Northside News

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www.northsidenews.org

February/March 2023



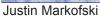
Barbara Vedder

Barbara Vedder chosen to fill district 12 alder seat

By Justin Markofski, Director
Northside Planning Council

Barbara Vedder was recommended by the Madison Common Council Executive Committee and approved by the full Council to serve as Interim Alder for District 12 until the upcoming April 4, 2023 election. The Common Council followed its due process in replacing the vacancy left by Syed Abbas resignation as of December 1, 2022. Many thanks to Abbas for his nearly four years of public service in this role. Barbara's appointment to fill this interim period was conditioned upon her having previously served on the Common Council (she served 1995-2001) and/or on the Dane County Board of Supervisors (she served 2006-2010) as well as her not running in the upcoming April election. The Executive Committee and Common Council selected Barbara from two candidates who applied for the position. These candidates were each interviewed by the Executive Committee after submitting to the City their reasons for seeking the appointment. In Barbara's letter of application, she indicated a desire to continue to give back to the community that she loves. Barbara has lived in Madison since 1981 and resides in the Emerson East Neighborhood. She also stated the following personal motivation to serve; "I have two grandchildren who I absolutely adore and want to have grow up in an even better place." You can read Barbara's own words in her District 12 Alder column in this edition of the Northside News. Also look for all the candidate information found in this issue concerning the five people running for the soon to be open District 12 Alder seat.







Chris Brockel

NPC announces two new directors

by Lauri Lee, Chair *Northside Planning Council*

The Northside Planning Council (NPC) is pleased to announce Justin Markofski has been hired as the NPC executive director and Chris Brockel has been promoted to NPC food systems director effective Jan. 4.

The Northside Planning Council (NPC) has changed the leadership structure of the organization to two directors to increase capacity for the diverse work of the two distinct areas of programming. The executive director will be responsible for community organizing, economic development, communications and all things Northside while the NPC food systems director will provide leadership over the growing food system programs of the organization, which will soon include a role at the future Madison Public Market.

The proven leadership skills, commitment to racial and social equity, and experience with the organization's partners and funders make both men an exceptional fit for their new roles. We are confident that under their leadership, the organization's success and impact in achieving its mission and vision will continue to flourish.

"I have intentionally lived and worked on the Northside of Madison for the past 17-plus years with my family. I love the community and want to see it develop and thrive," said Markofski.

Markofski was a 40 Under 40 Nominee

– In Business Magazine (Class of 2006).

40 Under 40 is an annual recognition of 40 of the most successful and civic-minded young professionals under the age of 40 in the Greater Madison area. Other key roles over the years has been to serve on the City of Madison — Community Development Block Grant Committee from 2005-2014, with three-plus years as chair. His experience with key Northside nonprofits grew through his work with the Packer and Northport Community Learning Centers, The River Food Pantry, Willy Street Co-op — North and serving on the Troy Gardens Board and their executive committee for two terms.

Brockel has been with FEED Kitchens and Healthy Food For All for NPC since 2015 and has served as FEED Kitchens manager since 2019. In his career he has had financial oversight of up to \$1.5 million in contracts, donation and government food resources. He has partnered with over 300 community and government agencies, faith-based initiatives and businesses. He participates on numerous management teams and community initiatives including the City of Madison Food Policy Council.

His successful grant writing and donor development experience combined with the ability to negotiate service contracts, collaborations and agreements, has kept NPC financially sound in recent years.

The two directors will be forging a new collaborative path for NPC as they work together to make the Northside a better place to live, work and play. Please join me in welcoming Justin and Chris.

Candidate forums being held in February

The Northside Planning Council in partnership with the Northside Business Association have planned two candidate forums in February for contested district 12 alder and mayor races. These forums represent a wonderful opportunity to come hear the candidates speak for themselves to answer to questions from Northside residents. The first is the Mayoral Forum with all three candidates committed to attend participate Wednesday, Feb. 8 from 6:30–8 pm at Door Creek Church - North, 1181 N. Sherman Ave. The second event is the City of Madison Common Council's District 12 Alder Forum with all five candidates committed to participate the following Wednesday, Feb. 15 from 6–8 pm also at Door Creek Church - North.

While we hope to see many of you in person at the forums, we have a virtual option to allow broader participation in the election process.

Mayor Candidate Forum

Wednesday, Feb. 8 6:30–8 pm Door Creek Church – North 1181 N. Sherman Ave.

District 12 Alder Forum Wednesday, Feb. 15

6:00–8:00 pm Door Creek Church – North 1181 N. Sherman Ave.

Alternatively, watch on Facebook Live at Northside Planning Council page.

Please take these opportunities to learn about our candidates before getting out to vote.

Thanks to Door Creek Church for partnering with us for the use of the community room space.

Where's Nort?

Find Nort to win a prize!

Details on page 2

NPC: Stop in Feb. 28, we're open

By Lauri Lee, Chair
Northside Planning Council

The Northside Planning Council (NPC) is inviting Northsiders to visit Tuesday, Feb 28 at the organization's new office located at 1855 Aberg Ave.

An open board meeting at 12:30 pm will start out the afternoon. A reception with light refreshments will follow from 1–3 pm to welcome Justin Markofski and Chris Brockel to their new roles. This will

also be an opportunity to thank Martee Mikalson for serving as the NPC interim executive director and provide a welcome to her special projects coordinator position.

Guests will be able to tour the offices which are home to NPC and the Northside News which moved into the bottom level commercial space of The Madisonian senior apartments, Nov. 1.

The organization's headquarters were moved to FEED Kitchens in 2016 to consolidate expenses. To keep the commercial kitchens safer during the pandemic, nonfood-related staff worked remotely and later from an interim office on International Lane. The move to Aberg Avenue allows for small meetings in the NPC conference area. Programming may occasionally be scheduled at The Madisonian in their meeting and community rooms, so tours will also be available to see these spaces.

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NORTHSIDE NEWS

2023 ADVERTISING RATES

April/May Deadline: Wednesday, March 1, 2023

\$20/column inch for grayscale ads – \$22/column inch for color ads Reach +13,500 households with every issue. *Special rates for nonprofits*.

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16th Vertical	2.375"W x 4"H	\$ 80.00	\$ 88.00
8th Vertical	2.375"W x 8"H	\$ 160.00	\$ 176.00
8th Square	4.917"W x 4"H	\$ 160.00	\$ 176.00
Quarter Page	4.917"W x 8"H	\$ 320.00	\$ 352.00
Half Page	10"W x 8"H	\$ 640.00	\$ 704.00
Full Page	10"W x 16"H	\$1280.00	\$1408.00

Flyer Inserts (delivered to printer by advertiser):

Please contact Lauri at editor@northsidenews.org or 608-334-4969 for rates.

Letter to Editor

Dear Editor,

As a relatively new resident on the north side, but lifetime and 4th generation Madisonian, I need to express my concern about so much money being put into a spot that needs relatively little work. I say as a relatively new Northsider, I walked down the tracks up there to get my bearings straight about directions. I noticed when I got to that bridge that it's very, very beautiful of a path that appears to have enough area away from the tracks, or distance rather. What the spot needs is a guardrail fence, so that persons that want to walk along up there can safely cross at Troy Drive. And so far as trucks getting caught under it, most places put in a limit on the truck

height that is allowed to pass.

There's also the railroad tracks to consider up there. Those tracks are used daily by trains coming in. That would take rerouting of those, too. After being up there myself, I noticed that they would probably be doing that already if they could, because there's a steep embankment up there that they're going to have to add dirt to. If anyone else goes up there, they'd have to be really careful. If they're walking north toward Troy Drive, they will have to stop short before attempting to cross. There's nothing of a fence, and you can lose your bearings real easy.

Cheryl Elkinton (Spataro)

NORTHSIDE NEWS

www.northsidenews.org

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Next Issue: April/May 2023

Contribution Deadline: Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Date Distributed: March 28, 2023

Send us a list of businesses whose ads you find Nort hiding in, and your name will be added to a drawing for prizes. How many are there? You tell us.

Submit your list to: Northside News 1219 N. Sherman Ave. Madison, WI 53704 **The December/January Winners** Mira Reynolds & Billie Lindsey

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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Why take out a voluntary subscription for a free publication? It's true — the Northside News will arrive in the mail whether you pay for a subscription or not. But with your voluntary subscription, you can help ensure that it remains a high quality publication accessible to all. While our advertising revenues make us mostly self-sufficient, we are subject to the fluctuations of the economy, especially as print media suffers all over the country. If you would like to help protect the Northside News for future years and help us explore new innovations in our community journalism strategies, then consider paying for a voluntary subscription.



With your donation of a voluntary subscription to the Northside News, you will receive the below bumper sticker in the mail thanking you for your support. As a nonprofit, your donation to the Northside News is tax-deductible.



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Madison, WI 53704



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NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

From

Lauri Lee



NPC Board Chair

As 2023 is ushered in, the Northside Planning Council is announcing a number of leadership changes. Since Spring 2021, the organization's day-to-day operations were disrupted by both the pandemic and the resignation of the NPC executive director. However, with the entire world on pause during these trying years, the lull in business operations provided space to reorganize and restructure how we operated the organization. The can-do leadership of interim executive director Martee Mikalson and the calm and steady leadership skills of FEED Kitchens manager, Chris Brockel, led us to where we are today. Isolation leads to togetherness, and the FEED Kitchens team culture is growing stronger every day.

The work of NPC has become more and more diverse over the years. When we ventured into food system work and grew the impact of our food programs, it became apparent that to ensure future success, we needed to divide and conquer by adding a second director to give each program the needed attention to guarantee future success.

Each program needs constant attention in addition to built-in busy seasons that often overlap other program work.

- The traditional community organizing work of NPC requires constant attention and response to the urgent.
- The Northside News has a bi-monthly cycle with intense production work every other month.
- FEED Kitchens busiest season is April through October due to food cart season. The winter is less hectic, allowing time for special events planning.
- FEED Kitchens at Madison Public Market is in the planning phase but will soon require year-round coordination.
- FEED Bakery Training Program means our bakers start in the wee hours of the day and are especially busy during weeks surrounding Valentine's, Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving

and Christmas.

 Healthy Food For All is busiest during growing season, while food recovery and distributing it is ongoing.

Leadership welcome and thanks

- Justin Markofski has been hired as NPC executive director. Interesting fact he was a member of the city's CBDG committee when NPC leadership came before it in 2010 to be awarded approval for a \$1 million block grant to build FEED Kitchens. He knows the Northside and is passionate about serving the community to make it a better place to live for everyone. We are very pleased to have Justin on board.
- Chris Brockel has been promoted to NPC food systems director. His decades of experience in food systems work and proven leadership of our organization during the pandemic has grown his capacity to lead our organization's food system work. His ability to partner with other organizations with similar missions and effectively tell our story in grant writing make him perfect for this role. Thanks go out to Chris for going above and beyond these last two years
- · Martee Mikalson is shifting from interim executive director (since April 2021) to be special projects coordinator. She has worn numerous hats for the organization since 2009 and is truly an asset. I first met Martee when we both were on the FEED Kitchens planning committee back when FEED was just a dream in 2009. Martee planned the kitchen layout and sourced the professional equipment. Once the facility opened in 2013, she served on the FEED operating committee and even took on the role of FEED manager for a couple of years around 2018. She's been staff, consultant, volunteer or board member, depending on the year. There are so many ways she has generously shared her expertise and time with our organization. She has also been instrumental in the development and leadership of FEED Bakery and the FEED Bakery training program. As special project coordinator, she'll work on FEED Kitchens at Public Market and other special projects. We thank Martee for serving as the interim executive director during trying times.



Northside Planning Council

Board Members

Lauri Lee, Chair Shaunté McCullum, Co-Chair Areli Estrada, Vice Chair Kerri Mallien, Treasurer Mike Schuck Ruth Schultz Will Green

Directors

Justin Markofski, NPC Executive Director - 608-230-1228 Chris Brockel, NPC Director of Food Systems - 608-204-7017

NPC hold the date

Wednesday, Feb. 8 Blood Drive (BLOODCENTER.ORG)

Partnership of NPC, The River Food Pantry and Door Creek Church – North Held at Door Creek Church – North, 1181 N. Sherman Ave. at NorthGate

Wednesday, Feb. 8 Mayoral Candidate Forum

Partnership with Northside Business Association Held at Door Creek Church – North, 1181 N. Sherman Ave. at NorthGate 6:30–8 pm

Wednesday, Feb. 15 Alder Candidate Forum

Partner ship with Northside Business Association Held at Door Creek Church – North 1181 N. Sherman Ave. at NorthGate 6–8 pm

Tuesday, Feb. 28

12:30 pm NPC open board meeting at 1855 Aberg Ave.

1–3 pm Welcome reception for Justin Markofski and Chris Brockel
Thank you reception for Martee Mikalson
Tour of NPC and Northside News office
Tour of The Madisonian community spaces
Light refreshments

Friday, Oct. 13

North Star Awards 5:30-7:30 pm

Honoring our Northside unsung heros Held at Warner Park Community Center, 1625 Northport Drive Refreshments

Friday, Nov. 3

Taste the Future

Hosted by FEED Kitchens Held at Warner Park Community Center, 1625 Northport Drive

Saturday, Dec. 16

Feed Holiday Bazaar 9 am-2 pm

Held at Door Creek Church - North, 1181 N. Sherman Ave. at NorthGate

From

Justin Markofski



NPC Executive Director

Greetings Northside neighbors. I am thankful to live and work on the Northside of Madison which has been my home for over 17 years. I love it here. I may be biased, but it's the best. I won't always write about me in this column, but I feel I owe it to you to give a little personal context for who I am as the new NPC executive director.

I am 42 years old. I am a family man. I have a wife and four sons ages two to 17. We have lived in the Troy Gardens mixed-income development on Troy Drive since it was founded in 2006. I have purposefully chosen communityoriented work on the Northside which has included time at Northport and Packer Community Learning Centers, The River Food Pantry, Troy Farm and Willy Street Co-op North. I love people and ideas and enjoy life-long learning. I am inspired by the example and teachings of Jesus. I think ethics such as "love your neighbor as yourself," "love your enemies" and "bless those who curse you" are a powerful antidote to so much of what so often tears apart relationships and society. I ever welcome dialogue and engagement and I look forward to listening to, learning from, and collaborating with any and all individuals, neighborhoods, organizations, businesses, institutions, etc. seeking equity for everyone and to improve the quality of life for every person here on the Northside of Madison. That is the mission of NPC after all, and I hope to continue to build on the hard and good work of those who have gone before me here. Many thanks and honor to their service and contributions. It's always a team effort.

Moving forward I will be less autobiographical and will focus on communicating about initiatives, programs and efforts underway here at NPC and those impacting the Northside at large.

Please communicate with me/us to share your ideas, dreams, concerns and whatever is important to you so we can learn and work together. I am so glad to have this opportunity to work with and serve alongside each of you in our collective effort to live meaningful and productive lives as fellow residents and stakeholders in the Northside.

May we strive for every single person to have equal opportunities to thrive. Let's go!

From

Chris Brockel



NPC Food Systems Director

After seven years with the Northside Planning Council, Inc. it is truly an honor that the organization has placed its trust in me to be a co-director of the agency and to take the lead on all things related to food programming.

I initially came to NPC as a board member in the summer of 2015 to help the organization figure out this new thing they had called FEED Kitchens. Shortly after that I took a temporary part-time position at FEED to help get impetus going for a newly received grant from the USDA. And look at me now, Mom!

While NPC is a Northside focused agency, FEED Kitchens and the programs contained within are regional in nature and can encompass all of South Central Wisconsin. We can take pride, however, in the fact that the programs are housed on the Northside. NPC currently operates three major food related programs. FEED Kitchens, of course, supplies shared kitchen space and start-up support for food businesses. FEED currently hosts 90 distinct businesses all with dreams

of sharing their taste and culture in the hopes of making a good living or developing an interesting side hustle. Within FEED Kitchens there is the FEED Bakery Training program which has found huge success in the production and sales of baked goods to support bakery/culinary training. Finally, Healthy Food for All is our food recovery program which specializes in the recovery and free distribution of excess local farm production as well as prepared food from large events.

I will not lie, the past few years of the pandemic and keeping a safe production facility while our agency capacity has taken a hit has not been easy. There have been some lonely and frustrating days. I look forward to this new beginning, however, and see big things on the horizon for NPC's food programs. Soon the Madison Public Market will be coming online and that is going to create more opportunities both for FEED Kitchens and for the members running their businesses here. The FEED Bakery and Training program is going to be pivoting as well and we will be restructuring our training to fit the needs of both the students and the kitchen. Finally, Healthy Food for All continues to grow as a program and we will continue to be on the forefront of local food recovery, helping to feed our neighbors and mitigating climate change. I look forward to sharing this progress with you in the coming months.

NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

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FEED Kitchens

feedkitchens.org



Healthy Food For All hffadane.org



FEED Bakery Training Program feedbakery.org

FEED Bakery Earn and Learn Internship Program kicks off

By Martee Mikalson & Chris Brockel

FEED Bakery earn and learn

COVID has limited the FEED Bakery and Training program's ability to bring in as many students for classroom and hands-on bakery instruction. This reality, along with the continued high use of FEED Kitchens by commercial businesses, has led to internal review of the program. This reflection has led to restructuring to make FEED Kitchens continue to meet the mission and goals set forth when it was started as well as have it fit into the daily flow of production.

The Northside Planning Council is proud to announce the unveiling of our new FEED Bakery Training program – FEED Bakery Earn and Learn Internship. Instead of bringing in a classroom of students, the program will now work more closely with a small cohort of interns who will work side-by-side with our staff of bakers to learn the art of commercial baking. Interns will also receive classroom instruction, mentoring, ServSafe

instruction and testing, along with job placement and support at the end of the internship. While the training has always been offered at no or low cost, a major change to the program is that now interns will be paid to participate. The 96-hour program will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am–1 pm for 12 weeks.

The FEED Bakery Earn and Learn Internship is currently accepting applications in the hopes of kicking off a training yet this winter. If you are currently unemployed or underemployed and would like to learn a new skill to gain entry into commercial baking and the internal operations of a commercial production kitchen, this program may be for you. Employers are seeking qualified workers and wages have never been higher; they are literally calling FEED Kitchens regularly seeking workers.

If you are interested in the program, you can stop by FEED Kitchens, 1219 N. Sherman Ave., and pick up an application or email admin@northsideplanningcouncil. org and one can be sent to you.

The Northside Planning Council is grateful to the 2022 supporters.

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Rita & Bob Lord

John Frautschi Family Foundation

Northside Towne Center



Dane Buy Local Soup's On!



BUSINESS

Shad Wenzlaff Piano Studio recalibrates following COVID to add second studio and instructor for piano lessons in Spanish

By Lauri Lee Northside News

For Shad Wenzlaff at Shad Wenzlaff Piano Studio (615 N. Sherman Ave., Suite 21) the pandemic served as the push for a transition in how he operated his music business. The student numbers had dwindled and those who remained wore a mask or lessons were done virtually over zoom. Something had to change, but what? Ironically, it was the pandemic that created the space for creative thinking and planning for a business transition.

"The pandemic slowdown provided time for reflecting on goals, studying and planning, but with diminishing resources, the money to implement the new ideas wasn't there. Things changed when he received the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC) grant and the Dane County Small Business Pandemic Support Grant administered by Dane Buy Local were game changers." He used the money in the way the grants were intended, which was to help small businesses pivot and have the money to update and transition their business model.

"I'd been operating my piano and voice

lesson business in the traditional way. My strategy involved just me, teaching private lessons in my own studio. I relied on the traditional mode of promotion which involved word of mouth and getting leads from my students to teach their 🖽 friends and neighbors.

I needed to think differently. My inspiration came from a piano instruction method book I'd purchased in 2015 that I 🕏 found in my bookcase. I never seemed to have the time to study it. It was innova- ত্র tive, even after five years, and provided ideas for thinking about my piano lesson \(\) business in a different way.

I had taught adults before, but count- 트 ed on younger students to fill the lesson schedule. The realization that adults had become introspective during the pandemic and for the first time were taking time to do things they'd always put off doing, I found my new direction. It didn't take long to increase from four adult students to 14. At first, I taught online and eventually they came back in the studio.

At the beginning of the pandemic the Black Lives Matter movement made a hugh impact on me and made me think



Shad Wenzlaff, Shad Wenzlaff Piano Studio

hard about my white privilege. I resolved to make music lessons more available to people from other ethnicities. As president of the Madison Area Music Educators. I encouraged musicians to get creative and work together toward this goal. I started offering the use of my studio to practice if students don't have a piano.

If anyone is thinking about piano lessons. I want them to know there is professional teaching space and teachers on the Northside. In the past 18 months I've invited other piano teachers to teach in my North Sherman Avenue space. Beatriz Aguilar has been teaching piano lessons in Spanish on Saturday mornings and Deb Yee has been teaching from the studio on Thursday evenings. Both are accepting new students.

"I've found the studio to be professional, comfortable and safe," said Aguilar. "It's such a great environment for teaching, as there is room to move around. I'm adding a few new students on Saturday morning this year."

Music lessons don't look like they used to, they're more fun. "We developing the musican and musical awareness so students have more opportunity to express themselves. Sometimes rhyming and gamesare used, or dancing and moving around help the student learn without being bored. Lessons are no longer just sitting at the piano pressing keys. Wenzlaff lesson plans any piece a student wants to play so they can learn what they find most interesting.

Things are going so well with the new way of thinking about piano lessons that Wenzlaff has opened a westside studio at 5003 West University. If 2023 is the year to check out lessons, contact Wenzlaff at shadspiano.net or call 608-663-9899.



NBA Breakfast with Santa chair, Steve Nelson, and NBA president Jennifer Haack presented a \$2,500 Breakfast with Santa check to Todd Chack from the Lakeview Lutheran Church food pantry and Rhonda Adams from The River Food at the January meeting.



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BUSINESS

Bright Dental is brightening smiles at Northside TownCenter

By Virginia Scholtz
Northside News

Bright Dental is now open at 1853 Northport Drive. Their multi-ethnic team is ready to meet all your dental care needs. They offer children's dentistry and general dentistry; also implants, crowns, dentures, bridges and partials. If you get a troublesome toothache that requires a root canal, they can do that, too.

Their technology allows them to fill a cavity with material that matches the shade of your existing teeth. And for the adolescents in your household, orthodontics are available. Braces can correct tooth alignment in adults, too. Braces can be either metal or clear. Invisible alignment is an option for those who want gradual correction using discreet, barely noticeable devices.

A total of seven rooms provides the setting for state-of-the-art care. Four dentists are available on a rotating basis. (There are three other Bright Dental locations in the area.) Three dental assistants, an office manager and a receptionist complete the staff. The ethnic diversity of the team at Bright Dental matches the ethnic diversity of our Northside neighborhoods. In addition to English, some staff members speak Spanish and Hindi.

Office Manager Tiffany Hein said they see "all ages of patients from six months to age 97-plus." She told us the three best



Bright Dental exterior facing Northport Drive

things for your teeth are a good dentist, good oral hygiene and proper nutrition.

The office is open five days a week: Monday—Thursday, 10 am—5 pm, and Friday, 10 am—3 pm. Bright Dental accepts

several dental care insurance plans and financing options are available. Appointments may be made by phone or online.

Learn more at brightdentalmadison. com/bright-dental-madison-east.

Harper's Hair Culture opening at Northside TownCenter in February

By Lauri Lee Northside News

Naturally curly hair can be elegant when you understand how to work with it and select the right shampoo, cut and styling.

Harper Cox, the owner of Harper's Hair Culture, a tight curl specialist salon. learned how to care for her hair the hard way. "I learned what not to do, before I learned what to do. As a bi-racial individual, I inherited my curly hair from my black father. My mother was white and didn't have experience with my type of hair and my dad's black relatives also didn't understand curly hair care. The curl in each culture has a different element and the hair is treated differently. It's hard to know how to shampoo or detangle curly hair. I had to teach myself, and did everything wrong at first," Cox shared. "But I kept practicing until I figured it out by myself. Now I'm obsessed with curls and want to help everyone with curly hair. I have many black and hispanic clients, but the salon is for anyone with curly hair. My services are curated for every gender (women, men, nonbinary) from age 3 and up. The children need to be able to sit still for a long time, as the appointments can be over two hours. I provide education to my clients and for parents who have adopted black children who want to know how to take care of curly hair.

Harper's Hair Culture is a curl exclusive salon that specializes in natural tight curls. The services include custom curly cuts, curly color and curl education and are by appointment only. Clients are encouraged to visit the website at harpershairculture. com for booking instructions, a consultation form, information about the salon and the services.

The hair care at the salon is not just about creating custom hair design and color but to fit the client's lifestyle to always look good, also making sure the hair stays healthy to enhances the natural curl. Our goal is to create the right look that compliments your face shape and curly hair texture while maintaining healthy hair.

Harper's Hair Culture is relocating after five years on Madison's westside into the former Serenity Hair Salon and Spa at 1857 Northport Drive in the Northside TownCenter. The salon will open in February. "The space I'm renting has everything I need, plus it is centrally located for my clients. When someone trusts their stylist, they are willing to travel a long way. A good curly cut is hard to find. My clients travel from Milwaukee, Illinois, Madison's eastside, Sun Prairie and

other nearby towns so it helps to be near the interstate. Proximity to the airport is also essential for clients who fly in every month or so for hair services. There's often a wait list for haircuts.

An appointment is required at Harper's Hair Culture, you can't just stop in and get a quick cut. "The appointments are long for curly hair. A new curly cut client can expect an appointment length of two to two and-a-half hours. Returning clients usually take one to two hours. Curly color and highlights could take a five hour appointment.

At the first appointment, clients receive a full analysis of their hair texture, in health and individual hair goals. Along with the curly cut clients receive any and all treatments that are needed to set their hair up for long-lasting success and to better prepare the hair for future treatments such as color and lightening.

Custom color services, with choices from balayage, fashion colors to natural colors are offered. New clients must book a new client service prior to booking a color appointment.

"I create a very welcoming and safe space that is an elevated experience for all my clients. After their appointment, I want them to love how amazing they feel. rides itself on having incredible treatments and unbeatable customer service at rates we can stand behind."

Harper's Hair Culture mission is to be a consultant to my clients, create a community with other hair and beauty professionals, support local business owners and artists, give back to the community, be eco-conscientious, run a non-profit to help underprivileged teens and women in creating confidenceboosting hair and image, train and educate both clients and other hair artists in hair health and design.

We are hiring applicants who must have a cosmetology license or be currently attending cosmetology school. Plus, we offer private suites for other entrepreneurs in the beauty/wellness industry. There are four suites to lease out. Renters will have their own niches. Interested parties should visit visit the website for the application at harpershairculture.com. We are planning to add a massage therapist, esthetician for waxing and facials, a lash tech, and nail tech soon. As a fellow small business, we understand how stressful it all can be to be in business by yourself. We look forward to supporting a collective of independent business owners who are passionate about growing their business in our collaborative environment.

I love my salon and look forward to helping those born with tight curls be able to love their hair.



Harper Cox, Harper's Hair Culture

What's new at Willy Street Co-op — North this month

By Brendon Smith *Willy Street Co-op*

Double Dollars ends March 7

March 7 will be the last Tuesday to receive Double Dollars vouchers until late October, although you'll still be able to use them through May, while program funds last. That means if you have Double Dollars vouchers at the end of this May that you were not able to spend, you can keep those Double Dollars until October, and then use them during the next Co-op Double Dollars season.

As a reminder, customers who use their FoodShare/QUEST (SNAP) benefits on Tuesdays are eligible to receive Double Dollars vouchers for every \$5 they spend on their EBT card, up to \$20. The vouchers can be used at any Willy Street Co-op store. Double Dollars are good for fresh, canned and frozen fruits, vegetables and legumes, as well as seeds and seedlings for edible plants to grow in your garden. For more information, see willystreet. coop/double-dollars.

Our Weekly Hot Bar Menu

Pick up lunch or dinner made by our talented cooks and take it home or eat it in the store's seating area.

Monday: Comfort Food Day (including foods like mac and cheese, spicy collard greens, chicken tenders)

Tuesday: Tex-Mex Day (including

foods like Sierra Madre chicken, enchilada pie, tacos)

Wednesday: Italian Day (including foods like roasted vegetable lasagna, pasta and sauce, polenta fries)

Thursday: East/Southeast Asian Day

(including foods like sweet and hot chicken, edamame fried rice, peanut chicken)

Friday: Indian Buffet Day (including

foods like masala meatballs, Deepak's korma, Bengali biriyani)

Saturday: BBQ Day (including foods

like barbequed chicken, pork and beans, Willy Street Hotdish)

Sunday: Meat and Potatoes Day (in-

Sunday: Meat and Potatoes Day (including foods like turkey, mashed potatoes, ham)

Restroom and Staff Break Room Remodel

We are in the process of remodeling our customer restrooms and staff break room. We are doing this remodel for three reasons: to update old fixtures and equipment; to change our current two single-gender bathrooms to four gender-neutral bathrooms; and to create a more functional break space for staff to use.

There may be occasional loud noise, dust or other disruptions throughout the course of this project, but we will work with the contractors to minimize these disturbances through conscious scheduling and planning.

BUSINESS

By Chris Brockel Director of food services

Watching the evolution of entrepreneurs from wide-eyed, anxiety-filled novices when they make their initial entrance at FEED Kitchens, to focused and confident food business operators after launching their business and finding success, is truly one of the joys of being at FEED Kitchens. Now in its 10th year, FEED is \(\Sigma\) seeing a cascade of those success stories and is excited to share three more. Spark Spices, Far Breton Bakery and Off the 2 Block/Mentoring Positives are all recent graduates of FEED Kitchens and their names add to the growing list of food businesses in our region that can trace their roots back to FEED.

Spark Spices specializes in high end spices and mixes, items you wouldn't traditionally find in a grocery store, and has operated at FEED since 2015. Driving from his home in Milton, Mike Wendt has taken advantage of both the commercial kitchen space and the support services offered at FEED to grow his business. Mike has now found a production facility minutes from his home where he can just walk down the street and open his shop. While Mike will be missed here, it is easy to understand his decision to move. Spark Spices will likely still regularly vend at the Monona Farmer's Market on Sundays and his spice mixes can be ordered online from his website

Far Breton Bakery, specializing in French pastries, has operated at FEED Kitchens since 2019 and their growth has not been surprising. Having formerly operated a bakery in Eau Claire, Marie Young just needed to find the fortitude to restart her business in a new market here in Madison as she already had the recipes and knowledge to make quality & baked products. Marie has been innovative in her approach and has even sold \(\frac{\frac{1}{2}}{2}\) baked goods out of a trailer just off North \(\frac{2}{2}\) Sherman Avenue. Far Breton will be moving into the old New Orleans Takeout spot on Fordem Avenue so their great products will be readily available to Northsiders.

Mentoring Positives, a youth development nonprofit serving the Darbo/ Worthington Neighborhood, has been producing their Off the Block salsa and frozen pizzas at FEED since 2018. With work crews of high school youth gracing our facility, hosting Mentoring Positives has been both fun and rewarding. Certainly the singing, dancing, and social media marketing keeps FEED vibrant and prevents us from taking ourselves too seriously, but it is the spark and the light in the eyes of youth that make the



Mentoring Positives



Far Breton



Spark Spices

job gratifying. Off the Block has moved into the commercial space in the new Ella building on East Washington Avenue just across the street from the neighborhood they represent.

The graduation of these three businesses brings the total number of graduates from FEED Kitchens to over 25 and creates space in the facility for the next food business upstart to spread their elbows a bit and grow.

FEED Kitchens graduation season | Know someone who needs student loan assistance?

By Ascendium Education Group

Student loans can be confusing. Just ask anyone who has them. For federal student loans, there are multiple repayment plans and postponement options, forgiveness possibilities and an important second chance available to resolve defaulted loans. But many people don't know how to take advantage of these options.

Here are a few best practices to help borrowers get started:

- Visit the Federal Student Aid (FSA) (studentaid.gov) website to identify your student loan servicer and create an FSA account.
- Ensure your servicer has your current contact information.
- · Learn which federal student loan repayment plan is best for you using FSA's Loan Simulator (studentaid.gov/ loan-simulator).
- Rely on FSA's website for the latest information on federal student loans.

There are more free resources available to those who want extra help:

Wisconsin Residents: Student Loan Help Hotline (debtsmarts.org), created by the Wisconsin Coalition on Student Debt in partnership with Ascendium. Student loan borrowers in Wisconsin can call 833-589-0750, Monday-Friday, 8 am-4:30 pm, with student loan repayment questions. Expert

counselors will take time to understand each individual's questions and provide support and guidance, at no cost to borrowers.

Milwaukee County Residents:

Student Loan Start Over (studentloanstartover.org). The Wisconsin Department of Administration awarded Ascendium Education Solutions a grant to help residents in Milwaukee County start over after defaulting on their federal student loans. If you know anyone living in Milwaukee County who needs assistance related to federal student loan default, please let them know about this program. They can obtain free, personalized counseling to resolve their default. Getting started is as easy as completing a contact information form or calling 833-691-3167, Monday-Friday, 8 am-4:30 pm. Recovering from default is easier than you think.

About Ascendium

Ascendium has 55 years of rich history in federal student loan expertise. As a guarantor, provider of student support solutions and a former loan servicer, they've seen it all when it comes to federal student loans. And they are sharing their expertise with Wisconsin student loan borrowers. Ascendium believes in the promise of a better life — no matter where you started — and the power of education and training beyond high school to transform the lives of learners from low-income backgrounds.



