

## Spring Harbor News

A publication of the Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association (SHNA) serving the area from Shorewood Hills to Middleton and Lake Mendota to Old Middleton Road.

#### President's Corner

Aaron Crandall, President

Where did the summer go? It is amazing at how quickly the summer months went by and now let uswelcome fall!

With fall now here, it is that time again for our neighborhood association's all-neighbor meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, October 25, at the Spring Harbor Middle School gymnasium. We are excited to announce that our guest speaker will be James Skibo, the head State of Wisconsin Archeologist, who will talk to us about the ancient canoes that were found in Lake Mendota. His presentation will start at 7PM, followed by some time for questions and answers.

Before our guest speaker, there will be a potluck starting at 6PM. The SHNA Board will provide the main dish and something to drink. Neighbors are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert, and to bring your own service ware to minimize waste.

Also on the agenda and before the presentation, will be a brief business meeting, with the introduction of some SHNA by-law changes and a discussion about the creation of a new committee, along with several updates from the Board and elected officials.

I hope you will be able to join us for our upcoming neighborhood association meeting on October 25!

Lastly, I would like to thank Mary Beth Dunning for coordinating our annual July 4 th parade and picnic, and Barb Schultz-Becker for organizing our annual Labor Day jazz event.

As always, please contact me at springharborpresident@gmail.com if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas, or if you would like to getinvolved with your neighborhood association. Happy fall!

## **Fall Meeting and Potluck Tuesday, October 25 Spring Harbor Middle School Gym**

Agenda: 6:00 pm-Potluck

**6:30 pm-Business Meeting:** Proposed by laws changes/process; Reports (president, treasurer, committee, elected officials)

7:00 pm-Guest Speaker: James Skibo, Head State Archeologist, will talk about the discovery of the ancient canoes



### SHNA 4th of July 2022 Highlights

A threat of rain did not keep the 2022 SHNA 4th of July celebration from happening! We managed to get in the parade, games in park, and some grilling and eating, before the rain came pouring down.

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped put together another fun celebration!

- Giovanna Miceli-Jeffries and Tom Jeffries, and their entire family, for doing a fantastic of the decorating Spring Harbor Park
- The Shorewood Hills EMS and Fire Association for once again bringing over the antique firetruck to lead the parade
- Our excellent grillers Ann Lambrecht, Ken Halfmann, and Raul Reyes
- Games organizers extraordinaire Barb Shultz-Beck & John Becker
- Always making event clean up seem like a breeze--Keri Shehan
- Super shoppers Liz Freitick and Joan Martin
- Our excellent SHNA membership ambassador, Noel Pearson
- And always there to help out: Susan and Don Lauffer, Faith Fitzpatrick, Marie Dietrich Infield, Chuck Dunning and Stan Fuka

Thanks to Metcalfe's Market for their generous donation of the delicious brats!

We were happy that former State Senator Fred Risser and Nancy Risser, State Rep. Sheila Stubbs, County Supervisor Aaron Collins, and Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway could be a part of the parade. And we were very happy to see so many neighbors decorate bikes, trikes and wagons and join in the parade too! See you next year! *Mary Beth Dunning* 

#### **Communications Committee**

Tanya Cunningham, Area 2 Director, would like to form an Ad Hoc Committee, which could become a standing committee. This group would address improved communications between residents in our neighborhood, as well as outreach to the wider Madison Community and City Government. Borrowing ideas from other neighborhoods, the new committee will explore expanding and improving our website, establishing a broader network of volunteers to increase face-to-face outreach for the purposes of communicating SHNA business and activities, as well as looking into creating and maintaining a SHNA Directory. It will be discussed further, along with a possible motion to formalize, at our upcoming fall all-neighbor membership meeting, to establish an ad hoc Communications Committee. A signup sheet will be circulated at our meeting on Tuesday, October 25. Please contact Tanya at <a href="maintaintematicaem">itmakesyousmile@gmail.com</a> if you have any questions or would like to be involved in this new committee.

## Labor Day Jazz in the Park

Thank you to Barb Schultz-Becker and John Becker for bringing together another excellent group of musicians to entertain us on a beautiful Labor Day evening. In case you were unable to attent to can check out their music online and around town.

#### **Musician Bios**

Madison musicians, **Chris Wagoner** and **Mary Gaines**, are private instructors, session musicians and performers based in the Midwest for over three decades with tours spanning the US and Europe. They are founding members of several of Wisconsin's favorite musical groups: Harmonious Wail, The Common Faces, The Bob Westfall Band, The Moon Gypsies, The Stellanovas, and Graminy. They have performed and recorded regularly with other artists including Randy Sabien, North Country Drifters, Carrie Newcomer, Josh Harty and Blake Thomas.

"Multi-instrumentalist Chris Wagoner and his wife Mary Gaines are masters of string swing music...equal parts Hawaiian luau and Parisian wedding party. The love they bring to their music is as apparent as the precision with which they make it."

—Andy Moore, Producer of Wisconsin Public Televisions's "30-Minute Music Hour"

**John Becker**, on piano and percussion, is an elementary music teacher for the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District. His recordings are Time Stands Still and Are You in a Band?

