

# Hi, Neighbor!

A Newsletter for the Eastmorland and Lake Edge Neighborhoods

Fall 2023



## ***Introducing the Eastmorland Community Center***

### **Developing space and spirit for community life in the Eastmorland neighborhood**

*By Staci Marrese-Wheeler, Pastor - Common Grace*

In August of 2021, Common Grace began to realize a vision of offering the neighborhood more accessibility to the building and property. A 501c(3) non-profit organization named Eastmorland Community Center was created. Over the last two years, the building partners at 3565 Tulane Avenue have helped this non-profit begin to develop its own identity. In August of 2023, new signs introducing the community center (see picture

accompanying this article) replaced the old signs, which had only identified the faith community, on the 'triangle' property located across from Schenk School. Common Grace, El Jardín Infantil Bilingual Preschool and Ethical Trade Co. are now all under the umbrella of the Eastmorland Community Center as building partners embodying this new, neighborhood-centered identity. Common Grace remains the property owner, but all three partners are committed to doing good work in this neighborhood.

El Jardín Infantil, a bilingual preschool owned by Michelle Smith and Marie Everett, moved into the building in 2016. The church was underutilizing its square footage, and other community non-profits needed space. Affordable rental space was not easily found, and the church decided to offer a "pay as you are able" model of building use for renting partners and community groups. Seven theater companies, an after-school music program, a UW educational cohort for student teachers, the Schenk Weekend Nutrition program and multiple weekly/monthly groups met in the building between 2016-2020. Grants

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## ***Upcoming Events***

### **Free Community Thanksgiving Meal Thursday, November 23, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Eastmorland Community Center, 3565 Tulane Ave.  
Hosted by Eastmorland Community Center & Common Grace Church.

Eastmorland Community Center (3565 Tulane Ave) invites our neighborhood to a free Thanksgiving Day dinner: Thursday, November 23 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Meals will be catered and will include vegetarian and gluten-free options. Dine in with neighbors or choose carry-out. No reservations needed. Please contact Staci with questions [staci@eastmorlandcommunitycenter.org](mailto:staci@eastmorlandcommunitycenter.org) or call 608-249-1973.

### **Cookie Plates for Eastmorland Neighbors**

See pages 7 and 12 for details.

### **Santa is coming to Eastmorland!**

**Saturday, December 9, 10 a.m.-noon**

Eastmorland Community Center, 3565 Tulane Ave.  
Hosted by ECA and Common Grace.

Visit Santa, eat treats, make crafts and be filled with Christmas cheer!

Contact Staci at (608) 249-1973 or [staci@eastmorlandcommunitycenter.org](mailto:staci@eastmorlandcommunitycenter.org) to volunteer to donate cookies or help at the event.

## **The Year of the Fox**



*By Kathleen Connors, Lake Edge Resident*

According to Chinese astrology, 2023 is the year of the Rabbit. But in the Lake Edge neighborhood, it was definitely the year of the fox. This spring, as sightings were increasingly posted to social media, and kits emerged from dens, neighbors' excitement grew as we had the privilege of sharing space with these enchanting creatures.

I felt particularly lucky to have had several fox sightings in my own backyard. Week after week I would open my bedroom curtains in the morning to find a lone fox sound

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# Hi, Neighbor!

Fall 2023

## Hi, Neighbor! is an ECA & LENA collaboration

*Hi, Neighbor!* is a community newsletter serving residents of the Eastmorland and Lake Edge neighborhoods published on behalf of the Eastmorland Community Association (ECA) and the Lake Edge Neighborhood Association (LENA).

### Want to submit an article?

Send articles for publication to [hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:zimmerman_dan@hotmail.com).

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Past issues are available online and in color at [eastmorland.org](http://eastmorland.org) and [lenamadison.org](http://lenamadison.org).

## NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEERS

This newsletter is possible thanks to the help of many volunteers! No experience is needed, and there are many ways to get involved. To receive updates or get involved, please email [hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com](mailto:hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com).

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## Three Cozy Winter Coffee Spots

By Matt Ledger

For some of us, surviving the winter requires a daily dose of caffeine. It also requires finding somewhere to flee when we can't hunker down at home anymore, lest cabin fever drive us mad.

Thankfully, the local coffee shop solves both problems at once. When I need to do some writing or hear the sound of other people's voices in winter, I often retreat to one of these nearby shops.

### Forward Craft and Coffee

Forward (2166 Atwood Ave) is my coffee shop of choice. This industrial-chic cafe has great ambiance, ample seating (though it's often quite full in the evening), and a dang good latte. Forward is also the only nearby shop that caters to night owls; it's usually open until 10 p.m.

If you'd rather have a beer than a coffee, Forward has a solid rotating selection of craft beers on tap. It also hosts events, including a cribbage league, trivia, and various themed meet-ups, and has a handful of board games available.

*Hours: Mon 7 a.m. to 12 p.m., Tues-Sat 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., Sun 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.*

### Crema Cafe

While I tend to think of Crema Cafe (4125 Monona Dr) as more of a restaurant than a coffee shop, it's still a great spot to grab a coffee and a pastry and break out the ol'



laptop. (Just be cognizant of how busy it is.) If you're hungry, you can also order from Crema's delicious brunch menu. My go-to is the Blue Bird, a chicken salad sandwich that will make you wonder why everyone's chicken salad doesn't include blueberries.

If you'd like a nice winter stroll, you can take your coffee to go and cross Monona Drive to sit at San Damiano. Drinking a hot coffee while looking out over Lake Monona is a great

way to start your morning, provided it's not too chilly.

*Hours: Mon-Sat 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

### Ledger Coffee Roasters

I don't only love Ledger Coffee Roasters (3241 Garver Green, Suite 140) because we share a name. The Garver Feed Mill, in which Ledger is located, tends to be quiet most weekday mornings. This makes Ledger and the Garver an ideal spot from which to get some morning work done if you have the luxury of working wherever you can use a laptop.

On late-winter Saturday mornings, however, Ledger gets quite busy, thanks to an influx of people attending the Dane County Farmers' Market. Having the Farmers' Market nearby in winter is wonderful, but if you want a coffee on Market day, either show up early or be prepared to wait in line for a bit.

