



# Regent Neighborhood ASSOCIATION

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YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSLETTER

ISSUE >> FALL / 2007

## The Regent Neighborhood Association Fall Meeting

**November 28, 2007 - 7 PM-9 PM**

**Best Western InnTowner  
2424 University Aveune**



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This meeting is intended to give neighbors, business owners, and others an opportunity to learn about the current proposal and to discuss concerns and to make recommendations. The RNA Board needs your valuable input, before a final draft is approved. The RNA Board has taken no formal position, yet.

*NOTE: There is a detailed article about the planning process on page 6.*

The RNA Web site, [www.regentneighborhood.org](http://www.regentneighborhood.org), has the minutes and other information from the Old University Avenue Corridor Plan Advisory Committee.

- There will be a presentation of the draft architectural guidelines for the Old University Avenue corridor.
- The guidelines were developed by the RNA Advisory Committee and the Planning & Design Institute (PDI).
- There will most likely be additional public review meetings.
- The draft guidelines have not been approved by the RNA Board, yet. Once approved, there will be reviews by the Urban Design Commission, Plan Commission, and other bodies.
- Ultimately, the Madison Common Council must review.

The RNA Listserv is [RegentNeighborhoodAssn@yahoogroups.com](mailto:RegentNeighborhoodAssn@yahoogroups.com). See page 16 for instructions on how to join and post to the listserv.

## President's Message—

In case I haven't met you, please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Troy Rost and I am your new RNA President. I am excited about this year and look forward to leading the RNA through another year of community involvement and service.

For the first part of the year, my primary goals are going to be centered on 1) strengthening the RNA board and 2) actively working with the Old University Avenue Corridor Plan.

1. Board Recruitment - I feel that it is very important that the RNA board be as full as possible. I believe a full board creates the strong and diverse representation that is necessary to properly represent the neighborhood. I have been working with our association to find new recruits. I am happy to announce that we have added a new Secretary, Karen Middlestadt, a Treasurer Elect, Lynn Fortner, and a Communications Chair, Mary Sarnowski. We also have someone who has agreed to serve as Secretary-Elect and should be confirmed at the next board meeting. I am very pleased that they all have agreed to join us and look forward to working with them closely. I think you will find them all to be enjoyable to work with and entirely competent in their position. Please take a moment to get to know them and also thank them for their service.

We still need to recruit several key positions, however, and would invite you to consider serving. These positions include President-Elect, several committee chairmanships and two open At-Large Boardmember positions. Please consider serving.

If you agree to take a position, you will be supported and put in a position to succeed.

2. Old University Avenue Corridor Plan – As you know, the Old University Avenue Corridor Plan is ending the first phase of the plan development. The RNA asked volunteers from various parts of our community to work with our consulting company to develop a draft plan that would be presented to the board. This plan is going to be very important in helping to determine what the next generation of building looks like in our neighborhood.

With this in mind, I would hope that you would take the time to get to know this plan. This is your neighborhood association and your members have taken a lot of time away from their lives and families to volunteer to put this plan together. I hope regardless of what you think of this plan, you take the time to thank them for their service. I would also ask that everyone enter this discussion with a sense of civility and a willingness to listen. If a meaningful plan cannot be created by this association, we will basically forgo our opportunity to have a say in what happens to our neighborhood and abdicate responsibility to individuals, developers, the city and its bureaucracy. Only in unity and strength will we be able to effect decision making and make our voices heard.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to working with you all throughout this year.

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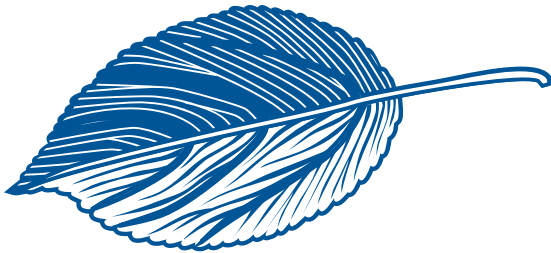
*As the RNA again enters a somewhat challenging time, I think it is especially appropriate to ask neighborhood residents to volunteer in the association. This is a time when many voices and talents are needed to help us truly represent the best interests of the neighborhood. We have been successful in recruitment thus far and I anticipate filling all open positions by the beginning of the New Year. If you are interested in one of these positions, please let me know. If you agree to serve, please know that you will be serving with a full board of talented and passionate individuals and the board will support you and put you in a position to succeed.*

*These are the open positions: President – Elect, Greenspace Committee Chairman, Streets/Transportation Committee Chairman, Co-Chair of the University Relations Committee, and 2 At-Large Board Members. If you have any questions about these positions, please feel free to contact me at troy1210@yahoo.com and we can talk about the responsibilities. Thanks for your consideration.*

## New RNA Sign—by Ron Rosner

A new Regent Neighborhood sign and garden has been installed in the triangle at the northeast entrance to the neighborhood. Funding for the project was provided through the City of Madison Community Enhancement Program which matched a Regent Neighborhood Association contribution, volunteer hours by members of the RNA Greenspace Committee, and generous in-kind contributions from Sign-1-1, Inc., the Barnes Landscape Company, and Jung Garden Center.

