

Hi, Neighbor!

A Newsletter for the Eastmorland and Lake Edge Neighborhoods

Summer 2022

Save the date

Saturday, June 18 and Sunday June 19 | Joint ECA-LENA Garage Sale

Thursday, July 14 & Sept. 15
Eastmorland Outdoor Market, 4-7 pm
Lansing Food Forest, 299-201 Starkweather Drive

Thursday, August 25
Tunes on the Triangle with Schenk Elementary PTO
3-8 pm at Common Grace, 3565 Tulane Ave. Live music, food, pop-up school supplies, and more.

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We're always looking for more story ideas & volunteer writers! See page 2 for details.

Conservation continues at San Damiano



Photo credit: Greg Bleck

By Melissa Badini,
Communications Chair, Friends of San Damiano

In June of 2021, the City of Monona purchased the 10 acre, nearly 1,500 square foot lakefront property known as San Damiano. This property is the largest private parcel of land remaining on Lake Monona and has remained largely undisturbed for more than 100 years.

The first public event was held last summer as the public rallied together in June for a clean up day. Over 175 volunteers gathered to weed, trim, prune, and collect trash and fallen sticks. Our second event was a collaboration in February between the Friends of San Damiano, the Ho-Chunk Nation, and the City of Monona to host the Snow Snake Games, a winter tribal tradition amongst the Great Lakes Region Tribes. Over 200 visitors tried their hand at throwing the snake down a 300 ft. snow berm and learning about the Ho-Chunk culture and the tribe's history with this property. As we move into the future we look forward to more collaborative efforts with the Ho-Chunk.

We have had an incredible outpouring of support from the community for conserving San Damiano and develop-

(Continued on page 18)

Students Speak Out!

By Kate Schultz
(LENA Board Member & LHS English Teacher)

Each spring, MMSD students have an opportunity to speak out about issues that matter to them with amplified voices. They learn about persuasive techniques, craft, refine, and deliver a short speech to advocate for a change they want to see in their community. "Student Choice Winners" go on to represent their classrooms and schools in the district-wide Project Soapbox Speech Showcase. In partnership with Mikva Challenge, a civics education organization, our students present their speeches to peers as well as district and community leaders who volunteer their time to evaluate the speeches (special shout out to our State Senator Melissa Agard who has been involved in this capacity since the event's inception).

Congratulations to our amazing student orators! Representing Whitehorse Middle School in Eastmorland: Charming Xiong, Brie Opalewski, Benjamin Ari, Josua Lemus-Montes, Aniyah Wesley, Nyasho Valhmu. Sennett Stars in Lake Edge: Elena Meloy, Lola Skaifenness, Ace Parra, Maya Litersky, Ellie Martin, Amelia Covarrubias. LaFollette High School Lancers: Mamour Kane, Melissa Sorto Sr, M. Beck, Jamari Driver, Leen Xiong, Angel Nemeckay, Tyler Baldis and Jesse Lenya. As if that weren't enough, Elena (LGBTQIA+ Rights), Aniyah (Criminal Justice System), Leen (Bullying) and M.Beck (Debunking the term Rapid Onset Gender Dysphoria) all made it to the Mainstage Finals, giving our combined neighborhoods four of the top ten spots in this public speaking showcase.



Hi, Neighbor!

Summer 2022

Content for the November 2022 issue is due October 1, 2022.

Submit articles & photos

Send articles for publication to hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com as a Word document or Google Doc for editing by the newsletter crew.

Photos are welcome and will be included as space allows. Please keep in mind they will be printed in black and white, but published in color online.

Advertise in Hi, Neighbor!

For information about advertising, contact Dan at 608-241-1158 or zimmerman_dan@hotmail.com.

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Triannual Publication Schedule:

June 2022
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Past issues are available online and in color at eastmorland.org and lenamadison.com.

Collaboration efforts between ECA and LENA neighbors

Hi, Neighbor! is a community newsletter now serving the residents of the Eastmorland and Lake Edge neighborhoods and is published on behalf of the Eastmorland Community Association (ECA) and the Lake Edge Neighborhood Association (LENA). We are neighborhoods separated by Cottage Grove Road with lots in common! By combining volunteer forces, our newsletter reaches more homes, has more unique and personal content, connects more volunteers for greater sustainability, and highlights the similarities of our communities' interests. The newsletter frequency is adjusting to a three times per year schedule. Newsletters will hit mailboxes near you in spring, early summer, and late fall going forward. We look forward to sharing our newsletter with more residents and welcome volunteers to support the next edition's efforts.

To receive email updates or to get more involved, contact hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com.

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- Check our website at www.vfwpost7581.org or our Facebook page for any updates and changes

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- Steak fry 2nd Thursday 4 pm – 7 pm
- Dinner specials on Thursdays 4 pm – 7 pm
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Save the Farm Updates and Call to Action

Submitted by Save the Farm

As you may have read, a developer team (doing business as Starkweather, LLC) has an accepted offer on the Voit farm property (north of Milwaukee Street, and bordered by Starkweather Creek to the west and Amazon to the east). While they are busy with site assessment work such as wetlands delineation and environmental testing, the volunteers of SavetheFarm continue to advocate for the people's vision of what the Voit property might ideally become. Our vision of conservation land and natural areas along the creek and to the north, coupled with a collaborative farm and a full range of affordable to luxury housing options, is being presented in detail and the developers have been open to exploring elements of that vision to help inform their master planning process.

