



Northside News

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www.northsidenews.org

April/May 2023

Mayoral and Common Council races to be determined April 4

By Anita Weier
Northside News

Madison voters will choose between Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway and challenger Gloria Reyes Tuesday, April 4. A second challenger, city traffic engineering technician Scott Kerr, was eliminated during the Feb. 21 primary election, proud of spending less than \$100 on the race.

Rhodes-Conway received 60% of the vote, Reyes earned 28%, and Kerr claimed 12%. The mayor said she was proud of the outcome, but Reyes reminded Madison residents that former mayor Paul Soglin earned the most votes in the primary four years ago but lost in the general election.

Rhodes-Conway served on the Common Council before being elected mayor in 2019 and has been active in national organizations. Reyes served as a deputy mayor under the previous administration and was president of the Madison School Board. She also served as a police officer.

The mayor said she will continue her work on housing development, traffic problems and protecting the environment. She stressed that she has accomplished much despite the pandemic. Reyes supports affordable housing but said it must not be built on contaminated land. She also stressed the need for jobs that pay enough so people can afford housing. "We need a grocery store that is affordable on the Northside," she added.

Rhodes-Conway said she will facilitate private-public partnerships and that some malls could be sites for redevelopment. "The City will apply for more brownfield cleanup funds," she pledged. Reyes has

criticized the city's financial position, saying Madison will be much in debt after federal COVID funds end. She supports a sales tax option. Rhodes-Conway does not.

In the contest for Common Council District 12, which was vacated when Alder Syed Abbas decided to leave office, Julia Matthews and Amani Latimer Burris emerged from a crowded field of five candidates. Matthews received 34% of the vote while Latimer Burris earned 31%.

Latimer Burris has promised to alleviate concerns about the environment, public safety, housing and speeding. "I plan to address the PFAs contamination situation as well as mitigating noise from the F-35 military jets. None of these have quick fixes, but we must work for the future right now."

Matthews said she would protect the environment and try to resolve the city's housing crisis in regard to all types of housing — market rate and affordable apartments as well as home ownership. She supports the former alder's proposal to create a Tax Incremental District to be used to reduce noise problems from the F-35 jets.

In the District 18 Common Council race, incumbent Alder Charles Myadze will face challenger Michelle Ellinger Linley.

Myadze supports body-worn cameras for police officers on the Northside and has pushed successfully for repair of the dangerous railroad bridge over Troy Drive and for reconstruction of Knutson Drive.

Ellinger Linley said she will work hard on improving public health and safety, increasing green space and land conservation, providing food access for families and helping the disabled.



Photo by Frankie Pobar Lay

FEED graduate Marie-Ansel Young of Far Breton, NPC leaders Justin Markofski and Chris Brockel, Dr. Opal Lee, Daijah Hogan of The Walking Jerk, NPC leaders Lauri Lee and Martee Mikalson, alder candidate Amani Latimer Burris, former mayor Paul Soglin and Muhammed Cole of Smiling Coast Cuisine.

Dr. Opal Lee gathered ideas to use food as community development tool

Chris Brockel
Northside Planning Council

While Dr. Opal Lee, the grandmother of Juneteenth being recognized as a national holiday came to Madison Feb. 23 to speak at the Madison Black Gala, she made an extra stop to visit FEED Kitchens with her local ambassador team.

"I couldn't come to Madison, without visiting FEED Kitchens to learn about community kitchens and food incubation so I can bring ideas back to my neighborhood in Fort Worth, Texas," said Dr. Lee. "I started a food pantry and Opal's Farm, which is a vegetable farm to stock the food pantry with healthy options and provide job training. The ideas I gleaned here will help us to use food as a community development tool for our community."

Dr. Lee is a Nobel Peace Prize Nominated Human Rights Advocate.

After decades of work to get the Juneteenth holiday recognized, including walking from Dallas to Washington, D.C., at age 94, Dr. Lee was present to witness President Biden sign the official act making Juneteenth a national holiday.

As a child, Dr. Lee experienced the violent trauma of racism as a mob of people destroyed her family home for having the audacity to buy a house in the wrong neighborhood. Under threat of further violence, her family fled the neighborhood under cover of night. Lee also has family roots in Tulsa, Okla. where they were part of building Black Wall Street. Those family members survived the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre and went on to help rebuild what was destroyed.

FEED Kitchens will continue to be a resource for Dr. Lee as she continues her food system work in Fort Worth, Texas.

Northside heartbeat – Our community's collective pulse

By Justin Markofski
Northside Planning Council

Greetings Northside neighbors. We want the Northside News and the work of the Northside Planning Council to continue to grow in reflecting and representing the many people, perspectives, projects, programs, places of work, business and gathering here. We want and need lots of help to make this more and more a reality.

Please let us hear from you what you care about. What is happening that needs to be known and celebrated; to be known and confronted; to be known and changed? What are important issues that could use more awareness and attention? What are important issues that could use more dialogue and debate? What is a story you know that should be told and heard? We want the many great efforts being undertaken to "improve the quality of life and foster equity" on the Northside to be widely known and shared



Photo by Lauri Lee

Northsiders came out to ask questions at NPC Open House in February.

— so connections can be made and resources can come around valuable and good works.

This is a call for letting your voice be heard. This is a call for more community journalism — help us change and grow. This is a call for more advocacy. This is an all

call for entrepreneurs, analysts, activists, artists, neighbors, workers, parents, youth and volunteers of all types to come forward. We all have creative and unique gifts to share. Every single person can contribute meaningfully to make a positive impact; one person, one day, one issue, one action at a time.

Imagine if a movement grew that sought to uplift, serve and bless our real neighbors. Wouldn't that be great? Please reach out and communicate what is on your heart and mind — the ideas, questions and concerns you have so we can work together to see what is possible.

Call Justin at 608-444-6640 or email director@northsideplanningcouncil.org. We welcome your voice. Let's talk.

INSIDE

Northside News	2
Northside Planning Council.....	3
Business.....	4
Community	6
Library.....	10
Art	12
Picnics and pedaling	13
School and Youth	14
Environment	16
Health and Safety	18
Elected officials.....	19
Senior	21
WPCRC	22
Calendar.....	23
District 18 candidate Q & A	24

Launch spring by enjoying outdoors
Page 13



Photo by Jeffrey Affeldt

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

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NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

From
Justin Markofski
NPC Executive Director




Greetings, Northside Neighbors. I have enjoyed my first two months here with the Northside Planning Council (NPC). There is a lot that goes on here and I am absorbing and learning as much as I can as quickly as I can. Much good work goes into our mission “to improve the quality of life and foster equity on the Northside through community organizing and economic development.” This mission is a big idea and sweeping canvas for action. For us at NPC currently, this includes our local food system work within the following programs: FEED Kitchens, FEED Bakery & Training and Healthy Food for All. So many stories could be, should be and are being told to celebrate the food entrepreneurs, new businesses, job creation and training as well as the diverse and delicious food

created and shared by our 90 FEED members. Beyond food systems, NPC also manages this Northside News publication you are reading right now.

NPC is proactive in civic engagement which included three recent successful candidate forums in February and March for mayor and District 12 and 18 alders (co-sponsored by the Northside Business Association). Additionally, and historically, NPC engages in lots of other community connecting, convening, contributing and collaborating. While NPC has great stuff happening, there is a ton of good work being done by other individuals, organizations, institutions and groups of all kinds here on the Northside. Most good work is not publicized or visible — but all of it is meaningful. I hope together we can shine light on stories of ‘good works’ — to help inspire and motivate one another to do likewise in our own way. While it is certainly a complex society we live in, everybody has personal power to love our neighbor and live generously toward others. No matter what we have or who we are.

From
Chris Brockel
NPC Food Systems Director



There is no question that in the Dane County region we are proud of our local food system. We wear our “local foodie” badge with pride and are quick to hold ourselves up over other regions. Farmer’s Markets, CSA’s, Farm-to-Table, chef-centric menus, community gardens, urban farming, and a well-developed emergency food system are just some of the elements we provide as examples. The decades of work that have gone into getting us this far have been methodical and marked by periods of success as well as major setbacks. However, one thing is for certain — creating a food system that is equitable, accessible and resilient is no easy task. Despite all the best intentions of those trying to influence it, there are forces, both intentional and unintentional, that work against change.

The pandemic is one of those forces.

While pivoting during the pandemic was necessary, pivoting was primarily done to make sure neighbors were fed and businesses stayed open. Pivoting to change the food system for the better was not the primary goal, it was done simply to keep it as functional and accessible as possible in the moment.

Despite the central nature of a robust local food system to ensure food security, our community has never really developed a clear, comprehensive plan to ensure that system and prepare it for challenging times. Without a clearly articulated plan to put all the pieces of the system together it is easy to fall for sales pitches and grand plans that promise to do this for us. Future disruptions to the food system are inevitable, but we cannot afford to waste food, money or people’s sincere desire to serve others by chasing the neon lights of big personalities or grandiose schemes that have not been vetted against current service provision. We need a clear plan based on the proven practice of reliable community partners. In the absence of a transparent, well-grounded plan, it’s easy to fall trap to the ideas that are broadcast the loudest.

From
Lauri Lee
NPC Board Chair



Happy anniversary to us! The Northside Planning Council (NPC) is 30 years old this year. In place of a big celebration event, we’ll weave recognition and memories into North Star Awards and Northside News the rest of this year. If you have a story to share that goes back to the beginning, please email lauri@northsideplanningcouncil.org by April 15.

When former mayor Paul Soglin visited FEED Kitchens with the Dr. Opal Lee ambassador team Feb. 23, he and I talked about how this entourage was able to be on this tour of FEED Kitchens, a successful project of the NPC with national recognition. I asked if he ever imagined that when he put the wheels in motion to start NPC in 1993, that it would also evolve into a

successful economic development tool for minorities and others to become food entrepreneurs. FEED is an acronym for “Food Enterprise and Economic Development.”


“I always hoped that some sort of economic development project would grow out of the planning council concept,” Soglin shared. “I believe that the success of the NPC has been the combination of efforts between community activists and the partnership that has grown with the business community.

I rediscovered planning councils on a visit in the early 90s to talk with Minneapolis, Minn. leaders. I asked where their successful planning council idea came from, and to my amazement, they said “Madison, Wis., during your term in the 1970s.”


Madison’s concept had gotten set aside and buried. As they say, the rest is history. As we celebrate 30 years, it’ll be good to tell the stories of how the Northside is stronger and better because of the development of NPC.

The Northside Planning Council is grateful to the 2022 supporters.


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Dane Buy Local Soup's On!

NPC Board Members
Lauri Lee, Chair; Shaunté McCullum, Co-Chair; Areli Estrada, Vice Chair; Kerri Mallien, Treasurer; Mike Schuck, Ruth Schultz and Will Green; Welcome to new board members Sue Peck and Renee Buchanan.

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BUSINESS

Annual survey of FEED businesses shows success and challenges in 2022

By Chris Brockel
FEED Kitchens

Without question, riding out the pandemic since the spring of 2020 has been difficult for food businesses of all types. Lack of sales opportunities, lack of walk-in customers, pivoting business models to capture sales and customers, supply chain issues, and quickly rising prices for ingredients and supplies have all played a role in making it difficult to operate a food business and stay on top of issues and trends to keep it viable. These factors, which have played out broadly across the food system, played out inside FEED Kitchens in 2022 as well.

Each year, FEED Kitchens conducts a survey of business activity with its members, and the results never fail to tell the story of what is happening inside the building. Our survey of 2022 activity is no different.

While gross revenue was up for a majority of businesses in 2022, nearly half the businesses responding to the survey saw their profits decrease from the previous year. The reason for this decrease was painfully clear as 62% of the respondents stated that high prices of ingredients and supplies and the inability to source ingredients when needed were

the primary factors affecting their business operations.

Despite the pandemic, FEED Kitchens continues to be an economic engine for our region. Total revenue reported by businesses operating out of FEED Kitchens was nearly \$1.3 million. We know our entrepreneurs are fiercely independent and loathe giving others their business information, so we suspect this number is under-reported, but we also know it is

the number we have and it gives us some comparison to previous years.

This reported revenue is more than double that of the first year of the pandemic when 2020 reported gross revenue barely exceeded \$500,000. In the nine full years of operation, total revenue earned by FEED Kitchens vendors exceeded \$10.8 million dollars.

FEED businesses created 26 full-time and 48 part-time jobs in 2022 at an

average hourly wage of \$17.62, which is \$2 more per hour than 2021. Despite this, nearly a quarter of businesses operating at FEED reported difficulty in finding and retaining employees.

FEED Kitchens finished 2022 with 90 commercial businesses operating out of the facility at some point in the year. Of these businesses, 66% are owned by people of color, while 55% are owned by women.

Far Breton grand opening April 14 at 1924 Fordem Ave.

