

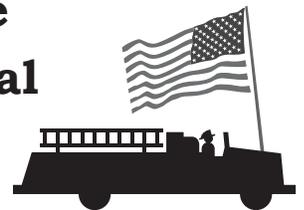


Regent Neighborhood

July 2018 Newsletter | regentneighborhood.org

ASSOCIATION

The Regent Neighborhood Association Invites You and Your Family to the Neighborhood Fourth of July Festival Wednesday, July 4, 2018 at West High Athletic Field



About Noon

Parade The festival kicks off with a parade led by our one-and-only Rag Tag Band. Kids of all ages—red-white-and-blue-tify your wheels and selves and line up at the corner of Regent St. and Highland Ave.

12:15 p.m.

Let the games begin! Good, old-fashioned fun brought to you by your neighbors. There'll be lots of home-made games, prizes, water balloons, catapult, cake walk, face painting, the famous Box Maze, and more.

Food! Brats, hot dogs, veggie dogs, soft drinks, and a dessert booth!

About 2 p.m.

Egg Toss Legendary Regent Market Egg Toss.

About 2:30 p.m. End of Festival

How You Can Participate

- Call an organizer and volunteer. See page 2 for details.
- Dust off your instrument and join the Rag Tag Band.
- Decorate your bikes and join the parade.
- Create and run a game.
- Bake a treat for the cake walk or the dessert booth.
- Play the games and have fun with your neighbors.
- Have a brat and toss an egg.
- Stop by the membership tent & join the RNA*



Thanks To Our Sponsors



***Join or renew your RNA membership ONLINE!**
(more about it on page 3)

RNA 4th of July Festival — Volunteers Needed!

Set up starts at 9 a.m. Contact **Tim Lacy** at tim@dwelldhop.com or **Betsy Repaske** at betsy@dwelldhop.com or **608-852-0619** and see how you can help!

Rag Tag Band*: Musicians—contact Marli Johnson, MStarCatch@aol.com or 271-1219

Brat Stand: Brat grillers and sellers needed for 1-hour shifts.

To volunteer to grill, contact Tim or Betsy, see above.

To volunteer to sell, contact Ron Rosner, rosner7@charter.net.

