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CGE NEWS

October 2021

Team CGE Exceeds Fundraising Goal - Thanks to You!

What a day. Sunshine skies and an 80-degree breeze put the wind in the sails of Team CGE, which fielded 26-riders. Most opted for the 25-mile North Shore Century ride route. Among the outliers was former CGE Board President Hal Sprague, the lone 100-mile rider (see pics below)

We'd set a stretch goal of \$10K in fundraising. Thanks to the awesome efforts of our riders and an energizing \$10K match, Team CGE raised a total of \$25,000!

Many thanks to Peter Glaser, Margaret Stender, and all the fantastic volunteers from the Evanston Bike Club who put on this incredible event. We can't wait for you to join us at next September's *North Shore Century*!



Using ARPA Funds for CARP

As most of our readers know, Evanston received \$43 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). This is an extraordinary opportunity to accelerate the implementation of the City's [Climate Action and Resilience Plan \(CARP\)](#). ARPA funding allocations can help invigorate CARP support and prepare the way for future steps by the inclusion of specific tasks, such as hiring additional staff for the Office of Sustainability; hiring grant writing and additional legal staff; and hiring consultants in a number of different areas to help implement the plan. For this to happen the City Council would need to approve for at least \$5 million in ARPA funding for CARP. Please write your council member and urge them to allocate these funds. Or make your voice heard at the Monday, October 4 City Council meeting.

Activism Works! Pace Suburban Bus Commits to Zero Emissions by 2040

Thanks to months of advocacy by citizens and many environmental groups, among them CGE and Go Evanston, our suburban transit system took an important step forward recently when Pace [announced a commitment to zero emission vehicles by 2040](#) in its [strategic plan](#). In making this commitment, Pace joins CTA in planning to phase out diesel and compressed natural gas buses within 20 years.

The shift came after months of advocacy led by CGE and Go Evanston supported. [Sierra Club Illinois](#), [Clean Power Lake County](#), and the [Climate Reality Project](#). Active Trans and many other civic and environmental organizations joined these groups in a [letter to the Pace board earlier this summer](#) urging them to make a stronger commitment to this transition.

What You Can Do Today -- Download the Ventra or Transit app to your smartphone and identify the nearest Pace or CTA stop to you and see how close you can come to an appointment or errand across Evanston on your next trip.

“Never Take Broken for an Answer” – Take it to Evanston’s Repair Cafe

[Repair Cafés](#) are free meeting spaces where people fix things together. Besides the obvious money-saving, these events have multiple benefits, from keeping things out of the landfill, to promoting collaboration, skill-sharing and community self-reliance, as well as supporting Evanston's [Climate Action and Resilience](#)

Where: Robert Crown Library

Environmental Justice Evanston Releases Status Report on Resolution

Environmental Justice Evanston (EJE) has just released a status report on its recent efforts 12 months after spearheading the city council's approval of an Environmental Justice resolution for Evanston. The report covers EJE's activities in these areas:

- Getting the City of Evanston to approve the Environmental Justice resolution in 2020.
- Efforts with community and neighborhood groups on the local EJ issues impacting them.
- Its development of [an EJ Playbook](#) that provides step-by-step guidance for Evanstonians looking to address environmental justice issues they are contending with.
- The GIS (Geographic Information System) mapping tool that is being developed per the approved EJ resolution.
- EJE's work with city officials on initiating an investigation into the nature, extent and causes of environmental injustices in Evanston. EJE is seeking funding from the City to engage a consultant who can be a key member of the investigation team.

[To read the full report, click here.](#)

If you have questions please email the EJE committee at ej@greenerevanston.org.

Help The WasteShed Launch Its New Evanston Location

The [WasteShed](#) and [Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse \(ERW\)](#) have long shared a common purpose on the importance of reuse. So it makes sense that the WasteShed is opening a second location in a corner of the ERW's building materials reuse center in Evanston. This ambitious expansion recognizes that these nonprofits' common environmental and social mission present a great opportunity for collaboration and mutual support (and a lot of really fun projects).

deconstruction and salvage depot. Through October 8th, all new and increased gifts will be matched up to \$15,000 thanks to the generous support of Dana M Pearl.

Your tax-deductible donation will bring The WasteShed's sustainable creative programming and resources to a whole new part of the city.

[Donate here.](#)

Two CGE Board Members Heading to the UN Climate Conference in Glasgow!

CGE youth board member Lily Aaron and Board President Rachel Rosner will be at the [UN Climate Conference](#), aka COP 26, in Glasgow, Scotland, November 1-6 as part of [It's Our Future](#), a youth advocacy program of Seven Generations Ahead, a regional environmental organization based in Oak Park. They will be focusing on climate justice and holding leaders accountable. Rosner is the program consultant for the group, which includes three students from Oak Park River Forest High School, two from CPS, and three CPS teachers as well as Lily, a Senior at ETHS who is also the lead for Etown Sunrise.

The youth will have observer status at the delegations and will be reporting back to make global climate policy accessible for all. Additionally they will attend workshops and exhibits and meet other young climate activists from around the world! A blog is in the works, but in the meantime you can follow them on social media in order to stay in the loop. On Instagram, follow @iofyouth for the youth perspective @sevengensahead for more detailed policy information. On Facebook, it's @SevenGenerationsAhead and @itsourfutureyouth.

It's Fall, Y'all! And You're Invited to Natural Habitat Evanston's Potluck October 23

Please celebrate autumn and each other with Natural Habitat Evanston and friends. NHE wants to thank and appreciate all you've done this year: wildflowers shared, gardens and trees planted, invasives pulled, lawns shrunk, advocating for trees and earth-friendly policies, growing habitat for birds, and of course there's leaf blowers and more. [RSVP here.](#)

This is a potluck, so please bring a drink or snack to share, as well as a folding chair if you can. Significant others and children welcome.

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