

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

FALL 2016 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Neighbor,

By way of introduction, I just took over as president of the AHNA because Carol Harrison and her husband, Jonathan, are moving to Iowa where Jonathan has taken a new job. We owe Carol a big thanks for her leadership and energy as our President.

Soon after this transition, the Board learned many details about the County wanting to establish a re-entry house for felons unable to find housing after completing their prison terms next to our neighborhood school at Leopold. You, your board, community leaders, and interested parties immediately swung into action to understand the implications. It all came to a head quickly ten days later when nearly 100 neighbors met with officials to weigh the pros and cons of the proposed center. The strength of your questions and opinions demonstrated that when something is on your mind, you can rally quickly, regardless of where you fell on the issue. That is a powerful lesson for all of us.

This neighborhood and your board spends a lot of time focused on fun events such as the 4th of July picnic and we have one serious meeting each fall where we take care of such business as electing officers and approving budgets. But on occasion, you and your board have to wheel into action quickly and decisively as happened in August and as has occurred in Arbor Hills every two to three years for over 40 years.

It was never enough just to take care of our homes. We needed to protect the community as a group from problems that affect all of us.

The lesson I drew from the re-entry episode is that we must work closely together to accomplish that. I learned that representing Arbor Hills gave your board real political muscle. So, to strengthen that, I ask that if you are not a member of the AHNA please join now so that your board's political muscle strengthens. Thanks!

Jim Cortada AHNA Board President

AHNA BOARD MEETINGS

The Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association Board meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 7:00 - 9:00 PM.

Every resident is welcome to attend.

Please contact a board member if you plan on attending the meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Saturday, October 29th 10:30 am - 1:00 pm Arbor Covenant Church 2509 McDivitt Road

AHNA ANNUAL MEETING Will be on December 5th!

MORE EVENT INFO INSIDE!

CHECK OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR DETAILS AND REMINDERS!

FIND US ONLINE

www.arborhills.org

SIGN UP FOR NEWS

Subscribe to our emails by sending your email address to info@arborhills.org

SOCIALIZE!

Find us on Facebook! There are several Arbor Hills groups from all over the country on Facebook. Be sure to look for our logo (above) in the profile picture or search for @arborhillsneighborhood!

STAY CONNECTED!



2ND ANNUAL HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION!

The Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association is hosting the second Trunk or Treat Halloween party for kids and families!

WHEN: Saturday, October 29th, 10:30 am - 1:00 pm

WHERE: Arbor Covenant Church at 2509 McDivitt Road off of Todd Drive

Last year's event was a great success and we encourage you and your children to join us again this year; rain, snow, or shine! Come in costumes and be prepared for a ghoulish party with games, food, and Halloween fun!

Please let us know if you plan to join us so we have enough treats to go around: 608.274.6382



2016 ANNUAL MEETING

Please hold Monday, December 5th, for this year's AHNA Annual Meeting.

The meeting with be held from 6:30-8:00 pm at the Arbor Covenant Church and all members are encouraged to attend. Residents interested in becoming members may join on site before the meeting. Bring a neighbor who may want to learn more about AHNA and what we do!

This year's meeting is an important one. <u>There will be updates from the AHNA Board and from law enforcement about the actions being taken in reaction to recent violent crime in our neighborhood.</u> We'll also discuss changes in our Board of Directors, new openings, new volunteer opportunities, information about the latest happenings at Leopold Elementary School, and city and county issues of importance to Arbor Hills.

More details to follow! Keep an eye on our Facebook page or your inbox to learn more.

WHAT A FUN 4TH OF JULY!









This year's 4th of July celebration was another great one!

We had beautiful weather for games of all kinds, delicious food, and fun with our neighbors.

Thank you, as always, to the many volunteers who helped make this event such a success. We look forward to this fun day in the park every year!

