



Spring Harbor News

A publication of the Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association (SHNA) serving the area from Shorewood Hills to Middleton and Lake Mendota to Old Middleton Road.

President's Corner

Matt Seib, President

Happy Spring everyone! There's a lot of happening these days, so my president's message is a bit longer than usual. I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming **All Neighbor Meeting on Tuesday, April 29th, 6:30pm at the Spring Harbor Middle School**, or somewhere around the neighborhood at one of our upcoming events. I've included some key information, which I will be covering in more detail at the All Neighbor Meeting.

Updates from the SHNA Board

The SHNA Board is looking to implement a few updates as we move into 2025. This first is an increase in annual membership dues from \$10 to \$20. There are a couple of reasons for this. For starters, the annual dues have been set at \$10 for a long time. We need to adjust to address increasing costs. Also, the Association has been operating with an annual budget deficit and relying on financial reserves for several years. We hope to remedy this challenge both by increasing membership dues, as well as increasing overall membership numbers in the future.

As I previously mentioned last fall, the other big thing the Board has been working on is making updates to the association bylaws. The goal for these updates has simply been to bring the document up to today's standards and bring clarity to several sections. We are looking to adopt the bylaws at the April 29th Spring All Neighbor Meeting. This will require an affirmative vote from two-thirds of all members in good standing who

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Garlic Mustard Pull Sat, April 19, 9-11am

(Rain date Sunday, April 26, 9-11am)

Garlic mustard is an invasive weed that spreads quickly taking over native spring plants. Don't let its heart-shaped leaves and delicious white flowers fool you into complacency! Celebrate Earth Day this year by helping to beautify our neighborhood. We will meet at Spring Harbor Park. Bags will be provided. Please bring garden gloves and any tools you might want to use to pull garlic mustard or work in the park gardens. Volunteering is a great way to meet neighbors and take pride in our parks! Any questions, please call or text Kim McBride at 608-628-8772.

Spring Clean Up Sat, April 26, 9-11am

It's officially Spring and time to spruce up our neighborhood! Please meet your neighbors at Spring Harbor Park to clean up our streets or work in the gardens. SHNA will provide bags. Bring work gloves or any garden equipment you might need. Can't join us but would like to help? Please carry a trash bag with you when walking in the neighborhood and pick up as you go. Thank you for helping to keep Spring Harbor neat, clean and beautiful. Any questions, please email Joan Martin at jmartin2701@gmail.com.

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are present. **You can review the existing and proposed bylaws (as well as a redlined version showing changes) on the SHNA website here: <http://www.springharboronline.com/policies>**

Budget

As I mentioned, the association has been operating with an annual budget deficit and relying on financial reserves for several years. The situation is not dire, but we are currently only meeting about two thirds of our annual expenses via revenue from annual memberships and donations. Of course this is not sustainable, which is why we are raising membership dues to \$20 annually. We are also seeking to increase total membership not only as a means to meet budget needs, but also to increase neighbor interaction and participation in the neighborhood.

What are membership dues for?

You may be wondering what membership dues go towards and what the association's budget is focused on. The short answer is those dues go towards activities and events that benefit the neighborhood. The majority of the budget is used to cover costs for events like the **4th of July Parade and Picnic, Labor Day Jazz in the Park, Halloween Carnival, and All Neighbor meetings**. Dues cover costs for facility fees, supplies, food, and other costs that make these events happen. To a much lesser extent, the budget also includes costs for website hosting fees, Zoom account, newsletter production costs, yard signs, etc. to help communicate association news to the neighborhood. In the past when possible, the association has also made financial contributions to support projects in the neighborhood such tree planting. The association is entirely volunteer-based, so dues are not being used to pay individuals for time or effort. ***If you enjoy or appreciate these kinds of activities, please support the association by becoming a member (and we'll always appreciate additional donations if you're able).***

Board Elections

This year we are saying goodbye to two board members (Erin McGrath and Rick Pearson) who are stepping down at the end of their terms this April. Erin has been serving as Secretary and Area 5 Director, and Rick Pearson was serving as Vice President. We also said goodbye to Area 4 Director Jeff Bauer who had to step down last fall (and was recently replaced by Faith Fitzpatrick via board appointment). Thanks to all three of them for their contributions! We will be holding our annual election of board officers and area directors at the April 29th Spring All Neighbor Meeting. As a reminder, voting must occur in person, with no proxy or absentee voting allowed at this time. Below is a slate of candidates for consideration. Notice that we currently do not have anyone identified for the vice president role. Please reach out to me if you are interested in running for a position, particularly vice president.

Officers		Area Directors	
President:	Matt Seib	Area 1:	Liz Freitick
Vice President:	Vacant	Area 2:	Art Pratt
Treasurer:	Joan Martin	Area 3:	Sue Alban
Secretary:	Kate Eberhard	Area 4:	Faith Fitzpatrick
		Area 5:	Taylor Konkle
		Area 6:	Stan Fuka



Spring Harbor Neighborhood Yard Sales

Friday, June 6, 8:00-5:00

Saturday, June 7, 8:00-2:00

Ready to de-clutter? Got stuff you don't want?

