



the parkword



THE PARKWOOD HILLS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2016

Young Activist Needs Your Help Celebrating Earth Day

Aidan Dresang, a local 6th grader, cares a lot about conservation and the natural world. His passion has led him to soon launching his own website, Infinite Turtle, where he'll encourage kids to do good things for the environment. He also posts video segments on YouTube. But Aidan's activism is more than merely virtual – it hits the pavement (and the parks) right here in our environs. To celebrate Earth Day 2016, Aidan is inviting volunteers to a neighborhood clean-up on Sunday, April 24, at 12:30pm.

If you would like to join Aidan in picking up trash, please meet him and his parents by the bike path near the Memorial baseball diamond. He will start by walking down the bike path toward Yellowstone, by the drainage ditch. Gloves and trash bags will be provided. It would make his day if you could join him, even if it's just for a short time. Thanks!



Aidan Dresang cleans up garbage around the neighborhood.

Calendar of Events

April 19: PHCA Annual Meeting

April 30: Spring Fling

July 4: Parade & Party

Table of Contents

- Earth Day Clean-up..... 1
- Spring Fling 1
- President's Letter 2
- Neighborhood Info..... 2
- Box Tops For Education..... 3
- Food Cart Event..... 3
- Women's Golf League 3
- New Editor Needed 3
- Neighborhood Garage Sale..... 4
- Lussier Gallery Night 5
- July 4/Summer Events 5
- Easter Egg Hunt Photos 7
- Garden Sales 7

Just A Few Weeks Until The Spring Fling

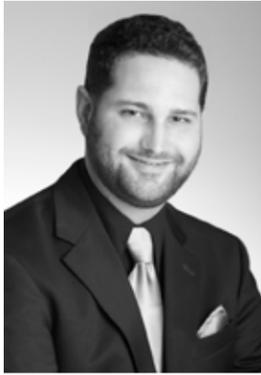
Catch up with neighbors and welcome new ones on Saturday, April 30, from 7-11pm at the Parkwood Hills Community Association Spring Fling! The event will once again be held at the Vintage Brewing Company on Whitney Way across from HyVee. Look for us in the banquet room near the rear of the restaurant.

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.

**7-11pm
Saturday,
April 30th, 2016,
Vintage Brewing
Company**



Passing the Torch

By David Hoffert, PHCA President

And then there was just one article left to write.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as President of the Parkwood Hills Community Association for the past two years.

Parkwood Hills is such a vibrant and fun neighborhood to live in, and I have been proud to be able to be a part of helping to make that happen—though let's be very clear, it's the volunteers who manage the actual events, not the officers, that do the majority of the work.

If there's one thing I've learned from this role, it's this: a place like Parkwood Hills happens because everyone comes together and steps up to make it happen. No one person has to do all that much, but if we collectively do our part, we can build an amazing sense of community. We are always looking for new people to contribute to the work of the neighborhood, and even though I'm announcing the Annual Meeting and Election in the next paragraph, it's not too late to get involved for next year. Interested in seeing what the PHCA is all about, and what you can do to help? Contact me at president@parkwoodhills.org.

The Annual Meeting and Election will be held on Tuesday, April 19, at 6:30 PM, at Memorial High School in the Wisconsin Neighborhood Center (southwest corner.) I am very excited to announce that our guest speaker for the evening will be Jay Affeldt, Memorial's principal, who will talk to us about the opportunities and challenges facing Memorial now and in the years to come. It would be great to get as many neighbors as possible to attend, both for the conversation with Jay and for the business of the neighborhood that follows. Again, not a major time commitment, but a nice opportunity to learn more about what we do and how you can support that work. I look forward to seeing you, one last time, there.

PHCA Annual Meeting
Tuesday, April 19, 6:30pm
Memorial High School

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 your directory, be sure to take note of the generous local businesses that have also made an investment in our neighborhood and support them.

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

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.

Muir Elementary Wants Your Box Tops



You'll find them on a lot more than cereal.

There's a very simple way to support John Muir Elementary – just check your pantry! Many products that are consumed by families carry a "Box Tops for Education" seal. You'll find them on cereal boxes, granola bars, applesauce, soup, frozen food items, even paper products and cleaning supplies. Just clip them off, collect them in a baggie or envelope, and drop them off at the Muir front office. Or you could give them to a neighbor who has kids that go to Muir. The office will send them in and receive 10¢ for each one.

