East Madison community center



VOLUME 28 • ISSUE 1

What a Difference Design makes!

Thanks to design for a difference madison

fter months of anticipaation, EMCC families walked through the doors of their newly renovated Center on October 21, 2018 for the Design for a Difference makeover reveal. The design team, which included 44 volunteers and donations from more than 200 businesses, transformed 12,800 square feet of space with new flooring, furniture, hand painted murals, and warm, inviting spaces throughout. The renovation captures the Center's role as the community's home-away-from-home - a place where children and adults work and play in a space that conveys dignity and respect. Thank you Design for a Difference!



Visit EMCC's website at www.eastmadisoncc.org

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Fight for Fair Housing



Design for a Difference

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Thanks

Individual Donors and Group Supporters

Madison College Inerior Design Program Students and Staff

UW Madison School of Human Ecology Students and Staff

Supporters of DFAD Designer Rummage Sale

Supporters of Floor360's Spring into Design Silent Auction

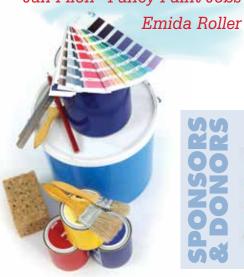
Supporters of Miller & Son's Brat Sale to Benefit DFAD

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Holly Meyers – Hiraeth Art Christie Grace – Art of Christy Jan Pilon– Fancy Paint Jobs























New public health nurse in the Truax neighborhood

By Kimberley Neuschel

y name is Kim Neuschel and I am a public health nurse now serving the Truax Neighborhood. My office is next to the Joining Forces for Families (JFF) worker, Bridget, located at 9 Straubel Ct. This position is part of a new initiative between



Public Health Madison and Dane County (PHMDC) and JFF to improve community health by co-locating nurses with JFF workers.

I have worked in public health for over 14 years and LOVE neighborhood based work. I am excited to be here! I am a strong believer in the power and voice of community to define the issues and create the solutions to improve the health of their neighborhood. This means a big part of my job is to listen to YOU!

My work will be centered in community engagement and strengthening linkages between community partners and the residents of Truax with the goal of impacting inequitable health outcomes. All of that is to say I hope we can work together to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone living here.

My initial work will focus on:

- ✓ Building relationships with residents and service providers in the Truax neighborhood.
- Completing a community health assessment to better understand the neighborhood's many strengths, barriers to health and opportunities to improve the Truax neighborhood.
- ✓ And participating in ongoing community efforts such as the Hawthorne Community School Initiative and the Healthy Kids Collaborative's effort to address concerns about the walking tunnel under East Washington Ave.

I would love to hear from you if you have ideas on how to improve the health of the Truax community, concerns that you believe are impacting the neighborhood's health, and/or if you would like to be involved. Here's to a healthy and kind 2019!

You can reach Kim by email: kneuschel@publichealthmdc.com Or call/text at: 608-516-8317

Cutting edge program teaches youth anger managment

By John Harmelink

or the past 25 years the
East Madison Community
Center has been offering a
program that is unique and
effective in reducing violence
among children and youth.
The unique feature of our

Alternatives to Violence

(ATV) program is that it teaches youth about anger management before they get in trouble due to their inability to release their anger in nonviolent ways.

The program meets every Saturday morning from 9–11am and is integrated into the summer camp curriculum. The program is open to youth ages 7-17 and incorporates agespecific curriculum.

Alternatives to Violence is run by Nate Savodo, who is a social worker, and John Harmelink, who is a special education teacher in the Madison Metropolitan School District. The program serves over 150 youth from Over 92% of the youth attending ATV have reported an increase in their

anger management
skills when confronted by stressful
situations that
persist in their lives.

ALTERNATIVES
VIOLENCE

the east side of Madison each year. Surveys and outcome data are used to determine the effectiveness of the program and the results have been astonishing. Over 92% of the youth attending ATV have reported an increase in their anger management skills when

confronted by stressful situations that persist in their lives. Giving children the tools to make better choices in life is part of the mission of the EMCC. ATV is one of many holistic youth programs the EMCC provides to assist students in becoming successful adults.

AMERICAN FAMILY
INSURANCE

American Family Insurance is pleased to help underwrite East Madison Community Center's newsletter.

THANK YOU to American Family for printing Centerpoints!

Learn more about EMCC programs at www.eastmadisoncc.org



22nd Annual Bowl-a-Thon rolls in plenty of fun...and funds!

hank you to everyone who supported the EMCC's 22nd Annual Bowl-A-Thon. With your help we raised \$41,000 to fund the East Madison Community Center's Youth Minority Achievement Program. Your generous gifts support hundreds of students right here in the Madison area! You have made it possible for us to continue offering outstanding tutoring, mentoring, and educational programs for school-age children.















EMCC Kids explore the world through Multicultural Art Programs

By Sarah Schwab and Stacy McCarthy

ach week, our youth learn about other cultures through interactive art projects. Living in a multicultural society requires understanding and

respecting those from other cultures. One of the best ways to encourage this value is through arts education. Art is a powerful force that helps to shape attitude, beliefs, values, and behaviors. Through hands-on art education, students get to experience other cultures in a fun and inclusive environment.

On Thursday evenings UW-Madison Master of Social Work students and local MMSD teachers facilitate art projects with youth at the EMCC to explore the world through art. Students learn about different countries during Learning Center and have the opportunity to create art reminiscent of that culture. This year, while studying Guatemala, Ghana, Mexico, and India, students have made Guatemalan worry dolls, Ghanaian kente cloth, Mexican Ojos de Dios, and Indian mandalas.

Godfrey, age 11, says, "Thursday is my favorite day because of this art group."



The EMCC's multicultural arts programming is generously supported by individual donors and

The American Girl's "A Fund for Children" managed through the Madison Community Foundation.