*Hours: Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sat-Sun 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

## Conflict Resolution Training

Madison's Mutual Aid Network has been assessing interest in a conflict resolution and restorative justice training. The training will be presented by a trained and knowledgeable guide. It will most likely occur on Tuesdays in November from 5-7 p.m. Please contact me at [rcoloni60@gmail.com](mailto:rcoloni60@gmail.com) or at 608-520-3701 if you are interested or desire more information. I believe that, as part of encouraging and adapting to more diversity in our neighborhoods, it is important to develop skills for addressing potential conflicts in a peaceful and civil manner. To learn more about the mutual aid network you can connect to our website at [madisonman.coop](http://madisonman.coop). Thanks.

—Randy Coloni

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## Madison Forestry to Cover Ash Tree Treatment Moving Forward

By Dan Zimmerman

Since 2015, hundreds of neighbors, friends, and park lovers from the Madison area have worked together to save some of Eastmorland's most beautiful park ash trees from emerald ash borer. By raising funds to treat ash trees with injections the group saved 22 trees in Olbrich Park, six trees in O.B. Sherry Park, and five trees in Eastmorland Park (note: one of the ash trees in Olbrich Park was splitting down the middle and was in danger of falling onto the bike path; this tree has been removed for safety). Together we saved some of the largest, healthiest ash trees in our neighborhood, all between 50 and 100 years old—one over 200 years old.

According to the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the emerald ash borer is a beetle native to Asia that was first discovered in the United States in 2002. Without management, ash trees targeted by the pest often die within two to five years as the beetle slowly eats tissue under the tree bark. In the process, starving ash trees become brittle, making them more likely to lose branches or fall, potentially harming pedestrians walking below. The canopy also thins as the tree is able to support fewer leaves. Studies have shown that once a tree has lost more than half of its canopy due to an infestation, it's probably too far gone to be saved.

Madison has spent more than \$7 million fighting the beetle, taking down nearly half of the city's 21,000 roadside ash trees and treating the remaining half on a rotating schedule every three years. According to city



*Emerald Ash Borer. Photo courtesy of the United States Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service*

staff, Madison Forestry will be treating ash trees moving forward. Funds for treatment, including treatment chemicals, will come from the special forestry fee. The fee is collected by the Madison Water Utility. As a result, our neighborhood will no longer need to raise money for treatments. With the city's help, our neighborhood's ash trees will continue receiving treatments as long as they are in good enough condition to thrive.

As of September 1, 2023, our neighborhood has raised \$4,343 for ash tree treatment. At an upcoming Eastmorland Community Association meeting, the association will explore alternative uses for the funds. Early proposals include park improvements and additional plantings for the Lansing Street Food Forest. Other ideas consistent with the original intent of the funds raised will be considered.

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## Give it up for Animal Love!

By Renee Lajcak

I've just turned on the bathtub tap for Peanut, my cat. She's a bundle of risk-taking fur that can climb a screen door to the ceiling in one second, carry a chipmunk by its belly, and leap over our neighbor's fence. I get a warm, fuzzy oxytocin rush whenever I'm near her. Peanut and her sister came from Underdog Pet Rescue on Fair Oaks Ave. Adoption is one way to help our animal neighbors, but here's one that doesn't involve cleaning litter: Donation!

If you are like me and feel that animals deserve our respect, attention and care, here are three places just outside our neighborhood that are looking for an amazingly wide variety of donations, from the fun (dog Kongs, cat toys, peanut butter and Squeeze Cheese!) to the practical (new or gently used towels and pillowcases, toilet paper, litter, ziploc bags). I've just given you a taste of what is needed. Check out the links below to find wish lists and drop-off sites.

Of course, good old money is also a great donation, since shelters can buy supplies more efficiently and purchase exactly what they need. Or you can donate money to a specific program such as Spay it Forward (at Shelter from the Storm). Monetary donations can be made in a variety of easy ways, such as credit, Venmo, Paypal, or even in monthly payments.

Your contribution will be well-appreciated. Feel in your heart of hearts the kitty purrs, doggy smiles and guinea pig whistles. You'll sleep well knowing you helped out the ones that need it most.

### Dane County Humane Society

<https://www.giveshelter.org/how-to-help/wish-list>  
5132 Voges Rd

### Shelter from the Storm

<https://www.sftsrescue.org/donate>  
1602 Blossom Ln. (near the Buckeye Kwik Trip)

### Underdog Pet Rescue of Wisconsin

<https://www.underdogpetrescue.org/donate>  
231 S. Fair Oaks Avenue

## Eastmorland Community Association (ECA) Update

By Micah Kloppenburg

Hi Eastmorland Neighbors,

My family moved into the Eastmorland neighborhood on the corner of Tulane and Ontario in 2018. Since then we've connected with a wonderful group of neighbors and their pets, kids, and interests. From our park-side conversations, there are three common interests that consistently come up and are clearly shared across our community – no matter which side of the tracks or of Walter Street you call home.

- Continue and expand the annual and block-by-block events that bring people together and create neighborly connections: from leaf raking and cookie

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## Roll Play Review: Board Games, Tea, and more at Garver Feed Mill

By Jennica Skoug

On my list of Things to Do This Winter is to take my daughter for an afternoon of games and tea at Roll Play, one of Garver Feed Mill's resident businesses. We visited this summer and enjoyed bowls of bibimbap and mac n' cheese while playing Connect 4 and several other games well-suited for five-year-olds. She declared it one of her highlights of our summer "staycation."

Before we left, I strolled by their shelves of diversions and games. I saw everything from the eclectic to the familiar. There were titles that intrigued, artwork that impressed, games for a crowd and games for the proverbial date night. I'm not particularly well-versed in the minutia of board games, though I can imagine my friends who are would be impressed by the Roll Play collection. If, like me, your general rule of thumb is being able to understand the rules in ten or less minutes – fear not, because they have that type of game too. If you are the type of person who prefers to have the rules explained by another human, consider checking out Roll Play's Social Game Night which happens every Wednesday at 6 p.m.

"Come to learn the featured game and play with others," Roll Play states on their Instagram account. "Come alone or come with friends. No registration required." Check out @rollplaymadison or rollplay.shop to see the weekly featured game or view their menu. Happy board gaming!

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## The Best Seed Catalogs for Next Year's Garden

By Kathryn Prince

Now that autumn is winding down and winter is upon us, it's time to start dreaming about what to plant in spring. And what better way to prepare for next year's gardening season than to curl up in your favorite chair with some plant catalogs. Seed companies usually ship their catalogs out (for free!) in winter, leaving you plenty of time to plan for next year's garden.

