



Bay Creek Bulletin

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2026

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Bay Creek Bulletin
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links on
Neighborhood
website:
baycreekmadison.org/bulletin



Madison LakeWay Update and How to Get Involved

By Dan Kennelly

If you've driven along John Nolen Drive lately, you've noticed that big changes are underway. While the road reconstruction is the most visible work today, it's also laying the foundation for something truly exciting: the Madison LakeWay.

As a Bay Creek resident and a member of the Madison LakeWay Partners Board, I'm excited to share an update on this transformational project. The Madison LakeWay will reconnect Madison with Lake Monona through 1.7 miles of enhanced public waterfront stretching from Olin Park to Machinery Row. The vision is to create a world-class public space that improves lake access, features world class public art, restores natural habitat, and creates new places for people to gather, walk, bike, and enjoy the lake.

The project's master plan was approved by the Madison Common Council in 2024 after an extensive public engagement process that reached thousands of community members.

The plan was also shaped in partnership with the Ho-Chunk Nation, recognizing that this shoreline has been an important place for Indigenous people for thousands of years. The LakeWay will incorporate opportunities to share and celebrate that history throughout the waterfront.

The LakeWay also embraces sustainability through native landscaping, shoreline restoration, improved

habitat, and green infrastructure that will help protect Lake Monona while making the waterfront more resilient for generations to come.

The first phase of the project, known as The SkyLine, focuses on the John Nolen Drive causeway between Olin Park and downtown. Construction is expected to begin following completion of the John Nolen reconstruction in 2027 and be completed in late 2028. This phase will transform what is now primarily a transportation corridor into a destination in its own right, featuring new boardwalks over the water, beautiful landscaping, gathering spaces, fishing opportunities, and spectacular views of the Capitol and Monona Terrace. The corridor will also include separated paths for bikers, walkers, and joggers, improving safety and usability.

Future phases in the years ahead will continue that momentum with the potential to create beautiful new waterfront destinations at Olin Park and Downtown. Together, these improvements will create one of the premier urban waterfronts in the country.

For those of us in Bay Creek, the LakeWay will better connect our neighborhood to downtown while making the lakefront more accessible, welcoming, safe, and enjoyable for everyone. Whether it's an evening stroll along the boardwalk, a bike ride downtown, or enjoying new public spaces with family and friends, the LakeWay will become an amenity that enhances Bay Creek for generations to come!

The Madison LakeWay is a true public-private partnership, and private support is essential to making it happen. If you're excited about what the LakeWay will mean for Bay Creek and for Madison, please consider making a contribution to Madison LakeWay Partners.

To show neighborhood support, select the "In Honor Of" option on the donation page and make your gift in honor of the Bay Creek Neighborhood. A strong showing from Bay Creek would send a powerful message that our neighborhood is invested in making the LakeWay happen.

Madison LakeWay Partners is also looking for volunteers to help spread the word and support the project, so please reach out if you'd like to get involved.

To learn more about the project, explore the master plan, make a donation, or sign up for updates, visit www.madisonlakeway.org. ❖

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FOOT (Friends of Olin Turville)... Concerts in the Olin Park Pavilion

Friends of Olin-Turville (FOOT) was established in 2010 through the joint efforts of the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) and the South Madison Police District. The organization's goals are to preserve and improve the parks' facilities and landscapes and encourage the community to rediscover the beauty and unique offerings of these two historic parks.

FOOT co-sponsors activities in Olin and Turville parks with Madison Parks. Our first concert in the Olin Pavilion was Lou & Peter Berryman, whose following filled the pavilion. Our goal for the concerts was to get ahead of the Summer concert series in Madison so that folks were eager to come out and hear live music in Olin Park. In 2012, with the generous support of an anonymous donor, we offered a series of four concerts. Bands were selected for their great listening music, which often corresponded with wonderful danceable tunes. Many a foot (no pun intended) graced one of the best dance floors in Madison. Certainly one of the only wooden dance floors in a Madison Parks shelter.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Thursday, September 17th: Slipjig with special guest Daithi TheFiddler Wolfe; they play music of the Celtic nations, featuring fiery dance tunes, sweet airs & rich harmonies. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., concert 7- 9 p.m.

Thursday, September 24th: Ladies Must Swing (LMS), A Big Band In Tune. An all-female jazz band that will have you reliving memories and dancing in your chair. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., concert 7- 9 p.m.

