



the parkword



THE PARKWOOD HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2015

Calendar of Events

July 15-19: Dane County Fair,
Alliant Energy Center

Saturday, August 1: National
Mustard Day Celebration, National
Mustard Museum, Middleton

Tuesday, September 1: Back To
School for Madison Public Schools

Friday, October 30: Halloween
Bonfire, Everglade Park

Annual Meeting Recap

The Parkwood Hills Community Association held its Annual Meeting at the Alicia Ashman Library on April 15th. This year's guest speaker was Greg Mickells, Director of Madison Public Libraries. He discussed the latest offerings that Madison's libraries feature including space being available for public and private events like weddings, the online Yahara shared music library, and even a community kitchen, a component of Madison's newest branch, the Meadowridge Library.

Alderman Mark Clear gave an update on the recent graffiti/vandalism incidents, informing us that five suspects had just been arrested for those crimes. He also led a discussion on the Tony Robinson shooting and the racial disparity issue in Madison. Lastly, he informed us of the status of the Emerald Ash Borer infestation in Madison, telling us that the city does not have the funds to treat the ash trees and that trees on public land marked with a yellow dot will be cut down. Ash trees on private property are the responsibility of the homeowner and should be treated by an arborist at the owner's expense. If you are interested in saving a tree in a public park, it is possible to adopt a tree (pay for it to be treated). For more information on the Emerald Ash Borer in Madison or on adopting a tree, visit <https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/services/forestry/pests/EAB/>

The election was held to approve the members of the PHCA Board. New positions include Dave Mann as Vice-President and Sarah Case, Kim Cowles and Bev Willer as At-Large Board Members.

School Referendum Passes: What's Next For Jefferson?

Last April, Madison residents voted to fund renovations and improvements at their schools by an impressive 82% majority. The biggest beneficiary of these funds will be Jefferson Middle School, slated to undergo over \$8 million in improvements. Jefferson had received a grade of "F" on the district's facilities report card. While initial communications from the school district claimed that Jefferson would be "fast-tracked" and have construction start this July, they have backed off that schedule and say that Jefferson will remain in the planning stages throughout the winter and will not have any major construction begin until Summer 2016. Updates and information provided by the school district are available at <https://www.madison.k12.wi.us/construction-updates>.

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The Buzz Around Madison

Perhaps you've noticed some tall wooden boxes in the backyards of Parkcrest Hills and throughout Madison. Or noticed some extra airborne activity around your flowerbeds. It's due to the burgeoning business of honeybees, creating their natural sweetener while pollinating our vegetables. Just like in urban areas across the country, beekeeping has become popular in Madison.

The USDA has estimated that one third of all food and beverages we consume are the result of pollination, mainly by honeybees. But in recent years, honeybee numbers have been on the decline at alarming rates. While the reason is still being debated, contributors include parasites and disease, genetics, poor nutrition and pesticide exposure, farming practices that don't give bees a pesticide-free buffer zone to forage in heavily developed agricultural regions and more extreme climate patterns. In 2006 the trend was officially designated Colony Collapse Disorder and the issue sparked a renewed interest in bees and a trend of amateur urban beekeeping.

Some Parkwood Hills residents have given beekeeping a try with varying degrees of success. Getting set up with the right equipment and purchasing a colony of bees is just the beginning. There is proper hive placement, feeding and harvesting to learn about, and even professionals who have been beekeeping for generations have to be on the lookout for bee diseases, molds and parasites. Overwintering bees in Wisconsin can be challenging and often discouraging.

One neighbor who has been beekeeping for several years is Mary Joan Brilla. Technically she's not an urban beekeeper as her four hives are located on a farm near Baraboo, but the motivation and rewards are the same. She was drawn to the hardworking nature of bees, the communion with nature, and the benefit of knowing where her food comes from. She also liked that the bees gave her a chance to spend time with her brother who has several hives he tends. She jumped into beekeeping by answering a Craigslist ad from someone in Iowa who was selling his equipment. She admits that there was quite a learning curve when she got started, but she now produces about sixty pounds of honey per hive when she harvests in September. She is considering placing a hive in her backyard next year.

While Mary Joan jumped right in, there are other ways to dip your toe into the realm of beekeeping. Mad Urban Bees is a Madison company that produces its honey from hives that are "hosted" in backyards and on rooftops by local residents. They also offer beekeeping classes on weekends throughout the summer. There is a waiting list to become a hive host. The Dane County Cooperative Extension also offers advice and classes for novice beekeepers, but the next round of classes starts in early 2016.



Mary Joan Brilla preps her hives before introducing a new colony.

Honey is more than just a sweetener. It has great skin softening properties and medicinal uses like an effective cough suppressant or a cold and flu tonic. For its medicinal uses, most sources recommend honey that is raw and locally produced.

Elderberry & Honey Immunity Tonic

2/3 cup dried black elderberries

3 ½ cups of water

2 Tablespoon fresh or dried ginger

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

½ teaspoon whole or ground cloves

1 cup raw honey

Place first five ingredients in a saucepan. Bring to a boil, then cover, reduce heat and simmer for 45 minutes to an hour until the liquid has reduced by almost half.