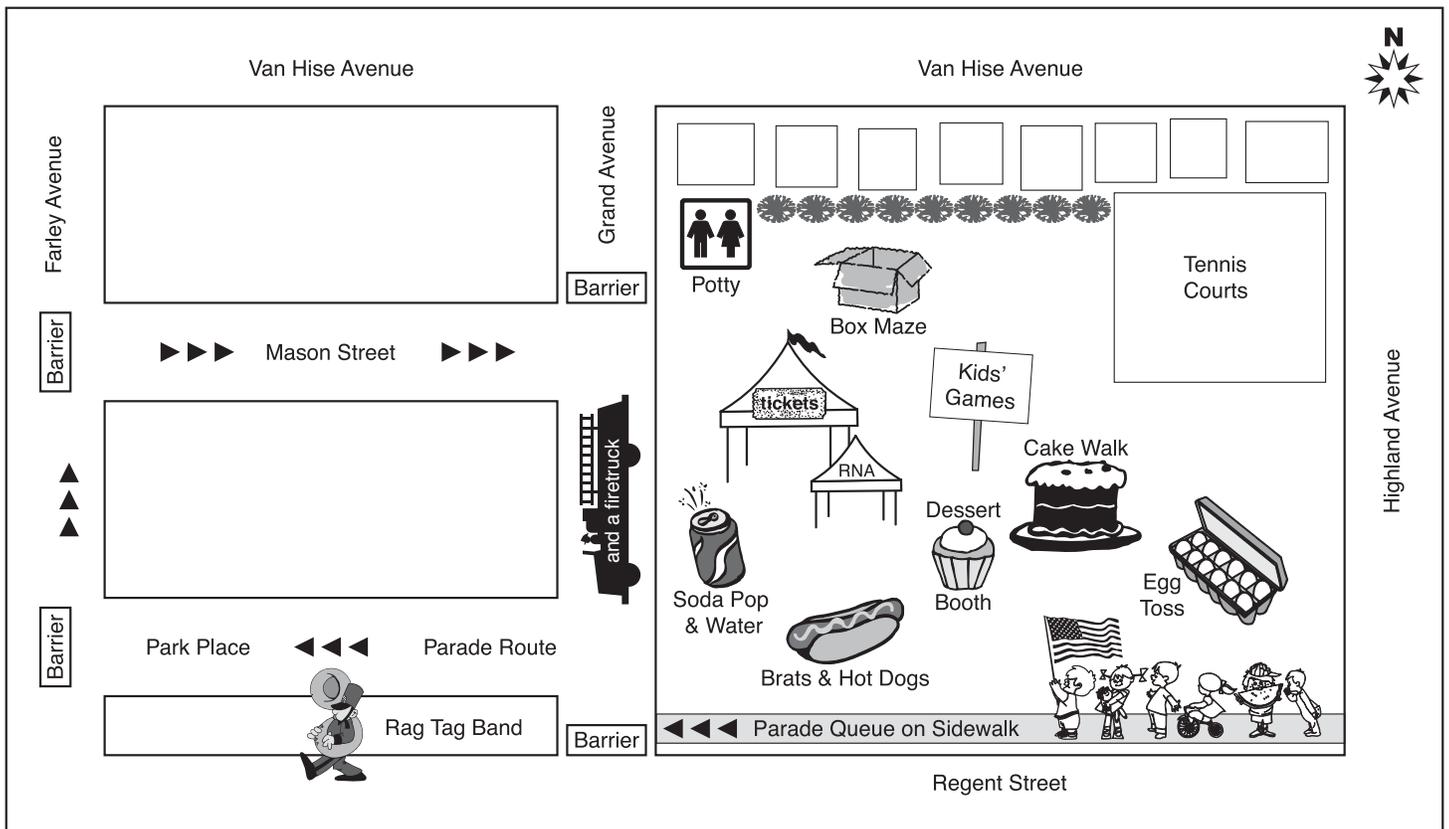
Beverage Stand: Beverage Stand Coordinator needed. Contact Tim or Betsy.

Games: Games Coordinator needed. Gamesters: create & run a game, split the profits with the RNA. Prizes provided. Contact Tim or Betsy, see above.

Cake Walk: Coordinator needed. Volunteers for 1-hour shifts needed. Baked goods needed! Bring your baked goods to the field on Wednesday.

Clean Up: With your help, it won't take long! No need to contact, just stick around after.

RNA Festival Map at West High Field



Please supervise children and let's celebrate safely.

* **Band Members WELCOME** to join our Rag Tag Band this July 4th

Haven't played for a while? Not much experience? A real hot shot? All are welcome! On July 4th, the Regent Neighborhood Rag Tag Band proudly marches around the block then plays a fun concert on the West High athletic field. We begin with easy tunes for less experienced performers then graduate to intermediate pieces and a few show-off numbers. Rehearsals to be announced soon. Respond right away so that we can reserve your spot! Music available ahead of time. Questions? Email Marli Johnson, MStarCatch@aol.com, or call (608) 271-1219. ■

RNA 2018 Scholarship Recipients

The Regent Neighborhood Association awarded two scholarships at the West High School Honors Convocation. The RNA Scholarship was established with the purpose of acknowledging and celebrating the diversity, the energy, and the enthusiasm that the West High School students add to the fabric of our neighborhood. The awards are given to two graduating seniors who have demonstrated engagement in multicultural activities both in school and in the greater Madison community while modeling a commitment to academic pursuits.

Congratulations to Angela Jiang and Jaden Stephens for their accomplishments. Each will each receive a \$2,500 scholarship from the RNA thanks to the generosity of Regent neighbors. Angela will attend Columbia University where she will pursue a degree in Political Science and Human Rights. Jaden will attend Northern Arizona University as a football player and pursue a masters in counseling.

Please build on this success by making your contribution to the 2019 West High Scholarship Fund.



Jaden Stephens and Angela Jiang

Make your gift, along with your RNA membership, online or by returning the enclosed membership form. Thanks! ■

Become a Member or Renew Your Membership Online!

