

ENVIRONMENT

Man versus Ant

By David H. Jones

One winter, while his young wife, Linda, was in the hospital, Dave noticed that an army of ants was stealing food from the kitchen counter and cupboards of his new house. After careful observation, he discovered that the marauding ants were coming out of the large florescent light fixture above the kitchen sink. Dave unplugged the fixture from the electrical outlet and removed the florescent bulb; he then rotated the tabs that held the cover plate in place. The unexpected weight of thousands of ants caused Dave to lose control of the cover plate and it dropped into the sink with a crash. Dave immediately turned on the hot water and flushed as many ants as possible down the drain. "Problem solved," he thought. No, not really. Many ants had escaped.

Over the next 40 years, Dave, Linda and their son Adam continued their fruitless war against the ants, which continued to appear in the kitchen and bathroom. Can you picture yourself sitting on the toilet and seeing ants running around your feet? Battle after battle was lost, indoors and out.

Finally, Dave threw his hands up in despair and called a professional pest control service. They quickly sent out their best ant man to attack the problem. One week later it looked as though he had been successful; there were no ants in sight.

Dave's family was happy their insect problem had been solved and began to think about what other home improve-

ment projects they would like to work on. How about placing shredded cedar around the plants in their gardens? Dave went to a city contractor service where shredded white cedar is stored in huge piles outside, ordered four cubic yards of cedar, and the next morning the cedar was dumped in his driveway.

Dave, Linda and Adam began to whittle away at the pile. Dave and Adam used one wheelbarrow to transport cedar to the vegetable garden in their backyard, while Linda used another wheelbarrow to spread cedar around her rose garden in the front yard. As work progressed, Dave noticed hundreds of ants fleeing from the pile in the driveway and also noticed a hollow space under the cedar pile. The more cedar they took away, the easier it was to see the size of that hollow space under the pile.

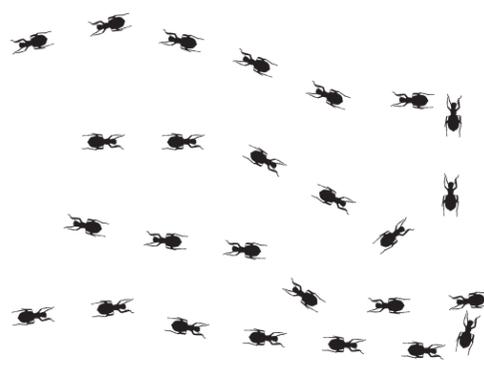
That night while the family was sleeping, a raging monster queen ant took out her anger at being torn away from her happy home in the supply depot yard. She had been breeding a large colony in the white cedar pile. Many of her offspring had made the trip with her to this new location but many more were left behind without their mother to guide them. So immediately after arrival, she began doing what she did best: she started to breed a new colony by laying her eggs in that hollow space under this new cedar pile. Then, while she waited for the new recruits to be born, she drilled their older brothers and sisters into a well-trained army, ready to spread out and create new

colonies all over the yard.

About a week later Dave noticed the damage being done to his yard by the queen's well-trained army. He immediately gathered his insecticide application signs and placed them at the newly infected areas he found in the yard. He used every one of the original 25 signs, but still needed more, so he went to the hardware store and purchased 30 small brightly colored flags and one large one. He placed the small flags throughout the yard and the large one on top of the cedar pile in the driveway. The yard now looked like a military cemetery on Memorial Day with colorful flags everywhere.

The queen's troops had already spread out and taken over the yard as instructed, so she ordered them to find new territories to conquer. They climbed each of the trees in the yard to get a good view of the neighborhood in all directions and scout out their next targets. Once they had those targets selected, the queen's troops amassed along the curb where they awaited her order to charge.

That was July. It's now October, and millions of those ants have already begun to move into your homes. Look out neighbors; you may be next. Where will it end?





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ENVIRONMENT

Nature Trails and Tales: get involved with Northside nature groups

By Paul Noeldner
Karen Hickel and Jan Axelson

Getting involved with Northside nature groups is a wonderful opportunity to spend healthy time outdoors and meet others with similar interests. Enjoy free nature recreation, nature education, and a bit of nature restoration. Your support through participation, volunteering and donations is always welcome.

Volunteering at Cherokee Marsh

Did you know Cherokee Marsh has more than 2,000 acres of publicly owned natural areas, including wetlands, prairies and open woods? To help restore and maintain these areas, city and county parks staff and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) depend on volunteers and partners like Operation Fresh Start (OFS).

OFS is a nonprofit organization that helps youth earn high school diplomas, learn job skills, develop career goals, and serve the community by working in conservation or building trades. Over a 14-week term this summer, an OFS crew of 6–8 youth helped parks staff with projects in Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park and other city parks. At Yahara Heights Park, volunteers worked with Dane County Naturalist Wayne Pauly to collect prairie seeds to use in future restorations around the county.

As part of United Way's Days of Caring, the Dane County Office of Lakes and Watersheds recruited volunteers from U.S. Bank and CUNA to clear brush from the Yahara Heights woods. In the Cherokee Marsh State Natural Area, volunteers for the DNR continued their work removing giant reed grass from the sedge meadows.