Given the heavy traffic surrounding the triangle site, the plantings were chosen for durability and low maintenance. Using the island site carried certain requirements to meet Traffic Engineering standards in regards to sign dimension and lettering. The designers of the sign (Ron Rosner, Pat Wood, and Bob Wood) took inspiration from the wonderful signs located at the Randall School Garden.



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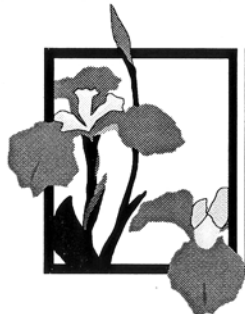
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# 10th District Common Council Alder's Report—by Brian Solomon

Greetings District 10 Neighbors. I was about to say welcome to autumn but after this weekend I'll say welcome to global warming instead! Well, better yet, welcome to the October D10 Update. I hope this finds you well, and I hope that you find this update useful.

As always, please feel free to share broadly and encourage other District 10 Residents to send me their email address (briansolomon@charter.net) so I can add them to the list.

## Citywide / D10 Stuff

*Crime.* Crime was pushed to the top of the local agenda this summer. The Mayor responded to several public meetings in near west side neighborhoods by proposing 30 new police officers. I am generally supportive of this idea, but am concerned about cost and how the extra officers will fit into a comprehensive plan for dealing with crime. This plan must include initiatives to deal with the root causes of poverty or I don't believe it will be successful in the long term.

*Chronic Nuisance Abatement.* This ordinance offers police an additional tool to deal with problem landlords. I worked with the Equal Opportunities Commission to help get language in the ordinance that would protect victims of domestic violence, require a sunset (so we could review impacts), and require that landlords don't automatically look at eviction as the only solution. We passed this ordinance earlier this fall and have already used it to go after some problem apartments on Allied Drive.

*Alcohol License Density.* This ordinance, which we also passed last month, deals with the exponential increase in bars in the downtown area over the last few years. I offered two successful amendments: one decreased the sunset clause from four years to three. The other required an annual study to gauge several things, most importantly the number of bar license applications in peripheral neighborhoods (including those in District 10).

*Regional Transit Authority.* I co-sponsored Madison's RTA resolution. It was passed by the Common Council; a similar one was passed by the County Board. The resolutions asks the Legislature to pass enabling legislation and the FTA to support our new starts application. This is a very positive step toward a regional transportation system in Dane County, but there is a long way to go. We need to work together to

help both skeptical Madisonians and neighbors in surrounding communities understand and support multi-modal transportation.

*Impeachment.* Despite the fact that an impeachment resolution had no practical impact, I have yet to receive as many impassioned emails or phone calls about any other topic during my short tenure as your alder. I voted in favor of this resolution because millions of Americans question the legality of actions taken by the Bush administration. I am not positive that laws were broken, but impeachment hearings represent a search for truth, nothing more. As for whether or not this was appropriate for local action, I decided it was. It was wholly legal to offer as a resolution, I received hundreds of emails asking me to vote yes, fifteen of our fellow citizens sat in Council Chambers until 4:00 in the morning for a chance to testify, and 8,000 Madisonians signed a petition asking us to support this. While this resolution passed 8-3, it did not receive the 11 votes necessary for passage.

## D10 North

*Fieldhouse Station.* The owner of this site is abandoning this project and, instead, designing a commercial facility that is allowable under their current zoning. They are not going to seek rezoning or any variances. The next design will likely be more scaled back than what we've been seeing. More to come on this project...

## D10 South

*Verona Road Interchange.* WisDOT held a public meeting on September 20th to discuss their plans for this interchange. The new designs are much less intrusive than the gigantic trench they proposed five years ago, but will still impact D10 neighborhoods. Several hundred people attended the meeting and learned about these new plans. Construction won't start until at least 2014, so we still have plenty of time for input.

*Police Update.* Here is the West District's September newsletter: [http://www.ci.madison.wi.us/police/westNews/wpd0907.pdf.2f0f3U7oH9GVQMCSiwJUNsoxxfWYK6xTumRG\\_2bzxE\\_3d](http://www.ci.madison.wi.us/police/westNews/wpd0907.pdf.2f0f3U7oH9GVQMCSiwJUNsoxxfWYK6xTumRG_2bzxE_3d).