They have also been working with SavetheFarm and Alder Grant Foster to plan a professionally-facilitated community meeting, which will be scheduled for late June or early July. Starkweather LLC is clearly committed to ensuring that the community be kept well-informed, and intends to encourage community engagement, ques-



tions, and ideas.

Monthly SavetheFarm Voit Core meetings remain open to everyone via Zoom on the fourth Tuesday from 6–8 pm (see savethefarm.net for more detail). Several action teams are busy creating the detailed “briefing packets” for the developers, and we could really use your help in this work.

Save the Farm: Volunteers Needed
for our communications action team to keep folks informed of our progress, as well as any of our other action teams: urban farm, urban ecology center, wetland/natural areas conservation, affordable housing, community diversity and racial justice efforts, etc. Please reach out to info@savethefarm.com.

There is much work to be done researching issues, contacting relevant organizations, investigating grant possibilities, and so on. We can definitely figure out a role that fits your interests, abilities, and schedule. Please contact us through the above email or call 608-520-3701 for more info. Thank you.



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What's up with Java Cat: Exciting changes for our local coffee shop

By Liz Dannenbaum

It was a pleasure to interview Renee Raspillar, owner and manager of Java Cat on Monona Drive, in the Lake Edge Neighborhood.

Here is a little of the background of Java Cat from their website:

"Now in its seventeenth year, the 'Cat' offers homemade gelato, produced daily in the summer season. Employees proudly boast of their status of having the smallest licensed dairy plant in the State of Wisconsin. Fresh bakery items and made to order breakfast sandwiches, hot and cold lunch sandwiches and wraps, soup, salads and blended drinks are some of the various items found on the menu."

In late 2005 Renee Raspillar and Shari Olson opened the coffee shop. Since that time, experiencing both triumphs and challenges, Java Cat has continued to serve the community, especially their eastside neighbors. Today, Renee, with help from manager Mimi Gunathilaka, is working on expanding the 'Cat's' community vibe."

How did Java Cat come to be? Do you have a background in coffee or restaurants?

I do not have a background in coffee. Before opening Java Cat, I drove a truck. I drank a lot of bad coffee! Although I loved driving, I eventually wanted to be home more, and had always been a coffee enthusiast. I really didn't want to look for a 9-5 job. Java Cat was born out of a desire to work independently, and share and develop my passion for coffee.

What's the hardest thing about running a coffee shop? What's the best thing?

The hardest thing about running a coffee shop? People. The best thing? Also, the people! I think one of the things I didn't realize was just how much "behind the scenes" stuff there is in running a business. I am fortunate to have a great manager and crew, they are fantastic to work with. COVID has certainly been a challenge in the last couple of years. We are grateful to be in such a supportive neighborhood.

On Facebook just the thought that we might be losing Java Cat created a storm of outrage. Does it surprise you how much this little space means to folks on the east side?

We were pleased at the outpouring of love, not necessarily surprised. Our customers are our friends and our family. We have felt the love and support from these folks for a long time and we strive to keep that relationship strong.

You recently noted that you are looking forward to this new chapter for Java Cat [moving into a new building on the spot Java Cat currently occupies]. Can you explain that and also tell us what the near future holds for Java Cat?

We are in the process of finalizing our plans for the near future as far as location for the interim, while we are waiting for the new building on Monona Dr. We are also working with Key Commercial Realty and Joe Krupp to plan and build out the new space Java Cat will occupy. Lots of exciting things to look forward to.

[Read more about Java Cat's new building on Madison.com.](#)



Renee Raspillar, owner of Java Cat



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An unusual, yet awesome recipe for warm weather

From Bryce St. Peter

This is a recipe that may sound totally bizarre but if you are a lover of the sweet and savory you need to give this salad a try!

Prosciutto and Melon Salad

INGREDIENTS

- 1 small ripe cantaloupe (2 to 2.5 pounds)
- 12 slices prosciutto di parma (5.3 ounces)
- 5 ounces fresh baby arugula
- 6 ounces Mozzarella
- 3 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 teaspoon salt, (I used Himalayan salt)
- Aged balsamic vinegar, to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut the melon in half, stem end on one side and blossom end on the other. Scoop the seeds out with a spoon and throw them away. Cut each half melon in half again, creating four quarters. Cut each quarter into three slices. Then using a small paring knife cut away the rind from each slice. Remove all of the green rind, only leaving the ripe blush-colored fruit (my melon produced 12 wedges).
2. Wrap each melon wedge with a slice of prosciutto di parma. Cover as much melon surface with the prosciutto meat as possible.
3. Place baby arugula on a large platter. Sprinkle pearl mozzarella, then arrange melon on the bed of arugula, and finish with more mozzarella. Drizzle extra virgin olive oil all around the salad, and sprinkle salt on the melon pieces.
4. If desired, serve with an aged balsamic vinegar.

Be eastside famous!

Email hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com to be interviewed in a "Get to know a neighbor" story for a future issue.



