

Elvehjem Echo

Elvehjem Neighborhood Association
Founded March, 1968

Vol. 40, Issue 05
May, 2008

Our Association's 40th Year



"Prez Sez"

Here are a few items that should be of interest to all our neighborhood.

RECYCLE!

On Saturday, June 7, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Dane County is offering "Med Drop", a way to properly dispose of unused and unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medicines. This drive-through, drop-off service is available free at the City of Madison Transfer Station, 121 E. Olin Avenue.

Madison residents can recycle CPU's, monitors, laptops, computers, and televisions for a fee of \$10.00 at 4602 Sycamore Ave. This is \$5 less than the fees for the old program that land filled these items.

In addition, the following items can be recycled free of charge: keyboards, miscellaneous computer parts, scanners, mouse, printers, cables, stereo components, VCRs, cell phones, telephones, DVD players, and typewriters. For more information, visit <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets> or call 267-2626.

The "Clean Sweep Program" for recycling household hazardous waste, free of charge, opened its 2008 season on May 2 and will run until October 31, 2008, at 2302 Fish Hatchery Road. Normal hours of operation are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 7:30 AM to 2:00 PM. For more information, visit www.danecountycleansweep.com, or call 243-0368.

GRAFFITI FREE

The City of Madison is taking action to be Graffiti Free. Here are several ways to report graffiti:

- ◆ Call 911: If you see a vandalism crime in progress, immediately report it to the Madison Police Department. Be as descriptive as possible about the people and vehicles involved, including license plate numbers.
- ◆ Report a location of graffiti promptly. Go to: www.cityofmadison.com/reportAProblem/Graffiti.cfm
- ◆ Call the 24 hour Graffiti Hotline at 608/246-4532
- ◆ Call Crime Stoppers at 608/266-6014

If you own private property that has been vandalized by graffiti, the City of Madison has a program, "Graffiti Co-Pay Removal", which helps property owners cover the cost of graffiti removal. Direct questions about the program to the Building Inspection Unit, 266-4551.

CALENDAR

- ◆ **June 4, 2008**..... **Monthly Board Meeting**
7:00 PM..... 5010 Starker Avenue
- ◆ **July 4, 2008**..... **July 4th Celebration**
11:45 AM—Parade Line Up.... Front of Elvehjem School
12:00 PM—Parade Starts
12:15 PM—Picnic & Fun..... Elvehjem Park Shelter
- ◆ **August 8 & 9**..... **Elvehjem Neighborhood Garage Sale**
- ◆ **August 8, 2008**..... **Elvehjem School Playground Fundraising Kickoff**
8:00 AM..... Elvehjem School

July Celebration Raffle Prizes

Some of the raffle prizes at this year's ENA July 4th celebration will be a signed Packers football, bicycle, and UW-Men's hockey tickets.

GARLIC MUSTARD & BUCKTHORN REMOVAL

Help keep the Elvehjem Neighborhood healthy! Although the garlic mustard and buckthorn pulling party at the Elvehjem Sanctuary has taken place, you can certainly pull any you find on your own. In fact, you might develop a taste for garlic mustard—try this pesto.

Garlic Mustard Pesto: 1 1/2 cups fresh garlic mustard leaves; 1 clove garlic; 1/4 cup pine nuts or walnuts; 3/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese; 3/4 cup olive oil.

In a food processor, finely chop the garlic mustard leaves, garlic and nuts. Slowly mix in the cheese and olive oil. Pesto may be eaten on bread or pasta, or frozen in ice cube trays and stored for future use.

LAWN CARE

Here are some tips from The Greater Madison Healthy Lawn Team for growing a healthy, beautiful, non-toxic lawn! (www.healthylawnteam.org)

1. Have your soil tested by a professional: call UW Soil Lab at 262-4364. A soil test will tell you the nutrients in your soil, as well as the amount of organic matter. Soils high in organic matter encourage healthy root growth and beneficial insects and microorganisms.

(Continued on page 3.)

ENA Board Meeting Minutes—May 7, 2008

(NOTE: Minutes appearing in the Echo are edited for space. ENA's official minutes are posted on its website.)

Present: Jim Polewski, Tom Purnell, Art Meyer, Jeanne Rotter, Kate Strom, Sue Dow, and Mike Digman

February and March Minutes, and April Treasurer's Report were approved. Most recent minutes will be published in the Echo each month as a "draft" and the Board will then consider them for approval at the next month's meeting. The idea is to get Board meeting information out to neighbors as soon as possible after a Board meeting.

Neighborhood Watch: Meetings were held on April 17 and April 19. It would be nice to somehow be able to let neighbors know where watchers live, but that would also be a project requiring updates. Most interesting tips on being safe related to having lights, having and using locks, and landscaping to limit intruders' cover. Also suggested was that the Echo carry a note to check on the Madison Police Department's website as well as Mary Ann Thurber's web address.

Egg Hunt: No expenses because the hunt was cancelled due to weather.

Damaged Neighborhood Sign: Thanks to Jim for fixing the damage Acewood sign.