The RNA membership has moved into the digital age! You are now able to become a member or renew your membership online by visiting: donorbox.org/rna-membership

As a member of the RNA, you will receive the annual membership directory delivered to your door. Your membership also supports production of the RNA newsletter distributed to all neighborhood residents four times a year and the many neighborhood activities supported by the RNA. Membership is \$5 for an individual, \$10 for a family, and \$25 for a business or organization. The annual membership cycle runs from June through May.



The online form also provides you with the opportunity to make a donation to the RNA's West High Scholarship Fund! Online payments are handled safely and securely through donorbox.org, a company that serves more than 8,000 organizations, including Habitat for Humanity and Boys & Girls Club.

If you prefer the mail, use the enclosed form or find the membership form at the RNA website. Or, as is a tradition for many of us, bring your form, membership gift and scholarship gift to the RNA tent at the Fourth of July Festival. Thank you for supporting your neighborhood. ■

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Make Monroe Street Farmers' Market Your Sunday Destination

by **Jeannette LeZaks, Board Chair of the Market**

Come join us at the Monroe Street Farmers' Market on Sundays, May through October, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Edgewood High School parking lot. This is the market's fourth year, offering a diverse mix of vendors with a variety of products that can rival many larger markets. Depending on the time of year, you'll find everything from asparagus, strawberries, and tomatoes to pastured meat, eggs, cheese, and jams. This season, we are adding a few other fun items to the mix: maple syrup, pottery, and dog biscuits! We also feature food carts with hot prepared foods for breakfast and lunch.

This farmers' market is your go-to destination for produce, meats, cheese, and much more. While there are plenty of choices of where to get your groceries, your local farmers' markets provide you with the direct connection to the people growing your food.



The Monroe Street Farmers' Market also makes for a family-friendly outing, featuring music, special guests, and activities for kids and grown-ups alike. And this year we're offering promotions for frequent customers at the market!

With the Monroe Street reconstruction this summer, we encourage everyone to walk or bike when they can, but our parking lot will always

be accessible for those arriving in cars. Our local farmers and purveyors will depend even more on continued neighborhood support, pedestrian/cyclist visitors, and local families making the market part of their weekly routine.

Stay tuned and stay in touch—and see you Sunday at the Market!

Online: monroestreetfarmersmarket.org

Facebook: facebook.com/MonroeStreetFarmersMarket

Instagram: [@MonroeStreetFarmersMarket](https://instagram.com/MonroeStreetFarmersMarket) ■

Di Rienzo Monuments—Then and Now

by **Susanne E. Boucher, Manager, Di Rienzo Monuments**

Between 1880 and 1920, millions of immigrants came to the United States from many different lands, but they all had the same dream: they wanted to escape the poverty they were experiencing in their homeland and build a better life. It was this that drew Michael and Maria Rosa Di Rienzo from the Molise region of Southern Italy to this country in 1889. After landing in New York, they made their way to Madison, where they settled and eventually had 10 children, although several died as infants.

After a few years, the family sought new economic opportunities and moved to Cleveland, Ohio. It was there that the oldest son, Angelo Di Rienzo, became the first among his brothers to learn the skill of stonemasonry, and ultimately returned to Madison in 1911 to found Di Rienzo Monuments with his brother, Joseph. Originally named Lake View Monumental Co. (and later renamed Di Rienzo Bros. Inc.), brothers Vincent and John eventually joined the business at its leased property at the corner of Regent Street and Highland Avenue, where it still exists today. One can easily imagine the view of Lake Mendota that would have been visible from this corner, before the trees and houses filled in the landscape.

The business continued to grow and prosper over the years and, after about five years, the property was purchased. When the City of Madison decided it needed to build a high school on the West Side, the City Council tried to implement condemnation proceedings against the property. But the Di Rienzo brothers held firm and the city finally gave up the effort, although it did try again 20 years later, failing a second time.