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Ethical Trading Co brings fair trade goods to Madison's East Side

**The local anti-trafficking
non-profit opens a new
storefront on Tulane Ave.**

*By Manuel Ramminger,
Ethical Trading Co Co-Founder*



Ethical Trade Co announced the opening of a storefront at Common Grace on Tulane Ave bringing high-quality products sourced from survivors of human trafficking to Madison's East Side. Ethical Trade Co is working to end human trafficking by creating jobs in some of the most vulnerable regions in the world.

Products featured in the store include:

- handmade Merino wool sweaters
- bags and totes
- direct trade coffee, tea, chocolate and dried fruits
- bath and body products from Wisconsin
- Haitian metal art and so much more

"Everything we do is good for the artisans that created the items and for the planet we share," said Ramminger, Co-Founder of Ethical Trade Co. "Our goal is to offer great products and that when you shop here, you learn about the issues of exploitation and trafficking and realize there is so much we as consumers can do about it."

The store is open every Saturday from 12-4 pm in Common Grace at 3565 Tulane Ave. and also by appointment, which can be booked on our website. For more information about online shopping, contactless in-store pickup, or to book a private shopping session, visit ethicaltradeco.com. Well-behaved dogs are welcome in the store for neighbors walking who would like to stop in.

About Ethical Trade Co: Established in 2015 Ethical Trade Co is working to end human trafficking through job creation in some of the world's most vulnerable regions. They achieve this by partnering with businesses and organizations that are actively providing viable employment for the formally exploited or are creating jobs amongst those most at risk of exploitation. Every purchase from Ethical Trade Co actively empowers individuals to work themselves out of their situations and brings dignity and change to their families.

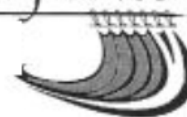
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Get to know El Jardín Infantil Bilingual Preschool

By Jennica Skoug

“It’s my first day of school! It’s my first day of school!” my three-year-old said as she bounced around the breakfast table early one morning this fall. Full of oatmeal, bag packed, we set out to bike the few blocks to El Jardín Bilingual Preschool. In mid-2021, we weren’t really looking for a preschool, but our daughter’s enthusiasm, her immediate sense of comfort around her prospective teachers, and the school’s proximity to our home found us filling out enrollment paperwork.

We have been so happy with this first school experience. Our daughter loves the daily routine, the rotating play areas, and the opportunity to interact with kids her age. She enjoys showing off her writing skills, her art-work, and how her teachers Michelle and Marie teach her to accomplish daily tasks “all by myself.”

“One of the best gifts you can give to children is the time and space to do things for themselves,” said teacher Marie Everett. “It might take a little longer but the feelings of genuine pride and accomplishment ready them for greater challenges in the future.”

As parents, we love the Spanish language integration,



All photos by Michelle Smith of El Jardín Infantil

the inclusion of outdoor time and creative play, and the full-day schedule, which allows us to work between drop-off and pick-up without seeking additional childcare. (Our daughter attends two days per week, but kids may also attend four days per week.)

Because of its location within the neighborhood, El Jardín has also given us the opportunity to meet other parents, as many families are able to walk or bike their kids to school.

“We both have strong connections to the Eastmorland neighborhood. It is such a beautiful place full of green-space and wonderful people,” said Marie. “We are excited to be able to provide a high quality preschool experience in a cozy neighborhood setting.”

We realize that every child and every family has different childcare needs and experiences, and that what has been a good fit for us may not work for others. That said, we still wanted to share our experience with fellow parents in the neighborhood. We hope this school will continue to benefit two-and-a-half to five year-olds and their families for years to come.

Enrollment information: www.eljardininfantil.com, office@eljardininfantil.com. Located at 3435 Tulane Ave (within Common Grace building).



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A big “Thank You” and an exciting DAMA Project

Updates from the Schenk Elementary PTO

Hello from the Schenk Elementary PTO. We are happy to connect with the Eastmorland neighborhood and greater school community!

GARDEN THANK YOU!

In our last update we requested donations to the Schenk School Garden project, specifically for the Farm to School Program. We were blown away by the support from the Eastmorland Neighborhood Association and individual donations from the community. We received enough donations to support both the Farm to School Program and provide funds for garden supplies this year. Your generosity and support mean so much—THANK YOU! Through the Farm to School Program, Garden Educator Gwen Murphy has assisted with gardening classes for all grade levels at Schenk. Students experienced a number of activities, including:

- Creating bird seed feeders
- Planting seeds
- Keeping plant journals
- Planning imaginary garden spaces
- Measuring perimeter and area of garden beds
- Painting benches
- Planting a new tree
- Talking about different types of seeds

Teachers and students have been excited to truly dig into the school garden space!



DAMA Mural Project

Our growing school garden space could really use a garden sign to further celebrate the space and facilitate space-and-place making. We have the opportunity to work with DAMA (Dane Arts Mural Arts) this fall to create a mural on the side of the garden shed. The DAMA artists would work with the Schenk school community to make a student-created mural in the garden space. The mural project as a whole would cost \$3400, two panels at \$1700 each. We are eager to begin fundraising for this exciting project! Please consider making a donation for this DAMA Mural Project via the Schenk PTO.

