

SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On an evening in May, I rounded the corner on my bike headed toward Arbor Hills Park for our first Food Truck Night of the year. I wasn't sure what to expect - after a year of staying home and staying safe, would people feel comfortable gathering, now that COVID-19 cases are declining and vaccinations are rising?

I was ecstatic to find the park filled with kids playing on the playground, neighbors catching up, and families enjoying a dinner that they didn't have to cook. The turnout was beyond our expectations - which also meant there was a long line for food, so now we know we need to bring in another truck for the next event!

The sense of community here in Arbor Hills was evident in a letter I recently received from a neighbor who has lived here for 53 years - more than a half-century - during which she and her husband have been Association members. After he sadly passed away on Christmas Day, she wasn't sure whether she was going to renew her membership, but she ultimately decided that she would because of the personal connections built up over the years and the ongoing personal outreach from our board. These kinds of connections speak to what makes this neighborhood so unique and special.

Now, for a few quick updates from your Board: Thank you to those of you who recently completed the neighborhood survey. It gave us a better sense of which events neighbors are most interested in, how you prefer we communicate with you, and which issues are most important to you so we can create a focused list of priorities. One thing we learned is that online communication platforms like Nextdoor and email are the top ways you receive information from the Board, in addition to this printed newsletter. Because of the increasing use of online communication, we determined that we will not be printing new neighborhood directories going forward. Though we know it's been a helpful resource for some, it's a significant effort and expense that we didn't feel was worth continuing given the limited use. Another reason for this decision is that we heard feedback from many neighbors who preferred not to list their contact information due to privacy concerns. In lieu of the directory, we're encouraging block captains to establish contact lists for their designated areas, so talk to your block captain if you're interested in getting a list. If you're not sure who your block captain is, you can look it up on arborhills.org, or call or email any of the board members (contact info is on the website and listed later in this newsletter).

Second, we heard from our recently re-elected Alder Sheri Carter that the proposed lighting project to add streetlights in Arbor Hills has been canceled due to insufficient interest and support from our neighborhood. If you're interested in learning more about this, please reach out to Sheri at district14@cityofmadison.com.

This newsletter is full of other great news and information, like photos from our Earth Day cleanup, updates to Madison's recycling program, and tips for dog owners - so read on! Hope to see you around the neighborhood and at our upcoming events throughout the summer.

Ashley Gibson | AHNA President



AHNA BOARD MEETINGS

The Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association Board meets on the 2nd Tuesday of every other month from 6:30 - 8 p.m. 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 SEPTEMBER 14TH. To see past meeting minutes, visit arborhills.org/meeting-minutes.



SUMMER 2021: Out With COVID, In With Restaurants, Live Music, And Mud Runs

By Madeline Uranek | Leyton Lane | globalmaddy@gmail.com

Residents of Arbor Hills are looking forward to a summer that will be very different from the COVID summer of 2020. While she was waiting in line for her Indonesian curry at Food Trucks Night on May 13, 2021, Leyton Lane writer Madeline Uranek asked folks the following question:

What's the thing you could not do last summer that you are most looking forward to this summer?

HOMECOMING

Atticus & Lauren | Nottingham Way

"We can finally have a housewarming party and BBQ for our family and friends," replied Atticus. Lauren explains, "We bought a house on Nottingham Way and moved in March 2020, just as the pandemic started." Atticus hopes to do some summer landscaping and wants to try to make a pizza oven before the guests start arriving.

CAMPING ON THE WISCONSIN RIVER

Brad & Jennifer With Kids Clara and Westin | Leyton Lane

Sitting out on the UW Memorial Union Terrace, and eating at restaurants in person, like Red Sushi, and not just doing take out are three things on Brad's list. As for the kids, Clara will be able to take ballet, and Westin can play T-ball and go to Keva Sports in Middleton.

LIVE SPORTS

Officer Devlin Hernke
Madison Police Dept's Liaison officer for Arbor Hills

"I'm looking forward to seeing live sports again, like Madison Forward (soccer) and Madison Mallards (baseball)." But will he dust off his old trombone? Some of us want to know.

