



NEIGHBORHOODS USA NEWSLETTER AWARD
FIRST PLACE WINNER!

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EMCC Strengthens Community Connections

On August 5th, EMCC was filled with energy and excitement as families gathered for the National Night Out's Custard Carnival. National Night Out is a nationwide event designed to strengthen connections between neighbors and local law enforcement. Children enjoyed face painting, balloon animals, and a bounce house, while Culver's provided custard for all.

The evening also featured activities for all ages, including free books, a forensic science activity for kids by the Madison Police Department, and snacks provided by Madison College. The Wisconsin National Guard joined the festivities, adding to the sense of community pride and partnership. The gathering offered an opportunity for families and community members to enjoy activities together while connecting with local organizations and public safety representatives. ■



National Night Out is a nationwide event designed to strengthen connections between neighbors and local law enforcement.



Visit EMCC's website at www.eastmadisoncc.org

Computer Lab added to Kids Library

Pg. 2



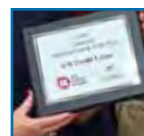
Summer Camp Fun & Learning

Pg. 3



Volunteer Dinner Highlights

Pg.4



HOPES Programs

Pg. 5



Youth News

YOUTH PROFILE



Kairany Remero

Age: 9

School: Hawthorne Elementary, 4th Grade

Favorite School Subject: Language/Writing

Favorite EMCC Program: Pre-Teen Night

Hobbies: Help people, Drawing and Basketball

Making Room For New Computer Lab in EMCC Kids Library

EMCC is always looking to improve our space. Improvement surveys over the last couple years have shown a need for a computer lab in the youth library. Looking around the room we noticed that we did not have the space to do it as there was a kids performance stage taking up most of the back wall. As most of us know, if there is a will there is a way. Our staff reached out to Kevin at JP Cullen and in no time the stage was removed and the kids got their wish of a computer lab in the youth library. ■



Top photo: Kevin (left) from JP Cullen and Nate (right) EMCC disassemble the stage area. Brenda helps clean old stage area making way for New KIDS Computer Lab.

EMCC Goes to the Milwaukee Zoo

The Question asked to all of the kids "If you were an animal what would you be?" A few kids say kangaroos, others say elephants and some say Giraffes; but most kids say they would be a lion. The next question asked to the kids is "why would you be that animal?" For some it was because the kangaroo can hop or the elephants are big and the lions are the king of the jungle. Whatever the

reason might be, they are all valid points. As they say "The wheels on the bus go round and round all through the town," but this time the wheels went round and round through the state and stopped at the Milwaukee Zoo. Each participant learned about the animals they wanted to be and actually saw them up close and personal. Some got

a chance to explain what they learned about their animals in front of their peers, others saw magic tricks and all students rode the Zoo Train, and got to ride the carousel. It was fun and educational for the kids and the staff alike. ■

Khamari and Ka'nyla plays with the goats at the Milwaukee Zoo.



EMCC kiddos playing on farm equipment at the Milwaukee Zoo.



Naveah learning a magic trick from a zoo keeper at the Milwaukee Zoo.

Fighting Summer Reading Loss at EMCC

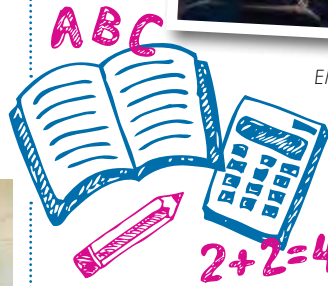


We all know that summer can be fun and exciting for most kids, they can sleep late, play video games all night or just have pure fun for about 2 months in the summer from June until September. But for 47 kids at East Madison Community Center they still had fun and

kept learning throughout the summer. This is the first year EMCC became an Official MMSD Summer School site. We hired two certified elementary school teachers from the surrounding school districts to help educate



EMCC kids in Summer School with Ms. Holly.