#### SHNA Board of Directors

**President** Aaron Crandall <u>aaron.crandall@yahoo.com</u>

**Vice President** Matt Seib Matt.seib@gmail.com

**Treasurer** Joan Martin <u>jmartin2701@gmail.com</u>

**Secretary** Mary Beth Dunning mbdunning53@gmail.com

#### **Area Directors**

Area 1 Liz Freitick efreitick@gmail.com

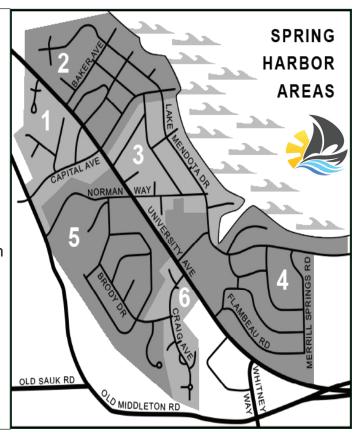
**Area 2** Tanya Cunningham *itmakesyousmile@gmail.com* 

Area 3 Sue Alban susan.g.alban@gmail.com

**Area4** Jeff Bauer jeffreycbauer@gmail.com

Area 5 Erin McGrath
emmcgrath@uwalumni.com
Area 6 Stan Fuka

stanfuka@gmail.com



# Your Neighborhood



### **News From the Friends**

#### **Park Status:**

The park took a few punches this summer. First, an early strong storm brought down two large oaks. Besides losing these beautiful trees, the city needed to remove the large trunks throughout the woods creating open sections. Later that month the SE corner of the park was clear cut—discussions are still ongoing with Madison Parks regarding this. On the bright side, more native plants were planted near the shoreline with the help of SHMS students during a fierce rainstorm. Thank you students!

#### Solstice:

Another great session with leader Elmore Lawson and a few of his seasoned drummers was enjoyed by over 50 park participants.

#### **Board Members Sought:**

With our Board historian retiring, we are looking for another neighbor to fill the slot. The board meets once a month and organizes park projects. Anyone with a love of Merrill Springs Park is welcome to contact us.

PR: Don't forget to follow us on Facebook. <u>https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Mer-rill-Spring-366885473435529</u>

THANK YOU to all who renewed or joined FMS this Spring.

To join or renew your membership for 2022 [Friend(\$10), Supporter(\$25) or Patron(\$50)], send a check made out to "Friends of Merrill Spring" to:

Friends of Merrill Spring

c/o Alice Erickson

5109 Spring Ct Madison, WI 53705

#### **Indian Hills Garden Club**

The Indian Hills Garden Club activities are winding down for the year with the advent of autumn. Still to come in late October is our annual business meeting at which we allocate money for locally based neighborhood projects that benefit our local parks and gardens. We also provide on-going support to the Spring Harbor Middle School greenhouse and garden needs.

If you'd like to join our neighborhood group to learn more about plants or share your expertise with us, please email Susan Lauffer at <u>lauffers497@gmail.com</u> or Shary Bisgard at <u>shary1238@gmail.com</u>. It's a great way to connect with your neighbors.



## **County Board Updates—District 10**

## **Dane County Supervisor Aaron Collins**

## Hello Spring Harbor Neighbors,

I hope you're all enjoying Fall and a return to some cooler weather. Our work on the County Board has been ramping up and I wanted to share some updates on our county budget and legislation that I've been working on.

### County Budget

Dane County operates on an annual budget cycle. Each year, decisions are made to fund the priorities of our county residents. County government is responsible for Human Services, county highway infrastructure, lake management, the County Park system, Henry Vilas Zoo, Dane County Regional Airport, Veteran's services, Dane County Jail, Alliant Energy Center, and much more. Last year's budget was \$754.9 million (divided between the operating budget and capital budget). For local property taxpayers, this amounts to \$867 in county property taxes on a \$300,000 home. The rest of the operational budget is paid for through state and federal revenue, vehicle registration fees, and sales tax.

Going into my first budget cycle on the County Board, I am focused on ensuring that we continue to improve on water quality in our lakes, address climate change at the local level, maintain our transportation infrastructure, and help our most vulnerable residents access housing and other needed services. Governments at every level should be focused on long-term investments that improve quality of life and help those in need. I believe we can achieve these priorities while being good stewards of your tax dollars.

If you would like to weigh in on this year's budget, there will be a public hearing on the County Executive's proposed budget on October 19th. To learn more about this public hearing or to discuss potential budget amendments, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at collins.aaron@countyofdane.com.

## Universal Changing Stations Resolution

I was proud to author my first resolution that passed that County Board earlier this month. The resolution makes it the policy of Dane County that electric, heightadjustable universal changing stations be available in properties owned and operated by the county, where there is adequate space. This will have a real life, positive impact on people with disabilities as well as their families, caregivers, and advocates.

