarowicz for more information.

East had two teams competing in the international High School Mathematics Competition in Modeling Nov. 2–15. Each team submitted a research paper filled with technical writing and policy recommendations. More about the actual contest problems and results will become available in February. Three cheers for the students who took on this challenge: Megan Carpenter, Tessara Clark, Restia Lin, Logan Moua, Adyleenah Shatz-Muzaffar, Dean Thao, Gabriel Vloch. We are in our third decade of participation in this contest. East is proud to field multi-age teams with a wide variety of math backgrounds each year.

Welcome to UW-Madison student Kelly Ploszaj, who has joined us as a part-time math tutor assisting in classrooms and in study areas. Potential volunteer tutors who meet district in-person requirements are invited to contact Jared Miles (jmmiles@madison.k12.wi.us) about assisting Algebra and Geometry students in the Achievement Connections Program.

Persons interested in supporting classrooms or after-school study programs may contact Cynthia Chin (cchin@madison.k12.wi.us) to find out more about this option.

The Hour of Code has arrived. Dec. 5–11 is Computer Science Education Week. A variety of IT sponsors have put together self-guided tutorials for young people learning how to code. We hope to arrange opportunities for students to participate in this hour of code here at East. Encourage your child to join in on the fun.

Please ask students to show you what they have accomplished. They can learn more or try an independent project at code.org. Positive messages for young people about coding and learning to code can be found at hourofcode.com.

Thanks for helping us get the word out to all of our young people: Technology isn't going away. Learning to program helps them use that power to accomplish their goals.

EMCC nominees win United Way Community Volunteer Awards

by Regina McConnell
East Madison Community Center

Each year United Way of Dane County celebrates community volunteers. This year's theme of "Power of Many, Working for All" is a fitting theme for the amazing volunteer team at East Madison Community Center. EMCC submitted several nominations with three nominees being selected for the 2022 United Way Community Volunteer Awards.

Business Champion Award: Ascendium Education Group

Stepping up in a time of great need, Ascendium Education Group didn't let COVID get in the way of getting involved. They worked with the EMCC transform community green spaces, Children's Garden Center, food pantry and more. Needing little direction, their

teams moved quickly to make transformational change.

Nonprofit Champion Award: Second Harvest Foodbank

When food security was amplified during the pandemic, Second Harvest Foodbank led in helping other groups and organizations provide food and nutrition support in a sustainable way. Pre-boxing food items enabled the EMCC food pantry to stay open during the pandemic and provide an incredible amount of resources for many.

Lifetime Service Award: Kris Rasmussen

Kris Rasmussen has spent most of her adult life volunteering at a wide variety of Madison nonprofits, including Madison Youth Choirs, United Way of Dane County, Jewish Social Services,

Legal Action of Wisconsin and others. But it is for her steadfast 36-year commitment to EMCC that she is honored with this award. She has served on the EMCC Board of Directors for over 35 years, many of those as board president. She has also played many different roles within the organization and has been humbly and impactfully improving lives for decades.

EMCC nominations also included The Rotary Club of Madison East-Monona for their commitment to assist with the food pantry during COVID, Perez Kirkpatrick for his service in the food pantry and garden, and Tauri Robinson for his many years of commitment to EMCC in various roles including board president.

Thank you to all the amazing EMCC volunteers who dedicate their time and talents to help deliver quality programs at EMCC.

Goodbye summer, hello fall

By Holly Kohlmeier
East Madison Community Center

To kick off the fall after-school program for children at the East Madison Community Center, students had one last experience for the season in the EMCC Children's Garden. With the help of youth staff Pau, Kianna, Annica and Holly, students harvested the last of the vegetables their garden had grown. They picked tomatoes, peppers and pumpkins.

They also helped remove the plants, so next year the garden will be ready for another fantastic summer season. They enjoyed pulling up plants and seeing the worms underneath them. The last task was to throw the dead plants and any rotten vegetables into the four compost bins donated by the City of Madison Streets Division.



Children helped prepare the EMCC garden for next year.



BSA troops offer boys and girls fun, adventure and community service opportunities

By Paul Hughes
Scouts BSA Troop 7127

The scouts of Northside BSA Troops 7127 (girls) and 127 (boys) had a busy fall season of activities. We camped at Governor Dodge State Park and participated in multiple service projects, including a fall cleanup of the shores and waters of Warner Park where scouts picked up bags of trash and even an old tire.

Fall activities continued with a day trip to a corn maze in Lodi on a beautiful October Saturday. The scouts also

performed service for the Friends of Lakeview Library by moving books for their annual sale. We made a trip to a horse farm and completed a Horsemanship merit badge. Many of our scouts had not been on a horse before, and now have the confidence to approach and ride these magnificent animals in the future.

Our biggest event was the November ceremony for the first from our BSA girls troop to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. Sisters Lauren and Audrey Billings, along with their family, celebrated scouting's highest honor, one

which only 4% of scouts attain. These East High seniors are active leaders with the troop, helping to lead an enthusiastic troop of younger girls. We are very proud of their accomplishments in such a short time.

If you have a young person who is interested in fun activities like these, please contact us. We are a welcoming community that celebrates diversity and inclusion of all. You can email Scoutmaster Justin Sargent (boys troop) at iscuba@sbcglobal.net or Paul Hughes (girls troop) at psusparks@gmail.com

LIBRARY

From
Lakeview Library
madpl.org/lakeview
608-246-4547



Library Hours

Lakeview's fall hours are Monday–Friday, 10 am–8 pm, Saturday, 9 am–5 pm, and Sunday, 1–5 pm. See all library hours at madpl.org/locations. Madison libraries will be closed Dec. 24–26 and Dec. 31–Jan. 2 for the holidays and Jan. 16 in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Friends of Lakeview Library

If you are interested in serving on the board or becoming a Friend, email Pat at lakeviewlibraryfriends2022@gmail.com.

EVENTS

All events are at Lakeview Library unless otherwise indicated. Check madisonpubliclibrary.org/calendar for the most up to date information on programs and services; more programs will be added in the new year.

Baby Storytime

Wednesday, Dec. 7 and Jan. 11, 10:30–11:15 am

Read and play with your favorite baby, ages birth–17 months. Reading, singing, talking and playing with your baby from the beginning is important because the roots of language are developing in a baby's brain even before they can talk. Library programs are always free. Siblings and childcare groups are welcome.

Baby Play Date

Wednesdays, Jan. 18 and 25, 10–11 am

Join other neighborhood families for a casual library playdate for babies ages birth–17 months and their caregivers. We'll feature open-ended play materials and lots of books. Siblings are welcome.

Multi-age Storytime

Thursday, Dec. 1 and Jan. 12–26, 10:30–11:30 am

Read and play together with children

ages 5 and under. Engaging with books, songs and playful experiences helps children develop communication skills, patience, empathy and pre-reading skills, and helps build a lifelong love of reading. Siblings and childcare groups are welcome.

Music + Movement

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 10:30–11:15 am

Join us for a preschool music and movement program with singing, dancing, playing and bubbles. For children up to age 5, with their caregivers.

Art for Little Ones

Thursday, Dec. 8, 10:30–11:30 am

Join artist Amy Mietzel for a read-aloud and related hands-on art activity. This program is geared for ages 3–5. Younger siblings and school groups are also welcome.

Read to a Dog

Monday, Dec. 12, 3–4 pm

Read aloud to a furry friend from Alliance of Therapy Dogs. Bring a favorite book or try a new one from our collection. First come, first served.

Minecraft Club

Mondays, Dec. 5–Jan. 30, 4–5:30 pm
(No club Dec. 26, Jan. 2 or Jan. 16)

This program is open to all teens and tweens. Stop in to play Minecraft with other teens and tweens. There is a limited number of computers, so participants will be taking turns as needed.

LEGO Club

Saturday, Jan. 14, 10–11 am

Are you a kid who loves LEGOs? Do you enjoy engineering and designing LEGO creations? Come join us for LEGO Club. The library will provide lots of LEGOs, and you provide the imagination. No registration is required. LEGOs will have to stay at the library, so bring a camera to capture your creations.

After-School Art with Amy

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 4–5 pm

Join local artist Amy Mietzel for hands-on art projects.