If you would like to become a volunteer at Cherokee Marsh, go to www.cherokeemarsh.org and sign up to receive notices about upcoming events. The Friends of Cherokee Marsh sponsor free family friendly bird and nature walks from 1:30–3 pm the first Sunday of every month.

Don't miss the Indian Mound tour at the Yahara Heights prairie and woodland from 9–11 am Saturday, Oct. 3. You will see 208-foot-long spirit and bear effigy mounds with tour leader Bob Birmingham, former Wisconsin State Archaeologist. This walk is a celebration of the extensive volunteer work restoring the area around the mounds and the new Yahara Heights Park brochure created by volunteer Erika Zar.

On Saturday, Oct. 17, enjoy the Hayrides and Hikes event at Cherokee Marsh. Come any time between 9 am–11:30 am for free short nature hikes and \$2 hayrides with Madison Parks. See www.cherokeemarsh.org for details.

Getting involved at Warner Park

Have you ever wondered what kinds of animals and birds live in Warner Park? Would you like to see programs that teach children about nature in our neighborhood wetland and prairie? Do you enjoy outdoor nature recreation? Consider joining Wild Warner, a volunteer group that celebrates, preserves and protects wildlife, plants and trees in Warner Park, Madison's largest park.

Our ongoing projects include hosting free bird and nature walks through the park from 1:30–3 pm the third Sunday of every month; and supporting Nature Explorers, a program that pairs Sherman Middle School students with UW-Mad-

ison environmental education students, who share their knowledge with the youth.

We helped plant and water many trees this spring to help replace the ash trees removed due to infestation by the emerald ash borer. Wild Warner has also built and maintained bluebird houses in Warner meadow, cleared invasive plants, and planted flowers at Warner Beach.

Drop by our monthly meeting, held the first Tuesday of each month from 6–8 pm at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center. Check the Wild Warner website at

www.wildwarner.org for stunning nature photography scenes from Warner Park and information about fall opportunities to help with Prairie Pickin' on Fire Island and Lotus Harvesting in the Lagoon.

Helping out at Lakeview Hill

The Friends of Lakeview Hill sponsor volunteer opportunities every Saturday from 10 am–12 pm. Come help restore this beautiful natural area on the hill by Northport Drive. See www.friendslakeviewhill.org for directions and details.

BCycle challenges you to a bike ride

By Zachary Barnes
Share & Be Aware program

Did you know Madison BCycle has put its first station on the Northside? Truax campus gateway now hosts a station that connects to other bike share stations via the Starkweather Creek path and the Capital City trail or via the Northside neighborhood on the new bike lanes connecting North Sherman Avenue.

As this edition reaches you, the City of Madison and the Wisconsin Bike Fed are finishing a challenge that asks all Dane County residents to get out for one 10-minute bike ride this season. Will you do it before Madison BCycle hibernates for the winter? Check out more information at www.lovetoride.net/madison.

To get ready for your ride, we have a small challenge to see if you know the rules of the road.

Nearly all of the 130 people who stopped at the Wisconsin Bike Fed Share & Be

Aware booth at the Wisconsin State Fair were sure they knew the rules of the road — until we started asking them questions. This one stumped almost everyone: How much space are drivers required to provide a bicyclist while passing in a car? The answer is no less than 3 feet.

How well would you do? Go to <http://apps.wisconsinbikefed.org/quiz/drivers-ed/>. The quiz contains some of the questions Share & Be Aware Ambassador Whitney Baker asked prospective drivers taking a class at the Door to Door Driving School in Mukwonago.

If you'd like to improve your knowledge about biking and help make Wisconsin roads safer, check out <http://wisconsinbikefed.org/> for information on free education.

We hope to see you out walking, biking and enjoying the fall. Be sure to look up walking events this October by searching online for "Wisconsin Walks October."



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ENVIRONMENT

The future MGE, join the conversation

By Dan Tortorice

If you've ever wired an outlet or hung a ceiling fan, you know that working with electricity is all about making solid, reliable and safe connections. You flip the switch and feel great when everything works.

As the energy provider for the Northside of Madison, Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) has developed a program to create that kind of solid connection with its customers. They are asking us to help them plan a "community energy company for the future."

For more than a century our electrical system has remained pretty much the same. Utilities generate electricity, using mostly fossil fuels, and send it over wires to their customers. Electricity passes through a mechanical meter and users are charged accordingly. But with the huge growth in population and its energy demands, along with the environmental impacts of mercury emissions, acid rain and climate change, it is clear to everyone that we need new energy strategies to meet the demands of the future. We all want to turn on the air conditioning on a hot summer afternoon, but where will the massive amount of electricity come from if millions of people do it at the same time?

