



the parkword



THE PARKWOOD HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015

Issac Kirkwood Takes The Helm At Jefferson Middle School

As Jefferson Middle School prepares for a major building overhaul in the next few years, they also will be experiencing the infusion of some new energy in the form of Interim Principal Issac Kirkwood. Mr. Kirkwood most recently worked as an assistant principal at Madison's West High School where he led the school's Positive Behavior Support and behavior response systems.

Mr. Kirkwood is friendly, down-to-earth and very approachable and his social work background is palpable as he describes his philosophy on guiding children. He feels that it is his responsibility to determine the climate and culture of the building, and he believes that if one sets the expectations high, the kids will rise to them.

He's taking the reigns one year after the Jefferson building received an "F" rating for its outdated facilities and when behavioral incidents prompted several families to move their children to other schools. But he's determined to make a difference. He takes a hands-on approach, getting to know the student body

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Issac Kirkwood hopes to have an impact as Interim Principal at Jefferson Middle School.

Calendar of Events

Friday, October 30: Halloween Bonfire, Everglade Park

December 14-17: Santa Visits

January or February: Sledding Party: A frosty Saturday morning at Garner Park

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Halloween Bonfire

**Friday October 30, 2015; 6:30 pm
Everglade Park**

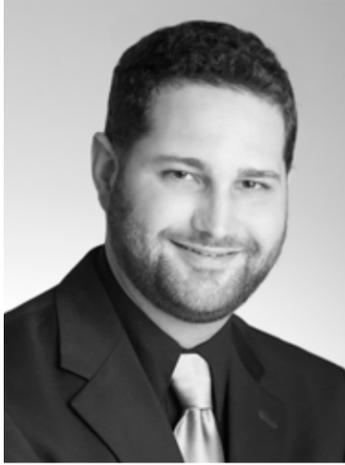


Good news for all of the ghosts, goblins, princesses, and pirates of Parkwood Hills. They're all invited to Everglade Park for the Annual Halloween Bonfire. The fire is lit at 6:30pm – you'll want to get there on time if you want to see the blaze at its best. There will be a stage set up for the Open Mic from 7 to 8pm for you to share your favorite jokes and spooky stories (just remember that there will be some little ones in the audience). Luckily this event falls on a Friday night so the fun (and donut holes) won't conflict with school night bedtime.

Everglade Park is located where North Yellowstone Drive meets Everglade Drive. Keep an eye on the weather, as inclement conditions will cancel the event.

A Season of New Beginnings

By David Hoffert, PHCA President



It's hard to imagine that another summer has come and gone, and that a new school year is already upon us. In my case, my religion teaches me that this is, in fact, an entirely new year, but you certainly

don't have to be Jewish to appreciate the fact that much of the rhythm of our collective lives follows a fall-to-summer pattern. From the new school year to the new season at the Overture Center to the new term of the Parkwood Hills Community Association Board, this is a season of new beginnings. Fall is also a great time to be a resident of Parkwood Hills, with wonderful upcoming events like our Halloween Bonfire on Friday, October 30 and the home visits from a special someone a couple weeks before Christmas.

This second year of my presidency of the PHCA will also be my last. It has been a great honor to serve as one of your community leaders, and I look forward to this next year being as successful for our neighborhood as the last one was. On the one hand, this means that as the spring months approach I will be focusing some of my energy on recruiting a replacement for my position. On the other hand,

that recruitment will actually be just one more example of the natural cycle of Parkwood Hills leadership rotation. A couple years ago, Kim Cowles took over organization of our annual July 4 parade, and the results speak for themselves. This year, Charlene Drumm began as our new Block Captains Coordinator, and already we have been able to reach several more of you with new neighborhood directories.

Parkwood Hills thrives as a community because we are routinely able to identify, recruit, and install new leaders who help to ensure that our neighborhood ethos never fades or falters. And the cycle continues: this year, in addition to seeking a new President for our Board, we are looking for a new Webmaster to manage our online presence, a new coordinator for that Halloween Bonfire event I mentioned earlier (a huge shout-out to long-time coordinator Dave Gillman, who has requested that this be his last year), new members for our Garden Club, and some additional jolly folks who can help make those Santa visits really come to life. Can you help with any of these tasks, or perhaps others that I haven't thought to put in this column? No level of commitment is too large or too small. But the most important step is the first one: reach out to me at hoffert.david@gmail.com and let's talk about how you could get involved.

Parkcrest's Stellar Season Ends With A Splash



Congratulations go out to the Swim and Dive Teams at Parkcrest as they capped off a season of fun with impressive showings at the All-City meets. The Dive Team took home top honors with their perfect 7-0 season, and the Swim Team was runner up at their event.

