

# The Regent Neighborhood Association Invites You and Your Family to the Neighborhood Fourth of July Festival Thursday, July 4, 2019 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)



Bring new or gently used backpacks & basic school supplies to the festival and we will deliver them to West High students in the fall.

#### RNA 4th of July Festival — Volunteers Needed!

Contact Betsy Repaske at betsy@dwellhop.com or 608-852-0619 and check the RNA Listserv groups.google.com/group/regentneighborhoodassn for opportunities and updates.

**Set up:** Starts at 9 a.m. No need to sign up but it's appreciated if you contact Betsy.

**Garbage:** Do you live near the practice field? Are you willing to let us borrow your garbage can for the day? We'll empty it before we give it back. Contact Betsy.

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 Betsy. To volunteer to sell, contact Ron Rosner, rosner?@charter.net.

Beverage Stand: Beverage Stand Coordinator needed. Contact Betsy.

**Games:** Games Coordinator needed. Contact Betsy.

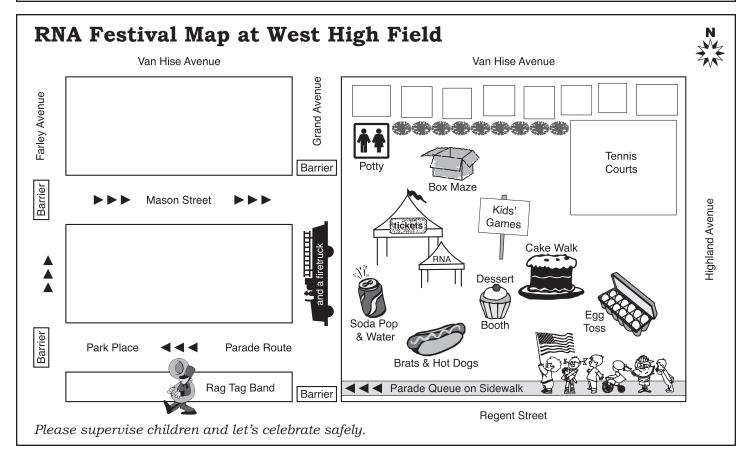
**Gamesters:** Create & run a game, split the profits with the RNA. Prizes provided.

Contact Betsy.

**Cake Walk:** Coordinator needed. Volunteers for 1-hour shifts needed. Baked goods

needed! Contact Betsy. Bring your baked goods to the field on Thursday.

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



#### \* 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 2019 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 Cinthia Díaz Morón and Terjuan Short for their accomplishments. Each will each receive a \$2,500 scholarship from the RNA thanks to the generosity of Regent neighbors. Cinthia will attend Carthage College where she will pursue a degree in Elementary Education. Terjuan will attend Edgewood College and will pursue degrees in Political Science and Economics.

Please build on this success by contributing to the 2020 West High Scholarship Fund. Donate to the fund, and join or renew your RNA membership, online or by returning the enclosed membership form. Thanks!



2019 RNA Scholarship Recipients Cinthia Díaz Morón and Terjuan Short

#### Join or Renew Your RNAMembership Online!

You are now able to become a member or renew your membership online by visiting: **donorbox.org/rna-membership-2019** 

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 and check to the RNA tent at the Fourth of July Festival. Thank you for supporting your neighborhood.











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#### Meet the RNA Sustainability Chair

Hello, my name is Eric
Wiesman and I am the new
sustainability chair for
the Regent Neighborhood
Association. I'm excited about
this new role and having the
opportunity to contribute
to our neighborhood in this
capacity. I decided to run
for this position because I
am very passionate about
sustainability and our
responsibility to care for our
environment.



Eric Wiesman

My wife and I have lived in the neighborhood since 2014. We started as renters and enjoyed our time here so much that we bought a house almost two years ago. I've really enjoyed meeting many neighbors and look forward to working with you all to make our neighborhood a more sustainable place to live. Please feel free to contact me at SustainableRNA@gmail.com if you have any ideas, questions, or things I can do to promote a sustainable lifestyle.