John Di Rienzo married Sarah Anderson and they had three sons, two of whom—Roland and Francis—followed in their father's footsteps in the mid-1940s, eventually taking over the flourishing monument business and running it until 1986. Roland passed away in 2015 and was laid to rest at Middleton Junction Cemetery with his wife, Melinda, and son, Perry. Francis—who passed away in 2017 at the age of 90—had most recently stopped by the business in 2013. He was thrilled to see the improvements to the property, and delighted to see the business still here at the corner of Regent and Highland, carrying on a tradition of service which had spanned several generations.

After Roland and Francis retired, the store changed hands several times and is now part of the regional Sunburst family of monument stores, headquartered



The four Di Rienzo Brothers: Angelo, Vincent, Joseph and John, standing in front of the store; circa 1912



Inside the workshop: Joseph (2nd from left) and John (far right) with two other workers; circa 1920

in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Stop by the store at the corner of Regent and Highland for a tour of local history. You will see the steel beams that once held hoists moving tons of granite slabs, as well as the original sandblasting room, where a set of goggles still hangs from a hook on the wall. ■



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Dane County Board Report — District 10

I hope this edition of the RNA Newsletter finds you and your family well. The Board of Supervisors is just beginning a new term. Following our recent election, women now hold 17 of 37 Dane County Board seats or 45.9%. That is the highest percentage in over a quarter century.

In 1990 women held 19 of 41 seats (46.3%) but that figure had been falling over the past quarter century to a low of 6 in 2002, before rebounding over the past several years. For some historic perspective in 1970, only 6% of board members were women. Statewide, women held 18 percent of the seats on county boards coming into the 2018 election cycle, according to the Wisconsin Counties Association. Only Eau Claire County, with 14 of 29 (48.2%) of supervisors being women, rivals Dane County on that measure.

As for me, a new term has come with a new committee assignment. I have been appointed this term to the Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resources (EANR) Committee, the appointment also has me serving on the Land Conservation Committee (LCC). The EANR Committee is the legislative committee that oversees Dane County's Land & Water



Supervisor Jeremy Levin

Resources Department (LWRD), which ensures the protection and enhancement of Dane County's natural, cultural, and historic resources; provides the County's citizens with a broad array of accessible, high quality resource-based recreational services and facilities; and supports citizens, communities, local governments and other agencies and organizations in their resource management and protection activities. LWRD consists of five divisions: Administration, Land Conservation, Office of Lakes and Watersheds, Parks, and Water Resource Engineering. Additionally, my work on the LCC will approve county policy on land and water conservation issues and oversee county land conservation division staff in the appropriation of grant and conservation dollars.

— Jeremy Levin

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Regent Neighborhood Family Owned!

Greetings from Randall!

Our school hallways are empty, but the grounds are buzzing like bees. Community folks are taking advantage of summer heat and longer light to romp around Olive Jones Park and our celestial garden space. The escapades are multigenerational affairs, which adds to the richness of the revelry. I always wonder who got whom off the couch and into the elements.

Of course, summer is not a true vacation for all. Most of us still have to punch in on the clock in some manner. Even the kids take on the rigor of camps and classes. Still, there is a feeling of freedom in the air that the winds of winter don't often blow our way.

I admit that I have found myself in windowless rooms in recent weeks engaged in non-

negotiable meetings and training sessions. In my anxiousness and distraction I hold to the words of Franz Kafka. "There are two cardinal sins from which all others spring: Impatience and Laziness." I exercise self-restraint, complete in earnest the tasks at hand, and then bolt for the door to dive into what remains of the day's recreational offerings.

My wife Ruth gave me a gift years ago that gets me through such less than desirable circumstances. She taught me to engage in mental vacations during drudgerous sit-and-gets. At such gatherings I appear to be the all-in audience member, but my imagination delivers me to places elsewhere, some I've never actually visited. My body may be parked in a chair at the Alliant Energy Center or in some dark room at an area campus, but in my mind's eye I am bantering with orcas in the Bering Sea or flirting with flamingos in the Andes. Such fantasies are for the most part visual, sans the other sensations that ears, noses, and fingers afford us. Sometimes that's for the better. It's like watching a National Geographic special on lions. All those flitting flies who are bustling around the regal beasts would surely find me a tasty target, too, not to mention what plans the lions themselves might have in mind for me.

