

DANE COUNTY PARKS

INFORMATION & EVENTS NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 8, 2021



McCarthy Youth and Conservation Park
Courtesy of Active Life Photography

MENDOTA PARKING NOTICE



Parking will be reduced at Mendota County Park on Tuesday, February 9 through Thursday, Feb 11 due to facility maintenance by Dane County Parks staff.

NEW STORYWALKS® ARE UP!

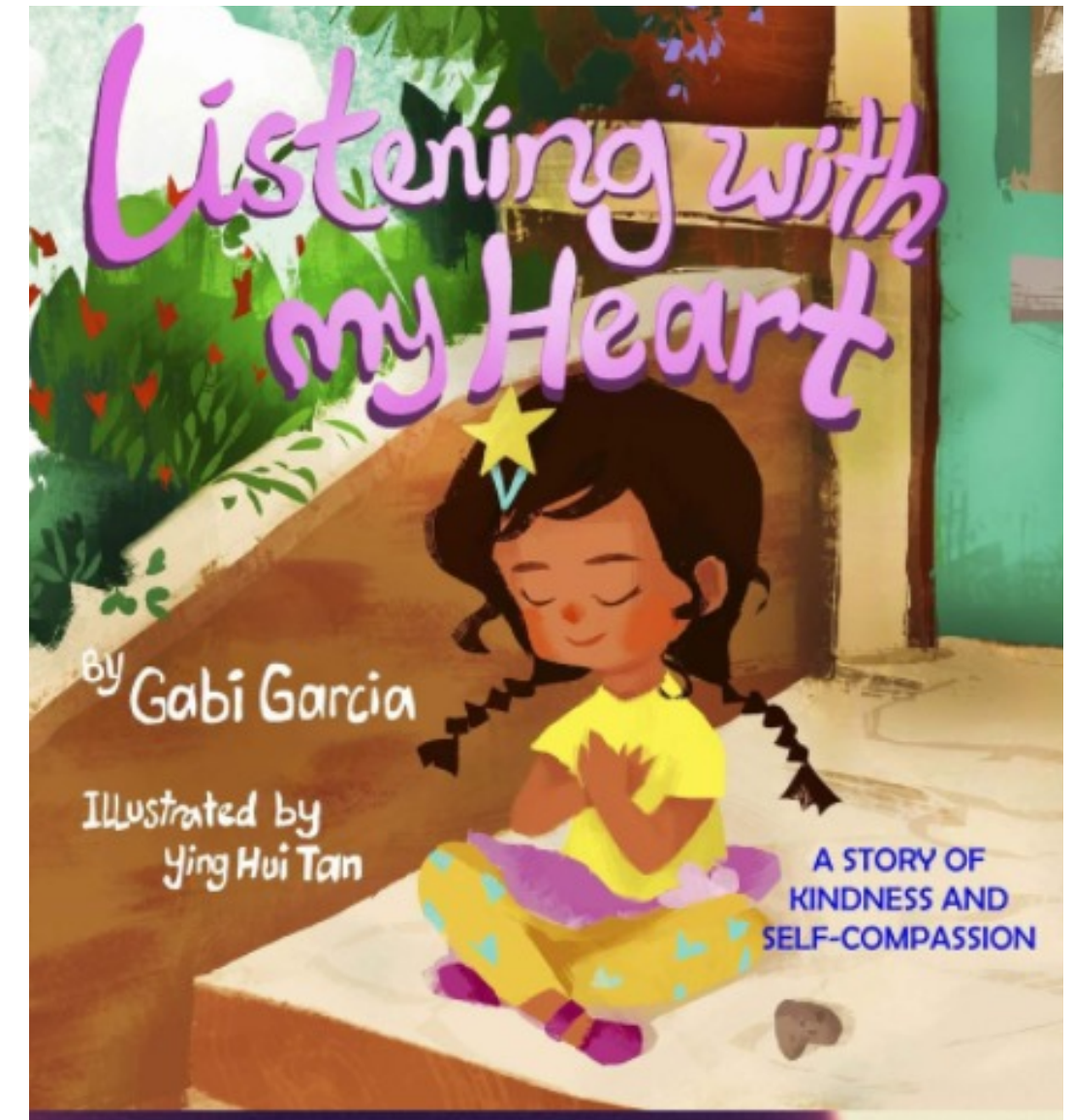
There are two new StoryWalk adventures in our parks!

Lussier Family Heritage Center

- January 15 – February 14: *The Napping House* by Audrey Wood
- February 15 – March 14: *Animals in Winter* by Henrietta Bancroft & Richard G. Van Gelder

Traveling StoryWalk @ Pheasant Branch Conservancy

As part of the Healthy Parks, Healthy You initiative a Traveling StoryWalk® will be set up at a different park each month. During February you can find the story *Listening with My Heart A Story of Kindness and Self-Compassion* by Gabi Garcia at Pheasant Branch Conservancy starting at the parking lot at 4864 Pheasant Branch Rd.