Teen and Tween Video Game Night

Friday, Dec. 9, 4–6 pm

Stop by and play video games with

other tweens and teens. The library has a PS4 and a Nintendo Switch. Snacks will be provided.

Teen and Tween Anime Club

Thursday, Dec. 15, 4–5 pm

Join us for anime, snacks, crafts and other activities. During our December meeting, we will watch "Squid Girl."

Serendipity Saturday

Saturday, Dec. 10, 10–11 am

Will you make a cardboard instrument, explore pastels or watercolors, or build something out of wood? That's the joy of serendipity — you never know until you get there. Drop in anytime to enjoy fun hands-on art and maker activities for children of all ages.

Cooking with Chef Lily

Saturdays, Dec. 10 and 17, 1:30–2:30 pm
Tuesdays, Dec. 20 and 27, 4:30–5:30 pm

Join The Kids Chef, Lily Kilfoy, for a series of cooking classes for kids and families. Participants will learn about different foods, where they come from, how to follow recipes, and how to use a variety of tools. Food is generously provided by Willy Street Co-op North.

Paint a Bird on It!

Thursday, Dec. 8, 6:15–7:45 pm

Bird enthusiasts unite to paint your favorite bird on a 5x5 wooden block with acrylic paint. This beginner level workshop includes all supplies and instructions. Ideal for ages 16 and up. There is limited space; registration is required. Register online or call 608-246-4547.

First Friday Films

Friday, Dec. 2, 6–8 pm

Join us for a film night the first Friday of each month. Selections include feature-length films, documentaries and shorts. On Dec. 2, we will watch "Shiva Baby." Snacks and drinks are provided.

Munch Mobile Lunch Van

Saturdays, Dec. 3–17, 1–1:15 pm

The Munch Mobile Lunch Van will stop at Lakeview Library Saturdays during the school year. All people in and around the library can get a free lunch between 1 pm and 1:15 pm.

Scrabble at the Library

Wednesdays, Dec. 7–Jan. 25, 10 am–12 pm

Attention word lovers. Exercise your brain by playing Scrabble with other adults.

Chess at the Library

Mondays, Dec. 12, Jan. 9 and Jan. 23, 6–8 pm

(No chess Dec. 26)

All ages and skill levels are welcome. We play the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Board Game Café

Mondays, Dec. 19 and Jan. 23, 6–8 pm

Join friends and neighbors for a game night. Revisit old favorites or try something new from the library's collection of board games and card games. Beverages and snacks will be provided.

Knitting at the Library

Wednesdays, Dec. 7–Jan. 25, 6–8 pm

Drop in knitting — learn a new craft or work on that unfinished project with other neighborhood knitters.

Madison Writing Assistance

Monday, Dec. 5, 4–7 pm

The Madison Writing Assistance program offers free, one-to-one writing support for community members at libraries throughout the city. Writing coaches help with writing projects across a wide range of genres, including resumes, cover letters, application essays, grant proposals, fiction writing, memoirs and more. Schedule an appointment at madpl.org/calendar, in person or by phone.

One-on-One Computer Assistance

Saturday, Dec. 10, 1–4 pm

Do you need help with basic computer or internet skills? Are you looking for assistance downloading library e-books and audiobooks? We offer free one-on-one sessions on the second Saturday of each month. Schedule an appointment at madpl.org/calendar, in person or by phone.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Read the book and join the discussion. New members are always welcome. Check the library calendar or call for details — some discussions are online events.

NewBridge Book Discussion

First Wednesdays, 10–11 am

Dec. 7 – "Tenth of December"

by George Saunders

Jan. 4 – Book TBD

Evening Book Discussion

First Thursdays, 6:30–8 pm

Dec. 1 – "To the Lighthouse"

by Virginia Woolf

Jan. 5 – "How the Word is Passed"

by Clint Smith

Daytime Book Discussion

Second Thursdays, 12–1 pm

Dec. 8 – "Braiding Sweetgrass"

by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Jan. 12 – Book TBD

Mystery Book Discussion

Third Thursdays, 5:30–7 pm

Dec. 15 – "The Guest List"

by Lucy Foley

Jan. 19 – Book TBD



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ART

Northside Arts Collective

By Rhiannon Gurley
Northside Arts Collective

“Art on Emotion” Exhibition at Lakeview Library – Our Vibrant Community held a free creation series at Goodwill-North during November to promote positive emotional health through awareness, education and encouragement. Art from the series will be displayed at Lakeview Library during December.

Teen art exhibition – During October, the Northside Arts Collective (NAC) team set up our first Teen Art Exhibition, a solo show of DaVon’s anime drawings. We hope you had a chance to view it. We were happy to give DaVon his first show. We experienced the challenge of getting teens involved, whether it was marketing to their parents or trying to find teen artists.

Nextdoor group – We’ve launched a NAC group on Nextdoor for those who do not use Facebook. Search for Northside Arts Group.

Northside photographers Facebook group – Wendy Murkve created a Facebook group for photographers.

Join the group at facebook.com/groups/811714419868587.

Planning 2023 NAC workshops – Would you like to present a free demo workshop geared for writers, visual artists, dancers, actors or musicians? These will be held at the Goodwill-North community room, a large, clean space with a projector, moving tables and about 30 chairs. Send your brief bio, description, image and preferred date to madisonnorthsidearts@gmail.com. We are seeking one workshop per quarter in January, April, July and October.

Promote creativity on the Northside – Do you know a business, organization or individual that is making a creative impact on the Northside? Send their info to us to be spotlighted on Facebook, e-news and Nextdoor.

2023 Community Impact projects Do you have a project in mind you’d like to implement, individually or with a team, with the support of NAC? Projects could range from organizing a block party to helping at the NAC booth at the Northside Farmers Market, etc. Email your idea and how we can help (madisonnorthsidearts@gmail.com).

Northside Cub Scouts: Adventures for all seasons

By Matt Meyer
Cub Scout Pack 127

Cub Scout Pack 127 is our own Northside adventurer’s club for families with girls and boys in kindergarten through fifth grade.

We are well into our program year, with scouts working hard on their grade-level den adventures and meeting as a pack for fun and games.

In the fall, we had a campfire with entertainment provided by the scouts in the form of skits and jokes, along with a meal cooked on camp stoves by our 4th grade Webelos scouts. We also had a great Halloween party hosted by our friends in Scouts BSA troops 127 and 7127 where we showed off our costumes and played games organized by the older scouts. We met with local police officers and firefighters to learn more about their roles in the community.

Fall activities also included a nature hike to learn about local wildlife, a night at a local school gym for fitness and games, and serving our community by raking leaves at Sherman Church.

Winter will see us building and racing our pinewood derby cars and continuing our learning and fun at den meetings and pack parties. We will have an overnight trip as a pack and might even do a little ice fishing. You will probably see us sledding or engaging in other outdoor activities throughout the season.

Do you know a child in kindergarten through fifth grade who is ready to join in the fun? New families are welcome to join us at any time. We meet most Mondays at 6:30 pm at Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church.

For more information, call or text Cubmaster Matt Meyer at 608-571-7161 or email info@cubscoutpack127.com.

ARTS for ALL Wisconsin announces annual Call for Art

By Mike Lawler
ARTS for ALL Wisconsin

ARTS for ALL (AFA) Wisconsin invites submissions of visual artwork from Wisconsin residents with disabilities ages five to adult as part of the annual Call for Art, an entirely free program for all entrants.

AFA especially encourages teachers, families and support staff to submit the work of

young people with disabilities in the following categories: Child (ages 5–10), Youth (ages 11–15), and Young Adult (ages 16–21). Visual artwork of all kinds is eligible for entry with our online entry form. Submissions are open through Feb. 14, 2023.

All submissions are juried by arts professionals who look for creativity, originality and craftsmanship in awarding 10 purchase-awards, which include a

monetary prize, and four merit awards. Purchase award-winning art will be added to the CREATIVE POWER Collection, an ARTS for ALL Wisconsin traveling exhibition. All awardees are invited to the 2023 CREATIVE POWER awards celebration May 6, 2023, at MYArts in Madison.

All entries will be part of the 2023 Call for Art exhibition in April and May, providing public recognition for hundreds of individuals with disabilities.