Join us for a neighborhood wide garage sale weekend!!

- Host a sale on your own or combine with a neighbor.
- A general ad will be placed on Craigslist and Facebook Marketplace.
- Each household is responsible for placing their own signs at key locations to direct shoppers to their sale.

Sponsored by *Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association*

Questions? Email Joan Martin jmartin2701@gmail.com

Dane County Board Report

Hi Neighbors,

My name is Keith Furman and I'm excited to introduce myself as your new County Board Supervisor. Following Aaron Collins' resignation in November, I was appointed to represent our district and continue the important work ahead.

Since 2013, my wife Sandi Reinardy and I have been proud to call the Spring Harbor neighborhood our home. My journey in public service spans from chairing Hoboken's Planning Board in New Jersey to serving as Alder representing Madison's District 19 from 2018 to 2023.

I'm honored to serve on three key committees:

- The Public Protection & Judiciary Committee (PP&J), where I'll focus on oversight of our court system, jail, District Attorney's office, and Sheriff's department. I'm committed to supporting reforms that enhance justice, equity, and public safety.
- The Lake & Watershed Commission, where I'll work to protect our precious water resources - something I've grown to appreciate deeply as a Spring Harbor resident.
- The Airport Commission, where I'll help guide one of our region's vital transportation hubs.

As we face potential changes in federal funding and support, I recognize the challenges ahead for our county's essential human services. I pledge to be a strong advocate for maintaining and strengthening these crucial resources that so many in our community depend upon.

Your voice matters to me. I welcome your questions, concerns, and ideas at furman.keith@danecounty.gov. You can subscribe to my County blog to get future updates: <https://keith.li/d10blog>

Lake Mendota Drive (LMD) Community Rain Gardens

We now have a total of 9 community terrace rain gardens along Lake Mendota Drive between Merrill Springs Rd and Norman Way, and will need additional volunteers this year to help with weeding as the gardens get established. There were over 4300 plants planted in the rain gardens in 2024. It will be wonderful to see them blooming this year. If you have your own terrace rain garden, or one you have or plan to have in your yard, this is a great way to become familiar with the rain garden plants and common weeds and maybe even meet a new neighbor that knows them.

We spent some time last year getting comfortable with weed pulling. Some of us have been pulling weeds for a while and can identify them better than those just getting started, especially with the prairie plants that we are not that familiar with. We all got better last year for sure. We can pair people up so that it benefits the learning curve. Sometimes it just took looking for a planting/spacing pattern and some perlite in the planting plug to know for sure :)

Our first weeding event will be Saturday April 12 at 9 am, meet at the Turtle Triangle (Spring Court and LMD). Bring gloves, trowel, and maybe a shovel.

We will try for the 2nd Saturday of the month at 9 am for the raingarden checkins to get something regular on the calendar. If you can spare an hour that's great, then get on to the usual Saturday activities. Contact Faith Fitzpatrick at fafitzpa@gmail.com with questions.

April 12
May 10
June 14
July 12
Aug 9
Sep 13
Oct 11

We are most in need of leaders for the two school gardens and the Beach parking lot. You don't have to be an expert to be a lead, just help coordinate the weeding.



Emily Jorgenson with City Engineering put this handy photo list of weeds that were commonly seen last year in the rain gardens: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/2zm43Sm62YFxFH7LRA>

UW Horticulture's photo list: <https://hort.extension.wisc.edu/article-topic/weed-identification/>

City of Madison's Homeowners guide to terrace rain gardens:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/documents/Homeowner%27s%20Guide%20to%20Terrace%20Rain%20Gardens.pdf>

Identification of common Wisconsin Weeds

<https://www.communitygroundworks.org/sites/default/files/Identification%20of%20Common%20Wisconsin%20Weeds.pdf>

Your Neighborhood

News From the Friends (FMS)

Park Care - Madison Parks has planted 2 new Black Oaks just west of the historic path and cleared out some of the brush buildup from last summer's storms. They are waiting for a second bid on replacement of damaged stone benches and tuckpointing the cistern. Additionally, Parks has been working on a new view easement for the SE hillside. The draft is expected to be completed soon.

Help Needed! - For the last 2 summers and falls, the FMS Board has been watering the new evergreens in the SE area, as needed, during their first months and through the droughts. With 2 new oaks, this is getting to be a bigger task (as we haul buckets of water up from the lake). If you are interested in helping a few times, or even once please contact us at: merrillsprings@gmail.com

Kiosk- A new kiosk blurb should be up by the time this newsletter reaches you. Keep jotting down your thoughts in the Journal Book. We love your comments. Suggestions always welcome.

Summer Solstice Celebration - While it is hardly summer, this is the last newsletter before our yearly June event. Watch Merrill Springs Park and the Turtle Garden for signs closer to event time. Everyone is welcome, instruments are provided for the drum circle led by Elmore Lawson. A record 50 attendees last year!