The rapid growth in technology provides lots of great options, but it also raises a huge number of questions. How do we incorporate renewable energy sources like wind and solar? How will people get paid when they sell their own solar energy to a utility? What about "smart homes," with thermostats and



Photo by Steve Salt

As a result of community conversations 10 years ago, MGE converted its Blount Street power plant from coal to natural gas in 2011. With its "Community Energy Conversations," which are now underway, MGE is again seeking customer input to plan a course for the next 10-15 years.

refrigerators that can turn themselves on when power is cheapest? How can we construct a truly modern electrical grid that can take advantage of energy options over a wide area? How do we pay for these improvements? And how can we make sure these changes affect all levels of society in an equal manner?

These are just a few of many large, complex issues, and people will have strong opinions on how they should be addressed. Those with concerns about the environment, consumer rights, social justice, business development and public safety will all have a lot to say about these questions and options for our future.

MGE wants its customers and the general public to join in a conversation about its future. They are sponsoring small group discussions this fall to help plan strategies for the next 10-15 years. MGE

can then attempt to implement these ideas. For example, as a result of the last 10-year plan, MGE was able to achieve one of the goals suggested by Madison citizens — converting the coal powered Blount Street plant to natural gas.

MGE has a mail-in form to receive a discussion guide and/or to sign up for a small-group discussion of these issues. You can call them at 252-7117. The web address is mge.com/conversations. If you just want to provide your ideas online, you can do that at communityconversations@mge.com. MGE also has a presence on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

The results of these conversations will have a direct impact on the future of us all, so we should take advantage of the opportunity this fall to voice any concerns or suggestions we may have.

Green Madison encourages energy efficiency

By Jennifer Rubin

Green Madison

Green Madison is a citywide effort to educate and inspire Madison residents to reduce energy use. As an added incentive, Madison is one of 50 cities competing for a \$5 million prize from Georgetown University that will go to the city that makes the biggest reductions in energy use.

All Madison residents are invited to take part in Cool Choices, a citywide online sustainability game. Register, create a team and play to save money, reduce energy use, and win prizes from Food Fight Restaurant Group, Colectivo Coffee, or even a 2016 CSA share.

Madison homeowners, did you know that energy efficiency improvements can cut utility bills by an average of \$400 per year? Host a house party to receive a free energy assessment (a \$200-\$400 value), recommendations for practical improvements, and follow-up assistance applying for rebates on any energy efficiency improvements you'd like to make. Or sign up for an energy audit for a reduced price as part of Green Madison.

Madison landlords and tenants, Green Madison has a team of experts to highlight existing energy efficiency resources available for apartment buildings. In partnership with Project Home and Focus on Energy, Green Madison serves as the streamlined point-of-contact to assist multifamily building owners.

Visit www.greenmadison.org/get-involved for more information.

responsibl@engagement



Join MGE's Community Energy Conversations

The energy world is changing.

Help MGE build your community energy company for the future.

If you want to participate in our Community Energy Conversations, mge.com/conversations is the best place to learn more about the issues and to sign up.

- Register for a small group discussion session hosted by Justice & Sustainability Associates.
- Check out MGE's discussion guide *Building a Community Energy Company for the Future* and tell us what you think.

Send your comments to:
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COMMUNITY GROUNDWORKS

At Troy Gardens even the equipment is going green

By Shelly Strom
Community GroundWorks

Community GroundWorks (CGW) is always motivated to go green. At Troy Gardens, the home of CGW, our 26-acre open space integrates a number of land-based elements: 330 community garden plots, a 4-acre tallgrass prairie, an organic CSA farm, an extensive food forest and an award-winning Kids Garden. The land at Troy is a place for neighbors, visitors and wildlife to cross paths. The community garden supports gardeners who are refugees, veterans and adults with disabilities. More than 1,000 children visit Troy Gardens each year.

To maintain the land and ensure safe access for all, CGW maintains acres of grassy paths and green space throughout the growing season. Historically, staff and volunteers have used a fleet of gas-powered equipment: push mowers, trimmers and tillers. Such outdated equipment pollutes the environment and jeopardizes the health of our volunteer operators, gardeners and visitors. The gas equipment creates auditory disturbance for birds nesting on the Troy land, potentially reducing their breeding success.

Thanks to a 2015 grant from the



(Photo Left) Gardener Walt Novash puts the finishing touches on the solar panels installed on the roof of the shed at Troy Community Gardens. (Photo Right) All of this equipment runs quietly and sustainably, powered by the sun.



Photos by Kurt Schneider

Dane County Environmental Council, CGW has begun “greening” our maintenance equipment to reduce air, water and noise pollution, and to model best practices for land management. We have purchased two rechargeable EGO brand push mowers, two rechargeable weed trimmers and a solar recharging system installed on-site where there is no access to electricity. The equipment is amazingly quiet, simple to use and powered by the sun.

CGW staff and volunteers are keen to share our experience with you: neighbors, gardeners, land stewards and residents of Dane County. These investments in green equipment have had direct and immediate benefits to the public and local wildlife (noise reduction, improved air quality), will reduce negative impact on

the Yahara River/Lake Mendota watershed, and have already reduced our dependence on fossil fuels. This equipment is expected to last a decade; thus our greening project will continue to improve the land, neighborhood, watershed and community, and inspire thousands to adopt green practices elsewhere.