By Lauri Lee
Northside News

If you've become addicted to the Far Breton French pastries found at the Northside Farmers' Market and other mobile locations, don't fret. Our favorite Northside French bakery is moving from the FEED Kitchens small business incubator and staying in the neighborhood in the brick-and-mortar storefront of the former New Orleans Takeout, 1924 Fordem Ave. The bakery counter is open Thursday through Sunday from 8 am–1 pm.

The inspiration for the Far Breton rustic French pastries comes from Brittany,



Photo from Far Breton

Spiced sugar bun

France, the family roots of owner Marie-Anser Young. The mouth-watering, all-butter pastries offered in the bakery include the pain au chocolat, kouign-amann, spiced sugar morning bun, fruit-filled galettes and savory quiches. Dark chocolate lovers take delight in the croissant noir with double dark chocolate-esspresso dough filled with dark chocolate.

The Far Breton mobile bakery will continue to sell at the Northside Farmers market and, new this year, the Dane County Farmers' Market on the capitol square each Saturday.

Visit farbretonbakery.com for additional details and updates.

Keep Calm Sensory Zone and Keep Calm Tool Kits to open on Northside

By Lauri Lee
Northside News

Keep Calm Sensory Zone, a new inclusive environment for families with neurodiverse children or young adults, is opening soon at 1736 Roth Street, in the NorthGate Shopping Center. The grand opening will be held Saturday, April 15, 10 am–6 pm and Sunday, April 16 11 am–4 pm to introduce the new 11,000 square-foot facility where neurodiverse children and their families can play and relax while receiving holistic care. Although you don't have to have a diagnosis to enjoy the facility and no one is going to ask.

This is a family-owned and operated business by Courtney Willegal and her son Sean, age 12, who has multiple diagnoses is her not-so-silent partner. She discusses decisions with him and is teaching him to be an entrepreneur. He calls himself the "boss" of the company.

Willegal saw the need for her own family and how there was very little support and resources for parents and decided to change it. "We wanted a place where families could come where they felt welcome and that this was a home away from home for them,"

said Willegal. "This innovative family activity center is geared toward families with children or young adults impacted by mental health challenges or disability. Those with intellectual, cognitive or developmental delays, autism, anxiety, depression, or Down Syndrome can find support, resources and connections during their visit." The Keep Calm Sensory Zone is like the center of the spider web for making connections when a family gets a diagnosis or faces a new challenge. They now have a starting point and know where to begin. All staff has experience with someone with a diagnosis, whether it is personally or their children.

The entire family unit is impacted when one or more individuals are neurodiverse. When day-to-day life becomes consumed by treatments and finding resources, the experience can be quite isolating and exhausting. While the rest of the family is interacting in the large sensory gym by swinging, sliding and climbing to their hearts content to work on sensory input and output, there's an adult zen zone for parents to relax and connect with other parents. Teen time and sibling programs are also available.

Some of the amenities available at the facility include:

- Sensory reduced room with a darker, calmer quieter environment to go into regulate emotions and calm down activity.
- Hammock swing
- Touch wall panel area
- Toddler gym
- Activity walls
- A party and events room that families or community organizations can rent
- Family events, i.e., movie nights, magic shows, and art time
- Outside play area for warm weather activities.
- Open to families no matter the ability of the child.

The Keep Calm Tool Kits retail space offers fidgets and sensory tools to calm down and self regulate. Willegal had developed a keep calm tool kit for son filled with fidgets and calming toys. The problem was that all the kids wanted to use his fidgets and he didn't have them when he needed them. He wanted them to have their own and asked his mom to help.



Photo from Keep Calm Tool Kits

Keep Calm Tool Kits can be customized from more than 200 fidgets and sensory gadgets.

Fidgets help those who can't quite sit still, cope with their emotions, or calm down when overwhelmed/stressed. They get fidgety and get into everything and become anxious, moody, angry, temperamental, tearful, forgetful, restless and hyperactive. The tools in the kit up help them to self-regulate, cope and adapt when needed.

The Keep Calm Sensory Zone and Keep Calm Tool Kit retail space are valuable community assets. Be sure to check out them out.

Madison's Shop Local Tours

From Dane Buy Local

Dane Buy Local, a nonprofit organization promoting local businesses, has launched Madison's Shop Local Tour of 10 Madison community destinations throughout 2023.

The tours promote the positive impact of shopping locally and showcases a diverse range of local businesses. Each tour has a theme. For tickets and more information on the tours, visit danebuylocal.com or call (608) 729-7346.

- A food tour that included FEED Kitchens was held March 22.
- Friday, May 5 Gallery Night visits six destinations all involved in the Gallery Night event with Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (MMOCA).
- Thursday, May 25 – Black-owned

businesses.

- Tuesday, June 20 – Pride Month
- Thursday, July 20 – Downtown Madison
- Tuesday, Aug. 22 – University Avenue/Hilldale
- Wednesday, Sept. 20 – Latino and Hmong businesses
- Tuesday, Oct. 17 – Atwood Avenue/Willy Street
- Thursday, Nov. 16 – Holiday Shopping

Dane Buy Local is a member of the Local Business Institute and a part of a national movement of communities rallying to support independent businesses and ensuring the opportunity to operate an independent business. Dane Buy Local creates a sustainable, vital local economy through education, collaboration and promotion.

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lakeviewlutheranchurch.org

BUSINESS

Helping lift up our community by supporting apprenticeships

By Ascendium Education Group

While you can't see the sheet metal or welding labs — or even a classroom — when driving by the Commercial Avenue Education Center on the corner of Commercial and Packers Avenue, it's still evident that hands-on learning is happening at this space. This campus houses Madison College's Construction and Remodeling design program and is the primary training center for many apprentices. The tiny homes and sheds you see outside are built by apprentices at Madison College and sold to residents in the Madison community.

Apprenticeships are training programs that provide learners with on-the-job experience along with classroom instruction. In Wisconsin, apprentices are sponsored by an employer, an employer association or a labor organization, and then enrolled in classroom instruction via a technical college. Many learners see apprenticeships as an investment in their future. For employers, it's an investment in their workforce.

That's why at Ascendium, we recognize

the important role of apprenticeships in preparing learners with the right skills for in-demand jobs and assisting local employers in filling those well-paying jobs. Through our national philanthropy, we support initiatives that explore different pathways for learners to and through workforce training, including short-term credentials, hybrid college models and apprenticeships. Each of these pathways provide the opportunity for upward mobility by providing a well-paying job, especially for learners from low-income backgrounds.

In addition, we've awarded scholarships to eligible apprentices enrolled at a Wisconsin Technical College System college since 2013 through our Tools of the Trade Scholarship Program. Each scholarship helps an apprentice with the cost of tools, clothing and other equipment required for their apprenticeship. Last year, we surpassed \$2 million in scholarship awards to eligible apprentices across the system.

Over 450 apprentices from Madison College have received Tools of the Trade scholarships since the program's inception. More apprentices from Madison College

will be receiving a scholarship this spring to help them stay on track to complete or continue their apprenticeship. When these learners complete their apprenticeship, they unlock the opportunity to secure a

well-paying job in the trades and become an asset to local employers and those who utilize their services in the community.

Learn more about our mission to help individuals rise at ascendiumeducation.org.

Willy Street Co-op – North updates

By Brendon Smith
Willy Street Co-op

Want to work at the co-op?

In 1974, a group of people who wanted to provide quality food for their families began Willy Street Co-op. Now we have over 300 employees at three stores, a production kitchen and a business office to serve almost 33,000 Co-op Owners.

Are you hard-working, friendly and excited to learn a lot about the food and products we sell? We look for employees who want to make a difference, are passionate about serving our customers and strive to make a difference in our community. Co-op staff members have access to excellent benefits, a positive work environment, and room for growth; entry-level pay starts at \$16.90/hour. Learn more and see current job openings at www.willystreet.coop.

Hot bar revamp

We are in the process of making improvements to the hot bar at offerings at each store. We'll take some of our classical vegan/vegetarian dishes and add a meat option, similar to what we did with our Roasted Vegetable Lasagna and Beef Lasagna, which are popular dishes. We'll also take dishes like Mongolian Seitan and turn it into Mongolian

Beef, for our meat-eating customers.

We're adding more plant-based dishes as well. Some current recipes that include meat will be repurposed with vegan ingredients. We'll take Sweet and Hot Chicken, Orange Chicken and Curry Squash and Chicken — and rework them to have vegan proteins.

Don't worry, if you like the original recipes, we will still offer those. You can see the weekly hot bar menu at willystreet.coop/hot-bar-menu.

Not an Owner? Not a problem

Stop in our store and give us a try. If you like what you see, you may be interested in becoming a Co-op Owner. It only takes five minutes to sign up. Your equity investment can be paid in one lump sum or split over seven years, or even over 14 years if you qualify for financial assistance. You start receiving the benefits that day, including weekly and monthly Owner-only sales, discounts on classes, a 10% discount on most products when you pre-order a case, and a voice in how your Co-op is run. If you decide to leave the Co-op, you get your investment back! Stop at the Customer Service desk in the store for more information, or see willystreet.coop.



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Renee gave us several different options to meet our needs and was great about answering our questions. We will call again. Thanks Renee.
- Rick G. 12/2022 Madison, WI

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COMMUNITY

Photo by Becca Carpenter



After sorting through rescued food donations, The River's Operations Specialist Amanda Prusak empties inedible produce into new on-site compost bins that will support local farms.

Photo by Frankie Pobar Lay



Senator Agard stopped by FEED Kitchens in early March to touch base with the NPC Directors and congratulate a graduating member who is moving into her own brick-and-mortar business space on the Northside. Pictured, from left: Justin Markofski, NPC Executive Director; Marie-Arzel Young, Far Breton; Senator Agard; Chris Brockel, NPC Food Systems Director.

How The River Food Pantry helps protect our environment

By Becca Carpenter
The River Food Pantry

In recognition of Earth Day, The River Food Pantry is focusing on strengthening sustainability efforts to feed more people and help to protect our environment.

The River not only provides food and supplies to over 2,500 people in Dane County every week, it also plays a significant role in protecting the environment by rescuing more than 1 million pounds of food annually from the food industry, agricultural producers, and food wholesalers and retailers.

"One of our major priorities is keeping food that is safe for consumption from going to waste," said Rhonda Adams, executive director of The River, located on Madison's Northside. "The food and supplies we rescue help nourish the 13,000 people who rely on us for groceries and meals each year. By minimizing the amount of waste that goes into our landfills, we also help our environment."

Recently, The River recognized over

60 local food retailers as "Food Waste Fighters" for their significant donations of food and supplies in 2022. Nearly half of the products distributed come from The River's recovery program.

To further minimize waste and increase food access, The River is working on new sustainability initiatives. This spring, the pantry is implementing on-site composting for its meal and grocery programs. Staff are also working with Master Gardener volunteers to develop gardening classes with simple ways to grow fresh produce at home.

Another food sustainability education issue that The River continues to stress to everyone: "Best by," "Sell by," and "Best if used by" are not expiration dates. "Perishable foods, like milk, cheese and juice, are usually safe to eat even after their 'best by' dates. Instead of relying on package dates, please use your senses. If it smells off, looks moldy, or tastes bad, then trash it," Adams said.

Learn more about The River's sustainability efforts at riverfoodpantry.org.

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COMMUNITY

MSCR offers a variety of exciting programs for all ages

By Nicole Graper
MSCR

Madison School & Community Recreation (MSCR) is excited to release the Summer 2023 Program Guide. The guide is available at mscr.org and is at MSCR program sites, community centers, libraries and schools.

The Summer Program Guide is filled with a variety of activities for all ages. It includes arts and enrichment, boating, camps, fitness, paddling, sports, adapted recreation, swimming and tennis.

Families can find the Camps Booklet in the center of the guide. Choose from a variety of camp options, including Camp Compass at Warner Park Community Recreation Center, Camp Tall Oaks, Creative You, Middle School on the Move, Soccer and many more. Camps serve children age 3 through grade 9.

Fee assistance is available for most programs. A Spanish version of the



guide is available at mscr.org. Visit mscr.org or call 608-204-3000 for more information.

MSCR, a department of the Madison Metropolitan School District, is a public recreation department serving the community since 1926.

Make Music Madison seeks performers and host sites

By Meri Rose Eckberg
Make Music Madison



The Dead See Squirrels perform during Make Music Madison 2021.

Make Music Madison is seeking performers and hosts for the 11th annual city-wide musical celebration held on the summer solstice, June 21. Anyone can perform and anyone can host a performance, as long as the event is within the city of Madison, free, accessible to the public, and does not block the public right-of-way.

Make Music Day is an international holiday celebrated in over 1,000 cities worldwide every June 21. Anyone and everyone, regardless of experience, age or genre, is invited to make music in honor of this holiday. There is no cost to participate.