I hope you find this update useful. I have a new blog (infrequently updated), available at [www.solomadison.blogspot.com](http://www.solomadison.blogspot.com). This job is a lot of work, but I sure am enjoying it. Enjoy your fall and I hope to see you all soon!

*(Edited by Kevin Corrado)*

## 5th District Common Council Alder's Report—by Robbie Webber

*Instead of covering one big topic, as I have in the past, I'm going to give some quick updates on a number of issues.*

### **Police communication**

I have been working with Jim Wheeler, Captain of the South District, to improve communication about what's going on in the neighborhood, and how his resources are being used. Obviously, it's also important for neighbors to report anything suspicious or illegal directly to the police. They can follow trends with your information. If the 30 additional police passes in the city budget, we will see more patrols and resources for our area as well as "problem areas" of the city.

### **Gypsy moths**

We had an infestation in our area this past spring, and City Forestry is out looking for egg masses this fall. So if you see people with clipboards and binoculars peering up into the trees, don't be alarmed. After a very scary Forestry presentation to the city Board of Estimates, I got the Mayor to agree to put money for spraying into the budget for 2008. More information will be coming as plans are made. Again, if you notice evidence of moths, caterpillars, or egg masses, please contact Forestry so they can keep track of problems. The Forestry web site is <http://www.cityofmadison.com/parks/aboutForest.html>.

### **University Ave Plan**

The steering committee has been working hard with the consultants hired by RNA, but their draft report is only the start. In addition to a presentation to the RNA board, and later entire neighborhood, the plan will be going through several city committees. At every stage, you will

have an opportunity to comment about what you like and what you don't like. Neighborhood plans often go through quite a few changes before they are finished, so make sure to speak up if you have comments.

### **City budget**

We will be debating and passing the city budget on November 13-15. Yes, we actually do get the budget done, no stalling like the folks under the dome. Alders often hear about what people want, but we don't hear about what we should cut. If you want to take a look, and give us some ideas, you can find the proposed capital and operating budgets at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/comp/budgetindex.htm>

### **More information**

I try to post frequently on the Regent Neighborhood listserv, but I realize that not everyone is on the list, and everyone gets too many emails to read. The City Council web site now allows us to put more local information on our individual pages. In the coming weeks and months, I'll be adding a Frequently Asked Questions section as well as information on upcoming important meetings and helpful links. Check there if you are looking for information about a project or issue in the neighborhood.

As always, I'm glad to meet with neighbors or talk on the phone. Since I normally work at home, it's pretty easy to reach me, so drop me a line or call if you have questions or ideas.

Robbie Webber  
233-1390 (h), [district5@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district5@cityofmadison.com)

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## Draft Urban Design Guidelines for University Avenue—by George Hall

On November 28th at the Best Western Inn Towner, the program will feature a presentation of draft architectural guidelines for the University Avenue corridor. This presentation follows an October 24th report to the RNA Board by Planning and Design Institute (PDI - an architecture, landscape design and urban planning firm) from Milwaukee, accompanied by members from the RNA University Avenue Project Advisory Committee. The Old University Avenue project study area extends from Farley to Breese Terrace, and is bounded on the north by Campus Drive, and on the south by Kendall Avenue.

The design guidelines project, with a primary focus on architectural design, has been in progress since the neighborhood workshop hosted by the RNA and led by PDI occurred at the Inn Towner on May 12. PDI has been guided during the preparation of these draft guidelines by an Advisory Committee consisting of residents living in or near the University Avenue corridor, RNA members, business and property owners, and prospective developers. Nine meetings of the Advisory Committee resulted in a set of recommendations to PDI approved by a majority of the committee. These recommendations, along with informal comments received from Madison Department of Planning and Development staff, contribute to a report from PDI that will contain chapters dealing with: Existing conditions, issues and opportunities, recommended building profiles by block, including building height, building setback from the

front, side and rear property lines, stepback by building floors as the number of stories increases, along with recommendations for façade treatments and building materials, and identification of issues for further study. Future plans and studies will address traffic circulation, parking, open space, and other important issues.

Depending upon the comments received during the presentation to the Board on the 24th and at the Fall Annual Meeting and afterward, the RNA Board may schedule additional public review meetings in order to provide residents and business owners in the neighborhood more opportunity to better understand the issues that prompted preparation of the draft guidelines, learn more about the content and structure of the draft, as well as to react to it by proposing changes and or additions. The reaction of the neighborhood to the guidelines will help the RNA Board determine whether, in the end, to approve these guidelines for referral to various boards and commissions of the City. These governmental bodies, including the Urban Design Commission, Plan Commission, Pedestrian, Bicycle and Motor Vehicle Commission, and ultimately the Common Council, will conduct public hearings before considering whether to adopt the guidelines for attachment to the city's Comprehensive Plan.