Sunday Supper
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 Warner Park Community Recreation Center

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Workshop schedule, registration and other details are posted on City's Neighborhoods web page: www.cityofmadison.com/neighborhoods/

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NORTHSIDE NONPROFITS

NESCO from page 1

underfunded. Twenty percent of NESCO's budget goes into fundraising to help support its programs.

Case Management

The heart and soul of NESCO is case management. Case managers are social workers who provide support, resources, and help access community services older adults need to live safely. They conduct home visits to assess the individual needs of each client, and together they complete a service plan that may include applying for community resources and programs that best allow them to live as they wish. This is not as easy and clear-cut as it sounds. Navigating through the systems to access healthcare, housing and other benefit programs can be time-consuming and complicated. Exacerbating factors — such as elder abuse and neglect, malnutrition, seniors outliving their resources, and mental health problems that lead to evictions and homelessness — are becoming common as the aging population increases, pushing case managers to greater levels of resourcefulness and creativity to solve problems.

Case managers are also the lifeline for caregivers who are at their collective wits end dealing with spousal dementia or their parents' aging problems. With a phone call to a NESCO case manager, caregivers can obtain a list of resource options instead of having to do time-consuming Internet or phone searches. Throughout the process of working with a case manager to get needs met, you will learn that case managers are the most patient and caring people on earth, and in fact, are not actually human, but angels on earth.



Photo provided by Diane Walder

Shirley Raymakers and Mary Hill, two of NESCO's longtime volunteers.

Unique Programs

In aging, as in everything else in life, there are distinct cultural differences. Addressing these needs are three NESCO programs — African American and Latino Cultural Diversity Programs and the Bilingual Case Management Program — that are unique and serve the entire county.

Pam Bracey coordinates the African American Program, providing support, education and various other social activities. Yolanda Salazar ran the Latino program for 21 years until her retirement this year. She organized activities for older Latinos to reduce isolation caused

by transportation, language and other barriers. This is particularly important for older Latino grandparents who care for their grandchildren but can't communicate with them because the grandchildren don't speak Spanish. Salazar described some of these older grandparents living in desperate circumstances, such as lack of food and a place to sleep.

The Bilingual Case Management program provides services and support to the Latino population, which is not just in Madison but spread throughout the county — a tall order for NESCO's three bilingual case managers.

Since its opening two years ago, Dane

County's Aging & Disability and Resource Center (ADRC) has provided a small respite to case managers. Its Information and Assistance Specialists conduct initial assessments to sort out those individuals whose problems warrant case management and then refer those people to case managers at the appropriate senior coalition. Nonetheless, it remains a constant challenge to serve everyone who needs it.

"The most rewarding part of my job is the privilege of being able to advocate for an underserved population and assisting senior adults remain independent and influential in the community," said NESCO's lead case manager, Alyssa Bordeleau. But, she added, "The most challenging part of my job is that the existing need for services in the community is greater than our agency is able to provide at times due to limited staff and resources."

"The biggest challenge for NESCO is overcoming the stigma of being an organization that serves only the frail elderly," said Executive Director Jim Krueger. "We need to be seen as an organization that provides programs for baby boomers to help them navigate the process of aging. The second biggest challenge is finding more diverse ways to fund our programs. And certainly the most rewarding part of my job is seeing the daily positive impact we have on the lives of older adults," he added.

In addition to its primary mission, each year NESCO, with support from local businesses and volunteers, produces free summer concerts at Warner Park; presents

NESCO continued on page 25



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NORTHSIDE NONPROFITS

Community Support Network invites you to celebrate with us

By Nancy Johnson
Community Support Network

Community Support Network (CSN) is celebrating our clients, and we want you to join us for a gala Open House with a prize giveaway Friday, Oct. 9, from 2–6 pm, at NorthGate Shopping Center, 1137 N. Sherman Ave. This event is fun, free and for the whole family. It is a chance for you to get to know your neighbors at CSN and to discover for yourself what we do every day. Perhaps you have seen us coming and going at our building in NorthGate. Where are we going? Why are we so busy?

CSN is a nonprofit agency that provides community-based services for adults with developmental disabilities to increase their confidence and competence as they participate in their larger community. One of the important ways CSN does this is by offering vocational services for our clients, a number of whom work for 25 different employers in Madison, Middleton and Waunakee. So when you see men and women leaving the building in the morning or early afternoon, they may be heading to their jobs.

A few of our community employers include the Isthmus newspaper, Great Dane restaurants, Boomerangs Resale Store and Bed Bath and Beyond. Our website (www.visitscn.org) includes a full list of our community employers, and we will have an extensive poster display of all our employers at our Open House. Come see for yourself.

We at CSN believe every person should have access to and be encour-



Photos provided by Community Support Network

aged to participate in continued learning and skill-building opportunities. In addition to educational classes, we have a number of innovative and enriching programs to encourage positive experiences for our clients. When you come to CSN for our Open House, you will see a variety of academic activities in which our clients engage, including art, science and American Sign Language.