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- Feb 21 starting at noon. Jumbalaya Shrimp Po Boys
- Sausauge Po Boys Hurricanes
- Keylime Pie

Lunch Specials

Lunch specials are served 11 am-2 pm

Tuesday

Blue gill sandwich with fries and coleslaw

Wednesday

Nueske's bacon cheeseburger with fries

Thursday

Jenifer Street ribeye steak sandwich with fries and coleslaw

Hours

Tuesday-Thursday 11 am-close Friday 2-8 pm | Saturday 11 am-close

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LIBRARY





Library Hours

Monday–Friday, 10 am–8 pm Saturday, 9 am–5 pm Sunday, 1–5 pm See all library hours at madpl.org/locations.

Friends of Lakeview Library

The Friends of Lakeview Library will hold their annual meeting Saturday, Feb. 25. The business meeting will begin at 1 pm, followed by a family event featuring local author Susan Apps-Bodilly at 2 pm.

Apps-Bodilly will talk about her new book "Seeds in Soil: Planting a Garden and Finding Your Roots," a gardening guide for children and their grownups with projects, recipes and more. She will tell you how to take learning outdoors and empower young readers to plant their own gardens while digging deeper into related science and history lessons in this "soil to supper" book designed for children and adults to use together. Packed with hands-on activities, fun projects and fresh recipes, her colorful gardening guide provides opportunities for children to observe, explore and ask questions while engaging their natural curiosity about nature.

EVENTS

All events are at Lakeview Library unless otherwise indicated. Check madison-publiclibrary.org/calendar for the most up to date information on programs and services.

Munch Mobile Lunch Van

Saturdays, Feb. 4–March 25, 1–1:15 pm

The Munch Mobile Lunch Van will make a stop at Lakeview Library on Saturdays during the school year. All people in and around the library can get a free lunch.

Multi-age Storytime

Thursdays, Feb. 2–March 2, 10:30–11:30 am

(Note: Feb. 9 will be Art for Little Ones) Read and play together with children ages 5 and under. Books, songs and playful experiences help children develop communication skills, patience, empathy, and prereading skills and help build a lifelong love of reading. Siblings and childcare groups are welcome.

Baby Play Date

Wednesdays, Feb. 1–22, 10–11 am Join other neighborhood families for a casual library playdate for babies from birth to 17 months and their caregivers. We'll feature open-ended play materials and lots of books. Siblings are welcome.

Baby Storytime

Wednesdays, March 1–22, 10:30–11:15 am Read and play with your favorite baby, ages birth to 17 months. Reading, singing, talking and playing with your baby from the beginning is important because the roots of language develop in a baby's brain even before they can talk. Library programs are always free. Siblings and childcare groups are welcome.

Art for Little Ones

Thursdays, Feb. 9 and March 9, 10:30–11:30 am

Children ages 2–5 can join artist Amy Mietzel for hands-on art activities inspired by picture books. We'll read the book aloud, then use materials to make art creations. Additional books that fit the theme will also be available for caregivers and children to read together. Siblings and

groups are welcome.

Feb. 9 we'll do a self-expression art project inspired by the book "Hands Up!" by Breanna J. McDaniel. March 9 we'll do an animal art project inspired by the book "Armadillo Antics" by Bill Martin Jr.

Music + Movement

Saturday, Feb. 4, 10–11 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.

Cooking with Chef Lily

Saturdays, Feb. 11, March 11 and 25, 1:30–2:30 pm

Tuesdays, Feb. 14 and 28, March 14 and 28, 4:30–5:30 pm

Join The Kids Chef, Lily Kilfoy, for a series of cooking classes for children 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 St. Co-op North.

We Read to a Dog

Mondays, Feb. 27 and March 27, 3–4 pm Read aloud to a furry friend from Alliance of Therapy Dogs at Lakeview Library. Bring a favorite book or try a new one from our collection. First come, first served.

Minecraft Club

Mondays, Feb. 6–March 27, 4–5:30 pm 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 take turns as needed.

LEGO Club

Saturday, March 11, 10–11am

Are you a kid who loves LEGOs? Do you enjoy engineering and designing LEGO creations? If so, join us at LEGO Club.

The library provides 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

Wednesdays, Feb. 8 and 22, March 8 and 22, 4:30–5:30 pm

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

Teen & Tween Video Game Night

Fridays, Feb. 10 and March 10, 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 Cooking Club

Fridays, Feb. 3 and 17, March 3 and 17, 4:30–5:30 pm

Tweens and teens are invited to cook with Chef Lily. Participants will prepare and enjoy a wide variety of recipes, while learning about meal planning, following recipes, and using kitchen gadgets and tools. Food is generously provided by Willy St. Co-op North.

Teen Book Club

Tuesdays, Feb. 7 and March 7, 5:30–6:30 pm

Join us for our teen book club. Stop by the library to check out the book. There will be free snacks. All teens are welcome. Feb. 7 will feature "Heartstopper Volume 2" by Alice Oseman. March 7 will feature "Heartstopper Volume 3" by Alice Oseman.

Iris Folded Valentine Cards

Thursday, Feb. 9, 6–8 pm

Create a unique Valentine's Day card for a loved one. Iris folding is a technique that involves arranging strips of paper to form a design reminiscent of the iris of a camera

 $\textbf{Library} \ continued \ on \ page \ 9$

Know Someone Who Needs Student Loan Assistance?

Federal student loans have multiple repayment plans and programs available. But many people don't know how to take full advantage of them.

Here's where borrowers can get trusted, free support.

Federal Student Loan Borrowers

Federal Student Aid studentaid.gov

Locate your student loan servicer here: studentaid.gov/manage-loans/repayment/servicers

Wisconsin Residents

Wisconsin Student Loan Help Hotline debtsmarts.org 833-589-0750

Milwaukee County Residents

Student Loan Start Over studentloanstartover.org If you have a defaulted federal student loan, call: 833-691-3167

Learn more about Ascendium ascendiumeducation.org





LIBRARY

Library

Continued from page 8

lens. Cards, craft paper and decorating supplies will be provided. Register online or call 608-246-4547.

Chess at the Library

Mondays, Feb. 13 and 27, March 13 and 27, 6–8 pm

All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Tax Assistance

Wednesdays, Feb. 1-March 29, 12:30-4 pm Fridays, Feb. 3-March 31, 12:30-4 pm Free assistance from VITA volunteers to help you fill out and file your Wisconsin and Federal personal income taxes. Call 608-246-4547 to reserve a half-hour appointment.

Chocolate Truffles

Thursday, Feb. 2, 1–2 pm or Tuesday, Feb. 7, 6:30-7:30 pm

Who doesn't need a little chocolate boost once in a while? Homemade truffles hit the spot, and they're quick to make following easy instructions. We'll taste test a variety of truffles including espresso, hazelnut and orange. Register online or call 608-246-4547. Space is limited.

First Friday Films

Fridays, Feb. 3 and March 3, 6–8 pm Join us for a film night the first Friday of each month. Selections include featurelength films, documentaries and shorts. Feb. 3 we will watch "Daughters of the Dust" and March 3 "Hello, Bookstore." Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Dementia and the Aging Brain

Monday, Feb. 6, 1–2:30 pm

Have you ever walked into a room and forgot why you are there? Join Ellen Taylor, Dementia Care Specialist at the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Dane County, in a discussion of what happens to our brains as we get older. Learn more about the difference between age-related memory loss and dementia.

COVID Vaccine Clinic

Tuesdays, Feb. 7-March 28, 3-6 pm (No clinic Feb. 21)

Get free COVID-19 vaccines and boosters at Lakeview Library, administered by Public Health Madison & Dane County. First, second or booster doses of Pfizer, Moderna and Johnson & Johnson are available while supplies last. Everyone age 5 and older is welcome. Children aged 5-17 need a parent or guardian present. No ID or insurance is required.

Mini Archiving Lab: Drop-In Tutorial

Monday, Feb. 6, 6–7:30 pm Monday, Feb. 20, 2:30-4 pm

The Mini Archiving Lab is a collection of portable equipment to digitize analog materials, such as VHS and audio cassettes, online or call 608-246-4547.



Alder Myazde stopped by to say hello to the therapy dog teams and met Stephanie Smith and Danny (Collie), and Sue Hill and Teddy (Black and Tan Coonhound).

We Read to a Dog

By Sue Hill

Would you like to meet and read to a furry friend? The We Read to a Dog program is up and running at Lakeview Library and has three dates scheduled to start off 2023. Come visit on the fourth Monday in February and March from 3-4 pm. There are typically three teams available for visits and are first-come, first-served lasting between 10–15 minutes.

To kick off the program at Lakeview Library, a Meet and Greet was held Nov. 7. It was a big success with numerous

photographs, negatives and more. Stop by

the library for a tutorial on how to use the

library's Mini Archiving Lab. Tutorial dura-

Following the tutorial, you may make a

February appointment to use the equipment

for your personal archiving project. Patrons

must bring some form of external storage

Memory screening is an important part

of overall health. The Aging & Disability

Resource Center of Dane County is offer-

ing free, confidential, 15-minute memory

screening appointments, including educa-

tional materials about memory concerns

and brain health. Schedule an appointment

which digital files can be stored.

– portable hard drive or thumb drive — on

tion is 20-30 minutes.

Memory Screening

Thursday, Feb. 9, 1–3 pm

library patrons of all ages spending time petting the dogs, saying hello and learning about the program.

Each handler and dog team is certified through Alliance of Therapy Dogs, which requires a background check, health certifications for the dog and testing of the handler and dog.

All ages can benefit from interacting with a therapy dog. Reading to a dog can relieve stress and give a child a fun, non-judgmental way to practice reading. Everyone is welcome to stop by and experience We Read to a dog.

Board Game Café

Mondays, Feb. 20 and March 20, 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.

Artisan Breads

Thursday, March 9, 6:30-7:30 pm It's possible to make artisan breads at home by knowing how to prepare a noknead dough and using special equipment like Dutch ovens to produce the steam required for that open cell structure and wonderful crust. You'll learn techniques that will result in perfect artisan breads every time. Register online or call 608-246-4547. Space is limited.

Knife Skills with Chef Paul

Thursday, March 23, 6:30-7:30 pm Once your knife skills have improved, your cooking will be more efficient and delicious. Join Chef Paul for a demonstration on how to dice, julienne and chiffonade vegetables and fruits. He will also discuss how to choose, care for and sharpen knives. This program is for ages 13 and older; adult supervision is required. Register online or call 608-246-4547.

Madison Writing Assistance

Mondays, Feb. 6-March 27, 4-7 pm (No assistance March 13)

The Madison Writing Assistance program offers free, one-to-one writing support for writing projects, 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.

Scrabble at the Library

Wednesdays, Feb. 1-March 29, 10 am-

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

Knitting at the Library

Wednesdays, Feb. 1-March 29, 6-8 pm Drop in knitting: Learn a new craft or work on that unfinished project with other neighborhood knitters.

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

NewBridge Book Discussions

First Wednesdays, 10–11 am Feb. 1 - "The Woman Warrior" by Maxine Hong Kingston

March 1 - "Cold Sassy Tree" by Olive Ann Burns

Lakeview Book Discussion

First Thursdays, 6:30–8 pm Feb 2 - "Between Shades of Gray" by Ruta Sepetys

March 2 – "Honor" by Thrity Umrigar

Daytime Book Discussion

Second Thursdays, 12–1 pm Feb. 9 - "Great Circle" by Maggie Shipstead

March 9 - "Pastoral Song: A Farmer's Journey" by James Rebanks

Mystery Book Group Discussion

Third Thursdays, 5:30–7 pm

Feb. 16 – "Firekeeper's Daughter" by Angeline Boulley

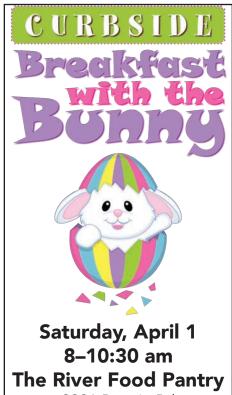
March 16 - "Mirrorland" by Carole Johnstone

Walking Book Group

Third Fridays, 2–3 pm

Feb. 17 – "The Marrow Thieves" by Cherie Dimaline

March 17 - "Commonwealth" by Ann



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COMMUNITY



The lots where the apartment buildings will be constructed currently contain an abandoned parking lot and unpaved open space,

Hartmeyer site housing approved

By Jan Axelson Northside News

Photo by Jan Axelson

On Jan. 3, the Madison Common Council unanimously approved conditional use permits to create two lots for apartment buildings at 2007 Roth Street, south of Roth Street and just west of the Oscar Mayer complex of buildings. A third lot west of the building sites will be park land.

Formerly owned by the Hartmeyer family, the land is now owned by the Kraft Heinz Foods Company, the parent company of Oscar Mayer. The developer is Lincoln Avenue Capital of Santa Monica. Calif.

The site will hold a six-story building with 250 apartments for seniors and a seven-story building with 303 apartments for families. The plan includes a swimming pool, enclosed dog run, picnicking and grilling space, and a playground. The buildings will meet Wisconsin Green Built Home standards, which will provide energy savings for occupants.

All apartments will be restricted to those earning less than 60% of Dane County's median yearly income, which is \$69,000 for a family of four. The developer expects to open the apartments for rent in fall 2024.

The parcel to be obtained by Madison Parks is 15 acres of wetland and surrounding upland.

Before the vote, 18th District Alder Charles Myadze asked about requirements to remove contamination resulting from the site's former use as storage for coal and fuel oil. Planning Division Director Heather Stouder explained that before development can occur, the site must meet all Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) requirements for environmental cleanup and transitioning the site for residential use.

The permits were approved despite opposition from the Sherman Neighborhood Association, which advocated delaying approval until a Phase 2 environmental assessment was completed and the WDNR approved a material management plan for the site. The Friends of Hartmeyer Natural Area supported granting the permits as the best outcome available for the site.

The approval follows three public information meetings and approval by the Urban Design Commission and Plan Commission.



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FAVORITE

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CANDIDATE FORUMS

Mayoral Forum Wednesday, Feb. 8 6:30-8 pm

District 12 Alder Forum Wednesday, Feb. 15 6-8 pm

LOCATION Door Creek Church - North 1181 N. Sherman Ave. **NorthGate Shopping Center**





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Renee installed a new router and computer for us, which have been working great. She saved us time and money. I would highly recommend Renee if you want great service for a good price. Patrick S. Madison, WI 10/2022

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HOURS

Mon, Wed, Fri: 7:30 AM - 5:30 PM Tues & Thurs: 7:30 AM - 7:00 PM Saturday: 8:00 AM - Noon **Closed Sundays**

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COMMUNITY

Northside blood drive on Feb. 8



Rhonda Adams, executive director of The River Food Pantry, has donated blood at the past two Northside Blood Drives held at Door Creek Church.

By Becca Carpenter
The River Food Pantry

Door Creek Church will host a community blood drive on Madison's Northside Wednesday, Feb. 8, from 2–5:30 pm, at 1181 N. Sherman Ave., inside Door Creek Church Activity Center.

Sponsored once again by The River Food Pantry and the Northside Planning Council, this public blood drive will support ImpactLife, provider of blood and blood components to SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital and Stoughton Health.

"We continue to collaborate with our

Northside partners to organize these blood drives to help save lives right here in our community," said Rhonda Adams, executive director of The River. "Together, we collected enough blood to impact up to 72 lives in 2022. With your help on Feb. 8, we can make an even bigger impact this year. Please schedule your appointment today."

In addition to saving lives, blood do- a nors will receive from ImpactLife a voucher for a t-shirt or a gift card.

Appointments: To donate blood, visit g bit.ly/northside-blood-drive-3 or call & 800-747-5401.

Donor eligibility criteria: Potential donors must be at least 17 years of age (16 with parental permission form available through bloodcenter.org) and weigh more than 110 pounds. A photo ID is required to donate. If you have questions about eligibility, call ImpactLife at 800-747-5401. Donors who last gave blood on or before Dec. 12, 2022, are eligible to give at this drive.

About blood donation: Blood donation is a safe, simple procedure that takes about 45 minutes to one hour. Individuals with diabetes or controlled high blood pressure may be accepted as eligible donors.

About ImpactLife: ImpactLife is the provider of blood and blood components to more than 125 hospitals in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Wisconsin.



Over 400 children and parents took home goodie bags and delicious to-go breakfasts from Curbside Breakfast with the Bunny in 2022.

Curbside Breakfast with the Bunny is hopping back this year

By Becca Carpenter
The River Food Pantry

"Everybunny" is invited to Curbside Breakfast with the Bunny as the event returns Saturday, April 1, from 8–10:30 am, at The River Food Pantry, 2201 Darwin Road.