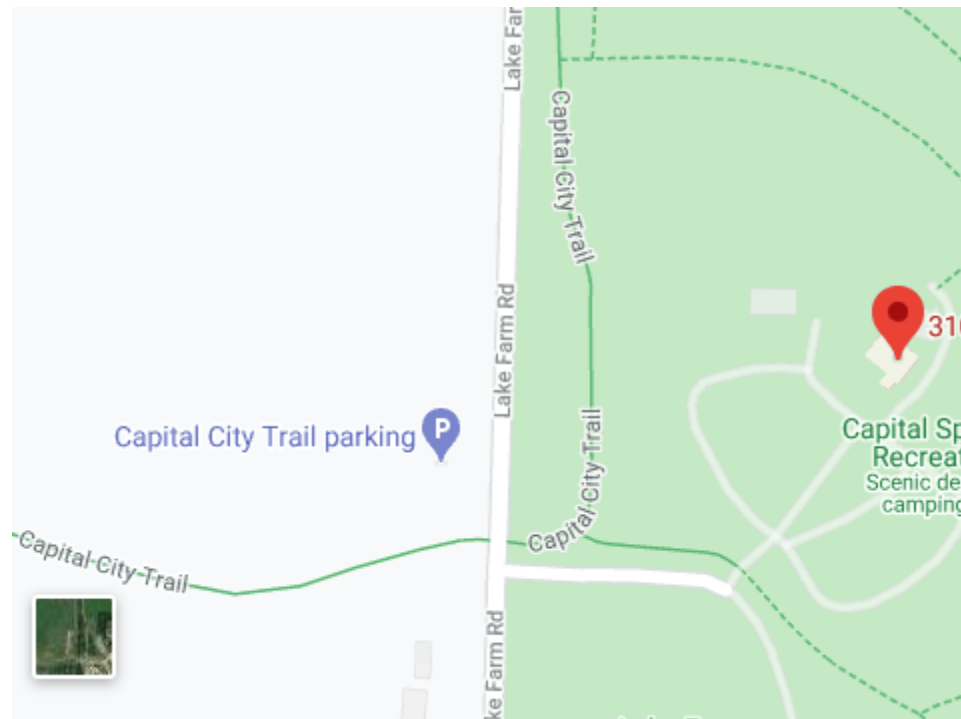
Nature Notes

from the Lussier Family Heritage Center
a Dane County Parks Facility

SCAVENGER HUNT

The Lussier Family Heritage Center has just set up a new scavenger hunt. The **Owl You Need Is Love** scavenger hunt includes signs laid out along the Lower Yahara River Trail near the center. Each sign features a Wisconsin animal that mates for life.

Find all 10 signs to uncover a secret 11th animal. Email the secret 11th animal to heritagecenter@countyofdane.com to **receive a prize** (while supplies last).



Location:
3101 Lake Farm Rd, Madison
Lower Yahara River Trail

Have fun!



Nature Notes

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CONSERVATION ART CONTEST

We are currently accepting entries for our Conservation Art Contest, competition, fundraiser, and scholarship for youth in grades six through twelve. The contest is a fun and interactive way to teach students about the many values of our natural areas, the challenges they face, and the habitat they provide for countless creatures.

The top three contest winners will receive a \$500 scholarship award for their artwork depicting a threatened or endangered species in Wisconsin. First place artwork will be turned into stickers, window clings, and magnets that will help raise money to help maintain and enhance Dane County Parks natural areas. Artwork for this year's contest is due by March 1, 2021.

[Learn More](#)



2020 First Place Winner

SPREADING NATIVE SEEDS

Before these frigid temperatures hit, the Friends of Stewart Lake County Park were able to interseed a portion of the park with native grasses and forbs. This will not only help to increase the biodiversity in plant/wildlife communities at the park but native plants can help improve water quality and reduce soil erosion. The Friends will be looking for more volunteers to help with seeding. Follow them on Facebook or contact Mary McDonough Sutter at mcsutter@mhtc.net for more information.



Stewart Lake County Park
Courtesy Jack Saltes

WINTER RECREATION

- Where can I go snowshoeing?
- Are any park bathrooms open?
- What winter activities require a permit?
- Where are the groomed cross-country ski trails?
- Are there any sledding hills in county parks?

Find the answers to these questions and more on our Winter Recreation webpage!

[Learn More](#)



William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park

SOCIAL SPOTLIGHT



Lower Yahara River Trail
@kule_wege



Pheasant Branch Conservancy
@mollykrolczykpaintings



McCarthy Youth and Conservation Park
@midwestski



Donald County Park
@lisa.salsa

Tag us in your adventures **@danecountyparks**



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