### Seed Savers (Decorah, Iowa)

Seed Savers has a huge seed bank of vegetables, herbs, and flowers grown from a grassroots network of farmers and gardeners preserving heirloom seeds. You won't find commercial hybrids here, but you will find lots of unique stories about seeds and the people who have stewarded them. This catalog also features a selection of Midwest-native wildflowers.

- Recommendation: Turkey Crawl Bean (supposedly someone found these beans INSIDE a wild turkey and then grew them)
- Link: [shop.seedsavers.org/request-a-catalog](http://shop.seedsavers.org/request-a-catalog)

### Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds (Mansfield, Missouri)

If you're in the market for something colorful and strange, this is the catalog for you. Baker Creek has a particularly gorgeous selection of tomatoes in every color of the rainbow. Like Seed Savers, this catalog features

(Continued on page 8)



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## Healing in Gardens

By Jennifer Peterson

Over Labor Day weekend, I was bitten by a dog, leaving me with lacerations across my nose and cheek. It was a dramatic event, but I was lucky to receive excellent medical care and a lot of love and support from the people in my life.

Recovering at home, I spent a lot of time gazing at the tree outside my window; admiring flowers sent by loved ones; and repotting gifted houseplants, gently untangling their roots to nestle them into rich soil.

I spent dawns and dusks in my back garden, out of the sun. My husband, Rob, kept the bird feeders filled, and I watched the social lives of birds unfold. Our Pomeranian, Chauncey, made me smile when he raced across the yard to make the birds scatter, huffing with satisfaction.

Unsurprisingly, I craved solitude that first week. I didn't want people to worry or to see pity or shock on their faces. But in my back garden, which is fenced and

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## Volunteer to Help with Holiday Cookie Plates

By Marla Shoop

This year we are continuing the Eastmorland tradition of delivering home-baked goods to our special neighbors who are ill or elderly, have recently experienced a death of a family member or other cherished person, or are just in need of some extra care.

We are looking for volunteers to bake, assemble cookie plates, and deliver the plates. It is a great activity for anyone to give back to their neighborhood but especially wonderful for families with

young children to encourage their volunteer spirit. My son and I in our matching Santa hats delivered cookie plates for many years and it was one of our favorite holiday activities. When we have many volunteers, the tasks become more manageable and fun; in addition, you get a chance to meet more of your neighbors.

To volunteer, preferably send an email to [marlaj222@gmail.com](mailto:marlaj222@gmail.com) or you can text or call

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## Eastmorland Community Center

(Continued from page 1)

were written to help subsidize rents for building partners, and the church began to dream about how the property could be put to use in vibrant new ways for the neighborhood. Prior to the pandemic, over 200 people were using the building during the week, but only about 30 per week were from the church congregation.

After basement flooding in 2018 and the COVID-19 shutdown in 2020, Common Grace decided to seek a building model that would expand similarly focused partnerships and the capacity to better utilize the church property at 3565 Tulane Avenue. At the end of 2021, the fair-trade retail non-profit Ethical Trade Co., owned by James Ferrett and Manuel Ramming, became the third building partner. It was clear that renovations were required for the building to become the kind of community space that was needed in the neighborhood. In September of 2022, it was decided to explore a redevelopment of the property with the possibility of including much-needed housing along with expanded community-center space. At present, this building exploration is in a preliminary stage, but the work of the community center is growing. It felt

important to introduce the new identity of the property – formally – to the neighborhood before any physical changes took place. It will only truly be the Eastmorland Community Center when more neighbors are part of the vision of what it is meant to be.

As the identity of the Eastmorland Community Center continues to develop, please look for this new non-profit on Facebook and Instagram to see updates as community events and programs are expanded. You can follow the development of the Eastmorland Community Center at [eastmorlandcommunitycenter.org](http://eastmorlandcommunitycenter.org).

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## Healing in Gardens

(Continued from page 6)

private, I was still part of a community of living things. I could see life, and the life in my garden saw me, and didn't care.

The healing qualities of gardens have been scientifically proven. When we can see or spend time in a garden, we recover more quickly and feel less pain and anxiety. I felt noticeably soothed while I was in my garden, or even just looking at it. At my follow-up appointment, the doctors confirmed I was healing well.

Soon I was well enough to travel to Boston to visit my little sister in her new home. She took me on a walking tour of the city's many garden spaces, including the Japanese garden on the grounds of the Museum of Fine Art. When we entered the walled garden, we found a small ceremony taking place. A team of Japanese

gardeners was celebrating their successful restoration of the garden after its long closure during the pandemic.

I felt the gardeners' collective exuberance as they posed for pictures together, laughing. I looked at the lovingly traced patterns in the rock garden and thought of the doctors who encircled me and restored me, stitch by stitch. I thought of the way each smoothie dropped off on my porch and each note from a neighbor brought me back to a different kind of wholeness.

The next morning, I helped my little sister and her partner clean up their tiny patio garden. I helped them choose houseplants, and made a mental note to send them a bird feeder for Christmas. I hope they'll find joy in the art of tending; and I am glad they have a garden, should they ever need to take comfort there.

## Best Seed Catalogs

(Continued from page 6)

heirloom and open-pollinated varieties.

- Recommendation: Toothache Plant (a cute yellow flower that makes your mouth numb when you eat it)
- Link: [rareseeds.com/requestcat/catalog/](https://rareseeds.com/requestcat/catalog/)

### Fedco (Clinton, Maine)

Fedco is used by farmers and gardeners alike. This company actually has four separate catalogs - one for

veggie seeds, one for tools, one for root crops, and one for trees and perennials. Fedco's catalogs are not in color ... but they do feature oodles of delightful little illustrations on each page. If you're at all interested in heirloom fruit trees, the perennials catalog has dozens of obscure varieties, some of them hundreds of years old!