This drive-thru event will offer pancakes, eggs, meat, fruit, milk and juice for the whole family. The Easter Bunny will be hopping around taking photos with cars and giving children free goodie bags filled with treats and fun activities. Children must be present to receive a goodie bag.

Once again, this is a pay-whatyou-can event. Proceeds will benefit The River, Dane County's busiest food pantry.

"Last year, this wonderful Northside celebration brought so much 'hoppyness' to our community and raised \$2,800 for our pantry," said Rhonda Adams, executive director of The River. "We can't wait for another morning filled with smiles, hugs and high fives with our favorite bunny."

Volunteers are needed to help prepare and distribute meals and goodie bags. To sign up, contact Helen at helen@riverfoodpantry.org.

CANDIDATE FORUMS

Mayoral Forum Wednesday, Feb. 8 6:30–8 pm District 12 Alder Forum Wednesday, Feb. 15 6-8 pm

LOCATION

Door Creek Church - North

1181 N. Sherman Ave.

NorthGate Shopping Center



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True North

By Jason Robert Van Pelt

Rising stars and stripes of a pole

Whence a flag meets its goal

A choice of Madison people

Reflects like lakes unfeeble

Nature awaits for us to watch

Everywhere another notch

Resonates freely a wild catch

For artwork to nest and hatch!







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COMMUNITY

Virginia Davis to retire from dance studio after 48 years in business

By Anita Weier *Northside News*

Forty-eight years ago, in 1975, Virginia Davis took a chance that few women did in that era. She started her own business — the Virginia Davis School of Dance, the dance studio of her dreams.

One daughter had finished high school and the other two were close. After years of teaching dance at someone else's business, Virginia wanted to do it her way. Since then, she has operated her business on the north and east sides of Madison as well as at branch studios in Waterloo, Columbus, Stoughton and Belleville over the years. First operating in rented places, she acquired her own studio on Sherman Avenue on the Northside 25 years ago.

"I have shared my love of dance with students and their families and trained recreational and professional dancers. I have also mentored many studio owners," she said.

To walk with Virginia around the Northside is to encounter several mothers and daughters who have all been taught by her. Hugs are common.

"The studio has been my professional pride and joy. My daughters have played an intricate part in expanding the Virginia Davis School of Dance. Our staff is like a second family," she said. "We deeply love all of our students, families, faculty and staff. It has been a privilege to bring the art of dance to generations of children for more than four decades."

In May 2023, the Virginia Davis school on Sherman Avenue will close



Virginia Davis has been dancing almost all her life.

Nirginia Davis and her great-granddaughters

and be operated by the Variations Dance Studio, which is owned by Mynda Lynn. The sale was completed in January.

Davis will miss it, as will daughters Kay Hamielec and Vlyn Davis, who have played increasingly major roles in the studio and dance shop. "The experience of owning and operating Virginia Davis School of Dance and Davis Dancewear has been immensely rewarding. Our businesses certainly exceeded my dreams," she said.

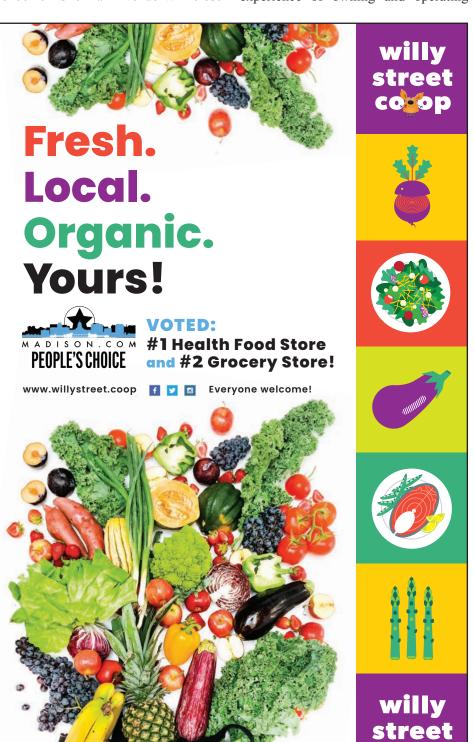
But now, at the age of 85, it is time to retire after a final recital in the spring. "Now is the time to enjoy our retirement and spend more time with our growing

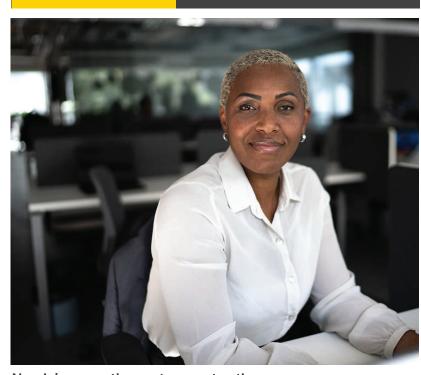
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families — children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren," she said.

"We share this news with gratitude and a sense of peace that this is the right decision for our families. We are proud to be a part of the Madison dance community and look forward to supporting it in the years ahead."

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Northside News

Primary election candidates for mayor and district 12

Mayoral Candidates



Scott Kerr



Gloria Reyes



Satya Rhodes Conway

District 12 Aldermanic Candidates



Blake Alvarenga



Amani Latimer Burris



Julia Matthews



Victor Toniolo



Josh Walling

As the April 4, 2023 spring election fast approaches – and the Feb. 21 primary even sooner - the Northside Planning Council and Northside News has been busy asking questions of candidates and planning forums so voters can be well informed. Keep reading in this section to find all this valuable information compiled and shared with you. We have articles highlighting the candidates running for the District 12 and 18 city alder seats, one question asked in the highly contested District 12 alder seat and three questions

asked of the three mayoral candidates all with 300 word limits. All of the candidates have responded to these Northside-focused questions and all have likewise committed to participate in our two scheduled Northside candidate forums co-sponsored by the Northside Planning Council and Northside Business Association.

Northside input requested

We would love to hear from you what Northside issues you are concerned with or care about as well as specific questions you would like to ask the alder and/or mayor candidates at our February forums. While not every single question will be asked from the microphone due to time constraints, all will help inform our overall awareness of what matters most to us on the Northside. Please indicate the topic (public safety, Oscar Mayer, youth, racial justice, housing, racial equity, etc.) please email questions and comments to director@northsideplanningcouncil.org.

Northside forums

The mayoral forum is Wednesday,

Feb. 8 at 6:30 pm, and the district 12 alder forum is Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 6 pm, both at the Door Creek Church - North, 1181 N. Sherman Ave., in the NorthGate Shopping Center.

While we hope to see many of you in person at the forums on these evenings, to make the event more accessible, we will also be live streaming the events on our Northside Planning Council Facebook page.

Please take these opportunities to learn about our candidates before we get out to vote.

District 12 Common Council 2023 candidates

By Anita Weier Northside News

Five candidates have filed for the District 12 Madison Common Council seat vacated by Alder Syed Abbas when he moved out of the district.

They are, in alphabetical order: Blake Alvarenga, Amani Latimer Burris, Julia Matthews, Victor Toniolo and Josh Walling. Only two candidates will progress to the April election after the Feb. 21 primary election.

Blake Alvarenga, 31, was born in Madison and went to elementary school here before the family moved to Texas for his father's job. Alvarenga moved back in 2015. He is a consultant for Smart Solutions at MGE. Prior to that he was a project coordinator at Network Engineering Tech. He lives in Eken Park, was recently married, and hopes to buy a house.

He is running because he wants residents of the area to be well represented. "I would be an advocate for the area. I would speak strongly and loudly. When I walk from door to door, the issues raised by residents are the Oscar Mayer site, the airport, and noise, air, water and soil pollution," he said.

"I also hear a lot about the drag races on East Washington, and that is not just a recent issue. I would research agreements with the State Patrol, since Packers and East Washington are state highways." He also supports traffic calming measures such as adding greenery to slow traffic. Adding bike lanes and turning lanes slowed down traffic on Sherman Avenue, he stated. He supports a bike path to the airport.

People have told him they would like to see the Oscar Mayer plant torn down completely and an Amtrak station built on the site. Others are concerned about noise from the military F-35s soon to be at Truax Field. "The Common Council doesn't have the power to stop planes, but they can make sure pollution is controlled. Just because we can't vote on something doesn't mean we can't speak up," he said.

Alvarenga is concerned about gun safety and handed out free gun locks at the Dane County Farmers Market though he hasn't heard much concern from residents about gun violence. He does not believe schools should have police resource officers. "There are more equitable ways to help children," he said. "I am a fan of a strong social fabric. Madison is a good place with good people."

Amani Latimer Burris ran unsuccessfully for the Wisconsin State Senate and the Dane County Board of Supervisors in recent years. She has worked as a state legislative staffer and as a journalist. She could not be reached prior to the Northside News article deadline. See later response on page 14.

Julia Matthews, 30, is a lifelong Madison resident who has lived on the Eastside most of that time and in District 12 since August. She works at UW-Madison for the Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention as a programmer analyst. "I design databases and put together reports," she said. Prior to that at a restaurant part time. she was a research technician at Covance. She has Bachelor of Science degrees from the UW in medical microbiology and immunology, and molecular biology.

"I have been getting more involved in city politics. I love Madison a lot. Being a renter, as the city changes, I want to make sure people are not pushed out. I want to make sure it is not just the wealthy here," she said. "I want to make sure it is a more equitable place. There are disparities for certain people with the school district, housing and transportation. Madison also needs more market rate housing, not just affordable housing. This district has space. I want to get input so housing is done in the best way for people who live here and those who may come."

She said she will fight for noise mitigation from the F-35s since District 12 will bear the brunt of the flights.

She met with Alder Abbas previously and said he put a lot of effort into keeping communication open. "I want to support what people want for District 12, to give people a voice."

She worries about possible contamination from Oscar Mayer and sound pollution from the F-35s. "A train station at Oscar Mayer could add revitalization," she said.

Victor Toniolo, 38, has lived in the Emerson East neighborhood for a year and a half and in Madison since 2003. He works as a biochemist for Scientific Protein Laboratories in Waunakee and also works

"I want to carry on Syed's legacy of bringing the public to the table and compromising," he said. "I've worked with city staff and understand most of the ordinances. I have studied the budget and hope to obtain more state or federal funding for projects, instead of borrowing. We should be able to get federal funding for contamination of the Oscar Mayer site, as well as remediation for F-35s at the airport."

District 12 is so large that there is potential for an Amtrak station at three sites, he said. There is also public market potential. "I own my own home but understand how hard it is to find a place to live. I empathize on how to fund housing as we grow."

Josh Walling, 57, is a carpenter with Associated Housewrights. He has lived on the north and east sides of Madison for most of his life and owns a house in the 12th District. He attended MATC and UW-Madison and says he is 15 credits short of a political science degree at UW.

Like other candidates, he loves Madison. "We need to balance development and growth with keeping Madison the same. A lot of times huge apartment buildings eliminate businesses that have been there for years. I want to preserve the small businesses and other things that are Madison," Walling said.

"I would generally approve transportation measures. Amtrak would be good. I want to make sure that housing developments provide a healthy place to live."

CANDIDATES

DISTRICT 12 ALDER CANDIDATE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Please describe your specific priorities if you are elected to represent the Northside as the District 12 Alder. Please reference at least one specific issue or project that is relevant-current.

Blake Alvarenga

My highest priority as Alder is being the voice of all the diverse communities of District 12, whose members have many opinions and even more questions for the city, its committees and its departments. There are a lot of issues that people in District 12 really care about; the environment, housing developments, road construction and the bus system, and public safety. Every conversation I have with the people of District 12 and that of the Northside always involves asking why? Why did the city make that decision? Why didn't the city consult the neighborhood? One of the most significant areas with questions all around it is the Hartmeyer Development. It's a large housing development that is moving through the municipal planning process. Private and public collaborations like this are complicated and can be difficult to follow for community members. Do we pave over Madison's historic areas and green spaces with concrete as fast as we can pour, or do we make sure that the current housing and infrastructure footprint is minimized and let nature take Madison back to its marshy and wild roots? There's a balance between the extremes, and I look forward to working with District 12 to find it and make sure there's transparency every step of the way. Constituents and other interested parties can look forward to the District 12 blog on the Madison website to get your answers, and if that doesn't cover it, I will always make myself available for questions and comments.

blakeformadison.com 608-421-4571 blakealvarenga@gmail.com

Amani Latimer Burris

My priority for District 12 is dealing with whatever is going on in the city as it happens. From experience, working in this space on a variety of levels, I have learned that priorities can shift overnight.

That said, I want to work on issues and projects that will allow all of us, on the East and Northside, to build upon the past and move Madison forward and create new possibilities.

This said, I know we have concerns around the environment; economic development is critical; serious environmental



issues are prevalent; public safety (from all points of view) is always concerning; so many people can see and understand that the availability and affordability of housing is an issue; during COVID-19 we had to ask if people's essential needs were being met (a lesson, lest we forget); the care of our elders (as I experienced directly) is an issue that is only going to accelerate; East Washington, at times, feels like a speedway and the white bikes serve as a constant reminder that politics, policy, voices and leadership matter. So. my want as alder, representing a diverse community (in all the ways you could imagine) is to listen and hear, consider and question, seek and learn to make inclusive and equitable decisions that hopefully will be the difference.

amaniforwisconsin.com (608) 721-5559 info@amaniforwisconsin.com

Julia Matthews

My priorities are to support continued investment into the Northside, while responsibly navigating the challenges of environmental contamination and impending noise impact from F-35s. We are in the middle of a housing crisis that is only getting worse and the response to these challenges can't just be to abandon the Northside to contaminated land and noise pollution. District 12 deserves an alder who is capable of taking all factors and public input into consideration and committed to finding the outcomes that will best serve the people of the district and decrease existing disparities.

For the Hartmeyer development, I will keep accountability on the City to perform the environmental studies required by the conditional use permit and to address any findings in a way that ensures the affordable housing will not be a risk to its future tenants safety.

In accordance with the Oscar Mayer Special Area Plan, I will work to make sure that future developments include the full range of market rate, affordable units and opportunities for new homeownership, so any growth is sustainable and ensures a thriving community. I will also work with people in the area and city staff to



be sure that even with new projects, we are also continuing to conserve existing green spaces.

For any revitalization to be reasonable and equitable, we need a better noise study on the impacts of F35s and support from the city to make funds available for noise mitigation through infrastructure, negotiating timing of flights to limit children's exposure at schools, and building noise mitigation into the requirements for any new developments. In December, I met with Former Alder Syed Abbas, and one possibility he mentioned was creating a Tax Incremental District specifically for noise mitigation funds. This is a top priority for me moving forward.

juliamatthewsfor12.com 608-516-6570 juliamatthews4@gmail.com

From Victor Toniolo

District 12 will see the most exciting changes in all of Madison.

The public market is a long-awaited business incubator that will serve many new small business owners. I will work hard to minimize project delays and cost overruns and maximize the public market's success.

The Amtrak station should be located at the Oscar Mayer site. This is an opportunity to access federal funds to get the site cleaned up right. I also believe it will serve Madison best since there is space for affordable parking and direct connections to public transportation. OM is our best opportunity for an intermodal transportation hub, even including future light rail.

I will increase high density development in Madison, because we are experiencing nothing short of a housing crisis. We continue to fail to meet demand. I am excited about recent changes to zoning that allow more development along public transit, but more can be done to catch up on our city's housing needs. For example, I would explore multiple funding options for sound-proofing so larger developments could be built near the airport. Soundproofing grants would also be used to improve current residents' quality of life.

Being pro-development does NOT mean cutting people out of the process. I will continue the tradition of collaboration and compromise between longtime

residents, new residents, businesses, and the environment. The recent work with the friends of Hartmeyer was inspiring to me, and while not everyone may be happy with every new development, it's best to have everyone at the table.

Finally, I would work with the mayor, council, and committees to find ways to reduce city borrowing. I am frustrated with the growing percentage of the budget being spent on debt service, which reduces our ability to provide much needed city services.

608-332-9152 vatoniolo@gmail.com

Josh Walling

Hi, I am Josh Walling, candidate for Alderperson District 12. I have owned a home in the Brentwood neighborhood for over 20 years. I owned Capital City Construction, LLC. I went to Madison College and to the University of Wisconsin, Madison. I majored in political science and am currently one semester away from a bachelor's degree. I took time off to take care of my three children. I have recently been working as a carpenter.

I love Madison and want it to become a model of sustainability and a truly Green City. As alderperson I would be an advocate for Warner Park and the Warner Park Community Recreation Center. I would like our parks and green spaces to be nurtured and protected from development.

I want to see that Madison reduces access to automatic weapons and high-capacity magazines. I would also push for accountability for our police. One way to do that is through body cameras. I want Madison to be a multicultural city where people of all races, genders and backgrounds feel welcome and safe.

