



# Spring Harbor News

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

## Fall Membership Meeting

**Tuesday, October 25, SPRING HARBOR MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**6:30 pm Potluck and Social, 7:00 pm Meeting**

*SHNA President Aaron Crandall*

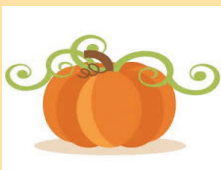
Save the date for our annual Fall Membership Meeting, planned for Tuesday, October 25, beginning at 6:30 pm, at the Spring Harbor Middle School. We will start off the meeting with a potluck and social for neighbors to mix and mingle over dinner for a little before the business meeting, which is planned to begin closer to 7 pm. Please plan to bring a dish to pass, and feel free to also bring your own service ware. We will have plates, napkins, and serving utensils available.



The agenda and speaker(s) are still being planned, and we may just use this meeting as an opportunity to provide updates on what is happening in the neighborhood to all our neighbors. We will announce the final agenda and any speaker(s) later in the month, closer to the meeting. Please check our website and Facebook for updates.

Plan to attend to find out more about what is happening in our neighborhood and the surrounding area. Also, the potluck will be a lot of fun and a great opportunity for neighbors to get together.

## Halloween Party Coordinator Needed!



The Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association is in need of a new Halloween Coordinator to coordinate our annual Halloween Party. Typically, the party is held the weekend before Halloween and the coordinator leads the activities for a couple of hours along with keeping the decorations and prizes that the neighborhood has accumulated over the years. It's a fairly simple volunteer activity and would be a great way for you to help your neighborhood with a great family activity. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Aaron Crandall at [aaron.crandall@yahoo.com](mailto:aaron.crandall@yahoo.com) or 608-294-9505. Happy Halloween!

## Dane County Board Report—District 10 Supervisor Jeremy Levin

I hope this edition of the SHNA newsletter finds you and your family well. The fall is when the County starts its annual budgeting process. The State's imposed levy limit, which allows a levy increase equal to the greater of zero percent or

the increase in equalized value due to net new construction, constrains the cost to continue for many departmental programs. Dane County focuses much on the proposed human services budget – human services account for more than 50% of Dane County's over \$500 million budget – and the Health and Human Needs committee, which I chair, will hold several meetings throughout October to craft

*Continued on page 2*

the budget. The County Board held a public input session on September 15 to solicit public comment on developing changes to the human service budget. Dane County Executive Parisi unveiled his budget on September 29th.

In the area of human services, the County Executive is continuing to invest his "Access to Opportunity," which includes initiatives to begin to address some of the very real barriers to work for those coming from disadvantaged families. This budget includes efforts to employ more minorities in the County's Highway Department by helping them get a commercial driver's license (CDL).

In Dane County Executive Parisi's 2017 budget, he is adding a fourth Mental Health Crisis team for the Madison School District to ensure all four high school attendance areas have access to critical mental health services before a crisis occurs. The new team will focus exclusively on the LaFollette attendance area and continues the jointly funded program by the school district and county that was started by the County Board in the 2013 budget.

The Executive is also building upon the 2012 County Board's Clean Lakes Initiative, which included almost \$27 million over five years in the County's Capital budget to spend on projects aimed at cleaning up the county's lakes.

The Executive is proposing a new \$12 million initiative to clean up 33 miles of streams that feed phosphorus directly in the lakes on a daily basis. This work will remove 870,000 pounds of phosphorus, the chief culprit responsible for algae growth, from area waters.

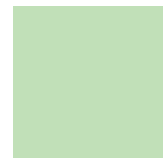
The Executive's budget includes dollars for the Alliant Energy Center (AEC) both for renovations of bathrooms and the AEC Master Planning process. The County Board embarked upon this planning process back in February and requires

the completion of a comprehensive market study of the AEC facilities to determine the nature and order of potential improvements to the facilities and grounds, and all costs and returns on investment associated with such improvements. The study will include an analysis of current, past, and potential future customers and event industry trends.