Venue host registration opened March 25. Performer registration opens April 1. Registration for both will close May 25. Learn more at makemusicmadison.org.

DAIS seeks volunteers

By Isabel Kozlowski
DAIS

Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) volunteers provide crucial, life-saving services to domestic violence survivors and their families. Your time and compassion will go a long way in providing support to

those impacted by domestic violence in Dane County.

You can read about our volunteer opportunities and fill out an application on our website: abuseintervention.org/volunteer. If you have questions or concerns, please call 608-251-1237 or email volunteer@abuseintervention.org.

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COMMUNITY

Lakeview pantry helps feed Northsiders facing hunger

By Chris DePre
Lakeview Lutheran Church

With the onset of the COVID pandemic in 2020 and now lingering high inflation, our neighbors facing hunger are increasingly turning to food pantries to feed their families.

Food insecurity is expected to remain high as inflation continues and the pandemic-era increase in SNAP (food stamps) benefits expired at the end of February. One of the local lifelines for those families is the weekly pantry at Lakeview Lutheran Church, 4001 Mandrake Road.

The Lakeview Food Pantry has seen the number of people it serves increase. Pantry household visits in 2020 increased by 30% over 2019. While visits in 2021 declined to pre-COVID numbers, 2022 saw a 43% increase in usage compared to 2021, with 1,435 household visits.

“We’ve definitely seen more people using the pantry,” said Todd Schaack, a church member and volunteer. “We are pleased to be able to provide food assistance to our Northside neighbors, and we see the need each week.”

Church and community members help in contributing time, money and food to the pantry. In December, that took the form of donations to build “Christmas trees” of soup, fruit, diapers, coffee, personal items and more that went right to the pantry’s shelves after the holiday.

“The people of Lakeview direct their faith outside the walls of the building and to those around us who need a hand,”

Submitted by Lakeview Church



Trees of soup, fruit, diapers and coffee

said the Rev. Darin Wiebe, the church’s pastor since September 2022.

The Lakeview pantry, which has been operating since the early 1980s, is open from 4-6 pm. Mondays, except when a holiday falls on Monday.

The Lakeview food pantry is held in the parking lot along Northport Drive. Vehicles should line up along the center of the lot, with visitors staying in their cars. People who walk to the pantry are asked to wait in the entry vestibule on the south side of the church for volunteers to assist them. On a household’s first visit to the pantry, each household is registered using an ID for the head of the household, a piece of mail (or utility bill, etc.) that displays their current address, and some form of identification for each member of the household. Once registered, on subsequent visits only the ID for the head of the household needs to be shown.

If interested in helping to financially support the pantry through a food drive or volunteering, contact Lakeview Lutheran Church at 608-244-6181.

Coffee with a Cop — a perspective

By Justin Markofski
Northside Planning Council

Not everyone is looking for any police contact, and that is fair and understandable, in my estimation. Not everyone has the same experience and history with police interactions. While this is true, the Madison Police Department (MPD) is working hard to change everyone’s perspective and experience to a more positive one.

The MPD’s vision statement is that “we are a national model for exceptional policing through our commitment to selfless public service, effective community partnerships, and evidence-based policing.”

Just one way the MPD is making efforts to win the confidence and trust of the public is in monthly “Coffee with a Cop” meetings hosted by North District Captain Kelly Donahue, a born and raised Northside resident.

I had the opportunity to attend the first two meetings of 2023, and here is what I found.

In January I counted 23 people in attendance. The featured speaker was North District Lieutenant Detective Paul Bauman. During this meeting, topics included discussion of police body cameras, license plate readers, and a thorough explanation of the process and handling of a then recent stabbing that occurred on the Northside. There was also an update on community engagement officers’ activities, including basketball at Warner Park, Pizza with Police at Kennedy Heights, walking school bus from Northport CLC to Lakeview Elementary and

more. Everyone present was welcome to ask questions and hear responses.

In February I counted 36 people in attendance. The featured speaker was MPD Police Chief Shon Barnes. Chief Barnes gave an approachable, conversation-style report on crime and public safety in 2022 from his viewpoint. His sharing was interactive, and he responded to a number of resident comments along the way. Chief Barnes went on to overview both the MPD 2023 Plan as well as the five-year strategic plan for MPD. This was very informative.

Chief Barnes stated that there is a lot of science to doing good police work. He also strongly agreed with one person’s comment that “We can’t lose our empathy for anything that happens in this city.”

I have been informed and impressed by the honesty, transparency and commitment to public trust demonstrated in these meetings. My encouragement to anyone who is skeptical or opposed to the MPD and its work for any reason is to reach out and directly engage the people doing this work (like Captain Donahue or Chief Barnes).

Coffee with a Cop happens on the third Thursday of each month at Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Drive, at 9 am.

If you have ideas or ways you would like the MPD and the North District to consider connecting and engaging with the community, call 608-245-3652 or email Captain Donahue directly at kdonahue@cityofmadison.com and share what would work for you.

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COMMUNITY

Margaret's Fund scholarship application is open

By Anne Pryor
Margaret's Fund

Northside residents are invited to apply for this year's Margaret's Fund: A Northside Scholarship. The 2023 scholarship will go to an adult returning to school in a degree- or certificate-program in fall 2023. The award is \$1,000.

Applicants must be a Northside resident; have an accepted or pending application at an accredited post-secondary school, college or university; and plan to enroll or continue in the 2023-24 academic year. Preference will be given to applicants who actively

participate or volunteer in Northside organizations, are among the first in their family to pursue higher education, or have overcome substantial obstacles or challenges to success.

College is expensive in many ways beyond tuition and books, the two areas covered by most scholarships. Margaret's Fund is unrestricted so the recipient can use the award to pay for some of the often-forgotten extra costs of college, such as childcare, computers, transportation, supplies or special fees.

Since 2007, Margaret's Fund has supported residents of Northside Madison neighborhoods who are

pursuing higher education, alternating between a graduating high school senior and a returning adult. After years of growth at the Madison Community Foundation, the annual scholarship award is now \$1,000.

Margaret's Fund has awarded 13 scholarships to date:

1. Tara Hoffman (2009)
2. Nicole Tackes (2010)
3. Stacey Yang (2011)
4. Omobolanle Kikelomo Olumbi (2012)
5. Chekwube Obieze (2013)
6. Melissa Marie Alexander (2014)
7. Aminata Bojang (2015)

8. Felicia Jones (2016)
9. Vanessa Kana (2017)
10. Terri Hatchett (2018)
11. René Bedolla (2019)
12. Josselin Ceballos De Santiago (2019)
13. Abubacarr Darboe (2022).

Margaret's Fund: A Northside Scholarship is professionally managed by the Madison Community Foundation. Donations are tax deductible and very much appreciated.

Find the application and full guidelines at <https://tinyurl.com/NorthApply>. The application deadline is May 31, 2023.

Save energy with lighting tips

From Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE)

The light bulb has come a long way since incandescent bulbs started lighting homes more than 100 years ago.

In the 1990s, compact fluorescent (CFL) bulbs came on the scene, offering consumers a longer-lasting bulb that used less energy than older bulbs. In recent years, light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs have become more affordable and more popular in households.

LED bulbs are very efficient — using about 75% less energy than standard incandescent bulbs — and they last longer than other bulbs. As an added bonus, because they use most of their energy to produce light instead of heat, they are cool to the touch. The

cost to operate an LED bulb annually ranges from about \$1 to \$1.50 for an entire year versus \$2–\$3 for a CFL, and \$10–\$11 for an incandescent bulb.

Get free Energy-Saving Packs from FOCUS ON ENERGY®

Our statewide energy efficiency partner, Focus on Energy, offers a variety of different energy-saving packs that include LED light bulbs, all sent to eligible MGE customers for free. Each pack contains a variety of products including LED bulbs, pipe insulation, faucet aerators and more. Please note there is a limit of one pack per eligible household every year.

Visit focusonenergy.com/residential to learn more and to order your pack. And be sure to visit mge.com regularly for other energy-saving tips.

Margaret's Fund
A Northside Scholarship

Margaret's Fund provides a \$1,000 award for an adult returning to school.

For details see:
<https://tinyurl.com/NorthApply>

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- ✓ Be an authentic voice for racial justice

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LIBRARY

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608-246-4547



Library Hours

Monday–Friday, 10 am–8 pm
Saturday, 9 am–5 pm
Sunday, 1–5 pm
Closed: Monday, May 29
See all library hours at madpl.org/locations.

Friends of Lakeview Library Book Sale

Saturday, April 29, 9 am–4 pm
There will be a bag sale from 3–4 pm. All proceeds benefit library programming. Thank you for supporting the library.

Munch Mobile Lunch Van

Saturdays, April 1–May 27, 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.

Baby Play Date

Wednesdays, April 5–26, 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, May 3–24, 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.

Multi-age Storytime

Thursdays, April 13–27 and May 11, 10:30–11:30 am

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

Art for Little Ones with Amy

Thursdays, April 6 and May 4, 10:30–11:30 am

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

We Read to a Dog

Mondays, April 24 and May 22, 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.

Music + Movement

Saturday, April 8, 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, April 8 and 22, May 6 and 20, 1:30–2:30 pm

Tuesdays, April 11 and 25, May 9 and 30, 4:30–5:30 pm

Join The Kids Chef, Lily Kilfoy, for a series of cooking classes for school-age children, tweens and their families. Participants will learn about different foods, where they come from, how to follow recipes, and how to use a variety of tools. Registration is not required, but participation will be limited to the first 25 attendees. Food is generously

provided by Willy Street Co-op North.

LEGO Club

Saturday, May 13, 10–11 am

Are you a kid who loves LEGOs? Do you enjoy engineering and designing LEGO creations? If so, join us at LEGO Club. Lots of LEGOs are provided 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, April 5 and 19, May 3, 17 and 31, 4:30–6 pm

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

Teen Cooking Club

Fridays, April 7 and 21, May 5 and 19, 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.

Minecraft Club

Mondays, April 3–24, 4–5:30 pm

Stop in to play Minecraft with other teens and tweens. There is a limited number of computers, so participants will take turns.

Teen & Tween Time

Fridays, April 14 and May 12, 4–5:30 pm

Drop-in and join tweens 10 years and older and teens for all sorts of games, snacks, art projects and community. This event is free.

Chess at the Library

Mondays, April 10 and 24, May 8 and 22, 6–8 pm

All ages and skill levels are welcome.

Braided Breads with Punky Egan

Saturday, April 1, 1–2 pm

Learn how to braid three, four and five-strand breads practicing with ropes. Learn the steps on how to make a classic egg bread dough. Plenty of samples will be provided. To register, go online or call 608-246-4547.

Wisconsin Film Festival Sneak Peek

Monday, April 3, 6–7:30 pm

You're invited to a free preview of the 25th Wisconsin Film Festival (April 13–20). Watch trailers of this year's films, learn about the ins and outs from WFF staff, and bring your questions about the festival.

First Friday Films

Fridays, April 7 and May 5, 6–8 pm

Join us for a film night (feature-length films, documentaries and shorts) the first Friday of each month. In April we will watch "The Wild Goose Lake" and in May "20th Century Women." Snacks and drinks will be provided.

COVID Vaccine Clinic

Tuesdays, April 11–May 30, 3–6 pm

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.

Dream Book

Thursdays, April 13 and May 4, 4–5:30 pm

Artist Lydia Diemer leads art-making workshops to create a collective dream book. While drawing, stamping, cutting and pasting, we'll explore how images, ideas, emotions and sensations fill our daydreams and visions of the future. This is for tweens and teens and school-age children, families and adults of all ages are welcome. In April, the theme is "Decorate Shirts + Customize Posters." In May the theme is "Starch-based Collage + Collaborative Book."

Cooking with Chef Paul: Fried Rice for Dinner

Thursday, April 13, 6:30–7:30 pm

Join Chef Paul for a demonstration of how to transform leftover rice into a delicious new meal whether vegan or meat or anything in between. Go online or call 608-246-4547 to register beginning March 30.

Mindfulness, Meditation and Creativity

Friday, April 14, 1–2:30 pm

Explore guided meditation and visualization, and learn tips and techniques to quiet and focus your mind. The workshop incorporates breath work, mudras, relaxation, journaling and more. Related art exploration is incorporated. Go online or call 608-246-4547 to register beginning March 31.

Sheep to Sweater Series: Knitting and Crochet Class

Saturday, April 15, 10 am–12 pm

In our final Sheep to Sweater Series, we'll gather to knit and crochet. Everyone is welcome, whether you are an experienced crafter, or completely new to knitting and crocheting. All yarn and needles will be provided. Go online or call 608-246-4547 to register beginning April 1.

Board Game Café

Mondays, April 17 and May 15, 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.