To enter, complete the online form at artsforallwi.org/programs/call-for-art, attach photo(s) of visual art, and send the physical piece to our Art Center at 1709 Aberg Ave., Madison, WI 53704 by Feb. 14, 2023.

The mission of ARTS for ALL Wisconsin is to expand the capabilities, confidence and quality of life for children and adults with disabilities throughout Wisconsin by providing programs in the arts. Find more information at artsforallwi.org.

North Star

By Jason Robert Van Pelt

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North Star Awards 2022 The North Stars were brightly shining The 2022 High Impact Award goes to ... The River Food Pantry



The River Food Pantry staff: Seth Hammond-Bayliss, Becca Carpenter, Michelle Kowaletti, Amanda Prusak, Bethany Michiels, Chris Tuttle, Jamie Midthun, Reid Gresens, Ryan Holley, Ryan Horton, Mike Peters, Rachael Maynes, Riyad Alabassi (with Sarah Alabassi), Jarod Hoffarth, Helen Osborn-Senatus, Debbie Bormann and Rhonda Adams

The high impact of The River Food Pantry

- The River officially opened in 2006. Over the past 16 years, they have become South Central Wisconsin's busiest food pantry, serving well over 2,000 people each week through their network of programs.
- The organization has built upon a foundation of community-organized dinners and a small emergency pantry on Darwin Road just off Packers Avenue on Madison's Northside.
- In 2021 alone, The River assisted 11,278 unique residents from throughout Dane County. All told, they handled 182,487 visits last year through their various programs.
- The River focuses on eliminating food insecurity among low-income and underserved communities.
- The most recent census registers 80% of Dane County residents as White. Over 56% of those using The River identify as people of color. If taking into account the pantry's mobile meals program, whose primary beneficiaries are children, the true percentage would be even higher.
- The River serves many individuals and

families facing intersecting challenges such as housing insecurity/homelessness, immigration status, disability and veteran status. Children comprise one-third of those accessing the organization's services, while seniors account for another 10%.

- Residency data indicates that most people served by the pantry live in Food Access Focus Areas (i.e., food deserts). The River provides for many of our most vulnerable neighbors.
- The River is a growing organization that operates seven food distribution programs as well as a couple of supporting operations dedicated to supplying fresh, healthy produce and reducing food waste.
- Their free programs fight food insecurity in our community by providing groceries for weekly curbside pickup, nutritionally balanced meals for families to take home up to four days a week, and an express pantry that offers streamlined services with no registration barriers every Saturday.
- Some programs extend the ability to reach people where they live. These include a delivery service that brings groceries

and meals to those who cannot reach the pantry in person and an online ordering system focused on supporting accessibility and client choice. Munch, the expanding mobile meals program, serves food-insecure children and their communities across 15 (soon to be 19) neighborhoods in Madison and Fitchburg.

- The development of sustainable, environmentally responsible food systems is a key priority. The pantry operates an extensive food recovery program which rescues food and essentials that would otherwise go to waste from over 50 local retailers each week. Approximately 40% of its stock is sourced from these rescued materials. In 2021, The River rescued more than 1.6 million pounds of food through this program, which is equivalent to the weight of about 40 of Madison's fire engines.
- A large garden has been planted in front of the building to grow fresh ingredients for meals.
- As the first group to become an authorized Redistribution Organization partnering with Second Harvest Foodbank, The River helps support

17 other community organizations. Many of these partners specialize in reaching marginalized or vulnerable demographics (including people experiencing homelessness, seniors and others requiring assisted-living accommodations, at-risk youth, LGBTQ communities, and those coping with mental health or addiction issues).

- By providing organizations with supplies sourced from the food bank and their food recovery program, The River strives to increase equitable food access while reducing waste.
- Diverse groups of volunteers work closely with The River's staff members to package groceries, prepare meals, and serve fellow community members.
- Opportunities for community service are available in partnership with Dane County's Jail Diversion Program.
- In 2019, The River logged a record 55,851 service hours from 3,541 volunteers. As the pandemic eased in late 2021, volunteerism began to recover and 2,000 volunteers donated 29,434 hours of service and the numbers continue to rise.



NORTH STAR AWARDS

North Star Awards 2022 gallery of winners



June Brooks, DVM



Becca Carpenter



Sonia Spencer



Amber Blumer



Lora Friedrichs



Frankie Pobar Lay

June L Brooks, DVM was honored for lifetime achievement as owner of Northside Animal Hospital since 2005. She worked in small animal medicine for her entire career.

She developed a working relationship with Madison College, a two year technical college with a veterinary technician degree. She offered externship opportunities to foster growth for developing veterinary technicians.

When the Village of Maple Bluff added a canine officer to the force, she provided complimentary care for Officer Ally until she was retired in late 2021.

Dr. Brooks made donations of food and supplies to WISCares, a program sponsored by the UW School of Veterinary Medicine to provide low cost or no cost veterinary care for people experiencing homelessness and community members with limited incomes.

She is perceptive and kind and her clients appreciated her willingness to listen and ability to honestly explain complex medical issues in a manner they could understand.

One of her favorite volunteer activities has been brewing coffee for the Breakfast with Santa fundraiser put on by the Northside Business Association.

Her quiet commitment and dedication to her patients, her veterinary team and her community are especially significant to those who notice.

Becca Carpenter was nominated by The River Food Pantry. For the past 4 years, she has diligently served as their communications manager, assisting community members struggling with food insecurity and other challenges. She led communications efforts throughout the pandemic that helped connect thousands of people to suddenly needed services.

Becca goes above and beyond to help The River improve in a multitude of ways. She worked to establish and leads The River's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee and plays a key role in organizing events with community partners such as the Northside Business Association and the Northside Planning Council. Her clear and timely contributions of stories and photos to the Northside News helps potential clients and public at large. With a friendly smile, supportive hand and well-phrased word, Becca stands as a steadfast advocate for the Northside and all its residents.

Sonia Spencer was recognized for her years of service at Mendota Elementary and for going above and beyond to meet the needs of the scholars, their families and teachers. Sonia has a gift for respectfully identifying families' needs which allowed her to connect families with appropriate resources as well as counsel families on how to advocate for themselves. She is very creative and passionate about the work she takes on.

Both the Parent Liaison and Community Resource Coordinator positions were new or in early stages to Mendota when Sonia took them on. She passionately developed each role so that now both are seen as essential to the school. She brought a restorative justice lens to all of her work and centers the experiences of BIPOC and other marginalized families and communities in conversation and action.

Sonia has a gift for connecting with every person she meets. Whether it be through a simple check-in, sitting together in the hard times, or a good laugh, Sonia has a special way of making everyone feel seen, cared for, and supported. Sonia's ability to connect is clear when it comes to difficult and lighter situations. She celebrates wins, big and small. Sonia's genuine, kind, fun, warm spirit was an incredible asset to the Mendota school community.

NPC honored three staff members for willingness to go above and beyond their prescribed duties.

Amber Blumer, FEED Bakery Manager – Amber was introduced to FEED Kitchens as a student in our FEED Bakery Training Program and then was hired to be a full time baker. Through tenacity and hard work Amber is our current bakery manager. Besides being a great baker and supervisor to her crew, Amber

has led the FEED Bakery safely through the pandemic and has greatly increased sales of our baked goods. Amber is also willing to jump in and help with the larger FEED facility and NPC programs and provides a strong back and mind to our work.

Lora Friedrichs, NPC Office Administrator. Lora started with NPC in August of 2021 when we were deeply into the pandemic. Lora filled a major capacity issue during the pandemic and she has brought stability and thoughtfulness to the front office as well as providing awesome "den mother" skills in keeping FEED Kitchens a safe food production facility. As office administrator Lora provides support across the menu of NPC services and there is no problem that she isn't willing to roll up her sleeves and solve.

Frankie Pobar Lay, FEED Kitchens Operations Coordinator – Having worked previously with NPC as an assistant in our Market Ready program, Frankie made a return to us last May to fill a much needed roll in FEED Kitchens. Frankie's timely arrival allowed us to navigate a very chaotic summer with pressure for vendors at FEED to provide food for the crush of events that occurred after two years of little activity. Frankie also provides wonderful support to our Healthy Food for All initiative as well as being a support with our technology and programming outside of FEED.