I think that our transportation system is challenged by constant population growth. I support expansion to our bus system. I would like to see the Amtrak Station built at the Oscar Mayer site. I think this project would be good for the neighborhood.

I would prioritize balancing the benefits of economic growth and development with other priorities such as sustainability, preservation of existing small businesses, transportation and most importantly, the will of the citizens that currently live in the neighborhood. I oppose projects that have the potential to change neighborhoods substantially. For instance, I would oppose the 550 units at the Hartmeyer Natural Area near the old Oscar Mayer Site. I would oppose it for the destruction of green space, the problems with the soil, the challenges for transportation and the changes in the neighborhood for current citizens.

608-245-3384 madcityalder@gmail.com

CANDIDATE FORUMS

Mayoral Forum Wednesday, Feb. 8 6:30–8 pm District 12 Alder Forum Wednesday, Feb. 15 6-8 pm

LOCATION

Door Creek Church - North

1181 N. Sherman Ave.

NorthGate Shopping Center





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CANDIDATES

Linley launches challenge for District 18 Council seat

By Anita Weier *Northside News*

Michelle Ellinger Linley is challenging District 18 Alder Charles Myadze in the April Madison Common Council election.

Linley is a longtime Northsider who operates a business — Madison Newborn Care — from her home. "I always prioritize paying my employees a living wage," she said.

Linley, 39, heads a household of three teenage sons and two rescue dogs. She has been active in several local organizations, serving on the board of Friends of Lake View Hill Park and founder of the Northside Neighborhoods Facebook group. She served as PTA vice-president and Green Team member at Lake View Elementary School from 2010–2021. She also is a volunteer for Moms on a Mission at East High School and was a founding member of the Raemisch Farm Work Group.

"I believe there is power in collaboration, how folks work in relationship with each other. The Northside has unique challenges that we have to be ready to meet with collaboration, tenacity and flexibility," she said. "I did not finish college, but that has not stopped me."

Her main interests include public health and safety, increasing green space and land conservation, supporting members of the disability community and providing food access for families. Linley pledges "to bring the value system of the Northside" to the Common Council. "The Northside is full of people who are hardworking, value their neighborhoods and want more engagement than in other areas of the city," she explained.

She worries that formerly strong neighborhood associations have faded. "There is much less participation, and COVID made that worse," Linley said.

She is proud that some of the measures the Raemisch Farm Work Group supported were incorporated into the development plans that were ultimately approved, such as protecting the Lake View School Forest, not locating residences inside the decibel 65 line for F-35s, and building smaller homes.

Linley said she will be proactive on the council, not just responding when things come up. "I want to get ahead of it." She sees a need for more affordable housing and believes city officials should support developers who want to build. "We have to be careful not to build dormitories that don't engage the community," she added.

"There have been some intense challenges with gun violence. We can get more creative with violence prevention and restorative justice," she said. She supports the CARES program, in which social workers handle responses to mental health situations that have potential to turn violent. "There is more sensitivity with mental health professionals involved," Linley said.

Myadze seeks re-election in District 18 Council race

By Anita Weier Northside News

Charles Myadze is proud to have served on the Madison Common Council as District 18 Alder on the Northside for two years. He hopes to serve for the next two years, continuing to listen to and resolve constituents' concerns.

Myadze helped lead the effort for a pilot program for body-worn cameras for North District police. He also pushed successfully for the upcoming replacement of the unsafe railroad bridge over Troy Drive, as well as reconstruction of Knutson Drive.

Myadze supported the recently approved Green Street residential and commercial development on what was the Raemisch Farm between North Sherman Avenue and Packers Avenue. That development was opposed by a group of neighbors, including his opponent, but Myadze notes that it will include single-family homes much needed on the Northside, which has been a favorite starting place for young families.

He has pushed to increase representation from people of color when choosing a site for a train station in Madison. He supports the extension of passenger rail to Madison and thinks that the airport would be the most sensible location.

Gun violence is a concern, and he for 35 years.

hopes for more outreach to young people on the issue.

On the council, he serves on the Alcohol License Review Committee, the City-County Liaison Committee, the Education Committee, the Transportation Committee, and the Warner Park Community Recreation Center Advisory Subcommittee.

Besides serving on the council, Myadze works as a product tester for Goodyear/Continental in Sun Prairie, where he has been employed for 25 years. He has been working the night shift, which made for some exhausting weeks while serving on the council, but he is switching to the day shift. A member of Steelworkers Local 904, Myadze is also a union steward who trains new workers in his department.

He is a trustee member of Christ the Solid Rock Church and has volunteered with the Dane County Chapter of the NAACP.

He is a single parent of three children ages 17, 21 and 23. "My daughter works in Memphis as a social worker, my oldest son is driving a bus for Metro and my younger son is in high school," he said. Myadze is a graduate of LaFollette High School and has earned a Certificate in Computer and Numerical Control at Madison College.

Myadze, 47, has lived in Madison for 35 years.

Michelle

ELLINGER LINLEY

Madison Common Council • District 18

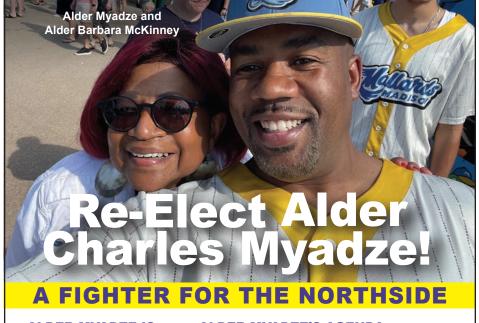


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ALDER MYADZE IS A PROVEN LEADER

- Helped get Body Worn Camera Pilot approved for the Northside
- Worked with stakeholders to move forward on much-needed housing on Raemisch Farm site
- Championed safety and environmental improvements to Knutson Drive and Troy Drive Railroad Overpass

ALDER MYADZE'S AGENDA:

No Going Back. Let's Keep the Northside Moving Forward

- Make safe, quality housing accessible to more families, seniors and working people
- ✓ Fight for equity and access for all in re-design of bus routes and in bus rapid transit
- ✓ Protect the Northside's environment and special places
- ✓ Fund youth employment, early childhood learning, and affordable child care to strengthen our families
- ✓ Make our neighborhoods and our City safer
- ✓ Be an authentic voice for racial justice



Alder Charles

Myadze

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CANDIDATES

MAYORAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What priorities and/or projects do you intend to pursue and support that directly impact residents of the Northside of Madison?

Scott Kerr My goals are twofold, create a system for real time response from the public on all issues. Rather than asking citizens to sit through long council meetings to have their chance to weigh in on proposals I would like to have a system implemented to poll all residents on issues before city government and make our decisions based on the opinion of the majority of responses received. This way we would be surveying the majority on all issues and not investing in projects or programs the citizens do not support.

Reduce the cost of government to the public. Budget cuts are not the only way to accomplish this. We have creative and inventive employees and residents that can expose cost savings in nearly everything. During my career I have found savings for my department and the city in general, from the simple measure of getting required printed materials from a local vender to designing a gate system for a complex location that has held up for over 30 years. Inviting rank and file employees as well as the public to help find savings in government instead of simply cutting programs results in much better outcomes for all.

Gloria Reyes Planning Councils. The Northside Planning Council and strong neighborhood associations are the reason that the Warner Park Neighborhood Center exists. As mayor, I will revitalize planning councils and neighborhood associations through direct access to the Mayor's Office, so they can build and deliver programs like the Madison Public Market Ready and FEED Bakery training programs.

Small Local Business. As mayor, I will work with regional stakeholders, such as Dane Buy Local to support small businesses through training and joint marketing efforts. I will also create a Mayor's Economic Development Advisory Team including stakeholders and local business leaders to provide actionable recommendations to improve the Northside economy for small companies and entrepreneurs, creating higher-paying jobs.

Public Market. Exciting initiatives like the public market, are an example of strong public-private partnerships that leverage our local resources and build economic capacity for existing and new entrepreneurs. Programs like the Public Market Ready and FEED Bakery training can empower new entrepreneurs to open smaller grocery stores that are closer to the neighborhoods to help eliminate the food desert.

Safe & Healthy Neighborhoods. As Mayor, I will establish an Office of Violence Prevention that will bring together public health experts, the MMSD, MPD, Dane County, and nonprofits, in addition to Warner Park and Public Library staff on the Northside to initiate a safe neighborhood plan that will include 3-5 actionable innovative intervention and prevention strategies.

Transportation/BRT. Northsiders

have historically been deprived of adequate public transportation. The most recent Bus Rapid Transit redesign has made it worse, changing bus stops so Northsiders have to walk 2-3 blocks further to access a bus, which further marginalizes our BIPOC and Disability communities. As Mayor, I will conduct our own equity analysis to design a transit system that is accessible to our most vulnerable residents.

Satya Rhodes Conway

When I was elected mayor, I promised to work on four things: housing, transit, climate change and racial equity – all issues that are important to the Northside. I'm proud to say I've delivered on all of these and more. Over the next four years, I intend to continue to bring housing development to Madison and want to focus more on creating affordable homeownership opportunities. I will keep working to reduce traffic crashes through our Vision Zero Program, and to make it easier to walk and bike safely. I was happy to support funding for improvements to the Troy Drive railroad bridge in particular. I will keep us focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and protecting our environment, including our beautiful parks. We're working to reduce harmful runoff into Warner Lagoon so we can focus on restoring the health of that ecosystem. I will continue to prioritize racial equity, especially by investing in entrepreneurs and small businesses, like those that will locate in the Public Market. Going forward, I will continue collaboration with MPD, MMSD, Public Health and community stakeholders to keep our city safe and reduce gun violence. I will keep investing in our young people, including via programming at WPCRC. And I will keep protecting our democracy, making sure that our wonderful clerks have the resources they need to make sure that every eligible voter can vote easily and safely.

Describe your plans and priorities for developing a mixture of housing opportunities here on the North-side; affordable and otherwise. Please reference the recent Plan Commission approval of initial steps towards 553 housing units being constructed on the old Hartmeyer property at 2007 Roth Street.

Scott Kerr

I do not support forcing developers to provide more than what our zoning requires unless the developer asks for city funding of their project. When that occurs the city should become a partner in the development rather than simply a lender. Actively assisting with the development plans and deciding on the amount of affordable vs. market rate units, even when that balance exceeds required zoning. I have not reviewed the proposed Hartmeyer building plans but advocating for T intersections and square lots does not improve the potential number of units or building design. A more freeform lot would encourage creative building design to get the maximum from the lot. The only drawings of the proposed buildings I can locate appear to be on the T intersection design and are carbon copies of most of the recent complexes, lacking creativity and not taking advantage of the unique site. The use of measures like permeable pavement and rain gardens or infiltration systems would improve protections for the surrounding wetlands. The site has great potential, but getting the support from the area residents is important before we commit to the project and making sure that the majority of the residents agree on the final design.

Gloria Reyes

The 553-unit affordable developments that Lincoln Avenue Capital built are exactly what we need. We need to be more aggressive with development projects that deliver attainable housing across the city. The fact that it took Lincoln Avenue Capital as long as it did to get that project done and approved is crazy. That is the dysfunction that exists on the 4th floor (Mayor's office). That also speaks to the fact that local developers would not stand up and be champions for attainable housing projects, even when there are tax credits involved because of the 4th-floor dysfunction. There is also a lack of clarity provided by the city on developing affordable housing on contaminated land. Hartmeyer and other parcels on the former Oscar Mayer site need to be cleaned and data needs to be shared publicly. Firstly, we should continue to find outside capital Q & A continued on page 20

and developers to build more urgently needed, attainable housing in our city. Secondly, we need to look internally at what we can do to streamline the process and bring our local developers back into the process, encouraging them to build additional multi and single-family housing units. Thirdly, as mayor, I will direct the Community Development Authority to establish public-private partnerships not just to redevelop a housing stock and create more affordable housing, but revitalize the Northside. Finally, I am committed to ensuring that the city plays an active role in cleaning up the contamination at major industrial sites across the city.

Satya Rhodes Conway

We are in the midst of a housing crisis in Madison. We need to build thousands of housing units annually in order to just keep up with our growing population. As your mayor, I have focused on creating housing choice in every neighborhood via my Housing Forward agenda (read more here: cityofmadison.com mayor/blog/housing-forward-update). My administration more than doubled the affordable housing fund and started supporting innovative ways to create affordable housing, like co-ops, land trusts, backyard cottages, land banking and more. In addition to funding affordable housing, we have made changes to our



SCHOOL

Principal Vicky Hamilton brings range of experience to Mendota School

By Virginia Scholtz Northside News

Vicky Hamilton, principal at Mendota $\frac{N}{2}$ Elementary School, has been a leader 5 for most of her life. She was the first in . g her family to graduate from college. She didn't stop there. She holds several advanced degrees in the areas of E Elementary Education, Administration and Counseling Studies. All of that schooling has equipped her to be a leader in the Madison Public School system.

She was born and raised in Mississippi. After high school she attended Mississippi Valley State University, a public historically Black university and a member-school of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund. After her university years, she was recruited by the school district of Beloit, Wisconsin, about 30 years ago as part of their push



Vicky Hamilton

for more diversity in school staffing.

Hamilton came to Madison two years ago to become principal at Mendota Elementary. It's a good fit for her. She says that throughout her youth, "kids were always drawn to me." When she did babysitting in her hometown, playing school was part of the day. "I always taught things to the kids." Working with numbers and letters was part of the program when she was in charge of her neighbor's children.

Her current position is not without its challenges. It is still rare to be an African-American leader to a mostly Caucasian staff. Sometimes word choices and catch phrases can be misunderstood or taken out of context. As principal, Hamilton finds her counseling skills are often in use. Family dynamics are changing. She approaches each new situation with respect. Every day she carries her mother's mantra with her, "You're not better than others, just different."

When asked about role models, Hamilton named two. First was her mother, the center of her family. Both her parents worked hard to provide a

home and to operate their own business. The life lessons she learned have carried her through to the present day. The second is a fellow Mississippian, Dr. Darrell Williams. He grew up picking cotton, went to college and now has a long history in education. He was known in Milwaukee as the "turnaround principal" and has received national recognition for his achievements. He also served as interim superintendent of schools in Beloit. Governor Evers named him the administrator of Wisconsin Emergency Management.

For Hamilton, Mendota Elementary is unique in that while most students may be "underprivileged" they are rich in talent, intelligence and diversity. She believes school should feel and look like a place where people want to be. Her goals are to close learning gaps, elevate achievement scores and spotlight student talent.

These days: what I want for schools and teachers

By Vera Naputi and DeAmonte Sims East High School

This conversation between DeAmonte Sims and Vera Naputi is a dialogue modeled after "A Pedagogy for Liberation" by Ira Shor and Paolo Freire. Less formatted and definitely with an impromptu flair, we often enter office 1040G in a freestyle, where what we discuss and share flow from the simple to complex, where we honor the layers of thoughts and feelings, we both bring to the space. This dialogue starts with DeAmonte sharing how his love for school changed and ends with his hopes for teachers.

DS: I used to love school. I really loved it because I loved learning. I'm not gonna lie but being a student has been the hardest thing for me to do in the last two years. I still love learning, but I just don't like how things are set up. It doesn't work for me anymore.

VN: Î've never lost a love for learning, ₩ but I know there have been times when I felt 2 like I wasn't growing. What was your tipping point for the change?

DS: I mean I hate to keep using this as an example because it sounds like I'm whining but Covid changed me. Locked inside. My whole mindset about who I was and wanted to be suddenly changed. I lost sports, connections, my brain, my ability to talk and DeAmonte Sims and Vera Naputi laugh with people.

VN: Covid is deep. I don't think we will fully understand the way it is changing our minds, bodies and spirits.

DS: It's crazy because even though I had people reaching out to me during Covid, nothing could make it better. I missed out on so many things that I could only get in a school community. That's just me. Somehow others still kept going, but it was an eye-opener to me that I needed school. I used to believe that schools needed me, that schools needed kids. But at the end of the day, and because of Covid, I realized how much I needed school. No one wants to be mentally slow; I saw a need for those 12 years of education — the people, the hallways, the lockers, classrooms and the places to hang. I wish my learning could match what I need right now.

VN: That part about the relationship between school and kids is making me think about the purpose of school. How can we make school in the time of Covid, different from the place it was, to a place that makes you curious, where you want to learn skills that teach you about the world?

DS: Well, we've talked a lot about leaders and how people have impressed me. I think that matters a lot because first you have to get someone like me in the door. Dr.

Hicks, who was my middle school principal, never made it seem like she had more power than anyone else. She set up Wright Middle School so that if you weren't there for the kids, you would not fit in there. Mr. Kearney, who was my first high school principal, greeted me every time he saw me and actually liked me. Neither of them knows that how they interacted with me and noticed me, like noticed me for me, was what made me love school. You know that "I love school" was my email signature line for the longest time.