Let cool until lukewarm, strain and add honey. Store in a glass jar in the refrigerator. Dosing: take daily (some sources say weekdays only). Kids take ½ teaspoon to 1 teaspoon, adults take ½ Tablespoon to 1 Tablespoon. If the flu does strike, take the normal dose every 2-3 hours until symptoms subside.

Easter Egg Hunt in Everglade Park

by Sandy Gregorich

Neighbors were delighted to find a lovely spring day in 2015 for the annual Parkwood Hills Egg Hunt. Everglade Park looked beautiful covered in lovely colored eggs left by the Easter Bunny. The temperature was comfortable and we had some sunshine! What a great turnout! The Easter Bunny presided as usual while neighborhood kids searched for and found over 1000 eggs in Everglade Park. This year Sophie Bernier was the lucky finder of the \$5 golden egg!

Many helpers before, during, and after the hunt make this event a success. The able assistance at the park of happy hoppy helpers Molly Mockert, Kate Yehle, Eva Peterson, Stephanie Kishter and Emma Cornwell was unbeatable. Eva Cornwell did a hoppingly stunning job starring in the KEY role at the last minute! Thank you to Casey Gregorich-Trevor for the EGGcellent behind-the-scenes egg-filling.

A round of thanks to all of you who cleaned out the closet and dropped off plastic eggs for us to recycle. This is our seventh year recycling plastic eggs, a small savings for the pocketbook and a big one for Mother Nature! If anyone has any plastic eggs to be reused for next year, drop them off on my porch at 401 Yosemite Trl. and I will get them to the Bunny. As an extra bonus this year, many of our children picked up trash as they hunted eggs. So we left the park cleaner than we found it, a nice present for Earth Day.



Neighborhood Business Profile:

Dave Mann, Brewer

While it's not his day job, Parkwood Hills has a beer baron within its ranks. Dave Mann, along with being the new Vice-President of the Parkwood Hills Community Association Board, is one of the co-founders of Pecatonica Beer Company.

Several years ago, Dave's background as a chemist found him working in the pharmaceutical industry. He learned that one of his contacts, Tim Quinn, shared an interest in craft brews – handcrafted beers brewed in small batches. As they would occasionally chat over said libations, the idea of actually developing their own beers began to take shape. They pulled together ten guys they knew as investors and formed the company. They chose the name Pecatonica because most of the founders grew up close to the Pecatonica River and have connections to the region. The word Pecatonica means “slow water,” and their philosophy taps into the “patient nature of the river in perfecting our brews.” They started selling their first beer, Nightfall Lager, about two years ago.

Tim is the actual brewmaster, the one who developed the recipes for their different offerings. Dave used his business acumen to oversee package design and develop the website. Tim's twin brother is a farmer who is now growing some of the hops they use. Their beers are distributed mostly in Wisconsin, with some in Illinois and southeast Minnesota. Locally they can usually be found at Woodman's and Metcalfe's, as well as some taverns.



Nightfall Lager was the first craft beer launched by Pecatonica.



Parkwood resident Dave Mann followed his appreciation of craft brews right into the beer business.

They recently acquired some storefront property in Warren, IL and self-rehabbed it into their taphouse. They plan on soon being able to brew on site. They currently produce four beers year round and the seasonal Oktoberfest beer. Their most recent additional is their IPA, or India Pale Ale.

Besides purchasing some of their beers, you could also taste them at one of the beer fests that happen throughout the state over the summer. You can check their schedule on their website and maybe even run in to Dave himself.

<http://pecatonicabeer.com/>

Parkwood Volunteer Celebration a Success!

How many volunteers does it take to make our neighborhood run smoothly each year? The answer: about 100! As a thank you for the time and energy volunteers give to make our neighborhood wonderful, the Parkwood Hills Community Association sponsors an annual celebration. This May, more than 50 volunteers attended the event hosted by Anna Schryver and Charlene Drumm at Charlene's home on Shiloh Dr. Everyone enjoyed delicious treats

from neighborhood businesses, with light tapas from La Mestiza, rich macaroons from Cupcakes a-Go-Go and freshly brewed beer from Vintage Brew Pub. A special thank you goes to our neighborhood vintners, the Fitzgeralds (Natchez Trace), who run the Fisher King Winery in Mt. Horeb. Kate Fitzgerald poured wines and encouraged sampling and 5 lucky volunteers went home with a bottle of the award-winning wines.



New block captain coordinator Charlene Drumm (left) and block captain Lynn Renner dividing up directories.



From left: Alan Anderson and Peter and Cheryl Olson.



Treasurer Beth Puleo and her husband Greg



Former block captain coordinator Susan Mockert (right) and volunteer Jen Dykema



From left: Janet Clear, Jeff Shampo, Alder Mark Clear, and Rich Cornwell

Exploring Madison's History By Foot

It's easy to spot many beautiful old buildings as you drive through Madison's neighborhoods, but to really appreciate them and learn about their histories, perhaps you should park the car and lace up your walking shoes.

