



ARBOR HILLS
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE ARBOR HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION, MADISON, WI

FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER

SUMMER EVENTS WERE IN FULL SWING IN ARBOR HILLS!



MAKE MUSIC MADISON

We welcomed three musical groups to the park on a perfect summer evening in June. This annual tradition brought together neighbors to enjoy good food, great music, and each other's company on the summer solstice. Thanks to the events board members for putting on such a great event!



INDEPENDENCE DAY BIKE PARADE AND PICNIC

Every year around the 4th of July, Arbor Hills kids and adults alike gear up to celebrate Independence Day with a barbecue and kids parade. This year Madison Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway was spotted enjoying the festivities!

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fall means a few things in Arbor Hills: Post Road is busy again with kids headed back to Leopold for the school year, those beautiful mature trees that are the namesake for our neighborhood turn brilliant colors and keep us busy with yard work, and we gather for our Association's annual meeting. This meeting is an important time for all of you to hear from the board about what we've accomplished in the past year and to connect with our elected officials, neighborhood leaders, and police department. Members will also vote on board members, bylaw updates, and the 2024 budget. **We hope that you'll join us for the annual meeting on Tuesday, October 10th from 6:30-8 pm at Arbor Covenant Church.** I personally will likely not be there as it's right around the time we're expecting a new baby! But the meeting will be run by the very capable hands of the rest of your board.

Speaking of those excellent board members... how would you like to become one? This is a group of around a dozen people who make the AHNA run,



Ashley Gibson - AHNA President

from planning events to putting together communication and managing our budget. If you're thinking that you are too busy to fit it in, you're in good company—we are all volunteers, many with full-time jobs and families, or who are staying busy in retirement with grandkids, travel, and other volunteer commitments. Given that, we keep our monthly meetings on schedule and aim to keep time required outside of meetings to 2-3 hours each month. It's a fun, simple, and rewarding way to help make our neighborhood a great place to live. **If you're interested in serving on the board (or just learning more about the roles available), reach out to me at akgibson17@gmail.com or (507) 272-7123.**

Our summer events were a hit,

including several food truck nights in the park and our annual Independence Day bike parade and picnic. It has been so fun to see many of you out and about, enjoying some tasty food and connecting with your neighbors. We have one last event of the year: our Halloween costume parade—we hope to see you there! And even though it might seem early, planning for 2024 is already underway. **If you have ideas for events, volunteer opportunities, things you'd like to see in the newsletter, or other suggestions for the Association - now is the time to let us know!**

See you around the neighborhood,
Ashley Gibson
AHNA President



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FOOD TRUCK NIGHT AT ARBOR HILLS PARK

Neighbors have been enjoying food truck nights at Arbor Hills Park all summer thanks to the hard work of your events board members.

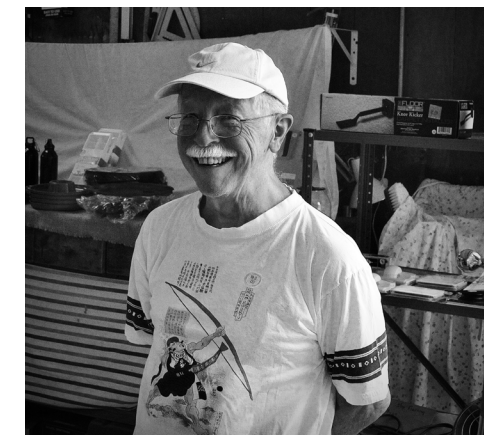


A special thanks to **George Roesch Johnson Photography** for providing all the incredible event photos in this edition. To see more of his work, check out **georgeroeschjohnson** on Instagram.

GARAGE SALE

A revival of an Arbor Hills Tradition!

This June, members of your board organized a neighborhood garage sale. The event was so well received that planning for the 2024 sale has already begun!



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LEOPOLD ELEMENTARY WELCOMES NEW PRINCIPAL, MARISSA FLOWERS

By Erica Fletcher, Newsletter Editor

I recently sat down with new Leopold Community School Principal Marisa Flowers to learn more about what is happening at the school and how Arbor Hills can get involved. Principal Flowers started as an Assistant Principal last fall at Leopold after more than 20 years as an educator, coach and leader in MMSD. I left the interview feeling assured that my own kindergarten and 3rd-grade students at Leopold were in great hands!

Where is Leopold Succeeding?

Flowers:

First, I would like to share that I can not wait for our doors to reopen as we start the 23-24 school year at Leopold. Over the past weeks Leopold staff engaged in professional learning focused on high quality culturally relevant instruction, creating the necessary conditions to foster and strengthen a sense of belonging and refining our systems and structures to support student success. I left our four days of professional learning invigorated by our staff whom I would

describe as committed to our students, family and larger Leopold community and deeply passionate about the work that lies ahead of us as we strive to actualize our equity vision.