Garlic Pull: The pull is set for May 17 at 9:30 AM. Please meet at the park shelter. After that, no further pulls have yet been set.

Association Insurance: The policy comes due for renewal on June 1, 2008. The \$594 charge could be locked in for 3 years, and is less than we pay now. The insurance is needed primarily for the 3 events that involve fire, but is also good protection for every neighborhood event.

Neighborhood Slow Down Project: Went well except that 15-20 of the new signs blew away in high wind that day. Next year, we'll need 15-20 more new signs.

Fortieth Elvehjem Anniversary: Kate will get some old Echoes from storage and we'll put some good old articles in future Echoes. Otherwise, we'll mention the Anniversary at each upcoming event to seek out reminiscences.

Membership Drive: District Coordinators should receive their packets soon, if they have not already

Fourth of July Celebration: This year's serious planning began, with assignments made for purchasing buns and meat, soda, sides, and deserts, securing permits, assuring the attendance of local police and firefighters, bringing physical equipment together such as tables, table cloths, roasters, ice chests, and the like, and regaining the donations from local vendors that were so valuable last year. One desert idea was a cake decorated for the 40th Anniversary. We also hope to dig out neighborhood pictures from years past to see how things have changed!

Another part of the celebration that will take some work is soliciting and gathering items for the raffle at the picnic. Last year, it was a huge success, and we hope to have items all will enjoy.

JOIN ENA

Ask any Board member for a membership form.

After last year's large attendance, it's hard to determine what attendance will be this year as the 4th is on Friday; rising gas prices might keep more people home. The Board decided to expect a smaller number of people, but not by a huge number.

The Parade will follow the same route as last year because sidewalk construction in the area may not be completed by Parade time. Line-up will be at 11:45 AM. Start time is 12:00 PM. Food serving time begins at 12:15 PM.

This year we'll also try to have "Parade" signs to make sure local traffic knows of the parade and takes detours.

Volunteers. Kate is working with Bill Neitzel on a possible effort related to the Anniversary and Bill may be able to mobilize members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church for other neighborhood activities. Of course, we need volunteers for all events, especially the membership drive and 4th of July celebration, so anyone who wants to help is welcome.

Elvehjem School Playground Kickoff: The fundraising kickoff will be at the school on August 8th at 8 AM. The title of the event is "Changing Places." The Association approves a hand-painted tile for the playground.

ECHO Issues: Several more ideas came forward for more substantive information that would work well in the Echo about neighborhood activities, such as articles on recycling, on promoting a graffiti-free neighborhood, and more details about annual meeting discussions. The Board urges everyone who has an idea to suggest, or even an article they'd like to write to submit the article to the Echo editor or any Board member. One idea for a summer Echo project is for neighborhood school children to submit poems, essays, favorite stories about their families, etc. Sue will create a submission form, which will hopefully appear in the next Echo and on the website. Submissions will need to be relatively short, but if we receive enough, we might be able to have a regular column.

Madison Water Utility: The MWU sent information about its Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. The report "describes the source of Madison's tap water—a deep groundwater aquifer—and what citizens can do to help protect and maintain the quality and quantity of our drinking water." For much more information on issues such as disposing of household substances toxic to our water, and medication drop events, see the Water Utility's website at madisonwater.org or call the Water Utility at 266-4654.

Stoughton Road Renewal Project: The project was nominated for a Neighbor of the Year Award by the Neighborhood USA Association. The award ceremony will be held in Hampton, VA on May 21-23 and Jim Polewski and Fred Arnold will attend. Quite an accomplishment!

Submitted by: Susan Dow, secretary.

Member Corner

Notices are limited to 40 words and run on a first come, first-served, space-available basis. Youth ads are good for 3 months; all others are 1 month per request. If space is limited, ENA member notices have priority. Notices may be edited. Send requests to ENA, PO Box 14625, Madison, 53708-0625; or newsletter@elvehjemneighborhood.org; or deposit in Echo mailbox at 21 Vinje Court.

Babysitting: Need a responsible, reliable babysitter? I am 16 years old and have 5 years of experience. I prefer kids age 3 and older. For more information and references, please call Sarah at 223-0229. (Expires 07/01/08)

Supportive In-Home Care: Companionship, meal preparation, light housekeeping, errand services, grocery shopping, respite care, transportation to medical appointments. Excellent references upon request. Free consultation. Call Chris at 206-4208.

(Continued from page 1.)

2. Feed your lawn properly. If a soil test indicates your soil is low in organic matter, a light top dressing of compost in the fall will help "build" the soil. Most grasses benefit from additional nitrogen. Grass clippings are an excellent free organic source of slow-release nitrogen, so leave them on the lawn.
3. Avoid chemical fertilizers. Many contain toxic heavy metals, such as mercury, arsenic, cadmium and lead. Quick-release chemical fertilizers can also harm beneficial insects, which burrow through the soil creating tiny tunnels for air and water movement. Earthworms, for example, are especially sensitive to chemical fertilizers.
4. Give your grass the proper cut. Grass that is 3 to 3.5 inches will keep the soil cooler, preventing pest invasions. Taller grass needs less fertilizer, better tolerates drought and contains fewer weeds. Never cut more than 1/3 of the blade at a time.
5. Water infrequently, but deeply. Make your grass work for its water; the roots will be deeper and your grass will be more resistant to drought. You don't have to water your grass during dry spells—even if the grass turns brown it is merely going dormant and will quickly recover after a good long rain.
6. Give weeds unbeatable competition. The cultural practices listed above will go a long way in preventing problems on your lawn. In addition, you can stack the cards against weeds by over-seeding your lawn in autumn before the leaves fall. Choose a seed mix that is appropriate for the amount of sunlight and traffic.