- Recommendation: Winstrip Air Pruning Trays (if you start your own seeds, one of these is all you'll ever need; they are literally invincible)
- Link: [fedcoseeds.com/requests.htm](https://fedcoseeds.com/requests.htm)



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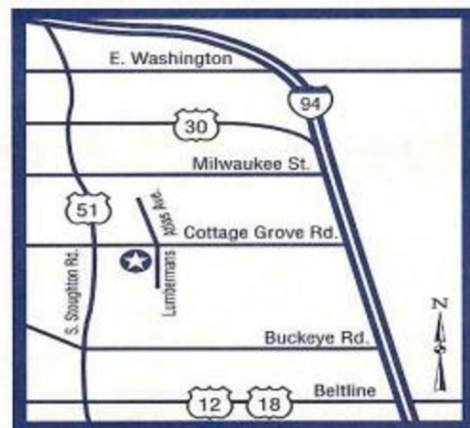
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## Kids' Corner

## Family Guide to Pinney Library

By Liz Davison



Fall, also known as \_\_\_\_\_, is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ seasons of the year. In the United States, fall takes place from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. Two holidays that happen during fall are \_\_\_\_\_, where people dress up in \_\_\_\_\_ costumes and "\_\_\_\_\_ Day", a time to give thanks. This is also harvest time, when \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_ for us to eat fresh or bake into \_\_\_\_\_.

### Fall Funnies!

1. How do you mend a broken pumpkin?
2. What kind of coat goes on wet?
3. How are you supposed to talk in an apple library?

Answers  
1. With a pumpkin patch  
2. A coat of paint.  
3. Using your inder voice.

Hello neighborhood families! When my kids were little, we went to the library constantly. Now I'm lucky to work as a page at Pinney library. I still bring my (now big) kids to the library for teen programs, volunteering, and approximately 2,000 issues of manga. I love seeing children and families visit their library. As a school counselor and educator by trade (as well as a lifelong babysitter), I offer some tips for sharing the library with the children in your life.

### Plan Your Visit (and Exit)

Most kiddos are happy spending 30–60 minutes at the library. If I could give caregivers only one bit of advice, I would say this with love: leave 10 minutes before you think you need to leave. Transitions with children take time and negotiation. Give yourself adequate time to gather up your belongings, check out your books, and get out the door. As library staff, we're happy you came to the library, but we know that everyday someone will leave in tears. I feel like most of these sad exits could be mitigated by caretakers remembering to leave before they notice their kiddos are losing interest, or energy, and are ready to move on.

### When to Visit the Library

Visiting the library for activities gives children practice with set expectations, routines, transitions, and being with others. It also gives them the opportunity to interact with a consistent adult in a safe, child-focused environment.

In the fall, Pinney library offers children's programs every weekday morning. These programs are open to children ages 5 and under.

- Mondays: movement @ 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesdays: music @ 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesdays: storytime @ 10:00 a.m. (multiage) & 11:00 a.m. (baby)
- Thursdays: art @ 10:00 a.m. & music @ 11:00 a.m.
- Friday: dance @ 9:15 a.m. & yoga @ 10:00 a.m.

(Continued on page 13)

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Don't forget to include your name, address, and a way to contact you if we choose your submission!

## Lake Edge Neighborhood Association (LENA)

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TREASURER: *Hawk Sullivan*  
AT LARGE: *Kathleen Connors, Nick Heindl, Kate Schultz*

**Contact the Lake Edge  
Neighborhood Association at:**  
[LakeEdgeNA@gmail.com](mailto:LakeEdgeNA@gmail.com)

**Learn more or join by  
visiting our website:**  
[lenamadison.org](http://lenamadison.org)

**Meetings are the 3rd Monday of each month at  
6:30 p.m. via Zoom or in person. See  
[facebook.com/groups/543460612477296](https://facebook.com/groups/543460612477296) for info.**

## Year of the Fox

*(Continued from page 1)*

asleep in my backyard. What a thrill! At first, my neighbor's garage door opening would be enough to scare him off for the day. But as his visits continued, and he grew to understand that my yard was indeed a safe place, he would more often than not give a stretch, yawn, and settle back for a little more shut eye.

Meanwhile, a few houses down, my neighbor was lucky enough to have the female and all her kits in his backyard.

My closest encounter with the neighborhood foxes came later in the season in a completely unexpected and almost comical manner. I was eating lunch on my back patio when a young fox came careening around the corner of my house and straight for me, or rather, straight for my sandwich. About three feet away from me, their gaze switched from the food to my face, and they came to a screeching halt, having finally realized there was a human behind the sandwich. As we both stared at each other, eyes, and mouths wide open, I am hard pressed to say who was more stunned by the surprise encounter!

The young fox then backed up slowly and skittered back around the side of the house. But the smell of food must have been very tempting, because every few moments a cute fox face would peek out from around the corner, giving new life to the expression: bright eyed and bushy tailed. Finally, giving up on the notion of a snack and, keeping an eye on me, the young fox trotted down the side of my lot line, and out through a gap in the back fence.

I will always treasure these encounters and will be forever grateful that my new home and new life in the Lake Edge neighborhood were blessed by these beautiful animals.

## Eastmorland Community Association (ECA)

### ECA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: *Rebecca LeBeau*  
VICE PRESIDENT: *Micah Kloppenburg*  
([micahklop@gmail.com](mailto:micahklop@gmail.com))  
SECRETARY: *Olivia Williams*  
TREASURER & NEWSLETTER: *Dan Zimmerman*  
([zimmerman\\_dan@hotmail.com](mailto:zimmerman_dan@hotmail.com))

### DIRECTORS

*Breanna Illéné, Brian Juchems,  
Emily Mixon, Joel Sacramento, Kris Whitman,  
Kathy Soukup (alternate), Patrick Soukup (alternate)*

**MEMBERSHIP & FUNDRAISING:** *Dan Zimmerman,*  
608-241-1158, [zimmerman\\_dan@hotmail.com](mailto:zimmerman_dan@hotmail.com)

**ECA WEBSITE:** *Dan Glassman,*  
[dan.glassman@gmail.com](mailto:dan.glassman@gmail.com), [communications@eastmorland.org](mailto:communications@eastmorland.org)

**WEB LIAISON:** *Jennifer Moore,* [jmoore3501@gmail.com](mailto:jmoore3501@gmail.com)

### EASTSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL LIAISON

*Matt Covert,* [mjcovert@gmail.com](mailto:mjcovert@gmail.com)

### STANDING COMMITTEES

**SUNSHINE** *(Call for cards to go out from ECA):*

*Rose Sage, 608-575-4482*

**GARDENS:** [eastmorlandgardens@gmail.com](mailto:eastmorlandgardens@gmail.com)

## Join us at ECA Meetings

ECA meetings begin at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month at Pinney Library. Please email Rebecca LeBeau ([info@eastmorland.org](mailto:info@eastmorland.org)) if you have an agenda item, question, or other interest.