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NORTH STAR AWARDS



Pastor David Smith



Cheryl Knox



(Left) Gloria Reyes presented to NBA Board: Jennifer Haack, Sue Peck, Rhonda Adams and Sue Gilbertson. Dane Buy Local staff Meghan Stern is shown with presenter Lauri Lee. (Right) District 18 Alder Charles Myadze presented the High Impact Award to The River Food Pantry.



Chrysalis Pops team

Door Creek Church – North (DCC-North) at 1181 N. Sherman Ave., opened in September 2018 under the leadership of Pastor David Smith, who is also the executive director of Door of Hope, a non-profit established by Door Creek Church to serve kids and their families on the Northside of Madison. Cheryl Knox is the program coordinator of Door of Hope.



DCC-North partners with a number of Northside organizations such as the Madison Northside Planning Council and The River Food Pantry to host and collaborate on events such as blood drives, financial workshops, and hosting the FEED Kitchens Holiday Bazaar. They partner with NewBridge to provide an annual Thanksgiving meal for seniors. Each Tuesday morning (resumes in early 2023) DCC-North partners with Chic Filet to offer a free breakfast (chicken and sausage breakfast biscuit and cup of coffee) to anyone who wants to attend. It's held from 9–10 am, and is first-come, first-serve. They are also an election site for the neighborhood.

Door of Hope operates a STEAM program (Science, technology, English, art and math) works synergistically with Northside community centers (Vera Court Neighborhood Center, Packer Community Learning Center and Northport Community Learning Center) to involve their students in the program.

The NBA board is passionate about connecting Northside business owners to the organization to grow collaboration and a sense of belonging to the Northside business community. They also work on good economic development and growth for the community. This was particularly challenging during the pandemic, but the board did zoom meetings and hybrid meetings to keep everyone engaged.



In addition to the monthly member meetings, the board meets each month to brainstorm and connect to what's happening in the community. They split the membership list between them to contact other business owners to say a friendly hello, invite them to events and more.

Mingles are a more casual way to get together at the end of the month. They rotate bars and eateries to help everyone be more familiar with our great culinary and beverage resources in the community.

The group has participated in Project Home Paint-a-thons and did an annual Breakfast with the Bunny and Breakfast with Santa. The proceeds of these events go to the local food pantries.

A new website and social media presence will certainly draw even more awareness and connection to Northside businesses.

Dane Buy Local (DBL) Executive Director, Colin Murray, sprung into action at the beginning of COVID-19 in March 2020 to contact Dane County Executive Joe Parisi's office to see how small businesses could be helped with financial losses when it was thought businesses would reopen within weeks. Arrangements were made for DBL to administer the grant process even before any of the federal money was available. The grant process actually extended to the end of December 2021. There were three rounds and 4,000 checks distributed to local businesses totaling \$28 million.



But that is what DBL does, they advocate and support local businesses to keep them in business so that it benefits the entire community and has a positive impact on our economy.

The other ways DBL helps promote small businesses is through educating members and the public about the importance of buying local and collaborating with like minded organizations such as the Northside Planning Council and Northside Business Association.

Innumerable businesses have been helped through promotions such as the Holiday Passport Program, Shop Indie Local, Soup's On!, Coffee Fest, Eat Local-Give Local and Biz Awards.

Chrysalis Pops was nominated by FEED Kitchens manager, Chris Brockel. The local non-profit has operated their social enterprise out of FEED Kitchens since 2016. They promote mental health and substance use recovery in our community by supporting work opportunities that encourage hope, healing and wellness.



Chrysalis Pops offers individuals the opportunity to gain meaningful, paid work experience while producing and selling local, organic fruit pops. Each season new Chrysalis Pops employees come into FEED to receive orientation and training then sets out to produce popsicles two to three afternoons a week. These employees, and the Chrysalis staff supporting them, become part of the fabric of FEED Kitchens and add to the rich tapestry of people and activities in the kitchen. Their presence is an important reminder to all of us that providing community space where folks come together to learn and produce is an important part of the FEED mission. Besides producing the popsicles, Chrysalis Pops employees also hit the streets and market and sell their product.

Chrysalis has also worked with FEED Kitchens to provide supported employment opportunities there outside of popsicle production and has worked hard with FEED Kitchens staff to provide quality and meaningful work opportunities.



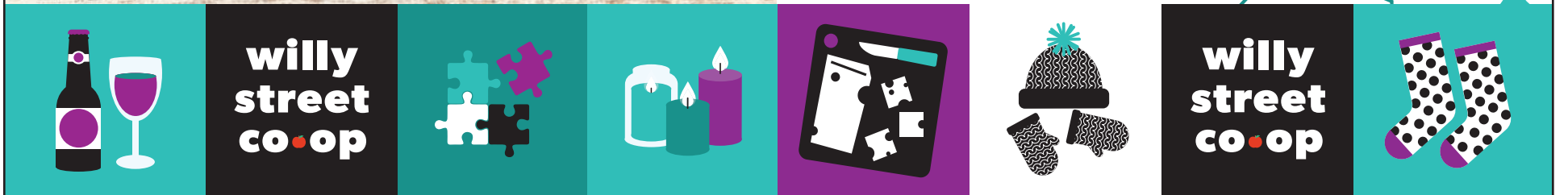
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ENVIRONMENT



Photo by Paul Noeldner

Dark-eyed Junco finding seeds in the snow



Photo by Paul Noeldner

White-breasted Nuthatch on Warner Woods feeder

These little birds spend the winter here in Madison

By Paul Noeldner
Friends of Urban Nature

Our Birds of the Month for December and January are two little beauties, the Dark-eyed Junco and the White-breasted Nuthatch. Both of these small sparrow-sized birds are here in winter and are fairly easy to see and enjoy in any Madison neighborhood.

The Dark-eyed Junco sports a cheery grey suit and cap, creamy white belly, white tail stripes and beautiful black eyes. The Latin name “junco hyemalis” means “winter bird of the reeds.” They are also called snowbirds because they arrive with the first snow and leave when snow melts.

Look for small flocks of juncos hopping on the snow under reeds and bushes and perched in low tree branches looking for seeds. Listen for their sweet trilling call.

The White-breasted Nuthatch sports a similar cheery grey suit, black cap, white belly and beautiful black eyes but has a very different lifestyle. Nuthatches spend their time walking up and down the trunks of trees poking their tiny beaks under bark where insects are hiding. The Latin name “sitta” means “nuthatch” in ancient Greek, one who stores and eats nuts.

Nuthatches love to jam seeds and nuts into tree crevices and hammer with their beak to pop them open. Their distinctive loud “yank yank yank” call is a sure sign they are on a nearby tree trunk, and their friends the chickadees and woodpeckers are often nearby, too.

Have fun looking and listening for these cute little smartly dressed birds in your neighborhood and yard on sunny winter days.

Master Naturalists volunteer in many nature activities

By Paul Noeldner
Friends of Urban Nature

Madison Friends of Urban Nature (FUN) hosts a Wisconsin Master Naturalist class at Warner Park every summer in partnership with Madison Parks, Wild Warner, Friends of Cherokee Marsh and other co-sponsors. The Master Naturalist graduates from these classes volunteer with many Northside nature and community activities, and three of them were recently in the news.

John Newman was honored to be chosen as the first Madison Library Naturalist-In-Residence and helps offer a variety of nature activities. Alex Singer worked with Madison Public

Library to expand the Seed Library program to include free native wildflower seeds provided by Dane County Parks. Paul Noeldner received the Wisconsin Outstanding Master Naturalist Instructor award at a statewide conference for helping co-teach the Madison FUN classes.

The Master Naturalist program has helped John, Alex and many other Madison Master Naturalists take their love of nature up a notch helping preserve urban nature and connecting people and children with nature in our local parks and natural areas.

Join Master Naturalists on Bird and Nature Adventures every weekend year-round in nearby Madison parks. See the Northside News calendar for details.

Wild Warner founder receives Rising Star Award

By Paul Noeldner
Friends of Urban Nature

Former Northside resident and Wild Warner founder Trish O’Kane was in Madison recently to receive the special honor of a UW Nelson Institute Rising Star Award for her “Last Child in the Park” program, which she started 10 years ago.

