



the parkword



THE PARKWOOD HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2017

Fundraising for Renovations to the John Muir Playground

The John Muir Playground (JoMP) will be undergoing some changes in the not too distant future. A group of parents and staff members has come together to lead the charge to improve one of our neighborhood assets: the John Muir Elementary school playground. Plans for the new playground are currently in the design phase with general goals of replacing the aging white structures along the Inner Drive side of the playground, refreshing the blacktop area, and adding new elements to the site. Thanks to a donation from the Parkwood Hills Neighborhood Association, the JoMP committee has started a collaboration with Greener Roofs and Gardens, a specialty design and landscaping company, to transform those areas of the playground, including a natural play environment where the children can engage in creative outdoor play.

The JoMP committee has worked hard to include the students and entire school community as part of the fundraising effort. In January, John Muir Principal Andrea Kreft organized a school-wide logo contest, and the school voted on three winning student-drawn logos to be used in future fundraising efforts. In February and March, the JoMP committee organized two restaurant fundraisers at Jason's Deli and Culver's on Mineral Point.

On March 3rd, the school finished a Penny War, where classrooms battled to see who could collect the most money for the JoMP project. Pennies and paper bills were added to a classroom's total while silver coins were used to 'attack' other classrooms. Piggy banks were emptied as the kids loved seeing how their small change could be combined to raise BIG money for the school. In the end, Ms. Hemberger's class won the War with \$255.13 while Ms. Covey's class came away with the highest total weight



Jugs of pennies compete in the Penny War.

collected with 58 pounds! Both classrooms will receive a pizza party and will have their names displayed on the new playground. The filled money containers in the school office sparked a competitive streak in the whole school, resulting in the kids surpassing their \$1,000 goal and raising \$4,457! Way to go, Muir families!

Want to know what else is going on? Keep an eye on the John Muir PTO Facebook page or on NextDoor for future fundraising events and a neighborhood listening session. Look for more information on JoMP when you come vote at Muir during the April election. The JoMP committee would love your help and your feedback! If you have any questions, want to contribute to the fundraising campaign through the Foundation for Madison Public Schools (we have an ABC Fund called Muir Enrichment), or would like to be involved in any aspect of the effort, please contact Kim Cowles at kncowles@gmail.com.

Table of Contents	
Muir Playground.....	1
Block Captains	2
Upcoming Events.....	2 & 3
School Updates.....	4
Featured Figure	5
ParkCrest Anniversary	6
ParkWord New Editor.....	6
In Loving Memory.....	7
Borrow Weeding Tools.....	7

Thank you Parkwood Block Captains!

By Charlene Drumm

The Parkwood wishes to offer a rousing "THANK YOU!" to our wonderful neighborhood block captains. As you likely know, Parkwood block captains distribute the neighborhood directories, collect dues, and greet new arrivals to the neighborhood with welcome baskets. In so many ways, our block captains are the face of the neighborhood and a connection to the Parkwood Hills Community Association.

Not sure who your block captain is, or which block you live on? Our block captains are listed below, by block number, and pages 58 – 61 of the directory provide an index of street addresses and block numbers.

Serving as a block captain is a wonderful way to get to know your neighbors and participate in neighborhood activities. If you are interested in becoming a block captain, please contact Block Captain Coordinator Charlene Drumm: 833-7603; charlene.drumm@tds.net.

1 Kari Bloedel	11 Martha Vallon	21 Sue Brown &	30 Jessica Yehle
2 Amy Butrymowicz	12 Allison Gunn	Karen Stuesser	31 John Beard
3 Joan Collins	13 VACANT	22 Amy Kishter	32 Dineen Seymour-Nahn
4 Jill Ciske	14 Kathie King	23 Bridget Disch	33 Don Neumeyer
5 Donna Rifkin	15 Susan Sunde	24 Phyllis Pleuss	34 Tyler Zunker
6 Susan Mockert	16 Anna Schryver	25 Lisa Thomas Prince	35 VACANT
7 Sandra Walters	17 Beth Braun	26 Leslie Shown	36 Maureen Ellsworth
8 Jill Tomalin	18 Colleen Lassandro	27 Elaine Simmons	37 Raymond Barbush
9 Lynn Renner	19 Pam Midbon	28 Jen Dykema	
10 Liz Green	20 Sarah Jefferds	29 Jana Eckerle	