Our goal at CSN is to prepare our clients to be as independent as possible and to live safe, healthy and productive lives. Everything we do is aimed at supporting and encouraging our clients to live the best quality of life possible and caring for them with dignity as we do so.

We will be working with Tina at The River Bakery to make sure our open house guests have amazing treats during their visit with us. Tina's cookies are the best. We are fortunate to have The River Bakery as one of our nonprofit neighbors at NorthGate in the FEED Kitchens.

The Open House will offer an opportunity for you to visit our CSN Store, where many client-made items will be on display for sale. Items include greeting cards, beaded jewelry, decorated lanterns, artwork, photography, sculpture, scarves and much more.

There are various ways you can be involved at CSN. If you are interested in joining us on our day-to-day adventure with our interesting, capable and talented clients, there are several opportunities for



you to become involved:

- support our community employers;
- volunteer your time and talents;
- hire our clients to fulfill your business needs;
- shop at our CSN Community Store (and receive a discount when you bring a donation to The River Food Pantry or Dane County Humane Society);
- host an art gallery event at your place of employment or other venue;
- rent any of our three large spaces for parties, dance classes, yoga or tai chi classes;
- donate your professional expertise;
- contribute to CSN through a financial donation to be used for special adaptive equipment, outing activities for our clients and enrichment activities;
- invite our client speakers, including a visual presentation, to your place of employment or other venue.

Come see our clients as they show you how they work, learn and enjoy being at CSN. We are so proud of them.

To learn more about us, visit our website at www.visitscn.org. We look forward to seeing you Oct. 9.

OPEN HOUSE



COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

October 9, 2015

2-6 pm

1137 N. Sherman Avenue

At the NorthGate Shopping Center

FREE
family
friendly
event!

All are
welcome

Our Open House is a chance for you to get to know your neighbors at CSN and to discover for yourself what it is that we do everyday.

As you will see, we are a very active bunch and there are various ways to be involved at CSN everyday. You will see the day-to-day activities that take place at CSN, learn about our community employers and win great prizes in our giveaway.

"Everybody deserves to have a place where they belong and have an opportunity to earn money!"

- Jeff from Vita Plus

ARTS

Yard Art Connects Sherman Neighborhood Residents

By Alexis London
Sherman Neighborhood Association

A larger-than-life sun welcomes everyone to the neighborhood... A robot made of recycled pots, pans and a light fixture calls for your attention...A beautiful dancer cut from plywood, painted and embellished with glass medallions leans against a tree and demonstrates the beauty of simple gestures.

Twenty-six Sherman Neighborhood households created large-scale pieces of art for display in their front yards. The artworks are now installed and ready to be enjoyed by the public. Maps are available at the Lakeview Library and NPC's website, northsidemadison.org/ShermanYardArt/.

All works of art were constructed in July and August at free workshops facilitated by local artists and a professional



Photos provided by Alexis London

Sherman neighborhood residents work on their yard art projects in space provided by the Bruns family in the Northside TownCenter.

carpenter. The project, funded through a City of Madison Neighborhood Project grant, brought Sherman Neighborhood residents together to connect with one another, enjoy conversations and increase neighborhood pride.

VSA Wisconsin hosting NAMI Healing Art Show

By Kathie Wagner
VSA Wisconsin



VSA Wisconsin will host National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Wisconsin's 9th Annual Healing Art Show Oct. 1–Nov. 30 at the VSA Wisconsin Gallery, 1709 Aberg Ave. The exhibition showcases artwork created by people living with mental illness. The two- and three-dimensional work on view was chosen by a jury panel that evaluated the submissions on their artistic merit and the artist's connection to mental illness. A free to the public opening reception will take place Friday, Oct. 2, from 5–9 pm. Many of the works are for sale.

The purpose of the exhibition is to break down the stigma surrounding mental illness by highlighting talents and strengths that far overshadow mental illness. It is open to anyone who has a primary diagnosis of a major mental illness, including but not limited to bipolar disorder, borderline personality disorder, schizophrenia, anxiety disorder or major depression.

Hands-on arts exploration for military veterans

By Kathie Wagner, VSA Wisconsin



VSA Wisconsin is partnering with the Madison Vet Center to provide opportunities for creative engagement and self-expression. Explore the possibilities in a wide range of artistic media with instruction by a professional teaching artist and facilitation by Madison Vet Center staff.

Tell your story through visual art, sculpture, music, creative writing and more. Participation in the arts can increase self-awareness, improve concentration, and enhance coping and resilience skills, thereby reducing depression and anxiety. Are you interested? Contact the Vet Center, 1291 N. Sherman Ave., at 264-5342 and complete a four-question survey. Classes will begin soon.

"City River" by Thomas Yoekel.





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SCHOOLS & YOUTH

East High School needs you

By Cynthia Chin
East High School Math Department

East High School is home to a diverse and exciting group of young people. They have come to East from a wide variety of family, ethnic and national backgrounds to pursue their education and prepare for adulthood. They will study languages, art, literature, history, mathematics and science, as well as develop career and life skills in areas as diverse as nursing and fashion. Many find their studies to be challenging. Please come and meet our students; you can help them reach their goals.

