



Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.
-Helen Keller

Elvehjem Echo
Elvehjem Neighborhood Association
Founded March 1968
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Our Association's 53rd Year



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Neighbors,

Like many of yours, my garden has turned verdant and bountiful thanks to alternating bouts of heavy rain and extreme sun these last couple months. I'm mighty impressed by the various flower beds, vegetable plots, and wildflower gardens that Elvehjem boasts—kudos to those of you breaking your backs for our pollinator friends! And a special shoutout to our Community Garden green-thumbs at Elvehjem Park.

Last month we set up under the large shade trees at Our Saviour's Lutheran for our annual Fourth of July Celebration where approximately 200 of your fellow neighbors gathered for food, drink, and camaraderie. It was a welcome return to normal; full recap in this issue.

By the time this issue hits your mailbox we will have had our Neighborhood Night Out event which functions as a network of driveway and backyard gatherings, inspiring fellowship and fun times. Similarly, our not-too-distant October 31st event—cleverly named "Neighborhood Halloween Bonfires"—is one you might add to your calendar. For the last couple years we've reimagined Halloween as a front-yard event more than a front-door event for those with firepits and/or BBQ's. Details and map sign-up will be in our next issue.

I wanted to take a paragraph to remind everyone that we have a brand new, state-of-the-art public library just a short jaunt down Cottage Grove Road. Last year, Pinney Library's grand opening was overshadowed by COVID-19's U.S. landfall so I'm giving them some press in hopes that you might make a visit if you haven't yet. A fantastic destination for children and adults alike.

And that's all I've got this go-around. Thanks to those of you who continue to make this neighborhood one of the best in Madison; I'm always proud to tell somebody that I live in Elvehjem. In a time where negative news dominates our feeds, please don't forget that there's so much good around us: next door, down the street, up the cul-de-sac, through the path... enjoy the rest of your summer, neighbors!

Sincerely,
Dan Collins, ENA President
(608) 218-4515
dan@theena.org

E.N.A. MEMBERSHIP FORM 2021

SIGN UP & PAY ONLINE IN 60 SECONDS!

➡ ➡ **theENA.org/join**



... or complete & return the form below

How would you like to receive your bimonthly *Echo* Newsletter: Email // Postal // Both

ADDRESS: _____ PHONE: (_____) _____ - _____

FIRST/LAST NAME: _____

EMAIL: _____

(RESIDENT 2, OPTIONAL): FIRST/LAST NAME _____

(RESIDENT 2, OPTIONAL): EMAIL _____

Dues are \$15 per year

Checks can be made payable to ENA.
Please return with membership form to:

ENA Membership
PO Box 14625
Madison, WI 53708-0625

YES, I'd like to support the Elvehjem
Neighborhood with an additional
donation! All sponsorship levels include
your \$15 annual dues.

- PLATINUM Level Sponsorship \$100
- GOLD Level Sponsorship \$75
- SILVER Level Sponsorship \$50
- BRONZE Level Sponsorship \$25

*Amount \$ _____ Cash Check # _____

Are you interested in volunteering for the neighborhood in 2021?

- YES, I will volunteer my time at one or more neighborhood events.
- YES, I am interested in serving as an ENA Board Member.

* Elvehjem Neighborhood Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit org. All membership dues & additional donations are tax deductible. All contact information will be used for bimonthly *Echo* Newsletter delivery, occasional email updates, and if applicable, volunteer correspondence. Joining ENA promotes a stronger, safer, and more connected community. Thank you in advance for your generous support.

ALDER CURRIE'S COLUMN



Some exciting projects are working their way through city processes that, if approved, will benefit D16 residents!

The former Knuckle Down Saloon (Seiferth Rd) has been acquired by new owners and is seeking to continue offering live music/entertainment, food and drink

under a new name along with building improvements. Young Blood Beer Company is looking to expand it's brewery operations to the east and settle into the former Sani-Matic building on Stoughton Rd. Odilon Ford Winery is seeking to expand its services to offer direct sales from it's winery located on Femrite Dr.

Please watch out for announcements of public meetings for all 3 projects. If you haven't already, subscribe to my city blog to stay up to date: cityofmadison.com/council/district16/blog

Alder Jael Currie can be reached at:
(608) 561-7151
district16@cityofmadison.com

SECRETARY'S NOTE



What can I say- summer 2021 is flying by! Lots of kids will be heading back to school before we know it. Stores are stocking their shelves with supplies as we all attempt to return to normal.

Last year was a tough one for many but we got through it. It's astonishing how we humans adapt

to change; it's not always easy or pleasant but we persevere. Many of us were fortunate, connecting with each other using smart phone and computer technology, and I'm grateful I could face-time with my son, daughter-in-law, and grandkids who live out of state. I have a renewed appreciation for everything in life. Be humble and kind. Life is a gift. Enjoy it.