#### Sustainability Tip:

Summer is finally here! It's time to get the grill going and invite friends and family over to feast. When hosting gatherings this summer (and frankly — anytime of year), consider going re-usable in as many aspects as possible. Here are some easy places to start: dishes instead of paper plates, silverware instead of plastic cutlery, and glassware instead of plastic cups. Just these few simple changes will drastically reduce the amount of waste produced. If you're looking to go the extra mile, cloth napkins make a great replacement for paper napkins and disposable straws can easily be swapped out for re-usable straws. As far as all of those leftovers go, try storing them in re-usable food storage containers such as Tupperware, glass bowls, mason jars, or silicone bags instead of one-time use plastic sandwich bags. I hope these tips make for fun, classy, and more sustainable gettogethers throughout the year.

#### RNA Contributes to Centro's Scholarship Program

Last fall, Centro Hispano honored Alder Shiva Bidar with the Centro Visionary Award given to a person who strives for Centro's vision of a thriving Latino Community. In appreciation for her commitment to our neighborhood and our city, earlier this year the Regent Neighborhood Association made a \$2,500 gift in Shiva's name to support Centro's Becas Scholars Program offering mentoring and financial resources to Latino students.

Nina Gehan, Centro Director of Development and Communications, shares that, "In the last seven years, graduation rates for Latinos in the MMSD have increased by more than 10%, with more than 74% of Latino seniors now graduating from high school. Despite this increase in high school graduation rates, young Latinos continue to have one of the lowest rates of post-secondary educational attainment in Dane County."

To address this challenge, Centro also manages the Escalera Program offering mentoring programs at Madison West and Madison East High School providing services to Latino students to promote economic mobility through academic achievement and career planning.



Escolera students Carlos Diaz, Guadalupe Vargas, Cesar Arreola, Juan Zepeda, Jennifer Ceaca, Jose Esquivel, Daniel Calixto, Melissa Abrajan, Pedro Zepeda, Daniel Galvez, Yesenia Martinez, Aaron Martinez, Diana Tamayo, Santiago Colorado, Justin Yacelga

In May, Alder Shiva Bidar, Centro Hispano Executive Director Karen Menendez-Coller, West High School Escalera Program Coordinator Maria Paula Gonzalez Nino and RNA Board member Jon Miskowski met with the Escalera students to share the news of the RNA's contribution to Centro's scholarship program.

Your membership contribution enables the RNA to support this and other community work. Thank you. ■

#### Dane County Board Report — District 10

I hope this edition of the RNA Newsletter finds you and your family well. In May, the Board toured the Rodefeld Landfill highlighting Dane County's work of converting trash and cow manure into renewable fuel and injecting it into the interstate transmission pipeline so it can be sold to fleets of vehicles locally and across the United States.



Supervisor Jeremy Levin

Dane County's landfill biogas

facility will displace 3 million gallons of fossil fuels in the first year of operation, with this amount growing to 4 million gallons in future years. Due to renewable natural gas (RNG) having a lower carbon footprint that's the equivalent of taking 4,800 cars off the road.

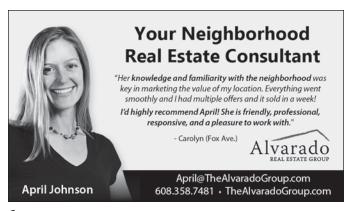
In addition to the facility's environmental benefits, it's estimated that Dane County will generate enough revenue from the facility to pay back the \$28 million cost of the project in just a few years.

Earlier in May, Supervisors heard a presentation from engineering and architecture firm Mead and Hunt regarding the costs and benefits of alternative locations and designs for a consolidated jail, a project initially approved as part of the County's 2018 capital budget.

The Wise

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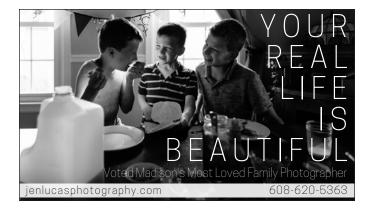


The County has spent the last several years analyzing approaches to close the outdated and unsafe jail in the City County Building, consolidate the jail into one building with fewer total beds and space for medical and programming needs, while also investing in front-end justice programs to divert individuals from incarceration. In June, the Board will vote on architectural and engineering design work and on proposed construction of the consolidated jail facility as a tower adjacent to the Public Safety Building.

Should you or your family have an interest in specific Dane County projects or initiatives, please contact me at levin.jeremy@co.dane.wi.us or call me at 608.577.9335.



