



the parkword



THE PARKWOOD HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2015

Calendar of Events

Sat April 4: 10:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt, Everglade Park

Sat April 11: 7:00 p.m. Spring Fling, Vintage Brewing Co

Wed April 15: 6:30 p.m. Parkwood Hills Community Association Annual Meeting. Ashman Library.

May 2: 8:00 a.m. Neighborhood Garage Sale

May 30: 1:00-3:00 p.m. Annual Pool Party, Parkcrest Pool & Tennis Club. Open to public.

July 4: 9:00 a.m. Annual 4th of July Parade and celebration. John Muir School.

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Local Vandalism Concerns Area

Parkwood Hills residents were stunned last Valentine's Day weekend to wake up to offensive graffiti painted on residences, windows smashed on vehicles, and curbside mailboxes knocked over. The incidents took place late Friday night and early Saturday morning on February 13th and 14th.



A garage door was defaced in a rash of vandalism on Valentine's weekend.

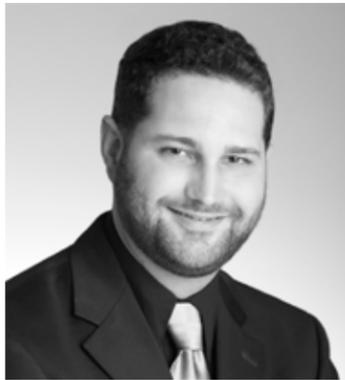
The first reports that circulated were of anti-Semitic words and symbols, which triggered a great concern over this type of hate crime. But police later pointed out that of the 39 incidents that were reported to them, two were considered to be anti-Semitic and three were considered racist. Madison Police Department spokesman Joel DeSpain said the vast majority of the graffiti was either crude depictions of genitalia or breasts, general vulgarity, or random spray painting, such as circles, lines, etc.

The Police Department said that it could not yet determine whether or not these incidents would be considered hate crimes since they must determine the mindset of the offender and, at the time of publication, no suspects have been found.

DeSpain went on to say that "There is no place in this community for what was written. The department is taking the hateful speech and words very seriously."

On February 26th, a special Anti-Semitism program was held Memorial High School with guest speaker Hannah Rosenthal, CEO and President of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation. A video of that presentation is available for viewing at <http://jewishmadison.org/about-us/jewish-federation-of-madison-news>.

The cost of the damages could be in the tens of thousands of dollars.



Letter from the President

By David Hoffert

Annual Meeting Set

Wednesday, April 15, 6:30 pm

Ashman Library

The Annual Meeting of the Parkwood Hills Community Association will be held on Wednesday, April 15, at 6:30 PM at the Alicia Ashman Library branch at the corner of Old Sauk Rd and High Point Rd. This meeting is a great opportunity to visit with neighbors and discuss the current state of our neighborhood—both what we're happy and excited about and what concerns us or we'd like to see improve. The Annual Meeting is at its best when a strong contingent of neighbors comes out for the event, and we certainly hope to see you there that night.

We will also have the opportunity to hear from a guest speaker: Gregory P. Mickells, the Director of the Madison Public Library system. Mr. Mickells will speak to us about the role the library plays in our community, and how that role is shifting to adapt to the 21st century. He will likely be able to

tell you about library offerings of which you were not aware, so it should be an enlightening talk to add to our Annual Meeting experience.

We will also, as always, be electing a new slate of representatives to the Parkwood Hills Community Association Board for the 2015-2016 term. This is an important neighborhood function that helps to ensure that the vibrant community events we share throughout the year are supported and funded in the coming cycle. This is also a great opportunity to make your voice heard and help to set the agenda for the board's upcoming meetings.

Thank you for being a part of the wonderful community that we call Parkwood Hills. We look forward to seeing and speaking with you on Wednesday, April 15.

Borrow Upright Weeding Tools

Remove dandelions and other tap-root weeds from your lawn without herbicides, using ergonomic weeding tools that allow you to remain standing.

Want to try the tools before you buy? Volunteers from Healthy Lawn Team, Inc., a Madison-based grassroots non-profit, maintain loaner tools so that you can make an informed decision before purchasing a weeding tool of your own.