The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation offers various walking tours of some of Madison's oldest neighborhoods and streets. Their new tour for 2015 explores the Orton Park neighborhood, while they still offer their popular tours of Mansion Hill East and State Street, as well as other locales. Most tours last around one hour, although some

include some strenuous stair climbing. But many offer complimentary refreshments or ice cream at the end. All of the tours are of the building exteriors only.

Their tours are offered on Saturdays at 11 AM and Thursday evenings at 6 PM.

The cost is \$10 per person and \$5 for students. Tours are free for MTHP members (memberships start at \$40.) For descriptions of the tours and schedules, visit their website at www.MadisonPreservation.org.



Spring Fling

The Vintage Brewing Company was once again the venue for the Spring Fling on April 11, giving residents the chance to meet new neighbors and socialize.



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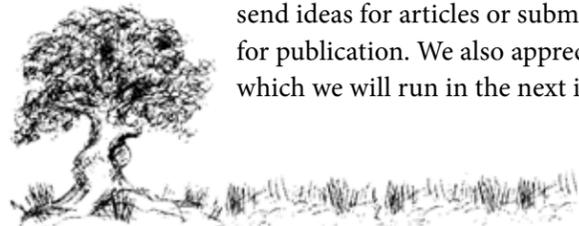
This newsletter is published four times per year and serves as an important and integral communication tool for our neighborhood and community. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send ideas for articles or submit your own articles for publication. We also appreciate any corrections which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

Next deadline: September 15, 2015

Approximate delivery: Early October, 2015

Parkword Editorial Team
6913 Colony Dr
Madison WI 53717
editor@parkwoodhills.org

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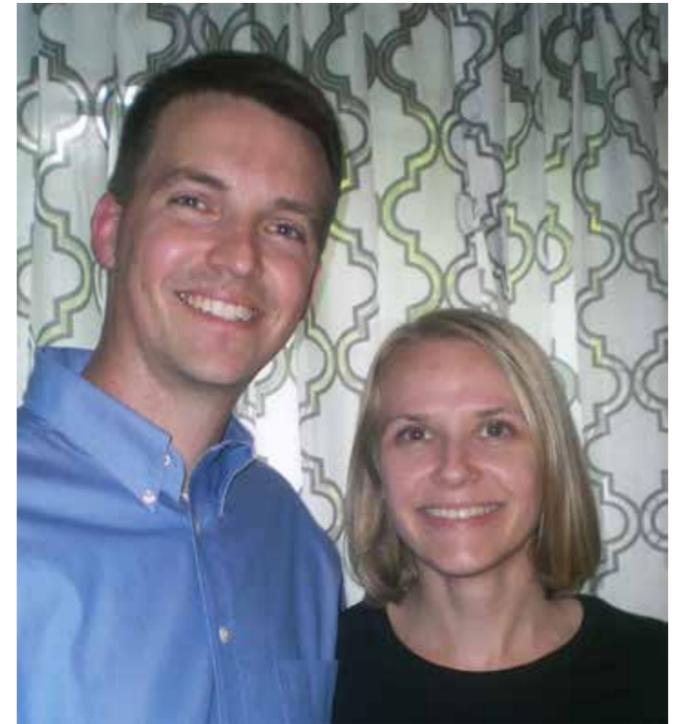


New Neighbor Profile: Tom Robinson and Megan Strichko

Tom and Megan bought the house at 125 S. Yellowstone Drive last year. They were drawn to this neighborhood for its trees, its quiet nature and good schools, and liked that it was still quick and easy to get to downtown Madison.

Megan is originally from Milwaukee and Tom hails from Austin, Texas. They met while they were both studying at UW's La Follette School of Public Affairs. Megan currently works in the State Budget Office and Tom works for the Wisconsin Investment Board.

In their spare time they've been busy planning some renovations to their new home and working on their landscaping and garden. Tom is also an avid golfer.



Thank you to all the area businesses that generously support our neighborhood directory with their advertisements. Please support them and mention that you saw their ad in the Parkwood Hills Directory!

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Bella Salon | Homestead Shoppes | Nennig Law Offices, LLC - Estate Planning |
| China Kitchen | Jules Pilates | Orthodontic Specialists |
| Croak, Gonzales, Eckerle, & Martinson | Kool View | Parkcrest Swim and Tennis Club |
| Cupcakes A-Go-Go | Landscape Architecture | Pete Waite, Realtor |
| Dan Miller, Realtor | Madison Swim Academy | St. Ambrose Academy |
| First Choice Dental | MadTown Twisters | St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church |
| Gary's Art & Frame | Milward Farrell Fine arts | |
| Green Acres Lawn Service | Neckermann Insurance | |

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.

HONEY: Completely natural, cold filtered HONEY for sale. I do not use any chemicals on my hives—the honey is natural, cold-filtered and gently harvested. One pound jars for seven dollars. I can also sell honey on the comb. Gorgeous color and fantastic taste. Contact Mary Joan Brilla at 920-207-1039 or mary_joan_brennan@yahoo.com. 210 Shiloh Drive

PARKWOOD HILLS COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
c/o Elizabeth Morrison
6913 Colony Dr
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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