If you have any suggestions for Echo content, or want to provide general feedback, feel free to contact me at kim@theENA.org.

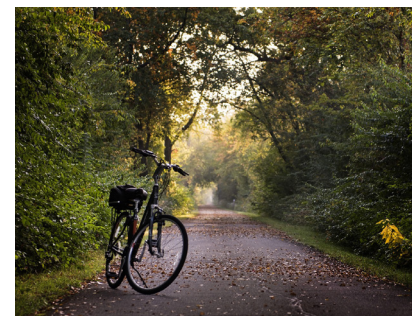
Thank you,
Kim Bolinder, ENA Secretary

GEAR UP FOR DANE COUNTY'S EVER-GROWING NETWORK OF BIKE TRAILS

By Dane County Executive Joe Parisi

Dane County is proud to have a vast network of bike trails that serve daily commuters, pedestrians, and recreation cyclists throughout the county. In fact, it's estimated that the Capital City Trail and Lower Yahara River Trail support more than 150,000 trips a year. Biking is good for our health, for our environment, and for our communities.

For ten years now, Dane County has provided matching grants to municipalities and non-profits for the development of regional bicycle trail facilities through our PARC & Ride Grant Program. Over \$3 million has gone to more than 30 different bicycle trail projects. A few examples include the Upper Yahara River Trail in Deforest, Wolf Run Trail in Mazomanie, Phase 1 of the Oregon to Badger State Trail near Oregon, and Phase 1 of the CamRock County Park to Glacial Drumlin State Trail.



It's exciting to have communities come forward with plans to strengthen Dane County's network of bike trails. These projects enhance our quality of life and heighten the overall experience visitors and residents can have while enjoying the outdoors.

Planning is underway for several other major bicycle trail projects as well, including a segment of the North Mendota Trail around the north shore of Lake Mendota through Governor Nelson State Park, Phase 2 of the Lower Yahara River Trail, and the Capital City Trail connection to the Glacial Drumlin State Trail. A nearly milelong section of trail at Anderson Farm County Park will also finish soon and connect the park with the Village of Oregon. When complete, all of these projects will provide Madison area residents with outstanding recreation and non-motorized transportation options throughout Dane County.

Dane County continues to be a leader in the planning and development of its regional bicycle trail network, providing safe off-road connections for riders of all ages to a variety of parks and other trails. Biking is a big part of our quality of life and a way for people to get out and enjoy our lakes and countryside. I encourage you to explore them this summer and beyond!

FOURTH OF JULY RECAP

On Saturday, July 3rd, over 200 Elvehjem residents gathered at the Our Saviour Lutheran Church grounds to enjoy live music, ice cream, Melted food cart, a silent auction, 50-50 raffle, face painting, games, and more (wow!)

A big thank-you to the following people and businesses for contributing their goods and/or services to our event:

Aldo Leopold Nature Center
American Player's Theatre
Bruce Folger
Boulders Climbing Gym
Buck's Pizza
Budget Bicycle
Claire Koenig
Crystal Heppie
Faye Reber
The Fongers
Ian's Pizza
International Catering Company
JavaCat
Jon Hoel Trio
Karben4 Brewing
Kwik Trip
Lauren King
Ledger Coffee Roasters
The Light of the World Church
Lisa Johnson

Madison Fire Department
Melted Food Cart
MetamorFaces
Milio's
Misty Mountain Games
MSCR
Muskellounge and Sporting Club
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
Paint My Face
Perennial Yoga
Sitka Salmon Shares
Slow Roll Cycles
Tabby & Jack's
True Coffee Roasters
U.S. Nails & Spa
Vitense Golfland
VFW Color Guard
Willy Street Co-op
Wisconsin Distributors



FOXES IN ELVEHJEM



by Jared Marker

You may have heard or seen foxes in the Elvehjem neighborhood this summer – likely near the Elvehjem Sanctuary. Foxes and even coyotes have been observed in the Elvehjem area and across Madison for many years. What's the deal?

Getting better answers to that question has been the ongoing goal of the UW Urban Canid Project led by wildlife ecologist David Drake. Drake and his team have been trapping, tracking, and researching urban canines particularly on the west side and around the

UW arboretum since 2014. Interestingly, despite coyotes being natural predators of foxes, they have been found in much closer proximity than they would outside the city. The theory is that this adaptation has occurred due to more abundant food options in the city mostly consisting of rodents, rabbits, and occasionally birds and scavenging through refuse.

What to do if you see one?