Checks can be mailed to Schenk Elementary, Attn: PTO, 230 Schenk Street, Madison, WI 53714. Donations can also be given through PayPal. The direct link to PayPal is: [tinyurl.com/bdcj5aca](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ftinyurl.com%2Fbdcj5aca). If you need additional instructions or have questions, email schenkpto@gmail.com. Thank you for your support of Schenk Elementary School! — Warmly, Schenk PTO



Both photos by Mariela Dinsmore

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Save a life: Sign up for Overdose Spike Alerts

Submitted by Public Health Madison & Dane County

Drug overdose deaths are increasing in Dane County. In 2020, we lost more friends, neighbors, and family to overdose deaths than we ever have. Very strong opioids and other substances are being mixed into drugs including heroin, cocaine, fake prescription pills, meth, and cannabis. When there's a change in the local drug supply, we sometimes see an increase in overdoses and deaths.

When there are more overdoses than we usually see in our community, we issue a public health alert. We call these [Overdose Spike Alerts](https://publichealthmdc.com/community-initiatives/reducing-drug-harm/overdose-spike-alerts) (publichealthmdc.com/community-initiatives/reducing-drug-harm/overdose-spike-alerts) and we send them as news releases, and as email and text alerts. The alerts can help people who use drugs, and their families, know that there's a higher risk of overdose. Learn more or sign up at publichealthmdc.com/spikealerts.

•If you use drugs or know someone who does, follow steps for safer drug use and know the signs of an overdose:

- Pale, sweaty or clammy skin
- Lips/fingertips turn blue
- Slow or irregular breathing: gasping, gurgling, or snoring
- Difficult or unable to wake
- Learn more at youtube.com/watch?v=misAs9xKO8s
- Always call 911 if you think someone is overdosing
- Don't use street drugs alone; call [Never Use Alone](https://neverusealone.com) (neverusealone.com) at 800-484-3731
- Check in with your friends/family who use drugs

•Carry Narcan® (naloxone) and [be prepared](https://youtube.com/watch?v=misAs9xKO8s) (youtube.com/watch?v=misAs9xKO8s) to use multiple doses when needed.

•Get safer use supplies, like fentanyl test strips and Narcan®, from the [Syringe Services Program](https://publichealthmdc.com/health-services/syringe-services-program) at Public Health Madison & Dane County: 2705 E. Washington Ave. or 2300 S. Park St. in Madison. Learn more at publichealthmdc.com/health-services/syringe-services-program.

Contact the [Behavioral Health Resource Center of Dane County](https://danebhrc.org) for treatment and recovery resources: 608-267-2244, danebhrc.org.

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A guide to recycling in Madison

By Heather Daniels

Did you know that about 12.7% of what we put in a recycling bin isn't recyclable but that about 13% of what goes in the county landfill *is* recyclable?

Recycling in the City of Madison often generates a profit for the City (in 2021 it brought in \$55.89 a ton), but markets for recyclable material are always in flux. Helping to keep trash out of the recycling stream increases the value of the materials you recycle. Here are some tips:

- Anything you recycle should be larger than a 3x3 Post-it note .
- You may recycle smaller metal lids including bottle caps by putting them in a metal can and squeezing the can shut.
- Plastic cups if they are #1, #2 and #5 can be recycled.

Other cups should be tossed.

- Paper coffee cups can be recycled.
- Cartons can be recycled including drink boxes. You may push the straw into drink boxes for recycling (This is the only time straws can be put in recycling)
- Recycle plastic containers #1-#7. Leave the lids on the container.
- Glass containers without lids can be recycled.
- Don't put things in a bag inside your recycling bin. They will be discarded at the sorting site.
- Items which are not clean may contaminate other materials for recycling so please do your best to clean out containers before tossing them in your bin

These items are not eligible for recycling (so don't "wish cycle" them, throw them out instead):

- Mirrors
- Windows
- Diapers
- Metal hangers
- Pizza boxes with grease
- Glass used for baking
- Bubble wrap/plastic wrap
- Styrofoam
- Plastic bags

For detailed information on the City of Madison's recycling program, search for the most recent Recyclopeda: cityofmadison.com/streets/recycling/documents/Recyclopeda2021-web.pdf.

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Tips to save energy this spring

Submitted by Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE)

Warmer temperatures are on the horizon. MGE has some simple ways to help you save energy as spring returns!

Prevent Excess Moisture

Spring is a great time to get your dehumidifier ready for the increased humidity the season brings. While it's important to control high humidity in basements to prevent mold growth and improve indoor air quality, dehumidifiers can cost as much as \$50 per month to operate.

Look for ways to control moisture and reduce run time:

- Check gutter and downspout drainage. Gutters should drain 4 to 6 feet away from the house.
- Slope soil away from your home's foundation.
- Look for the ENERGY STAR® label when buying a new dehumidifier.
- Set your humidifier to a 50% relative humidity setting and check for leaking hose connections. Don't forget to empty it regularly or connect the hose to a drain.



Give Appliances and Vents a Spring Cleaning

Keeping appliances clean and maintained helps them operate more efficiently. Here are a few quick spring-cleaning tips to keep your central air system in good shape:

- Hose off the outdoor central air condensing unit to remove dirt and leaves. Choose a qualified contractor to service your central air every two years.
- Vacuum dust and dirt from the coils and fan of your dehumidifier, and clean the filter once a month.
- Take a few moments to wipe any dust that may have gathered on your vents, and if your home has both high (a grate higher up on the wall) and low (a grate closer to the floor) air returns—give them a quick switch. When we go from heating to cooling, it's helpful to close the lower return and ensure the higher one is open. This encourages the warmer air to come into the return ductwork and get cooled once again.
- Check your furnace filter and replace it if dirty.