BEING AROUND STRANGERS

Julie & Amanda | Countryside Corporate Apts.

Both Julie and Amanda had demanding work schedules during 2020, one with a new job in neurodiagnostics that involved a lot of travel. They are new to Arbor Hills and are "very much looking forward to being around strangers at more gatherings like this Food Truck Night."

CRUISE TO ITALY

Barb & Jim | Post Rd.

Barb and Jim have lived on Post Rd for 7 years, arriving here from Sun Prairie, where they lived 41 years. Jim is looking forward to going to restaurants again, while Barb is counting the days before a week's cruise to Sicily and Malta.

GRANDKIDS & TRAVEL

Past AH President Jim C. And His Neighbor, Artist John W. | Leyton Lane

Both Jim and John are looking forward to hugging their grand kids. Jim has three of them, ages 3 to 12, in Oregon, WI and Vail, Colorado. John will hug his grandkids in Eagan, MN, go camping in King's Canyon National Park, and then in August fly to southern France for a walking vacation.

MUD RUN

Crystal & Jason | with Daughter Wren, Age 4 ½

Little Wren has grandparents in southern Illinois and a grandma in Appleton. Crystal and Jason are looking forward to taking her to visit them. Wren herself is looking forward to a "mud run" in West Bend, which Crystal found on a HulaFrog webpage, a listing of great kid-friendly activities.

Furry Friends Are Always Welcome!



LIVE MUSIC AND SUNSETS

Abigail On Ardsley Circle with Seth, her boyfriend

Abigail has only lived in Arbor Hills ½ year, arriving in November 2020 from Rockford, Illinois. "I'm excited this summer to be properly introduced to Madison," she says. "Last winter things were closed, and events were cancelled, so we mostly just hiked." Seth plans to take her to hear live music and to watch sunsets over Lake Mendota from the UW Terrace.

Nothing Better Than An Evening With Popcorn



Jakarta Food Truck Visits Arbor Hills



NO MORE MASKS

Mary with son James
Age 15 | Irvington Way

James says he's looking forward to walking around without a mask, while his mom, Mary, can't wait to travel and has a trip to the California Red Woods lined up.

There were many more people to talk to, a surprising number of them new to Arbor Hills, all with fascinating backgrounds and inspiring summer plans, but the spicy aromas intensified, and the interviewer succumbed when her order came up.

MOM FRIENDS

Mike & Jackie | Heatherdell Lane

"I'm looking forward to going out to eat again," says Mike, "like at Laredo's Mexican Restaurant (on Fish Hatchery)." "Seeing my Mom Friends," adds Jackie. She's been getting together with a group of five women who met when their sons were in kindergarten in Aldo Leopold School. Now these "little boys" are entering their senior year in college. "It will be great to see them in person again," says Jackie.

LAKE MICHIGAN

Megan & Ryan
Newly Arrived Newlyweds

Megan and Ryan married in 2019 and arrived in Arbor Hills from Michigan during August 2020. Megan is used to being in close touch with her sister, and she can't wait to meet her after this pandemic year apart. They'll rent a house at the ½ way point on Lake Michigan. Megan's job in palliative care led her to find the Farley Center on the Internet. They'll tour there to learn more about green burial, but they also plan to enjoy some of the Farley Center's monthly live music concerts.



Arbor Hills Spring Cleans Pandemic Trash

By Michael Horecki | AHNA Newsletter Editor

After a winter where many stayed home more than even the usual cold requires, Arbor Hills neighbors showed up in force for the Spring Neighborhood Cleanup!

More than 25 residents from across the community met in Arbor Hills Park to say hello to neighbors they had not seen in months, grab bags and hit the frontage road as well as the Cannonball Bike Path to clean up months of debris.



AHNA President, Ashley Gibson kicks off the neighborhood cleanup!

In order to cover as much ground as possible, attendees separated into two teams - one to clean the frontage road and entrances to Arbor Hills, and another to gather refuse from the Cannonball Bike Path.



The frontage road cleanup crew spread along the road near the 7-11



Those groups with younger participants handled the less traffic dense bike path

"We had an excellent turnout, and we couldn't have asked for better weather," said AHNA President, Ashley Gibson. "We made a pretty big dent in the trash along Cannonball and the frontage road - there was no shortage of garbage to pick up!"