These draft design guidelines are not meant to be a substitute for a full-blown land use plan for the neighborhood but, if adopted, they represent a potential

first step in defining a vision for the corridor that would concentrate retail activities, enhance the pedestrian realm, protect the character of the historic district, and deal with the abrupt change in permitted land use and very tight configuration between parcels fronting University and those that face Kendall and Stevens. Arguably this corridor represents the most complicated aspect of "planning" for the neighborhood.

Now it is your turn to respond, using this document as a vehicle for discussion, by letting us know whether you agree with the draft or, if not, to propose your recommendations on how you would choose to shape a vision for the corridor. Come to the presentation at the RNA Fall Meeting. Better yet, read the draft guidelines report when it is posted on the RNA web site. Send your comments to either John Stockham or me. The Advisory Committee has volunteered to reconvene at the direction of the RNA Board should it appear that substantial changes are warranted based on comments received.

It will be the neighborhood's decision whether to submit this draft, or some other version of it, to the City or not. As former Alder Ken Golden frequently was heard to say, "it isn't soup yet," but the Advisory Committee has worked hard to assemble the ingredients. Become informed, listen to the presentations as well as to your neighbors, voice your own opinions, and please participate.

## Mayor Dave's Message

In recent months, I have had the opportunity to meet with concerned residents throughout the city to discuss public safety issues. At these listening sessions, speakers have shared their concerns about everything from building maintenance to traffic to graffiti. While the concerns at the different sessions varied, a consistent theme has emerged from all of them: public safety is a real concern to Madisonians, and the city needs to step up its efforts to address both serious crime and quality of life issues.

City government is responding to those concerns. At a single Council meeting in late September, the Council took the following steps at my urging:

- Introduction of my proposal to provide \$100,000 for intensified police overtime and other public safety measures throughout the city for the remainder of 2007;
- Passage of the Chronic Nuisance Abatement ordinance, giving us powerful new tools to address poorly-managed properties that are undermining neighborhoods and public safety; and
- Passage of the downtown Alcohol License Density plan, starting us down the road of reducing the number of bars in the downtown area, so that the police resources being consumed in responding to downtown alcohol-related violence can be deployed back into other neighborhoods.

These steps are part of a comprehensive six-part Mayor's Public Safety Initiative that I introduced this fall, which includes the following elements:

- Increase police resources, including 3 new police officers
- Target bad landlords
- Strengthen Neighborhoods
- Give young people positive alternatives
- Work with other units of government
- Take a citywide approach

Keeping our neighborhoods safe is our top priority. I welcome your ideas on this and other city issues, at [mayor@cityofmadison.com](mailto:mayor@cityofmadison.com).

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## Dane County Supervisor's Report—by Dave Worzala

Fall is the time that the County Board must grapple with the county budget for 2008. The budget is complicated this year by the failure of the State Legislature to pass a state budget. Since a considerable amount of funding for county human services comes from the state, the County is left with many unknowns. As Chair of the Health and Human Needs Committee, this is especially frustrating as many of our communities most vulnerable residents face uncertainty about programs they rely on. I hope the State acts soon to give local governments more certainty about available resources.

The County Executive submitted a budget that totals \$440 million in operating expenses and \$20 million in capital expenses. This is an increase of \$11 million, or 2.4%, above 2007. Of this amount, \$114 million is derived from property taxes with the remainder made up primarily through other sources such as state and federal revenue. The County Executive's Budget would increase the property tax levy by 3.3%.

One of the major themes of this budget will be implementing the recommendations of the Criminal Justice Audit. This audit was directed by the County Board and found many areas where our system could be improved. A key conclusion of the audit was that improved communications are essential to reduce the length of time it takes for individuals to get their judgment. This delay increases costs to the county in terms of days in our county jail. We spend over \$3 million annually to ship inmates to other counties. Recommendations include increasing the use of technology to keep track of case progress to meet state standards. For example, increased use of email by the DA's office and establishment of a unified calendar by the Judiciary would reduce delays in processing people through the system. The audit

also recommends increased use of electronic monitoring for certain individuals.

I support many of the recommendations included in the audit. The government is the only entity that is allowed to incarcerate individuals and it is our responsibility to make sure this is done in a fair time frame. I think the recommendations will maintain public safety and also reduce the costs of our current system.

On a non-budgetary note, the Dane County Comprehensive Plan should pass the County Board this fall. Given the rapid growth in our county, comprehensive planning continues to be a major concern of county residents and the County Board. Several people from RNA participated in the citizen workgroups that identified goals, objectives, and policies in the areas of housing, transportation, land-use, economic development and intergovernmental cooperation. Passage will provide guidance to decision-makers about the future development of Dane County.