Do you like to read, write, garden or sew? Do you enjoy math, science, history or literature? Do you speak Spanish, French, Hmong, Arabic, Japanese or Mandarin? Do you want to meet some great young people? Then we want to meet you.

Volunteers are need in all subject areas, all day and after school. Check out these opportunities. (Unless otherwise noted, placements are possible Monday through Friday. Most volunteers come one or two days a week.)

Ninth grade academic support: Assist students adjusting to the demands of core academic subjects — math, biology, U.S. history and English9. Assist with content as well as general study skills. Contact Tom Kanies, 204-1748, tkanies@madison.k12.wi.us.

Literacy instruction: Assist students below grade level in reading to make gains and adjust to demands of subject-area read-

ing and writing. This systematic reading intervention is supervised by an on-site specialist. Contact Mary Luteyn, 204-1543, mluteyn@madison.k12.wi.us.

Mathematics tutor: Assist individuals or small groups in the classroom with tasks presented by the teacher. Placements are available in tutorial sessions and in mathematics classes throughout the day. Contact Cynthia Chin, 204-1603 ext. 41534, chin@madison.k12.wi.us.

Life skills academics tutor: Assist students who need help with fundamentals of mathematics and other core skills areas in a real-world context. Contact Darcy Bean, 217-721-2292, debean@madison.k12.wi.us.

Student athlete math and science help: Assist tenth and eleventh-grade students in geometry, algebra2, chemistry or physics, Wednesdays from 2:45–3:45 pm. This is a select group of motivated athletes with limited afterschool time. Academic and athletic department staff is on hand to supervise. We are seeking male applicants only at this time. Contact Steve Erato, Project LEAD, 204-11724, serato@madison.k12.wi.us.

After school homework club: Tutoring help in all subjects is needed, with math, physics and chemistry in high demand, from 3:45–5:30 pm. Contact Tauri Robinson, 204-1752, ltrobinson@madison.k12.wi.us.

Japanese, Mandarin Chinese and Arabic language tutor: Native/experienced speakers are needed to tutor small groups or individuals in beginning conversation, reading and grammar. We also welcome conversations about affiliated cultures, in English. Contact Claudine Clark, 204-1802, cclark@madison.k12.wi.us.

Advanced French and Spanish language tutor: Native/experienced speakers are needed to practice conversation with advanced students. Contact Claudine Clark, 204-1802, cclark@madison.k12.wi.us.

ELL social studies tutor: Provide in-class assistance for English language learners who need help comprehending basic texts on culture, history and geography. The class meets daily at noon during the fall. Contact Amy Piaskowski, 204-1809, apiaskowski@madison.k12.wi.us.

ELL academic tutor: Help students improve their writing, math or science skills. Assist in finding and reading sources, writing and revising papers, and homework completion. Help is needed afternoons daily. Contact Amy Piaskowski, 204-1809, apiaskowski@madison.k12.wi.us.

Sewing support: Assist with basic operation of sewing machines, reading patterns and independent projects. Help is needed 1:45–2:45 pm, Sept.–Dec. Contact Dottie Winger, 234-7788, dwinger@madison.k12.wi.us.

Basic chemistry classroom aide: Students need help with concepts, lab procedures and assignments, plus encouragement to persist in learning science. Please bring enthusiasm, patience and knowledge of introductory chemistry (structure of the atom, writing equations). Contact Patricia Wathen, pwathen@madison.k12.wi.us.

School library aide: Assist with maintenance of collections, retrieval and shelving of student materials, and creation of displays to encourage library use. Hours are flexible throughout the school day. Contact Laurie Bauer, 204-1642, lkbauer@madison.k12.wi.us.

East High School is located at 2222 E. Washington Ave., between Fourth and

Fifth Streets, approximately 20 minutes from downtown on city bus routes 4, 5 or 6. On-street parking is available within one or two blocks of the school. Note: Board of Education policy requires all persons working directly with students to complete a form authorizing a basic background check, the results of which may limit placement opportunities.

Check for updates at www.volunteer.yourtime.org, keywords "Madison East High School," or contact Cynthia Chin, 204-1603 ext. 41534, cchin@madison.k12.wi.us.

Thank you from EHS Math Department

Thank you to East High School neighbors Jim and Pat S. for their generous summer donation of TI-84 C+ graphing calculators. These were presented to three promising young students who would not otherwise have been able to own this important tool. A similar gift of two TI-83+ calculators and batteries was received from Joan and Alan Dickrell. Used calculators were donated to our rental pool and for classroom use by the Auner and Roussos alumni families.

We are deeply grateful for all such gestures of support. The recent increase in state math requirements for graduation has boosted enrollment in upper level courses where technology is critical to success.

Thank you to community members who direct automatic contributions to the EHS Graphing Calculator fund every time they use the GoodSearch or GoodShop web engines. Pennies (from site sponsors) add up when busy browsers and online buyers are at work. Visit www.goodsearch.org. At the prompt "Who do you search for?" enter "East High School-Madison."