Still, it seems there's nothing like the real thing. Communing with Nature does have its risks, but the exhilaration of being a part of the action rather than a bystander awakens us from the doldrums of routine. A while back I had an owl take the cap off of my head while I was out for a predawn run. I found the heist to be both fascinating and fun until the raptor made a return swoop to get a more sure hold of my head. I ran for my life, but how alive I felt! The experience would not have been mine had I opted to tromp on a treadmill entranced by an episode of



Randall Principal John Wallace seeks peace at Olive Jones Park

"Whose Whoo." You must be present to win.

To heighten my senses this summer, I've closed my eyes in many outdoor settings and called upon my other faculties to tell the story before me. Tree trunks and erratic boulders have taught me that it is best to remain stationary when doing so. A few times I have been privileged to hear one of Nature's most splendid offerings, the sound of children laughing and playing. Of course, that's all well and good until one of them sneaks up from behind you and then takes off with your hat.

Go Raccoons! ■



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Greetings from Franklin!

Happy Summer from Franklin Elementary School! We had a great second semester and keeping with our school wide theme, "Finished the School Year Strong!" What does finishing strong look like? As adults, we committed to continue to hold high expectations for our students' social emotional and academic success until the very last day! For our students, they read books about perseverance and hard work and set goals for the last quarter.

Here are some other things we have been up to:

- In April, Ms. Moran, our music teacher, led our students' Spring music concerts. Beautiful singing and instrument playing and could be heard throughout the halls at Franklin.
- We had our annual gallery night with Randall Elementary. A great evening was enjoyed by all.
- All of our first grade students performed in musicals that they performed for families and other students
- Our 2nd grade students had a Bug Bonanza, an evening for them to share their knowledge about insects with families and friends.
- We had our Kindergarten Orientation and welcomed over 85 incoming kindergarteners and their families to Franklin to learn more about our school
- We had our 2nd Annual Franklin Flash Dash, a fun run to raise money for our unified arts programs at Franklin (P.E., Library, Art, Music).

My work to improve and plan for the 2018-19 school year continues throughout the summer. If you are interested in becoming involved with



First grade students perform in a musical for families and students.

Franklin School, please email me! We truly value our community relationships and partnerships.

— Sylla Zarov, szarov@madison.k12.wi.us ■

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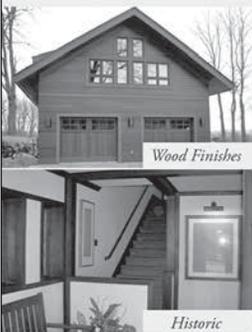
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One City Early Learning Opens Charter Doors in Fall of 2018

by Jan O'Neill, Susanne Treiber, Dana Scheckel

Do you believe all children in our community, regardless of income level, deserve to have the same opportunity to receive a high quality early childhood education as their more affluent peers often do?

One City Schools in South Madison with its "two generation approach," is ensuring that all children enter school "reading ready" and that families have the support, knowledge and skills they need to help their children achieve long-term success.

One City currently serves 51 children, ages one to five. UW System recently chartered part of the school as a "Senior Preschool," enabling One City to provide tuition-free, student-centered, project-based education to as many as 82 children in 4- and 5-year-old kindergarten. As a new incubator

of innovation in preschool to grade 12 education, UW System will offer the community and Madison public schools an opportunity to learn what works and incorporate these learnings into their school programming. One City Junior Preschool will continue to provide a tuition-based education to children ages 1 to 3, as well as tuition scholarship assistance to families with economic need.

As community members and neighbors who care deeply about equity and opportunity for all, we invite you to join us in supporting tuition scholarships for children enrolled in our One City Junior Preschool, and to support after-school fees for children enrolled in One City Senior Preschool. For more information and to donate, visit onecityearlylearning.org/ ■



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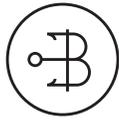
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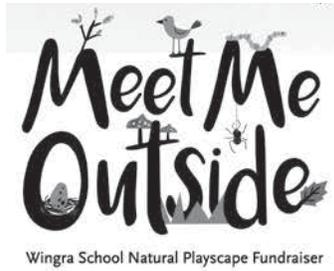
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New Outdoor Playscape at Wingra School

Sitting on the hill in the midst of Dudgeon Park, Wingra School, an independent K-8 progressive school, has spent two years working on a plan to design an outdoor playscape that reflects their commitment to outdoor play and environmental education.