Bring Your Own Basket To The Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15th, 2017, Everglade Park

Round up the kids and bring them to Everglade Park on the Saturday morning before Easter, where they will find that the Easter Bunny has hidden 1,000 goody-filled eggs throughout the park. The search starts at 10am sharp, so don't be late. In past years, the kids have scoured the park clean of eggs within 10 minutes. And one lucky child will find the elusive golden egg filled with a \$5 bill!

In case of extremely rainy or snowy(!) weather, the event will be delayed until noon that day. If the weather is still bad at noon, the hunt will still go on, as the bunny can't store all those candy filled eggs at her house. So bring your baskets or buckets, your boots and your cameras and join the fun!

If you have any eggs to recycle, please drop them off on Sandy Gregorich's front porch at 401 Yosemite Trail. She's the Easter Bunny's Go-To Gal.



Come Out Of Hibernation At The Annual Spring Fling

Saturday, April 29th, 2017
Vintage Brewing Company

Catch up with neighbors and welcome new ones on Saturday, April 29, from 7-11pm at the Parkwood Hills Community Association Spring Fling! The event will once again be held at the Vintage Brewing Company on Whitney Way across from HyVee. Look for us in the banquet room near the rear of the restaurant.

The Spring Fling is a great way to relax, chat with neighbors, and celebrate the end of another Wisconsin winter. It's a FREE event for all Parkwood Hills residents. Enjoy drinks and light food while they last.

Friends who are not residents of Parkwood Hills are welcome to attend for \$15 per person, payable at the door. Last year's event was very well attended, so make sure you don't miss out this year.



Planning Ahead: July 4th Celebration

This year's Fourth of July celebration will begin on Tuesday, July 4th at John Muir Elementary School at 9:00am 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 Hills 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 with the event, please go to www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0948A9AC2FA20-2017 or contact Kim Cowles (knkcowles@gmail.com; 608-250-0031) to sign up. We're looking forward to seeing everyone on the 4th!

Finally, we would like to give a generous THANK YOU to Chris Collins, who has dedicated many years in helping with the celebration, including his countless hours filling up water balloons!

Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale

Saturday, May 6th starting at 8 am.

It's time to start thinking about de-cluttering and getting ready for the annual Parkwood Hills Neighborhood Garage Sale. A garage sale is a great opportunity to sell items you no longer use, 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. We also advertise in the local paper. Sign up by emailing your name, address, and a brief description of the items you are selling to lucasjwagner@gmail.com. The deadline to sign up and make sure you're listed on the map is April 29th.

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, who will also collect the annual dues that support our neighborhood events.

Our neighborhood activities are also supported by local businesses that advertise in the directory. Please repay the kindness by choosing them for your goods and services.

Remember that your directory information can be updated any time! Do it now, while it's on your mind. Email changes to Elizabeth Morrison, elizabethmorrison@gmail.com

Local Activities and Events

Gear up for the warmer weather and enjoy! Here are just a few activities occurring around Madison this spring and summer.

April 15: Farmers' Market on Capitol Square (Saturdays)

The season for locally produced goods begins. Saturdays from 6:15am-1:45pm (runs until November 11). Visit DCFM.org for more information.

April 19: Farmers' Market on MLK, Jr. Blvd.

Wednesdays from 8:30am-1:45pm, April 19-Novemeber 8.

April 29: 36th Annual Crazylegs Classic Race

Choose either an 8K run or a 2-mile walk. Registration and info at crazylegsclassic.com

May 6: Parkwood Hill's Neighborhood Garage Sale

Downsize your belongings, earn a few dollars, chat up your neighbors, and see your items take on a second life. Email lucasjwagner@gmail.com to sign up.