This year, the Executive chose to fund the County Board created Dane County Affordable Housing Fund to continue to assist community partners in creating new opportunities to fulfill the goals under the "Housing First" model. In 2014, the County partnered with the City on what is referred to as the Rethke Project – the creation of 60 new units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless single adults. The second project on Tree Lane focused on getting dozens of families into housing. This newest site (slated for 2017) proposes the creation of more single housing units.

In non-budget news, Dane County now has accepted ownership of the property at 615 East Washington Avenue to use for the day resource center, which the Board has approved to fund for the base level of operations at the center. This is about seven blocks closer to downtown and overnight shelters than the Messner Building further down East Washington, which the County will now look to divest itself of in the near future. The building at 615 East Washington will open faster, and is a better deal for taxpayers than the Messner building, projected to cost at least \$500,000 less for both purchase and renovation.

Should you or your family have an interest in specific Dane County projects or initiatives, please contact me at [levin.jeremy@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:levin.jeremy@co.dane.wi.us) or call me at 608.577.9335.

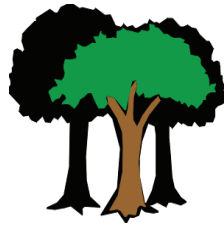


## Emerald Ash Borer and Spring Harbor Parks - Update

Emerald ash borer (EAB) hit our neighborhood hard this summer, along with the City of Madison's active ash tree removal program for parks and street terraces. Earlier this spring we requested, through Parks, the adoption of several ash trees in Spring Harbor Park and boat ramp, Merrill Spring Park, and Indian Hills Park for EAB preventative treatment. These trees are key shade trees that we'd hate to lose.

Through the very generous donations of individuals in our neighborhood, at least one ash tree in each park, including Spring Harbor Beach, were adopted and treated. You may have seen the yellow dots disappear on these trees followed by a white ribbon. The treatment will give the trees protection for approximately 2 years.

We worked very closely with Parks and the City Forestry on the tree selection and treatment process. Please read the City Parks website for more details about EAB and the Parks' Adopt a Tree Program:



<https://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/forestry/EAB/AdoptaParkTree.cfm>

## Neighborhood History Is All Around Us

A few months ago, a 1916 abstract of title of Block 1 Spring Harbor was found during the remodeling of a home at 5324 Lake Mendota Drive. This is just another example of the interesting and unexpected treasures that are donated to the Spring Harbor Neighborhood History Committee. This donation is just one part of the great summer your SHNA History Committee has had.

We have welcomed three new members to our group: Gary Gruetzmacher, Patrick Brenzel and Angela Young. They've brought some fresh energy and interesting ideas to our group; it's great to have them with us.

At our last meeting, we reviewed interior photos taken at the 5618 Lake Mendota Drive that will soon be restored by its new owners. We also reviewed pictures in an interview with Senator Fred Risser.

The Senator and his family have deep, deep roots in our neighborhood. He was kind enough to sit down for nearly an hour back on July 4th, 2015 to share his recollections of our neighborhood and his family. Looking ahead, we discussed other people we'd like to interview to collect their stories and memories.

Since our committee was first organized in 2006, we've gathered quite a bit of material and we're always looking for old photos and other documents to add to our collection. Our plans are to begin scanning some of the more interesting, at least to us, materials and to transfer them onto a website. The selecting and scanning part is easy but getting them organized and up on a website looks like a big job.

If you've got some expertise with that, we'd love to hear from you. If you'd like to help or have something to add to our archive of neighborhood history, please contact Ann Sowaske at: [bsowaske@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bsowaske@sbcglobal.net).



# Your Neighborhood

## ***Labor Day Jazz Concert Recap***

It was a hot sunny day on the grounds of the Goodman Greenhouse at Spring Harbor Middle School for the Labor Day neighborhood jazz concert. The music was provided by John Becker on piano, percussion and vocals, Laurie Lang on bass, Jon Vriesacker on violin and Chris Sandoval on drums.