Learning Basic Sign Language

Tuesday, April 18, 6–7:45 pm

Increase your understanding of body language and Sign Language as a conceptual and visual language. Sign has a wide range of uses: to indicate to a spouse you need to leave a room, to form a bond with a child, to be an

Library continued on page 11

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LIBRARY

Library

Continued from page 10

effective communicator in customer service, and to communicate with individuals who use Sign. We will discuss disability challenges and curiosities. Instructed by Rhiannon Gurley, a hard-of-hearing, inclusion advocate. Go online or call 608-246-4547 to register beginning April 4.

Memory Screening

Thursday, April 20, 1–3 pm

Memory screening is an important part of overall health. The Aging & Disability Resource Center of Dane County is offering free, confidential 15-minute memory screening appointments, including educational materials about memory concerns and brain health. Schedule an appointment online or call 608-246-4547 beginning April 6.

Earth Day Birding for Families

Saturday, April 22, 10 am–12 pm

Celebrate the birds this Earth Day and join a guided birding outing with the Feminist Bird Club-Madison Chapter. You'll learn birding basics and fun facts. No birding experience is required. Binoculars will be available to borrow. This outing will be at Cherokee Marsh-South Unit, 802 Wheeler Road. Meet at the first parking lot at the intersection of School and Wheeler Roads. Registration begins April 8; go online or call 608-246-4547.

Container Gardening

Thursday, April 27, 6:30–7:30 pm

Container gardening is popular for those living in condos and apartments and allows gardening with less bending and kneeling. A certified Master Gardener from Dane County UW-Extension will discuss container types, container soils and their characteristics, watering and fertilizing schedules, and plants that are well suited for containers and container design. Go online or call 608-246-4547 to register beginning April 13.

Fourth Friday Poetry Group

Fridays, April 28 and May 26, 1–2 pm

Come to read, come to listen, come to celebrate poetry with this group of fellow poets and poetry aficionados.

French Macarons with Punky Egan

Tuesday, May 2, 1–2 pm or

Saturday, May 13, 1–2 pm

Even though macarons have only four ingredients, the method of putting those ingredients together is very precise. We'll go step-by-step, so you learn how to make this French cookie correctly. We'll discuss types of fillings including Swiss meringue buttercream and chocolate ganache. Go online or call 608-246-4547 to register beginning April 18 or April 29.

Cooking with Chef Paul: Sushi

Thursday, May 11, 6:30–7:30 pm

Join Chef Paul to learn to prepare well-balanced sushi rice, the foundation of sushi. Basic sushi rolls: maki, nigiri and chirashi will be introduced and shared. Pickled ginger will also be prepared and tasted. Demonstration only. Go online or call 608-246-4547 to register beginning April 27.

Wild Food/Wild Medicine Walk in the Park

Tuesday, May 16, 5:30 pm

Join herbalist and forager Linda Conroy on this fun and engaging walk on the wild side of Warner Park. Learn to identify plants that can be used for food and medicine. We will begin with an overview of respectful harvesting practices and guidelines, and as we meander, tips for identifying, harvesting and working with plants will be shared. The walk begins at Lakeview Library and departs promptly at 5:30 pm. Go online or call 608-246-4547 to register beginning May 2.

Scrabble at the Library

Wednesdays, April 5–May 31, 10 am–12 pm

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

Knitting at the Library

Wednesdays, April 5–May 31, 6–8 pm

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

Madison Writing Assistance

Mondays, April 3–May 1, 4–7 pm

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.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

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

NewBridge Book Discussions

First Wednesdays, 10–11 am

April 5 – “Cold Sassy Tree” by Olive Ann Burns

May 3 – “Painting Beyond Walls” by David Rhodes

Lakeview Book Discussion

First Thursdays, 6:30–8 pm

April 6 – “Dead Wake” by Erik Larson

May 4 – “Three Sisters” by Anton Chekhov

Daytime Book Discussion

Second Thursdays, 12–1 pm

April 13 – “Last Night at the Telegraph Club” by Malinda Lo

May 11 – “Snow Falling on Cedars” by David Guterson

Mystery Book Group Discussion

Third Thursdays, 5:30–7 pm

April 20 – “The Kingdoms of Savannah” by George Dawes Green

May 18 – “The Cartographers” by Peng Shepherd

Walking Book Club

Third Fridays, 2–3 pm

April 21 – Book potpourri; choose something funny if you're in the mood.

May 19 – “Daisy Jones & The Six” by Taylor Jenkins Reid



Photo by Anita Weier

Author Susan Apps-Bodilly speaks at Lakeview Library

Author Susan Apps-Bodilly speaks at Lakeview Library

By Anita Weier

Friends of Lakeview Library

Lakeview Library and the Friends of Lakeview combined to bring a well-known Madison author to the library in February during the Friends' annual meeting.

Susan Apps-Bodilly, daughter of famed Wisconsin author Jerry Apps, spoke to the group about her latest book, “Seeds in Soil: Planting a Garden and Finding Your Roots.”

A local elementary and middle school teacher for many years, she stressed the importance of involving children in gardening early in their lives. Such involvements can lead to a lifelong focus on the environment, she explained, as well as getting them outside for healthful exercise.

“Kids are used to supermarkets,” she stressed. “They may not know where fresh food comes from. Gardening can teach them about plant and animal relationships, and how important pollinators are.”

Children should wear gloves for digging, as well as closed toe shoes and a hat for gardening, Apps-Bodilly said, adding that adults should supervise the use of heavy or sharp tools.

Her book includes information about the history of gardening in Wisconsin, as well as favorite recipes for garden food. “This is a family gardening book,” she noted.

Prior to her remarks, the Friends of

Lakeview conducted an annual meeting. Highlights included a report by Friends Vice President Beth Welch, who explained that the organization is a vital advocate for Lakeview Library that raises funds for library services and supplies. Last year, for instance, the Friends paid for a subscription to the New York Times, seed packets for the free seed library, and several programs.

Librarian Carra Davies stressed overall services provided at the library, such as six book discussion groups, sign language classes, tax assistance, vaccination clinics and computer classes. She thanked the Friends for financial and volunteer assistance with many programs.

Lesleigh Luttrell, treasurer of the Friends, reported that the organization earned \$8,962.87 in 2022 from book sales, memberships and donations. The group gave \$3,800 to Lakeview for adult and youth programs and supplies, subscriptions and collections. The Friends also helped stage special events, maintained the library garden and provided staff support such as t-shirts and a couch to replace the tattered one in the staff break room.

Members attending the annual meeting also elected the Friends Board of Directors for the coming year. They are: President Pat Tully, Vice President Beth Welch, Secretary Sue Miller, Treasurer Lesleigh Luttrell and directors Barb Karlen and Anita Weier.

A.D.

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Friday and Saturday nights at 7 pmContemporary version
Saturday morning at 11 am

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ART

Photos by John Urban



“Ladybug” by Malachi Schmidt



Malachi Schmidt

ARTS for ALL Wisconsin hosts “Line of Vision” exhibit

By Mike Lawler
ARTS for ALL Wisconsin

ARTS for ALL Wisconsin (AFA) is proud to announce the opening of “Line of Vision,” a solo art exhibit featuring the works of Malachi Schmidt, a self-taught, neurodiverse artist whose primary mediums are marker, pen and ink. The exhibit runs through June 2, with an artist reception April 1, 2–5 pm, that will include a live drawing demonstration by the artist.

Schmidt’s work features bold lines, curious patterns and inventive shapes with subjects ranging from figurative to abstract. His experience as an autistic person gives his art a unique perspective, capturing the true essence of his subjects that others might miss.

Attendees of the reception will have the opportunity to witness Schmidt’s talents first-hand during the live drawing demonstration. He will create a new piece of artwork using his primary mediums, providing a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the creative process.

“I am inspired by comic book art, animated films, finding unique patterns in unexpected places and other artists’ work,” Schmidt said. “My mom is an artist and I started drawing with her at a young age, but I have not had any formal training.”

The exhibit is free and open to the public, with safety protocols in place to ensure the well-being of all attendees. Visitors are encouraged to take their time and fully immerse themselves in the experience.

“We are thrilled to host this exhibit and support the work of this talented artist,” said Peter Bovenmyer, art director of ARTS for ALL Wisconsin. “We hope Malachi’s perspective and approach to art will bring a greater understanding and appreciation of neurodiversity in our community.”

The AFA Art Center, 1709 Aberg Ave., is open Monday–Thursday, 10 am–6 pm, and Friday, 10 am–4 pm. The exhibit is free and open to the public.

AFA’s mission is to expand the capabilities, confidence and quality of life for children and adults with disabilities throughout Wisconsin by providing programs in the arts.

Poets Corner

North Tune

By Jason R. Van Pelt
A mush of mallards in a rush
Quack their bills among brush
They wave plush pom-poms.
Cheering for the ninja moms
Orthodox flavors shall anoint
Yummy soup’s on a waypoint
Bring your best to Spring Fest
Straight or curly hair finessed!

Yesterday, Today

By Jane Wieman
Yesterday
smooth, sparkling, new fallen snow
Today
Pockled by melting droplets from
trees and rooves
Snow pockled scape
beneath a deep blue sky
Thanks to the warm sun
after the steady blanketing snowfall.

Joy

By Nancy McLean
So beautiful the naked trees
Swaying gracefully in the gentle
breeze.
Dancing in the wind and rain
Hearing nature’s sweet refrain.
Arms outstretched to catch the sun
Twiggy fingers having fun.
Ah, but to dance as one of these
Unencumbered, full of glee
Being joyful, feeling free.

Found

By Barbara Taylor
The bird sang high in the thick tree
a four -noted melody
three notes repeated, the fourth note low
like Beethoven’s Fifth
only sweeter.
I searched
and then the bird appeared
on the tip of a swaying branch
as though it had found me
to sing that four-noted melody.

Cotton Ball Clouds

By Jolieth McIntosh
Fluffy cotton balls dabbed in blue paint,
Dabbed on white paper,
Dabbed freely on immeasurable space,
Dabbed like sponge painting by a
free-spirited child.
Shapes like cotton candy,
Like faces,
Varied shapes for one’s interpretation,
Yet, they are the clouds.
A fascinating work of art by the
omnipotent creator,
Free for all to see If we take the time
to look up.

Betrothal in Spring

By Virginia Scholtz
Vocalizing unabashed, they call a
raspy-voiced motet
now screeching operatic solos;
now raunchy, hot duet.
Face to face they jump and hop;
it seems they’re having fun
their limbs a flailing frenzy before
the setting sun.
Then up they soar, wing on wing, just
as it’s getting dark
to a quick night’s rest in a cattail nest,
the Cranes of Warner Park.

Someday®

By M.L. Wright
Someday you will miss the sound of
my voice
When the room is filled with silence.
Someday you will miss my laugh
When darkness fills the room.
SOMEDAY you will SIT, remember
and wonder why.
Someday.

Haiku symphony

By David Benson
Orchestral shower
and fluted mating calls at
timpani of dawn.

Northside Arts Collective

By Rhiannon Gurley
Our Vibrant Community

Providing local programming is essential for the well-being of our residents. Creating innovative programming to gather and learn together is what sparks excitement and meaningfulness. Rhiannon Gurley, founder of Our Vibrant Community, an arts-based community development business, will lead two upcoming creative events on the Northside.

Northside Arts Collective (NAC) will host its quarterly social at Tandem Press, 1743 Commercial Ave., Friday, April 7, 5–7 pm. Enjoy Afro-Cuban Jazz hosted by UW-Madison Mead Witter School of Music’s Jazz Studies Program. There will be printmaking exhibit and cash bar. No registration is needed.

To have a vibrant community we must be inclusive. Lakeview Library is

offering a free in-person Sign Language class Tuesday, April 18, 6:15 pm. Contact Register on the Lakeview Library. online event calendar or call 608-246-4547. Rhiannon Gurley, a hard-of-hearing instructor, will teach basic Sign and share approaches to enhance daily communication. You’ll learn body language, basic signs to use with everyone, as well as increased awareness of people with disabilities. The class is ideal for ages 8 and up.

Volunteers make the Northside Arts Collective possible. Contact NAC to join a passion project to elevate the Northside. We are seeking workshop presenters, social gathering hosts, and Northside Farmers Market table volunteers.

Also, share your arts-related events with the Northside community through Facebook [fb.com/madisonnorthsidearts](https://www.facebook.com/madisonnorthsidearts) or madisonnorthsidearts@gmail.com.

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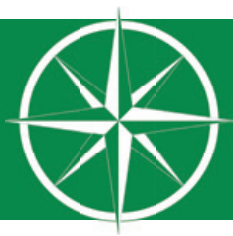
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Photos from Twisted Radish



Twisted Radish picnic and party food



Photo by Jeffrey Affeldt

Scenic trails offer cyclists outdoor recreation.



Photo by Virginia Scholtz

Jo Ann Reckner sets off on her bicycle.