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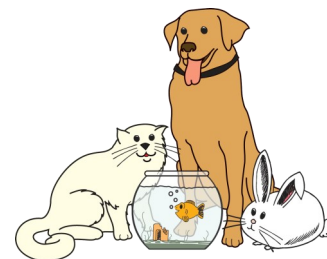
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From the ECA President

Emily Mixon
president@eastmorland.org

Hello Neighbors! I hope you enjoy this second edition of the joint ECA-LENA *Hi Neighbor!* newsletter. I'm so thankful to everyone who has contributed and put in the detailed work to make publications like this one possible! As spring kicks into gear, we have lots of exciting ECA events coming up, including a collaborative garage sale weekend (June 18-19) with both LENA and our friends in the Glendale neighborhood.

Below, I share a tentative schedule of events for Eastmorland for 2022! With everything from seed swaps to markets to service events, I hope you will find something you are passionate about. If you'd like to host a neighborhood event of your own, please remember to check out the ECA neighborhood grants program. Untapped ideas include a Little Free Library tour, an art walk, or anything else you can imagine! Head to eastmorland.org and click on the "Apply for an ECA Grant" button to learn more.

Save the Date: Eastmorland Events for 2022

- ♦ 06/18/22: Joint ECA-LENA-Glendale Garage Sale. Rain date 06/25/22. Sign up at the link below or call Dan Zimmerman (608-241-1158) to list your sale on the map for free. forms.gle/DgRw7LKOgKAoua2X8
- ♦ 07/06/22: Fundraiser for the ECA Ash Tree Fund at Olbrich Biergarten. Rain date 07/07/22.
- ♦ 07/17/22: Eastmorland Chicken Coop and Garden Tour. Start time TBD. Contact Cindy Colombo (608-207-8595) with questions.
- ♦ 08/25/22: Tunes on the Triangle with Schenk PTO. 3-8 pm at/around Common Grace. Live music, food, pop-up school supplies, and more. Contact Staci Marrese-Wheeler (608-417-0232) with questions.
- ♦ 11/05/22: Leaf raking (9 am, Olbrich Park shelter on Walter St.). Rain date is 11/06/22 at 1 pm. Contact Kris Whitman (608-228-6654) with questions or to let us know about a neighbor in need of leaf help.
- ♦ 12/10/22: Holiday treats + Santa visits. Additional details TBD.

ECA-LENA-Glendale Garage Sale June 18-19

Have you been doing some spring cleaning? Looking to grab some gently used 'old-new' things? Then join ECA, LENA, and Glendale for a joint garage sale weekend! Advertise your sale on a (free!) shared Google Map by signing up here (forms.gle/DgRw7LKOgKAoua2X8) or by calling Dan Zimmerman at 608-241-1158 to register your sale. You can certainly host a sale without signing up, but if you would like some advertising, tell us what you've got! Please sign up for the map by Friday June 10, 2022.

A special note on the Holiday Treats event

I cannot emphasize how grateful the ECA board and I are to Bernie Hanson for her 46 years of service with this event and garage sales! Bernie and her contemporaries have built a foundation of care and community in our neighborhood that makes it a joy to live in. If you are interested in helping take up the responsibility (and the fun!) for the holiday treats event, please reach out to me (emilyemixon@gmail.com, 512-913-1034) and Brian J (brianj@gsafewi.org). As our neighborhood grows and changes, I am eager to see the creativity of our residents continue to shine through in this event.

Please reach out to me or anyone on the ECA board with any questions and ideas—we want to hear your voices!

Yours in community, Emily Mixon

Join us at ECA Meetings

ECA meetings begin at 7 pm on the second Tuesday of each month. Meetings are held virtually over Zoom. Please email Emily Mixon (emilyemixon@gmail.com) if you have an agenda item, questions, or would like the Zoom link to attend. We hope to see you there!

Eastmorland Community Association (ECA) Board

ECA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: *Emily Mixon*
(emilyemixon@gmail.com)

VICE PRESIDENT: *Brian Juchems* (brianj@gsafewi.org)

SECRETARY: *Bri Deyo*
(deyo.bri@gmail.com)

TREASURER & NEWSLETTER: *Dan Zimmerman*
(zimmerman_dan@hotmail.com)

DIRECTORS

*Cindy Colombo, Breanna Illéné,
Micah Kloppenburg, Jennica Skoug, Kris Whitman,
Kathy Soukup (alternate), Patrick Soukup (alternate)*

MEMBERSHIP & FUNDRAISING: *Dan Zimmerman*,
608-241-1158, zimmerman_dan@hotmail.com

ECA WEBSITE: *Dan Glassman*,
dan.glassman@gmail.com, communications@eastmorland.org

WEB LIAISON: *Jennifer Moore*, jmoore3501@gmail.com

STANDING COMMITTEES

SUNSHINE (call for cards to go out from ECA):
Rose Sage, 608-575-4482

GARDENS: eastmorlandgardens@gmail.com

Lake Edge Neighborhood Association (LENA)

LENA OFFICERS
PRESIDENT: *Liz Dannenbaum*
VICE PRESIDENT: *Bryce St. Peter*
SECRETARY: *Laura Haefs*
TREASURER: *Hawk Sullivan*
AT LARGE: *Steve McCarthy, Jacky DaWalt, Kate Schultz*

Contact the Lake Edge Neighborhood Association at
LakeEdgeNA@gmail.com.