Olin Park Pavilion, 1156 Olin-Turville Ct. [The Olin Park Pavilion](#), known as the *Monona Lake Assembly Normal Hall*, is one of the most popular park shelters in the city.

Rain or shine. Bring a picnic - chairs and tables provided. Concerts are free; donations appreciated.

Submitted by Bonnie Schmidt, FOOT volunteer

Follow us on [Facebook](#) for updated information. Visit our [website](#). ❖



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BCNA June Meeting Minutes

By Kirstin Bloy

On June 3rd the Bay Creek Neighborhood association met and the following items were brought forward:

Kristie Maurer of Maurer's Market notified the neighborhood that she applied for liquor license for the grocery store. Additionally, she shared that the store will be opening end of August 2026.

The final updates to the BCNA Bylaws were discussed and voted on during the meeting.

Please Note: During the course of the by-laws votes it was noted that there 17 people present for the voting. Abstentions are noted for each item that was voted on.

3) Neighborhood Meetings: Open and Participatory

Change: Binding votes at general neighborhood meetings require ten Bay Creek neighbors to be present.

To: Binding votes at general neighborhood meetings require 2/3 majority with at least ten Bay Creek neighbors present.

Yes: 13, No: 0, Abstentions: 4

Add: Council members and neighbors conducting Neighborhood Association business share records and communication with the Council as promptly as is reasonable or whenever they are requested.

Yes: 13, No: 0, Abstentions: 4

10) End of Association

Add: Dissolving the Neighborhood Association requires two votes: First, it must pass a simple majority advisory vote at a general meeting. Once passed, a notice is published in the Bay Creek Bulletin. Finally, it must pass with a 2/3rd majority at a general meeting at least three weeks after publication.

Yes: 13, No: 0, Abstentions: 4

5) Standing and Ad Hoc Committees: How we work

Change: Standing Committees monitor neighborhood activity, promote awareness, and coordinate action related to their focus; they represent the Association

and neighborhood residents as appropriate, informing the Association of their activities.

To: Committees monitor neighborhood activity, promote awareness, and coordinate action related to their focus, informing the Association of their activities. Committees are only authorized to represent the Association when the Association has instructed the Committee to take a position.

Yes: 13, No: 0, Abstentions: 4

Finally, Jim Winkle proposed that BCNA raise money for and donate money to the Madison Lakeway project. This motion was seconded and put forward for discussion. After significant discussion the votes for this motion were as follows: 7 in favor, 3 Opposed, 3 abstentions.

Jim is looking for someone to write an article about the Madison Lakeway Project for the Bay Creek newsletter.

BCNA July 1st Meeting Minutes

Tag provided updates on the development on S. Park/Lakeside street (formerly 999 S. Park, now with a Lakeside St address), as well as introducing the development proposed for the Coliseum Bar/Wonder Bar by the Range Hill partners

John Rider provided transportation committee updates.

No items were voted on in this meeting. ❖

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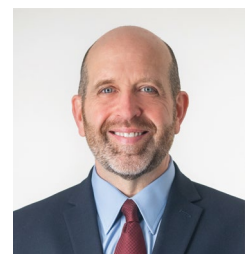
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ALDER REPORT

By Tag Evers

Editor's Note: Alder Evers sent this to his District 13 email list on July 27.

Because of the impact of this event, we wanted to include his email for everyone to read.

THE TRAGIC DEATH OF COREY RUIZ

Hi Everyone,

It goes without saying that this past week has been incredibly painful. I was out of town for business but kept in touch with the Mayor and fellow Council members. Last night I went down to the memorial site to observe.

Here's my takeaway – two things can be true at once.

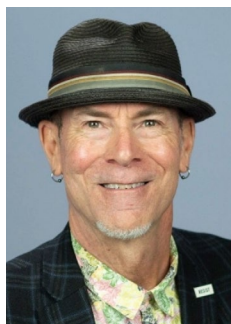
First, the circumstances around Corey Ruiz's death are deeply disturbing. There's a tremendous amount of pain and grief in watching a 13-year old girl lament the death of her father. The state is handling the investigation and it will be some time, perhaps as long as a year, before it is concluded. It's hard to ask for patience in moments like this, but it's nonetheless necessary.