This innovative Northside community initiative pairs UW Nelson Institute Capstone students with Sherman Middle School Nature Explorers on walks to Warner Park every Wednesday after school. The UW students read and learn about the challenges of growing up in urban areas with little access to nature, which is so important to healthy development. The children enjoy learning about nature, making forts in Warner Woods, sledding on Sled Hill in winter, helping plant prairie seeds, and playing nature games with their UW student buddies, who share their love of nature and offer role models for children who may be the first in their family to go to college.

Trish now teaches at the University of



Photo by Paul Noeldner

Trish O’Kane receiving Rising Star Award

Vermont in Burlington, and her model program for getting children outdoors has been extended there and at other locations. She is writing a book about her experiences called “Birding to Change the World” that will be available soon.

You won’t be bored if you join Lake View Hill Park board

By Dan Tortorice
Friends of Lake View Hill Park

Do you have interests ranging from forest and wildlife ecology to recreation, having fun sledding with your kids, or even archaeology and celebrating an inspiring story of our local heritage? If so, you might consider joining the board of Friends of Lake View Hill Park (FOLVHP).

Our neighborhood park is one of only three Dane County parks that has both an ecological and cultural mission. The cultural mission is to inform park goers about the accomplishments of Lake View Sanatorium, which used this entire property to cure tuberculosis patients before the advent of modern antibiotics.

FOLVHP assists Dane County in restoring the woods to a sustainable future. We planted and caged about 200 oak trees last spring. Our purple martin house fledged several birds this year. We planned and financed the planting of seed mats on the embankment at the back of the parking lot. The seed mats will produce colorful blooms of native



Photo by Dan Tortorice

The spectacular view from Lake View Hill Park now includes a bench dedicated to Dorothy Wheeler, who was a Dane County Board supervisor when the woods were placed in conservancy.

flowers for decades to come. Our board is a fun and easygoing group that meets five times a year and gets things done. We could especially use people interested in creating social and family events in this spectacular setting. So please consider joining us. If you’re interested, send a message to dan@lakeviewhill.org.

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ENVIRONMENT

Rooted offers paid training programs and learning opportunities

By Paul Huber and Sarah Karlson
Rooted

Rooted is a nonprofit organization dedicated to collaborations in food, land and learning. Rooted’s programs — including Troy Farm, Troy Kids’ Garden and Troy Community Garden on the Northside — are devoted to increasing equitable access to land, fresh food and learning opportunities in Madison communities.

Spring through fall, you can find Rooted’s staff prepping farm and garden beds, planting, weeding, harvesting, mulching, watering, and doing all the tasks that go into growing fresh food.

Rooted relies on community support in many forms to maintain the organization’s land-based work, including educational opportunities for people of all ages to learn, garden and grow together. Local student groups learn about farming and gardening through hands-on field trips where they help plant, weed and harvest.

Rooted also offers paid opportunities for adults to learn about urban farm production and garden-based youth education through our Urban Farmer and Garden Educator training programs.

The Urban Farmer training program offers hands-on opportunities to develop skills and knowledge in urban agriculture at Troy Farm. The farm grows organic produce for both sale and donation and collaborates with other local organizations to host educational opportunities and community meals.

Urban Farmer trainees gain experience in every aspect of small-scale vegetable production, from planting the seed to making

the sale. Each week, trainees participate in classes with topics ranging from farm production practices to food justice. Pam Murelles, a 2022 participant, said, “Working at the farm is an empowering experience. It will teach you lifelong skills, including how to confront life and your relationship to land and to the community.”

Participants in the Garden Educator training program will work at two of Rooted’s youth education sites: the Troy Kids’ Garden on the Northside and Goodman Youth Farm on the Eastside. Both programs serve youth ages 3–18 with outdoor, garden-based learning. Trainees lead groups of children in gardening, cooking, animal care, outdoor art and other hands-on activities.

Garden Educator trainees gain experience developing and implementing garden-based curricula, while building a working knowledge of vegetable gardening and small-scale farm management. Forrest Smart, a trainee, shared, “This program provides a great opportunity to work with youth of all ages, as well as many other individuals from different cultures and backgrounds. I gained a lot of knowledge around urban farming, food sovereignty and the realities of our food system; and I hope to continue learning, developing my leadership skills and working with youth beyond this program.”

Rooted will begin accepting applications for the next Urban Farmer and Garden Educator training programs in early 2023. To stay up to date on this and other opportunities, find more information, and sign up to receive our newsletter, visit rootedwi.org. Follow Rooted on Instagram (@rootedwi) and Facebook (/rootedwi).

Photo by Paul Noeldner



The weather was perfect for the October 22 hayrides at Cherokee Marsh.

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DHS Approved 03/15/2021



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HEALTH AND SAFETY



From
Captain Kelly Donahue
North District Police

It's time for MPD's annual shift change. Officers, detectives and supervisors complete a shift pick late in the year, choosing their assignments for the following year. I would like to thank the officers for all their hard work in 2022, especially those moving to other assignments.

We will also warmly welcome back

many officers who chose to stay at NPD for 2023, and welcome a number of new officers. We are lucky to have the team that we do, serving the Northside.

We ask for your help as the cold weather sets in and people warm up their cars. In 2022, the Northside led the city in the number of stolen cars. Let's shake that title.

Many cars are stolen because keys are left inside an unlocked vehicle, sometimes left running and unattended. We have seen a consistent theme with these thefts. Groups of people drive around looking for cars, often targeting those that are running. The actual time it takes for these vehicles to be stolen is mere seconds, not allowing owners

time to react.

I suspect if you asked anyone who had their car stolen, they would say they didn't believe it would/could happen to them — especially those who just ran back in the house for a second or quickly ran into the store. It can happen in a parking lot, driveway and even inside an open garage.

Some of these car thieves enter homes through open garage doors or openers they find in unlocked cars.

Come up with a routine to double check that your house and cars are all locked up and valuables are inside before heading to bed. If you see your neighbor's garage door open as you do your check, let them know. Happy New Year!



From
Taiya Bach
MPH, RD, CD, CSP

Upping your family meal game for the New Year

The New Year can be a good time to re-establish family mealtimes after winter break and the hustle and bustle of the holidays. Benefits of shared mealtimes include improving parent-child relationships and modeling healthy nutrition choices.

Research suggests that family meals can help with behavioral issues and improve literacy through conversations. A positive environment can also reduce the occurrence of eating disorders.

The following ideas could be used to get in the groove of family mealtimes:

- **Plan ahead.** Have each member pick a meal (and maybe be in charge of making it). Spend time together searching Recipes.com or Pinterest for recipes — think Friday Pizza Night or Sunday Morning Pancakes. It could be as simple as picking pizza toppings or as involved as making blueberry and banana pancakes. Go

for a theme. Prepare a dish from a different ethnicity. Make a menu and use the menu to make a grocery list.

- **Shop together.** At the grocery divide and conquer — give each person items to find. Place an unusual item or category on the grocery list to make it more fun. Buy one new fruit or vegetable to try.

- **Everyone can contribute** — setting the table, washing and chopping vegetables, stirring the pot, or even packing up extras to freeze. Frozen leftovers can be great when you need a convenient, home-cooked meal.

- **Enjoy the main event.** When eating, slow down and taste it. Have family members take notes on likes/dislikes, vote on the favorite. Pretend you're a food critic. Try "challenge" bites to encourage new foods. Share a piece of history or educational tidbit about a food or dish.

- **Encourage conversation.** Keep phones off the table. Try switching up table seating for a different perspective.

Small steps go a long way in supporting healthy mealtime behaviors.

Taiya Bach is a registered dietitian with the UW-Department of Nutritional Sciences.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
Satya Rhodes-Conway
Mayor



Solar Fields was constructed through a partnership between the City, Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) and MGE through their Renewable Energy Rider program. This utility-scale solar array provides clean, renewable electricity that powers city facilities and local schools.

Electrify transportation: MGE has been a key partner in transitioning the City's fleet vehicles and Metro buses, preparing for an all-electric Bus Rapid Transit System and partnering to provide crucial public charging for EV's in City parking ramps.