Everyone deserves to live with dignity and respect. Currently, families with an older child or adult with disabilities are often faced with the reality of changing a loved one on a bathroom floor or forced to leave an event due to a lack of adequate facilities. Having our county buildings equipped with universal, adult-sized changing stations will increase accessibility. I'm proud that Dane County is the first county in the state to set a policy like this to help those with disabilities access public spaces.

As always, please reach out to me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Email:

Collins.Aaron@countyofdane.com

Phone: 608-512-8389

Fall continues to be a busy time with ongoing and planned City activities in our neighborhood parks, green spaces, and recreational areas.

Ash tree treatments for emerald ash borer—Through donations from SHNA, Friends of Merrill Spring, Indian Hills Garden Club (IHGC), and individual donations from Tamara England, Faith Fitzpatrick, Linda Layman, and Sally Miley, at least one ash tree in each public space was protected from emerald ash borer for another three years or so. Thank you to those that value saving at least a few of these majestic native canopy trees while the wave of the invasive insects passes through Madison. SHNA worked through the city's adopt a park tree program:

https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/volunteer/AdoptaParkTree.cfm

**Spring Harbor Park buckthorn removal** - Thanks to donations from SHNA and IHGC, and in coordination with City Parks, a 1-acre area of the oak woods hillslope is being cleared of buckthorn and other invasive shrub and tree species. This area was last cleared of buckthorn about 10 years ago, with similar donations from SHNA and Indian Hills Garden Club.

Spring Harbor Boat Ramp outfall wall repair - During the summer the last items for the outfall wall repair were completed including a new railing and replacement vegetation. Nearby residents worked with City Engineering and Parks on a successful planting design that incorporates a visual/sound buffer of the street and boat ramp traffic from the water, native shoreland habitat, fishing access, and harbor views from the street. We have the potential to make this area more friendly for turtle nesting access and fish habitat. We hope to work with WI DNR more on how we can help care for this important fishery area after the upcoming harbor dredging project and ramp is updated. https://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/spring-harbor-outfall-repair.

Rain gardens - We have much opportunity to work with City Engineering in locations, designs, plantings, and maintenance associated with rain gardens in parks and greenspaces along Lake Mendota Drive, associated with the upcoming street reconstruction. Please contact Faith Fitzpatrick (fafitzpa@gmail.com) if you are interested or know of some local groups that might be interested in sponsoring a project as we start talking with City Engineering about neighborhood involvement. The last public rain garden that SHNA was involved with is at the corner of Lake Mendota Drive and Spring Court. This garden was started around 2008. Our local girl scout troop contributed time for planting and raised funds for the stone turtle. The Leopold style bench was made by a resident high school student. Dick and Noel Pearson donated the lovely limestone bench. A group of 3-4 neighborhood volunteers spend 2-4 hours about 4 times a year weeding, trimming, and spreading mulch.

### **Protect Our Lakes**

## **Keep Streets Leaf-Free**



Leaves and yard waste contain phosphorus. When it rains, stormwater flows through leaf piles in streets creating a phosphorus rich "leaf tea" that travels through storm drains to our lakes. The excess phosphorus leads to toxic algae blooms, low oxygen levels and green murky water in our lakes, none of which are good for animals living in the water or those of us who use it for recreation.

#### COMPOST LEAVES & YARD WASTE

Composting is a simple way to manage leaves and yard waste in your own yard, reducing the quantity of leaves that blow into the street. For directions on how to compost visit:

www.cityofmadison.com/streets.



#### MULCH LEAVES IN PLACE

Use a mulching lawnmower to grind up leaves that fall on your lawn. Mulching them in place returns nutrients to the soil providing a source of organic fertilizer to your lawn.



#### FOLLOW YARD WASTE PICKUP RULES

Leaves and yard waste should only be placed on the grass terrace area near the road for pick up. Per the City of Madison Ordinance, never place leaves and yard waste in the street. Use compostable paper leaf bags or cover the piles with a tarp to keep leaves from blowing into the street and place yard waste out for pickup when the city is collecting it in your neighborhood. For information and city collection schedules, visit <a href="https://www.cityofmadison.com/yardwaste">www.cityofmadison.com/yardwaste</a>.



#### RAKE (OR REMOVE) LEAVES FROM THE CURB BEFORE RAINSTORMS

Removing leaves from the street before it rains is the most effective way to keep streets leaf-free. Sign up for Leaf-free Streets Rain Alerts (text or email) this fall (Oct 1-Nov 30) remind you when its time to remove street leaves. Visit <a href="https://www.ripple-effects.com">www.ripple-effects.com</a> to sign up.

donations are welcome.  Please make checks out	to SHNA	The work of the SHNA is done through commelon help SHNA serve our neighborhood. Please	
Membership Dues	<b>\$10</b>	your interests.	
Donation, unrestricted	\$	July 4th Picnic and Parade	
Donation, neighborhood parks		Serve on Board of Directors	
and greenspaces	\$	Deliver SHNA newsletter 3x a year	
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$	Clean Up Day/ and Garlic Mustard Pull	
		Serve on a SHNA committee	
Name		Historic Preservation	
Address		Parks and Natural Resources	
Phoneemail	<u> </u>	Planning and Development	