Second, I'm concerned the protests, which have taken over a couple of blocks on Willy St, may devolve into something counter-productive. Already, we're receiving disturbing reports of local residents as well as patrons and employees of the impacted businesses being harassed. I'm hopeful those leading the protests are aware their concerns for justice and accountability are shared by many in the city. However, if the protest site becomes something of a homeless encampment making demands that cannot be met, this will undoubtedly be a distraction from the hard (and frustratingly slow) work of effecting the necessary changes to our policies.

I have additional thoughts about the Office of the Independent Monitor and the Police Civilian Oversight Board as it pertains to the tension that exists between these two entities and city staff, the Mayor's office, and Common Council, but for now please refer to today's statement from Council President Sabrina Madison.

The lack of Body-Worn Cameras is also much in the news. It's important to note the trajectory of debate around these devices. At first, police everywhere generally were opposed to BWCs while the public demanded them. At a certain point, the debate flipped - police departments wanted them and the activist community resisted them, claiming the devices would be broadly misused to over-police marginalized communities and surveil undocumented immigrants. That resistance continues to this day in Madison.

In 2023, I was successful in bringing about a compromise to implement a 90-day pilot of BWCs on the north side that was completed in 2024. Today, the challenge is not in the cost of the cameras, but in the estimated costs of \$3-\$6 million annually, due in part to additional staff needed to deal with the camera footage. I'm pleased we're making progress on this front, with a plan to purchase the cameras next year and then phase in their operation as the budget permits.



In the meantime, the Office of the Independent Monitor will be conducting its own investigation, analyzing the videos taken from various sources. I share in the call for complete transparency and cooperation from MPD.

I will have more to share as the days go on, but I want to acknowledge the important role being played by Madison's faith community, particularly Pastors Everett Mitchell and Marcus Allen. Below is a message Pastor Mitchell shared with his congregation. No matter your faith perspective, there's something here for everyone:

I am available if you wish to discuss or just need to share what's on your heart. As always, I can be reached at district13@cityofmadison.com or 608.424.2580.

Take care and stay safe, Tag ♦

Message from Pastor Mitchell:

HOW WE WILL RESPOND AS A CHURCH

First, we will pray. Pray for the family of Corey Ruiz, who are grieving a son and a brother. Pray also for the officers involved and for their families, who are carrying their own weight in this. Pray for the investigators, that the process now underway will be thorough, honest, and unafraid of wherever the truth leads. Pray for the leaders of this city, that they would act with wisdom and courage rather than defensiveness.

Second, we will stay present to one another. If this news has stirred up grief, fear, or anger in you, you do not have to carry that alone....

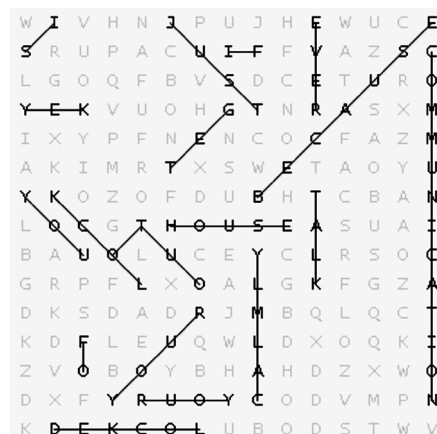
Third, for those who feel led to be present in the public conversation happening in our city this week... I encourage you to go in the spirit of Micah 6:8 — seeking justice, extending mercy, and walking humbly, even in a room that may be tense.

I want to close by reminding you of something I believe with my whole heart: our hope does not rest in any police department, any investigation, or any press conference. Our hope rests in a God who sees what happens on Williamson Street, who has not looked away, and who calls us to the same. We grieve as people who believe in resurrection, not as people who have no hope.

Joke Word Find Solution

Make Words Answers

SERVES STREET



Preserving History While Planning For The Future

By Dave Davis (District 14) and Carrie Rothburd (District 13)

The Wonder Bar is back on people's minds a lot lately in Bay Creek. That's because, even though Madison residents and preservationists from across the city, working alongside developer Lance McGrath in 2021, came up with a solution to save the Wonder Bar and, at the same time, create more housing at 222-232 E. Olin Avenue, by the time you read this, the Wonder Bar may again face the wrecking ball.