You can learn more about County issues by visiting the County website at [www.co.dane.wi.us](http://www.co.dane.wi.us) I encourage you to call me at 255-3278 or send an email to [worzala@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:worzala@co.dane.wi.us) if you have any concerns.

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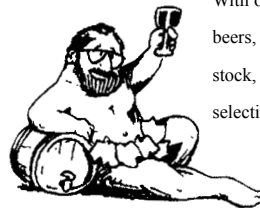
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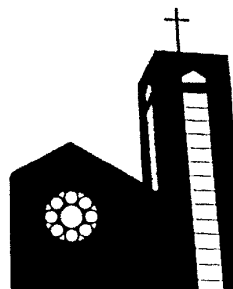
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## Born Again Poetry Club—by Ronnie Hess

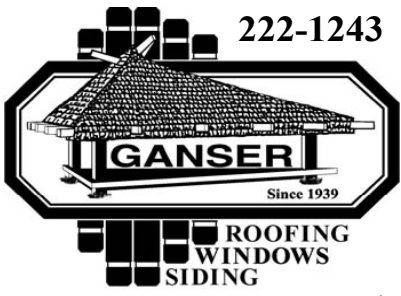
As the newsletter went to press, plans were afoot to kick off the revival of the University Heights Poetry Club as the Regent Neighborhood Poetry Club at a special Halloween celebration at the Froth House, October 31.

Neighborhood and nearby poets, lovers of literature from the RNA, even former neighborhood poets were invited to read poems relevant to the season or Halloween. Among those planning to read were poets Harriet Brown, Robin Chapman, Alice D'Alessio, Bobbi Krinsky, Daniel Kunene, Kathy Miner, Sandy Stark, Judith Strasser, and Morris Waxler; Trudy Barash, formerly of Canterbury Books; Ginny Moore Kruse, director emeritus of the UW-Madison's Cooperative Children's Book Center; and Regent Neighborhood Poetry Club member Chris Fessler.

The UHPC held its first meeting on October 31, 1896 and, for 65 years, was a vital cultural organization, holding frequent readings at houses across the neighborhood. Members included university professors and business leaders, including the Buells (of Buells' Folly),

and the Elys (of Ely Place). The group's readings, which were not confined to poetry, ranged from Greek and Roman classics to Shakespeare to nineteenth century European and American works. The organization fell into decline in the 1960s. But during its heyday the UHPC was an important medium of entertainment and intellectual exchange. It mirrored the formation of "national learned societies" across the country, before the development of mass media and new communications technologies, such as "talkies," radio, and TV.

To join the club, or for more information, please contact [rlhess@wisc.edu](mailto:rlhess@wisc.edu) or (608) 238-1828.



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## Neighborhood 4th of July Celebration—by Chloe Lauer

The brats, sunshine, and games of the RNA July 4th Festival feel like a long ago pleasure, as well as a distant future event several cold months away. However, it's not too late to look back on this past July nor too early to look forward to next July. First, a look back. This year's Festival was a big success, thanks in large part to our many neighborhood sponsors. They provided everything from eggs to chairs to beer. We'd like to publicly give thanks to Cress Funeral Home, Mike's Fine Wine and Party Port, Froth House, Regent Market Co-Op, Inn Towner, and Ideal Vault Company. The individual volunteers are too numerous to mention here, but imagine the people power needed to cook and serve brats, build a huge box maze, set up tents, help with kid's games, play music for the parade, haul things around town, and clean up when it's

all over. So many people make the Festival successful and fun - and the beauty of it is that we all live down the street or around the block from each other. One name worth mentioning is Susan Corrado, the coordinator from last year that gave endless help and guidance. Thanks Susan!

And looking forward: the only thing more fun than attending this year's Festival was helping out. It's clear from the description above that our fellow neighbors work hard to create a fun Festival for all. If you are new to the neighborhood or if you've wanted to be part of the Festival but didn't know how to contribute, it's easy to help in big ways and small. Watch for information in the spring newsletter about the 2008 Festival. Respond to the call for volunteers and let the fun begin!



## RNA Garage/Yard Sale

—by Jake and Jeff Pfund

On Saturday 8/11/07 approximately 85 households joined together to have a neighborhood wide Garage/Yard Sale. It was a great success! The most expensive item was a house for sale on Grand Ave and perhaps the most unusual was a 1950's Chevy Stepside pickup. Some neighbors pooled their stuff and had one sale, other blocks had multiple sales. The most popular items were household/furniture and clothing items. The least popular were office equipment and appliances. Antiques, bikes, and kitchen items rounded out the middle. The Regent Market Co-Op was the central repository for neighborhood maps – almost 300 maps were picked up by buyers that Saturday. At the end of the sale St. Vincent DePaul efficiently picked up any unwanted items. After expenses such as newspaper advertising, printing costs, yard signs/stakes, and street signs the remaining funds were handed over to the RNA. Gratitude should be directed towards Elaine Glowacki, Linda Nelson, and Carol Puder for their time, energy, and expertise in organizing the event. Lastly – thanks to everyone who participated.