Learn more or join by visiting our website:
www.lenamadison.com

We currently meet via Zoom the 3rd Monday of each month from 6:30-8:15 pm.

From the LENA President Liz Dannenbaum

Happy Earth Day 2022!

Thanks to the wonderful folks who showed up at Quaker Park and Lake Edge Park to move mulch, pick up trash, gather fallen tree branches and sticks, and weed. As one neighbor noted in Lake Edge Park after a couple of hours: "I thought the park already looked great—but now it looks so much better!"

Neighbors worked alongside volunteers from Lake Edge Lutheran Church, Cub Scouts, and folks from Monona and Royster Corners. The Lake Edge Neighborhood Association is grateful to everyone who gave up time in their busy weekends to beautify our shared spaces.



Photo credit: Liz Dannenbaum

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Supervisor District 17

Jacob Wright
Dane County
Board of Supervisors

608-338-3766
info@
wrightfordanecounty.com.

Beginning on April 19 I represent Eastmorland—as well as Rolling Meadows, Hiestand Park, Elvehjem, and East Buckeye neighborhoods—on the Dane County Board of Supervisors. I'm here to serve our local community.

Deep and meaningful collaboration is important to me, and I hope you'll reach out to me with your ideas and concerns! You can reach me at info@wrightfordanecounty.com. I'll contribute regularly to this newsletter, and you can see regular updates on my blog at wrightfordanecounty.com, or on Facebook (Jacob

Vote in the Fall Primary: Tuesday, August 9

What's your plan to vote? Get ready at:
myvote.wi.gov

Wright), Instagram (@wrightfordane), or Twitter (@wrightfordane).

I've lived on Madison's East Side since 2005. Currently, I live in Elvehjem with my wife (an MMSD elementary school teacher), two children, and an old adopted dog. I work in healthcare technology and I serve on the Elvehjem Neighborhood Association Board of Directors. My past community service includes a term as Chair of the East Side Progressives action team and several years on the Steering Committee for the Wisconsin AIDS Ride. Past professional experience includes a few years as a barista, a stint as a freeform alternative DJ, and research on endangered plant species.

As for hobbies, I lift weights, read, ride my bicycle (for three of our four Wisconsin seasons), cook excellent meals on occasion, and enjoy lots of time (and a little bit of success) in my garden.

Look for more updates and information as my time on the Dane County Board continues, and please be in touch!



Supervisor District 24

Sarah Smith

Dane County
Board of Supervisors

608-492-0027
SmithSarah@
countyofdane.com

this round of funding. More funding may be delegated on a case by case basis.

Learn more about the innovative programs at our landfill here: landfill.countyofdane.com. You can also learn more about these initiatives and follow my monthly blog by visiting board.countyofdane.com/supervisors/detail/24.

Hi Neighbors!

I'm Supervisor Sarah Smith representing District 24, Lake Edge and Monona, on the Dane County Board.

This spring, the County Board saw significant turnover and elected new leadership. In April, eleven new supervisors were elected to join us on the Board. As we were all sworn in for the 2022-2024 term, we elected the first person of color to lead the Dane County Board, Supervisor Patrick Miles.

Chair Miles recently announced our committee assignments as well; I am excited to be serving on the following committees: Environment, Agriculture, and Natural Resources; Executive, Land Conservation, and UW Extension Committees.

As a county, we have made significant investments in sustainability in recent years, including a new grant opportunity for community composting projects. Our Department of Waste & Renewables estimates that 30% of the waste currently being landfilled could be composted. The Organics Management Grant is intended to help fund projects that reduce or eliminate the amount of organic materials, such as food scraps and yard waste, from the landfill. Each applicant may receive up to \$2,500 during



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Alder District 15

Grant Foster

Madison Common Council

608-285-2519
District15@cityofmadison.com

Hi, neighbors!

Another school year is coming to an end and we're gearing up for what will inevitably be a great summer in Madison. There's a lot to be grateful for as we're truly fortunate to live in such a great community. I'm halfway through my second term serving as your alder and it continues to be challenging and rewarding. I've worked hard to represent the diverse perspectives of all of you, trying to focus on the shared priorities and values that come through. It can be a real challenge at times, knowing that there's no vote that will satisfy everyone. But I keep myself grounded in the shared values I've continued to hear from a majority of District 15 residents including: protecting our environment and enhancing access to natural spaces, sharing information and giving authentic opportunities for all to participate in public processes, and improving the safety of our neighborhood streets. I feel really good about a number of improvements that have been achieved in the last few years and I will continue to work to move

these priorities forward over the next year.

The best way to stay in the loop on everything District 15 related is to subscribe to my weekly updates at cityofmadison.com/council/district15/blog and to send me your thoughts and questions to district15@cityofmadison.com. I love to hear from you and appreciate all of you that have been in touch. Lastly, I'd like to give a big thanks to all the volunteers in our neighborhoods, including those that make this newsletter happen—the best part of our community comes from those that live here and step up to make things better.



