



A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Your AHNA board has been off to a busy start in 2023! Most importantly, we set the event dates for the year, so flip to the back page of this newsletter and mark your calendars for our spring cleanup, 4th of July celebration, food truck nights in the park (with live music!) and more. The whole reason we exist is to create spaces for neighbors to connect - and our events and this newsletter are the primary ways we fulfill that goal.

In addition to planning events, at our first board meetings of the year we invited guests to speak about changes coming to bus routes in Arbor Hills, ways that we can support the community outreach led by Arbor Covenant Church, an opportunity to weigh in on the future of libraries on the west side of Madison, and bringing a 'Make Music Madison' event to our neighborhood. We also covered the more routine but crucial functions of our board: making sure

we have a carefully planned budget and that we're reaching out to all of you to renew your membership or become new members. Thanks to you we're closer to our membership goal for this time of year than we have been in recent years! If you haven't paid your dues yet, head to the back page of this newsletter for instructions on how to sign up.

Thank you for continuing to support this association and making our neighborhood one of the best places to live in Madison (we're not biased at all, of course).

Interested in learning more about what the board has been up to or following along with online updates? We regularly post on arborhills.org, on the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Facebook page, and send emails to our mailing list. If you're not seeing the emails, first check your spam folder, then email me at akgibson17@gmail.com and I'll get you added.

See you around the neighborhood!

Ashley Gibson
AHNA President



Ashley Gibson - AHNA President

LOOKING BACK ON WINTER IN ARBOR HILLS

Photo Credits: George Roesch Johnson



BETTER KNOW A NEIGHBOR: ANGIE OLER

Angie Oler is a Research Specialist with the Department of Medicine here at the UW. But as our conversation flowed from parenting to community building to social justice work, it was clear that instead of just making a living, Angie has made sure to make a life.

By Erica Fletcher, Newsletter Editor

Although we may not all have had the joy of meeting Angie Oler (yet, but she's working on that), simply driving by her home on Kingston Drive gives you a glimpse into her cheerful enjoyment of life. The volleyball court, the hockey rink, the fire pit and all the other obvious signs of an inviting and fun-filled household beckon those walking by to stop and say "hello!" That inviting exterior is intentional, and is just one of the ways Angie builds community with all around her.

Angie and her husband Chad moved to Arbor Hills in 2005. Like many residents, Angie was drawn in by the great trees, access to the Arboretum and the feeling of being in the country while in the heart of the city; the character of the houses give the neighborhood a distinct sense of place. Even now, as Angie walks around the neighborhood, she delights in always finding a new grape vine or rain garden to survey with her kids.

But Angie and her husband were not the type to simply sit back and enjoy the view without doing something to help make the neighborhood more enjoyable for all. Not long after

moving in, they set up a volleyball court and distributed flyers to invite neighbors over for pick up games. Later, as their own children (now 11 and 14) began to join in the festivities, they built a hockey rink for all to enjoy lit by cheerful lights that brighten the long winter nights.

The invisible thread that seemed to connect all of Angie's stories was the desire to build community. As the orbit of her children started to extend past their own inviting yard and into Leopold Elementary, Angie's desire to build community followed them there and she became an active member of the Leopold Elementary Parent Faculty Organization.

In 2020, as COVID took its toll, Angie looked around and saw how the hardships of COVID were not affecting all our neighbors in the same way and set out to help. What started as Angie's daughter auctioning off her artwork to raise funds for food, grew into the Leopold Elementary Parent Faculty Organization Social Justice Fund.

Angie identified a need and created a sustainable structure for help. The beauty of Angie's work with

Leopold Elementary lies not just in her ability to align needs with motivated volunteers, but to create systems of kindness that will outlast her time as an active volunteer. As her children move on to Cherokee Middle School and West High School, Angie's legacy at Leopold Elementary lives on. New parents can now take up the mantle of Angie's work, and continue to make the neighborhoods surrounding Leopold, including Arbor Hills, more equitable and just places for all. Neighbors like Angie are what makes Arbor Hills such an amazing place to live.

This summer, as we continue to inch closer to normalcy, a mainstay of the Kingston Drive social scene is returning once again. For the first time since 2019, the Olers will be hosting their pickup volleyball games. So if you happen to be walking along Kingston Drive on a warm summer night and see a pickup game in progress, make sure to stop and say hello! Then, remember to reach outside yourself and start acquainting or reacquainting yourself with your own neighbors; start traditions that will bear fruit for the next 15 years and onward.