The band shared original songs and arrangements, and even a magic trick or two for the kids in the audience. It was the first time many of our neighbors had a chance to see the beautiful gardens and greenhouse facility, which made an idyllic backdrop for friends and neighbors to gather, socialize, and relax to the music.

Residents also had the chance to pick fresh vegetables from the community garden. We were happy to be able to have an outdoor venue this year. We have now had the event at Spring Harbor Park, Dale Heights Presbyterian Church, and the Goodman Greenhouse at Spring Harbor Middle School.

## **SHNA Board of Directors' Meetings**

You are welcome to attend the monthly SHNA Board of Directors' meeting, held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at the Dale Heights Presbyterian Church. If attending, be sure to check our website at [www.SpringHarborOnline.com](http://www.SpringHarborOnline.com) to confirm the date, time and place. If you have an issue to be considered by the board, contact your area director or the SHNA president to place it on the agenda for that meeting.

### **SHNA Board of Directors**

President	Aaron Crandall	294-9505
President Elect	Vacant	
Treasurer	Bill Fitzpatrick	233-3584
Secretary	Mary Beth Dunning	238-4598
Past President	Janet Loewi	238-2626

### **Area Directors**

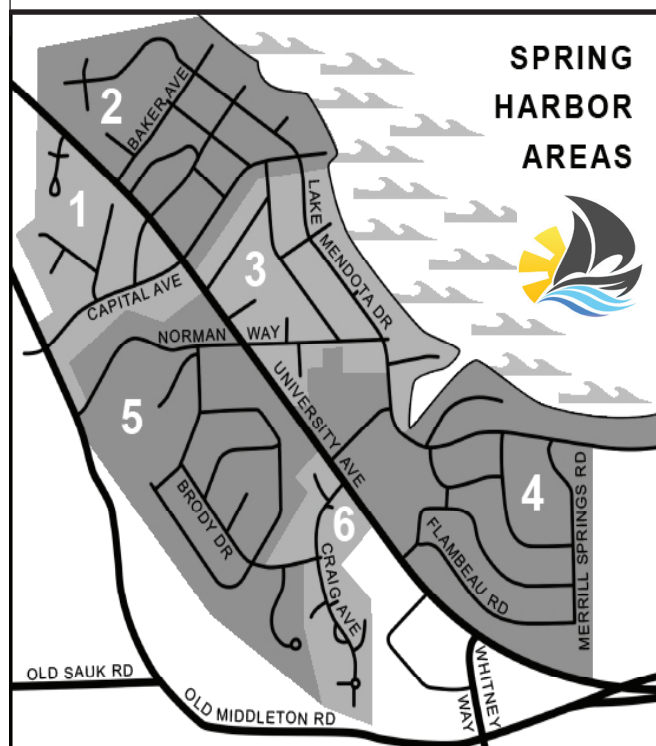
Area 1	Liz Freitick	238-2988
Area 2	Jussi Snellman	238-7022
Area 3	Jeanette Tierney	238-9084
Area 4	Kim McBride	238-8819
Area 5	Barbara Schultz-Becker	232-1810

Stay tuned to see what the venue will be for Labor Day 2017.

Our thanks go out to the Neighborhood Association for hosting this event and to Dave Ropa, for donating his time and making the school accessible for all. See you next year on Labor Day!

## ***Goodbye Spring Harbor Auto Clinic***

A good mechanic is hard to find, but in Spring Harbor we were fortunate to have Brian Mullane at Spring Harbor Auto Clinic! For 29 years Brian, has serviced our vehicles, but it was his honesty, friendliness, fair prices and personal attention that made him a special part of our neighborhood. Brian was always available in a vehicle repair emergency. Where else could you drop off your car a few blocks from home and have it serviced and delivered to your driveway? Brian and Spring Harbor Auto has been a part of what makes our neighborhood a great place to live! We will miss you Brian. Good luck!