Test Innovative Technologies: We are working together with Slipstream and MGE on a project to demonstrate how we can reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions across the building sector while transitioning to a cleaner electric grid. To learn more, check out the July 7 press release entitled "Common Council to Take Up DOE Grant for Grid-Interactive Efficient Buildings" at cityofmadison.com/news.

The City and MGE have renewed this MOU for the benefit of our community and our climate. I want to thank MGE for their continued partnership.

Collaborations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions


The City of Madison and Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) have long been partners in ensuring quality services for the Madison community. Both organizations have ambitious goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The City is committed to reaching 100% renewable energy and net-zero carbon emissions for City operations by 2030 and community-wide by 2050. MGE has also committed to reducing carbon.

In 2017, the City and MGE began collaborating on shared energy goals through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has led to numerous positive outcomes for our environment. To highlight just a few of our achievements, we have partnered to:

Expand solar energy: Hermsdorf

From
Charles Myadze
District 18 Alderperson



By the time you are reading this, the city budget process will be completed, and we will have final operating and capital budgets in place for 2023.

There are a number of items in the capital budget (the budget that allocates money for acquiring or maintaining land, buildings, and equipment) that directly affect our Northside community.

1. Knutson Drive reconstruction (Green to Northport) – 2023
2. Troy Drive railroad bridge/underpass – 2023/2024
3. Sidewalk replacement (this is replacement of broken or shifted sidewalk squares throughout the district) – 2023
4. Safe Streets (these are smaller projects and the list hasn't been finalized yet).

The capital budget also contains changes specific to Warner Park:

- a. Warner Park B-cycle station – 2023

- b. Warner Park Community Recreation Center expansion project 2023
- c. Warner Park lagoon improvements, including Castle Creek channel stabilization and dredging – long term project

Community Recreation Center (WPCRC) has consistently increased over several decades. There is not room at the Center for any additional indoor programming as the demand for space continues to grow. The discussion about expanding the Center began in 2015, and there have been additional listening sessions this fall. Some community members would like to see a public pool on the site, which the Parks Department estimates would cost \$20 million. There are plans to ensure that the site remains such that building a pool would be a future possibility.

The WPCRC is a gem on the Northside. Learn more about the plans and proposals for expansion at cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/warner-park-community-recreation-center-expansion.

As always, please reach out to me at district18@cityofmadison.com.

Thank you for your support, good ideas, and the care you have for our community. I wish you and yours a healthy, safe and peaceful holiday season.



Lunch Specials
Lunch specials are served 11 am-2 pm

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Blue gill sandwich with fries and coleslaw

Wednesday
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ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
Joe Parisi
Dane County Executive



2023 county budget seeks to make opportunity out of adversity

Each year around this time local leaders set work priorities for the coming year by building a budget. As county executive, I take what I hear from you and create a vision for county government that works the way you want it to. What we have in store in 2023 reflects what I hear time and again — a desire for highly livable communities where empathy for our most vulnerable thrives.

We're weeks away from being the first county government in the region to achieve 100% renewable energy status, meaning we'll produce more electricity through our solar developments than our facilities use. We're leading the way on the work needed to stem the advance of climate change, setting the template for

how communities can make themselves more sustainable and resilient.

We're also advancing our work to improve access to behavioral health services. My 2023 budget adds more teams of mental health professionals in our schools and our rural sheriff's precincts and adds staff to our Dane County Behavioral Health Resource Center, which continues to see increasing call volumes. These comprehensive efforts will improve access to mental health care.

My 2023 budget infuses \$6 million into our food pantries and local growers to keep Dane County's "Farm to Foodbank" initiative going through the coming year. Teamed with another \$1.5 million to build a new pantry and \$2 million in emergency food grant awards, we can help buffer the impacts of high grocery prices on those in need.

It's important people know their county government is hard at work, innovating and building smarter ways to do the work they value. I'm honored to serve as your county executive, and I'm grateful for the ideas I've heard from you that shaped my 2023 Dane County budget.

From
Michele Ritt
District 18 Supervisor



As part of my county supervisor role, I serve on several committees and commissions each term. I have had the opportunity to serve on the Dane County Food Council. It is near and dear to my heart. A strong food system is vital to a healthy community. Everyone needs to eat. And everyone needs access to healthy, fresh food.

I am proud to have been part of the creation of the Partners in Equity Food Project Grants (PIE Grants). The intent of these grants is to serve as seed money to encourage innovative programs that advance equity and access within our local food system across Dane County. Both individuals and organizations are welcomed to apply.

Last year, \$20,000 was distributed to

applicants. There are two categories of grants, large (up to \$4,000) and small (up to \$2,000). Priority is given to communities outside the city of Madison, and projects that serve under-resourced communities within Madison.

Proposals should address one of the following areas: increase access to healthy food, increase access to land for growing food, address issues of food waste and recovery, and address food system issues related to the pandemic.

Applications for next year's PIE Grants will be available in December 2022, with a due date in February 2023. Applications may be submitted electronically or by mail/hand delivery.

Please visit oeigrantsubmissions@countyofdane.com for more information or if you have questions. You may also call the Tamara D. Grigsby Office for Equity and Inclusion at 608-283-1391 if you have questions.

Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or issues. I can be reached at 608-335-6827 or ritt.michele@countyofdane.com.

From
Melissa Agard
State Senator



What to expect from me, new legislative session beginning in January

Every two years as legislators, we have the opportunity to prioritize the issues affecting our friends and neighbors all across Wisconsin. With the new legislative session beginning in January, the 16th Senate District and the unique needs of the folks living here are especially on my mind. I know that Wisconsinites are united on a number of beliefs: we want a state where our children and grandchildren can live, work and play; and we want a Wisconsin that not only serves us today, but tomorrow and in the future.

As your State Senator, it's my job to support and strengthen our communities, build an economy that works for all Wisconsinites, and ensure a government that serves the


many, instead of the few. I promise you, I will continue advocating for our community, and I will always listen to you and take your thoughts into account when voting on bills or drafting legislation. Let's be clear: you, the voters, are my bosses.

If you have an opinion you would like to share, an idea for legislation, or are experiencing difficulties with a state agency, please do not hesitate to contact my office. I am also happy to prepare legislative commendations, submit flag requests, visit local businesses, speak at community events and more. My office staff and I are here to serve you, and we do our job best when we are connected with those in the community.

Phone Number: 608-266-9170
Email: Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov
State Capitol
PO Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

It is an honor to serve you in the State Senate. Wisconsin has been a progressive leader and can be again. My Democratic colleagues and I are dedicated to making this vision a reality for all.

From
Samba Baldeh
State Representative



I am writing this column before the election, and you're reading it afterwards. I hope that we will have maintained some progressive part of state government whether that is the governor or a minority in either or both houses that is sufficient to sustain a veto.

But regardless of the result, I will initiate legislation on the issues that I think are important for our area and the state. I think that it is not enough to talk about a problem. The challenge is addressing a problem in a meaningful way that can win broad support.

Housing: Most of the homes in Lake Edge and Eastmorland are more than 50 years old. To keep the housing stock

usable, we should provide tax credits or low-interest loans to rehab or improve homes. This can also be used by nonprofit agencies who rehab and sell older homes.

PFAS: Grants to municipalities to clean up waterways affected by PFAS. Starkweather Creek, which runs through our neighborhoods, has high levels of PFAS in the water and the sediment. Madison and Dane County needs funds to clean up and dump the sediment.

Protect Democracy: We have to keep the Wisconsin Election Commission as an independent body and resist attempts to put it under legislative control. Our gerrymandered districts are an example of what happens when the legislature can control their own elections.

Taxes: I will oppose efforts to sharply cut income taxes for higher income households. This would result in a big increase in sales tax and a cut in municipal assistance. This, in turn, would mean a hike in property taxes.

Stay tuned.

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ONGOING ACTIVITIES

In-person activities are held at Warner Park Community Recreation Center, unless otherwise specified.