PR: Don't forget to follow us on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Merrill-Spring-366885473435529>

Thank You to all who renewed or joined FMS this Spring. TO JOIN OR RENEW your membership for 2023 [Friend(\$10),

Supporter(\$25) or Patron(\$50)], send a check made out to "Friends of Merrill Spring" to: Friends of Merrill Spring
c/o Alice Erickson
5109 Spring Ct
Madison, WI 53705

Indian Hills Garden Club

Welcome to the Indian Hills Garden Club! We are a group of passionate gardeners dedicated to sharing our love of plants and flowers with our community. Despite its historical name, our members come from all over our neighborhood. We welcome gardeners of all levels, from beginners to experts.

Our mission is to promote gardening, educate our members and the public about horticulture, and beautify our neighborhood through various gardening projects. We hold regular meetings with guest speakers, workshops, and garden tours. We also participate in community events, such as the Garlic Mustard Pull and Spring Neighborhood Clean Up.

We believe that gardening is a wonderful way to connect with nature, relax, and improve our well-being. We invite you to join us and discover the joys of gardening. The \$20 annual dues support a variety of local garden and environmental groups, and fund substantial donations to projects in our Spring Harbor neighborhood parks and the Spring Harbor Middle School greenhouse and gardens. If you are interested in joining our club, please email Joan Martin at jmartin2701@gmail.com.

Bulletin Board

Need some help? Helpers aged 12 to 18 are available for a variety of tasks in the categories below. Feel free to contact directly. Interested in helping out the neighborhood? You could be asked to mow lawns, shovel snow, water plants/gardens, lay mulch, walk dogs, cat sit and babysit. (Parents, always know for whom your child is working and where.) Please contact Kiki Foget at kikifoget@mac.com or 608-772-6448 to be listed in the online edition of the SHNA newsletter and on the SHNA listserv.

Child Care/Babysitting

Lisa Digman
Finja Phaneuf
Laurel Streekstra
lexandra Tiefenthaler

Rachel.wepner@gmail.com
silke.nc@gmail.com
streekstra2@gmail.com
allison.tiefen@gmail.com

Mother's Helper

Laurel Streekstra

streekstra2@gmail.com

Yardwork or Household Chores

Paul Digman
Abraham Foget
Daniel Sulman
Aaron Streekstra
Grant Tranowski
Theodore Tranowski

pauldigman14@gmail.com
kikifoget@mac.com
drsulman@madison.k12.wi.us
astreekstra@madison.k12.wi.us
aarnoldussen@gmail.com
aarnoldussen@gmail.com

Pet sitting

Abraham Foget
Finja Phaneuf
Daniel Sulman

kikifoget@mac.com
silke.nc@gmail.com
drsulman@madison.k12.wi.us

Pet Walking

Abraham Foget
Abusha Foget
Finja Phaneuf
Daniel Sulman

kikifoget@mac.com
kikifoget@mac.com
silke.nc@gmail.com
drsulman@madison.k12.wi.us



Hey Middle Schoolers and High Schoolers,

Looking for a way to advertise your babysitting, pet care or lawn care services? We can let members of the Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association (SHNA) know that you are available to help out by putting your name and email in the SHNA newsletter and sending it out to the SHNA listserv. People who need help will contact you directly. You can list your name under as many categories as you like and listings are free. Send your information to Kiki Foget, kikifoget@mac.com.

Join or renew your membership in **Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association**. Please fill out the form below to join SHNA or renew your membership and mail it to SHNA Treasurer, Joan Martin, 1701 Camelot Dr., Madison, 53705. Dues are \$20 per household per calendar year; donations are welcome.

Please make checks out to SHNA

Membership Dues \$ **20**
 Donation, unrestricted \$ _____
 Donation, neighborhood parks and greenspaces \$ _____
 TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____ email _____

Pay dues online with QR code:



The work of the SHNA is done through committees; help SHNA serve our neighborhood. Please check your interests.

- July 4th Picnic and Parade _____
- Serve on Board of Directors _____
- Deliver SHNA newsletter 3x a year _____
- Clean Up Day/ and Garlic Mustard Pull _____
- Serve on a SHNA committee _____
 - Historic Preservation _____
 - Parks and Natural Resources _____
 - Planning and Development _____
 - Halloween Party _____
 - Yard Sale _____

Pay dues online with CHEDDARUP:

<https://spring-harbor-neighborhood.cheddarup.com>

SHNA Board of Directors

President Matt Seib
Matt.seib@gmail.com
 Vice President Rick Pearson
rick@rickscoffeeshop.com
 Treasurer Joan Martin
jmartin2701@gmail.com
 Secretary Erin McGrath
emmcgrath@uwalumni.com

Area Directors

Area 1 Liz Freitick
efreitick@gmail.com
 Area 2 Art Pratt
pratt99@gmail.com
 Area 3 Sue Alban
susan.g.alban@gmail.com
 Area 4 Volunteer Needed
 Area 5 Erin McGrath
emmcgrath@uwalumni.com
 Area 6 Stan Fuka
stanfuka@gmail.com