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County Executive

Joe Parisi

Dane County

608-266-4114

Parisi@countyofdane.com

Turning Trash and Cow Manure into Fuel

Thanks to our renewable natural gas (RNG) facility at the landfill, we're able to convert landfill biogas, which contains harmful greenhouse gases, into nearly pure methane gas. This methane gas can then be injected into the interstate transmission pipeline that runs underneath the landfill so it can be bought and used as renewable vehicle fuel. Our RNG facility is projected to displace 3,250,000 gallons of gasoline in 2022, reducing emissions equivalent to traveling 72,000,000 miles less on the road.

This technology has allowed our Highway Department to systematically replace inefficient diesel snowplows with plows that operate on RNG from the landfill. Dane County currently owns 100 RNG and RNG/gas hybrid vehicles. We saved \$139,288 in 2021 by using com-

pressed natural gas (CNG) and RNG instead of diesel in our vehicles. If diesel prices remain in the \$4.50 range, we'll save more than \$350,000 this year.

Dane County's RNG facility also has an offload station, which provides area digesters with the ability to get their gas into the RNG market. These digesters capture methane and phosphorus from manure, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions and harmful runoff to lakes and streams. The digester's biogas is then hauled to our offload station and injected into the pipeline, powering RNG vehicles locally and across the United States.

This first-in-the-nation station has allowed local digesters to continue to operate and expand, resulting in better manure management, local jobs, clean fuel production, and cleaner lakes. Total digester gas delivered is projected to displace 2,000,000 gallons of gasoline this year—enough fuel for a passenger vehicle to drive around the equator 2,500 times.

Dane County's RNG facility and offload station are turning trash and cow manure into renewable fuel, while preserving our local environment and natural resources. Our 100-vehicle RNG fleet is also saving taxpayer dollars and reducing carbon emissions during a time when gas and diesel prices have soared. By investing in clean fuel infrastructure, Dane County is leading the way on what is possible to help combat climate change and be part of the solution.



Mayor

Satya
Rhodes-Conway

City of Madison

608-266-4611

Mayor@cityofmadison.com

Vision Zero Action Plan Overview

The Common Council has adopted the [Vision Zero](https://cityofmadison.com/transportation/initiatives/vision-zero) Action Plan (cityofmadison.com/transportation/initiatives/vision-zero). This plan maps out specific strategies and actions the City will take to reach that goal of zero deaths on city roadways.

While most people have heard the words "Vision Zero Action Plan," many are not sure what that is. For Madison, our action plan is a dynamic [document](#) that uses data and engagement while focusing on equity to build a framework that will help the City achieve zero deaths on city roadways by 2035. Our Vision Zero Action Plan uses the Safe Systems Approach that prioritizes safety as the most important factor in decision-making:

- Safe Streets: Lower speeds and improve safety, especially for people walking and biking.
- Safe People: Provide alternatives to driving and educating people on safe behavior.
- Safe Vehicles: Purchase vehicles that support safety technology and ensure our employees are contributing to safe streets.

- Safety Data: Use data to make the best investments and decisions to eliminate serious and fatal crashes.
- Safety Focused Enforcement: Stop the most hazardous driving violations

An important part of Vision Zero is accountability. The City is committed to monitoring our Vision Zero efforts and using data to adjust the actions and strategies as needed. The City will release an annual report showing our progress.

Vision Zero acknowledges that everyone has the right to move safely in their communities and any loss of life is unacceptable. The goal for Madison is ZERO traffic-related deaths and severe injuries while working to increase safe, healthy, and equitable mobility. Zero is an ambitious goal that will require innovation, multi-department coordination, and community support.

You can support Vision Zero and help Madison build a culture of safety by staying aware of your surroundings without distractions, slowing down, and following the speed limit. The speed limit isn't a suggestion; it's a life-saving mandate that makes us all safer on the roads.

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State Representative District 48

Samba Baldeh

Wisconsin State Assembly

608-266-0960

Rep.Baldeh

@legis.wisconsin.gov

Redistricting

Most people in Wisconsin agree that the redistricting process in Wisconsin and most other states is an undemocratic game where the party in power cuts district lines to ensure that it stays in power with the biggest possible majority.

Governor Evers attempted to change our usual way of doing things by appointing a “blue-ribbon” group of citizens to draw the maps based on well-established principles.

The map that they presented would have placed me in the same district as another Democratic legislator.

Despite the potential dire consequences of having a primary with another legislator, I supported it. When all of the maps from the parties went to the Wisconsin Supreme Court then to the U.S. Supreme Court and back again, we wound up with the same unfair districts that we’ve had for the past ten years.

The GOP/Supreme Court map keeps my district more or less intact but the overall effect in the state is to create undemocratic and non-competitive districts.

Other states like Iowa have solved this problem by using non-partisan staff to redraw their district boundaries. This process is both fairer, more transparent, and leads to better politically balanced districts than a system in which politicians draw the lines.

That is why I was a proud supporter of legislation which would require that the non-partisan staff of the Legislative Reference Bureau redraw districts and submit them to the legislature for approval. While we were not able to get this common-sense solution passed this session, I will continue to advocate for this important reform.



