



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

SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Three years ago, my husband Ean and I first set foot in a house in Leyton Circle that would later become our home. We loved the mature trees lining the street, the spacious backyard, and the layout of the house that we could envision our future family growing into. But what sold us wasn't the number of bedrooms or the granite countertops - it was a piece of paper lying on the table: the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association newsletter. It was filled with event notices and photos of kids around the neighborhood. It was clear that this wasn't just a neighborhood - it was a community.



That newsletter advertised for an opening in the role as the newsletter editor, and I signed up before we even closed on the house. During my time in that role on the board, many of you warmly welcomed me into your homes so I could interview you for the "Know Your Neighbor" articles - though this year, we've met virtually instead. I got a sense of the diversity of the people who live in Arbor Hills, and gained an even greater appreciation for the community that we're now a part of. Now, in my new role as board president, I'm honored to be able to continue that focus on creating connections and building on the strong foundation that's already here.

As a board, we've set some ambitious goals for 2021. We were saddened to have to cancel most of the events over the past year, but this year we're hopeful that we'll be able to keep our full event calendar - with safety measures in place. Make sure you save the dates for the events listed on the back of the newsletter! We're going to work hard to hit our membership goal of 175 households this year, because our Association is only as strong as its members. We're also focusing on communicating with all of you. We kicked off the year with a survey to all of the email addresses we had on file from past members because it's important that we're listening to you about your priorities for our neighborhood. We have a brand new website (check out the new arborhills.org!), and we're dusting off our plans for using Facebook, Next Door, email, and potentially Instagram in the future.

All of this will be possible because of the work of our board members who volunteer their time - in between their jobs, their time with their families, and the rest of the demands on their full calendars. There are several new faces this year who were elected to the board at our annual neighborhood meeting last year. They'll be joining a veteran crew of experienced board members, along with our incredible crew of neighborhood block captains who welcome new neighbors and hand-deliver your newsletters to your mailbox each quarter. Check out page two to get to know the rest of the AHNA board!

Later this year, Ean and I are excited that the future we'd envisioned when we first set foot in this house is coming true - we're welcoming Baby Gibson in July! We hope to see you around the neighborhood soon. We'll be walking our cocker spaniel Charlie, and soon we'll have a stroller in tow, too.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our community, and please feel free to reach out to me if you'd like to connect!

Sincerely,
Ashley Gibson | **Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association President** | akgibson17@gmail.com



AHNA BOARD MEETINGS

The Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association Board meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every other month from 6:30-8:00 PM. The board will continue to meet virtually until public health authorities deem that it's safe to gather.

All residents are welcome to attend - just let a board member know if you plan on attending or email AHNA at info@arborhills.org. See page 7 or arborhills.org/board-members for the list of board members and contact information.

THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE MAY 11TH.
To see past meeting minutes, visit arborhills.org/meeting-minutes.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS JOIN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

We are pleased to welcome four new board members to the AHNA Board in 2021! Please read on to learn more about the Association's newest leaders below:



Jackie Bastyr Cooper
Recording Secretary
Jackie.cooper@wisc.edu

My husband and I bought our house on Heatherdell Lane back in 1998 a few months before our wedding. Our son was born in 2000 and our daughter in 2002. When the kids were little we attended the 4th of July parade and celebrations in the park.

Both kids attended Leopold, Cherokee, and West. I was Leopold's Parent Faculty Organization (PFO) president for 3 years and helped a lot with their annual events (especially the Timberwolf Trample – started by the parents of one of my son's classmates).

When my son was a freshman at West I became involved with the Madison West Athletic Booster Association (MWABA) as a liaison for the wrestling team. The following year I became part of the executive committee as the website editor. I am still involved with that group: updating the website (mwaba.org), managing their social media (Twitter: @west_athletic, Facebook: @MWABAWestBoosters), and communicating with parents/students via a dedicated Gmail account (also helping at events).



Nicholas Griffiths
Block Captain Coordinator
1nicholasg@gmail.com

I moved to Arbor Hills in spring of 2018. I love our street, Arbor Hills Park and the location of Arbor Hills in relation to Madison and the greater Madison area. I wanted to get involved to meet neighbors and create an inclusive neighborhood.

My professional experience includes over 17 years in Higher Education Administration at Northwestern University, Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. My professional and personal experience will help with electronic communication during COVID.

I hope to create a more cohesive neighborhood environment, resulting in a cleaner, more welcoming, safer, and more neighborly Arbor Hills. I look forward to maintaining, and eventually increasing, lines of communication with block captains.



Michael Horecki
Newsletter Editor
michael.horecki@gmail.com



My wife and I moved to Arbor Hills this February 2020 right before COVID-19 shut everything down. Being new to the area, I wanted to find a way to get involved and meet folks in the area all while helping bring the community together!