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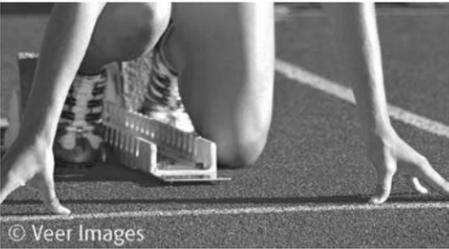
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SCHOOLS & YOUTH

Cub Scout Pack 127 is blasting off

By Justin Sargent

Cub Scouting is a year-round activity, and this summer the Cub Scouts of Pack 127 and their families proved it by enjoying lots of fun adventures.

The scouts made their own boats out of 2x4 lumber, and we launched and raced them on the Yahara River during a picnic at Tenney Park. One well-crafted ship caught the wind and raced against the current; it would have made it to Lake Mendota if the locks were not there.

We tailgated and went to Scout Night at the Mallards, played at the splash-pad, visited the zoo, went fishing and hiking, and had an exciting pontoon boat ride on Lake Monona. All these events were so much fun that we're planning to do them again next summer, along with some awesome new activities, such as summer camp.

Cub Scouting is a year-round activity, and we always have room for boys and their families to join the fun and be part of a life-building adventure. If your son is in first through fifth grade and would like to be part of the fun and adventure, please contact Scoutmaster Justin Sargent at 220-2342 or iscuba@sbglobal.net



Photo by Wendy Munkve

A Tiger Cub and his dad from Pack 127 launch their boat at Tenney Park.

sbglobal.net or contact us via Facebook at "Cub Scout Pack 127 Madison WI."

Currently we are building rockets, planning a space rocket derby, preparing for pinewood derby car building and racing, enjoying campfire cooking and desserts,

celebrating the seasons with fun parties, outdoor camping and lots more. All of these activities are both fun and educational.

Following the recent clarification to the national Boy Scout Association membership policy specifically allowing individual units to establish expectations for adult membership and leadership based on the sponsoring organization's beliefs or values, the leadership of Pack 127 affirmed our policy that we welcome families of differing faiths, race, nationality, family structure and economic status. Pack 127 has never wavered from a strong commitment to supporting scouts, parents and leaders inclusive of sexual orientation. We are excited that the national policy now better reflects the values of fairness, inclusion and tolerance. Northside scouting continues to be about offering the best possible experience to our youth to prepare them for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

Pack 127, which serves the entire Northside, meets Monday nights from 6:30-7:30 pm at the Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church, 3705 N. Sherman Ave. We hope to see you there.



Eagle Scout, Devin Sargent

Troop 127 presents Eagle Scout award

By Paul Hughes

Boy Scout Troop 127, chartered at Sherman Avenue Methodist Church, awarded Boy Scouting's highest honor to Devin Sargent, our newest Eagle Scout. Devin, oldest son of Melissa and Justin Sargent, completed an adventure that started at age 11, when he joined Boy Scouts. Since then he completed 35 merit badges and participated in multiple campouts, including high adventure trips to New Mexico, West Virginia and the Boundary Waters Recreation Area. He also gave selfless service to the community in various service projects, both as part of the troop and most significantly during his Eagle project at Lakeview Elementary School.

Devin's project was to create a terraced step path and wooden benches in the outdoor classroom space at the school. He supervised the planning, construction and work of more than 60 volunteers who gave 200 hours of their time. Please stop by the school and enjoy this new addition to the property.

The Court of Honor was conducted on Sept. 19, with many friends, scouts and family present.

If you know a boy who would like to have a similar adventure loaded with fun and leadership development, contact Scoutmaster Paul Hughes at psusparks@gmail.com for more information.

Boy Scout Troop 127 enjoys summer fun

By Paul Hughes

Boy Scout Troop 127 enjoyed a week at Tesomas Scout Reservation in Rhinelander the week of August 2-8. Eight boys and several leaders enjoyed camping, fishing, cooking and working on advancement. The week was enjoyable for our newest family members and veteran scouts as well.

The boys worked on merit badges, won a nice cutting board for having the best Dutch oven recipe in camp, and competed successfully in sinking all other challengers' row boats in a test of boat bailing. Summer camp serves as the highlight of the scouting year; camp is sun-up-to-sun down activity that is mapped out by each boy and what

they want to do. Some of our scouts focused on badges needed toward their Eagle Scout award, while others enjoyed a week of fishing. All spent some time unplugged.

The boys are beginning a new troop year and are planning a fantastic year that includes a week at Ed Bryant Scout Reservation in Mauston and a six-day kayak high adventure trip to the Apostle Islands in Lake Superior.

Troop 127 is chartered to Sherman Avenue Methodist Church and meets most weeks on Thursday night at 6:30 pm at St. Peter Catholic Church. We are an inclusive troop focused on fun, advancement, physical fitness and character development. If you think these kinds of activities sound like fun, we would like to talk to you. Contact Scoutmaster Paul Hughes at psusparks@gmail.com.