Launch spring with picnics and pedaling

Springtime picnicking

By Virginia Scholtz
Northside News

After the whimsical and sometimes forbidding months of a Wisconsin winter, milder days call us to spend our time outdoors. Picnicking can be cool, even if the weather is cool as well.

Both Lakeview Heights Park (1621 Sunfield St.) and Burrows Park (25 Burrows Road) have fireplaces. Bring your own wood and have a weenie roast. You can dine on peanut butter sandwiches while watching Lake Mendota from the shore of Warner Park Beach (1101 Woodward Drive) and from Meadow Ridge Conservation Park (4002 Meadow Valley Drive). Consider Cherokee Marsh North Unit (6098 N. Sherman Ave.); bring a lunch and take in the great views of budding spring and wildlife.

If simple packed lunches aren't your style, order something special from the food carts with businesses based at FEED Kitchens, 1219 N. Sherman Ave. Many of them prepare specialty foods daily and drive to venues around the city. There are many caterers based here as well. For a special occasion and fancy fare, you might like to try Twisted Radish (twistedradish.com). This caterer offers grazing boxes, perfect for picnics or parties and special events.

However you connect with nature this spring, consider this: "Knowing that you love the earth changes you, activates you to defend and protect and celebrate. But when you feel that the earth loves you in return, that feeling transforms the relationship from a one-way street into a sacred bond." Robin Wall Kimmerer in "Braiding Sweetgrass."

Editor's note:

The Northside abounds with great food. Check out the restaurants with takeout and delivery, or food carts and caterers doing business out of FEED Kitchens.

Please visit www.northsidenews.org for a comprehensive Northside food directory and feedkitchens.org/membership/current-members/ for businesses at FEED Kitchens.

Northside offers scenic routes for cyclists of all skill levels

By Jeffrey Affeldt
Glacial Drumlin Trail Visitors Guide

Madison is well-known for its bike-friendly streets and trails, often garnering national attention for its outdoor recreation opportunities and quality of life. The Northside is no exception, offering designated routes and often scenic routes for cyclists of all skill levels. Here are a few of my favorites.

A good starting point for a bike ride is Warner Park. Centrally located in the Northside, this large greenspace features a paved trail that winds through the park, offering expansive views of Lake Mendota and the surrounding neighborhoods.

For a green and woody destination with great lake views, ride to Governors Island.

From the northwest corner of Warner Park, at the intersection of Northport and Troy Drives, ride west on Troy Drive then turn left onto Main Drive into the rolling green grounds of Mendota Mental Health Institute. Turn left onto Cinder Lane, and follow this to the parking area. Here you'll find several wooded trails and paths, including a loop around Governors Island, a high sandstone bluff nearly surrounded by the waters of Lake Mendota. Between the majestic cottonwoods, visitors are granted expansive views of the state capitol and more.

For those looking for a more urban adventure, head south on Sherman Avenue toward downtown Madison. Sherman Avenue is a designated bike route, offering a safer and more direct way to reach the heart of the city. Along the way, you'll pass through vibrant Northside neighborhoods, home to an array of stores, restaurants and even a new bike shop.

If you're looking for a quieter and more natural experience, head north on Sherman Avenue to Cherokee Marsh. The six miles of unpaved trails are off-limits to bikes, but lock your ride in the provided rack and enjoy a restorative walk through hills of oak forest or down to the namesake marsh.

Starkweather Creek Path is a popular bike and pedestrian route that runs

along the banks of Starkweather Creek, a tributary of Lake Monona. The path is about 2 miles long and connects several neighborhoods on the north and east sides of the city. The path starts near the intersection of Packers and Aberg Avenues, heads east along the edge of the Bridges Golf Course, then swings south over a swooping, modern pedestrian bridge.

The path is paved and relatively flat, making it accessible for cyclists and pedestrians of all ages and skill levels, and offers pleasant views of the creek and surrounding natural areas. One of the highlights of the Starkweather Creek Path is the abundance of wildlife that may be seen along the way. The creek is home to a variety of fish, birds and other animals, and the path passes through several wetland areas, providing important habitat for many species. The south end connects with the Capitol City Trail near the Goodman Community Center.

No matter where you choose to bike on Madison's Northside, there are plenty of resources available to help you plan your route. The City of Madison's bike map provides detailed information on bike-friendly streets, trails and bike parking locations. The city's bike share program, B-Cycle, offers a convenient way to rent a bike for the day and explore the city on two wheels, and boasts several stations throughout the north and east sides.

Biking around the Northside of Madison offers a variety of options for cyclists of all levels. Whether you're looking for a leisurely ride through scenic parks or connecting with more urban destinations, there's something for everyone in this vibrant and bike-friendly city.

Grab your helmet, hop on your bike, and discover all that the Northside has to offer.

Jeffrey L. Affeldt lives and works on the Northside and is editor of the new Glacial Drumlin Trail Visitors Guide (GlacialDrumlinTrail.com).

Cycling on the Northside

By Virginia Scholtz
Northside News

Madison is a "Platinum Bicycle Friendly Community" according to the League of American Bicyclists.* An estimated 20% of the city's employees ride a bike to work. Plenty of bikers can be seen on the Northside, riding in bike lanes along the major streets and making their way to bicycle paths that span the Isthmus. North of Commercial Avenue biking is mostly along city streets. Sheridan Drive will take you to Warner Park or to Woodward Drive and Warner Park Beach.

A path that can be accessed from Scofield Street just off Commercial Avenue winds through Demetral Field. After skirting the tiny house village and crossing Johnson Street, you'll pass the sculpture and greenery of Pennsylvania Park and reach the Yahara River trail. It veers away from Johnson Street and follows the river underneath East Washington Avenue. At Thornton Avenue, Capital City Trail runs northeast toward the Starkweather Creek Trail or southwest toward the Isthmus and then along the shore of Lake Monona through Law Park to Brittingham Bay.

Black Saddle and DreamBikes Madison serve the Northside. Black Saddle carries a wide variety of bicycles from fat-tire to racers, quality accessories and tune-ups and repairs. They accept donations of used bikes, which they refurbish and sell at reduced prices. They have a variety of used replacement parts, including bike seats, pedals, rims and more. New accessory items like locks and gloves are also available.

The mission of Dream Bikes is to provide a learning experience for area youth. Budding mechanic, Cameron Davis, uses she/her pronouns and is transitioning to female. The thing she likes most about working at DreamBikes is that her identity is respected. She is a cycling enthusiast, especially long bike trips. The rewards of her job are learning while working, helping children, and "I get to pick the music." She values her part in the shop's contribution to the community.

*Source: Madison Bikes - Advocating for a bike friendly community or www.madisonbikes.org.

SCHOOL & YOUTH

Teens and phones: What should our next step be?

By Emma Watermolen and Aliyyah Wiley
East High School

In Anatomy and Physiology class at East High School, we dove into the scientific perspective of the connection between phones and hormones. Specifically, dopamine and cortisol. A remarkable quote to start this discussion came from Tina Davis-Pittman, a student during our Socratic seminar, “Today you don’t see many people using newspapers, so phones are also a way people keep up to date with current events, see today’s weather, talk to friends and family, etc.” You may be reading this article on your phone right now, scrolling and intaking your daily new intake until you feel like you’ve scrolled enough.

When is enough? Is enough too much? Unless your answer was “two hours or



Photo by Charlie Strader

Emma Watermolen and Aliyyah Wiley wrote this article based on discussions in their Anatomy and Physiology class

less screen time is enough for me,” then yes, enough is too much. “Enough” scrolling averages about seven or more hours a day, which is way too much. Our classmates ranged from 7–20 hours of active screen time on average each day.

Cameron ZehrGrimm summed up why this is happening, “When you get a good notification, which only happens some of the time, your brain will release dopamine. This is one way people get addicted to things like gambling, and it works the same way with phones.”

We know this information already, though. In class Deagan Wiebel stated, “Apps that want your attention constantly use a compilation loop to their advantage, along with endless scrolling features that provide a constant outlet of info for your brain.” As adults, teenagers and even kids, you’ve probably already heard this information and realized that.

This brought my peers and me to the thought of whether or not this will change and whether it will change for the better or worse. Most of us thought about our smaller siblings. Maria Westover said, “Since the next generation is growing

up with us as examples, they are going to see a lot of phones. This would cause them to be on their phones a lot.”

Another student, Aisha Bojang, summed up her predictions for the future, “I think the next generation’s addiction to social media will be worse because all these new apps and electronics coming out will make it harder to put the phone down or concentrate. Today’s social media platforms are causing harm to children, and I think it will get worse and affect kids’ attention spans and social skills.”

We know excessive amounts of phone usage isn’t good for us, and most of us know why we use our phones so much but we don’t do anything about it. What do you think phone usage will look like in the future? It’s up to us all to decide what to do next. What should our next step be?

Annual EMCC Bowlathon STRIKES again!

By Tom Moen
East Madison Community Center

The East Madison Community Center’s (EMCC) 26th Annual Bowlathon was held at Dream Lanes, and it far exceeded expectations. Over 100 bowlers, including neighborhood families, program partners, local teachers, board members, area businesses, students, relatives and other community volunteers, gathered for three full hours of bowling, prizes, fun and surprises.



Photo by Veronica Castillo

Many families enjoyed EMCC’s 26th Annual Bowlathon.

Special thanks to our long-time Bowlathon emcee, Leigh Mills, news anchor for WMTV Channel 15, for keeping the event flowing with warm, casual interactions with the crowd during this Saturday afternoon tradition.

Even during uncertain economic times, bowlers, sponsors and other donors combined to raise a new Bowlathon record of \$68,000 for the center’s college prep programs. Amazing!

Thank you to all those involved for making our 26th annual Bowlathon our best and most successful event.

BSA troops plan fun and adventure this summer

By Lukas Kubasik
BSA Troop 127

Scouts BSA Troops 127 and 7127 have been very active the past few months with activities from a skating merit badge to cabin camping and a lot in between.

Recently, we held troop elections, which allow new and experienced scouts to step into positions of leadership or give them a chance to get experience with a different position in the troop. I am continuing in my role as Senior Patrol Leader, which has many responsibilities, including planning outings and meetings with the other leaders.

Thank you to all families that participated in our annual food drive, Scouting for Food, which took place at the beginning of March. We are always happy to help others; and with these donations, we can help our neighbors in need.

This spring, we are planning fun conservation activities to clean and improve our area parks, like Warner Park. This summer, our troops plan many outings. The highlights include our week-long summer camp at Tesomas Scout Camp in Rhinelander and a seven-day canoeing trip in the boundary waters of northern Minnesota. These wilderness experiences are an amazing opportunity to travel where few others have gone and do things that most kids our age never get the opportunity to try.

Special thanks to Wild Warner for chartering our troops. They are Northside

neighbors whose work to protect and improve Warner Park fits with the tenants of our scouting program.

Do you know a kid in at least 6th grade who would like to have fun adventuring in the outdoors? We are an active and inclusive group that offers an amazing opportunity for character growth and life-building experiences. It is a perfect time to get involved. For more information, contact Troop 127 Scoutmaster Justin Sargent at 608-220-2342 or via email at justinssargent@gmail.com.

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SCHOOL AND YOUTH

Art is alive at Northport and Packer Community Learning Centers

By Pat Wongkit

Northport and Packer CLCs

Our youth bring art to the Northside. Program Director Pat Wongkit started painting with children back in 2017, and since then their love for art has continued to grow. In June 2022, Martel Chapman joined the staff to add even more to the art program for the summer and after-school hours at both Northport and Packer Community Learning Centers (CLCs). Our children are becoming prolific artists with over 100 drawings, acrylic paintings and oil paintings so far.

In December we curated a gallery

night at Northport CLC. Our students formally invited their teachers and many of our community members. We were overwhelmed when over 300 came to show support and left inspired. It was a tremendous time together.

Hanah Jon Taylor of Café CODA showed up with instruments for the children to play. Northport Apartment residents showed up with their traditional dishes, which were delicious. Over 50 young artists were honored with ribbons and an ovation. People purchased some paintings by our young artists that evening. To date, over 20 paintings have been sold. This event was sponsored by the Northside Wellness Partnership, and

it was a night to remember.

We continue to paint every day as part of our after-school program. We are studying the history of artists and learning many cool new things. We are introducing art from around the world. We are excited about how the CLC is becoming a resource for students' own artistic explorations. We see the value and importance of self-expression and individual creativity. It is challenging for the young artists, and they are learning to push themselves.

Packer youth have been painting and are working hard with Zach, a local musician, a couple of times a week mixing beats and rhymes. We are looking forward to showcasing the talents of our Packer youth at the Art Gallery Night this summer. Stay tuned for more details. We hope you will join us.



Photo submitted by Northport and Packers CLCs

Art at Northport and Packers CLCs

East Madison Little League 2023 season begins in May

By Jocie Luglio

East Madison Little League

East Madison Little League (EMLL) offers softball for girls and baseball for all children between the ages of 4 and 14. We have four fully lit fields with eight divisions of t-ball, machine pitch, baseball and softball.