Photo Credit: George Roesch Johnson





Josh Grotheer
Financial Advisor

950 John Nolen Drive, Suite 160
Madison, WI 53713
(608) 284-9075

josh.grotheer@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com/josh-grotheer



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

The Leopold Elementary Green School Yard Project is looking for strawberry, grape and other perennial produce cuttings as well as native perennial flowers. If you have any to share, please email Leopoldgreenschoolyardproject@gmail.com

The Madison Public Library is seeking input via "Tell Us" on west side libraries through April 2023. You can download and print the Tell Us packet using this QR Code or pick one up at a west side library.

Make Music Madison is back for its 11th annual citywide musical celebration held on the summer solstice, June 21. Our Arbor Hills Park will be registered as a venue! So all performers need to do is email match@makemusicmadison.org and they'll reserve it for you if that time

slot is still available. There is no cost to participate.

Are you interested in helping other neighborhood residents by earning extra money (or volunteer hours)? Get your name on the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association (AHNA) Helper List! Please contact Mary Sara at msara6901@gmail.com or 608-658-6901 if you are interested.

The Leopold Community Garden has plots available, if interested contact Pat Diehl of Todd Drive at lanekid@sbcglobal.net or (608) 274-1303.



LEOPOLD SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

In the past three years, the Leopold Social Justice Fund has provided over \$30,000 in overdue utilities and rent payments for Leopold families. Thanks to generous donations (including a donation from the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association) we have served 110 Leopold families identified by the school social workers. To continue to partner with the school to prevent homelessness in our students we need to raise an additional \$5,000 this school year. Consider a donation via PayPal to the Leopold PFO and comment "social justice fund" to earmark your donation for the Social Justice Fund. If you would prefer to write a check, please contact erica.lee.fletcher@gmail.com The Leopold PFO is a 501(c)(3) organization


paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/1938641



ARBOR
COVENANT
CHURCH

*Inclusive community
...sharing grace...
living out reconciliation*

2509 McDivitt Road
271-1955
www.arborcovenant.org
Sunday morning services at 10:30
follow us: 



Stark

**STEVE
PSCHORR**

REALTOR®, ABR, CRS

**YOUR RESIDENT
ARBOR HILLS SPECIALIST
at 2917 Post Road**

608-273-2352
SPschorr@StarkHomes.com

JR's
Mulch Sales

Spread It Around

Mulch, Mulch, Mulch!
Shredded Oak • Colored • Cedar
Playground Chips

608.573.BARK (2275)
608.692.BARK (2275)
4230 Acker Rd. ■ Madison, WI

WE DELIVER
7 DAYS A WEEK!
*3 Cubic Yard Minimum For Delivery
1 Yard Covers Approximately 100 Sq. Ft
3-4 Inches Deep

35th
ANNIVERSARY

Proudly Serving
Arbor Hills

PRINT A COUPON AT
www.jrsmulchsales.com

Fitchburg Family Pharmacy

We're a pharmacy embedded in our community, where patients are part of the family, not just another customer.

- Locally Owned
- Free Delivery
- Vaccination Services
- Community Engagement
- Medication Synchronization
- Medication Packaging
- Psychiatric and Substance Use Injection Services
- Comprehensive Medication Review

3050 Cahill Main #6, Fitchburg | (608) 274-3784 | www.whatagreatpharmacy.com

AHNA BOARD MEMBERS

President
Ashley Gibson
akgibson17@gmail.com

Vice President
Josh Grotheer
jrgrotheer@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Mary Laatsch Sara
msara6901@gmail.com

Events Coordinator
Nanci Horn
Nanci.Horn@wsdevelopment.com

Aaron Eicher
aaroneicher@gmail.com

Membership Coordinator
Jackie Bastyr Cooper
jackie.cooper@wisc.edu

Communication Coordinator
OPEN

Block Captain Coordinator
Lisa Fernandez
pocoapocolisa@juno.com

Newsletter Editor
Erica Fletcher
erica.lee.fletcher@gmail.com

Members-At-Large
Linda Szabo
Grant Roeming
Design & Illustrations
Christina Peterson
ctheartisan@gmail.com

INTRODUCING THE ARBOR HILLS GARDENING COMMITTEE

By Linda Szabo, Master Gardener

A few Arbor Hills gardeners were sitting around the kitchen table talking about our favorite subject, gardening.

We were making our spring gardening to-do lists, including pruning broken or damaged limbs, raking and mulching. We talked about how perennials may need some additional mulch facing the final snows and how last year's shrubs can be cut back several inches above new growth and buds. For composting, in April or May, weather permitting, we plan to apply 1-2 inches every other year.