## RNA Membership Remains (only) Steady

—by Karen Carlson

Our data entry wonk reports the last three years of RNA membership as 362 (05-06), 466 (06-07), and 456 (07-08). It seems in the 20-some years I've been in the RNA, membership was reported as "about 400." I remember someone telling me that large memberships are due to face-to-face recruiting (as I hear is done in the Dudgeon-Monroe RA) and/ or a "common irritant." We know neighborly contact works. Consider Block Captain Kay Rock. The years she left a note with each household on her block saying she'd pick up the membership form and check the next day, recruited all but one of her neighbors. And Rollie Cox. This year he re-upped every one on his block and personally delivered the memberships to make sure everyone made the directory. But could we recruit even half the needed block captains if such standards were expected of each one?

Here are some quick numbers reflecting membership distribution by street. It's not surprising that Breese Terrace, Lathrop, and University Ave have no or few members given the student rentals. Stevens (yes-- it's in our NA) has only two members, perhaps because it seems to be its own little 'hood. But why do Rowley, Commonwealth, and Hollister have only about a 30% membership level? (Not enough irritation?) Why does Mason have 62% (door-to-door recruitment?). Is West High the reason Van Hise between Allen and Highland has 57% while the rest of the street, both east and west, has only 35%?

***The challenge is this: how do we make membership relevant to all our neighbors?***



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## Olive Jones Park Renovation Plan Moves Forward—Jody Knauss

Olive Jones Park, which doubles as the playground for the 350 3rd-5th graders attending Randall School, is the only neighborhood park serving University Heights and adjacent Regent neighborhood. Currently, three-fourths of the park is a deteriorating paved surface. There is also a small playground with play equipment that is mostly too small for the kids attending Randall, a partial, amphitheatre-like seating area, and two grassy hills.

The main entrance to the park is at the top of one of these hills and the path from the entrance down to the flat surface is often a muddy mess. The other access the park is via staircase leading up from the alley alongside the school. Except when the giant parking gate is open to allow cars to park on the flat surface, there is no ADA access to the park.

Three years ago, the Franklin-Randall PTO began a project to investigate improving the park/playground. Despite the fact that the PTO raises about two-thirds of its annual budget from parking cars for UW home football games, the PTO agreed to support a redevelopment plan that would improve the park while reducing the amount of paved surface available for football parking. As a show of good faith and a spur

to private fundraising, the PTO has agreed to donate \$5,000 per year indefinitely to the park improvement fund.

Three years in the planning, the park improvement project includes:

- New age-appropriate play equipment on the main playground
- A new neighborhood “tot lot” with smaller play equipment in the northwest corner of the park that would be available to neighborhood residents even when school is in session
- Replacing a portion of the current paved surface with artificial turf
- Repaving the remaining portion of the paved surface
- Enlarging the park amphitheatre
- Providing new entrances into the park

Completing the project as proposed will require an estimated \$300,000 - \$500,000 in private fundraising. With the support of the Madison Parks Department, The Friends of Olive Jones Park, the group leading the park renovation effort, has set up an account with the Madison Parks Foundation that allows us to solicit tax-deductible contributions. The Friends are currently in the process of seeking major donors.

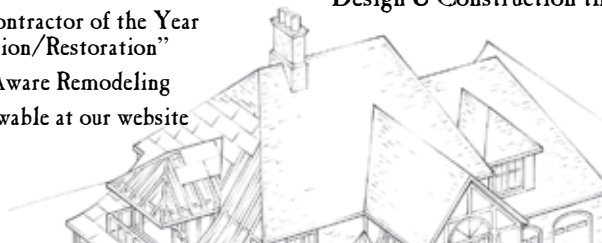
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## Madison Trust for Historic Preservation Walking Tour Update

The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation was pleased to add the University Heights neighborhood to its roster of historic walking tours during the 2007 season, which ran May through September. A natural for old-house lovers and history buffs, as well as being a mecca for architecture students, this historic neighborhood was toured by 236 individuals on four Saturday mornings starting in May. The tour was also offered one (rainy!) Thursday evening, and after each tour people were invited to have a free drink at the local Blue Moon Bar and Grill. There was an average of 47 people per tour, which made for several nice, small groups.