Most importantly, don't feed them! Keep an eye on small pets while outside during periods of coyote sightings. Shouting or clapping is a good way to re-instill normal fear of humans if they are acting unusual and not running away. Mutual respect is encouraged and the best way to peacefully coexist. And you can always help with the research by reporting your sighting at:

<http://uwurbancanidproject.weebly.com> which also has much more details and information.

JUMPING WORMS: A NEW INVASIVE SPECIES IN OUR REGION

by Claire Koenig, sources: PBS & WI DNR

Last summer enjoying a sunny day in our backyard when I glanced down at my feet and noticed what initially looked like an earthworm thrashing about in the grass. Upon closer inspection (and a few Google searches) I came to the dreaded conclusion that jumping worms had reached our yard. This summer I was pulling weeds in our front yard and realized that the soil surrounding the weeds was incredibly crumbly and loose. Knowing that this “coffee-ground soil” is a telltale sign of jumping worms, I looked a little bit closer and immediately found three jumping worms in that area.



According to an article from PBS Wisconsin titled “Jumping Worms Are Eating -- And Altering -- Wisconsin’s Forest and Garden Soils,” jumping worms are an invasive group of earthworms that originated in eastern Asia. These worms were first identified in Wisconsin in 2013 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum. Just eight years later, the worms have been reported just about everywhere in the state and are highlighted as an invasive species by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Jumping worms get their name from their behavior. When handled, they violently thrash, spring into the air and can even shed their tails to escape. The worms do not live deep in the soil; rather, they live on the soil surface in debris and leaf litter. (This explains why I saw my first jumping worm right there in the grass of my backyard.)

The Wisconsin DNR explains that jumping worms look similar to other earthworms, but have a lighter colored clitellum (the band that encircles their body) that is flush with the rest of the body. Their bodies are firm and not covered in slime, and they move with a snake-like movement. Jumping worms are typically shorter and darker in color than typical earthworms.

One challenge that jumping worms pose is that they self-fertilize and do not need mates to reproduce. Their hardened egg capsules, known as cocoons, are resistant to cold and are as tiny as mustard seeds. These cocoons resemble tiny pieces of dirt and are difficult to identify; therefore, they are often moved from place to place in soil, mulch, and potted plants.

According to the Wisconsin DNR, jumping worms feed ravenously on organic matter in soil, leaf litter and mulch and excrete grainy-looking, hard little pellets that alter the texture and composition of soil. Besides consuming nutrients that plants, animals, fungi and bacteria need to survive, the resulting soil, which resembles large coffee grounds, provides poor structure and support for many understory plants. Invasive species will move in when native plants die.

The Wisconsin DNR recommends the following ways to reduce the spread of jumping worms:

- Educate yourself and others to recognize jumping worms
- Watch for jumping worms and signs of their presence
- Arrive clean, leave clean. Clean soil and debris from vehicles, equipment and personal gear before moving to and from a work or recreational area – they might contain jumping worms or their cocoons
- Use, sell, plant, purchase or trade only landscape and gardening materials and plants that appear to be free of jumping worms
- Sell, purchase or trade only compost and mulch that was heated to appropriate temperatures and duration following protocols that reduce pathogens.

Unfortunately, jumping worms may already be present in your yard whether you know it or not. If they’ve already arrived, remove and destroy jumping worms when you see them. The Wisconsin DNR recommends sealing them in a plastic bag and throwing them in the trash. If you’re someone who shares perennials from your yard with others, make sure to disclose that your yard has jumping worms before transferring any of your plants to somebody else.

Researchers are actively pursuing multiple ways to control jumping worms in small areas. Until a solution is found, we must learn to live with these unwelcome pests.



MSCR FALL 2021 PROGRAMS

Fun for All Ages!



Check out our classes at
MSCR East,
4620 Cottage Grove Rd
Dance • Sewing
Arts & Enrichment
Family Workshops
Fitness & More!
Fee Assistance Available.
Register Now at mscr.org

Now Hiring
for many positions!



GARAGE SALES RECAP

by Diana Winter

Participation soared at the Elvehjem Garage Sales this year, as many people participated, anxious to pass on their treasures after a year off from the organized sale and a year at home! Approximately 45 homes registered (up from previous years) through the new online sign-up, and many others held sales in the neighborhood. Except for some hazy mornings, we enjoyed beautiful, mostly sunny Wisconsin summer days! The Garage Sale sign-up, with the help of Dan Collins, went online and was FREE for the first time.

We hope that the online format was easier and quicker for our neighbors to use. After the initial setup, it will be easier on the coordinators going forward, as well. Thanks to all who participated, those who dragged their belongings to the driveway made some cash and some friends, and those who got great deals on treasures!