In Parkwood Hills, the weeding tool contact is Elizabeth Morrison, elizabethmorrison@gmail.com, 833-0351.

For more information on Healthy Lawn Team, see healthylawnteam.org.

Directory Time, Dues Time

The new neighborhood directories are being completed and will be distributed in May. Most will be delivered by your friendly neighborhood Block Captain. Part of their job is to collect the \$20 annual dues that support the wonderful neighborhood events that the Community Association brings to you. When you receive yours, be sure to take note of the generous local businesses that have also made an investment in our neighborhood and support them.

In recent years our dues participation has been waning, so let's reverse that trend by making sure our dues are up to date and ensure that our community stays strong and vibrant.

Madison Happenings

As the weather warms up and the days get longer, there are all sorts of wonderful offerings to fill our calendars. Here are some neighborhood favorites along with some you may never have considered.

April 11: The Spring Fling

Held at the Vintage Brewing Company on Whitney Way, it's a FREE chance to meet and visit with neighbors with drinks and light food courtesy of the Parkwood Hills Community Association. 7-11 pm. Friends who are not residents of Parkwood Hills are welcome to attend for \$15 per person, payable at the door.

May 30: Parkwood Hills Annual Pool Party

Dip your toe into what the Parkcrest Pool has to offer at this FREE afternoon of fun. The whole family is welcome to sample the sparkling waters, enjoy a delicious lunch, visit with your neighbors and get more information about classes and membership. Since Parkcrest membership is also open to people who live outside of Parkwood Hills, feel free to invite friends from surrounding neighborhoods to join you. The party runs from 1-3 pm. Many thanks to the Parkcrest Pool and Tennis Club for letting us use their beautiful facility. And if you have a child that may be interested in taking lessons, this is also the afternoon for placement testing to make sure they are enrolled at the appropriate level. Swim class sign-up will be held on May 31st. For information about membership call 233-3573.

July 4: Parkwood Hills 4th of July Parade

This year's celebration will begin on Saturday, July 4th at John Muir Elementary School at 9:00 am with pre-parade face painting and decorations available for bicycles, strollers, wagons, scooters, etc. Please don't forget to bring your helmets for the parade! The parade will start at 9:30am followed by field games, water balloons, races, food, and fun! This Parkwood tradition is the perfect opportunity to catch up with neighborhood friends and to potentially make some new ones! We are looking for volunteers to help with the event, including food preparation and serving, game organization, and setup/cleanup responsibilities. If you or your teen would like to help, please go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0948a9ac2fa20-neighborhood> or contact Kim Cowles (kncowles@gmail.com; 608-250-0031) to sign up.

In case of bad weather, events will be pushed to noon. If the weather doesn't improve by noon, the events will be cancelled.

April 17-19: Midwest Horse Fair

One of the nation's largest, held at the Alliant Energy Center.

April 18: Dane County Farmers' Market

The season begins for gathering the best locally produced goods. Saturday mornings around the Capitol Square and various days and locations throughout the city.

April 19-25: National Pet ID Week

A great chance to guard against the loss of your beloved dogs and cats as the Dane County Humane Society is offering ID tags for just \$5 and microchipping for just \$15 per pet. More info at giveshelter.org.

April 25, May 9: Mad Rollin' Dolls Roller Derby

The last few dates of the season to catch these ladies whose motto is "Hurt in a Skirt." Bouts are held at the Alliant Energy Center, tickets are \$15 at the door. Details at madrollindolls.com

April 25: Crazy Legs Race

Choose either an 8K run or a 2 mile walk in this Madison Classic. You can register as late as April 21. Info at crazylegsclassic.com

June 11: Last Day of School

Youngsters at Madison Public Schools will start their summer vacation with an early release.

June 20: World Naked Bike Ride

Bike around the Capitol Square in your birthday suit to promote clean, renewable energy and body acceptance. Info (and photos!) at wnbrmadison.org

June 21: Make Music Madison

It's a one-day, free outdoor music festival that happens all over the city and celebrates the Summer Solstice. If you know a group who wants to perform or would like to have an event in Parkwood Hills, there's still time to register. Details at www.makemusicmadison.org

June 28-28: Bhakti Fest Midwest

A yoga, dance and music festival which celebrates the devotional path that has its roots in yoga, kirtan and mediation. Held at the Alliant Energy Center.