The group in total gathered more than 30 bags of trash and arranged with the city to pick up the bags for processing.

Never Fear, The Goats Are Here!

By Michael Horecki
AHNA Newsletter

The 12 acres at Knollwood Conservation Park had some special guests this summer - goats!



Photo Credit:
George Roesch Johnson

Goats Assisting With Underbrush Control At Knollwood Conservation Park

To assist with controlling undergrowth, grazing goats were deployed by the city for three weeks to assist with traditional methods of keeping the park healthy. The goat grazing helps the city rely less on herbicides to control challenging undergrowth species as the Conversation Park is restored and managed.

In total, 20 mamas and babies visited Knollwood!



Arbor Hills Needs Block Captains!

Are you interested in more involvement in your immediate community? The Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association is looking for block captain(s) for the following blocks in the Arbor Hills Neighborhood:

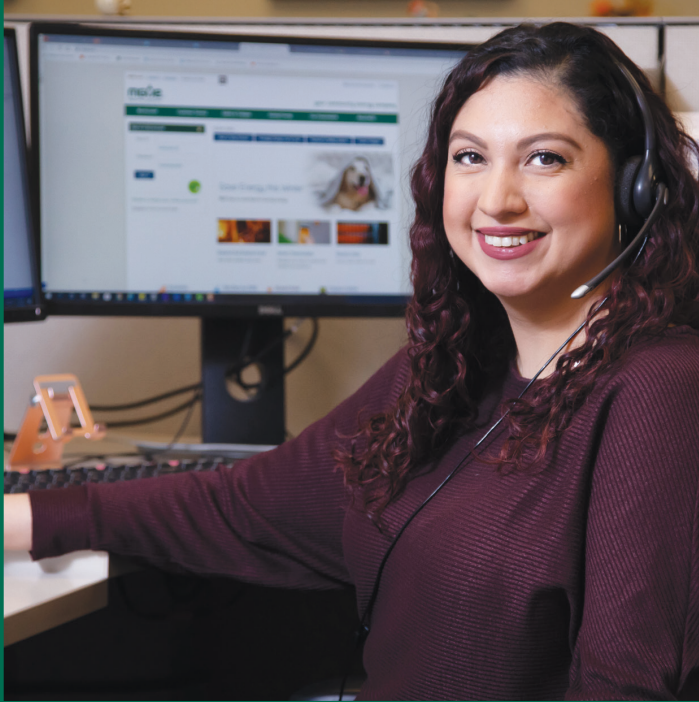
- Grandview Blvd Block 2808-2831
- Arbordale Court

The ideal volunteer would live on or near these blocks, is willing to distribute the AHNA quarterly newsletter and maintain communication with their block as well as the AHNA Block Captain Coordinator.

If you are interested, please reach out to Nicholas at 1nicholasg@gmail.com.



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An Important Message To Our Valued Customers

From Madison Gas and Electric Company (MGE)

As your community energy company, we appreciate the trust and confidence you have in us to provide safe, reliable energy. Sadly, scammers seek to exploit this relationship by portraying themselves as representatives of Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) to take advantage of our customers.

We have heard recently that some businesses throughout our community have been called by someone pretending to be MGE and demanding immediate payment of their bill.

The impostors continue to get more sophisticated – it may appear as though the call is coming from MGE. Or, in some cases, scammers may claim to know recent bill amounts. Do not call a number left by a scammer. Always call MGE at 608-252-7222.

The scammers typically claim accounts are past due and give instructions to pay with a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. Scammers often threaten disconnection of services within an hour. MGE would not contact a customer to request payment either by prepaid debit card, wire transfer, or green dot cards.

MGE will never threaten that we are coming within the hour to disconnect service. When a customer faces disconnection for nonpayment, there are several past due notifications that come in writing through the mail. Never allow anyone into your business or home for an unannounced visit to check your meter, electrical wiring, natural gas pipes, or appliances unless you have a scheduled appointment or are aware of a confirmed problem. Always ask for identification.