## What Are the Friends of Merrill Spring (FMS) Up To?



It's been a year since the FMS was presented to the SHNA for a vote. As with all grassroots groups, it was a slow start, but things are rolling now. Our Steering Committee started meeting monthly last January to start formally organizing. Here's what we can report on:

- 25 wonderful members.
- 75 hours of volunteer time doing cleanup at Merrill Springs Park (cleaning the cistern and streambed, clearing brush from storms, mulching the path), working to organize the group and to maintain good communication with the city.
- A marvelous Summer Solstice Party with treats and entertainment from the Madison Cashel Dennehy Irish Dancers and neighborhood musician Nancy Vedder-Shults.
- Adoption of the splendid Ash tree near the cistern by two of the FMS families.
- Our new logo – thanks to Don Macaulay for giving us his beautiful illustration.
- Discussion with the city regarding short term issues:
  1. The old fallen wooden gate was removed. Cars do currently enter into the park.
  2. Kayak racks: the oldest was removed; the others will back up to the hillside per agreement with a neighbor and

to reduce visibility of the racks to lake users.

3. A possible small sign, "Merrill Spring," to identify the cistern.
4. A very, small rustic kiosk on the edge to hold the history of the park.
5. Backwash from the lake into the cistern during storms.
6. FMS's long term priority remains a master plan for the park.

We now are up on Facebook as "The Friends of Merrill Spring". Please like us and follow us.



JOIN Friends of Merrill Springs: Friend (\$10), Supporter (\$25) and Patron (\$50). Checks should be made out to 'Friends of Merrill Spring'. Additional donations are always welcome. Sign up at the SHNA Fall meeting or send your name, address, email and phone to:

Friends of Merrill Spring  
c/o Alice Erickson  
5109 Spring Ct  
Madison, WI 53705

### Friends of Merrill Spring Work Party

We got a good jump on cleaning out the cistern this summer! Let's keep it up by joining together Saturday November 12th from 10-12 to remove the fall leaves. We will also be working to dig years of sediment out of the streambed. What to bring?

- Rakes, waders, boots, gloves, wheelbarrows, tarps, sharp shovels
- Elbow grease
- A love of the park

We'll provide coffee and treats.



Leaves and grass clippings naturally contain nutrients such as phosphorus and nitrogen. If leaves and grass are raked or blown into the street gutter, the leaves and the nutrients they contain can be washed away before collection and end up in our lakes and streams, contributing to algae blooms.

Leaves and grass can also clog storm sewers and contribute to localized flooding. Burning these yard “wastes” not only releases air pollutants, but the ashes can pollute lakes and streams if carried away by stormwater runoff. Street sweeping is not intended to capture large quantities of leaves.

So, here are some options for leaf management that will also help your lakes and streams.

- Keep fallen leaves out of the street gutter. Many leaves naturally fall into the street. Use a blower or sweep them up.

- Compost your leaves. Place composted leaves in your vegetable and flower beds. Composted leaves amend soil that’s healthy for plants and it’s free! Compost bins start at about \$35 and come in various sizes and shapes or you can also make a simple leaf bin from chicken wire or other metal fencing. The leaves will take longer to break down if they are not shredded or mixed with other wastes, but they will eventually decay, leaving a nice crumbly humus which can be put on gardens and lawns to enrich the soil.
- Use leaves as mulch. Rake leaves into vegetable and flower gardens, under shrubs or around trees to help suppress weeds and help prevent weed seeds that sprout in the spring. Decayed leaves enhance the soil for any planting bed and save money on purchased mulch.
- Mow leaves. Leave the leaves shredded by your lawn mower right on your lawn. The small pieces quickly break down, releasing nutrients for a green, well-fed lawn. Or if using a bagger, use the chopped up leaves as mulch.