Clean Up at the Neighborhood Garage Sale

By Lisa Kermgard

Parkwood Hills Neighborhood Garage Sale
Saturday, May 2nd starting at 8 am.

It's time to start thinking about spring cleaning and getting ready for the annual Parkwood Hills Neighborhood Garage Sale. It's a great time to sell old junk, shop for "new" treasures, and visit with neighbors. Sign up and you will receive balloons for your mailbox and maps of other sales in the neighborhood to hand out. We also take out an ad in the local paper. Last year we had around 25 houses participate!

Sign up one of two ways: either fill out the attached form and mail to Lisa Kermgard 414 Ozark Trl. or email your name, address, and a brief description of the items you are selling to kermgard4@gmail.com. The deadline to sign up and make sure you're listed on the map is April 28th.

Garage Sale Pointers

Start Collecting Early. You've got a few weeks to peek into closets or open a few boxes. Some people ask themselves "Have I used or worn this in the last year?" Check with the true owners of the items so you avoid selling someone's prized trading cards for 50 cents. And starting early gives you time to emotionally separate from an item before the sale rather than snatching it from a shopper's eager hands sobbing "But I love that scarf I never wear!"

Price Your Items Reasonably. While it's true that you can expect to do some haggling over the prices – that's part of the fun – remember that the point is to get rid of your stuff. Do a little research to know what similar used items are going for and be honest with yourself about the condition of your item. You can set a bottom line for how little you're willing to accept, but be prepared to lug it back into the basement.

Make it Easy For Folks to Buy. Mark prices on your stuff. Or have a table where all items are a buck. Make the prices easy to read and price big items with big signs. Make sure you have lots of small bills and change handy so you won't have to ask someone to come back. If you have a lot of small items you may want to have some bags on hand. Consider bundling items together, like a handful of kitchen utensils wrapped in a kitchen towel. For electrical gadgets, have an extension cord at the ready to prove that it still works.

Be Alert. Garage sales attract all kinds. Keep an eye on your items and keep track of your money. You don't want

Garage Sale Sign Up Form ✂

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Brief description of items being sold:

a stranger switching prices or pocketing items while you're visiting with your neighbor. If possible, screen off the part of the garage where you keep your expensive bike or pricey tools. Consider having someone there to help you so you both can take bathroom and lunch breaks without leaving your sale unattended.

Donate the Rest. There will inevitably be a few things that don't sell. You can box them up for next year's sale or you can donate them to charity. Goodwill, St. Vincent DePaul, Agrace Hospice, and Habitat for Humanity's ReStore all have drop-off locations in the area. And Easter Seals, Goodwill, St. Vincent DePaul, and Habitat's ReStore also offer pick-up service for large items. You should check with the individual charity to see which items are not available for donation.

All donations to these charities are tax-deductible.

Have Fun. What could be better than de-cluttering your home while you chat up your neighbors? Go out to dinner with your proceeds and know that your stuff is enjoying a second life with someone else and not in a landfill.

Local Expertise: Estate Planning with Nennig Law Offices

Attorney Bob Nennig and his family have lived in Parkwood Hills for ten years now. He's had his own law practice since 2007 and specializes in protecting families through estate planning.

What drew you to live in Parkwood Hills?

I fell in love with Madison when I visited my friends attending the UW. I always knew that I wanted to end up here. Then, I met my wife Zylah who grew up in Madison and I rediscovered Madison as an adult. Before our daughters started school, we decided to move from Chicago to be closer to my wife's family who still lived on the westside.

I actually discovered Parkwood by accident. I was driving around the Madison window shopping houses when I ran into Julie Hunter, who soon became our Everglade Dr neighbor. After I learned about silly soccer, the pool, the schools, and the community, I was sold. After that- the only houses I looked at were in Parkwood Hills.

Are you happy with your decision?

I am so grateful to be part of such a warm and vibrant community. Our friends and neighbors make this such an unusual and special place. To give back to the community that has given us so much, I'm currently on the Board of the Parkcrest Pool. I also served on the Board of the Parkwood Hills Community Association, and my wife, Zylah, has served as the editor of the ParkWord and spent years on Muir's PTO.