We hope to see you there!





## Pet Vignette: Mr. Zeve

### The King of Kittybell Cottage

Mr. Zeve is now 14 and has reigned over Kittybell Cottage since he was 10.

His hobbies include sleeping wherever and whenever he wants and watching the world from his catico.



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## Pet Vignette: Gertie

**Name:** Gertrude Emmaline VonHunderHaus -Martinez-Rutherford

**Age:** 7-1/2

**Stats:** Born in Texas, Gertie was fostered in Madison before choosing her forever home with our District 15 alder, Dina Nina Martinez-Rutherford.

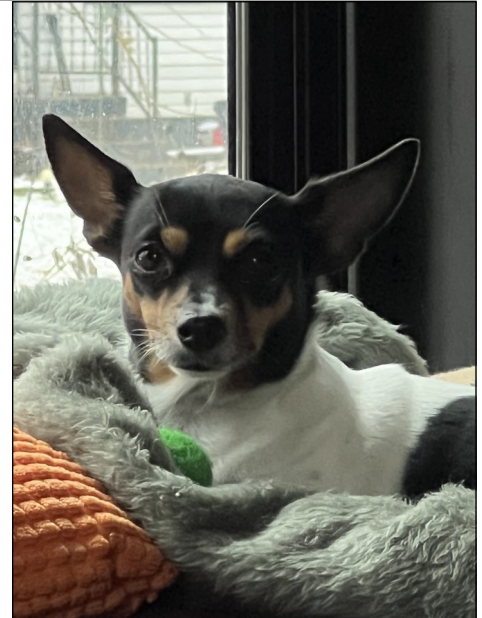
As a pup, Gertie perched on Mom's shoulder like a

parrot. As a grownup, she's quirky and sassy — especially at dog parks, where she tells the other dogs what's wrong with them, then runs away. According to Mom, Gertie has called the manager two or three times to narc on other dogs.

Mom's a vegetarian but says Gertie's all about the meat, "especially freeze-dried salmon and deer meat — the ones that are like \$5,000."

Gertie's gait makes her easy to spot. She does a little kickout with her right hind leg as she struts down the sidewalk. If you see her, be sure to say hey to her and her mom!

—Submitted by Linda Linssen



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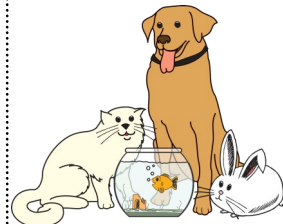
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You love your furry friend, and so do we! Introduce your pet in the next *Pet Vignette*. Share a little about your pet with us via email at [hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com](mailto:hineighboreastmorland@gmail.com).

### Join the Eastmorland Email Group

Neighbors in Eastmorland have started a Google Group as a positive and low-effort online bulletin board to share small announcements, neighborhood events, garage sales, volunteer opportunities, and the like.

To join, sign in to Google Groups and search for "Eastmorland" or head to the group homepage and request to join the group: <https://groups.google.com/g/eastmorland>. While we do not yet have a formal "code of conduct" for the group, we expect all postings to be courteous and to encourage community connection.

## Foster Kitties

By Jan Schowengerdt

Have you ever walked by a home in your neighborhood and noticed there is always a different animal in the window? It may be a foster home! Fostering is similar to pet sitting for a friend you haven't met yet, and a low-commitment way to have an animal companion when your schedule allows. All vet care is taken care of – you just give them a loving, safe place to stay until they are ready for adoption.

In the past you may have seen Janet Schowengerdt walking around the neighborhood with her leash-trained cat Sasquatch, or sometimes pulling a cart with a happy cat inside. She now fosters cats in Sasquatch's memory



From left to right: Foster kitties Leon, Arnold, Sasquatch, and Jimothy.

through Underdog Pet Rescue of WI and the Dane County Humane Society. If you see her walking by with a cat in a cart, say hello. She'd be happy to answer any questions about fostering, or just show off a cute kitty!

## Holiday Cookie Plates

(Continued from page 7)

Ginny Panger and leave a message at 608-335-5998. Please tell us whether you would like to bake, assemble or deliver and please make sure to include your name, phone number and address. If you wish to bake, do so at your convenience and deliver your baked goods to 3710 Tulane Avenue on Friday, December 8 or between 8-9 a.m. Saturday, December 9. The assembly of cookie plates will begin at 9 a.m. on Dec. 9 at 3710 Tulane Avenue with delivery taking place late that morning or

early afternoon.

We depend on all of you to share neighbors' information. If you know of anyone who would benefit from receiving a cookie plate or should no longer be on the list please contact us using the same information above.

Thank you in advance to all of you who will volunteer to help with the cookie plates this year, as well as all of you who have volunteered or shared information in the past.

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## Eastmorland Community Association (ECA) Update

(Continued from page 5)

- baking, to blockparty making and minimarket staging.
- Sustain and improve our neighborhood communications: revamp the website, continue "Hi, Neighbor!" newsletter delivery, and explore community message boards (from outdoor and all-weather to easy access internet options).
- Energize our green spaces(!): grow native habitat, food, and natural play (or rest) areas for both young and old.

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**Joshua Erickson, Agent**

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We, the ECA Board, have taken these themes and interests to heart. As we head into this winter we look to build on the accomplishments of our "elder" Board Directors (5!) and lean on the energies of our newer Board Directors (4!) to keep Eastmorland an active and welcoming neighborhood. If we do our job well over these next few years, you should hear about and see some small steps. Steps that are made possible and hopefully achieved thanks to the involvement of so many Eastmorland neighbors. As always, we encourage you to join our monthly meets and to please reach out with any ideas, interests, or aspirations you may have ([info@eastmorland.org](mailto:info@eastmorland.org)).

## Family Guide to Pinney Library

(Continued from page 9)

In general, mornings are busier at the library. If you're looking for a less stimulating visit, there is typically a lull in the early afternoon (12:00–2:30) while smaller folk might be napping and big kids are still at school. It is also pretty quiet in the evenings (especially Fridays).

### Pinney PlayLab

The Pinney PlayLab is an open-ended play space with lots of toys for gross and fine motor development. It offers construction materials for different ages (magna-tiles, foam tree logs) scribbling surfaces (tables with crayons, white boards with markers), and much more.