Baseball early bird registration is open through April 8, practices begin mid-April, and games will be held late May through July. See our website (EMLL.org) for softball details. Full and partial scholarships and multi-player discounts are available. Our fully stocked concession stand will be open featuring hot menu items.

EMLL is a nonprofit organization which has provided play opportunities for east and north side Madison youth since 1958. Visit EMLL.org for more information.



Photo by Justin Sprague

EMLL offers softball and baseball for children ages 4-14

Full STEAM ahead at Door of Hope

By Cheryl Knox

Door of Hope

Something good is growing on the Northside. Door of Hope, located at 1181 N. Sherman Ave., is growing a much-needed resource for youth. Door of Hope saw the need to come alongside our educators to work with students struggling academically. The program provides free after-school science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) programming through robotics. The program is mentored by MATC and is open to students in grades 3-8. High school students are also welcome.

Students will learn coding and

engineering through robotics. The program is being considered for credit recovery for students who need to recover academic credit hours. Students in the program compete with their robots in First Tech Challenge, which offers thousands of dollars in scholarships to high school students to attend college. MATC also offers opportunities for students from the program to further their education in STEAM.

Door of Hope is also offering free summer programming Tuesdays and Thursdays with field trips on Fridays. Meals are provided. Enrollment is open for the summer program. Space is currently available. Email cheryl.knox@doorofhopewi.org to register.



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June 20-August 18

Tuesday/Thursday: 10 am - 1 pm-Lunch/snack

Friday Field Trip: 9 am-3 pm



Door of Hope
1181 N. Sherman, Madison, WI
608-622-4339
cheryl.knox@doorofhopewi.org
Toni.schrank@doorofhopewi.org

ENVIRONMENT

Community Garden Summit to be held at Troy Gardens in June

By Nicholas Leete and Nou Thao
Rooted WI

Every year Rooted WI and UW-Madison Division of Extension host a Community Garden Summit, an opportunity for community members to get together, share their gardening wisdom, strengthen relationships and celebrate the community.

This year's Community Garden Summit will be held Thursday, June 15, through Saturday, June 17. The summit will be at a different community garden each day, with the Saturday sessions held from 8:30 am-1 pm at Troy Gardens and Farm, 502 Troy Drive.

The event will include tours of the community gardens and different farm projects at the site, roundtable discussions, and workshops on school gardens, medicinal herbs and garden pests. The summit will also include a lineup of food demonstrations and children's gardening activities. Northside residents

can find more information and register for the Garden Summit at danegardens.net/conference.

The Garden Summit will be one of many events happening at Troy Gardens and Farm this year, and just one of the ways Northside residents can get involved with the site. The garden, farm and wild areas are open to the public year-round, Troy Kid's Garden hosts tours during the summer, and households can sign up for a garden plot at the Troy Community Garden at rootedwi.org/gardening/troy-community-gardens.

If you are looking to get your hands dirty, Rooted has many volunteer opportunities available. Folks who are interested in volunteering on a regular basis in exchange for produce can help out at Troy Farm each week over the 20-week season as a worker share volunteer. For worker share opportunities, visit rootedwi.org/farms/worker-share-volunteers. To sign up for general volunteer opportunities, visit rootedwi.org/engage-with-us/volunteer.

Photo by Wendy Murkve



A nesting pair of bald eagles is back in Warner Park for a third year.

Bird and Nature Festival April 23

By Paul Noeldner
Madison Friends of Urban Nature

The 11th Annual Madison Bird and Nature Festival is Sunday April 23, 12-4 pm, at the Warner Park Rainbow Shelter. Plan to attend this free diverse community event celebrating Earth Week, Arbor Day and International Bird Day.

Children will enjoy seeing hawks and owls up close. Come any time 12-4 pm and enjoy the ongoing walk-through Live Raptor Show and visit the food cart, music performances, community and nature group tables, short nature walks, and fun children's nature games and activities at Warner Park Rainbow Shelter, 1650 N. Sherman Ave.

By Dan Tortorice and Janet Battista
Friends of Lake View Hill Park

In the galaxy of tree species, the white oak tree is a true superstar. Lake View Hill Park, in the middle of the Northside, has a lot of them scattered throughout the woods.

A good place to see some is on the path leading to the small chapel just north of the pollinator garden. These trees are true remnants. They sprang from acorns long before the park was created or even the building of Lake View Sanatorium.

The age of white oaks can be counted in centuries rather than years. Indigenous peoples used them for food in the form of their less-bitter acorns, basket making and medicines to treat wounds. In our own times, they can be a powerful ally in the fight against climate change. White oaks have a root system that can be several times the size of their canopies, so their ability to sequester large amounts of carbon will prove invaluable in the coming decades.

Meanwhile, they provide food and shelter to many species of insects, birds and animals. If you're lucky enough to see the spectacular sight of wood ducks perched high up on trees in the park, it might be because of the white oaks nearby.

The Friends of Lake View Hill Park are taking action to propagate and protect young white oaks in the park. Local volunteers planted and caged about 100 white oaks last year. The saplings



Photo by Dan Tortorice

Mature white oak trees in Lake View Hill Park

came from a remnant tree located near Watertown, so their genotype is local to our area. These saplings need protection from a large, hungry deer herd, and possibly emergency watering in future years.

White oaks need 4-6 hours of sunlight in order to grow. That is why local volunteers will be working with Dane County to thin the forest canopy and remove invasive species from the understory. If we assist these trees now, they provide a huge dividend to future generations.

Learn more about the park at lakeviewhill.org or find us on facebook@lakeviewhill.

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ENVIRONMENT

Will beavers return to Warner Park in the future?

Kathleen Wolf
Wild Warner

In 2017, two beavers claimed Warner Pond as their territory, raising several litters of kittens and shaping the ecology of the pond. Sadly, the mating pair died in 2021, with no evidence in 2022 that any offspring remained behind. But it's likely that a new male will take an interest in this empty territory within a few years of vacancy, possibly this spring.

To tell the story of our first officially sanctioned family of Warner Park beavers, I'll tell you about their deaths, as well as their lives. Some readers will find this to be distressing; read on at your own discretion.

In the winter of 2016, a beaver dam across the outflow between Warner Pond and Lake Mendota created a major flooding hazard. The City of Madison's Engineering Division followed the standard procedure to that point: heavy machinery removed the dam, and a trapper was contracted to eliminate the beavers that caused the flood hazard. One of the traps was discovered by a member of the community, who took the trap out of the pond (unaware that this is a crime), and alerted the community to the attempt to kill off the beavers.

Social values change over time, and the historical norm that had informed the Engineering Division's policies up to that point had changed. Beavers have come into focus in recent years as important eco-engineers, and the history of trappers nearly driving them to extinction by the mid-1800s has become a defining example of the poor stewardship of the past.

To help address these concerns, Wild Warner invited members of the city



Photo by Kathleen Wolf

A male beaver's tail can be seen as he plops off a log while the female beaver eats nearby.

government, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and community members to a meeting to discuss the status of beavers in our area. Following the meeting, the city responded to the community's stated values; in 2017, a new beaver family arrived, and they were allowed to establish a home unopposed.

In 2019, the scouts of BSA Troops 127 and 7127 installed fencing around some of our most precious trees — river birch, sycamore, oak, and others — to protect them from being felled by beavers. Even without access to these large trees, a long-lasting colony of beavers can maintain a rich habitat in the pond, thinning out cattails and willow stands to allow for new growth and providing underwater hiding places for small fish and baby turtles.

In April of 2020, I spent several warm evenings sitting on a precarious patch of cattail mat at the edge of the pond opposite the beaver lodge. I waited patiently, camera in hand, for one of the beavers to appear. In twilight, the male emerged from the underwater entrance to the den, and climbed up on a log to survey the world above. Though alert, he seemed to me to be laid back, secure in his territorial claim.

Eventually, the female beaver joined her mate. She was more cautious, reluctant to leave the safety of the water as she breakfasted on cottonwood branches they'd stored in the mud at the edge of the cattails.

In the spring of 2021, a friend called to say there was a dead beaver in the dog park. I rushed over to retrieve her

body, and took her to a more secluded area to examine. She had been healing from a bite wound on her shoulder, perhaps from an otter or coyote. Bruises in her muscles suggested a dog might have come to the park that morning and "played" with her. She was pregnant with a single kit. I donated the baby's body to the UW Zoological Society.

I was contacted again when the male of the pair was found along the shore, killed in a tragic accident. The University of Wisconsin's Urban Canid Project had set out several restraint traps, looking for the presence of foxes in Warner Park.

These traps are not designed to kill, and foxes, raccoons and coyotes will lay down and remain quiet when they realize they're caught. Checked at least daily, the traps allow researchers to radio-collar or tag animals, then release them unharmed. But instead of the intended fox, a trap closed on the male beaver. Caught out of water, it panicked in a way foxes or raccoons would not. I'm sad about how he died — fear, exhaustion, perhaps heart attack.

This was the end of the first family of beavers who'd been welcomed to live in Warner Park by the neighboring human population. But Wild Warner is prepared to coordinate with Madison Parks staff to continue our beaver residency program.

It's my hope that volunteers will continue to extend the protection for trees so we can enjoy a new family of beavers and all the wild creatures who benefit from their presence. If you're interested in volunteering to protect valued trees or to send photos of suspected beaver chewing, email info.wildwarner@gmail.com.

Mergansers are feisty-looking duck-like birds that gather on our lakes

By Paul Noeldner
Madison Friends of Urban Nature

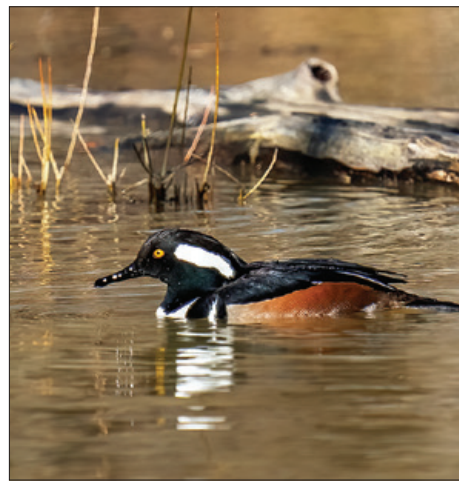
Our birds of the month for April and May are mergansers, beautiful feisty-looking duck-like birds that gather on Madison lakes during spring and fall migration. The Latin word "merge" is a bird that dives under water, and "anser" is a goose-like bird. Mergansers are cousins of our more popularly known Common Loons.

The Common Merganser is easy to spot from shore even without binoculars. They have a striking black head, bright red bill, white chest and belly, and a black back with small white racing stripes.

When they fly, they flash large square white patches on their black wings. They can be seen in big flocks at times but are anything but common.

Their physiology or body design is amazingly fine-tuned for diving for fish. Like loons, mergansers have heavier bones than most birds, which makes it a bit harder to take off when they fly but helps them dive under water for up to two minutes at a time.

Did you know some birds have teeth? Long slender merganser beaks have fine serrated edges like teeth that help them catch fish. The females have reddish feathers with punkish hairdos, and they



Hooded Merganser

sometimes help share parental duties for up to 70 young ones at a time.

Other mergansers you will see on Madison Lakes are the Red-breasted Merganser and the Hooded Merganser. What an amazing variety of birds there are that look like average "ducks" until we take a closer look. Google "merganser" to learn more about these and other duck-like birds you discover on Madison lakes.

These birds and the fish they eat can't read advisory signs about salt runoff, PFAS and other pollutants. They would prefer not to have a side of PFAS with their fish sandwich. Please help keep our lakes and rivers clean for humans and for wildlife.

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HEALTH AND SAFETY

From
Captain Kelly Donahue
North District Police



to come together. Community Watch groups came together with local law enforcement, civic groups, crime prevention organizations and support providers to increase communication, participation in neighborhood associations, prevention efforts and, therefore, safety of our neighborhoods.

This year we are hoping to get increased participation for National Night Out, Thursday, Aug. 3, across the entire city. National Night Out is “a national community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships.”

National Night Out began in the early 1980’s as an effort to get communities

Many other communities have looked to Madison neighborhoods and their ability to come together to increase communication, create neighborhood change, beautification projects, community service projects and social functions, all of which can impact the satisfaction of those in the neighborhood.

With people’s busy lives, it can be

difficult to encourage people to get and stay involved. As such, there are a number of associations that are relatively inactive. With the help of some community members, we have been working on the Good Neighbor Project, and more directly with some associations to get reinvigorated and more active.