Labor Day marked the end of the swim season with the Annual Doggie Dip.

Parkwood Hills Garden Club

By Mary Kausch

Perhaps you've noticed the entrance gardens at the corner of Old Sauk and Blue Ridge Parkway. Parkwood Hills Garden Club members plan, plant and maintain them throughout the summer.

Parkwood Garden Club was initiated by several community members in 1969. Some of the earliest members still live in Parkwood and are still members. The Club meets monthly in home of members at 12:30pm, the fourth Tuesday of the month. Programs focus on all aspects of gardening and include speakers on topics such as plant varieties, gardening, flower arranging, lawn care, rain gardens, plants to attract birds, shrubs, pruning, and particular plants such as orchids and favorite plants of members. We tour Parkwood gardens, garden centers and gardens such as Allen Gardens at the University. A summer picnic is always fun and a Christmas luncheon, usually at Nakoma Country Club, is a highlight of the year.

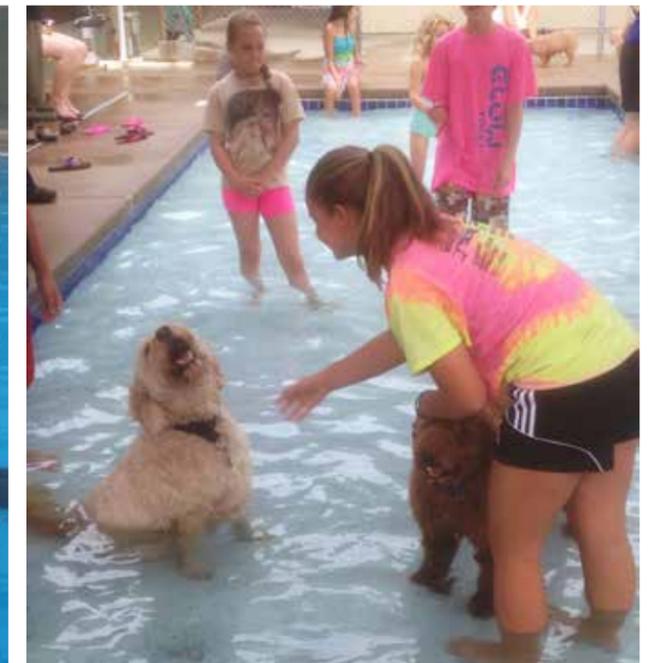
We also contribute to various charities every year and in the recent past have contributed to Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens, Lussier Community Education Center, Olbrich Gardens, John Muir School Garden Fund, and Pheasant Branch Conservancy.

New members are always welcome! Dues are minimal, \$20 a year. You don't have to live in Parkwood to be a member.

If you are a gardener, interested in knowing more about gardening, or are interested in communicating with other gardeners, contact Nancy Benzschawel, 413 Yosemite Trail, (phone) 695-2028, or (email) nancylbenzschawel@gmail.com



Charlene Drumm and Mary Smidt tend the lush Parkwood Hills entrance gardens.



Fourth of July Celebration



Once again the weather cooperated in Parkwood Hills for the neighborhood bike parade and celebration.

Special thanks go out to Kim Cowles as lead organizer, Tara McAweeney for being in charge of the food, Pat Baron for playing Uncle Sam, and Charles Shoemaker for tapping into Oscar Mayer's employee donation policy to provide the hog dogs and brats.



Joey's Seafood Changes Directions: Introducing *North and South*

For the past ten years the residents of Parkwood Hills have enjoyed the offerings of Joey's Seafood & Grill in Clock Tower Court (Mineral Point and Grand Canyon). But this summer, the Joey's sign came down and the restaurant was re-named North and South Seafood & Smokehouse. It is still under the same ownership of Erin and Keith Stoesz.

The Stoeszes decided to re-vamp the restaurant to reflect the cuisines that both of them have enjoyed throughout their lives – Erin hails from Texas and Keith is originally from Minnesota. They met in Alaska and, of course, currently live in Wisconsin. So while they still offer a wide selection of seafood items, they now feature a nightly array of delicious smokehouse items like pulled pork, ribs and brisket as well as homemade barbeque sauces. They have also updated their drink menu.

Joey's originally opened ten years ago and was part of a restaurant chain based in Minnesota. When the chain

dissolved two years later, the Stoeszes decided to keep the Joey's name and operate it independently. But with their decision to offer their own spin on "surf-n-turf" they felt a name change was in order.



North and South offers affordable nightly specials and small plates to complement their generous entrees. And all are served in their smart-casual, family-friendly atmosphere.