For more information about EMCC Multicultural Arts programs, visit: eastmadisoncc.org/programs/multicultural-arts/

Alderman David Ahrens

City Councilman Bids Farewell

uring my six years as an Alder there have been major changes in our communities. Some are immediately visible, such as the reconstruction of the EMCC or the many new buildings at Truax Homes. Other changes are harder to put your finger on such as the slow increase in housing costs for both renters and home owners. Home owners become acutely aware of the increase in property values when they see their property taxes jump. The inability to relieve the unfair burden of property taxes on lower income individuals and families has been my greatest frustration over the six years.

State laws require the city to tax a home worth

As this is my last column for the EMCC newsletter, I want to thank my friends at the EMCC and the community they serve for the opportunity to serve on the Madison Common Council.

\$200,000 the same amount whether the owners earn \$150,000 per year or \$15,000 and living on Social Security. If the resident is 65 or over and have limited assets, the City and County can assist through delaying payment until the house is sold.

As this is my last column for the EMCC newsletter, I want to thank my friends at the EMCC and the community they serve for the opportunity to serve on the Madison Common Council. While I must admit, service on the Common Council has usually not been "fun", it has been a rewarding experience. I've

learned about many subjects of which I previously had no knowledge on topics ranging from stormwater to commercial financing. I've had the opportunity to help individuals and organizations when they might feel stymied by the city or treated unfairly.

Most of all, I've met people who are helping their neigh-

bors in small ways such as shoveling their sidewalk. And many police and firefighters for whom my respect and gratitude has only grown as I have worked with them.

These actions, small and perhaps not noticeable and the later, large and heroic are the ingredients that make all the parts of the community whole. If you haven't had the pleasure of helping even in some small way you can do it by saying, "Can I help?" If you are already doing it, Thank you!



Get a clear picture of your energy use

- · See how your energy use compares to other nearby homes.
- · See whether you've used more energy compared to last year.

Visit mge.com/compare and sign in to My Account for details. Have questions? Call our Home Energy Line at 252-7117.

Working together, we can reduce our energy use and reach our goals under Energy 2030, Learn more: energy 2030 together.com



The EMCC Choice Food Pantry is open Tuesdays from 12 noon to 2pm with sign in starting at 10am. Bring identification and proof of residence to get signed up.

msóe.

Join the fight for Fair Housing!

By Alison Ahlgrim

ousing discrimination is common, yet most people remain unaware of its prevalence. Equal housing opportunity – the idea that all people should have equal access to all the housing they can afford – is still an elusive dream for many Dane County residents.

Fair housing laws make it illegal for housing providers to discriminate based on race, sex, age, national origin, disability, family status, student status, sexual orientation, and other protected characteristics. Housing discrimination is often subtle and difficult to detect. In many instances, people leave an interaction with a housing provider unaware that they have been treated differently than someone else because of their race, because they have kids, or because they have a disability.

If you think you may have been illegally denied housing on the basis of your race, national origin, sex, familial status, disability, age, lawful source of income, sexual orientation, or another characteristic, please contact the Fair Housing Center of Greater Madison at 608-257-0853 or call a toll-free statewide complaint intake hotline at 1-877-647-FAIR (3247).

The Fair Housing Center of Greater Madison also provides educational presentations to neighborhood groups, social service agencies, religious congregations, and others about fair housing law and illegal housing discrimination. For more information on fair housing presentations, please call 608-257-0853.

For more information, see the Fair Housing Center's website at www.fairhousingwisconsin.com.



SPACE RENTAL NOW AVAILABLE

MEETINGS, REUNIONS, BIRTHDAY PARTIES, SPORTING EVENTS, CLASSES & MORE

EASTMADISONCC.ORG • 608.249.0861



Mark your calendar for these upcoming EMCC 2019 Events!

- Woody Carey Scholarship Application Due: April 26
- **Diabetes Support Group:**Saturdays: May 11, June 15, July 13,
 August 17 and September 14
- Summer Camp Registration: Thursday, May 2, 6:30pm
- Free English Classes for Parents:
 Sponsored by EMCC and The Literacy
 Network: Mondays, 6pm to 8pm,
 June 3 August 19
- Summer Community Garden Workday: Wednesday July 17, 5pm to 7pm
- Pre-Teen Summer Camp: June 17 – July 12
- Teen Summer Camp: July 15 – August 9



East Madison Community Center

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EMCCENTERPOINTS

EMCC 2019 VOLUNTEERS

Youth Volunteers

Nakea Black, Koko (Koriyanna) Fitzpatrick, D'Iylah Gowes, Amira Hampton, Keyan Harper, Antuan Haskins, Jelonzo Jackson, Iyonna Jones, James Moore, Adonis Pickett, Nikia Rowe, Heaven Thomas, James Xiong, Maleevong Xiong, Richard Xiong

Food/Clothing/Household Items Distribution Volunteers

Lonnie Bibbs, Kenny Brumfield, Pat Haak, Jeffrey Lomax, Madison College Service Learning Academy, Nathan Oliver, Quentin Sears, Mylas Sparks, LC Williams, East Madison/Monona Rotary

Resource Development

Larry Hamlin, Bunny Lenburg

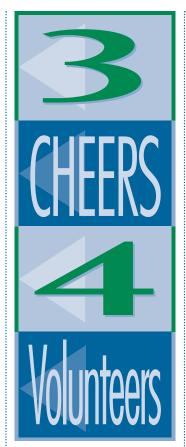
Program Volunteers

Pedro Diosardo, Martha Galston, Malinda Sloan, Amanda Toy, Design for a Difference–Madison, Madison College Botany Students, Madison College Service Learning Academy, Madison Missions–Blackhawk Church, UW Badger Volunteers

Board Members

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