## Yard Waste Removal

Curbside leaf and yard waste collection starts October 3 and continues until around mid-November. It will resume in April for about one month.

If you have yard waste and leaves at other times, there are several options:

- Compost the materials on your property.
- Deliver the materials to one of the city yard waste sites.
- The closest site for our neighborhood is 402 South Point Road.
- Contract with a lawn care service to pick up and dispose yard waste.

Please do not place yard waste and leaves on public property at any time, or on your neighbor’s property without their permission. Accumulating yard waste on the street terrace during the months when city pickup is unavailable (May through September) may attract vermin, are unsightly and may spread plant diseases and weed seeds.

Additional information is available at: <https://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/yardWaste/leaf/> and <http://myfairlakes.com/default.aspx>.

## Bulletin Board Workers Needed!

The Spring Harbor Neighborhood Association Bulletin Board is a service that is offered to connect neighbors with neighborhood children to provide child and pet care, as well as home and computer help. We encourage parents to meet with the adults your children are working for to ensure a safe and equitable work environment.

We need more children who are interested in making some extra money and meeting new neighbors to sign up for the Bulletin Board. Please call or email Kim McBride to sign up for as many categories as your child is interested in.

Kim McBride 608-238-8819 or  
kasmcbride@gmail.com

## Salt Goes Beyond the Pavement

Using more salt doesn't make your sidewalks safer — it harms plants and animals, pollutes our water, damages buildings and corrodes vehicles, roads and bridges. Once you put salt down, it doesn't go away. Instead, it travels into our lakes and streams, putting our aquatic life at risk and endangering our freshwater resources. Salt also alters the composition of soil, slows plant growth and weakens the concrete, brick and stone that make up your home and garage. Using the right amount of salt maximizes your family's safety.

It's understandable that you want to keep your home safe, especially when winter weather hits. Fortunately, there are ways you can improve your salt use and safety:

- Pre-treat walkways with a small amount of liquid deicer before the storm hits to prevent snow and ice from building up. (or take some from your water softener brine tank), and

- Learn how to make a brine. Or dissolve salt in warm water until the salt no longer dissolves (or take some from your water softener tank) and apply with a watering can.
- Clear walkways and other areas before the snow turns to ice. The more snow you remove manually, the less salt you will have to use and the more effective it will be.
- Only use deicers in critical areas and apply the least amount necessary. Use less than four pounds of salt per 1,000 square feet (an average parking space is about 150 square feet), or, as a general rule, just use less salt than you did last year. One twelve-ounce container is sufficient to salt sixty to seventy feet of sidewalk.

Our current practices are not sustainable; our wetlands, streams and ponds have already reached toxic levels. Road salt has been used as a deicer on streets in the Dane County region since the late 1950s, and over the last 50 years, average lake water concentrations have steadily increased — in Lake Mendota, salt concentrations increase about 1 mg/L each year. If that rate continues, the waters will eventually taste salty and exceed toxic concentrations for aquatic life.



We can all work together to improve our salt use! WI Salt Wise Partnership:

- Dane County, City of Madison
- Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District
- Madison Water Utility
- Public Health Madison Dane County
- UW-Madison Department of Environment
- Health & Safety
- MAMSWaP

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, Bill Fitzpatrick, 5156 Spring Court, Madison, 53705. Dues are \$10 per household per calendar year; donations are welcome.

**Please make checks out to SHNA**

Membership Dues                   \$ **10** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation, unrestricted           \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation, neighborhood parks \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL ENCLOSED               \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

- July 4th Picnic and Parade \_\_\_\_\_
- Help with Halloween Party \_\_\_\_\_
- 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 \_\_\_\_\_
  - Natural Resources \_\_\_\_\_
  - Transportation \_\_\_\_\_
  - Neighborhood Watch Committee \_\_\_\_\_
  - Planning and Development \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