It is also possible that the Wonder Bar may face a new future as a City of Madison landmark due to the outcry of almost 4,000 people, who have signed petitions to save it; a circle of preservationists, who nominated it for landmark status; and the Landmarks Commission, which back in 2021 delivered findings on its historical significance as part of their demolition review. Back then, Lance McGrath agreed to support landmarking the Wonder Bar (after moving it proved unfeasible despite several willing takers) when he presented his revised plans for a 190-unit 12-story apartment building to the Plan Commission. These revised plans reserved 12 percent of the combined 222-232 E. Olin properties for a soon-to-be-renovated Wonder Bar. In return, the preservationists with whom he had worked to come up with a solution that favored both historic landmarking and housing, agreed to put their nomination for landmark status for the Wonder Bar on hold. However, McGrath, for reasons unknown, chose never to build his proposed building.

The authors of this article (one of whom lives in District 14, the home of the Wonder Bar), the group of preservationists, many Madison residents, and some developers, like McGrath, believe that historic preservation and development are not inherently opposed. We are convinced that the repurposing of historic buildings and municipal growth can serve the same aim: To enhance community and economic life in Madison.

Here are some examples of Madison developments that have successfully repurposed historical buildings and generated millions of dollars in local economic activity. They continue to serve as an anchor for local small businesses and enrich their neighborhoods and the broader Madison community:

The 130-year-old farmhouse on Mineral Point Road, previously home to Chez Michel and Pizzeria Uno, is now a community room paired with new workforce housing. (The building was shifted about 30 feet onto a new foundation during site redevelopment.)

The Goodman Center on the East Side is a community center that operates out of its Ironworks and Brassworks buildings, two former historical industrial sites.

The old school building on East Gorham Street was converted into housing as Lincoln School Apartments.

The historic Garver Feed Mill on Madison's East Side has been transformed into a vibrant community gathering space, food hub, and event venue.

With the Wonder Bar, we face the opportunity of likewise providing the mutual benefit of housing and a space for community and historic preservation on Madison's South Side. The building will likely need some repair, having sat empty for five years, but the well-documented 2021 application for landmark status described the Wonder Bar as being in excellent condition. Building permits indicate that its plumbing, HVAC, and electrical wiring were replaced and/or repaired in 2009 and 2010, and the building received a new roof in 2019. Garver Feed Mill was in far worse shape when preservation-

minded developers took it on.

Many Madisonians would like to see the development at 222-232 E. Olin Avenue reimagined to include preservation alongside the need for housing. This perspective recognizes reutilizing the old as a means of enhancing return on investment while building a sense of place in our neighborhoods. It is easy to envision the Wonder Bar as an amenity to Range Hill Partner's proposed 190-unit housing development. The quirky brick building that has been a rich contributor to space-making and community-building in Madison for most of the past century could, in a new incarnation, become a South Side gathering place or restaurant, creative makerspace or many other things, while at the same time benefitting the redevelopment efforts forecast in the future Alliant Energy Center (AEC) Destination District and South Madison Plan.

It bears recognizing that dense development is coming and coming fast to this part of Madison. Three nearby parcels, two on the Olin Triangle and one on the AEC campus, are together six times the size of the Wonder Bar and Coliseum Bar parcels and are ripe for redevelopment. The city height map shows an upper limit of 12 stories for the parcel on the right and eight stories for the parcel on the left. (See maps below.) The Alliant Energy Center parcel is reserved for mixed-use private development, and we can conservatively assume up to eight stories will also be allowed there. If developed to their full potential, all three parcels could include as many as 1,500 residential units. While we are not advocating for or against that density, we are pointing out that new households will be a built-in customer base for area businesses with the repurposed Wonder Bar at their core. In fact, they will demand commercial and community space.

Let's hope everyone involved in deciding the fate of the Wonder Bar can come to see the old roadhouse not as an impediment but as a possible resource and that we can get together to brainstorm an imaginative outcome that benefits everyone before it is too late. Should the Wonder Bar become a city landmark, we can apply to list it on the National Register of Historic Places. With this listing comes a combined 40% state and federal tax credit on rehabilitation costs for income-producing commercial properties in Wisconsin. ♦

From the AEC Destination District plans:

Area "C" designated as private mixed-use.



From the Citywide Height Map:

**12-story limit for parcel on right;
8-story limit for parcel on left;
Circle contains Wonder Bar site.**



Make Words Puzzle

By Stanley Rubio Jackson

Two outlined letters below (S, E) are in their correct place.

Fifteen solid letters (CLUMPY, FING, HADOW) have been eliminated.

One letter (R) must be used, but is in its wrong place.