My day job is working for a large Communications Agency here in Madison! I lead a team of Public Relations professionals who work to secure media coverage for clients across the country. I have extensive experience writing articles like the ones that would go in the newsletter and enjoy finding interesting stories and sharing them!

I'm looking forward to connecting with folks in the community and sharing the stories of our friends and neighbors! Especially during this time when people feel disconnected, I am eager to find ways to bring people together and celebrate the positive happenings in our area!



Rebecca Koerschner
Corresponding Secretary
rcalvanico.w@gmail.com

My husband and I moved to Arbor Hills almost 2 years ago (November 2018). We spent the first year in our home mostly living out of boxes while we planned our wedding. We attended a couple of the food cart nights and got to know a few of our neighbors but I spent most of my free time planning and prepping for the wedding and honeymoon. We joined the neighborhood association, but didn't have much time to dedicate outside of that. Even though I didn't have much time, I always felt like I was a part of the neighborhood. Between a welcome from our block captain and the regular newsletters, we felt like a small piece of a larger whole. In the second year of living in Arbor Hills we had some new neighbors move in that didn't have the same experience. They didn't know about the AHNA, which made me feel like I needed to take action to make others feel welcome. I think there is a great opportunity for our neighborhood association to have better outreach to our new and younger neighbors, and I'm hoping that I can be a part of that!



EXPERTS AMONG US: George Roesch Johnson Photography

By Michael Horecki
AHNA Newsletter Editor

How did you get into photography?

I fell into photography somewhat indirectly searching for work after college. I was hired as a sound person, goffer, for a PR firm that was making a documentary film about poverty in America. One filming session was held in Appalachia, where I connected with the mountains and the people and was invited back to work as a community organizer and photographer for the Federation of

Communities In Service.



Photo Midwest Biannual Exhibition Selection

photography by Walter Sheffer, a famous Milwaukee Portrait photographer. I also knew the work of Walker Evans. The result was an experience of a lifetime and a self-published book of some of those photos.

After that, I started working as a TV news photographer and eventually ended up as a photographer/filmmaker, producer for the Milwaukee Humanities Project, where I created exhibits on aging, a traveling gallery on a bus and a Sunday public affairs program, among other projects.

How would you describe your influences?

I would say I am primarily a street photographer influenced by Robert Frank and C. Bresson.

To find more of George's work, follow him on Instagram @georgeroeschjohnson!

A LOOK BACK ON WINTER

Christmas Lights Contest Winner!

This year's winner of the Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association Christmas lights contest is Jolene Chadwick, who lives on Grandview Blvd. Jolene's decorations wowed the judges with intricate details, including spectacular icicles!



Credit: George Roesch Johnson

Congratulations, Chadwick family!

Leyton Lane "Lantern Eve"



Credit: Mike Palzkill

Residents of Leyton Lane worked together to place these beautiful ice lanterns - quite a sight when one walked the street! What a perfect setting for mittens and hot chocolate!



Josh Grotheer
Financial Advisor

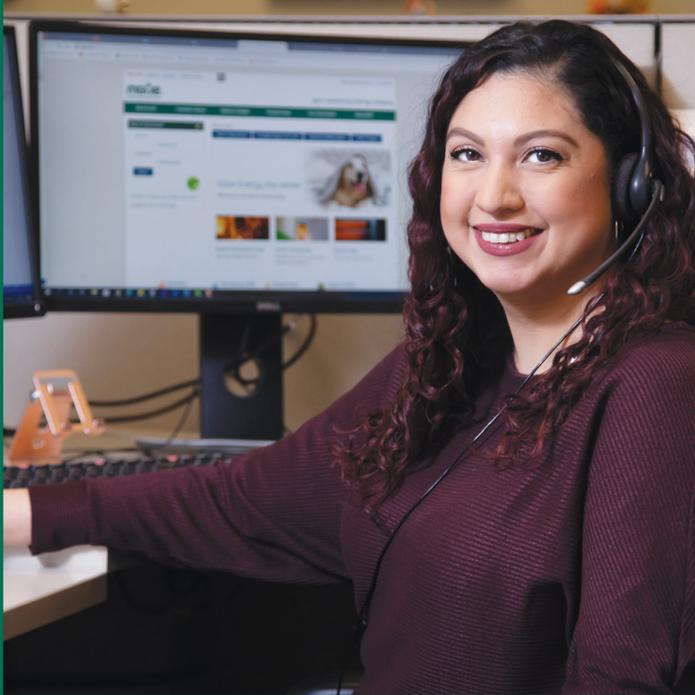
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Financial assistance may be available for your household. Energy Services, Inc. (ESI), is currently taking applications through an online portal at energybenefit.wi.gov or by phone at (800) 506-5596.