This year we are inviting you and your neighborhood, business or community group to participate with us in

the National Night Out. We will have a main celebration at Warner Park, but we would love to see some activity in other neighborhoods on the Northside. Are you up for a neighborhood gathering, picnic, potluck, parade, sing along or other community-building event on Aug. 3? If so, let us know. We would love to help support your efforts and get to know more of our neighbors. Let’s show everyone how special it is to live on the Northside.

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From
Michelle Johnson, MS-RD



Nutrition Nuggets

Ultra-processed food: bogeyman or best thing since sliced bread?

What are ultra-processed foods and are they okay to eat?

First, let’s talk about foods that aren’t processed. Fresh meats, fruits and vegetables are considered unprocessed foods; nothing has been added to them. Processed foods are foods to which changes have been made.

An apple is an unprocessed food. Fresh meats, fruits and vegetables that have had only salt, sugar, starch, water, oil or vitamins added to them are somewhat processed. Apple juice is somewhat processed because water and vitamin C may have been added. Foods with a high amount of processing are ultra-processed because they contain additives and little fresh food. Some ready-to-eat cereals and frozen meals are examples of ultra-processed foods.

Some sources suggest that ultra-processed foods make up over 60% of what we eat. Ease of access, low cost, taste and long shelf life are some of the reasons they are

From
Mark Heggen



Nutrition Nuggets

widely used. Despite these perks, they have been linked with health concerns.

Cutting out ultra-processed foods will increase diet value and may lead to weight loss. Complete removal of ultra-processed foods from our diet may not be possible, but cutting out a few is a good first step to a healthy diet.

Here are some ways to cut back on ultra-processed foods:

- Go back to nature. A bag of corn chips contains corn, corn oil and salt. Canned corn contains corn, water and salt. Fresh corn on the cob has one ingredient — fresh corn.

- Make your own meals using fresh food. If you don’t have a lot of time, look for quick, easy recipes that have few ingredients.

- Keep fresh fruits, cut-up vegetables, and nuts on hand for snacking.

Michelle Johnson is a Registered Dietitian and Mark Heggen is a student at the UW-Madison Department of Nutritional Sciences.

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ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
Satya Rhodes-Conway
Mayor



Stay informed with Madison's new Vision Zero Quarterly Newsletter
Did you get to see Madison's newly launched Vision Zero Quarterly newsletter? This issue discusses the work of Madison's

Vision Zero initiative and the programs developed under its umbrella to increase safety for all roadway users, with additional background on current federal grant applications, and how that money will be used.
Get an inside look at Madison's Transportation Demand Management policy, the Atwood Avenue reconstruction project, the City of Madison fleet department's Defensive Driver course for city employees, and more. And as always, the Vision Zero website is your best place to see the data, reasoning

and results of our Vision Zero project (cityofmadison.com/transportation/initiatives/vision-zero).
I am committed to making changes to our streets to ensure safe travel for everyone whether they are walking, biking, taking a bus or driving. City staff are working

every day across our city; using education, enforcement and engineering to reduce serious injury and fatality crashes. We need your help too — everyone can be part of creating a culture of safety. Slow down, look out for others, and help us realize our vision of zero traffic fatalities.

From
Charles Myadze
District 18 Alderperson



There are two important updates I would like to share this month.
Good news for traffic, pedestrian and bike safety at the intersection of School Road and Northport Drive: the city, with unanimous approval at many points, is moving forward on installing a stoplight at that location.
The stoplight was identified as needed after a study and after approval by the Transportation Commission in February of last year. Last fall city staff submitted a request to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for their approval of a traffic signal, which the city would install and operate.
Existing city funds are covering 80% of the cost. Only 17 parcels in the area will see any sort of assessment, and no single-family homes will be assessed.

The parcels are either MMSD property (Mendota Elementary School), duplexes or apartment buildings.
The targeted installation date, subject to Wisconsin DOT approval, will be this summer so it will be in place for the 2023-2024 school year.
As Northside residents get ready to vote April 4, please be aware that the location of some polling places has changed.
Ward 39 now votes at Vera Court (used to vote at Mendota Elementary) and Ward 38 now votes at Mendota Elementary (used to vote at Lakeview Lutheran). The City Clerk's office reported to me that the changes were made based on feedback that traversing the hill around Lakeview Lutheran on Mandrake Road was difficult.
As you make a plan to vote, two important resources for confirming where you vote, what's on your ballot, and to request an absentee ballot are myvote.wi.gov and the City Clerk's website at cityofmadison.com/clerk.
As always, if you have questions about city issues, please reach out to me at 608-571-7342 or district18@cityofmadison.com.

I PLAN TO VOTE




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ELECTED OFFICIALS

From
Melissa Agard
State Senator



Child Care Counts program is critical for families and workforce needs
Democrats are working for Wisconsin,

and we know that access to affordable, quality childcare is critical for the well-being of working families. It is imperative that childcare providers are supported and provided with the resources necessary to grow the future of Wisconsin. We know that when we invest in our kids, we invest in Wisconsin's future.

I'm sure you all have heard about the impending childcare funding cliff, impacting families with kids, childcare providers, and

From
Michele Ritt
District 18 Supervisor



There are so many important issues that connect to county government. I love when people reach out to me with their thoughts and ideas about different topics. Have you attended a meeting? It's easy to get involved, whether you want to attend in person or connect via Zoom. Both are options for observing and/or offering testimony.

You can find a list of the meetings of the County Board, as well as other committees and commissions, at dane.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx. This site will give you dates, times and a link to each agenda.

County Board meetings are typically the first and third Thursdays of the month, but may shift due to holidays. There are additional meetings during budget season to accommodate public

hearings and to hear from each department about budget priorities.

Meetings are currently hybrid, offering the option to attend in person or virtually via Zoom. To attend virtually, go to the agenda for the meeting. Register using the Zoom link found near the top of the agenda. Upon completion of this step, you will be sent an email with a link for the meeting. If attending virtually and wishing to speak at the meeting, you must complete your registration at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting. If attending in person and wishing to speak, it is recommended to register at least 30 minutes before the start of the meeting, but paper registration forms are also available at the meeting.

If you missed a County Board meeting, you can find recordings of them a few days after the meeting at the same link as above.

I look forward to seeing you and hearing from you. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or issues. I can be reached at 608-335-6827 or michele@countyofdane.com.

From
Joe Parisi
Dane County Executive



Local food pantries play a vital role in serving our community

Dane County, Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin, and our network of local food pantries and meal sites have provided over 12 million pounds of freshly grown and locally sourced food to thousands of families through an innovative partnership born out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2022 our "Farm to Foodbank" initiative supported 3.8 million meals through 128 food pantries and meal sites. Moreover, 53 Dane County food producers received a fair price for their food, which helped create a positive local economic impact of over \$12 million. Our partnership exemplifies the good that can result when

people come together to look for ways to address challenging circumstances.

My budget includes \$6 million to sustain this work in 2023. The funding comes at a critical time, given temporary increases to the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program sunset at the end of February. These benefits helped families cope with the financial impacts of the pandemic. Roughly 20,000 Dane County residents are being impacted by this cut, and food pantries are expecting a surge in people seeking assistance.

I created a \$2 million emergency grant program to increase food supplies for pantries, and those funds are now being distributed to 18 agencies throughout the area. I encourage you to find your local food pantry and donate your time or extra food to further support these vital organizations.

Every Dane County resident deserves access to healthy, nutritious food — no matter their economic circumstances. And every donation takes our food pantries one step closer to achieving this mission countywide.


our workforce if support is not provided to this vital industry.

Fortunately, Governor Tony Evers' 2023-25 biennium budget proposal works to make quality childcare more accessible and affordable. The governor's proposal includes \$340 million to provide a permanent investment in the Child Care Counts: COVID-19 Stabilization Payment Program, which was created with federal dollars during the pandemic to support Wisconsin's early care and education community. To date, the program has sent monthly payments to over 3,300 providers in Wisconsin to stay open, recruit and retain qualified staff, and provide care to over 113,000 children statewide.

Ensuring working families have access to quality childcare at an affordable cost is critical to addressing Wisconsin's workforce needs. Unfortunately, we know that if the Child Care Counts program isn't extended 25% of Wisconsin providers said they would close permanently, 60% of providers indicated they would have to raise tuition, and others said they would cut wages for already underpaid workers.

If you would like to vocalize your support for the governor's \$340 million investment in the Child Care Counts program, you can sign the petition that is available at the following link: tinyurl.com/Support-ChildCareCounts.

From
Samba Baldeh
State Representative



On Feb. 14 Governor Evers delivered his budget proposal to the Legislature in a speech outlining his vision and hope for the state over the next two years and beyond. The major items include:

- Over \$2 billion in additional aid to public schools for smaller class sizes, mental health staff, school lunch and special education classes.
- A 10% income tax reduction for single filers with incomes under \$100,000 and joint filers with incomes under \$150,000.
- Increase in "shared revenue" to cities and counties by earmarking 20% of the state sales tax revenue for local government. This will mean an additional \$21 million for Madison.


- \$100 million for cities to test for, clean-up and mitigate PFAS in our water supply.
- Repeals the 1849 law prohibiting abortions.
- Expands the federal Medical Assistance program to insure 90,000 people and save \$1.6 billion in state tax funds.
- Increases the minimum wage to \$8.25 this year, \$9.25 in 2025 and \$10.25 in 2026.

I would like to know your budget priorities and your views on the direction of the state.

I will be holding a community meeting on the budget Wednesday, April 12, at Lakeview Library. I have asked a member of the Joint Finance Committee, which oversees much of the budget, to attend this meeting.

If you cannot attend the meeting but would like to share your views or want more information, please call me at 608-237-9148 or email Rep.Baldeh@legis.wisconsin.gov.

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From
Jim Krueger
 NewBridge Executive Director



Northside food program needs support
 NewBridge is collaborating with the Esquire Club on Madison's Northside to host a weekly nutritious dining site program for older adults (age 60+). It has been well attended, with over 100 people eating there each week. The problem is, because of the program's popularity, NewBridge doesn't have funding to cover the cost of the meals provided.

We have no intention of ending the Esquire Club meals but need to raise \$13,000 this year to avoid scaling back the meals available. Donations can be made on our website (newbridgemadison.org) or checks payable to NewBridge (memo line: Esquire meals), 1625 Northport Dr, #125, Madison, WI 53704. Thank you!

Our program is donation-based and

funded primarily by Dane County Human Services. Attendees are encouraged to make a \$4.50 donation to help offset costs of the program. No one is turned away who cannot pay. Our Esquire Club meal is primarily attended by those on fixed incomes, not able to cook for themselves or who need opportunities to socialize. We host various card and board games after lunch for attendees.

Sad News

A long time NESCO and NewBridge volunteer and dear friend, Mary Hill, passed away recently at the age of 99. Mary's life was dedicated to helping others and advocating for those unable to do so themselves. Mary raised nine children and worked on the Northside for many years. She enjoyed crossword puzzles, Scrabble and Euchre, and being with family. She was a genuine Northsider and a pillar in the older adult community. It's only fitting to honor her with the words she said when referring to someone doing something special for another or for someone who was suffering, "Oh, bless yout heart, Mary Hill." A celebration of Mary's life will be held in May.

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Our popular Summer Concert Series at Warner Park Rainbow Shelter is back again this year on Mondays at 6 pm. There is a newly built accessible play structure for children, and we will again have food carts, so come early and enjoy a meal before the music starts. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets, and enjoy a real community atmosphere outdoors. Don't miss this spectacular musical lineup:

- June 12: Latin Dance Instruction followed by a Latin Jazz Band
- June 19: Frank Martin Busch & the Names (Country)
- June 26: Sista' Sensei (Reggae)
- July 10: Universal Sound (Sinatra to AC/DC)
- July 17: Eddie Butts Band (Blues/Funk)
- July 24: Ladies Must Swing (Swing)

ONGOING NORTHSIDE ACTIVITIES

Activities take place at Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Drive, unless otherwise specified.

- 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, 10-11 am
 - 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 like to share.
 - 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
- If you have ideas for programs or activities at NewBridge, please contact me. I'd love to hear from you. Deenah Givens

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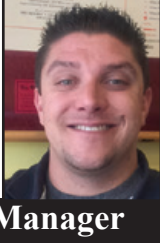
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WARNER PARK COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER

Written by
Zach Watson
608-245-3690



Interim Facility Manager

We at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center are delighted to welcome Marquis Sanders to his new role as the Warner Park Community Recreation Center Program Coordinator. Marquis is a Northside Madison native and also a Madison East High School graduate. Marquis joins us with an array of community experience and credibility, working for over 13 years in career and college readiness programming, youth

education, mentorship, and a variety of recreational capacities. His tenure of service includes working at several local community organizations, including East Madison Community Center, The Goodman Center, The Urban League of Greater Madison and Common Wealth Development. Marquis is a graduate of Tennessee State University and UW-Whitewater.