EMCC kids reading with Mayor Satya Rhodes-Conway.

our youth and kept them learning throughout the summer. What does that look like? At the EMCC our summer camp runs for eight weeks in the summer. Six of the eight weeks consist of summer school; the kids had breakfast at 8:30am and school started at 9:00am sharp. They do education activities such as math and reading until noon, after that we do lunch and spend the rest of the afternoon going on field trips and having open rec throughout the building. We had such a great summer we are considering a third classroom for older children in 2026. ■

YOUTH PROFILE



Jazon Nunn

Age: 11

School: Hawthorne Elementary, 5th Grade

Favorite School Subject: Science

Favorite EMCC Program: Cooking Class

Hobbies: Basketball

For more information, please contact our Youth Program Manager Nate Savado at 608.249.0861 or email nsavado@eastmadisoncc.org



We are on Facebook! On Facebook, we have our up-to-date schedule of events. You will also be able to see pictures of EMCC events. Give us a "Like", so you stay up-to-date with what is happening in the community.

Celebrating Our Volunteers

A NIGHT OF GRATITUDE AND BBQ!



Volunteer Zack Redd.



Pre-Teen Youth Volunteer of the Year, Kiki (right) with her Mom.



Kevin from JP Cullen (right) with Typhanny Greene.



Teen Volunteer of the Year, Antuan (left) with Nate Savado.

On Friday, June 27th, EMCC had the great pleasure of honoring the incredible volunteers who help make our community center the vibrant, supportive place it is today. From our dedicated Food Pantry team and those who lend a hand with maintenance, to the young helpers in our youth program, each volunteer plays a vital role in the success of EMCC's mission.

To show our appreciation, we hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner featuring a delicious BBQ meal from Famous Dave's. The evening was filled with warm smiles, good food, and heartfelt gratitude.

Every volunteer received a certificate of appreciation along with a small gift—tokens of our immense gratitude for the time, energy, and heart they pour into our center. It was a wonderful evening of connection and recognition, and a reminder of how powerful community support can be. ■

Left to right: Kelly Lovelace (Art Program Volunteer), Martha Galston (Food Pantry Volunteer) and Neri Haried (EMCC Board President).



UW Credit Union, Community Partner Award, shown with Volunteer Group "Team Vicki".



EMCC youth make a difference as mentors to the younger participants.

To all of our volunteers:
Thank you for everything you do. EMCC
wouldn't be the same without you!



Adult Volunteer of the Year, Zach Robinson.



Adult Volunteer of the Year, Matt Steensen.



Board Member Volunteer of the Year Marbeli Bruno.



Board Member Volunteer of the Year Rosie Haskins.



Volunteer Larry Yszenga



Volunteer Angie Haskins.

EMCC HOPES PROGRAMS

HOLISTIC ORGANIZATION OF PARTNERS FOR ECONOMIC STABILITY

EMCC's HOPES program continues to bring people of all ages together through engaging activities that strengthen community connections. This season has included free, high-energy Zumba classes, a festive trip to the Sutter's Ridge pumpkin patch, Financial Fitness classes offered by local credit unions and banks, a community dinner, and a friendly (and delicious!) chili cook-off. With so many ways to connect, learn, and have fun together, the HOPES program is helping build a stronger, more vibrant community for everyone. ■

Sign up in the front office, by calling **608-249-0861** or emailing **info@eastmadisoncc.org**

CHILI COOK-OFF

Our 3rd Annual Community Center Chili Cook-Off was a huge success! Community members gathered to sample delicious chili and enjoy each other's company.

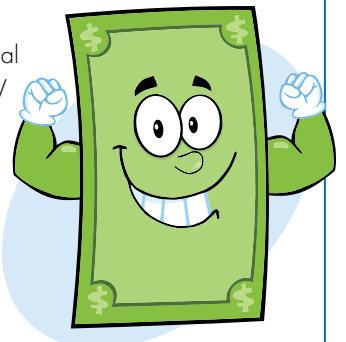


Cornbread was also

generously donated. **Congratulations to Rosie Haskins, this year's champion**, whose secret recipe 'Rosie's Chicken Chili' wowed the judges and earned her a cutting board and ring. **Marcus Krueger took second place** with 'Roasted Garlic Cheddar Burger Chili', and **John Boyton took third place** with his chili 'Unc's Easy Eats'. Thank you to our other participants: Shay Mims, Josh Justinson, Kelly Lovelace, and Bella McConnell for sharing your delectable chili. Look for our fun and flavorful community tradition next year! ■

FINANCIAL FITNESS

EMCC has hosted a series of Financial Fitness classes in partnership with UW Credit Union, Summit Credit Union, Associated Bank, and BMO Bank. Participants have learned valuable skills on topics such as credit and saving, managing debt, mortgages and the Community Reinvestment Act, retirement planning, and saving for college. These sessions have helped community members build financial confidence and gain practical tools to support their financial well-being. Thank you to our wonderful partners for sharing their knowledge and helping to educate our community! ■



ZUMBA!