Please visit our website—mge.com/scam—to know when to spot a scam.

Never give out personal information. Always call MGE at 608-252-7222 if you have questions about your account.



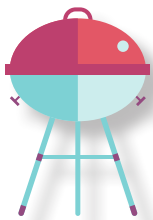
Arbor Hills Has a History You Can Help Preserve

By Jim Cortada | Contributor

Arbor Hills is nearly 7 decades old. Carved out of farmland outside of Madison when the Beltline was just a country road and before Leopold School was built, it became a community with an identity. Within a few years, residents had formed a garden club, then an association. Today, it is an in-town destination as Madison grew around it and beyond.

Interesting achievers lived here too: judges, world-class film critics, novelists, senior business and university executives, professors, doctors, nurses, teachers, lawyers trained at Harvard, software experts, fabulous gardeners, local TV reporters, city-wide community leaders, and three generations of children who went on to follow in their parents' footsteps. The 2020 Census will tell us more about how many we are, but think 2,000, with a higher level of education than most of the city, county, or the United States.

Your neighborhood association has been preserving historical records of Arbor Hill's history for years, but now wants to fill in gaps. Here is where you can help. AHNA is close to having enough documentation to soon start telling our story. Records show that residents have always nurtured a sense of community, organized to keep out warehouses and factories, to fight crime, and to build infrastructures from lights and streets, to planting trees and shrubs, to even a park. Your beautiful neighborhood was no accident, it was the legacy of several generations of neighbors doing the hard work of community building. Arbor Hills neighbors have served as a Madison Alder for over two decades, also a Town of Madison Chair (Mayor).



We have specific gaps that need filling and ask for your help. If you have copies of AHNA board minutes from the 1970s and 1980s or 1996 through 2015, we would like to have those (or copies) for the files. We are missing newsletters from the 1970s through the 1980s, and from 1999 through 2015. We also could use flyers and other documents you may have about activities in Arbor Hills in any period.

Our biggest need, however, is for photographs of Arbor Hills from the 1950s (from before it was Arbor Hills) through the 1990s. These can be street scenes, community activities (such as in the park), people walking on our streets, neighbors outside who should be remembered, etc. We do not need pictures of the interiors of your homes at this time, although a few backyard party pictures would be fun to have; photographs that document our way of living in Arbor Hills. We can accept original photographs, copies of these scanned or on paper, or we can scan your pictures and documents and return originals to you. If you can identify time and place for those that you can share, that would be helpful. These records will be preserved. Older ones will be deposited at a local library or archive for permanent preservation by experts. Some will be put on your neighborhood website to make these accessible to everyone. If we can get enough material, we want to publish a book-length history of Arbor Hills— City historians say your history is that important! To be proper about all this, we will assume if you give us photographs that you are also giving the AHNA the right to publish these on its website and in any other publications.



As a trained historian with a passion for our neighborhood - I am leading the initiative to collect these records and would love to connect with you about our shared history. No paper item is too trivial. Duplicates of any document dealing with Arbor Hills are welcome. This is our opportunity to share the story of our neighborhood with the rest of Dane County. Please contact me at jcortada@umn.edu or call at 608-274-6382 with any questions or submissions.

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EXPERTS AMONG US: The Dog Den's Steph Tauscher

By Michael Horecki | Editor

The pandemic changed everything and one major change we have all seen (and heard!!) is all the new dogs joining our community in Arbor Hills. To aid first-time pet parents, I sat down with Steph Tauscher of The Dog Den to get the must-know tips & tricks for those of us entering the world of dog ownership!

Q: Let's jump right in Steph - what's with all the barking from our furry friends?

A: It's not always our FAVORITE skill our dog can offer, but it is important to remember that barking is a natural form of canine communication. Some occasional barks could be equivalent to you saying "HOWDY" to your neighbor or perhaps catching up on the block gossip. However, the constant, incessant barking equivalent to a child running through Disney World SCREAMING (either in delight or fear) could land you on the shortlist of a lot of your neighbors.

Q: So break it down for me - why do all our cute pups bark?