May 27: Parkcrest Pool Opens

Memorial Day Weekend always marks the beginning of swim, dive, and tennis season. See parkcrestpool.com for membership information, including the new anniversary rates.

June 8: Last Day of School

Youngsters at Madison Public School will start their Summer vacations. This year there will be NO early release.

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. Make Music Madison turns the city into a stage, and offers a full spectrum of performers the opportunity to display their musical skills. Details at MakeMusicMadison.org

June 24: Madison Bubble Run

Walk, dance and play across 3 miles of fun with a colored foam bog at each kilometer. Suitable for all ages, at Willow Island at the Alliant Energy Center. Info at bubblerun.com

June 28: First Concert on the Square

Free summer concerts with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra on the lawns surrounding the Capitol. Enjoy the lovely music with a picnic dinner and friends. See www.wcoconcerts.org for a complete listing of performances.



John Muir Elementary School PTO Update

By Kathleen Spencer (PTO Co- President)

The John Muir Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) has been busy during the 2016-17 school year. PTO members have provided a few grants to Muir teachers, helped with events, and supported the school garden.

PTO Grants for Teachers

Along with fundraising for playground renovations, the PTO has provided support to a number of teacher requests:

- A grant for seeds and other materials for a bird watching unit in fifth grade.
- A grant to purchase clipboards for outdoor education for two second grade classes.
- Funds to purchase cards and dice for third grade math games.

All of these grants were made possible by generous donations from Muir families. Thank you for your continued support of your community school.

School Events

The PTO has held a number of events during this school year:

- Kindergarten playdates to welcome new families and students to the school
- Popcorn in the park at Haen Park on Tree Lane
- Scholastic Book Fair
- Multicultural Dinner
- Family Fun Night

Jefferson Middle School PTO Update

By Jane Kaldor (PTO President)

Jefferson Middle School is such an active place! Did you know that more than 140 kids are on the high honor roll (3.75-4.0)? And, close to 100 more students are on the Honor Roll (3.5-3.74). There are, however, so many ways for students to expand beyond the regular classroom. As usual, the band department is creative and active with more than 10 performance opportunities before the end of the school year. The spelling B has been completed and we have two Science Bowl teams. Classrooms have had speakers on Russian submarines, an African drummer, and from Trek Bicycles.

Some upcoming events include another Scholastic Book Fair on Thursday, April 6 and Muireka Science Fair on Tuesday, May 2.

School Garden

Take advantage of the nice weather this spring and summer to check out John Muir's school garden. Garden coordinators, Becky Hustad and Bethney Gunderson, work with teachers and students to plant and harvest the garden every year. They have been busy applying for garden grants to maintain this wonderful space for the school. You can visit and tour the garden any time, especially during the neighborhood Fourth of July celebration.

"How can I help?"

Community Participation

The Muir PTO seeks to support teachers and to foster a relationship between the school, families, and the community. If you interested in volunteering at the school or attending meeting, please email johnmuirpto@gmail.com for more information.

You can also support the school when you shop on Amazon.com. Go to smile.amazon.com and type in John Muir Elementary Association -, Madison, WI. Amazon will donate a portion of your purchase to the school. Do you have Box Tops? You can donate those to the school - drop them off at 6602 Inner Drive.

Also, a program similar to peer partners has been added to the building (see "Featured Figure" article). The PTO is happy to see so many opportunities for our students.

Did you also know that The Rotary club has adopted Jefferson Middle School? They have provided both monetary and personal assistance to the building. We greatly appreciate their wonderful partnership!

There are many more opportunities for the neighborhood to get involved. We love to feel your support, so come to Jefferson and join us.

Featured Figure: Jack Bell

The ParkWord will begin a quarterly feature highlighting area figures: students, neighbors, business professionals, teachers, and coaches. This quarter we feature Parkwood's own JACK BELL...