This was the Trust's sixth tour season, which featured six different tours and educated and entertained over 700 people. The tours are given by volunteers who have gone through training

in architectural styles and Madison history, and who have done some of the Trust's other tours (see complete information at [www.madisontrust.org](http://www.madisontrust.org)). The mission of the Madison Trust's tours is to inform people about styles of architecture and how they relate to the social history of a neighborhood or region, plus to offer a look into the lives of the people and architects who built the houses. Hopefully this creates an understanding of our historic built environment and an awareness of our local and national historic districts (University Heights is both) so people can enjoy what we have while we still have it.

The research for the University Heights tour was compiled from sources such as National Register nominations, newspaper articles, a walking tour booklet written by Tim Heggland and published by the Madison Landmarks

Commission and the RNA, and a former resident's account of growing up at 102 Roby Rd. in the '20s and '30s. Our greatest source for information, however, was the neighbors themselves, who joined tours and added what they knew - sometimes from the garden as we walked by! Of course some mysteries remain, like how to pronounce "Turneure," (the original owner of the house at 166 N. Prospect).

We are indebted to the board of the RNA, who from the beginning was helpful and interested in this project, and we hope to continue this partnership in tour seasons to come.

—Erica Fox Gehrig

## Froth House... We Love Ya!

—Peter Alexander, Tom Hirsch, and Ron Rosner

On behalf of many in the Neighborhood we want to say a big 'Thank You!' to the Froth House guys, Eric, Therese and Dean, for the welcoming space you've created for us.

In the summer of 2006, when it became evident that Dancing Grounds would close, a group of neighbors began discussing seriously how the loss of a coffee shop would affect us, and what we could do to keep it open. In short, Eric, Therese and Dean saved us from becoming reluctant coffee shop owners, and they did it with an energy and creativity that has contributed immensely to the quality of life in the Regent Neighborhood.

Events there include weekend musical performances, a gallery for exhibiting the work of local artists, a Wednesday night "open mike," dance classes, poetry readings, and coffee tastings. There's also an outdoor patio for summer events. In addition to great coffee drinks they serve lunch, and in the evening, an excellent assortment of beer and wine.

Congratulations on your first anniversary Froth House! We wish you a long life in our midst.

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## RNA Meets the Neighbors, aka The Annual Walkabout—by Ron Rosner

For the past 10 years, RNA members have greeted new UW-student neighbors in the Lathrop-Breese corridor. We began with only neighbors in the welcome party but about six years ago, in the face of increased noise and drinking problems, we invited the police to walk with us and they have joined us every year since.

The police appreciated the opportunity to engage students in a non-confrontational setting, and our respective messages—RNA families are your neighbors, and MPD is concerned for your safety—played well together.

This year's "Walkabout" was on Wednesday, September 6. Thirteen RNA neighbors and six MPD officers walked several blocks on the eastern edge of the neighborhood. In six teams, we covered the roughly 90 buildings with 250 rental units in about an hour. Typically, we make contact with residents in a third of the apartments, delivering a joint RNA-MPD letter of welcome and discussing our concerns, and leave fliers at apartments where no one is home.

This year, the Wisconsin State Journal accompanied one of our teams as part of a story on the 'walk.' Their report, which appeared in the next day's paper, prompted a lively exchange via the RNA list-serve. A few people felt that it would be friendlier to distribute chocolate-chip cookies than have police officers deliver a stern message about underage drinking, excessive noise, and security issues. Others felt that a police presence was appropriate, that students were more likely to take their message more seriously.

The RNA Board has always supported the 'Walkabout,' and while we agree there may be a greater need for police in other parts of the City we also believe that averting problems by means of community policing is an efficient use of police resources. We are grateful for the City's and MPD's support of the 'Walkabout' and will likely continue doing it so long as neighbors feel it is useful.

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## Health Goals for Lake Wingra—by Steve Arnold

The Friends of Lake Wingra has engaged community input and utilized the best scientific information available in order to create a practical vision for the future health of Lake Wingra. The resulting set of health goals (see below) for Lake Wingra reflect a vision of how Lake Wingra could look by the year 2030. It is the hope of the Friends of Lake Wingra that those who support the health goals will be inclined to engage in practices that will help assure that future generations will have the opportunity to realize the full potential of Lake Wingra as a natural resource for our community.

Regent Neighborhood residents are encouraged to read the following health goals for Lake Wingra and to send The Friends of Lake Wingra an e-mail ([info@lakewingra.org](mailto:info@lakewingra.org)) that states your support for the goals. Additional information on the Lake Wingra health goals can be found on the FOLW website (<http://lakewingra.org>).

A summary of the Goals for a Health Lake Wingra follow.