- Bingo** (in person): Every Friday, 10:15–11:15 am; first Friday is bilingual Bingo.
- Book Club** (Zoom): First Wednesday of each month, 10 am
- Bunco** (in person): Every Monday, 2–4 pm
- Card Making Club** (in person): Second Wednesday of each month, 1–3 pm
- Chair Yoga with Kim** (in person): Thursdays, 10:30–11:30 am
- Easy Yoga Plus Classes** with Ellen Millar (Zoom): Wednesdays and Fridays, 10–11 am
- Euchre** (in person): Tuesdays, 1–3 pm
- Game Time at Kavanaugh's**, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. (in person): Wednesdays, 1–3 pm
- Mahjong** (in person): Thursdays, 1–3 pm
- Mindfulness Movement** for LGBTQ Folks, Friends and Allies (in person): Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:15–11:45 am
- Ping Pong** (in person): Mondays, 9 am–12 pm; Wednesdays, 1–3 pm
- Sewing Club** (in person): First and third Thursdays of each month, 9 am–12 pm
- Sassy Steppers** (in person): Tuesdays, 2–3 pm (note change in day and time)



Volunteer opportunities to help older adults this winter

Are you looking for ways to keep active this winter? How about volunteering a few hours a week or month with NewBridge? It's a great way to support older adults in our community. We need volunteer help with our food programs, snow removal at older adults' homes, and coordinating our monthly newsletter mailing.

You could help us at our Northside restaurant meal site from 11 am–1:30 pm on Wednesdays. We need volunteers to help staff at Kavanaugh's Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. If you like meeting people, you can greet diners. If helping interests you, then clearing tables, handing out silverware, and pouring coffee/milk with guidance from Esquire waitstaff is needed. Your lunch is on us.

Maybe you would prefer delivering food boxes to homebound older adults in need on the North/East side of Madison on a regular basis. You would pick up the food box from the food pantry and deliver it to the same older adult 1–2 times a month. You may leave the food box at their front door if you prefer to avoid person-to-person contact. The delivery time can be flexible for your schedule and takes 1–2 hours each time.

You could become a Snow Angel and take care of an older adult's snow removal this winter. NewBridge works with many low-income older adults who are physically unable to clear their sidewalks and driveways. They desperately need your help.

Or you could provide leadership in the organization and mailing distribution of our monthly newsletter. The monthly mailing is done at our Warner Park Community Recreation Center office, and dates for the monthly mailings are set in advance. Volunteers with the READI program assist with the mailing. This task takes 4–6 hours of your time each month.

If you are interested in any of these volunteer opportunities, please contact Keisha at 608-512-0000, ext. 3008. Any volunteer help you can provide is very much appreciated.

Happy holidays from New Bridge Madison!

Volunteer newsletter coordinator needed

Help is needed with the organization and mailing distribution of the NewBridge newsletter.

Dates are set in advance. Mailing is done at the North office, 1625 Northport Dr., with help from the READI volunteers. The time commitment is 2–4 hours a month.

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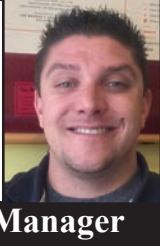
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WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

Written by
Zach Watson
608-245-3690



Interim Facility Manager

The Warner Park Community Recreation Center's transition into fall offerings has flown by. As our crane neighbors make their way south, we at WPCRC welcome the cooler temperatures and beautiful colors in our parks' foliage. We have been busy indoors as well.

WPCRC has again been a drop-in vaccine clinic since September and will continue to offer this service to the community on Wednesdays and Saturdays. We are also serving as both an early voting site and an in-person voting site on Nov. 8.

WPCRC's Youth and Family Programing, also known as KNOW (Kids Need Opportunities at Warner), has continued to expand program offerings and events. We are proud to bring back our monthly Family Fun Nights on the second Friday of each month.

At our Sept. 9 "Back to School" Family

Fun Night, we welcomed over 160 participants. October's Family Fun Night was a Halloween Special, so we moved the date to Oct. 28 and expanded the traditional offerings (bouncy houses, art and pottery projects, bingo, gym activities, movie screenings and more) to include four food carts, haunted hayrides, bonfires with S'mores, and a Trunk or Treat opportunity in partnership with our Rangers and Madison Police Department.

Mark your calendars. The 23rd Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair will be Saturday, Dec. 3, from 9 am-3 pm at WPCRC. We will host more than 80 vendors just in time for the holiday gift giving season.

WPCRC now offers Silver & Fit and Active & Fit memberships, providing eligible members access to the exercise room at no cost by reimbursing eligible health plans. Call 608-245-3669 to see if your health plan is eligible for membership.

WPCRC is also available for birthday parties, weddings, baby showers and other community event rentals. Check out our programs and stay connected by liking our Facebook page @WarnerParkCRC.

Circle of Friends to fund WPCRC programs from Endowment Fund

By Dorothy Borchardt
Circle of Friends

It is so good to be back in the Warner Park Community Recreation Center (WPCRC), baking and selling cookies on Election Day, going to exercise classes, and visiting with friends. And looking forward to seeing the design of WPCRC's expansion that is being worked on based on community involvement many of you participated in. We appreciate everyone's contributions and thank the community supporters for their ongoing donations over the years.

The Circle of Friends (CoF) has been working with WPCRC staff to select programs that will be paid for with CoF funds in the Madison Community Foundation Warner Pool Fund. In 2013 the CoF established a Warner Pool Endowment Fund to support the operating expenses of the Warner Pool once it is completed.

Here's where we're at with the funds. Part of the agreement is that if the pool isn't operational as of Jan. 1, 2023, distributions will be made to the WPCRC, as advised by the CoF. Once the pool is completed, distributions will be made to WPCRC to help cover operation expenses.

The CoF is still dreaming of the future pool and the benefits it will bring to those who use it and to the Northside community. We have been assured the new addition will not be placed where

it will prohibit the future pool. Membership in the CoF is open to all residents who want to be part of its continuing growth and success. New members and volunteers are always welcome. Go Northside!

Gifts to the fund are always welcomed. If interested, please mail a check payable to Warner Park Community Recreation Center - Circle of Friends to WPCRC-COF, 1625 Northport Drive, Madison, WI 53704.



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Madison Chiropractic
Quality Care Close to Home LLC.

608-244-0044
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NORTHSIDE NEWS - Calendar of Events

Sponsored by Madison Gas and Electric

December 2022/January 2023

SPARK! PROGRAMS FOR THOSE WITH MEMORY LOSS

**First Friday of every month
10-11:30 am**

ARTS for ALL, 1709 Aberg Ave., Suite 1
SPARK! offers free programs for people with early- to mid-stage memory loss and care partners. Programs include creative experiences in artmaking, drama, movement/dance, music, poetry or storytelling. Register each month at artsforallwi.org/programs/spark.

MEDICINE WOMEN THRESHOLD SINGERS

**Wednesdays, December 7 and January 4
12:30-2 pm, Lakeview Library**

Women who love to sing and are fully COVID vaccinated are invited to join this new group and sing for people who are seriously ill, dying or grieving. The first rehearsal is Dec. 7; rehearsals will be held once a month on the first Wednesday. Contact Casper Soluna at caspersoluna@gmail.com or 608-417-0400.

"ART ON EMOTION" EXHIBITION

**Entire month of December
Lakeview Library**

Our Vibrant Community held a free creation series at Goodwill-North during November to promote positive emotional health through awareness, education and encouragement. Art from the series will be displayed at Lakeview Library during the entire month of December.