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#### Neighborhood Eatery Wins Historic Trust Award

#### by Ron Rosner

The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation honored Pasture and Plenty with its "Adaptive Reuse Award" at the Trust's annual banquet in May. Pasture and Plenty, on the corner of Highland and University Avenues, occupies the 1929 Art Deco building that originally housed the 9th Rennebohms drugstore in the city.

Each year the Madison Trust celebrates projects which have made a significant contribution to the preservation and promotion of the City's cultural heritage.

In the award citation for Pasture and Plenty, host John Martens observed that as the area surrounding the former Rennebohms was developed, the property experienced little improvement and its appearance reflected this neglect.

In the restoration, the transom windows on the Highland Avenue side of the building—bricked-in during earlier renovations—were restored, along with the original 14-foot high ceiling. Also, the cement Art Deco architectural features on the roof were highlighted and the building frontage was returned to its original corner location.



Pasture and Plenty owner Christy McKenzie receives the Adaptive Reuse Award from Madison Trust President Kurt Stege.

The award ceremony was held at the Old Sugar Distillery which occupies the former Greyhound bus station on East Main Street. ■







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#### Alder Report — District 5

Dear Neighbors,

Happy Summer! I would like to give you some updates on neighborhood-related issues:

• University Avenue from Farley/University Bay Drive to Shorewood Blvd. is slated for reconstruction in 2021. We held the first public information meeting on June 13 to gather input on the first draft of the plans. We will be having another



Alder Shiva Bidar

PIM in the Fall (a notice will be sent to residents.)

Some information about the project: The project is necessary because the area of University included in the project needed pavement improvements, bike and pedestrian accommodations, and safer pedestrian and bike crossings on University Bay Drive. The project will also include the replacement of sanitary sewer and water main. It will also include an upgrade to the stormwater sewer system. The project will hopefully also include improvements to the stormwater management infrastructure to help with flooding in the project area.

The proposed reconstruction includes:

- New roadway pavement, curb, gutter and driveway aprons
- Improved roadway geometry to help improve congestion in intersections
- New curb ramps
- Widened terraces
- New sidewalks
- New crosswalk markings
- New traffic signals
- Safer turn lane designs

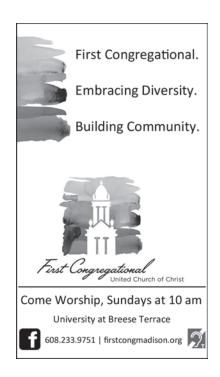
This project involves the City of Madison, Village of Shorewood Hills, Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Funding for the project will be shared between FHWA, the City of Madison, and the Village of Shorewood Hills. To follow project updates through the process, go to cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/university-avenue.

• As I reported in the last newsletter, in conjunction with the City Streets department, we are proposing to expand the Snow Emergency Zone and the Clean Streets/Clean Lakes (CSCL) program to the entire Regent Neighborhood. This means that instead of the nightly winter shuffle to find a legal parking spot along the street for the overnight hours for those currently living on alternate side parking blocks, there will only be a once-per-week four-hour block of time between 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. where cars cannot park along the street. Alternate-side parking rules would only be enforced during the few declared snow emergencies we have in a winter season instead of being enforced November 15 to March 15 regardless of weather conditions. Since year-round CSCL means vehicles will be moved off the street regularly throughout the year, the street will be cleaner and snow plowing and other services will improve. I am working on the exact block-by-block details with city staff and will share them with all of you as soon as they are finalized.

Thank you for your continued involvement in neighborhood and city issues. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any comments, questions, and/or concerns. I can be reached at district5@cityofmadison. com or (608) 220-6986. ■













#### A Message From Dane County Executive Joe Parisi

The arrival of warmer weather means the glee of children out of school and families planning how they will maximize time together during these limited summer days. As those journeys are mapped, many will find their way to Dane County's Henry Vilas Zoo. There isn't much left you can do for free nowadays, but Dane County's public employees who care for the animals at



County Executive
Joe Parisi

your zoo have a lot to share this summer through their dedication to conservation, education, and species survival.

As a father of two daughters, I've been part of the literally millions of visits to the Henry Vilas Zoo over the past decade. Whether I was visiting for the first time or the fiftieth, the value our community places on its free zoo and the incredible animals that live there is readily apparent. The hundreds of species we're protecting and state of the art exhibits they inhabit are only part of the unrivaled experience. The rest comes from the people—those who work there and the visitors they interact with—the memories they create and smiles that result make Henry Vilas Zoo a true community treasure.