### Goals for a Healthy Lake Wingra: Where We Want to Be in 2030

Lake Wingra is a unique community resource that contributes to the quality of life of a much larger geographic region. The lake and its surroundings support diverse open spaces and natural habitats that are protected, restored, and regenerated for future generations, and provide refuge from the noise, lights, and pavement of the surrounding urban area. People, plants, and animals benefit from this oasis within the city.

#### A Healthy Lake

*Clear, Clean Water:* The lake water is free from excessive pollutants, and clear enough for people to see their feet when standing waist-deep.

*Restored Spring Flow:* Cool, clear spring water replenishes the lake, and maintains year-round flows into Wingra Creek.

*Native Plants and Animals:* The ecology of the

lake and its surroundings are enhanced by the protection and restoration of habitats for a wide variety of plant and animals.

#### Stewardship and Enjoyment

*Public Access:* Lake Wingra's unique amenities are accessible to responsible public use and support a wide range of complementary recreational activities in all seasons.

*Swimming:* The Lake is healthy and attractive for swimming.

*Fishing:* The fishery meets the needs of many types of anglers; fish are safe and delicious to eat.

*Boating:* An emphasis on quiet use provides a refuge for paddling and sailing.,

*Nature Viewing:* The lake and its surroundings abound with opportunities to view a large variety of species (such as coyotes, otters, dragonflies, orchids, turtles) and natural features (such as springs, fens, and sedge meadows). The shoreline is recognized as a "dark sky preserve," without obtrusive lights.

*Learning:* The lake and its surroundings act as a magnet for learning, drawing individuals, youth programs, schools, and families.

*Restoring and Enhancing:* People of all ages are engaged in activities that restore and enhance the ecological importance, natural beauty, and recreational value of the lake and its surroundings.

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## UW Relations Update—by Nancy Webster

Members of the RNA UW Relations Committee have scheduled a follow up meeting with Robbie Webber, George Hank and Matt Tucker from the Department of Planning and Community Economic Development on Tuesday October 23. Our committee results of the Survey of Owner-Occupied Properties in the Breese/Spooner Corridor - Determining Neighborhood Priorities were received with interest by George and Matt when our committee presented them in October 2006. Our survey noted property upkeep was of high concern. George suggested that we gather information on specific rental properties and a stepped up enforcement would be possible. Members of the RNA UW

committee have taken photos of specific rental properties in the Breese/Spooner Corridor and Jim Yockey has compiled them for a presentation on October 23. The topic of a regular rental housing inspection system will be pursued.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was designed as a vehicle for conveying pre/post stadium event information and feedback regarding UW Stadium events. The point person representing the 4 Neighborhood Organizations (RNA, Greenbush, Vilas, and Dudgeon Monroe) to UW is shared on a rotational basis. Jim Yockey from RNA is the current representative.

Jim has resolved the Johnsonville Brat vending on Breese Terrace that occurred on September 22 in a positive manner. Breese Terrace vending, as outlined in the MOU, will not occur in the future.

Nancy Webster, chair RNA UW Relations committee, on behalf of Nastya Chepil, Jesse Craig, Mary Gallagher, Darcie Johnston, Jeremy Levin, Marty Lindsey, Chris Rich, Carol Steinhart, Jim Yockey and Larry Jacobsen, consultant.

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Area 6 Helen&Cecil Findley, 233-6591

Area 7 Wally Block and

Sherry Grantham, 233-5612

Area 8 Karen Cornwell, 233-1355

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### Greenspace

open

### Streets/Transportation

open

### Directory

open

### Neighborhood Activities

open

## RNA Meeting Calendar

### November 28

RNA Board & General  
Membership  
at Best Western InnTowner

### January 23

RNA Board  
at West High School LMC

### February 27

RNA Board  
at West High School LMC

### March 26

RNA Board  
at West High School LMC

Note: Join RNA Listserv for  
additional information. View  
RNA Web site for even more  
information



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To visit the group on the web, go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RegentNeighborhoodAssn/>

The list owner is Robbie Weber. Contact her at [RegentNeighborhoodAssn-owner@yahoogroups.com](mailto:RegentNeighborhoodAssn-owner@yahoogroups.com).

This newsletter is a tri-annual publication of the Regent Neighborhood Association with a circulation of 1,700. The next edition's deadline for articles is January 8, 2008. Contact Joy Drummond, [jmp4joy2003@yahoo.com](mailto:jmp4joy2003@yahoo.com) (233-3334) for current ad rates. We welcome articles of general interest to the neighborhood, discussions of local issues, personal interest stories, etc. Please address items or inquiries to Mary Sarnowski, 238-1224, [sarnowski@mac.com](mailto:sarnowski@mac.com). Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Regent Neighborhood Association.