A FAREWELL FROM OUR PAST PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors,

I am writing to share the news that my husband Jonathan and I are leaving Arbor Hills. Jonathan has accepted a position in Hampton, lowa and this is the right move for our future, but we are very sad to leave this wonderful, beautiful neighborhood, where we have made so many friends.

I have served on the board for at least four years – first as the Block Captain Coordinator, then the Vice President, and lastly as President. I have worked with wonderful people in the neighborhood, the City of Madison Dept. of Planning and Development, the South District Police Captains and our neighborhood officers, and many, many more people in our community. I leave with a very heavy heart.

The Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association bylaws require that I step down from the Board so I submitted my resignation on August 2nd. Jim Cortada, our Vice President, will assume the role of President until the Annual Meeting when AHNA members may elect a permanent President. I leave a very dedicated, knowledgeable and strong Board who are a delight to work with. I truly believe the Association could not be in better hands.

While I was president, our membership grew to at least 189 household members, which we haven't had since 2011! We planned and executed a number of new events, including the greatly successful Halloween Party which will happen again in just a few weeks! We expanded our communications through e-blasts, a new website, a revamped Facebook page, and through postings on the NextDoor website. We have accomplished a great deal in a short time!

Please applaud the board members, because none of this could have happened without their dedication and volunteerism. It takes a team and you have a strong and vital one here in the board and the neighborhood.

As I leave, I want to thank our neighbors for all the support they have given to the Association as volunteers on various projects, for serving as block captains, as members of the board, and for their advice. Our community is changing in a very positive way with the new families moving in with children – always a welcome development – and as that happens, houses are selling very well and quickly – all good signs of the attraction of Arbor Hills.

We can always use more help and we now have two openings on the board – an Events Coordinator and a Vice President. Serving this wonderful neighborhood is very rewarding and fulfilling. Contact Jim Cortada at **president@arborhills.org** or any board members to explore the possibility. Why not join the fun we have had in serving?

So, I bid adieu and good wishes for all.

Carol K Harrison

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

UPDATE ON RECENT CRIME IN ARBOR HILLS

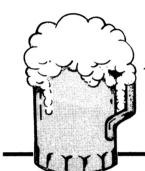
We'd like to provide you with a brief update on the Community meeting held October 3rd regarding the recent shooting in Arbor Hills. The meeting was very well attended-thank you to everyone who was able to make it. For those of you who couldn't attend, there was a lot of information covered, and here is a brief summary.

MPD Chief Koval assured us that despite the rash of isolated shootings recently, we actually do live in a safe neighborhood. Captain Patterson of the South District then described the timeline of events (for the last shooting) and the steps the police took along the way. He confirmed that this shooting was NOT drug or gang related and that it was an isolated incident between adults who knew each other, but that do not live in the neighborhood.

So what can we do?

- · If you see something, say something!
- Call 911 (not the local police number) even if you're not sure if it is an "emergency". Let the police figure it out; that's their job.
- Get to know your neighbors. By knowing your neighbors, it is easier to recognize and report suspicious activity.
- Don't hesitate to contact our Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO): Scott Beckfield, abeckfield@cityofmadison.com





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A WARM WELCOME!

The AHNA Board is pleased to announce that Samantha Castro will be our new Event Coordinator!

Samantha has a great amount of experience in event planning and coordination and will be a great help as we move into 2017. We're looking forward to collaborating with her and with all of you for great events of all kinds in Arbor Hills!

No Event Coordinator can do the job alone. We always need volunteers to help plan and run events throughout the year. If you're interested in helping out a little or a lot, we'd love to hear from you. Please email **events@arborhills.org** for more information or to jump in and volunteer!



We know no one wants to think about snow, but we have to give you a head's up. This year AHNA is sponsoring the first ever Arbor Hills Christmas Light Contest!

We're working out the details and will keep you posted as they are set, but it's never too early to be thinking of just how you might want to decorate your home.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and in future e-blasts for more information or email events@arborhills.org.



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