Age:
13 years old

Grade:
8th grade at Jefferson Middle School

Years in Neighborhood:
13 (family has lived here 16 years)

Favorite subject in school:
"Social Studies (because of the good teachers)."

Jack was the Geography Bee champion at Jefferson this year.

Favorite thing about Jefferson:

"The fun and great teachers. And since [the school] is so big, you get to make more friends, which is also fun."

Favorite memory of time at Jefferson:

In sixth grade, Jack went to the Dells for a water park day and loved it. In seventh grade, he did a project, "Map the World by Heart" and the field trip he took, "Mad City Challenge." Both were enjoyable and involved geography. As for eighth grade, Jack says "I have more things to come, and I am expecting them to be fun."

Best advice received:

"My seventh-grade teacher Mr. Waz told me 'to work hard, finish the work, and keep up to date.'" Jack thinks that this can relate to all areas of life.

Favorite activity outside of school:

Soccer

- Jack is on two soccer teams: the U14 Madison 56ers Boys Red team and the Olympic Developmental Program Team for Wisconsin. Depending on the season, he practices 3-5 times a week. He specializes as goalie.

Favorite Neighborhood event:

"Fourth of July is fun because everyone is happy and playing games"

A shout out to the game organizer: Jack would love to be the gauntlet runner this year!

Best part about living in Parkwood Hills:

"Everyone is connected and knows each other." Jack agrees that it has a small-town feel.

Advice to incoming students:

"If you have an idea, don't be afraid to say it. If you have an idea for a club, talk to an adult if you want to do it because it may turn out really well."

Jack began two clubs at Jefferson.

- One club is Peer Partners, in which kids with special needs feel accepted. "They can come in and have fun with us. They can eat their lunch with us if they cannot handle loud noises or play games with us two days a week. I have never figured out though who is peer and who is the partner."
- The other startup is the Jefferson Youth Service Club. According to Jack, the main goal of the club is to make school easier for those struggling. "Before winter break, we wrote happy holiday cards for every single student and teacher at Jefferson. It took a while, but we got all 700 cards done. We also helped at a food pantry and made self-image signs, like "You are beautiful" and hung them all around the school.

What are you most looking forward to entering high school?

Jack most looks forward to the variety of classes and meeting new people.

What Jack didn't tell us...

Jack did not mention a recent award he won until I brought it up. Jake Wilson, the afterschool organizer at Jefferson, nominated Jack for the *Outstanding Young Person Award*. Because of the two clubs Jack started at Jefferson, along with his efforts in making Jefferson a WE school (see we.org — a global social justice nonprofit group promoting positive social change), the Urban League of Greater Madison awarded Jack, along with other area students, the award on January 16, 2017. Congratulations Jack!

Thank you to Jack Bell, for being my first "featured figure." I think we can all agree that Jack is a talented and kind-hearted young man. Keep doing wonderful work in your community, Jack!

Parkcrest Pool Special 50th Anniversary - New Member Rates



Parkcrest Swim and Tennis Club is kicking off a special 50th anniversary two-year membership drive in an effort to add 50 new memberships by 2018. It's a great time to join the pool and enjoy the facilities.

Parkcrest Swim and Tennis Club is a vibrant and ever-present fixture in the neighborhood. Cloaked and quiet in the winter, sparkling and noisy in the warmer months, Parkcrest is a gathering place that offers fun for all ages. It is the only neighborhood pool in Madison with pool, tennis, and basketball facilities.

It's not just the facilities that make Parkcrest a special place; the activities and the pool's members contribute to its uniqueness and fun. Parkcrest offers swim team, dive team, fitness classes, babysitting, and lessons, including swim, water ballet, and tennis. Social activities include family float-in, trivia night, the water ballet show, the adult social (a silent auction), teen night, and more.

This year and next year only, Parkcrest is offering special 50th anniversary new member rates. Information about these rates and about family, couple and single memberships is available online at parkcrestpool.com.