These box tops really add up. So far this year they've already collected over \$800 worth, funds that will help support special activities and projects at the school.

For a full list of the products that carry the seal, go to boxtops4education.com.

Parkcrest Women's Golf League Seeks New Members

The Parkcrest Women's Golf League has been in existence for nearly 40 years and now has openings for new members. This is a 9-hole league that plays on Tuesday mornings from the first week of May through mid September at Pleasant View Golf Course in Middleton.

Tee times begin at 8:00 in May and September and 7:36 in the summer. The league provides flexibility in tee times. Members sign up for tee times one month in advance and only pay for the rounds they play. There is a small league fee in addition. The members are divided into flights for weekly prizes and there is a monthly social luncheon. If you are looking for a league that allows you to select dates you play, allows you flexible tee times and offers an opportunity to meet other women golfers this league is for you!

Contact Kathy O'Connor for more information. Her phone number is 836-5974.



Food Cart Event Coming To Parkwood Hills

Friday, May 20th, 5pm, Inner Drive



This event is a trifecta: you don't have to cook dinner, you get to connect with neighbors, and you will be supporting Muir Elementary! On May 20th starting at 5pm there will 4-5 local food carts parked on Inner Drive outside John Muir Elementary. It's a great chance to try some different foods from local vendors while you visit with other folks from the neighborhood. Gluten-free options will be among the offerings.

The food carts are part of a program that seeks to promote local mobile food entrepreneurs and bring communities together. The carts will donate 15% of their proceeds to Muir. Last year, similar events averaged over \$500 in donations per event.

So step away from that hot stove (or microwave) and let someone else do the cooking for you. Send your taste buds on a vacation with something new and know that your happy tummy is also doing good in our school system.

Parkword Seeks New Editor

- Do you have your finger on the pulse of the neighborhood?
- Would you like to have a greater connection with your neighbors?

The Parkword is looking for just such an individual (or team) to take over the editorial responsibilities. This is a volunteer position (like all Board positions) that involves finding ideas for stories, gathering news and announcements that are relevant to the community, and finding writers to submit the articles. The newsletter is published four times a year.

Interested parties or folks with questions should contact the Board President at president@parkwoodhills.org.

Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale

Get it out of your house and keep it out of the landfill.

By Lisa Kermgard

Parkwood Hills Neighborhood Garage Sale

Saturday, May 5th starting at 8 am.

It's time to start thinking about de-cluttering and getting ready for the annual Parkwood Hills Neighborhood Garage Sale. It's a great time 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 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 Sign Up Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Brief description of items being sold:

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¢.

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 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 better than downsizing your belongings 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.

Lussier Center To Host 4th Annual Gallery Night

Friday, May 20th, 5:30-7:30

55 S. Gammon Road

Do you paint? Or draw or sculpt or sing or dance or perform music or spoken word? You can share your talents with your neighbors at the Lussier Center's Gallery Night. And even if you aren't an artist yourself, you can attend this event and be impressed by the diverse people and perspectives of our rich community.

If you're interested in being one of the featured artists you must submit your talent to the Lussier Center by May 9th either online at LCECmadison.org or by submitting a form at the Center. All ages and art forms are welcome. If you would like to sell your artwork, you will be allowed to price it.

Along with all of the culture there will be food, too. The event is free and open to all.

July 4th Parade & Party Will Cap Off Long Weekend

By Kim Cowles

This year's celebration will begin on Monday, 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 9:30 am 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 with the event, please go to www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0948A9AC2FA20-2016 or contact Kim Cowles (kncowles@gmail.com; 608-250-0031) to sign up. We're looking forward to seeing everyone on the 4th!

Local Activities and Events

Here's a sampling of some of what Madison has to offer now that the temperatures are warming and the days are longer.

April 16: Farmers' Market on Capitol Square

The season for locally produced goods begins. Saturdays from 6am-2pm. Other markets on various days at various locations throughout the city.

April 17-23: National Pet ID Week

With all of the NextDoor postings about wandering cats and missing dogs, this is a perfect week to help keep your pet secure. The Dane County Humane Society is offering ID tags for \$6 and microchipping for \$20. For more info call (608) 838-0413.

April 23: Car Seat Recycling

Have an outdated (more than 6 years old) or unused carseat? Keep it out of the landfill by recycling it at Safelite Autoglass, 302 Beltline Hwy., 9-11am.