There's lots happening at your free zoo. Summer Zoo Camp registrations are up 30% over last year,

allowing more young people to experience the wonders of the zoo. Nearly 9,000 people visited on "Kid's Day," coinciding with April being Earth Month.

Your zoo is one of three participating in a first-ever effort giving our female polar bear a chance at having cubs later this year. As the sad realities of climate change become ever more visible, the zoo is on the front lines of international work to protect endangered species. County zookeepers recently introduced endangered African Penguin chicks Robben and Dassen to the rest of their penguin colony so the new duo could make their debut to the public.

Thanks to your support, we have the makings for a truly exciting year at Dane County's Henry Vilas Zoo. It's your free zoo. ■





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#### Shared Solar for Your Home or Business

#### from Madison Gas and Electric

Nearly 300 local households are part of MGE's Shared Solar community. Now, the program's prepared to welcome small- and medium-size businesses.

MGE is seeking to expand our community solar program, Shared Solar, with a second solar installation. Customers who subscribe to Shared Solar receive up to half of their annual electric use through the program, which offers customers locally generated solar energy. Previously, the program was open only to residential customers.

"Shared Solar is a great option for business owners who want to fuel their business with clean energy but cannot or choose not to install solar themselves," said Cheri Salmon, MGE market development manager.

MGE's Shared Solar program launched in early 2017. The City of Middleton and MGE partnered to place a 500-kilowatt array on the roof of the City's Municipal Operations Center, or MOC. The program sold out quickly. An expansion of the program with a second, large-scale solar installation will allow more customers to participate and advance shared energy goals for our community.

"Shared Solar offers customers solar energy at minimal upfront cost and it is clean energy generated right here in the communities we serve," said Salmon.

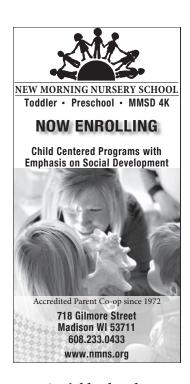
The solar project will be built in partnership with the City of Middleton at the Middleton Municipal Airport, also known as Morey Field. Construction is expected this summer with the array expected to be operational in fall.

#### Join our "Worth Waiting For" List

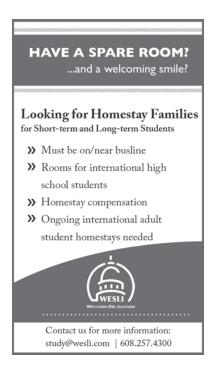
MGE is building a waiting list of interested customers, both residential and business customers. Those on the waiting list will be among the first to learn details about the program's expansion. If you would like to join our "Worth Waiting For" list, visit mge.com/sharedsolar.

Shared Solar makes it easy to power your home or business with renewable energy. Subscribers pay a one-time upfront fee to participate and a fixed rate per kilowatt-hour (kWh) for up to half of their annual electricity use.

For customers who sign up for Shared Solar for up to half of their annual electric use but would like to power their home or business with 100% renewable energy, MGE also offers our Green Power Tomorrow program (GPT). Subscribers to GPT pay one cent more per kWh to receive a percentage or specific dollar amount of their electricity from wind and solar resources in our region. MGE residential and business customers can sign up to purchase a percentage (1% to 100%) of their monthly electricity use through GPT or, since electricity use can vary, customers can choose instead to purchase a specific dollar amount of GPT electricity each month. To sign up, or to get more information, visit mge.com/GPT.





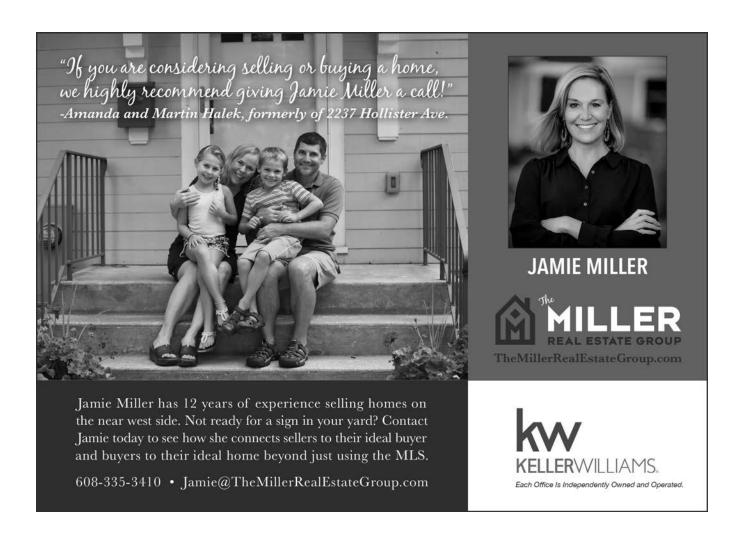




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#### News from Blessed Sacrament School