Visit mge.com/resources to find other community resources.



DON'T WASTE THE NIGHT

By Madeline Uraneck

globalmaddy@gmail.com | Leyton Lane

I once had a boyfriend who refused to waste full moon nights. On those evenings, when a bright white orb rose spectacularly on the horizon, we would walk the dirt roads, jumping over huge shadows that danced in the wind. One winter, we struggled down the valley in deep snow. A barn owl hooted and two deer startled us as they crashed their way back into the woods.

Ever since, I feel guilty when I sleep through these beautiful, magical nights. Many families have never gone out walking in the dark, never encountered the wonder of night birds that peep, rabbits that leave tracks in the snow, or branches that creek in the wind. City lights form patterns, traffic is hushed, glowing lights from our neighbors' homes remind us they are near.

Ancient world cultures have special names for the full moons, which often reflect the distinctions of passing seasons. Many that we use in Wisconsin come from Anishinaabe tribal languages or survived from early settlers. Don't pass up another full moon night. Grab a coat, a dog, a kid, and wander the bike path or Arboretum ways, bright in the mysteries of the moon.

**Supermoon, when moon's orbit is closest to earth, looks just a bit bigger*



Moon's Name	Date in 2021	Moonrise Madison
Crust Moon Sap Moon	March 26	7:32 pm
Broken Snowshoe Moon Frog Moon	April 26 *	7:33 pm
Corn Planting Moon Milk Moon	May 26	9:00 pm
Blooming Moon Strawberry Moon	June 24	9:07 pm
Berry Moon Buck Moon	July 23	8:44 pm

Source: <https://www.timeanddate.com/moon/usa/madison?month=4&year=2021>
Follow Bob Berman's Blog, "This Week's Amazing Sky" <https://www.almanac.com>

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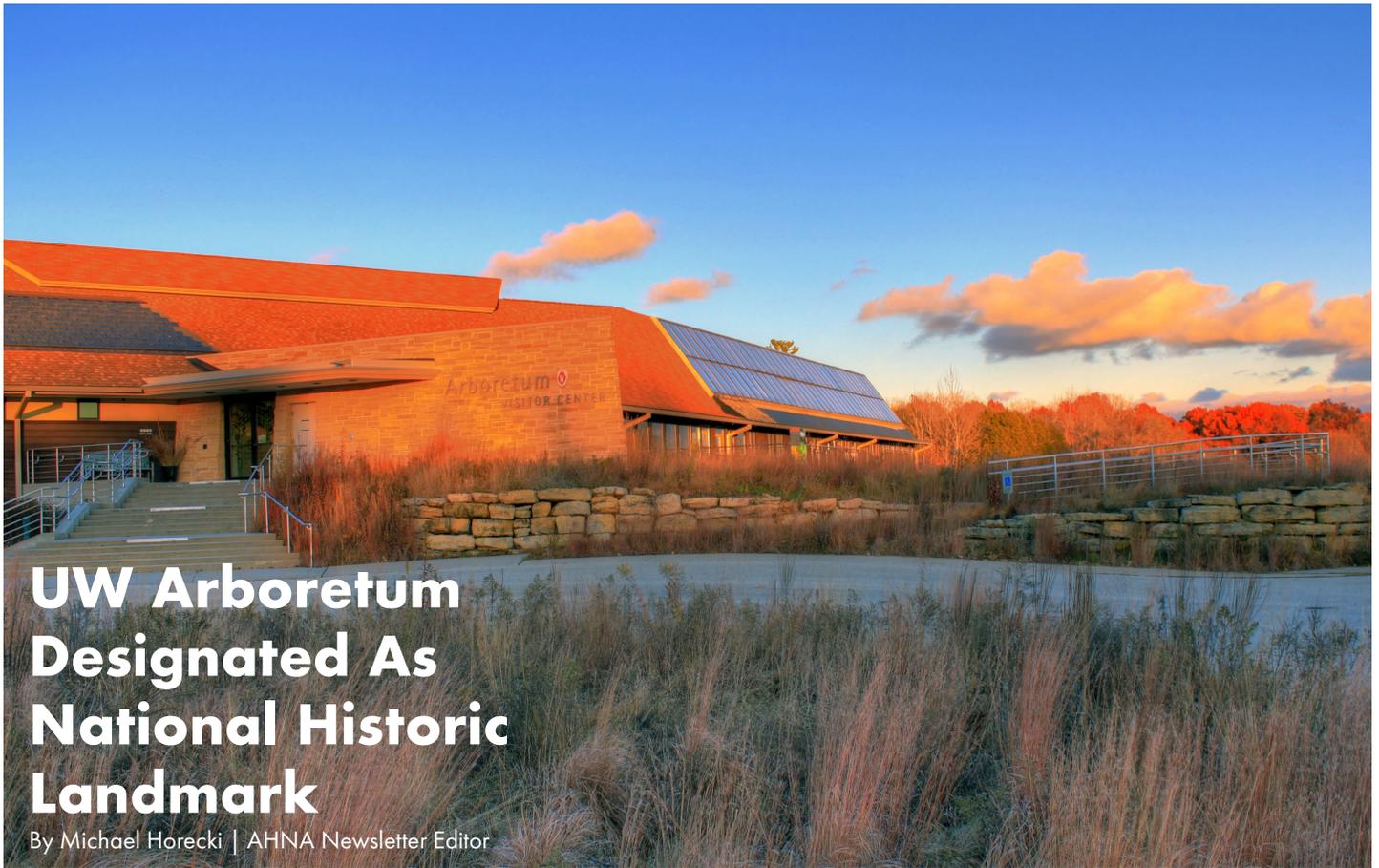
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UW Arboretum Designated As National Historic Landmark