Northside Cub Scouts winter fun

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.

After a break for the holidays, our scouts are back to working on grade-level adventures in their dens, along with many pack activities.

In the fall and early winter, we engaged in several fun activities and ser- ≧ vice projects. We took a 3-mile hike at Indian Lake County Park. We also met at ≦ the Gompers school gym to play games and learn about fitness.

We provided service to our community by raking leaves at Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church and by planting milkweed seeds provided by our chartered organization, Wild Warner, at Warner Park. We also had a fun holiday party with a white elephant gift exchange.

By the time you read this, we will have met with graduate students from the UW to learn about insects handson, toured the Capitol building with our State Senator Melissa Agard, gone ice fishing at the Yahara Fishing Club's free ice fishing day, and started building our pinewood derby cars.

Over the rest of the winter and into the spring, we'll be engaging in more outdoor



Cub Scouts planted milkweed seeds at Warner Park.

activities such as sledding and hiking, celebrating our oldest cubs as they move into the Scouts BSA program, and going on an overnight adventure to a museum or cave.

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, 3705 N. Sherman Ave.

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

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SCHOOL

Lake View School serves many ESL learners

By Virginia Scholtz and Rachel Deterding

Northside News and Lake View School

Following is a Q&A with Rachel Deterding, coordinator at Lake View Community School, regarding services to students who are learning English as a second language (ESL).

Q: How many different languages are spoken by the students at your school?

A: Among students, 15 languages.

Q: How many support staff help students to learn English as a second language? How many are needed?

A: We have four ESL teachers, one full time and three part time. In total we have an allocation of 2.5 ESL positions. We have five Hmong bilingual teachers and one Hmong instructional coach. We also have a Spanish Bilingual Resource Specialist (translator), a Hmong Bilingual Resource Specialist (translator), one non-teaching staff member who speaks Spanish fluently and one staff member who speaks Hmong (our principal). We also have one special education assistant who speaks Lao.

However, all teachers and staff in our building play a role in supporting students who speak English as a second language by creating a positive classroom community that embraces diversity and welcomes different appearances, languages and ways of thinking, and communicating with families through MMSD translators and Language Line (a service we use for lower incidence languages or languages where we do not have an MMSD translator available).

In total we have 116 ELLs (English Language Learners) at Lake View (out of 289 students). Not all of our ELLs receive ESL services at school, however, because some families choose to decline ESL services. Even so, with 40% of our school population being ELL, we could always use more staff members and volunteers who are fluent in other languages or who understand how to support students who are learning English. It really takes a village to support students' social-emotional and academic success when they are learning English.

Q: How do you incorporate the culture of immigrant students into the culture of the school?

A: Lake View is a multicultural school and all of our stakeholders (students, families, staff, community partners) often mention this as a strength of our school. Because we have so many different cultures represented, we are intentional about learning about different cultures throughout the school year so students and staff can get to know each other, and students see their culture represented at school.

This year, our new literacy curriculum, EL, uses texts with protagonists from many countries across the world. We highlight a family in every monthly newsletter and share their story with our whole school community through text, email and social media blasts. Something else we have started this year is interviewing parents/guardians and sharing information about family histories, countries of origin and culture with the whole school during daily virtual morning announcements.

We also host cultural activities and events throughout the year, including a Hispanic Heritage Month celebration in October, a Hmong New Year celebration in November, and a cultural cooking club where students made recipes from the many cultures. We have a Cultural Learning work group of staff members who meet once a month to plan ways we can incorporate the many cultures represented at Lake View into our academic

lessons and other programming.

Q: Regarding English language ability, how would you describe the progress that students make over the school year?

A: Children are little sponges when it comes to learning languages. I can't share hard numbers with you at this point, but I can say that I observe incredible progress among our students who are learning how to do school differently than how school may have been in their country of origin. I see students learning key vocabulary to express their needs and wants, and to make friends. I notice students learning their letters and numbers in English and reading more fluently over the course of the year.

Q: How do you measure it?

A: There are a few ways ESL teachers can measure progress over time: 1) World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WCID) is an English language proficiency assessment given to new students. If a student is identified as an ELL, the proficiency scores from WCID can be used to plan individualized supports for each student.

- 2) WIDA Can Do Descriptors are tools ESL teachers use to coach general education teachers on how to support ELL students, plan lessons or observe student progress.
- 3) ACCESS Test is a state-mandated assessment that measures language proficiency in four areas (reading, writing, speaking, and listening). It helps us determine whether ELL students need language support as a part of their education.

Q: You recently had a city-wide meeting regarding support of English language learners. What were the key points of that discussion?

A: Our leadership team at Lake View met in December to begin the discussion of how to better support our ELL students. This year we have more ELLs than we have had in the past, as well as more newcomers with little to no English proficiency. We have eight families (16 students) who speak Pashto, and there is no MMSD Pashto translator. So, we definitely have some challenges in communicating with newcomers who do not speak the languages our staff speak. Our staff wants to better support these students. We noticed that we have many newcomer students who speak little to no English, as well as students who qualify for ESL service but have been here for a while and have higher levels of English proficiency than our newcomers. This is still an ongoing conversation at Lake View on how to allocate our resources to best support these students.

Q: Can you estimate the number of students needing service: city-wide, at Lake View, on the Northside?

A: At Lake View we have 116 ELLs. That is 40% of our school population (total enrollment is 289). Northside schools have 470 ELLs, which is 26% of all students enrolled in Northside schools (Lindbergh has 38/176, Mendota has 34/312, Gompers has 35/227, Lake View has 116/289, Black Hawk has 107/373, Sherman has 140/404).

Q: What plans are being developed to further support the efforts?

A: We will continue to do cultural and linguistic learning throughout the year by highlighting families during morning announcements and organizing culturally and linguistically relevant programming throughout the year. We also plan to build our volunteer base to support students' academic learning. If anyone on the Northside is interested in volunteering, they can contact me to learn more about our school and the volunteer application process. We welcome volunteers to our school, especially those who speak languages other than English and/or have a desire to support students who are learning English.

Q: What resources are available and what are needed?

A: We have recently been getting volunteer tutors through Open Doors for Refugees. These tutors have an interest in working with ELLs and have been matched to do one-on-one tutoring with students weekly.

We also have a need for more diverse books in classrooms and our library, including books that are bilingual in English and the home languages represented at our school. We have some older Spanish speakers who have had excellent education in their home country and are reading advanced chapter books in Spanish, which is a new need in Spanish language texts in our library.

We can always use more volunteers. As a Community School, we value

community support and appreciate being able to lean on our neighbors to support our students. Beyond academic support needs, our recent immigrant families have a host of needs that could be supported by our Northside community: donating food or clothing to pantries, schools, or neighborhood centers; offering rides to immigrant neighbors who may not have a car (or reaching out to schools or community centers to offer this support); or simply giving recently arrived Northsiders a friendly hello to help them feel welcome in our community.

We do our best as a school to support folks, but many of these families are living on very little means with low English proficiency, and school staff cannot always promptly help families meet these needs.

English is the second language for one-fifth of MMSD students

By Virginia Scholtz
Northside News

Imagine you are dropped into a strange city — one whose people sound different than those at home; one whose signs don't tell you what you need to know; one whose language and culture don't come from your hometown.

About one in five students in the Madison Metropolitan School District have this experience. They come to school from homes where English is not the spoken language. Sometimes they come from countries whose traditional and official languages use characters and symbols not seen in Madison. Some of them are four years old, some twelve and some high-school age when the adventure of learning English begins.

At the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year, Wisconsin's Department of Public Instruction reported that just over 20% of Madison's students were English language learners.* It appears that percentage may be higher on the Northside. According to Sherman Middle School Principal Alex Thompson, 140 of 404 students at the school have English as their second language. Some of them are easily

bilingual, some have grown up bilingual without full development in either language, and some are brand new to the United States. Incoming students hail from many areas of the globe — Africa, Asia and Europe to name a few. Each person brings unique cultural differences and nuances. The school tries to meet needs based on each individual's background.

It can be challenging to hear and understand language and to grasp the concept of many words. Think about the homonyms "there" "their" and "they're." Many strategies are used to help English language learners: different modes of conversation, pictures, acting out words as if playing charades, dual language books and many more. Basic phonics and computer programs provide building blocks to many learners. Thompson said the need to acclimate incomers to the English language can be seen as an opportunity. Many of the same methods also help other students with learning needs.

Rachel Deterding, Lake View Community School Resource Coordinator, reports that there are 15 home languages spoken among students there. They are:

Home Language	Geographic Area
Spanish	Mexico, Central & South America, Europe
Hmong	Southeast Asia
Arabic	Middle East
Pashto	Afghanistan
Igbo	Nigeria
Swahili	Sub-Saharan Africa
Mandinka	West Africa
Oromo	Ethiopia and Kenya
Tigrinya	Eritrea
Lao	Laos and Thailand
Nepali	South Asian Himalayas
French	Europe
Cambodian (Khmer)	Cambodia
Bamara	Mali
German	Europe

* English language learners (ELLs or current ELLs): Students "whose difficulties in speaking, reading, writing, or understanding the English language may be sufficient to deny the individual — (i) the ability to meet the challenging State academic standards; (ii) the ability to successfully achieve in classrooms where the language of instruction is English; or (iii) the opportunity to participate fully in society." (20 U.S. Code §7801(20))

Source: "Evaluation of the Madison Metropolitan School District English Language Learner Three-year Plan," p. 6 (Madison_evaluation_-final_report_finalforpublication.pdf).

SCHOOL

"Spring ahead" with East High School happenings

By Cynthia Chin East High School

Congratulations to East High School math teacher and Multilingual Education team member Bridget St. Peter, who has been appointed as a full-time instructor at Madison College. We appreciate her years of dedication to East and her leadership in building staff capacity to meet students where they are. We will miss her at East, but she is still part of our education community.

East students and current eighth graders are in the process of selecting courses for 2023-2024. Be sure to investigate all the options and think about what can be done now to develop skills for a livelihood tomorrow. In addition to core academic skills, there are many opportunities at East to develop cultural competence and artistic talent, investigate specific career fields and get a head start on earning technical certifications or Madison College/ UW-Madison credits. Talk to counselors soon about dual credit options, Advanced Placement and the Start College Now program, all of which enable prepared and motivated students to begin their post-secondary studies early.

Math Club students competed virtually with other Dane County schools throughout the fall semester. New team members are welcome to join for the February and March math meets and for the cool non-competitive problems discussed every Friday during lunch. Contact Ms. Paschke or Mr. Galarowicz to get involved.

Two teams of East students participated in the November 2022 High School Mathematics Competition in Modeling. Students researched and modeled population growth of honeybee colonies, projecting the relative impacts of climate, disease and pesticide use.

Two teams of seniors and juniors are gearing up for the Math Modeling Challenge sponsored by MathWorks and the Society of Industrial and Applied Mathematics. Teams will complete a limited-time, 14-hour research and technical writing challenge.

In December East's Engineering about/inclusion-equity Club and the LatinX Parent Group hosted Noche de Ciencias, where sbel.wisc.edu/procsi-h.

guests from the UW-Madison College of Engineering provided conversation and hands-on activities for the whole family in both Spanish and English. Activities included model glider design, a tabletop marble run, and building a small motor.

America Saves Week is Feb. 27–March 3 (americasavesweek.org). This year's theme is "Financial Confidence." East students can improve their financial know-how by taking specific math, social studies, business, and family and consumer science courses. Read the course catalog carefully.

Project Teen Money offers scholar-ship prizes. Visit the Summit Credit Union website (summitcreditunion. com/project-teen-money/about) to learn more about making a short, teen-friendly video about money safety. Scholarship prizes of up to \$3,000 are available this year. East students have won the grand prize three years in a row. Let's make it four. Help is available from Video Production class members and staff.

National Engineers Week is Feb. 19-25. East's Engineering Club is always looking for new members. We will compete at the state level with a student-built wind turbine March 3, and hope to enter a team in the Skills USA Engineering Design Challenge in April. We look forward to an engineering lab visit by the National Society of Black Engineers in April. Thank you to Mark Penisten for donating a 3-D printer to the Engineering Club.

The Engineering Summer Program and ProCSi summer sessions at UW-Madison are now accepting applicants. These are competitive applications which require teacher recommendation. Students from economic or cultural groups which have been historically underrepresented in engineering at Wisconsin colleges are especially encouraged to apply. All the programs are free and provide excellent career exposure and academic/technical education. ESP is a three-week virtual program for ninth and tenth graders or in-person residential for eleventh and twelfth graders. ProCSi is for one week. The application window closes March 12. Visit engineering.wisc.edu/ about/inclusion-equity-and-diversi ty/engineering-summer-program or



Alex Ulate of UW-Madison SHPE presents to families in the school theater at the Noche de Ciencias program.



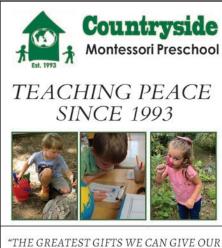
Families experiment with rolling marbles on hand-built courses at the Noche de Ciencias program.



Engineering club officers Aiden Schmiedlen and Chris Teggatz lead hands-on activities at the Noche de Ciencias program.







CHILDREN ARE THE ROOTS OF RESPONSIBILITY AND THE WINGS OF INDEPENDENCE." - MARIA MONTESSORI

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ENVIRONMENT

What do you call a group of birds? You'd be surprised.



A rafter of turkeys

By Paul Noeldner Friends of Urban Nature

You already know that a group of birds is commonly called a flock. The word flock is based on the German word "floxx" and the Latin word "grex," both of which mean "group." Birds, like humans, benefit from cooperating with each other.

Did you know there are special names for different kinds of birds and groups based on what they are doing together?

A swirling flock of starlings gathering to feed on leftover grain in winter farm fields is called a murmuration, based on a Latin word meaning "to make a rushing sound" from the noise of their wings.

Another word for flock is a bevy, which is a gathering to enjoy good food and drink, which people often do as well. A bevy of crows cawing loudly to drive away a nearby hawk is called a murder of crows, even though the hawk is actually more dangerous to the crows.

A group of hawks spiraling high in the sky on their way south for winter and back north in spring is called a kettle of hawks because it looks like something being stirred in a pot.

A group of wise old owls hooting to each other and pairing up to nest is appropriately called a parliament, which is a deliberative body of thoughtful lawmakers.

The flock of mourning doves cooing sadly overhead in a bare winter tree is called a Dule, which is the French word for mourning.

In spring we can look forward to a round of robins hopping together picking earthworms from our lawns, and a sedge of sandhill cranes returning to a marsh. Can you spot a gaggle of geese, a rafter of turkeys and a flutter of sparrows?

Do a Google search for "names of flocks of birds" to learn about these and many more fascinating groups of birds.

Winter is a good time to take outdoor walks and enjoy indoor talks about birds and nature. See the Northside News Calendar of Events on the last page of this newspaper for free Bird and Nature Adventures, Friends of Hartmeyer Natural Area meetings that feature nature videos, and other upcoming opportunities sponsored by your local environmental and Friends of Parks groups.



Strengthening the Fabric of Our Community. Kerri Mallien, Banking Center Manager

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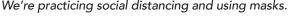
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Q & A Continued from page 16

planning and zoning rules to make it easier to build housing, especially near high-frequency transit.

The Lincoln Avenue Capital proposal for the Hartmeyer property will bring needed affordable housing to a place that can absorb the proposed density. While we still need environmental reviews, I'm optimistic that this project will be successful and help kickstart the redevelopment of the former Oscar Mayer property, in accordance with the OM Special Area Plan.

While our work has helped to create more housing, and especially affordable housing, there is more work to do. We're currently proposing a transit-oriented development ordinance; looking at ways to make it easier to build backyard cottages; supporting developers from underrepresented backgrounds with training and funding; and more. One of the programs I'm most excited about, our Efficiency Navigator Program, was piloted on the Northside. The program helps both renters and small businesses by making affordable housing more energy efficient, increasing tenant comfort, and reducing utility costs.

How do you intend to address community concerns raised regarding safety in schools as well as public safety at large (with the still rising incidents of gun violence)?

Scott Kerr

The Mayor has no control over the Madison schools. I would certainly work with the school board and do what I could to support the measures they put in place. Madison crime statistics are on the decline but certainly not at the level we would like. It appears that we have a small number of individuals that are repeatedly involved in many of these incidents and the courts are not holding them responsible. Improving that is not easily addressed by the City of Madison government, but I would like to explore initiatives where the city could enforce ordinances that imposed penalties on the repeat offenders. Something as mundane as curfew violations would give the city some involvement with these individuals that could not be altered by the DA or circuit court. I am certainly

Gloria Reyes

these cases are handled.