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SCHOOLS & YOUTH

Join Little Dribblers for fun and friendship

By Luann Tribus

Have fun. Make new friends. Develop ball-handling skills. Perform at the halftime of a Badger game.

The Little Dribblers is a basketball dribbling squad that performs routines to music at the halftime of basketball games. The Little Dribblers is in its ninth season of delighting crowds at Badger games, local high school games and, if schedules allow, at Milwaukee Bucks games and other venues.

The group is open to girls in grades 2 through 6. Past performers in grades 7 and 8 help out as lead dribblers. Tryouts were held Sept. 13, but there may still be time to get involved.

Practices will be held on five Sundays (Sept. 27, Oct. 4, Oct. 25, Nov. 1 and Nov. 8) from 11 am–12:30 pm at the Goodman Community Center. There is a \$30 fee that covers t-shirts and balls. Girls must bring two basketballs, water and enthusiasm to



Photo provided by Luann Tribus

The Little Dribblers

each practice.

Tentative performances and dates are: Sunday, Nov. 22 (Badgers game); Tuesday, Nov. 24 (Edgewood High School); Friday,

Dec. 4 (East High School); and Saturday, Dec. 5 (Mad Rollin Dolls).

If you have questions, contact Coach Luann Tribus at lutribus@gmail.com.

Race to the Finn

By Nicole Mondroski

Make a Montessori education available for every child on Madison's eastside. On Oct. 10 be a part of the third annual Race to the Finn, a local, community race that supports the Finnegan Ringdroski Scholarship fund at Isthmus Montessori Academy.

In 2011 Nicole Mondroski and Michael Ring were raising their twins, Evelyn and Finnegan, on Madison's Northside. When Finn did not meet some milestones for his age, doctors discovered a lemon-sized tumor deep in his brain. Finn remained happy and brave throughout all of his



Photo by Linda Severson

This photo of Finnegan (Finn) Ringdroski was taken in September 2012.

treatments, therapies and surgeries, and he was a proud patient of the doctors at American Family Children's Hospital. At the age of two, after 10 brain surgeries and 14 months of fighting, Finnegan Ringdroski passed away. He would have attended school at Isthmus Montessori Academy.

Race to the Finn, held in his honor, raises money for a scholarship for Isthmus Montessori Academy, which was opened in September 2012 by Melissa Droessler and Carrie Marlette. The scholarship will go to a family who may need help with child care or whose parents feel that a Montessori education would best meet their child's needs. Isthmus Montessori Academy, located at 1402 Pankratz Ave., is determined to become the first public Montessori school in Madison. It hosts children ages 8 weeks to 14 years of age.

The race is an enjoyable run through scenic Maple Bluff, beginning and ending at Burrows Park. The race begins at 8 am with a children's one-mile run. For most of them, it is their first try at running a full mile. The 1-mile run/walk is \$25, 5K run/walk is \$40, 10K run/walk is \$70. Sign up can be done just before the race, but runners are encouraged to pre-register at www.isthmusmontessoriacademy.org.

McPike Scholarship Fund is growing

By Craig Karlen

East High Class of 1995

It has been a truly amazing summer, and I hope all of the families out there are having a nice start to the school year.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the Milton McPike Memorial Scholarship Fund has been permanently endowed with the Foundation for Madison's Public Schools. It should last forever. This means that next spring, East High School can begin to award \$4,000 scholarships (\$1,000 each year for up to four years) in memory

of Principal Milton McPike, one of Madison's true heroes.

Each scholarship recipient will also receive a multi-year commitment from East High alumni volunteers to mentor these young people for as many years as it takes to get them to the finish line of college graduation.

The incredible generosity of our donors brought in more than \$47,000 just in the month of July. Add the funds raised prior to July and \$4,000 raised in August, and the current scholarship fund balance is over

\$54,000. On top of that, we have received written pledges for future years totaling more than \$26,000, bringing our total raised and pledged to over \$80,000. In just a few short months, we are well on our way to our goal of \$100,000.

It has been an honor to work with the friends and family of Milt McPike, current and former staff of Madison East High School, and the extensive East High community and alumni network. We are grateful to have been invited to work with the classes of 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995 and the annual All-Class Reunion at Warner Park, and we hope to work with alumni groups in the future as they plan reunions in the coming years.

We are grateful to all who helped with and attended the kick-off brunch July 12 at the Edgewater. It was an amazing event, and it could not have happened without the vision and skills of our committee co-chair Erin Peschel (Class of 1995). There were speeches by several people whose lives were touched by Milt. We were especially honored by the presence and participation of Milt McPike's extended family.

Many thanks to our volunteer photographer Brent Nicastro and filmmaker Marc Kornblatt, whose documentary "It's About the Kids" commemorates the event. Also, don't miss the inspirational PBS video "American Journey: Milton McPike," which was featured at the brunch. These and many other articles about our efforts can be found at www.mcpikescholarship.org.

Thanks again and have a wonderful fall.

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