Fill the blank spaces, using the remaining letters on the keyboard, and/or the outlined letters, to make 2 possible six letter words. You may use letters more than once.

(Answers on Page 4)

C	L	U	M	P	Y
F	I	N	G	E	R
S	H	A	D	O	W

Q W E R T Y U I O P.

A S D F G H J K L.

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(backyardyoga@gmail.com)

AUGUST

Tuesdays – Wingra Park: 6:30–7:30 am and 7:45–8:45 am

Thursdays – Bernie's Beach: 7:30–8:30 am

Sundays – Monroe Street Farmers Market: 8:30–9:30 am

All classes are dropin with "Pay What You Can" pricing via cash or Venmo.

SEPTEMBER

Mondays – ARL Studio for Misfits: 4:00 pm Children's Yoga & Mindfulness

Tuesdays – Quarry Arts Building: 9:30–10:30 am and 4:30–5:30 pm

Tuesdays – ARL Studio for Misfits: 12:00 pm Gentle Yoga

Wednesdays – YMCA West: 9:30–10:30 am Mat Yoga and 10:45–11:30 am Chair Yoga

Curt Dimmig

owner/designer

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Looks like it's....

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Neighborhood Events

Compiled by Judy Robinson

Aug 8 – Monona Bay Shoreline Clean-up

Friends of Monona Bay. Second Saturdays of the Month: 10am–12pm. Information Contact: Nina: ninajemerson@yahoo.com, (608) 698-9708.

Aug 9 – Guided Nature Walks: Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT). Second Sundays of the Month: 1:30 pm.

Meet at Turville Parking lot off John Nolen Dr.

Aug 29 – Annual Bay Creek Ice Cream Social.

1-3 (Rain Date Aug 30). We are moving back to Bernie's Beach this year, that was the original site of the event. We will be serving regular and vegan treats. Please join us!

Sept 2 – Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) Meeting. First Wednesday of Month. 6pm.

baycreekmadison.org has agenda and Zoom link.

Sept 12 – Monona Bay Shoreline Clean-up,

Friends of Monona Bay. Second Saturdays of the Month: 10am–12pm. Information Contact: Nina: ninajemerson@yahoo.com, (608) 698-9708.

Sept 13 – Guided Nature Walks: Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT). Second Sundays of the Month: 1:30 pm. Meet at

Turville Parking lot off John Nolen Dr.

Sept 13 – Good Neighbor Gathering

1-4 p.m. at Brittingham Park. For more info see <https://www.madisongoodneighborgathering.org/>

Sept 17 - FOOT Concert: Slipjig with special guest Daithi TheFiddler Wolfe

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., concert 7- 9 p.m.

Sept 24 - FOOT Concert: Ladies Must Swing (LMS)

A Big Band In Tune.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m., concert 7- 9 p.m.

Live Music at Lakeside Street Coffee (402 W Lakeside St)

Aug 20 Richard Wiegel 6:30 p.m.

Live Music at Friends Applaud (1602 Gilson St)

Aug 8 – Ced on Guitar (Noon-2:00 p.m.)

Alex & Emily (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

Aug 15 – DJ Wangzoom (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

Aug 22 – Ced on Guitar (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

Aug 29 – Ben Leigh (6:00-8:00 p.m.)

ANNUAL BAY CREEK ICE CREAM SOCIAL

August 29, 1 to 3 pm
(Rain Date August 30)

We are moving back to Bernie's Beach this year, that was the original site of the event.

We will be serving regular and vegan treats. Please join us!



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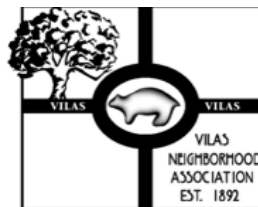
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東芳

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Read the [Vilas Ink](#) and Dudgeon Monroe's [Hornblower!](#)



Love Your Mother

By Rebecca Rettenmund

Growing up, my mom taught me how to take care of the planet. Before we had curbside recycling, Mom would separate the brown bottles from the green and the clear, wrap up stacks of newspapers with twine, crush aluminum cans, and even remove all the cellophane from every envelope. Then every week, she'd pack it all up on the Burley behind her bicycle and ride it to the recycling center.



Bicycles were always a big part of my childhood. Mom biked all year. It took more effort peddling to work, but I learned the best things in life often took more effort. We had an ice cream bucket to collect our compost on the kitchen counter. I'd watch her open the bin in the backyard and drop the scraps in, turning it into rich soil. Mom never used pesticides in her garden, and I learned to eat fruit that was imperfect. We were the only house in town with solar panels on the roof.