By Michael Horecki | AHNA Newsletter Editor

Our very own UW-Arboretum has been designated a National Historic Landmark by the National Parks Service as of February 2021!

The designation was earned thanks to the “pioneering work in restoration ecology, its place in the history of conservation, and its commitment to Aldo Leopold’s land ethic,” according to UW-Madison.

Established in the 1930s as an outdoor lab, the Arboretum has served as a place of both science and recreation, with hundreds of walkers and bikers taking in nature inside the sanctuary boundaries every day.



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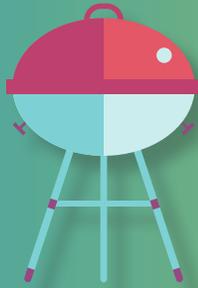
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Do You Know An Expert Living In Arbor Hills?

The newsletter staff are always looking for experts in our neighborhood to feature in the Experts Among Us column! If you know a neighbor with a cool hobby or passion, please reach out to the AHNA Newsletter Editor, Michael Horecki,





Upcoming Arbor Hill Neighborhood Association Dates

We hope you'll join us for these fun events this year! While we haven't been able to hold events as usual in recent months due to COVID-19, we're hopeful that in 2021 we'll start to be able to gather once again safely. In the meantime, we'll plan to hold outdoor events and ask that all attendees wear masks. If public health guidance prevents us from gathering, we'll update these events as they draw closer.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP: Saturday, April 24

In honor of Earth Day, we'll gather in Arbor Hills Park and then spread out around the neighborhood to pick up trash. This event will observe physical distancing guidelines. Please wear a mask and keep 6 feet of distance or more from those who don't live in your household.

SCAVENGER HUNT: Spring (date TBD)

Check out www.arborhills.org, for more details closer to the event date!



FOOD TRUCKS IN THE PARK:

Thursday, May 13

Thursday June 10

Thursday August 12

Thursday September 9

Skip a night of cooking dinner and join us for a fun night in Arbor Hills Park! There will be a food truck - or a few - serving up some delicious options and other entertainment like music and games - safety precautions permitting. Are you a musician interested in playing at one of these events? Send a note to Event Coordinator Samantha Castro at scastro817@yahoo.com.

NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE:

Saturday, June 12

As neighbors clean out their homes and others go in search of reclaimed treasures, we'll share a map to help you figure out where you'd like to shop. Interested in hosting a garage sale? Send a note to Event Coordinator Samantha Castro at scastro817@yahoo.com.

4TH OF JULY PARTY:

Sunday, July 4

Check out www.arborhills.org, for more details closer to the event date!



ANNUAL MEETING:

Tuesday, October 11, 6:30-8 pm

The Annual Meeting is an opportunity for all AHNA members to gather to elect board members, hear updates about the board's activities over the past year, and speak directly with leaders like city officials and law enforcement about issues affecting Arbor Hills. This meeting has traditionally been held at Arbor Covenant Church, but this year we may elect to hold the meeting virtually as this was a successful format in 2020.

HALLOWEEN PARTY:

Sunday, October 31

Check out www.arborhills.org, for more details closer to the event date!

Membership With The AHNA

Included with this month's newsletter are materials designed to help you sign up for the Neighborhood Association. Whether you are a member who needs to pay your dues or are interested in joining for the first time, we have enclosed an envelope to make it as easy as possible for you! We have also included a QR code that you can scan if you would rather pay your dues online!

Happy New Year,
The Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association