Meet Me Outside was born out of a desire to create a sustainable landscape that would spark the curiosity of students, neighbors, and friends.

The playscape will include natural landscapes for climbing and exploring, a music area, boardwalk, rain and pollinator gardens, a food forest, a council



ring, and a stage. In addition, the design includes a labyrinth for walking meditation and reflection. The space will be accessible, and school officials hope that it will become a focal point for school and neighborhood activities. Construction will coincide with Madison City Parks renovation of the back playground at Dudgeon Park.

Both projects are slated to get underway in June and are expected to be completed by August.

For more information or to donate to the *Meet Me Outside* project, please contact Wingra School at info@wingraschool.org. ■



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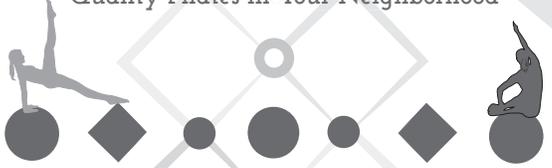
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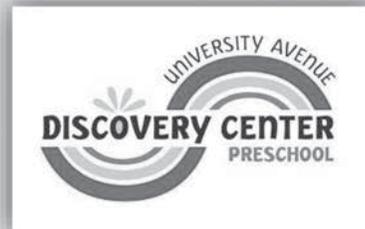
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2018 RNA Board Meeting Schedule

- **August 27**
- **September 24**
- **October 22**
- **November 19**

The RNA Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Best Western InnTowner at 2424 University Avenue. These meetings are open

to the general public. Agenda items are solicited through the RNA listserv or can be emailed to RNA President Mary Czyszczak-Lyne at mary.czyszczaklyne@wisc.edu. For updates, and to learn more about the Regent Neighborhood Association, go to regentneighborhood.org ■

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HEY NEIGHBOR!

My name is Jessica. If you don't know me already, I would love to tell you a little bit about myself.

I have been a Madison resident most of my life, living in the Vilas neighborhood, Selery (it's still standing!), downtown, and finally settling in the Regent Neighborhood to raise my two rambunctious kids with my husband Nick. After spending my undergraduate years as a Badger, I received my law degree from the University of Wisconsin and went on to work for the University negotiating contracts with for profit entities that secured millions in mission critical research funding. This experience and deep ties to the city of Madison made the transition to real estate easy. I am now able to use my intimate market knowledge and negotiation skills to help my neighbors build their dreams in a city I love.

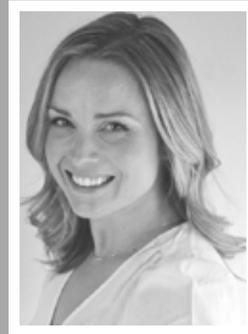
If you see me in the neighborhood, say hi! The people are what make our neighborhood truly special.

CALL ME!

I love helping my neighbors buy and sell their homes! Contact me at 262.366.3798 or OsieckiJ@FirstWeber.com to set up an appointment to receive a complimentary market analysis and discuss what makes your home special.

Jessica Osiecki

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Real Estate Corner

by Tracy Tompkins, Realtor

Summertime is finally here, and there is plenty of fun to be had including that next house project. Speaking of house projects, have you asked yourself if the updates you are doing on your house have added value to your investment? Certain updates have a great impact on value and should definitely be top priorities. Ultimately real estate buyers determine value, and they have some common preferences (which can take some finesse when incorporated into older houses). Consider this the ultimate priority list for house projects. Which one is next on your list?

- Forced central air
- 1st or 2nd floor laundry room with storage
- Bright kitchen with plenty of natural light, neutral tones, solid surface counters, counter-depth refrigerator, and multiple prep areas
- Master suite with walk-in closet(s) & updated private bath
- 1st floor half bath
- Fresh interior paint: keep a cohesive color palette with bright white ceilings
- Charming outdoor entertaining areas

If you need any resources or advice, consider me your property concierge.