Join us for free Zumba classes led by Priscilla, whose upbeat personality and fun energy make every session a blast! Her lively routines keep everyone moving, smiling, and feeling great. All are welcome—come dance, stay fit, and have fun with the community! **Classes are held on Tuesdays at 6:30 and Fridays at 6:15 in the Multi-Purpose Room.** ■



PUMPKIN PATCH

Community members enjoyed a festive fall outing to Sutter's Ridge Farm, filled with fun and seasonal treats. Participants indulged in warm apple cider and fresh cider doughnuts before heading out to pick their perfect pumpkin. The day was rounded out with hayrides, games, mini golf, a corn maze, and plenty of smiles while visiting the friendly farm goats. ■

SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR

In September, older adults took a field trip to the Madison Senior Center for their annual Senior Resource Fair. Participants had the opportunity to connect with local organizations, explore valuable programs and services for older adults, and learn about wellness, housing, and community resources. After exploring the local resources, folks enjoyed a burrito lunch while listening to an Alzheimer Researcher share how to navigate memory loss. It was a great day of discovery, connection, and fun! ■



COMMUNITY POTLUCK

In August, EMCC hosted a lively community potluck filled with delicious food and great company. Guests enjoyed fried chicken provided by EMCC, a homemade cake, and tasty dishes prepared by the Kids Garden Club—including fresh pesto, a

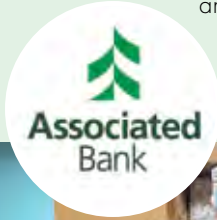
caprese salad, and crispy kale chips. It was a wonderful evening of sharing food, celebrating community, and enjoying the harvest season together. ■

Learn more about EMCC programs at
www.eastmadisoncc.org



3 CHEERS *for* VOLUNTEERS!

This summer we were lucky to have two groups come and give of their time and energy. On June 25th and 26th we had Associated Bank come on their group volunteer days, were able to get the Men's Closet tagged with sizes and re-organized. On September 17th and 18th we had a group from Old National Bank and, as always, the garage storage needed work and we organized the shelves and threw away anything we no longer needed. This may be a constant need at EMCC but it sure is wonderful to get help maintaining our organization. ■



EMCC INTERN PROFILE



Ms. Patreece

- College: Madison College
- Major: Human Service
- Why do you want to work with kids: Because the kids are the future
- Hobbies: Sing Songs



BOARD MEMBER PROFILE



Bridget Rogers

Employed at our local Joining Forces for Families (JFF) office located right in building 9 of Straubel Ct. Bridget has been working and helping our residents for over 20 years as the neighborhood social worker. She also worked in the EMCC youth

program as a youth program intern prior to her work in JFF. Bridget has two active children that do Tai Kwan Do, swimming and gymnastics and still finds time to give to the Center. ■

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SHOUT OUT TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS FOR 2025 PROGRAM AND GRANT SUPPORT

Education Programs

- Ascendium Education Group
- Associated Bank
- Cap Times Kids Fund
- City of Madison – Community Development Division
- Cremer Foundation
- Dream Lanes
- Evjue Foundation
- Festival Foods
- First Tee South Central Wisconsin
- Gail Hill Financial
- Hawthorne Elementary
- Hawthorne Neighborhood Association
- Hausmann Group
- Johnson Block CPAs
- Madison Arts Commission
- Madison College – Human Services Program
- Madison Table Tennis Club
- Mennenga Tax & Financial
- MG&E
- Nelnet
- Old National Bank
- Spectrum
- Tallard Apartments
- Truax Neighborhood Association
- TruStage
- UW Credit Union
- UW Madison
- Widen Family Foundation

Senior Programs

- Madison Community Foundation
- Madison Senior Center
- Comfort Keepers

Summer Camp

- Culver's
- Goodman Pool
- Madison Metropolitan School District
- Madison Table Tennis
- Olbrich Botanical Gardens
- Troy Gardens
- UW Madison – Teacher Education & Social Work