New Editor on Board

Grant Priehs, our ParkWord Editor since Summer 2014, has given the reigns to Paige Verhelst. Many thanks to Grant for his years of service!

The Verhelst family has lived in Parkwood Hills for almost seven years. Paige teaches at James Madison Memorial High School in the English department. Her husband Jason works at Madison College and is the head swim coach at Parkcrest pool in the summers. Their daughters Alexa (10)

and Maya (7) go to John Muir Elementary. Tucker (their Havanese doggie) keeps their homestead safe.

If you have any story ideas or would like to contribute an article to an upcoming issue of ParkWord, please contact Paige at editor@parkwoodhills.org Your neighbors would love to hear from you and get your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions for our neighborhood newsletter.



Incoming Editor-in-Chief Paige Verhelst with Grant Priehs, who held the position for nearly three years.

the parkword

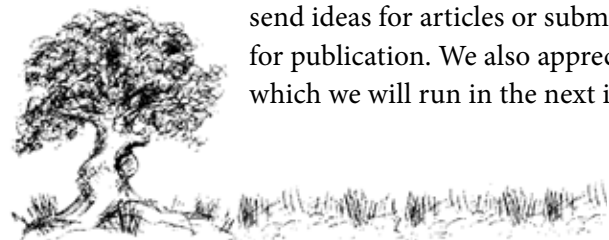
This newsletter is published four times per year and serves as an important and integral communication tool for our neighborhood and community. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send ideas for articles or submit your own articles for publication. We also appreciate any corrections which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

Next deadline: June 15, 2017

Approximate delivery: Early July, 2017

Parkword Editorial Team
314 Yosemite Trail
Madison WI 53705
editor@parkwoodhills.org

**Did you know that you can get the parkword as a digital file?
Sign up at <http://parkwoodhills.org/>**



In Loving Memory

On February 2, 2017 we lost a great friend. Michael Artem Perchik, age 11, passed away. He is remembered by his passion for animals, gymnastics and diving, along with shopping with friends, curb-finding, and hanging out at the John Muir playground. Whenever he walked into a room, he lit it up. Everyone was then happy.

Now I am just one of his long list of friends who miss him. It was Mike (Michael), Addy, and me (Ian). We were the Three Amigos. We hung out every weekend (well, tried to!) Mike and I made YouTube videos together. His friends and I went shopping and ran around Parkcrest in the summer. I wish I had more time with him.

**“Life is precious.
Don't waste it.”**

Life is precious. Don't waste it.

--Ian Case

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.net.

Have a business or service you'd like to promote to your neighborhood?

The Parkword now accepts display ads.

A business-card size ad (like this space) costs \$35 per issue. Send inquiries to editor@parkwoodhills.org

MAD CITY DREAM HOMES
RE/MAX Preferred
We are selling homes in Parkwood and Faircrest!
Contact Dan for a free market analysis to learn your home's value
Dan Miller
(608) 852-7071

318 EVERGLADE 6414 KEELSON 202 EVERGLADE 5805 ANCHORAGE 213 ISLAND 6321 KEELSON

Housing Parkwood Hills and the Madison area



Kiki Wessell
608-239-7303

Email: wessellk@firstweber.com
www.KikiWessell.firstweber.com



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.

PARKWOOD HILLS COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
c/o Elizabeth Morrison
6913 Colony Dr
Madison, WI 53717

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Madison, WI
Permit No.
1222

Parkwood Hills Community Association Board

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

President:

Dave Mann

Vice President:

Lucas Wagner

Secretary:

Bev Willer

Treasurer:

Beth Puleo

Block Captain Coordinator:

Charlene Drumm

At-Large Board Members:

Amy Butrymowicz

Sarah Case

Kim Cowles

Alena Jensen

Jane Kaldor

Grant Priehs

Kathleen Spencer

Newsletter Editor:

Paige Verhelst

Webmaster:

Kevin Johnson

Directory Editor:

Elizabeth Morrison

Pool Liaison:

Peter Olson

Parkword Email List Host:

Mark Clear