### The Library as a Community Center

But truly, the most valuable thing Pinney library has isn't a thing at all. It's the experience of the space itself, where you can see and hear different languages, find materials showing all kinds of places and stories, and share the space with people from all parts of our community. And the more the community shows up and cares about the library, the stronger both the library and the community grow.

Finally, I have deep appreciation and gratitude for the people who help take care of the children's area at Pinney library: volunteers (new and no-longer-new alike), grownups and kids, and the amazing group of library pages who make the space ready to welcome new friends every day. Without you, the library would not function!

*Pinney Library is located at 516 Cottage Grove Road.*



## Alder District 15

Dina Nina  
Martinez-  
Rutherford

Madison Common  
Council  
608-709-9244

[District15](#)  
[@cityofmadison.com](#)

Greetings fair neighbors. As a person who has hot flashes and suffers from self diagnosed hyperhidrosis, I have to admit that I'm loving this weather. I hope you all are as well.

My first six months in office have been anything but boring. While I've learned so much, I am also aware just how much I have yet to learn. Thank you to everyone who has reached out to me with comments and most importantly your support.

As we move into budget season, we're going to have to make some hard decisions. This season is especially difficult given that the state keeps overlooking Madison and Milwaukee in regards to shared revenue.

When the Mayor asked me what my priorities were, I emphatically told her housing and CARES. As I learn more and look at innovations in both spaces, I keep finding that Madison is in step with other cities around the country that are doing work around these two specific issues. In regards to housing, we do have a crisis. Unfortunately this crisis doesn't have a quick and easy fix. We have some incredible staff that are working daily on ways to meet the needs of the community and the city.

I've been working to find ways to expand the CARES program. We're expanding service and making sure that those on the frontlines are being taken care of. CARES is designed to serve as an additional available resource for behavioral health emergencies that occur in our community. By doing so, they free up our Police and Fire Departments to serve in their capacity. This program has helped so many in our community. We're hoping to increase funding and help to better serve those who are experiencing a crisis.

Finally, I want to remind you that many people in our community are having really hard times. I will continue to ask that we be kinder to those around us. We never know what others are going through, so please do what you can to help those around you. It is a wonderful way to make our city better. Thank you all again for your support.

### Learn how to keep your family safe from lead.

Like many neighborhoods in Madison, the vast majority of homes in Eastmorland were built before 1978. While this gives our neighborhood lots of charm and character, it also means we're at greater risk for lead poisoning. The good news is that lead exposure is preventable; learn how at [publichealthmdc.com/lead](http://publichealthmdc.com/lead).



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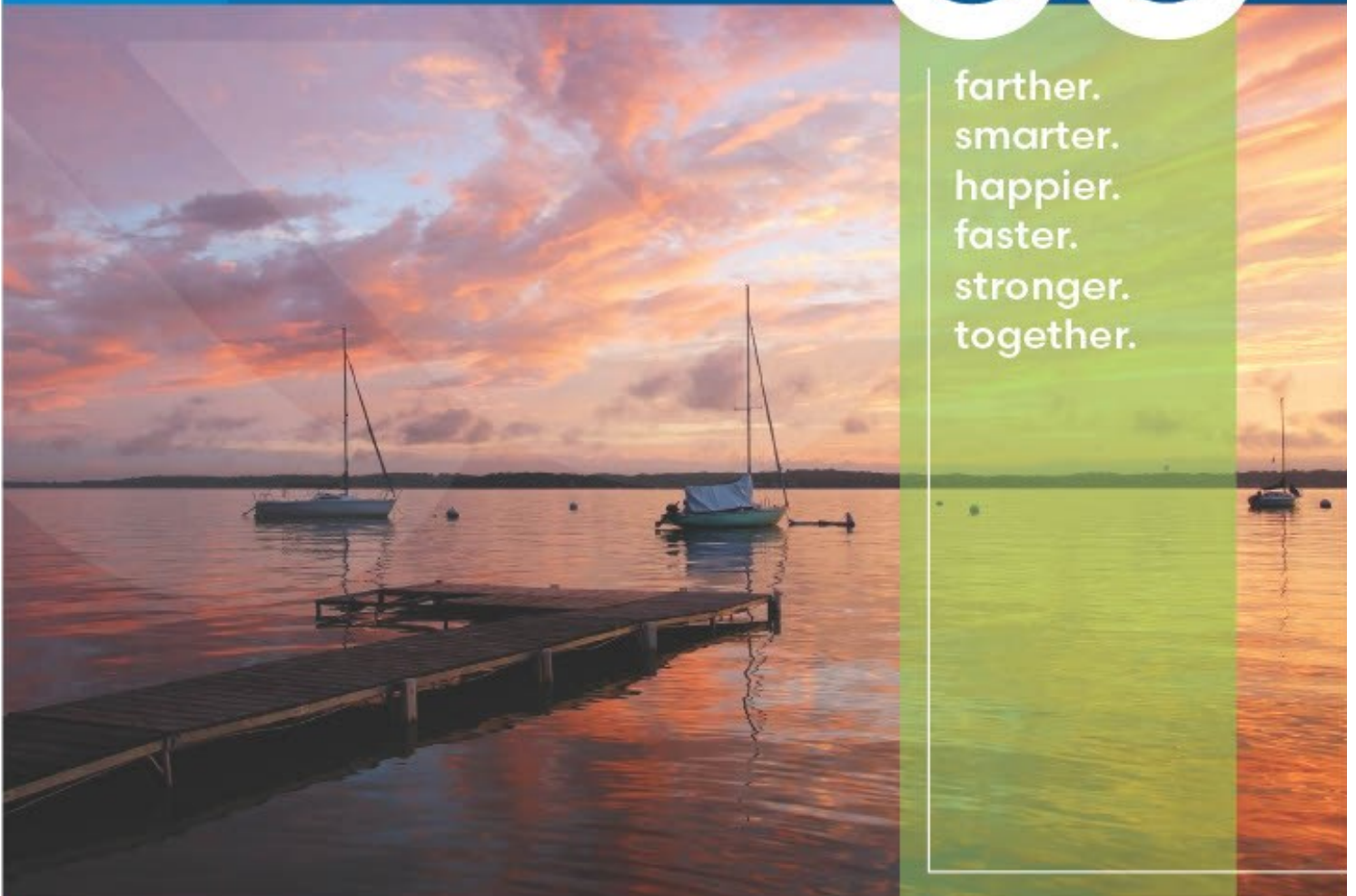
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## Supervisor District 24

**Sarah Smith**

Dane County  
Board of Supervisors

608-492-0027

[SmithSarah@  
countyofdane.com](mailto:SmithSarah@countyofdane.com)

### **Hi Neighbors!**

I'm Supervisor Sarah Smith representing District 24 on the Dane County Board.