Four years ago the decision was made to remove officers from our Madison Public Schools, just after the murder of George Floyd. We experienced protests both in Madison and across the country. Our schools closed due to the pandemic.

the County and State to improve how

Now circumstances have changed and we must have a conversation about the safety of teachers, staff and students in our schools. This may mean having educational resource officers in high schools who build positive, trust-based relationships with our children to prevent violent crime. My Office of Violence Prevention will partner with school districts to

deliver a comprehensive strategy to keep our young people safe while avoiding disparate impact in arrests. We will build on the efforts that I led as Madison School Board President on restorative practices and socialemotional learning.

Our city is not safe. From four in 2019 to 10 in 2021, homicides more than doubled. 538 car thefts in 2019 rose to 778 in 2021. This increase in crime is alarming and to say otherwise is deceitful. The data speaks for itself.

We need to move with a sense of urgency as we are losing young people to crime through victimization, incarceration and trauma. To solve our public safety challenges, we must be honest with ourselves and the data. This means addressing root causes through a social justice and racial equity lens, implementing programs with restorative justice principles and redefining community policing by including planning councils and neighborhood associations in the strategy.

Data can be made to say anything. The current mayor is manipulating crime data to give you a story from her point of view that helps her re-election, but in reality, we know it doesn't and we can fix it. I care about the residents of our Madison and I will not play politics with their lives.

Satya Rhodes Conway

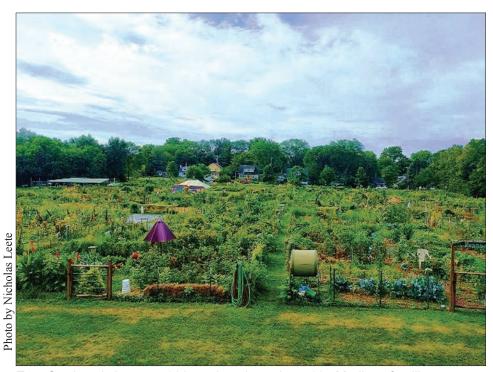
No level of gun violence is acceptable in our community. People have the right to feel safe in their homes, neighborhoods and public spaces. I am working with MPD, Public Health and other city staff to take an evidence-based public health approach to violent crime, particularly gun violence, and that approach is working. Incidents of 'shots fired' between June and October 2022 were down 21% compared to the previous year and to the 5-year average here in Madison. MPD is using data analysis to target their resources effectively, and last year, they removed over 160 firearms from our streets. City staff have been working closely with MMSD to improve coordination and communication to respond to — and get ahead of — violent incidents in our schools.

Going forward, we need to continue to target our law enforcement resources effectively, and free up officers to respond to violent crime by taking other responsibilities off their plates. That's why my administration has shifted parking enforcement to the Parking Division; is proposing a pilot to contract for transports open to other ideas and working with to Winnebago; and created CARES, a team of paramedics and mental health workers that is dispatched by 911 to nonviolent mental health calls. CARES will expand again this year, and I'm committed to growing the program in a data-informed way.

We also need to continue to invest in evidence-based solutions that reduce and prevent violence, not just respond to it. My budgets have grown Public Health's Violence Prevention Unit and dedicated over \$1 million to implementing their community-driven violence prevention roadmap. We've also made significant investments in programs that connect young people to employment opportunities and positive programming. Stabilizing families, investing in education, and connecting people to employment will all help reduce violence in our community in the long term.

ENVIRONMENT

New growth at Troy Gardens



Troy Gardens is home to 330 garden plots where 167 Madison families grow the foods they want.

By Nicholas Leete and Sheena Tesch Rooted

In 2023, with the help of the Natural Resource Conservation Service of Wisconsin, Rooted will make several exciting improvements at Troy Gardens, the community garden site at 502 Troy Drive. The garden is home to 330 garden plots where 167 Madison families grow the foods they want. The modifications will increase accessibility and productivity in the garden space.

First, we will update the irrigation system, reducing the cost of water. Second, we will conduct targeted invasive species control to reduce the population of garlic mustard, honeysuckle and Canada thistle. And finally, we will install 10 handicap-accessible raised beds so growing space at the community garden is accessible to more community members.

While Rooted maintains the garden space, it is the garden organizers who make community gardens run smoothly. Garden organizers manage garden registration, facilitate gardener conversations, and organize workdays and other events. They are compensated for their work with a stipend and a free garden plot. Troy Community Gardens is looking for help from new garden organizers for the 2023 season.

We are also always accepting new applications for gardeners who want to grow food in in-ground plots or the new raised beds. If you are interested in growing at Troy Gardens in 2023, or if you would like to get involved in the other developments at Troy Gardens, contact us at gardens@rootedwi.org or visit rootedwi.org for more information.

Whether or not you are a gardener, all are welcome to come visit Troy Gardens any time and enjoy a walk along the trails in the prairie and through the forest. There isn't as much food in the food forest in winter, but the views are still beautiful, and you're encouraged to visit month after month to enjoy the seasonal changes.

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Bird and nature adventures begin with nature resolutions

By Sheila Leary Friends of Cherokee Marsh

On a mild and partly sunny New Year's Day, about 20 adults and children gathered to make nature resolutions and hike through the North Unit of Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park. Learning more bird songs, picking up litter, cutting invasive buckthorn shrubs and exploring more natural areas were just a few of the resolutions suggested for 2023.

Playing "I Spy," the group observed a bald eagle soaring over flocks of a bald eagle soaring over flocks of a Canada geese on the upper Yahara River, hickory nuts and coyote scate on the trail, glacial boulders, colorful fungi, woodpeckers, juncos, and squirrel nests, called dreys, made of leaves and sticks high in the trees. On the ice-covered river, the group observed numerous pushups, which are feeding stations that muskrats construct from aquatic plants.

The monthly guided Bird and Nature Adventures at Cherokee Marsh's North Unit have a different theme each month and are co-sponsored by Madison Friends of Urban Nature (FUN), City of Madison Parks, the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and Madison Audubon. The events, typically walks, take place the first Sunday of every month year-round, 1:30–3 pm, 6098 N. Sherman Ave.

Similar walks are held at Warner Park with Wild Warner as a co-sponsor.



Participants explore Cherokee Marsh on a free, guided bird and nature adventure at Cherokee Marsh.

The Warner Park walks are the third Sunday of every month, 1:30–3 pm. Meet at the rainbow shelter in Warner Park, 2930 N. Sherman Ave.

Bird and Nature Adventures are family-friendly and free to attend. No registration is required. Binoculars and cameras are welcome. Dogs are not allowed in Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park. Find details of future walks at cityofmadison.com/parks/events/bird-nature.cfm. See the Calendar of Events on the last page of this newspaper for information about the February and March walks.





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HEALTH AND SAFETY

From Captain **Kelly** Donahue



North District Police

I am going to stray a bit from my usual content to share some personal thoughts.

We are entering the New Year, a time that is rife with reflection for the past and plans for the future. For me, this year is no different. What is different is that it is my first year without both of my parents. My sister described it as a feeling of being untethered, and I agree. At the same time, I can't stop thinking of growing up here, being happily tethered to the Northside.

My family lived in three different homes in north Madison, and we often talk about how lucky we are to have grown up here. Many things and many people have changed, but so much is the same.

The list of "things" has been running through my head on repeat. The beautiful parks where we hiked, swam, skied, played ball, skated, swung and climbed, bird watched, fished, canoed, boated and so much more. We learned of the rich Native American history surrounding us. We watched minor league baseball, fireworks, and gathered with neighbors for multitudes of festivals. We dined at locally owned restaurants, attended public schools filled with

caring teachers, were surrounded by a diverse faith community, supported by amazing locally owned businesses, and cared for by doctors and dentists who knew us all by name.

Much of this still exists and is enriched with community centers, medical facilities, new businesses, community gardens, grocery stores and access to a world class airport.

Without a doubt and most importantly, I know none of what makes the Northside a place I am proud to call home would be possible without amazing and dedicated community members. We are blessed by each other. Happy New Year, and take good care and be kind.

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From

Dr. Robin Beatty, DC, CCSP



Health Tips

How chiropractic care helps improve posture

Bad posture is more than just a cosmetic issue — it can lead to serious health problems. Regular chiropractic adjustments may help improve how you stand and sit, which in turn can help alleviate back pain, headaches and other issues caused by poor posture.

1. Adjustments can help align your spine.

One of the major causes of poor posture is a misaligned spine. When your spine is out of alignment, it puts strain on your muscles and ligaments, which can lead to pain and stiffness. Adjustments can help align your spine, which takes the pressure off your muscles and ligaments and can help improve your posture.

2. Chiropractic care can help strengthen the muscles that support your spine.

When your spine is misaligned, proper muscle support weakens. Over time, this can lead to a severe loss of strength. Chiropractic care can help strengthen these muscles, which will help improve your posture.

3. Adjustments can release tension in the muscles that support your spine.

Are your muscles tense or tight often? Because adjustments are designed to restore alignment, that means your muscles won't have to pull as hard to keep things in their correct position.

4. It may help improve your balance.

When your spine is out of alignment, it can cause you to lose your balance. Chiropractic care works to restore that balance, making it easier for you to stand or sit tall.

5. Chiropractic care can help improve your flexibility.

Chiropractic addresses the root cause of spinal immobility and restores spinal motion and allows you to stand tall.

If you are struggling with poor posture, we'd love to help. Contact us today to learn more and get your appointment booked.

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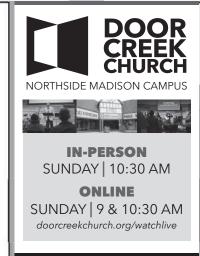


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ELECTED OFFICIALS

From

Satya Rhodes-Conway



Mayor

Complete Green Streets

The Madison Common Council recently approved the new Complete

Green Streets policy. The Complete Green Streets approach, which will affect the entire city, provides a consistent process for planning, designing, building and operating streets in a way that better reflects our community values while increasing safety and equity. Safe, connected, and resilient streets are critical to the quality of life, health and mobility of residents and visitors to the City of Madison.

Charles Myadze

District 18 Alderperson

As I look out my window today, there is snow on the ground, but I am thinking about summer and an important new youth employment initiative that is coming to the Northside.

The idea germinated when I attended a Re-imagining Government for Racial Equity and Justice Conference in Portland, Oregon, last spring. Programs in other states connect at-risk young people, who have the fewest links to resources and networks, with jobs in the new green economy. I thought we could do that here on the Northside of Madison. And we can!

Funded with a grant from the city's Community Development Division, the Northside Teen Resiliency Corps (TRC) will be led by a coalition of Sustain Dane, Vera Court Neighborhood Center, Warner Park Community Recreation Center, and Northport and Packers

Community Learning Center. The TRC coalition will provide employment programming focused on Northside teens, including paid work experience and workforce readiness training for future employment in the green jobs economy.

Here is how the grant proposal describes the program: "Participants will engage with a curriculum including employment skills, leadership training, community-building activities, S.T.E.M., climate change and sustainability, green jobs, financial literacy and professional workshops from local businesses. This program will prepare them for employment, in particular in the emerging green economy, and connecting them to a network of businesses and support for them to be successful."

It has been an honor to work with Sustain Dane to support and help advocate for this program to become a reality. The experience of Sustain Dane and the talented leaders and staff at our Northside community centers will create a meaningful and effective program for Northside youth. More detailed information will be available soon, and I will keep you updated on the progress of the TRC.

Many of the elements in the program — such as pedestrian and bicycle safety, promotion of mass transit, protecting and improving our urban tree canopy and making our streets and neighborhoods safer, more livable and equitable — have been important parts of street design in the city. However, now these concepts are codified and organized into a Guide to assist staff in implementing projects and provide more information for our residents. This Guide is a flexible tool that can evolve as the city evolves (cityofmadison .com/transportation/initiatives/

complete-green-streets).

The Complete Green Streets policy has benefited from substantial input from a diverse group of residents throughout the city over many months. I want to thank the Council for their unanimous support, and Alders Furman and Foster for co-sponsoring this policy with me. The finalization of this project was the culmination of hours of meetings, of not only residents and city committees, but also countless staff hours, and I am grateful the hard work has paid off with changes that will help build a safer and more sustainable Madison.

From

Barbara Vedder



District 12 Alderperson

'In Alder Words'

My name's Barbara Vedder and I have just been sworn in as your new Interim District 12 alder, your representative to the Madison Common Council. I'll be serving as your alder until April when the spring elections happen. I've served in the same position in the past, from 1995–2001. This was before the recent redistricting of aldermanic districts when boundaries were redrawn.

I've been living with my husband in Madison since 1981 and in the Emerson East neighborhood the whole time

I've focused my work in the areas of social justice and now am starting a new citywide campaign to examine, educate and find ways to resolve the huge crisis of the total lack of workplace development in finding personal care workers or caregivers to work

with seniors and people with disabilities so we can remain in our homes and be active members of our community. For those of you who don't know me, I am quadriplegic, paralyzed from my chest down, and one of the vast number of people who need these services.

The home healthcare crisis is a national issue, as well as state, county and city. At some time you'll be able to see the numbers and other statistics having to do with this. But suffice it to say, it's a huge crisis with no good answers at present. Thus, the need for serious work.

I want to be as accessible as possible to you, my constituents, and will be finding e-lists for neighborhood residents, as well as using the city's District 12 blog, connecting with neighborhood associations, and responding to emails and telephone calls.

I'm looking forward to working together. Please contact me if you wish to connect with me directly in the future.

Barbara Vedder Bvedder@charter.net 608-249-8428

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

Joe Parisi



Dane County Executive

Explore winter recreation opportunities at Dane County Parks

It's winter in Wisconsin — the time of year when icicles adorn eaves, snow angels appear in fresh blankets of snow, and Jack Frost decorates our windows.

The winter season also offers new ways to explore the Dane County Park System. From winter hiking and snow-shoeing to ice fishing and cross-country skiing, there are many activities residents and visitors can take part in.

Dane County Parks has four sledding hills open to the public. They range from a short, gentle hill at Indian Lake County Park (great for little kids) to a steep downhill option at McCarthy Youth and Conservation Park (for the more daring). Moderate hills can be found at Lake View Hill County Park and CamRock County Park.

Cross-country skiing is another great way to enjoy the outdoors this winter. Miles of specially groomed trails offer cross-country skiers spectacular views and ideal conditions. A cross-country ski trail permit is required for groomed trails and can be purchased online.

Winter hiking and snowshoeing is allowed at all Dane County Park properties. Visit one of our parks with signed snowshoe trails or explore one of our other properties to lead your own path. Note that snowshoeing, winter hiking and dogs are not permitted on designated cross-country ski trails when snow is present.

Dane County Parks also offers a number of options to park and access the ice for those with a lake access permit interested in ice fishing, including a site on Upper Mud Lake in McFarland along Terminal Drive. The site provides walkin access to the lake for ice fishing and is adjacent to public lands.

Learn more about these and other winter recreation activities at danecounty parks.com/recreation/winter-rec. You can also find a number of volunteer opportunities and fun winter events at danecounty parks.com/events.

From

Melissa Agard



State Senator

The state's budget reflects the state's priorities

We want Wisconsin to be a place where everyone is safe, can reach for their dreams, and where we invest in a better tomorrow. I come to the Capitol every day ready to roll up my sleeves and work to build a more equitable Wisconsin. It is reassuring to have a governor whose goals mirror ours and who is committed to creating a Wisconsin that truly works for everyone.

Governor Evers' biennial budget proposal will be released soon. I know the budget he puts forth will reflect the values of the people of our state because Governor Evers has led Wisconsin following the motto, "the will of the people is the law of the land." With a projected \$6.6 billion surplus, we have an

opportunity during the upcoming biennium to support the services provided by our local governments, invest in programs that prioritize the public's wellbeing and safety, as well as provide a substantial tax return to Wisconsinites.

Rather than local governments and schools across Wisconsin going to referendum year after year — asking residents to increase their own property taxes to ensure their communities and educators have the necessary resources — we must make meaningful and sustainable investments at the state level. In my conversations with constituents of the 16th Senate District and people throughout the state, I hear the same resounding support to reinvest in our public safety departments and our public schools, ensure that retired folks are not being priced out of their homes, and restore and preserve Wisconsin waterways.

I encourage you to contact my office to express your vision for the upcoming budget. Please know that I will continue to be a strong voice for you, working hard to enact a budget that reflects the shared values of our great state.

From

Michele Ritt



District 18 Supervisor

There are many wonderful things about the Northside. The people and the beautiful land are among the very top. An additional gem in our community is The River Food Pantry. Did you know that it is the busiest food pantry in south central Wisconsin?

The River provides many resources. Free curbside pick-up groceries are available to folks once each week. Selections include nonperishable items as well as fresh produce, dairy products, baby items, and household items like cleaning supplies and paper products. If you are unable to come to collect via curbside, you can call and set up a proxy shopper to shop for you.

Family At-Home Meals are a brilliant solution to making dinner each night. These are fully cooked meals and may be picked up four times each

week to share with your entire family. The meat and vegetarian options are fully cooked and include salad and fresh fruit.