State Senator District 16

Melissa Agard

Wisconsin State Senate

608-266-9170

Sen.Agard@legis.wisconsin.gov

Democratic Vision for Wisconsin

Every two years as legislators, we have the opportunity to prioritize the issues affecting our state. Wisconsinites are united on a number of beliefs: we want a state where our children and grandchildren can live, work, and play. We want a Wisconsin that not only serves us today, but tomorrow and the future.

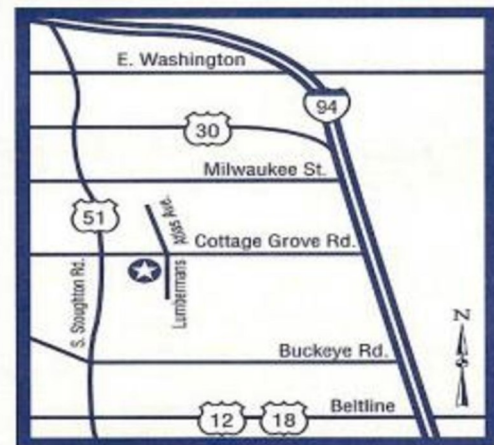
My Democratic colleagues and I are working for all Wisconsinites. This legislative session, Senate Democrats introduced 313 bills—but only 10 of these bills received a public hearing, six received an executive session, and only two received a floor vote. Wisconsin’s GOP has turned its back on ordinary people and made it increasingly challenging to advance progressive, pragmatic policy.

This isn’t right, and Wisconsinites deserve better. My Democratic colleagues and I are working diligently for our state and are committed to the interests of Wisconsin. Let’s be clear: you, the voters, are our bosses. While Republicans have dedicated this session to advancing corporate interests and perpetuating conspiracy theories and harmful policy—such as making it more difficult to vote, preventing our children from playing sports based on their gender, and attempting to ban abortion—Democrats and Governor Evers have stayed vigilant for the interests of the people and the greater good.

As we continue forward to advance Wisconsin’s com-

mon goals, we must continue working to ensure our shared values are represented in the legislature: education, environment, healthcare, cannabis, and labor.

These issues are vital to the majority of Wisconsin—and my Democratic colleagues and I are staunchly defending these values, rather than perpetuating policy that harms Wisconsinites. Wisconsin has been a progressive leader and can be again. I am dedicated to making this vision a reality for all.



Culver's of Cottage Grove

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(608) 268-0211

San Damiano — *continued from front page*

ing a property plan. This spring we raised over \$50,000 in funds designated to our property plan or our greatest need! We could not have done this without the support and encouragement of Monona residents, Jon and Peggy Traver, whose belief in our mission inspired others to give. The Travers \$25,000 matching gift gave us a total of \$75,000! The San Damiano Project Steering Committee and the City of Monona will now be able to move forward with the RFP process and hire a firm to lead the community engagement and master planning process later this summer. We have only just begun: our work still needs financial support to execute the property plan as designed, support the purchase cost of the property, and ensure the maintenance and sustainability of this public asset now and for generations to come. Please consider [donating today](https://sandamianomonona.networkforgood.com/projects/) (sandamianomonona.networkforgood.com/projects)!

On May 11 we began our Wednesday Walking Tours from noon to 1 pm led by knowledgeable city staff, alders, board members, and friends. These tours will be opportunities to ask questions and see some of the hidden treasures of the property. They will run through June 22.

May 14 was World Migratory Bird Day and the Friends of San Damiano had hosted a birding expedition led by Mary Murrell, a Cultural Anthropologist and avid birder.

To learn more about our upcoming events, Like us on Facebook (facebook.com/sandamianomonona) or Follow Us on Instagram (instagram.com/sandamianomonona/).



Photo by Greg Bleck



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JOIN ECA TODAY!

Annual ECA membership dues are voluntary and are \$10 for a basic membership and \$25 for a supporting membership. Dues collected are used for general operations expenses and for special neighborhood events, such as the spring park clean-up and fall leaf-raking parties and potlucks. While everyone living in the neighborhood is considered to be a member of ECA, only paid members have the additional benefits of participating in the annual ECA garage sale and Santa visits. ECA relies on your support.

In 2015, 2018, and 2021, ECA raised sufficient funds to treat and save some of Eastmorland's most beautiful park ash trees from being cut down due to emerald ash borer (EAB). Together we saved 33 of the healthiest, largest ash trees in our neighborhood parks. These trees must be treated every three years according to current city policy.

You may pay your dues, make a general contribution, or make a contribution to treating the 33 ash trees in our neighborhood parks by:

1. Completing and mailing this form with your check to ECA, PO Box 14584, Madison, WI 53708; *or*
2. Making your dues payment, general contribution, or making a contribution to treat the ash trees in our neighborhood parks via PayPal by going to <http://eastmorland.org> and clicking on the "Donate" tab.

Note: ECA is not an IRS 501(c)(3) approved organization, so your dues and contributions are not tax deductible.

Thanks for being an active member of the neighborhood!

Name

Address

Phone

E-Mail

Contribution for Save the Ash Trees

Contribution for Dues and General Purposes

Would you like to volunteer to help? If so, email Emily Mixon, ECA president at emilyemixon@gmail.com.

The list of directors and contact information for the president may be found on page 10 of the newsletter. Information about ECA, including the e-version of the newsletter, may be found at eastmorland.org, at facebook.com/EastmorlandNeighborhood, and at nexdoor.com.





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