Since the last edition of this newsletter, Dane County has made new investments in land conservation, supported greater gender equality, and launched a new program to support people in need of independent living support.

Back in June, we passed RES-074 Declaring Dane County a Sanctuary for Trans and Nonbinary Individuals and I was proud to join dozens of my county board colleagues in cosponsoring it. This summer, Public Health Madison and Dane County also expanded programming and services including FREE long-term pregnancy prevention like IUD. They have also launched the new



## County Executive

**Joe Parisi**

Dane County

608-266-4114

[Parisi@countyofdane.com](mailto:Parisi@countyofdane.com)

### **Dane County is Building Bridges to Address Your Mental Health**

A decade ago this fall, I announced the creation of Building Bridges – a Dane County funded school-based mental health support program that has since served hundreds of young people and their families in 11 local school districts.

Anxiety, depression, and other behavioral health needs remain at high levels among an increasing number of young people. We launched Building Bridges to intervene and focus on prevention, reducing the downstream impacts of mental illness that can impact academic performance and be a barrier to personal and professional success.

The program receives an annual county budget allocation of over \$1.9 million, and local school districts partner to financially support the program. With new dollars in this year's county budget, the Madison Metropolitan School District will add another Building Bridges staff team to their networks, expanding the program's reach to even more students.

Reproductive Health Nurse Navigator program to provide all-options pregnancy counseling including abortion, adoption, and parenting resources.

In September, the County Board voted to approve a purchase of 625 acres near Verona to expand the Sugar River Wildlife Area. This purchase marks the largest land acquisition Dane County has ever made and represents real progress toward greater environmental conservation and climate resiliency.

In August, three supervisors stepped down from their positions on the County Board. Per our ordinances, these districts were filled by County Board Chair Patrick Miles and confirmed by the County Board. At our September 21 meeting, we appointed three new supervisors for these districts: Steven Peters in District 9, Jay Brower in District 13, and Chad Kemp in District 32.

Finally, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) named Dane County as a participating community for the Independent Living Supports Pilot program ([dhs.wisconsin.gov/arpa/hcbs-ilsp.htm](https://dhs.wisconsin.gov/arpa/hcbs-ilsp.htm)). This program will offer short-term, flexible, and limited services for people at risk of entering Medicaid long-term care. Eligible participants can apply for up to \$7,200 for special equipment or help with care. Those interested in applying for these funds can contact the ADRC of Dane County ([daneadrc.org](https://daneadrc.org)) by phone at 608-240-7400 or by email at [ADRC@countyofdane.com](mailto:ADRC@countyofdane.com).

New data from Building Bridges indicates the program is seeing successful outcomes go beyond the time students and families participate in the program. For example, 76% of Building Bridges participants in the 2021-22 school year were considered to have significant impairment at the start of their treatment. Assessments taken six months after program completion showed that number was down in the 40-45% range. More than one in three students and families reported sustaining overall improvement even six months after departing Building Bridges.

We know the need is great when it comes to helping our young people navigate today's realities. We also know programs like Building Bridges help meet the challenge of the moment, and I'm grateful for the continued support and participation of our partner Dane County schools who shares our commitment to this next generation and their families.



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**Mayor**  
**Satya**  
**Rhodes-Conway**

City of Madison

608-266-4611

[Mayor@cityofmadison.com](mailto:Mayor@cityofmadison.com)

### 2024 Operating Budget Stretches Limited Resources

In this year's operating budget, my focus is on the programs and services that help all of our residents, maintain efficient and effective city services, and build a resilient and sustainable economy. But this year, more than ever, the financial challenges facing the City of Madison are coming into sharp relief. Madison's population is growing rapidly. We expect the city to have 115,000 more residents by 2050, and this will be a faster pace of growth than we have seen in the past. Meanwhile the number of city staff positions per 1,000 people has declined 10 percent since 2011. And as has been the case for over two decades, Madison's operating budget is constrained by burdensome State laws that restrict the ability of local governments to raise revenue. It had been our hope that the historic multi-billion dollar State budget surplus would result in some relief to Madison, but Madison was shortchanged. That's why in this budget, I

am requiring every department to reduce their budgets by 1 percent, even as we serve a growing city. It is in this context that my 2024 operating budget prioritizes prudent strategies to maintain the services our growing city relies on. Changes in this budget include the following:

- \$3.2 million for an ample number of polling places, poll workers and materials to ensure that all residents who are eligible to vote have access to the ballot, and that their vote will be counted.
- A civilian Emergency Medical Services (EMS) coordinator in the Fire Department.
- \$100,000 for a contract to transport people to Wisconsin's secure mental health treatment facility. This contract will allow us to allocate police officer time where it should be spent – in our neighborhoods.
- A City-wide public information officer to help engage and respond to residents about City services.
- A new combined park ranger and parking enforcement officer position to provide better overnight enforcement year round and help retain staff while providing efficient service.
- Several new positions in Metro Transit will support operations for rapid transit and a fully electric bus vehicle fleet, while also meeting the demands of increased ridership and expanded service.
- A 6% pay increase for general municipal employees to keep up with inflation and ensure the wages of the City workers not allowed to unionize by the state keep pace with the City's unionized workers.
- A 5% cost-of-living adjustment to help community organizations recruit and retain key staff and respond to the effects of higher inflation.

The budget now goes to the Common Council, who has a chance to offer amendments, and will discuss and adopt the budget starting on Nov. 14. You can learn more about the budget and the schedule at [www.cityofmadison.com/finance/budget](http://www.cityofmadison.com/finance/budget). You can also let us know what you think by emailing [allalders@cityofmadison.com](mailto:allalders@cityofmadison.com) and [madisonmayor@cityofmadison.com](mailto:madisonmayor@cityofmadison.com).