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Communications Chair
sarnowski@mac.com

A Note from the President —

Dear Neighbors,

With the election of RNA officers and board members at our Spring membership meeting, I am happy to report that I will continue to serve as the RNA President for another year. Additionally, I will continue to serve as the UW Relations chair for the RNA along with representing our neighborhood on the newly-formed City of Madison Joint Campus Advisory Committee.

Our long-standing treasurer, John Schlaefer, will be stepping down. Thank you, John, for your work serving our neighborhood, not only as treasurer, but as one of the leaders moving the University Avenue Corridor Plan to completion. The board is seeking neighbors in good standing to serve as the treasurer, as well as to fill other open board positions: Vice President/President-elect, Sustainability Chair, and Festival Chair. If you are interested, please email me at mary.czyszczaklyne@wisc.edu.

The RNA Fourth of July festival, co-chaired by Dave Hughes, Tim Lacy and Betsy Repaske, will be held on Wednesday, July 4th at West High field. There's more about it on the first two pages of the newsletter. Please do join us! And please thank the volunteers for making this celebration so successful.

I encourage all neighbors to join the RNA to help strengthen our vibrant corner of the city. Your ideas help set the agenda and the work of our association. For the first time ever, we are offering online membership! Read about it on page 3.

Thank you to our board of directors for their energizing and outstanding work this past year. We will continue to explore and move forward with initiatives to strengthen our neighborhood.

Happy summer!

— Mary ■



RNA Board President
Mary Czyszczak-Lyne



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Announcements—

Summer at the Monroe Street Library

Read Like a Badger—Libraries Rock! The library's summer reading program for kids runs from June through August. Hop aboard any time.

Tuesday, July 3, 10:30 a.m. Preschool Storytime for ages 3–5. A happy blend of stories, play, and songs. Sibs welcome. No need to register.

Tuesday, July 3, 11:30 a.m. Storytime for the Very Young for ages 0–36 months. Stories, songs, rhymes. One child per adult, please. No need to register

Saturday, July 7, 10–Noon. Pop-Up Portraits with Rachal Duggan, Bubbler Artist-in-Residence. Pop in!

Tuesday, July 10, 10:30 a.m. Preschool Storytime. See 7/3

Tuesday, July 10, 11:30 a.m. Storytime for the Very Young. See 7/3

Wednesday, July 25, 6:30 p.m. Book discussion: *Lab Girl* by Hope Jahren makes science fun and fascinating.

Saturday, August 4, 10:30 a.m. Community Drum Circle with Elmore Lawson for the whole family.

Tuesday, August 7, 10:30 a.m. Preschool Storytime. See 7/3

Tuesday, August 7, 11:30 a.m. Storytime for the Very Young. See 7/3

Tuesday, August 14, 10:30 a.m. Preschool Storytime. See 7/3

Tuesday, August 14, 11:30 a.m. Storytime for the Very Young. See 7/3

Tuesday, August 21, 10:30 a.m. Preschool Storytime. See 7/3

Tuesday, August 21, 11:30 a.m. Storytime for the Very Young. See 7/3

Tuesday, August 28, 10:30 a.m. Once you've completed your Summer Reading Club goal, you'll get a golden ticket to a Rock the Library End of Summer Reading Celebration. Create a music video to your favorite song with green screen or stop motion animation technology.

Wednesday, August 29, 6:30 p.m. Book discussion: *The Little Red Chairs* by Edna O'Brien.

New hours at the Monroe Street Library

Monday–Wednesday 10–8, Friday 10–6
Saturday 9–5, Closed Thursday and Sunday

Recently-added collections at Monroe St. Branch:

old and new vinyl recordings, New York Times bestseller-list books, audio-enabled picture books, and Blu-Rays. ■



Join the RNA Listserv — groups.google.com/group/regentneighborhoodassn

This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Regent Neighborhood Association with a circulation of 1,900. The deadline for the November edition is September 30, 2018. We welcome articles of general interest to the neighborhood about local history or personalities and discussions of local issues. Please send items or inquiries to Megan Heneke at meganheneke@gmail.com.