Why did you choose to open an estate planning law practice?

I actually started my career as an accountant, which provided a strong financial understanding. After I finished law school at DePaul University in Chicago, I worked as a Prosecutor in Cook County and then as a litigator in large Chicago law firm before I decided to move to Madison and go into Estate Planning.

I love my work and I am really fortunate to have an office near to home, which allows me to be around for my children and serve my neighborhood in another capacity.

While my path to Estate Planning lawyer seems random, it really made sense. I feel good that, in all my jobs, I "got to wear the white hat" – to really be helping and protecting people. It really is my passion and why I chose the web address of www.ProtectingFamilies.net.



So when I hear the term "estate planning" I think of wealthy families. Who is your typical client?

I don't really have one. I see a lot of different types of people at different times of their lives. There are a lot of younger families who want to make sure their children are cared for should something happen to them. And of course as people grow older they start to think about making a will or passing on their assets. But the planning I do goes beyond assets. I think it is important to have a plan in place for daily living and health care choices before your ability to make those decisions for yourself change.

So what should the average person know?

Estate planning is for everyone. You want to be the one who decides who will make your health care and financial decisions for you. If you don't make these choices ahead of time, they could be made for you. That's why everyone should have the basic legal documents in place: a Health Care Power of Attorney, a Financial Power of Attorney and a Living Will. It's important whether you're married, single, or even a kid going off to college. If something should happen, you don't want to have people going to court over who gets to make the decisions.

So, no regrets?

None at all. My wife, daughters and I are grateful to have the opportunity to be a part of such a caring, nurturing, safe community.

New Neighbors! Well, Sort of New...

Last fall, Parkwood Hills welcomed the Peterson family to our confines, and they came to us all the way from the other side of Gammon Road. But while there may not be much we need to tell these lifelong Madison residents about this town, there are still things we can learn about them.

The Family: Greg and Danielle, their two daughters, Sydney (14) and Eva (12), and Snickers, their 4-year-old shih tzu dog. They previously lived in the Walnut Grove neighborhood for 17 years.

Schools & Careers: Greg attended Memorial High School and Danielle attended West High School. They both attended UW Madison. Greg is a Dietitian for Mendota Mental Health and teaches at MATC. Danielle is a Critical Care and ER Nurse at Meriter hospital. Sydney is a freshman at Memorial and Eva is a 7th grader at Jefferson.

Interests: Both girls are very involved in dance and do summer swim, dive and water ballet at Parkcrest Pool. (The family has been members since 2007.) Sydney runs for Memorial's Cross Country and Track teams.

Recent Travels: They took a ten-day camping road trip to South Dakota and Wyoming to visit Yellowstone and the Grand Tetons, and another road trip through the southeast hitting the Smokey Mountains, Charleston, Savannah and Chatanooga. They also have a few favorite "regular" trips, which include camping at Rock Island, Door County, and visiting the grandparents in Siesta Key, Florida.



The Petersons from left to right: Danielle, Sydney, Greg, and Eva

Favorite Madison Outings: They enjoy going to the Farmers' Market, and the kids like to go shopping on State Street and getting Babcock ice cream at the UW Union.

Babysitting/Pet Sitting: Both the girls LOVE babysitting! They enjoy doing crafts, playing games and playing outside with the kids they babysit. Eva is the animal lover and has done dog, cat, and guinea pig sitting before.

Settling In: They're getting used to seeing turkeys in their back yard. Snickers finds them interesting, but smartly keeps her distance.

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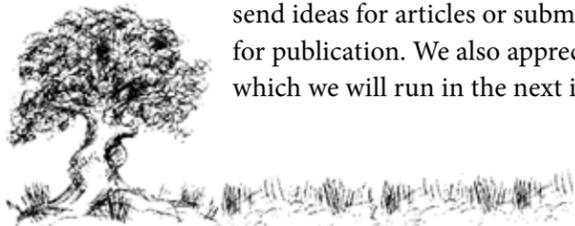
This newsletter is published four times per year and serves as an important and integral communication tool for our neighborhood and community. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send ideas for articles or submit your own articles for publication. We also appreciate any corrections which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