CHRISTMAS AT LAKEVIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH, 4001 MANDRAKE ROAD

Wednesday, December 7

7 pm, Advent Evening Prayer Service

Wednesday, December 14

7 pm, Advent Evening Prayer Service

Wednesday, December 21

7 pm, Blue Christmas Service*

Saturday, December 24

4 pm and 6 pm, Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 24

9 am, Christmas Day Service

*A worship service to acknowledge the pain that often rises at Christmastime, and to experience God's healing love.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

**23rd Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair
9 am-3 pm, WPCRC**

Over 80 vendors will be selling their handmade goods just in time for the holiday gift giving season. Food and beverages will be available for purchase.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Bird and Nature Adventure: Architecture of Trees

2:30 pm, Tenney Park

Tree shapes are much easier to see after leaves have fallen. Join Master Naturalist JoAnn Riecke for a free, family-friendly guided walk to find examples of deciduous trees and evergreen trees. Learn about their different shapes and branching patterns. See <http://tinyurl.com/MadisonFUNAdventures> for fun facts about trees. Meet at Tenney Park Beach. Contact: 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Bird and Nature Adventure: Winter Native Plant ID

**1:30-3 pm, Cherokee Marsh North Unit,
6098 N. Sherman Ave.**

Join Master Naturalist Eva Roos to look for native Wisconsin plants and learn how to identify them, even in winter. Contact: 608-698-0104

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

**Senior Lunch and Euchre Tournament
11 am-2 pm, Lakeview Lutheran Church,
4001 Mandrake Road**

The theme for lunch is "Happy Holidays." The church will offer ham, hash brown casserole, green beans and rolls. Please bring your favorite Christmas cookie to share and a non-perishable food item for the food pantry. There is a free-will offering for lunch. To RSVP, contact the church office at 608-244-6181.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

**Family Fun Night
5:30-8 pm, WPCRC**

WPCRC will be open for a night of bouncy houses, art and pottery projects, bingo, gym activities, movie screenings and more. The cost is \$5 per family.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

**Lakeview Lutheran Church Blood Drive
12-5 pm, Lakeview Lutheran Church, 4001
Mandrake Road**

This blood drive is offered in partnership with the American Red Cross. For an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767, or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter Sponsor Code: LakeviewLutheran, or contact the church office at 608-244-6181.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

**Wild Warner Monthly Meeting
6 pm, WPCRC**

The public is welcome. Join other Northside nature lovers to help support nature preservation, restoration, recreation and education in the wild side of Warner Park. See the Wild Warner Facebook page for updates and more information. Contact: 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Bird and Nature Adventure: The Longest Night

1:30 pm, Warner Park Rainbow Shelter

Celebrate the Winter Solstice outdoors. Join Master Naturalist Robin Kling for a guided walk to learn about solstice traditions and the phenology of what's happening in nature at the cusp of the new solar year. See <http://tinyurl.com/MadisonFUNAdventures> for fun facts about the Winter Solstice. Contact: 608-698-0104

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

**Senior Bird and Nature Adventure at
Warner Park: Gifts to the Wild
1:30 pm, WPCRC Meeting Room**

Join Master Naturalist Kathleen Wolf for a fun and educational hands-on nature craft activity. Create gifts to help wildlife survive the cold winter months, then share your creations with our furred and feathered neighbors. Contact: 608-698-0104

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

**Friends of Cherokee Marsh board meeting
5:30-7 pm, WPCRC**

The public is welcome. Cherokeemarsh.org

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Friends of Hartmeyer Natural Area Monthly Meeting

5 pm, WPCRC or as posted

The public is welcome. Help preserve and restore Madison's newest conservation park behind the old Oscar Mayer plant. See facebook.com/hartmeyernaturalarea for updates. Contact: 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

Bird and Nature Adventure: My Nature Resolutions

**1:30-3 pm, Cherokee Marsh North Unit,
6098 N. Sherman Ave.**

Celebrate New Year's Day with a beautiful nature walk outdoors and make a nature resolution. Join Master Naturalist Sheila Leary for a free, family friendly guided walk. Contact: 608-698-0104

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5

**Senior Lunch and Euchre Tournament
11 am-2 pm, Lakeview Lutheran Church,
4001 Mandrake Road**

The theme for lunch is "Say Yes to Pizza." The church will provide various flavors of pizza, including a vegetarian option. There is a free-will offering for lunch. To RSVP, contact the church office at 608-244-6181. NOTE: 2023 senior lunches will be held the first Thursday of the month.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7

Bird and Nature Adventure: First of Year Birds

2:30 pm, Tenney Park

Join bird guide Paul Noeldner to look in the trees and on the water for brightly colored Wisconsin winter birds. See <http://tinyurl.com/MadisonFUNAdventures> for fun facts about birds, using eBird and iBird, and a Winter Bird Bingo Card. Meet at Tenney Park Beach. Contact: 608-698-0104

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10

**Wild Warner Monthly Meeting
6 pm, WPCRC**

The public is welcome. Join other Northside nature lovers to help support nature preservation, restoration, recreation and education in the wild side of Warner Park. See the Wild Warner Facebook page for updates and more information. Contact: 608-698-0104

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13

**Family Fun Night
5:30-8 pm, WPCRC**

WPCRC will be open for a night of bouncy houses, art and pottery projects, bingo, gym activities, movie screenings, and more. The cost is \$5 per family.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

Bird and Nature Adventure: The Art of Winter

1:30 pm, Warner Park Rainbow Shelter

Join Wild Warner Naturalist Kathleen Wolf for a guided walk to enjoy contrasts in the snow and ice-covered landscape. See <http://tinyurl.com/MadisonFUNAdventures> for Fun Facts about winter and winter nature activities. Contact: 608-698-0104

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

**Senior Bird and Nature Adventure at
Warner Park: Bird Memories**

1:30 pm, WPCRC Meeting Room

Join Master Naturalist Paul Noeldner for a fun and educational indoor presentation. Learn about our amazing and beautiful Wisconsin birds, and share stories and memories of special birds we love. If the weather permits, we may take a short walk to look for birds outdoors. Contact: 608-698-0104

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

**Friends of Cherokee Marsh board meeting
5:30-7 pm, WPCRC**

The public is welcome. Cherokeemarsh.org

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

**Coffee with a Cop
9 am, WPCRC**

Please come and enjoy free coffee, free cookies and great conversation with your officers on the Northside of Madison.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

Friends of Hartmeyer Natural Area Monthly Meeting

5 pm, WPCRC or as posted

The public is welcome. Help preserve and restore Madison's newest conservation park behind the old Oscar Mayer plant. See facebook.com/hartmeyernaturalarea for updates. Contact: 608-698-0104

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

**Friends of Cherokee Marsh Annual Meeting
10 am-12 pm, WPCRC**

Nature is for everyone. Learn about activities and opportunities from local groups who are focused on making the outdoors welcoming for all. Cherokeemarsh.org

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21

**Warner Park Candlelight Walk
6-8 pm, Rainbow Shelter**

Explore the lighted trails on your own, then warm up by a campfire. Restrooms are available onsite. The event will take place with or without snow cover. There is no charge, and no registration is required.

LL = Lakeview Library WPCRC = Warner Park Community Recreation Center



MGE is targeting net-zero carbon electricity by 2050. Join us in working toward a more sustainable future. Visit mge2050.com for energy-saving tips and more.

Net-Zero
CARBON ELECTRICITY BY 2050



Congratulations

to our winners of the Madison.com

2022 People's Choice Awards!



Best Hardware Store



Best Pharmacy



Best BBQ

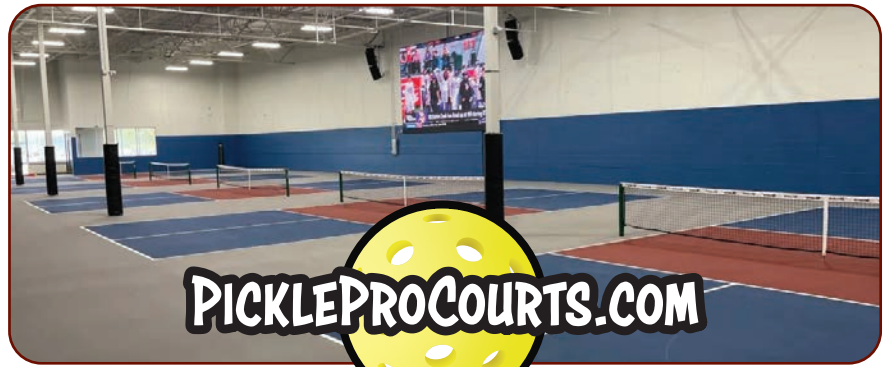


Best Health Food Store

Best Catering

Stay fit at Orthdx Natural Fitness

Play indoor pickleball at Pickle Pro Courts



PICKLEPROCOURTS.COM

WHERE THE WEATHER IS ALWAYS PERFECT

The Northside TownCenter provides the World Within a Walk



PRISM

BLUE BUILDING
Opening
Spring 2025

State of the art, smart, environmentally conscious multi-family housing on Madison's north side