THANKS TO OUR PAST PRESIDENT!

I and the Board sincerely thank Jason Cram, our recent President. Jason had great competition for his time and energy, but still managed to give the neighborhood his best and some great events—THANKS!!

Kate Strom President,

Elvehjem Neighborhood Association

2007-2008 ENA Board of Directors

President:	<u>Kate Strom</u> , 4718 Steinhauer Trail 223-0678 kate@elvehjemneighborhood.org
Vice-President:	<u>Jim Polewski</u> , 5010 Starker Avenue 221-2490 jim@elvehjemneighborhood.org
Treasurer:	<u>Jeanne Rotter</u> , 5001 Ironwood Drive, 222-4981 jeanne@elvehjemneighborhood.org
Secretary:	<u>Susan Dow</u> 21 Vinje Court 223-9309 susan@elvehjemneighborhood.org
Art Meyer	1629 Deerwood Drive 442-7636 art@elvehjemneighborhood.org
Mike Digman	5022 Starker Avenue 223-9527 mike@elvehjemneighborhood.org
Tom Purnell	1517 Ironwood Drive 221-8301 tom@elvehjemneighborhood.org

Contact a Board member with your comments or questions concerning a subject affecting our neighborhood. You're invited to attend any ENA board meetings.

ENA Treasurer's Reports

April 1—April 30, 2008

Checking Balance Reported

April 1, 2008: \$ 2,286.00

Receipts

.....0.00
Total Revenue: \$ 0.00

Disbursements

Sign stain to cover graffiti (Chase/Polewski)30.54
Membership Drive printing (Insty Prints)..... 127.23
Membership Drive supplies (Pederson)..... 168.72
Echo Printing-March/April (Xer-Lith Printing).. 380.74
Echo Mailing-March/April
(First Class Mailers) 388.18
Total Disbursements: \$ 1,095.41

Checking Balance Reported

April 30, 2008: \$ 1,061.35

Certificates of Deposit face value (+ interest): .. \$ 6,092.59

Total Cash and Equivalent

April 30, 2008: \$ 7,153.94

Submitted by Jeanne Rotter, Treasurer

(Continued from page last.)

handprint, family name, or original colorful art to the new community playground. \$30 tiles are available now at:

Fired Up Pottery
425 B W. Cottage Grove Rd.
Cottage Grove, WI

June 23rd will be the LVM Dreams Big Golf Spectacular. Former UW Athletic Director Pat Richter and Olympian Suzy Favor Hamilton will join us for a day of golf. Scramble starts at 11:30 AM at The Oaks Golf Course in Cottage Grove. Your \$99 donation will provide you with a box lunch, BBQ dinner, 18 holes of golf with a shared cart and more! The raffle will offer the chance to win a Ping Putter signed by Jerry Kelly and many other terrific prizes. Email to lvmdreamsbig@yahoo.com for registration forms.



Elvehjem Neighborhood Association
PO Box 14625
Madison, Wisconsin
53708-0625

www.elvehjemneighborhood.org

LVM DREAMS BIG CELEBRATES \$20,000 SARA LEE FOUNDATION GRANT

Elvehjem students cheered Superintendent Art Rainwater's announcement of a \$20,000 Sara Lee Foundation Grant to build the first Boundless Playground in Wisconsin. "We're proud to be a partner with LVM Dreams Big and the Foundation for Madison's Public Schools" stated Judy E. Schaefer, Sara Lee Foundation Director. "It's a great opportunity for the three organizations to build a place where parents and children with all abilities can learn and grow together."

"LVM Dreams Big" continues fundraising to fund the Boundless Playground. We hope that you can join us at one or more of these events.

In June, Outback Steakhouse is teaming with LVM Dreams Big for an Amazing Alumni Dinner. If you are LVM Alumni or know someone who is, please email us at LVMdreams-big@yahoo.com; we are looking for pictures, stories and some great volunteers to help us locate additional alumni! The event will include dinner (provided by Outback Steakhouse; adults \$20 and children \$5 hotdog meal provided by Sara Lee), tour and photo opportunities, along with music and tile creating.

Through June 30th, create a 6" x 6" outdoor ceramic tile to be placed on this playground. Add your child's

(Continued on page 3.)

responsibleenergy

savings are in the air

There are simple ways we can all save energy this summer. Hanging your laundry outside to dry is one way. If you use your dryer, run it during the cooler parts of the day. For more warm weather energy and cost saving tips, hang out online at mge.com/summer.

mgoe
your community energy company

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