RECYCLING IN MADISON

Every year the City of Madison puts together their "Recyclopedia"- a guidebook that explains the rules and services provided by the Streets Division, including the guidelines to be sure you are recycling right. Below are some highlights specifically about recycling!

- Do not place **plastic bags** or plastic film into the recycling. Many of our area grocery stores have drop-off sites where you can recycle your plastic bags.
- If you need to bag your recycling, **use clear plastic bags** or it will be sorted out as trash.
- If you have **shredded paper** that needs to be clear-bagged, tie it closed so no paper can fall out. The full bag must not be larger than a basketball.
- Recyclables **must be clean** of food debris, dirt, and other contaminants. This means rinsing out or washing certain items prior to recycling.
- Recyclable items must **NOT be smaller** than 2 inches by 2 inches.
- Be sure to keep the recycling **lid closed** when out for collection. Snow and rainwater can ruin the paper and cardboard inside the cart.
- If you ever have **too much cardboard** for your bin: ask a neighbor to take some on, drop off excess at Sycamore, or bundle your cardboard into 3'x3'x6" stacks and set out on your collection day.

You can view the full 32-page document here: cityofmadison.com/streets/documents/Recyclopedia2021-web.pdf



Monona Grove Nursery School

Now Enrolling for 2021-2022

Contact us for a Tour!

Call (608) 222-4633 or visit MGNS.org



Programs for ages 0-5 Since 1958!

Morning & Afternoon Classes

MMSD 4K • Preschool • Toddler Time

MGNS is a State Licensed & Accredited Parent Coop

MGNS.org

a perfect place to learn through play

CALL FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Are you new to the neighborhood? Have you lived here for years and years? Maybe you've been here for a few years but would like to meet some new neighbors?

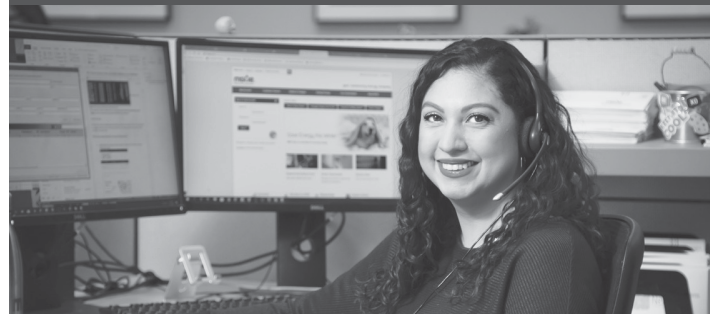
No matter how long you've lived here or how many neighbors you know, YOU would be a great fit for the Elvehjem Neighborhood Association Board of Directors! The ENA Board connects neighbors by planning events and bringing people together. We work closely with Madison Parks and other organizations to beautify our surroundings and improve our neighborhood's shared spaces. Board members bring their personal experience and interests to the table, which in turn encourages the group to work on a diversity of projects and local initiatives.



Board meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month from 7-9pm at The Great Dane Eastside upstairs meeting room. Visitors are always welcome!

Email board@theena.org if you have questions or are interested in learning more.

Behind on your bill? MGE is here to help.



We're here to work with you.

MGE representatives are here to help households and businesses that may need help. If you need assistance or have questions about your account, please visit the Customer Service section of mge.com or call us at (608) 252-7144.

Scams are on the rise. Make sure it's us.

If you receive a call, email or visit that you suspect is fraudulent, please call MGE at (608) 252-7222.

Get free energy-saving advice.

MGE can provide expert advice for how to assess and manage your energy use. Email our Energy Experts at AskExperts@mge.com.

MGE is committed to safe and reliable service.

Lights out, power line down or other emergency? Call us at (608) 252-7111. Smell gas? Leave immediately and call us at (608) 252-1111.



Your community energy company

GS3351 9/3/2020



Elvehjem Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 14625
Madison, Wisconsin 53708-0625

ENA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Ongoing through 2021
Membership Drive
theENA.org/join

Ongoing through 2021
Tenant Resource Fundraiser
Details at theENA.org/housing

Tuesday, August 3
Neighborhood Night Out

Tuesday, August 3
ENA Board Meeting
7-9pm, at 22 Jaarsma Ct driveway

Wednesday, September 1
ENA Board Meeting
7-9pm, Great Dane East Side Upstairs

Wednesday, October 6
ENA Board Meeting
7-9pm, Great Dane East Side Upstairs

Sunday, October 31
Halloween Bonfires
Map sign-up available in next issue

Thursday, November 25
Turkey Trot

Wednesday, December 1
ENA Board Meeting
7-9pm, Great Dane East Side Upstairs

Saturday, December 4
Holiday in the Park
Elvehjem Park