Blessed Sacrament School serves children from age 3 through 8th grade. New in 2019–20 is a Montessori Children's House classroom

—a multi-age, multi-year Catholic Montessori program for students from three to six years old. The Montessori Children's House classroom joins the 3K, 4K, and 5K programs currently offered. "We get very excited about early childhood education," says Steve Castrogiovanni, principal. "Early childhood is when we build the foundation for life-long learning and a love of discovery."

Access to high quality early childhood education is key to building that foundation. When asked what "high quality early childhood education" looks like, Castrogiovanni says that no matter what school parents might be visiting, they should look for programs with healthy student to teacher ratios, a safe physical environment and staff who recognize the importance of teaching the "whole child" — meeting the child's physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs. At Blessed Sacrament School, he adds, we believe that teaching the whole child also includes nurturing their spiritual development and faith life. Beyond these essentials, however, the curriculum or format can vary based on the child's needs or the parents' interests.

"We find that some families like a more structured approach and others are drawn toward a more child-directed, independent format," he notes. Both approaches are very successful in nurturing early learning. "We're excited to add the Montessori philosophy to our early childhood offerings just for that reason."

So how do the standard classrooms and the Montessori classroom differ? In many respects, they will be the same, says Castrogiovanni. Both programs at BSS have dedicated, trained teachers who love children, nurture the whole child and guide them in faith and development of pre-academic and academic skills. He offers a few ways in which they might differ.

"As an example, in our standard 3K classroom, all the children are three. Most of them will be learning about the same thing at the same time. The teacher will call them all for circle time, lead them in prayer, gather them around the piano for a song, introduce a specific concept to the group (this is the letter K!) and organize an art project for all of them to enjoy. The children feel confident and happy and they've had a great day. Down the hallway in the Montessori classroom," he continues, "there will be some children who are three but others who are four, five or six. In the Montessori room, there will be fewer transitions during the day. The children have longer periods of work time—typically at least 90 minutes—and they decide what activities they want to complete. They might choose to work with blocks, fingerpaints and books or might spend the whole time exploring one activity with letters. The older children are also involved in teaching the younger ones. So instead of the teacher leading prayer, you might see the 5-year olds leading the little ones."

A key component of the Montessori philosophy is that each child has their own developmental pathway and that there are key times, individual to that child, when he or she is most able to learn specific skills. Therefore, the child selects their work for the day because they intrinsically know what they should be working on. The teacher is there to teach, guide and extend their learning, however, if a child gets "stuck," the support is there to help them move to the next level. They feel a sense of accomplishment with what they've learned, they're happy and they can't wait to come back tomorrow.

"While the approach is different," says Castrogiovanni, "children in both classrooms feel fulfilled and excited about what they've learned. We're happy to offer both to our families." For more information, contact Castrogiovanni at principal@school. blsacrament.org or at 608-233-6155. ■









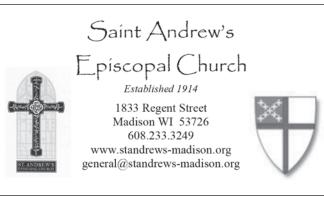
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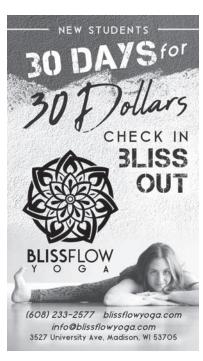
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#### 2019-2020 Ad Rates and Schedule

RNA publishes 4 newsletters and a member directory during calendar year July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020. Newsletters are mailed to approximately 1,900 households and businesses, and directories are delivered to RNA members (approximately 400). Learn more about us at **regentneighborhood.org**.