The WPCRC's 18th Annual SpringFest Arts and Crafts Fair offers opportunities to purchase original crafts and artwork from local and state-wide artisans. Save the date and join us at WPCRC on Saturday, May 6, from 9 am-3 pm.

WPCRC is open for full access to community programming, open gym, game room and exercise room. In addition, the

facility is available for birthday parties, weddings, meetings, baby showers and other event rentals. We are also offering Silver & Fit and Active & Fit memberships, providing eligible members access to the exercise room at no cost by

reimbursing eligible health plans. Call 608-245-3669 to see if your health plan is eligible for membership.

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

History of the Circle of Friends

By Dorothy Borchardt
Circle of Friends

People have asked about the Circle of Friends, so here is a brief history.

In 2004 a group of friends and neighbors formed the Circle of Friends of the Warner Park Community Recreation Center (CoF-WPCRC) to support the mission of the WPCRC and ensure it continues to grow and serve the community.

The purpose of organizing a non-profit group, separate from the city, was to raise funds to provide for items and capital projects that we cannot expect the taxpayers to provide.

Some of the items purchased from the CoF general fund are the rugs in the entry to the gym and the exercise room, the Nu Step in the exercise room, a large-screen TV and a smaller TV, and a computer lab consisting of 10 laptops

and 20 tablets for the community to use at the WPCRC.

An additional goal is raising public awareness and funds for the Warner Pool. The CoF sells cookies on election day. In the past, the CoF sponsored walks and golf outings, and served dinners at Culvers to raise funds.

Our generous donors have made it possible to fund an endowment account with the Madison Community Foundation. The endowment was established in 2013 to support the operating expenses of the Warner Pool once it is completed. Included in the agreement is that, if the pool isn't operational as of Jan. 1, 2023, distributions will be made to the WPCRC for programming and special needs, as advised by the CoF. Once the pool is completed, distributions will be made to WPCRC to help cover operating expenses of the pool.

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**Advice to youth:
The way to succeed is not to
be afraid of failure.**

18TH ANNUAL

Spring Fest

Saturday, May 6, 2023
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

ARTS AND CRAFTS FAIR

Warner Park Community Recreation Center
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NORTHSIDE NEWS - Calendar of Events

Sponsored by Madison Gas and Electric

April/May 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, April 5 and May 3
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. 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.

LAKEVIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

**Thursday, May 4, 7 am-6 pm
Friday, May 5, 8 am-5 pm
Saturday, May 6, 8 am-12 pm
Lakeview Lutheran Church, 4001 Mandrake Road**

Amazing bargains on holiday/home décor, kitchen items, books, children's clothes (0-6), toys, collectibles, sporting goods, jewelry, furniture, office and craft supplies. No junk, just gems. See lakeviewlutheranchurch.org for more information.

NORTHSIDE FARMERS MARKET RETURNS

**Sundays, May 14-October 29
8:30 am-12:30 pm
Northside TownCenter**

Enjoy a variety of locally grown produce, baked goods, meats, flowers, plants and much more. Sign up for our newsletter at northsidefarmersmarket.org or find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/madNFM](https://www.facebook.com/madNFM) for the latest information on vendors and events. Use your Quest card to get tokens worth \$2 each to purchase approved items from our vendors.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Bird and Nature Adventure: Magic of Migration 2:30 pm, Tenney Park

Join Naturalist Paul Noeldner for a free family-friendly walk to look for spring birds returning from down south after winter. Learn to use Merlin Bird ID to identify birds by sight and sound. Bring binoculars if you have them, some will be provided. Meet at Tenney Park Beach, 1330 Sherman Ave. Contact: 608-698-0104.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1

Arts for all Reception

2-5 pm, AFA, 1709 Aberg Ave.

An artist's reception for Malachi Schmidt will include a live drawing demonstration. Join us to celebrate Schmidt's "Line of Vision" exhibit.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2

Bird and Nature Adventure: Being a Forager 1:30-3 pm, Cherokee Marsh North Unit, 6098 N. Sherman Ave.

Join Master Naturalists Kathleen Wolf and Kacy Zander. Contact: paul_noeldner@hotmail.com, 608-698-0104, Cherokeeemmarsh.org

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

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

The theme is "Let There be Brunch." The church will provide egg casserole, breakfast potatoes, sweet rolls, etc. There is a free-will offering for lunch. To RSVP, contact the church office at 608-244-6181.

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

Northside Arts Collective Social

5-7 pm, Tandem Press, 1743 Commercial Ave.
Enjoy the Afro-Cuban Jazz hosted by UW- Madison Mead Witter School of Music's Jazz Studies program. There will be a cash bar and the latest printmaking exhibit on display to tour. No registration is needed.

TUESDAY, APRIL 11

American Red Cross Blood Drive 12-5 pm, Lakeview Lutheran Church, 4001 Mandrake 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, APRIL 11

Wild Warner Meeting 6 pm, WPCRC or as posted

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 14

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.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15

MSCR Day Trip: Legends of Lambeau 7:30 am-6:30 pm

Become a part of the greatest story in sports. Join us for an exclusive, behind the scenes tour of Lambeau Field as we dig deep into the rich history of the Green Bay Packers. We will meet at LaFollette High School. Age 18+ use #35697 to register at mscr.org. Age 8-17 use #35696 to register at mscr.org.

SUNDAY, APRIL 16

Bird and Nature Adventure: Spring Ephemerals

1:30 pm, Warner Park Rainbow Shelter
Join Naturalist Alex Singer for a walk in Warner Woods to look for spring ephemerals. Trilliums and other early wildflowers take advantage of the sunlight before trees fully leaf out and provide nectar for bees before other plants bloom. Contact: 608-698-0104

TUESDAY, APRIL 18

Sign Language Class 6-7:45 pm, LL

Rhiannon Gurley, a hard-of-hearing instructor, will instruct basic Sign and share approaches to enhance your daily communication. In this engaging class, you'll learn body language, basic signs to use with everyone, as well as increased awareness of people with disabilities. Ideal for ages 8 and up. Contact Lakeview Library at 608-246-4547 to register beginning April 4. There is no cost for this class.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19

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

The public is welcome. To confirm the time and place, contact janaxelson@gmail.com. Cherokeeemmarsh.org

THURSDAY, APRIL 20

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, APRIL 20

Friends of Hartmeyer Natural Area meeting 5 pm, WPCRC*

The public is welcome. Help preserve and restore Madison's newest conservation park behind the old Oscar Mayer plant. *Note: if the weather is nice, we bring a lawn chair and meet outdoors behind the Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. Contact: paul_noeldner@hotmail.com, 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

11th Annual Bird and Nature Festival 12-4 pm, Warner Park Rainbow Shelter

Bring your friends and family to this free, diverse, community event celebrating Earth Week, Arbor Day and International Bird Day. See hawks and owls up close, visit the food cart, music performances, community and nature group tables, short nature walks, and fun children's nature games and activities.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29

Friends of Lakeview Library Book Sale 9 am-4 pm, LL

There will be a bag sale from 3-4 pm. All proceeds benefit library programming. Thank you for supporting the library.

SATURDAY, MAY 6

SpringFest Arts and Crafts Fair 9 am-3 pm, WPCRC

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.

SATURDAY, MAY 6

MSCR Day Trip: Burgers & Custard Capital of the World

8:30 am-6:00 pm
Join us as we team up with Milwaukee Food Tours for the "Burgers & Custard Capital of the World" food and history tour. We will meet at LaFollette High School. For ages 18 and up. Use #35698 to register at mscr.org.

SATURDAY, MAY 6

Bird and Nature Adventure: Yahara River Ramble

2:30 pm, Tenney Park
Join Naturalist Paul Noeldner for a free family-friendly walk from Tenney Park along the scenic Yahara Riverway that connects Lake Mendota to Lake Monona. Learn some of the history of this area and enjoy nature in the middle of the city. Meet at Tenney Park Beach, 1330 Sherman Ave. Contact: 608-698-0104

SUNDAY, MAY 7

Bird and Nature Adventure: Spring Birds 1:30-3 pm, Cherokee Marsh North Unit, 6098 N. Sherman Ave.

Join Bird Guide Chuck Henrikson to look for colorful spring birds. Contact: paul_noeldner@hotmail.com, 608-698-0104, Cherokeeemmarsh.org

TUESDAY, MAY 9

Wild Warner Meeting 6 pm, WPCRC or as posted

The public is welcome. 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

THURSDAY, MAY 11

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

The theme is "Festa Italiana." The church will provide lasagna, green salad and garlic bread. There is a free-will offering for lunch. To RSVP, contact the church office at 608-244-6181.

FRIDAY, MAY 12

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.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

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

The public is welcome. To confirm the time and place, contact janaxelson@gmail.com. Cherokeeemmarsh.org

THURSDAY, MAY 18

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, MAY 18

Friends of Hartmeyer Natural Area meeting 5 pm, WPCRC*

The public is welcome. Help preserve and restore Madison's newest conservation park behind the old Oscar Mayer plant. *Note: if the weather is nice, we bring a lawn chair and meet outdoors behind the Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. Contact: paul_noeldner@hotmail.com, 608-698-0104

SATURDAY, MAY 20

MSCR Nature Exploration 10 am-12 pm, Cherokee Park

MSCR offers this opportunity for families and children to spend time outdoors with nature activity kits. The event is free. Use #35230 to register at mscr.org.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

Bird and Nature Adventure: Looking for Lichens

1:30 pm, Warner Park Rainbow Shelter
Join Naturalist Steve Ansoerge for a walk in Warner Woods to look for lichens and learn about these fascinating combinations of plant and animal that grow on trees and rocks. Contact: 608-698-0104

SATURDAY, MAY 27

Annual Pi Mile 5K Run/Walk Warner Park

This is an annual fundraiser for Madison East High School's Graphing Calculator Fund. Enjoy a morning of exercise and community spirit on this 3.14-mile run/walk. Registration will open in May. Contact Phillip Galarowicz, pgalarowicz@madison.k12.wi.us.

LL = Lakeview Library WPCRC = Warner Park Community Recreation Center



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DISTRICT 18 ALDER CANDIDATE Q & A

Photo provided by Michelle Ellinger Linley



Michelle Ellinger Linley



Charles Myadze

Photo provided by Charles Myadze

District 18 alder candidate Q & A

Q Please describe your specific priorities if you are (re)elected to represent the Northside as District 18 Alder.

A Michelle Ellinger Linley
My broad priorities as an alder are:

- Safe, healthy communities
 - Support for good jobs and small businesses
 - Accessible, affordable housing for both homeowners and renters
 - Preserving our parks and lakes
- How do we go about doing these things specifically?

• Safe, healthy communities — investing in mental health resources, more youth programming at our consistently used community centers, and equitable opportunities in employment and education on the Northside.

• Support for good jobs and small businesses — supporting working people, the labor movement, and investing in local small businesses with community

ties. That means bringing neighbors, community interests, and businesses together to improve rather than undermine residents on development projects like Raemisch Farm.

• Accessible, affordable housing for homeowners and renters means supporting necessary citywide reforms that help families keep and find their homes, whether as renters or homeowners. That means supporting the transit housing district reforms (which the current alder voted against) that help improve and connect housing and transit systems.

• Preserving our parks and lakes — protecting our parks and green spaces and investing in sustainability measures that help build community health, such as community gardens and urban farming, including continuing to preserve Cherokee Marsh.

A Charles Myadze
It is an honor to represent Northside residents on the Madison Common Council. As the current Alder,

it is gratifying to look back on my first term and see all the progress we have made: the body-worn Camera Pilot Program approved after much delay; the first steps taken to bring much-needed housing to the Raemisch Farms site; and environmental and safety improvements made to Knutson Drive and the Troy Drive railroad bridge.

I am running for re-election because we cannot go back. There is more work to do! In my second term, my focus will continue to be on the priorities of the people I represent: public safety, increasing the amount of safe, affordable housing, equity in public transportation, and strengthening our families and improving opportunity with important initiatives such as youth employment, and protecting our environment and Cherokee Marsh.

One very specific priority I want to see to fruition is the Raemisch Farm project. Unfortunately, my opponent was vocally against building much-needed housing on this site. Fortunately, I was able to help lead the efforts to successfully take the first step by rezoning the parcel to allow housing. But there is much more to do to make it a reality, and opponents of the housing may continue to work to thwart it. This project includes a donation of 3.5 acres of land to Lakeview elementary for outdoor activities and learning, dedicates about 10 acres for urban agriculture, and sound mitigation to reduce potential noise effects. There will be single family homes, townhouses, and multi-family housing. We cannot let this project get bogged down or stopped. I look forward to continuing to lead efforts to make this important project a reality.



Remember to vote in the April 4 General Election. Northsiders came out to candidate forums in February and March. The Forums were sponsored by the Northside Planning Council and Northside Business Association. Help choose the next mayor and alders for district 12 and 18.

GRAND OPENING FRIDAY, APRIL 14 AT 8 A.M.

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