Today, my mom and I live only five blocks from each other in the Bay Creek area. Mom has the biggest garden in the neighborhood. She freezes fruit for smoothies, cans vegetables, makes wine out of her grapes. In her basement she dries a hundred stalks of garlic. She produces so much food, she donates to local food pantries. I like to stop at her house to go "shopping", before heading to the grocery store. She knows all the best places in town to forage food. Even shows me on the bay where a beaver cut down an apple tree she once loved to forage on.

I always thought my Earth friendly upbringing was rare, but recently, I discovered a book that proved me wrong: Food Freedom. It follows the journey of Robin Greenfield as he spends a whole year eating only food he has grown in his garden. No grocery stores, or restaurants, prepackaged or processed food of any kind. If he didn't harvest it himself, he wouldn't eat it. He admits, this is an extreme way to live, but in that year he learned so much about our connection with Mother Earth and how we can resist the control of Big Ag. His words confirmed my mom's teachings were not rare at all. People all over the country are listening to him. He speaks with such hope and love for our planet, that I bought my own copy of the book even before I finished reading it.

And you know what? He's even from Wisconsin. Right now he's traveling the country giving speeches to growing crowds, but he always ends up back here in his beloved homeland. If you ever doubted how wonderful Wisconsin is, you really need to read Robin gush over our state's natural bounty. He'll make you love it here all over again.). ❖

A free Ebook of "Food Freedom" by Robin Greenfield can be downloaded at the website: robingreenfield.org or by scanning this QR code.

A paperback book is also available on the website for a donation that goes to benefit Gardens of Liberation.



2026 Lake Loop Art Tour Bike it or Drive it!

**September 19, 10 am – 5 pm
Rain or shine!**

By Joanne Kirkland

This year is our 2nd annual Lake Loop Art Tour which is a unique and innovative concept that brings together art, nature, and community. The idea was born out of the passion of three local artists who wanted to showcase the talents of their fellow artists living in the Madison area, specifically near the scenic Lake Monona Bike Path. By combining art and the outdoors, the tour offers a refreshing and engaging experience for art enthusiasts and nature lovers alike.

There are 7 stops around Lake Monona all within approximately 1 mile of the Lake Loop bike path. Each host artist will have 2-4 guest artists. Patrons are encouraged to spend the day cycling or driving around the lake visiting artists studios and purchasing art to take with or to pick up later if needed by arrangement with host.

Where possible we will have bike racks this year!

Look for our website @LakeLoopArtTour for ongoing updating and a map!



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Senior Notes

NewBridge Madison provides services for older adults, 60+. For up-to-date services, classes, and activities information, check newbridgemadison.org, and Facebook: @NewBridgeMadison, call (608) 512-0000; or email info@newbridgemadison.org. The newsletter available free via email, regular mail for a small fee. *Masks for in-person activities will be determined on a program-by-program basis.*

NewBridge: matches older adults to volunteers who do safety-check calls and/or friendly social

calls; **provides** Case Managers to connect older adults to resources; **delivers** food pantry groceries to older adults' door on an ongoing basis; **does** home chores – only case management clients may receive home chore assistance; **gives** Zoom and In-Person Classes & Activities; **runs** Zoom Diversity & Inclusion Activities, for Dane County Black and Hispanic older adults; **feeds** older adults.



NewBridge congregate meals sites: Meals are not free. We ask for a suggested donation of \$5 per meal. Please pay what you can afford.

Reservations are due two days in advance at all sites EXCEPT Goodman Community Center and Kavanaugh's Esquire Club (No reservations are required at these two locations)

Specific phone extensions have been added to contact each site to make a meal reservation for a much easier/better experience.

South Madison: *Madison Senior Center*, 330 W. Mifflin St. Monday-Friday, 11:30 am.

East Madison/Monona: *Messiah Lutheran Church*, 5202 Cottage Grove Rd. Tuesday and Thursday 11:30-12:30 pm; *Monona Senior Center*, 1011 Nichols Rd. Friday, Noon

West Madison: *Meadowridge Commons*, 5734 Raymond Rd. Tuesday, Thursday, Noon; *Good Shepherd Lutheran Church*, 5701 Raymond Rd. Friday, Noon.