Next deadline: June 15, 2015

Approximate delivery: Mid-July, 2015

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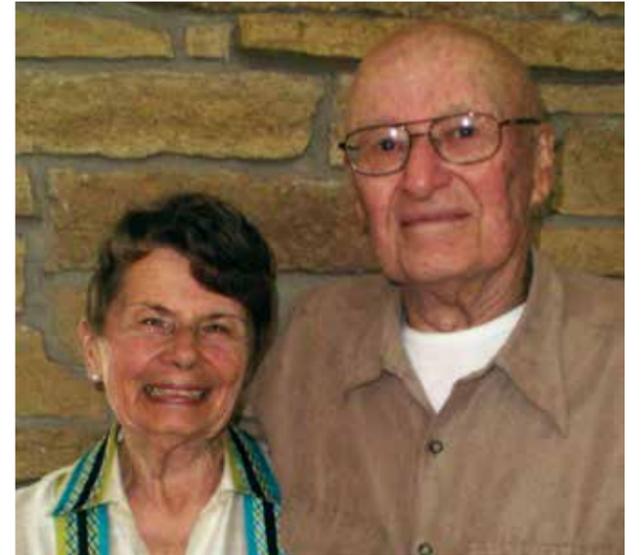
Parkwood Pioneers: Douglas and Elinor Koepke

While this publication frequently introduces people who have recently moved into the neighborhood, it seems fitting that we also devote some space to featuring some of Parkwood Hills first residents. There are close to 25 households where the owners moved in before 1970. Among these are Douglas and Elinor Koepke, who have lived here since 1956, perhaps Parkwood Hill's longest-standing residents.

They originally lived across the street from the house they currently own on Saratoga Circle, when it had few neighbors and was still surrounded by farmland. They had no children at the time but had plans to start a family and were drawn to the Highlands-Mendota Beach school system, which is now Crestwood. Parkwood Hills was still in the planning stages and the current street plan had yet to be developed. When the final plan was implemented, it required them to reconfigure their floor plan to accommodate a front entrance kitty-corner from where it had been. They had originally bought several 2-acre lots and as the neighborhood was growing they chose to sub-divide and created their own small neighborhood called Parkwood Glen. It has its own set of bylaws, which includes a no-lawn provision to keep the wooded terrain in its natural state.

Douglas ran Koepke Travel, the travel agency his father had started in 1932, for his entire career. Elinor was a stay-at-home mom to the three sons they eventually had. As they expected, Parkwood Hills was a great place to raise their family — a safe place with lots of open space for their active boys to run around and build forts, plus the development of all the conveniences that an urban setting provides.

Of course, most of those conveniences weren't there at the start; there was no West Towne mall and Odana Road had yet to be built. The nearest (and only) grocery store was the Piggly Wiggly on Whitney Way, most recently replaced by the HyVee. The Parkcrest Pool was built after they were already here, and they immediately took advantage of membership and their boys became very active on the swim and diving



Elinor and Douglas Koepke have called Parkwood Hills home since 1956.

teams. Elinor found herself being very social early on with so many new neighbors moving in as the neighborhood developed. She became involved in the Garden Club and remains active to this day.

Once their kids had grown, they decided to sell their first Parkwood home and designed a new home to be located just 50 yards across their cul-de-sac. It's a lovely split-level home with lots of stonework and custom redwood woodwork inside with open views to their wooded back yard. They have lived in this house for over thirty years.

Oddly enough, one of the changes they have noticed over the years is the increase in wildlife that they see. Along with the rabbits, squirrels, turkeys and coyotes, they live near the den of the Parkwood foxes and have enjoyed watching that family grow, something they didn't witness in earlier years.

While both in their 80's, Douglas and Elinor are grateful to be enjoying good health, both still drive, and are looking forward to staying in their home as long as they can.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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.

FOR SALE: Used Vito Reso-Tone Plastic Student CLARINET: Purchased new and used by our daughter for 3 years. Why rent when you can buy at a reasonable cost? Asking \$100. Call 827-9769 and ask for Pam.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE: Call your local Parkwood Hills landscaper for patios to plantings. Including lighting, drainage, and fire pits, too. Or simply delivering shredded hardwood bark. Call Joe at Landscape Architecture, LLC. (608) 798-1840.

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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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