Ads are black-and-white and are available in 4 sizes:

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Full-page \$500	Directory	November	February	May	July	4 for \$1800 or 5 for \$2250

**Deadlines:** Member Directory—August 15, 2019

November Newsletter—September 30, 2019 February Newsletter—January 7, 2020 May Newsletter—March 31, 2020 July Newsletter—May 31, 2020 **Distributions:** Member Directory—early October

November Newsletter—early November

February Newsletter—early February May Newsletter—early May

July Newsletter—mid-June

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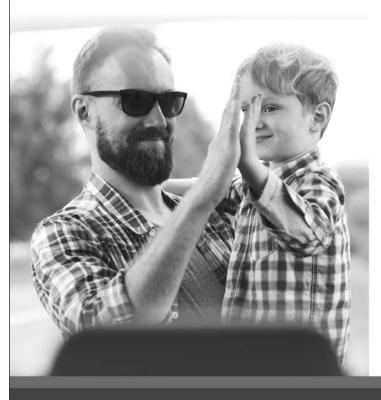
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#### Regent Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 5655 Madison, WI 53705

#### **Officers**

President / Festival Chair Betsy Repaske betsy@dwellhop.com

Vice President/President-Elect OPEN

Secretary / Newsletter Editor Tom Pearce thomaskpearce@gmail.com

Treasurer Steve Scheller steve\_scheller@yahoo.com

Past President / UW Relations Chair Mary Czynszak-Lyne mary.czynszaklyne@wisc.edu

#### **Board Members**

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Tim Lacy

Development & Preservation Chair
tim@dwellhop.com

Jen McDonald School Relations Chair jenmariealt@gmail.com

Jon Miskowski jonmiskowski@gmail.com

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Ron Rosner rosner7@charter.net

Mary Sarnowski Communications Chair sarnowski@mac.com

Eric Wiesman Sustainability Chair SustainableRNA@gmail.com

#### A Note from the President —

Hello Neighbors,

Elections for the RNA board were held at our Spring Membership meeting in May and I'm honored to step up to serve as board president. I've lived in the Regent Neighborhood for almost seven years, own DwellHop Real Estate on Regent Street, and previously served as festival chair.

As our outgoing-President Mary Czynszak-Lyne, always says, "The Regent neighborhood is the best neighborhood in the city." I'm excited



RNA Board President Betsy Repaske

to continue to connect and work with our neighbors who make this neighborhood so great. Mary set a wonderful example as president and we're glad that she will stay on as University Relations chair. The board welcomes Tom Pearce as our new newsletter editor and Jessica Osiecki as at-large member. Thank you to our past board members Megan Heneke and Karen Christianson for all of their hard work. We still have board seats open and I invite you to join us. If you are interested in becoming part of the RNA board please email me or join us at one of our monthly meetings.

Thank you to all of you who were able to join us in May at the Midtown Station. Many thanks to Representative Sheila Stubbs and Lt. Lori Chalecki for taking the time to speak with us. We were glad to see so many of you at the meeting and I hope you found it informative. Anyone is welcome to join us for any of our monthly meetings. They are a great way to learn about upcoming changes in our neighborhood or to make sure we as board members know what matters most to you.

The RNA Fourth of July Festival is coming up on Thursday, July 4th. It's the year's biggest opportunity for us to gather and reconnect as a community. Details for the festivities can be found in this newsletter. I hope you'll join us for—and possibly volunteer to help—with this neighborhood tradition. If you and I have not met yet please find me to say hi!

Sincerely yours,

Betsv

#### 2019 RNA Board Meeting Schedule

- August 26
- October 28
- September 23
- November TBA

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 Betsy Repaske at betsy@dwellhop.com.



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#### In Search of Ad Wrangler

The RNA is looking for a volunteer to join the Communications Committee to coordinate advertising in the newsletters and directory. The communications team includes a graphic designer and an editor, produces a quarterly newsletter and an annual membership directory, manages the RNA website, and oversees listsery communications.

The Ad Wrangler will be trained in all aspects of the Communications Committee work and will manage a portfolio of 50-plus active advertisers, generating thousands of dollars to support neighborhood activities such as scholarships, neighborhood and school projects, and community conversations. The commitment is about 10 hours a month with a more focused effort in the summer with the annual campaign soliciting new and renewing advertisers.

Join the "Comm Comm" and support the Regent neighborhood and develop your skills and community connections. For more information, please contact Communications Chair Mary Sarnowski at sarnowski@mac.com ■







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 31, 2019. 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 Tom Pearce at thomaskpearce@gmail.com