Theater Arts Program

- JP Cullen
- Madison Arts Commission

Food Pantry

- Alliant Energy Foundation
- Bethel Lutheran
- Bloom Bake Shop
- Chick-fil-A – East
- Healthy Food for All
- Kwik Trip
- Madison Area Food Pantry Garden
- Second Harvest Foodbank

General Operating

- Starbucks
- American Family Insurance Dreams Foundation
- Epic Employee Designations
- John J. Frautschi Family Foundation

Holiday Sponsorship

- Floor 360
- City of Madison Fire Dept. #8
- Messiah Lutheran Church
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- Hope Lutheran Church
- Word of Life ACM Church
- Iglesia Pentacostal Unida Latinoamericana

Fit for the Future 2.0 for Children and Youth

- American Family – Stricker Foundation
- Bourne Foundation

Holistic Organization of Partners for Economic Security (HOPES)

- Associated Bank
- BMO Bank
- Community Development Authority – East
- Cornucopia Arts
- DANenet
- Dream Bikes
- Hawthorne Elementary Community School
- Hawthorne Neighborhood Association
- Hooper Foundation
- Joining Forces for Families
- Madison College Wolfpack Volunteers
- Madison Library Dream Bus
- Madison Police Department
- Molina Health Care
- National Guard

- National Air Guard
- Overture Center Community Ticket Program
- Ping Pong Parkinson Madison
- Project Babies
- Public Service Commission
- Rooted Garden Program
- State of WI Dept of Health Services
- Summit Credit Union
- Truax Neighborhood Association
- Village Diaper Bank
- Wheels for Winners
- Wisconsin Bike Fed
- United Way of Dane County

Meal Programs

- Chick-fil-A
- Culver's
- DPI Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Ian's Pizza–Garver
- River Food Pantry Munch Mobile
- Second Harvest Snack Program
- UW-Extension

Media and Outreach

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— Thank You! —

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!



Tuesdays from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm

*Household and clothing items on the last Tuesday of the month



NEIGHBORHOODS USA
NEWSLETTER AWARD
FIRST PLACE WINNER!

Current occupant or

E M C C C E N T E R P O I N T S

EMCC 2025 VOLUNTEERS

Youth Volunteers

Antuan Graves-Haskins, Aiden Sanneh, Jerome Gibson-Murphy, Antonio Harris, Kiarrah Jackson

Food/Clothing/Household Items Distribution

John Boyton, Marylin Barker, Angela Braebender, Marbeli Bruno, Mary Cuccia, Martha Galston, Naykea Harrison, Rosie Haskins, Vicki McDonald, Judy Morhoff Carlson, Tami Niemisto, Mylas Sparks, Matthew Steensen, Nariyah Tillman, LC Williams, Susanna Yangzapata, CDA East, Madison Metropolitan School District, National Guard

Program Volunteers

Marbeli Bruno, Karen Contreras, Martha Galston, Melissa Gundlach, Rosie Haskins, Kelly Lovelace, Cathay Ramsey, Amanda Riley, Zach Robinson, Sara Scott, Matt Steensen, Tami Niemisto, Jenny Moore, Ascendium Education Group, Associated Bank, Madison College Service Learning Academy, Old National Bank, TruStage, UW Credit Union, JP Cullen

Graphic Design/Newsletter

Sandy Wagener

Board Members

Marbeli Bruno, Antonio Cruz-Rodriguez, Keia Freeman, Neri Haried, Rosie Haskins, Diane Keene-Meadowcroft, Tracy Lomax, Jamal Palmer, Sharon Rice, Tauri Robinson, Je 'Dauri Robinson, Bridget Rogers, J. Alberto Quiroga, Bejay Udchitz

thanks!



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Facility Operations Manager..... Typhanny Greene

Youth Program Manager..... Nate Savado

Youth Workers:
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Emily Ramsey
James Xiong
Richard Xiong
James Moore

Prgm. Coordinator..... Sarah Jacobsen

Office & Food Pantry Assistant..... Martha Galston

Accountant..... Bonnie Krattiger

Custodial Service..... JanPro

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