A: Think of barking as a foreign language—before we can address "the problem" we need to figure out WHY exactly our dog is expressing themselves vocally to begin with? Was there a stranger? Did something scare them? Did their favorite song come on the radio? You can actually break some of the most common reasons your dog may be barking down into a few categories:

Alert Barking: Think of this as your dog saying "Hey! Something is amiss" or "Hey, you, get off my lawn"

Attention Barking: Think of this as your dog saying "Treat. Now." Or "Do you see how cute I am, you KNOW you want come give me some snuggles"

Frustration/Boredom Barking: Think of this as your dog saying "I don't know how to do what you are asking me" (often during training) or "C'mon I can train so much faster this is boring"

Fear Barking: Think of this type of barking as your dog saying "I'm Tuff, I'm tuff—oh shoot you called my bluff no I'm not" or "Stand down, don't make me...why I oughta"

Q: This makes so much sense! So how do we go about minimizing these different types of barks?

A: Give the following a try once you figure out what type of barking is taking place:

Alert Barking: Try this: Get up and check out what your dog is barking at (even if you can't figure it out—humor them). Once you are next to them simply say "Thank you, that's enough" as you place a treat in front of your dog's nose and lure them 6 steps from what they were barking at. Drop the treat on the floor as a reward for them.

They Learned: When you say "Thank you that's enough" they should walk away from what they are barking at and come find snacks

Attention Barking: Try this: DO NOT give them any sort of attention. This includes "no!" or "be quiet". Any attention in this case is rewarding to your dog even if it is not necessarily something we view as positive. Instead, try waiting (VERY PATIENTLY) for a moment of silence. When your dog is quiet THEN give them attention (pets, snacks, whatever you choose).

They Learned: When they are barking and carrying on, they get nada. Nothing. Zilch. But if they are quiet, they can get the lovin' they are looking for.

Frustration/Boredom Barking: Try this: Similar to attention barking DO NOT give this type of barking attention. Instead, try asking an easier question. Instead of "what is 2x7?" over and over again until you are both frustrated and yelling try asking the question a different way. "I have 2 7's, how many does that make?" To translate to dog, instead of "Down. Down. *bark* DOWN. DOWN! DOWN! *bark bark bark*" (see you're both yelling) try instead "Sit. Oh, good dog! Down. Yes! Good Dog" Different question, different answer.

They Learned: You are a team and can help each other, there is no need to get frustrated!

Fear Barking: Try This: If we are already barking on a walk, instead of trying to regain your dog's attention in that moment—add some distance. Walk away from the scary person, dog, or flapping tarp on a trailer etc. Review in your mind's eye—what did you notice RIGHT BEFORE your dog started barking? Did their ears go forward? Did they stop walking and go still? Did their panting mouth close? Did they lock on in a stare at the scary thing? Next time you notice that signal, BEFORE they bark, simply say their name and give a treat when they look at you.

They learned: I'm here for you, buddy! If you feel afraid, check in with me, and we can come up with a plan together.

Q: I'm already feeling overwhelmed! What if I need more than this article to help me?

A: If you are feeling overwhelmed and don't know where to start, reach out to class@thedogden.com. We are happy to be your dog trainer, translator, and finder of the mute button!



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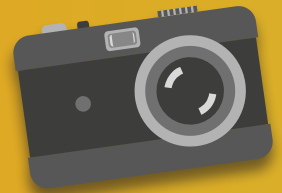
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Do You Know An Expert Living In Arbor Hills?

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 Hills Neighborhood Association Dates

We hope you'll join us for these fun events this year! As things are opening back up, we are excited to bring a full slate of programming back to Arbor Hills!

We hope to see you at these fun events planned for 2021 and if you need more information, just head on over to www.arborhills.org!

FOOD TRUCKS IN THE PARK:

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.

ANNUAL MEETING: **Tuesday, October 12, 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.

CORRECTION: **Annual Meeting Date**

In our previous edition, we mistakenly identified the Annual AHNA Meeting as taking place on Tuesday, October 11, 2021. The correct date for the meeting is Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

HALLOWEEN PARTY: **Sunday, October 31**

Details coming soon



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