North Madison: *Warner Park Community Recreation Center*, 1625 Northport Dr. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 11:30 am; *Goodman Community Center*, 149 Waubesa St. Monday-Friday, 11:45 am. *Kavanaugh's Esquire Club*, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. Wednesdays, 11:00 am-1:30 pm

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Please join the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association! Voluntary annual dues: only \$10 per household. May be paid online at the Neighborhood's website <https://baycreekmadison.org/> – click on the Contacts page link, then look for Treasurer to find the PayPal link. To pay by check, please make check out to BCNA and mail to: Kirstin Bloy, 925 O'Sheridan St, Madison WI 53715

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association Council

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Bay Creek Neighborhood Association

The **Bay Creek Bulletin** is published every other month by the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA). The Bulletin works to improve the neighborhood by building community with original cultural and social contributions from its residents. We welcome your submissions: articles, personal essays, neighborhood interviews, drawings, photos, poetry, announcements, book and restaurant reviews. Volunteers deliver the Bulletin the first week of every other month. Submission deadline: Second to last Friday of every other month, noon.

Injecting New Energy: The Case for a Young, Vibrant BCNA Council

By JJ Jurado

A neighborhood association can only be as strong as its connection to the current reality of the community it represents. For an organization like the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA), which boasts a rich history of local advocacy, longevity should be a source of strength, not a barrier to evolution. To remain relevant, responsive, and resilient, the association must actively build pathways for new, fresh voices – specifically the young urban neighbors who represent the future of our community.

Bringing these perspectives into leadership is not just a matter of inclusion; it is a strategic necessity to spark a new wave of community participation. Neighborhoods are dynamic ecosystems. Over time, demographics shift, housing patterns evolve, and new generational challenges emerge. Young professionals, growing families, and new urban residents bring an entirely distinct set of priorities to the table. They navigate the neighborhood through a modern lens, focusing on topics like sustainable transit, pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, green spaces, and digital community connectivity.

When the BCNA council lacks representation from this demographic, a widening gap forms between the association’s agenda and the daily lived experiences of a significant portion of its residents.

Furthermore, a young and vibrant council serves as a powerful catalyst for broader engagement. It is a fundamental truth of civic organizing: people participate when they see themselves reflected in leadership. When young neighbors look at the association and see peers managing meetings, drafting newsletters, and debating policies,

the institution immediately feels accessible. It transforms from a seemingly closed, legacy club into a dynamic, welcoming forum where modern ideas are valued. This visual and cultural shift breaks down the psychological barriers to entry, encouraging a demographic that is historically prone to civic apathy to step forward, attend meetings, and volunteer.

Integrating fresh voices also infuses the association with new operational energy. Younger generations bring modern tools and communication styles that can streamline outdated administrative habits. From leveraging digital tools for transparent record-keeping to using creative outreach strategies that reach beyond traditional email lists, a modernized approach can drastically improve organizational efficiency.

Crucially, advocating for a younger, more vibrant council is not about discounting the vital contributions of long-standing members. Institutional memory is indispensable; the wisdom of those who have guided the neighborhood for decades provides a necessary foundation. True progress happens at the intersection of experience and innovation.

By actively implementing term limits and intentionally recruiting younger residents for council seats and committee chairs, the BCNA can create a healthy cycle of mentorship and leadership rotation.

The future of Bay Creek depends on our ability to bridge generational divides. By intentionally cultivating a young, vibrant, and forward-thinking council, the BCNA can revitalize its democratic structure, trigger an influx of fresh participation, and ensure that our neighborhood remains a thriving, inclusive community for decades to come. ♦

Joke Word Find Puzzle By Stanley Rubio Jackson

Find the words in this joke: Up, Down, Diagonally, Forwards, Backwards, and Overlapping. (Find repeat words once. Answer on page 4)

If you ever get locked out of your house, just talk to your lock calmly because communication is key.

W I V H N J P U J H E W U C E
S R U P A C U I F F V A Z S C
L G O Q F B V S D C E T U R O
Y E K V U O H G T N R A S X M
I X Y P F N E N C O C F A Z M
A K I M R T X S W E T A O Y U
Y K O Z O F D U B H T C B A N
L O C G T H O U S E A S U A I
B A U O L U C E Y C L R S O C
G R P F L X O A L G K F G Z A
D K S D A D R J M B Q L Q C T
K D F L E U Q W L D X O Q K I
Z V O B O Y B H A H D Z X W O
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