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## State Representative District 48

Samba Baldeh

Wisconsin State Assembly

608-266-0960

[Rep.Baldeh@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Baldeh@legis.wisconsin.gov)

Over the next year, while our attention will focus on the 2024 Federal election and many “Trump Trials,” a similar struggle is taking place in our own state between those who want to destroy our democracy and those who are struggling to keep it viable and alive.

With a more subtle and incremental approach, the Wisconsin GOP seems to be working to achieve a similar end to democracy. Their method is through changes in law and political practice.

First came Act 10 whose perceived purpose was to end collective bargaining for public employees. It is now well-documented that the real purpose was to badly weaken the Democratic Party by reducing the flow of money and

volunteers from unions that had traditionally supported it.

Next came gerrymandering which gave the GOP well over 60-65% of the legislative seats despite getting about half the votes.

With majorities in both legislative houses, the GOP stopped holding hearings on “Democratic bills.” Over the next six years, the GOP legislative leadership allowed hearings on only 1-2 percent of the bills authored by Democrats.

Attacks on voting methods soon followed. With the involvement of the conservative Supreme Court, the GOP eliminated the use of voting boxes where people could submit mail-in ballots. Last spring, they eliminated referenda sought by local governments on state issues.

Most recently, facing the reality that a more liberal court would no longer permit the use of “rigged” maps, the Speaker of the Assembly has sought to have the new Supreme Court justice impeached and thereby removed from office despite being lawfully elected by Wisconsin voters.

In the next issue I will discuss how we fight back against these attacks. Let me hear from you at [Rep.Baldeh@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Baldeh@legis.wisconsin.gov).

(Note: If you would like a FREE copy of the 2023-24 BLUE BOOK or an official state map, write to my office at: [Rep.Baldeh@legis.wisconsin.gov](mailto:Rep.Baldeh@legis.wisconsin.gov))



## State Senator District 16

Melissa Agard

Wisconsin State Senate

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### **It's Past Time to Re-Empower the Unions that Built the Middle-Class**

For over a century, Wisconsin served as a model for labor and progressive movements across the nation, setting the standard for what it meant to put pro-worker and democratic values into practice. Our state once held a national reputation as a stronghold of workers' rights, owed in large part to our unions.

Unfortunately, the union-busting objectives of the Walker era came to fruition. In 2010, 14.2 percent of Wisconsin workers were union members, compared to just 8.7 percent in 2020, marking a drop of about 128,000 union members. The anti-worker agenda and rhetoric of Republicans over the past decade have undoubtedly

harmed the economic conditions of working Wisconsinites.

However, there is reason to be hopeful once again for Wisconsin's workers with the election of Justice Janet Protasiewicz. Democrats are working for Wisconsin, ready to undo the damage done by Republicans since 2011 and improve the lives of ordinary Wisconsinites. That means restoring collective bargaining rights for public sector employees, repealing right-to-work, and re-enacting project labor agreements, labor peace agreements, and the prevailing wage for building projects across the state. These actions are foundational to returning Wisconsin to its pro-labor past.

But we don't want to stop there. Democrats are committed to passing new policies that bolster our labor force and bring us in-line with neighboring states. Workers thrive when everyone has access to quality, affordable healthcare and housing, childcare, a livable, family-supporting wage, and the ability to care for themselves or a loved one without fear of losing their job. We know that this agenda is more than tenable. Just look at our Democratic friends in Michigan and Minnesota who are using their new legislative majorities to ensure every family and individual across their state can live, work, and thrive with economic security.

### **Plant Smart to Save Energy**

Adding trees, shrubs and other plantings to your landscape can do more than beautify your home—it also can help you save energy and keep your home more comfortable. Go to [mge2050.com/en/our-energy-use/plant-smart-to-save-energy](https://mge2050.com/en/our-energy-use/plant-smart-to-save-energy) or scan the QR code here for some simple steps for energy-smart planting this fall, courtesy of Madison Gas & Electric.





## JOIN ECA/LENA TODAY!

Annual ECA/LENA 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/LENA garage sale and Santa visits. ECA relies on your support.

If you live in the **Eastmorland neighborhood**, you may pay your dues/make a general contribution by completing and mailing this form with your check to ECA, PO Box 14584, Madison, WI 53708 or via PayPal by going to [eastmorland.org](http://eastmorland.org) and clicking on the "Donate" tab.

If you live in the **Lake Edge neighborhood**, you may pay your dues/make a general contribution by completing and mailing this form with your check to LENA, PO Box 14102, Madison, WI 53708 or by going online to [Join Today - Lake Edge Neighborhood Association \(lenamadison.org\)](http://JoinToday-LakeEdgeNeighborhoodAssociation(lenamadison.org) [note: there is a \$1.00 processing fee].

**Note: ECA and LENA are not IRS 501(c)(3) approved organizations, so your dues and contributions are not tax deductible.**

*Thanks for being an active member of the neighborhood!*

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Would you like to volunteer to help? If so, email the ECA president at [info@eastmorland.org](mailto:info@eastmorland.org) or the LENA president at [LakeEdgeNA@gmail.com](mailto:LakeEdgeNA@gmail.com).

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## LENA 2024 Summer Sports Challenge!



By Bentley Wolfe

We had a great time on the warm Wednesday nights this summer playing kickball and badminton.

For next summer we'd like to issue a challenge to all the neighborhoods. A weekly competition, neighborhood vs. neighborhood. If you can get 9 people in each neighborhood then you can play kickball. If you have six you can play wiffle ball. Less than that can play badminton, croquet, etc. If we get enough interest we can determine an end-of-season prize. Or play for all the glory!

If your neighborhood is interested please contact Bentley at [lakeedgena@gmail.com](mailto:lakeedgena@gmail.com).

## Become a Volunteer Tutor at Whitehorse Middle School

By Hannah Best

Are you interested in bridging the achievement gap and supporting local youth? Get involved by becoming a volunteer tutor at Whitehorse Middle School! We are actively seeking volunteers to tutor students, with a minimum requirement of just 1 hour per week. The Urban League of Greater Madison, in partnership with Schools of Hope, will provide orientation and training opportunities for volunteers. As a volunteer (that's you!), you will have the chance to build meaningful relationships with students and offer academic guidance. To get the ball rolling, please email our program coordinator, Hannah Best, [hrbest@madison.k12.wi.us](mailto:hrbest@madison.k12.wi.us). With your help, students can take significant steps toward realizing their dreams!



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