We are ready to welcome our students in all of their brilliance, joy and creativity back to Leopold!

Earlier this week, Leopold hosted our annual Back to School Block Party. The turnout was amazing. The joy on students' faces when they were able to reconnect with peers, give hugs to their teachers from last year or meet their new teachers served as evidence of our success in building positive relationships between staff and students. Last year on our Culture and Climate Survey, students overwhelmingly responded positively to questions regarding relationships with teachers and feeling supported by teachers committed to their success. We will continue to focus on these relationships while also strengthening peer to peer relationships through an intentional focus on social emotional

learning and increasing student to student discourse in all learning environments and across content areas.

What areas will you be focusing on improving?

Flowers: In addition to what I previously shared, one of my priorities is to continue to focus on improving our literacy and math student outcomes. This means ensuring our instructional staff have all the resources, training and coaching they need to ensure every child reaches their full potential. It also means ensuring that each student in every class has access to high quality culturally relevant instruction in order to cultivate their literate and mathematical identities. The other piece is increasing students' exposure to a variety of texts and being engaged in reading, writing and discussing texts. That ties in with the last area of improvement I'm looking at: expanding the role of community within our community school. This year, I would like to increase the number

of volunteers in the school reading to our students, listening to our students read or guiding students in engaging activities tied to literacy, math and science.

How can Arbor Hills help?

Flowers: Volunteer to support our literacy efforts. If you do one thing this year, sign up to become a volunteer, then pick a few times to come to Leopold. We are looking for volunteers

during the school day as well as during our after school clubs that will launch this fall. It makes a world of difference.

You could also become a garden bar ambassador. This year marks the relaunch of the garden bar at lunchtime, a cart of fresh fruit and vegetables the students can choose from. A garden bar ambassador can choose a few lunch periods that work in their schedule and join us in

building relationships with students and helping to create healthy habits for our students by being an ambassador for healthy food options.

I welcome you to Leopold! Together we can! Juntos Podemos!

To volunteer in any capacity at Leopold Elementary, start here:

<https://leopold.madison.k12.wi.us/families/volunteer-opportunities>

NEW CITY DARK SKIES ORDINANCE

By Erica Fletcher, Newsletter Editor

The City of Madison recently passed a resolution to commit to the 5 principles of responsible outdoor lighting and to apply to be designated as an International Dark Sky Community.

There has been a corresponding change to the city's light ordinance to **reduce the permitted brightness of unshielded light fixtures from 1,000 lumens to 500**. That's the equivalent of replacing a 70-watt light bulb with a 40-watt bulb.

The owner can **simply change the**

bulb or shield the light fixtures to comply.

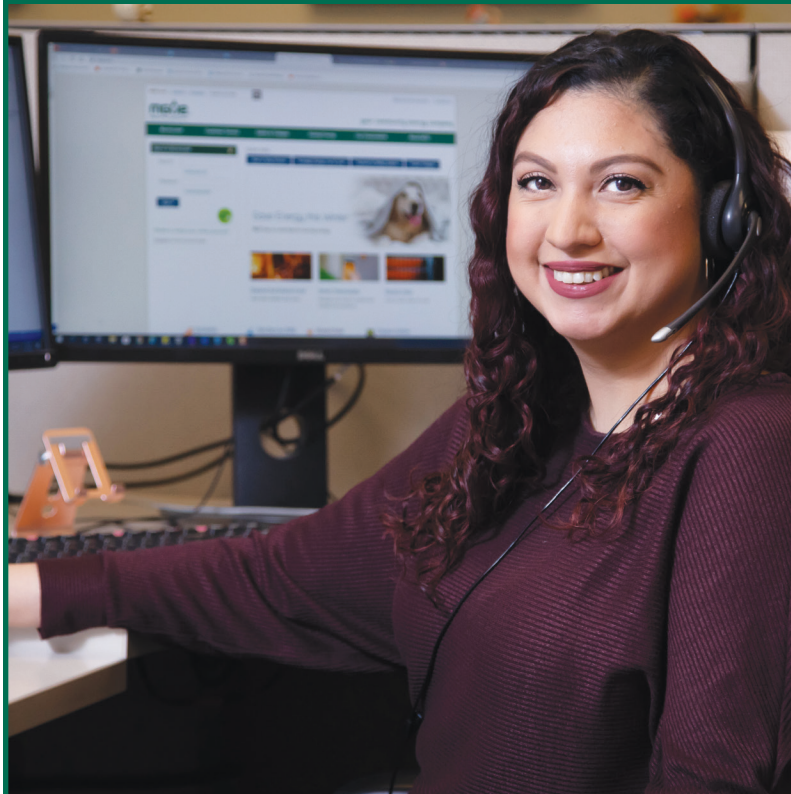
What is not changing is the guidance that the light source should not be of such intensity so as to cause discomfort or annoyance.