The beautiful Munch van is a vehicle that delivers free meals to over 12 neighborhoods throughout the city. The intent is to bridge the gap that is created when school cafeterias are not open. No registration or ID is needed to access these meals.

If someone is homebound and does not qualify for other services, The River may be able to deliver twice each month. Please call The River for details if you are interested in this program.

The River would not be possible without donations and volunteers. Many opportunities to help are available, and no prior experience is necessary. Even an hour or two of your time each month can have a huge impact.

Please contact The River if you have questions or to volunteer: riverfoodpan try.org or 608-442-8815.

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

Samba Baldeh



I want to share with you the results of a survey of district residents (which includes the entire Northside) we conducted in September. Although it is not a "scientific" survey, it had a high number of responses which is likely to be representative of the voters in the district.

Here are some of the results:

Is state government working to solve issues you care about? Yes: 26%, No: 67%, Kind of: 17%

What public policy issue is most important to you? Protecting voting rights and ballot access: 23%, fair legislative maps/no gerrymandering: 22%, clean drinking water 12%, fighting climate change 10%

Should the state do more to fund

public schools (K-12) Yes, even if it means raising taxes: 67%, Yes, but only if doesn't require a tax increase: 22%, No: 6%

Do you support raising the minimum wage? Yes, raise it to \$15: 74%, Yes, raise it but less than \$15: 19%, No: 7%

Do you support legalizing marijuana? Yes, for medical and recreational use: 59%, Yes, only for medical purposes: 26%, No: 10%

Should Wisconsin accept federal funds to provide health coverage to low-income Wisconsinites? Yes: 90%, No: 9%

Please feel free to contact me if you any questions or concerns about a proposed state policy or problem with services from a state agency. I and my office staff are here to help you: Rep.Baldeh@legis.wisconsin.gov, 608-266-0960.

I truly hope you had a good holiday season to prepare you for the Wisconsin Winter before us.

Volunteer to create the community you want to live in.



608-244-0044 madisonchironorth.com



SENIOR

From Jim Krueger



NewBridge Executive Director

NewBridge is the proud recipient of a one-year, nonprofit grant from Adams Advertising for an outdoor billboard campaign. Last summer we received the wonderful expertise of the Adams staff to develop a handful of billboard advertisements, including one in Spanish. Since October, our billboard ads have appeared in various locations throughout Madison and the surrounding area. A couple of months ago, one of our ads was prominently displayed at the North First Street and East Johnson Street intersection here on the Northside.

We provide a wide variety of services for older adults, primarily individuals with minimal income or who are homebound. It is difficult to explain all we do in just a few words. So, the following messages were chosen for the billboards that focus on the impact our programs have on the lives of older adults:

Fostering independence, Strengthening connections, Facilitating enrichment, Providing support for successful aging, Support the best life of older adults.

Social isolation has always been a concern in working with older adults. COVID has increased the number of older adults suffering from physical and mental well-being issues. We encourage older adults to resume socializing in safe environments and to address any problems that intensified during COVID. NewBridge has social workers to help address health challenges and a variety of activities for individuals to socialize, be physically active and connect with their peers (newbridgemadison.org).

The number of individuals, including older adults, who have received boosters is significantly low. As COVID variants continue to arise, it is important that we stay up to date on our vaccinations (and boosters) to protect ourselves and the people we love. If you feel sick, especially during the flu season, stay home and away from others. Let's do our part to protect the most vulnerable individuals in our community and in our families.



SENIOR Activities

NewBridge-North | 608-512-0000 ext. 3000

Register for classes in person and via Zoom

Contact Deenah Givens at 608-512-0000 ext. 3002 or email deenahg@newbridgemadison.org.

LET'S GROW

The NewBridge older adult dining site at Warner Park is one of Northside Madison's best kept secrets. Join our host Christine for a catered meal, hanging out with friends old and new, and having some fun. A \$4.50 donation is requested. Transportation is provided upon request. Sign up in advance by calling 608-512-0000, ext. 3013. Please join us!

ONGOING NORTHSIDE ACTIVITIES

Activities take place at Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Drive, unless otherwise specified. If you have ideas for programs that you would like to see happening on the Northside, please contact Deenah Givens.

Bingo (in person): Every Friday, 10:15–11:15 am; first Fridays are bi-lingual Bingo Book Club (Zoom): First Wednesday of each month, 10 am. See our website for the book we will be discussing.

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–

Euchre (in person): Tuesdays, 1–3 pm

Board Games (in person): Wednesdays, 1–2:30 pm, at Kavanaugh's Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. We provide the games, or you can bring a board game you'd

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

Sassy Steppers (in person): Mondays 4–5 pm. Join us as we dance our way to health and wellness.

Sewing Club (in person): First and third Thursdays of each month, 9 am–12 pm Stretch & Strength (Zoom): Mondays and Wednesdays, 9–9:45 am



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WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

Written by Zach Watson 608-245-3690



Interim Facility Manager

We at the WPCRC are ecstatic for the programming and events we plan to offer in 2023. Our 2022 ended with much to be thankful for.

The Know (Kids Need Opportunities at Warner) program received a grant of \$94,000 from the 100 Men of Dane County to support the KNOW program and its expansion. This grant will increase the reach and further develop the outcomes of KNOW's current program offerings by furthering our approach of utilizing Sports Based Youth Development (SBYD) programing.

Our SBYD programs happen during out-of-school time and use specific sports based upon KNOW program participant's interests to facilitate life skill development in the youth we serve. SBYD programing builds off the Positive Youth Development model, which incorporates a strength-based approach, creates an inclusive environment with active learning experiences, and emphasizes effort, individual improvement and sportsmanship.

We will set elevated expectations by integrating mentorship, athletic eligibility support and youth focused employment opportunities to facilitate positive life skill development for youth. We will support and promote success by providing opportunities to gain confidence to use skills in non-sports domains.

Transportation has been a major barrier for the KNOW program, and the grant will also allow us to expand and enhance the program by providing transportation, which will allow more youth to attend, off-site opportunities, and rides home after programing.

In order for this and other programs to truly take shape and make an impact, success relies upon our community's effort to collaborate. I am open to our communities' ideas, alternatives and support. Contact me anytime at zwatson@cityof madison.com or 608-245-3684.

WPCRC's 18th Annual SpringFest Arts and Crafts Fair offers an opportunity to purchase original crafts and artwork from local and state-wide artisans. Join us and welcome spring May 6, 9 am-3 pm.

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 245-3669 to see if your health plan is eligible for membership.

Check out our programs and stay connected by liking our Facebook page at WarnerParkCRC.

Circle of Friends update on WPCRC expansion design phase

By Dorothy Borchardt Circle of Friends

The public engagement on expansion of the Warner Park Community Recreation Center (WPCRC) is completed and now it is in the design phase until August of 2023. I hope you took part in the survey and/or the and want to be part of its continuing Zoom meeting to give your input on the expansion.

for an 8,400-square-foot addition that will include replacing the air-cooled chiller, fixing the grading issues, resurfacing the parking lot and a conceptual have no paid staff. For more informaconnection to a future aquatics facil- tion, contact dborchardt1@charter.net. ity. Construction is planned to start at Go Northside!

the end of 2023, with completion in September 2024. The WPCRC will remain open during construction.

The Circle of Friends (CoF) always welcomes new members and volunteers. Membership in the CoF is open to all residents who support the Warner Park Community Recreation Center growth and success. Board members are selected from CoF members who There is \$5 million in the city budget have volunteered to help and have the time to participate on a working board. We meet three or four times a year. Our board members are all volunteers; we

We look forward to your support in 2023. Please complete the membership form and drop off or mail to:

WPCRC-COF, 1623 Nottiport Drive, Madison, w1 33/04			
\$30 annual CoF membership I am interested in helping	Additional gifts are welcomed		
Name:			
Street:			
State:	Zip:		
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Enclosed is a check payable to Warner Park Community Recreation Center-Circle of Friends (WPCRC-CoF) for \$ COF is a 501(c)(3) organization allowing donations to be tax deductible.



Activities

Reach out to the older adults in your life and

appreciate them and your time together.

- Gymnasium Fun bouncy house, sports, fun games
- Family Fitness Classes and Fit2Go Van
- » Classes, movies & themes change monthly
- **Drop-In Art and Pottery Projects**
- Game Room Fun pool, ping pong, foosball, air hockey
- Child Care Room drop off young kids for playtime

Warner Park **Fun Night**





Join Us

Warner Park Community **Recreation Center** 1625 Northport Dr. Madison, WI 53704

- » 5:30 8:00 pm
- » \$5 per family
- » Sign up online for email reminders of monthly themes
- Kids age 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult

2022-2023 Schedule

- » September 9, 2022
- » October 28, 2022
- » November 11, 2022
- » December 9 2022 » January 13, 2023
- » February 10, 2023
- » March 10, 2023
- April 14, 2023
- » May 12, 2023
- June 16, 2023
- » July 14, 2023
- » August 11, 2023

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NORTHSIDE NEWS - Calendar of Events

Sponsored by Madison Gas and Electric

February/March 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

Wednesday, February 1 and March 1 12:30-2 pm, Lakeview Library

Women who love to sing and are fully COVID vaccinated are invited to join this group and sing for people who are seriously ill, dying or grieving. Rehearsals are held once a month on the first Wednesday at Lakeview Library. Contact Casper Soluna at caspersoluna@gmail.com or 608-417-0400. We are a chapter of the Threshold Choir, which has over 200 chapters in the U.S. and other countries. Learn more at thresholdchoir.org.

MAYORAL CANDIDATE FORUM

Wednesday, February 8 6:30-8, Door Creek Church, 1181 N. Sherman Ave.

A Mayor candidates forum co-hosted by the Northside Planning Council and Northside Business Association

Northsiders have opportunities to hear from and ask questions of candidates running for mayor of Madison.

Candidates are: Scott Kerr, Gloria Reyes and Satya Rhodes Conway

ALDER CANDIDATE FORUM

Wednesday, February 15 6-8, Door Creek Church, 1181 N. Sherman Ave.

An Alder Candidate forum co-hosted by the Northside Planning Council and Northside Business Association

Northsiders have opportunities to hear from and ask questions of candidates running for Alderperson of Madison.

Candidates are: Blake Alvarenga, Amani Latimer Burris, Julia Matthews, Victor Toniolo and Connie Walling.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

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

The theme for this senior lunch is "Lutefisk dinner without the Lutefisk." The church will provide meatballs, potatoes and lefse. There may be a small batch of lutefisk if there is enough interest. There is a free will offering for lunch. To RSVP, contact the church office at 608-244-6181. (Note: Senior lunches for 2023 will be held the first Thursday of the month.)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4

Bird and Nature Adventure: Groundhogs in Love

2:30 pm, Tenney Park

Join Master Naturalist Paul Noeldner to celebrate Groundhog Day and Valentine's Day. On this free, family-friendly guided walk, we'll learn about groundhogs, muskrats and other critters that sleep through winter. As days get longer, they awake to check the weather and look for love, then go back to sleep. Meet at Tenney Park Beach, 1330 Sherman Ave. Contact: 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Bird and Nature Adventure: Pushups, Dreys and Cavities

1:30-3 pm, Cherokee Marsh North Unit

Where do wild creatures go when it's cold? Join Master Naturalist Alex Singer for a free, family-friendly guided walk. Learn how muskrats, squirrels and other animals create clever structures and overwinter in Wisconsin. Meet at Cherokee Marsh North Unit parking lot, 6098 N Sherman Ave. Contact: 608-698-0104

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Northside Blood Drive 2-5:30 pm, Door Creek Church, 1181 N. Sherman Ave.

This is a public blood drive to support ImpactLife, provider of blood and blood components to SSM Health St. Mary's Hospital and Stoughton Health. There is no cost, but an appointment is required. Contact riverfoodpantry.org/northside-blood-drive.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10

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. Sign up online for email reminders of monthly themes. Kids age 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

American Red Cross Blood Drive 12-5 pm, Lakeview Lutheran Church, 4001 Mandraka Road

This blood drive is sponsored by Lakeview Lutheran Church in conjunction 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, FEBRUARY 14

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

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Senior Adventure: Nature in Winter 1:30 pm, WPCRC

Join School Naturalist Nancy Fonzen for a free indoor presentation about the beauty of winter in Wisconsin. Learn about our native trees, plants, furry and feathered friends and how they adapt. Seniors are welcome to bring a family member or friend. Contact: 608-698-0104

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

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

To confirm the time and place, contact janaxelson@gmail.com. Cherokeemarsh.org

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

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, FEBRUARY 16

Friends of Hartmeyer Natural Area 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/hart-meyernaturalarea for updates on the location of the meeting. Contact: 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Bird and Nature Adventure: Rising Sap, Time to Tap

1:30 pm, Warner Park Rainbow Shelter

As the days get longer, sap starts rising in trees. Humans have been tapping trees for thousands of years. Why do trees create sap, and why can it be harvested only in winter? Join Master Naturalist Kathlean Wolf to learn the ecology and history of making syrup in Wisconsin, and enjoy a sample of this delicious natural treat. Contact: 608-698-0104

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23

Celebrate Black History Month: Living Legends of Madison

6-8 pm, Mendota Elementary School, 4002 School Road

Vera Court Neighborhood Center and Mendota Elementary School present this special event. Join us for a community meal, youth performances and speakers. All are welcome at this free event. For more information, contact Tom Qualls at 608-246-8372 or tomq@veracourt.org.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2

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

The theme for this senior lunch is "Corned Beef and Cabbage." The church will provide corned beef, potatoes and carrots. Wear green! There is a free will offering for lunch. To RSVP, contact the church office at 608-244-6181.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4

Bird and Nature Adventure: Spring Buds for You

2:30 pm, Tenney Park

Join Master Naturalist Paul Noeldner to enjoy a free, family friendly walk and look for buds on bushes, birds singing in trees and other signs of spring. Meet at Tenney Park Beach, 1330 Sherman Ave. Contact: 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

Bird and Nature Adventure: Let It Be An Oak 1:30-3 pm, Cherokee Marsh North Unit

Join Master Naturalist Kathlean Wolf for a free, family friendly nature hike. Did you know over 70% of birds in Wisconsin would be unable to feed their babies without the help of oak trees? Or that the tannins in oak leaves are the key to protecting amphibians and insects in oak woodlands? Meet at Cherokee Marsh North Unit parking lot, 6098 N. Sherman Ave. Contact: 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, MARCH 5

MSCR Arctic Art 4:15-5:15 pm, WPCRC

Children in kindergarten through grade 2 are invited to draw inspiration from the Wisconsin winter weather for a blustery good time creating art based on snow, ice and everything frozen. The cost is \$12 for Madison residents. Use #35661 to register at mscr.org.

FRIDAY, MARCH 10

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. Sign up online for email reminders of monthly themes. Kids age 11 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

MSCR Acrylics & Oils: Alla Prima Workshop 9:30 am-1 pm, WPCRC

Discover the painting style of alla prima. Complete one painting of a landscape or simple still life in one session. This program is for ages 18 and up. The cost is \$27 for Madison residents. Use #35547 to register at mscr.org.

TUESDAY, MARCH 14

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

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

Senior Adventure: Trees in Spring 1:30 pm, WPCRC

Join Master Naturalist and Tree Expert Sean Gere for a free, fascinating indoor presentation about trees. We may take a walk outside to enjoy new fresh green leaves and flowering tree buds, if weather permits. Contact: 608-698-0104

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15

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

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SUNDAY, MARCH 19

Bird and Nature Adventure: Maple Syruping

1:30 pm, Warner Park Rainbow Shelter

Join Master Naturalist Alex Singer to look for and learn about maples and other trees that have sap rising with warmer days and cold nights. Enjoy a demonstration of maple syrup extraction tools and taste a sample of maple syrup. Contact: 608-698-0104

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Curbside Breakfast with the Bunny 8-10:30 am, River Food Pantry, 2201 Darwin Road

This drive-thru event offers pancakes, eggs, meat, fruit, milk and juice for the whole family. Pay what you can. Free goodie bags for children. Proceeds benefit The River. Riverfoodpantry.org/bunny



 $\mathsf{LL} = \mathsf{Lakeview} \ \mathsf{Library} \quad \mathsf{WPCRC} = \mathsf{Warner} \ \mathsf{Park} \ \mathsf{Community} \ \mathsf{Recreation} \ \mathsf{Center}$



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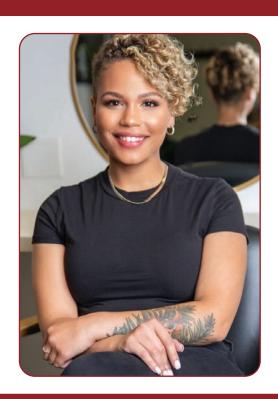






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