Are you interested in joining us? There is plenty of room at the table. Call or text Linda at (615) 500-2389. The Gardening Committee is looking forward to hearing from you. (Technical information provided by Melinda Myers & Rich Fischer from the February Gardening Expo).

CELEBRATE WITH SOMETHING DELICIOUS

FORAGE KITCHEN

AMARA

BARTACO

CAFÉ HOLLANDER

DUMPLING HAUS

FRESHFIN POKÉ

THE GREAT DANE PUB & BREWING COMPANY

MURAMOTO

SHAKE SHACK

HILLDALE.COM @HILLDALEMADISON

LOCATED AT THE CORNER OF MIDVALE BLVD. AND UNIVERSITY AVE.

HILLDALE

Where Local is Tradition!
8am - 8pm
608.630.8194

amazing food for hardworking people

MIGRANTS
EST. 2019

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 12/31/2020

THE AHNA IS LOOKING FOR A COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

Looking for a fun way to meet your neighbors and volunteer to make Arbor Hills a great place to live? Join the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association Board as the Communication Coordinator. The person who steps into this role will be responsible for sharing important news and information with neighbors through email (Mail Chimp), social media, on our website and other forums. A background in online communication, marketing, and public engagement is a nice-to-have, but not required. Want to learn more? Reach out to AHNA President Ashley Gibson at akgibson17@gmail.com.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

Below is a list of the currently planned events for Arbor Hills this Spring. However, the list is subject to change, so make sure to check out arborhills.org to stay up-to-date on all the latest info related to events!

Our neighborhood events are only as amazing as the volunteers who help run them. We'd love your help! If you'd like to get involved as an event volunteer, please reach out to Nanci Horn at nanci.horn@wsdevelopment.com

NEIGHBORHOOD EARTH DAY CLEAN UP

Sunday, April 23rd 9-12

Meet up with your neighbors to make Arbor Hills sparkle! Meet in Arbor Hills Park at 9 am to get your supplies. Bring the kids! We're in special need of a volunteer with a power washer to make the signs at the entrances of our neighborhood shine!

PARTY IN THE PARK - FOOD TRUCK NIGHTS

May 12th, July 7th, August 18th and September 21st

Join us at Arbor Hills Park!

MAKE MUSIC MADISON IN ARBOR HILLS PARK

Wednesday June 21st

See page 7 for more details

INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

July 2nd

AHNA ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday October 10th, 6:30-8pm, Arbor Covenant Church

HALLOWEEN PARTY/TRUNK OR TREAT

October 29th

HOLIDAY LIGHTS COMPETITION

Last weeks of December

IN MEMORY - MARILYN HURST

One of the longest residents of Arbor Hills, Marilyn B. Hurst of Grandview Boulevard, age 90, passed away February 1st.

The entire Arbor Hills Neighborhood was lucky to have her as a neighbor for more than 50 years.

Marilyn served as a docent at the University of Wisconsin Geology Museum for many years. She earned her MS in Behavioral Disabilities and her PhD in Adult Education, focusing on museum education for blind and disabled visitors.

She is survived by her beloved husband Bill; son David; and son Doug.

Expressions of sympathy can be made in her name to the Friends of the Geology Museum, 1215 West Dayton Street, Madison, WI, 53706 by check or the UW Geology Museum Fund geologymuseum.org.

Read her full obituary at Legacy.com

RENEW YOUR AHNA MEMBERSHIP – OR BECOME A NEW MEMBER - FOR 2023!

Membership year is October 1 through September 30

Members of the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association (AHNA) play a critical role in making this neighborhood a wonderful place to live, work, and play. As a member, you support:

- Neighborhood events (like our annual Fourth of July Parade, food truck nights in the park, a Halloween party, and more)
- This newsletter, which contains important information about events, get to know your neighbors features, and other news to help you stay connected with your local community

- Members have voting privileges at our annual neighborhood meeting, where Board members are elected and where updates about neighborhood activities are shared with attendees
- Your membership also helps amplify our voice when we speak with city officials about issues affecting Arbor Hills.

To become a member: pay online at arborhills.org, use the PayPal App (just scan the QR code), or pay by cash or check (form is on the website, mail to: Mary Sara, AHNA, 3125 Ashford Lane, Madison, 53713). The annual



amount is \$20.00 and if paying by check, it should be made out to AHNA. The 2023 Budget can be found on our website (arborhills.org), under **Resources**. [Please send an email to treasurer@arborhills.org to check your membership status for 2023!]

Thank you for supporting our neighborhood!