And not to worry – they still offer a slow-smoked, cheesy Scennie Meatloaf and an all-you-can-eat Friday fish fry. They also boast the earliest happy hour on the West side, from 2:45 – 6pm. They are open 7 days a week and also offer carry-out.

If you really want to tempt your tastebuds, check out their full menu at eatnorthandsouth.com

Santa Is Coming To Visit But Needs Elf Support

Santa Claus will once again be making time in his busy schedule to make house calls to the good boys and girls of Parkwood Hills. He'll be available for approximately 15-20 minute visits between December 14th and December 17th. But this year his Lead Scheduler Elf could use some help. If you can manage a simple spread sheet or are looking to schedule a visit from the man in red, contact Allison Gunn at (608) 827-7278 or email her at alandbud@tds.net.

The deadline to sign up is December 1st.

Please provide the following information:

- Parent name(s), address, email and phone
- Children's names and ages
- Details about each child so that Santa can prove that he sees them when they're sleeping and knows if they've been bad or good
- If there will be a special gift for Santa to deliver



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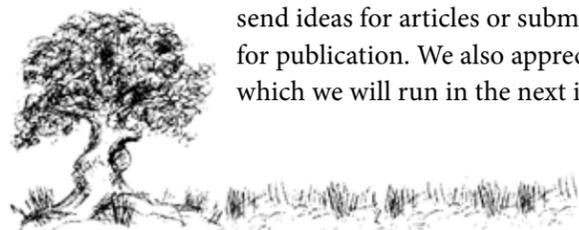
This newsletter is published four times per year and serves as an important and integral communication tool for our neighborhood and community. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send ideas for articles or submit your own articles for publication. We also appreciate any corrections which we will run in the next issue.

Next deadline: December 15, 2015

Approximate delivery: Early January, 2016

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Sign up at <http://parkwoodhills.org/>**



Join the Pantry Moms

Parkwood's Anna Schryver and Faircrest's Beth Ravenscroft are beginning a Pantry Moms team to help fill in the gaps at the local food pantry. Taking cues from Tamarak Trail's pantry support team, this neighborhood list aims to fill general deficiencies in the Lussier Community Education Center Food Pantry. So, for example eggs might be asked for. Or at another time, beans, or toilet paper, diapers, etc.

The Pantry Moms welcome anyone who'd like to donate. Here's how it works: Each month, the Lussier Center will send the moms a list of requested items they are short of. Pantry Moms then drop off whatever they can (even one box or one item helps!) at Anna or Beth's homes, and then they will deliver the donation to the pantry.

Currently, the list includes 13 neighbors and Pantry Moms would love to get more. Contact Anna (schryvers@charter.net) or Beth (bcroftie@gmail.com) for more information.

**"You pray for the hungry. Then you feed them. That is how prayer works."
-Pope Francis**



Parkwood Hills residents have been delighted by a pair of Sandhill cranes who've been frequenting the school fields over the summer and this fall. Photo by Elizabeth Morrison

Jefferson Principal from page 1

by sitting down with them at the lunch tables or riding home with them on a bus. He relies on them to inform him of problems or concerns.

Should anyone doubt his dedication to this undertaking, consider the fact that he lives in Kenosha with his wife and two school-aged children and commutes four hours each day to work at Jefferson. He arrives early in a t-shirt and flip flops and suits up in his signature bow tie, a look that students are beginning to expect of him. He's implementing

programs to bolster school spirit and unify a large student body that comes from all walks of life.

His goal is to see improvements in both academics and behavior and acknowledges that the two are intertwined. While the details of the building renovation are still being ironed out, he believes that abandoning the current open floor design will reduce noise and allow students to focus better. When pressed to predict whether the "interim" will be removed from his title, he merely says that time will tell.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FREE LAWNMOWER: 21" Toro push mower in good condition. Contact Ray Balfour, 29 Blue Ridge Court, 238-9297, rsbalfour@charter.net. PLEASE INQUIRE AFTER OCTOBER 15.

Personal classified ads are accepted for this newsletter, which is mailed to 500 households in Parkwood Hills. Ads may be edited for length. Ads from Parkwood Hills residents are free (up to 6 per year per address). Commercial ads (up to 4 lines) or ads from outside the neighborhood are \$10 each. Email your ad to editor@parkwoodhills.org or mail your payment, name, address and phone number with your ad to Elizabeth Morrison, 6913 Colony Dr. Madison WI 53717. Please make your check payable to Parkwood Hills Community Association.

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Madison, WI 53717

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Parkwood Hills Community Association Board

Board members serve two-year terms. Meetings are open to everyone.

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Vice President:

Dave Mann

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Kari Bloedel

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