Learn more about outdoor light pollution and International Dark Sky Communities at <https://darksky.org/>

Thanks to Council VP Alder Yannette Figueroa Cole for explaining the new changes.



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URBAN HARVEST

By the Garden Committee, with Special Contributions from Pat Diehl, Todd Drive Block Captain

Only one year into its reintroduction to Arbor Hills, the Garden Committee has been busy celebrating its achievements and community impact, highlighted by the abundant urban harvests in our neighborhood!

Arbor Hills is blessed with two community gardens that provide fresh fruits and vegetables, an opportunity to get to know your neighbors, and get sunshine and exercise. The garden at Leopold School is open to the neighborhood whether or not you have children at the school. The Leopold Community Garden located in Leopold Park is available for a nominal, seasonal fee based on square footage.

Looking for something closer to home? Tired of mediocre peaches? Then plant your own peach tree! The peaches you harvest will have excellent flavor. Peaches will grow in our area; you just need to plant a suitable variety to survive our winters.

Two recommended varieties are "Contender" and "Reliance." Both are self-pollinating; only one tree is required, and they are late blooming, which helps the blossom to survive a late cold snap. Both bear medium to large peaches. Peach trees need full sun, 6 to 8 hours of sunshine, well-drained soil, and air circulation.

You can find care information at www.starkbros.com/growing-guide/how-to-grow/fruit-trees/peach-trees.

The Garden Committee understands we all benefit from each other's gardening wisdom and the opportunity to exchange produce. Gardens are a place to escape from the hurried pace of life these days. Join us by contacting Contact Linda Szabo at **615-500-2389** or Janell Morehead at **608-278-7053**, janell@rumtum.org.



A "Contender" variety tree in the neighborhood



Harvest at Leopold Community Garden



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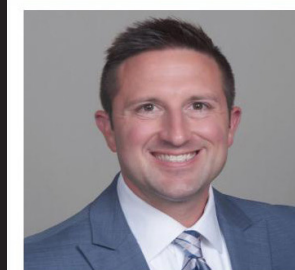
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NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

PARTY IN THE PARK- FOOD TRUCK NIGHT 9/21 5-7 ARBOR HILLS PARK
 Take a night off from Cooking and hang out with your neighbors!

Aloha Wagon food truck and an additional food truck (TBD) will be there!

AHNA ANNUAL MEETING
 Tuesday, October 10th
 6:30-8

ARBOR COVENANT CHURCH
 Bring a pair of boots (new or used) to donate to Leopold Elementary and be entered in a drawing for a prize!

HALLOWEEN PARTY/TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday, October 29th, 3 PM
 The parade starts at three at the corner of Grandview and Leyton
 Wear your costume and follow the Parade to the Park!

THE HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST
 December 1-25

This is your moment to SHINE! Deck out your home with all the holiday decorations. At the end of December, AHNA judges will travel the neighborhood selecting the houses with the most magnificent displays, and one home will be crowned the winner.

LEYTON LANE BLOCK PARTY

Arbor Hills is still a place where neighbors get together for old-fashioned picnics, like this August gathering that included residents of Leyton Lane and Leyton Circle, held in a driveway with folks contributing tables, chairs, table cloths, grilled pork and fresh veggie salads. Interested in throwing a block

party? Go ahead and organize your street(s) for a fun get-together and reach out to Block Captain Coordinator Lisa Fernandez pocoapocolisa@juno.com to have AHNA help cover the costs. Share photos with newsletter editor Erica Fletcher erica.lee.fletcher@gmail.com so we can show off your event!



BECOME A MEMBER FOR 2024

We hope you will consider becoming a member of the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association in 2024! Membership dues pay for this printed newsletter, lighting of the neighborhood sign, insurance, neighborhood events, and more! Annual Budgets can be found on our website (arborhills.org).

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

Thank you for supporting our neighborhood!



Membership year is October 1 through September 30

Seed - \$20



Covers the printing of 8 newsletters
 OR half of the ice cream for our annual Independence Day picnic
 OR 5% of the annual cost of lighting our neighborhood sign

Sapling - \$30



Covers the printing of 12 newsletters
 OR a quarter of the hot dogs for our annual Independence Day picnic
 OR three signs to advertise our events

Tree - \$50



Covers the printing of 20 newsletters
 OR a quarter of the cost of a musician for Food Truck Night
 OR a third of our annual website cost

Please complete and return this form with a check payable to AHNA.

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