April 30: Crazylegs Classic Race

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

May 28: Parkcrest Pool Opens

Memorial Day Weekend always marks the beginning of swim and tennis season.

Call 233-3573 for membership and stock info.

June 9: 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. If you know a musician or group that wants to perform or would like to have an event in Parkwood Hills, there's still time to register. Details at MakeMusicMadison.org

June 25: 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 the Alliant Energy Center. Info at bubblerun.com

June 29: First Concert on the Square

Free summer concerts with the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra on the lawns surrounding the Capitol. Bring a picnic dinner and friends to make the night complete.

Throughout the Summer: Full Moon Paddles on Lake Wingra

Each month around the full moon you can rent a kayak or canoe and take a relaxing nighttime paddle under the stars, weather permitting. Info at wingraboats.com

Annual Easter Egg Hunt



A sunny morning and moderate temperatures helped to contribute to a great turnout for the 2016 Easter Egg Hunt.



The Easter Bunny placed over 1,000 eggs in Everglade Park. Lindsey Green found the \$5 Golden Egg.



Once again Sandy Gregorich did a stellar job as the Easter Bunny's tactical manager.

Special thanks go to this year's egg-fillers Connor and Casey Gregorich-Trevor and Charlie Trevor, and to Aiden Dresang starring in a KEY role

Recycling the plastic eggs has helped reduce costs and help Mother Nature. Thanks to anyone who dropped off eggs last year. If you have any eggs to reuse from this year you may drop them off on Sandy Gregorich's porch at 401 Yosemite Trail and she will get them to the Bunny.



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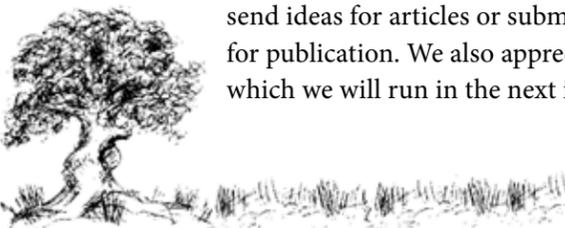
This newsletter is published four times per year and serves as an important and integral communication tool for our neighborhood and community. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send ideas for articles or submit your own articles for publication. We also appreciate any corrections which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

Next deadline: June 15, 2016

Approximate delivery: Early July, 2016

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



Gear Up For Gardening At These May Events

For those of you champing at the bit to get your hands dirty in the flower beds or vegetable garden, early May offers several chances to start the season with some new plants, new gear and expert advice.

Olbrich Garden Plant Sale With The Pros. Get great plants and expert advice from area professionals. The sale features everything from annuals and perennials to ornamental grasses and shrubs. Olbrich's staff carefully chooses unique plants that do best in this climate. Find the newest, hardiest, disease-resistant cultivars on the market. Local plant pros, master gardeners, and Olbrich's horticulturists will be available to answer questions. Friday, May 6, 11am-5pm, Saturday May 7, 9am-3pm. More info at olbrich.org/events/plantsale.cfm

UW Arboretum Native Plant Sale. Tents outside the visitor center will feature native grasses, woodland, prairie and savanna plants, trees and shrubs. During the sale, experts

are available to answer questions. The plant sale is open to all. Members of Friends of the Arboretum receive a discount on all plant purchases. Saturday, May 7, 9am-12pm. More info at arboretum.wisc.edu/get-involved/friends/native-plant-sale/

Compost Bin & Rain Barrel Truckload Sale. The City of Madison encourages residents to conserve rainwater and compost yard and kitchen waste at this sale held in the Alliant Center parking lot. You can pre-order your choice online and then pick them up on sale day. Saturday, May 7, 10am-2pm. More info at cityofmadison.com/streets/compost/compostbinsale.cfm

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

Rationalize Your Dandelions



If you're angsty over your lawn that's more yellow than green this Spring, remember that dandelions are the first food source available for valuable pollinators like bees just emerging from hibernation.

Embrace the Yellow! Save the Bees!

For all your real estate needs, call Kiki.



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.

Looking for neighborhood help, can you provide one of these services? Nanny for boy 2 days per week, August (3 mo. old) to February '17. Babysitter in evenings for same boy and a 2 year old girl; 2-3 nights per month. Dog boarding in your home in the neighborhood. Paul Reith 608.616.0808 paul@paulreith.com

Parkcrest Pool Stock for sale, \$200. Contact Colleen Higgins 833-6667

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

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

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