

# Regent Neighborhood ASSOCIATION

November 2019 Newsletter | regentneighborhood.org

Please join us for the 2019 RNA Fall Membership Meeting Monday, November 18,

6–8 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church

1833 Regent Street

## featuring

Con Vivo, The Ancora String Quartet, and Poet Ron Wallace

Local Refreshment





Queuing up for next year's Fourth of July festival! Volunteers needed now. See page 3 for how to help.



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

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## A Note from the President —

Neighbors,

I hope you all had a wonderful Summer and Fall as the holidays quickly approach. We've not had a reason to gather as neighbors since the Fourth of July so please join us at our Fall Membership meeting. This event will be more than a neighborhood meeting. Board member, Ronnie Hess, has arranged for some local musicians and a poet to perform for us. This will be a chance for us to experience how talented some of our neighbors are and connect with each other.



RNA Board President Betsy Repaske

Please make sure you read the note in this newsletter about our Fourth of July festival. I know it seems far away but we need your help to keep this neighborhood tradition alive.

Sincerely yours,

Betsv

## **RNA Board Meeting Schedule**

- Nov. 18, 2019 (see p. 1) February 24, 2020 • January 27, 2020
  - March 23, 2020

The RNA Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Best Western InnTowner at 2424 University Ave. 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.



## RNA Fourth of July 2020 Festival—Help Keep the Tradition Alive!

The RNA Board is starting to plan for next year's 4th of July festival. Without the help of more neighbors, the 4th of July Festival will not continue. So we're calling on you to help.

First, what activities should we keep and what should we change or add? We want the event to be planned by neighbors for neighbors, and are happy for more people to take ownership of an activity they like or are interested in setting up.

Second, how can you help? With a team of organizers, the event can be easily managed and enjoyable for all. We'd like to have volunteer leaders for:

- Day-of-the-festival manager: order permits; coordinate volunteers; communicate with West High: order restrooms
- **Set up:** arrange for tents, chairs, and tables; arrange the field and set up signs; coordinate volunteers to help set up
- **Ticket booth:** buy tickets; arrange for a cash drawer; coordinate volunteers to sell tickets
- Brat tent: order & pick up food; set up sanitation station; coordinate volunteers to cook and sell
- Parade coordinator: order fire truck; arrange for someone to lead the parade; coordinate the queue
- Cake walk: call for baked good donations; set up



Members of the Rag Tag Band. Festival photos by Sandy Witkauskas

the cake walk; arrange for music; coordinate volunteers to work the game

- Games master: coordinate the families who will run games; arrange for prizes
- Clean up: arrange for garbage cans; coordinate volunteers; coordinate the pick up of large trash items

By sharing the work everyone will have a chance to enjoy the event. Please step up this winter to help make the festival happen next summer! Contact RNA President Betsy Repaske at betsy@dwellhop.com.

### 2020 Capital Referendum Forum at West High, Wednesday November 6

#### by Karen Boran, West High School Principal

West High School opened its doors for the 1929-1930 school year. Forty years later, a major city referendum financed a 1970 upgrade. That is when the last comprehensive upgrade to the physical plant occurred.

The intervening 50 years have challenged the school's capacity. We are the largest school, the most overcrowded and landlocked, with the



Karen Boran, West High School Principal

greatest need for additional classrooms and upgrades to our current instructional spaces. We have the most need for elevator access for mobility limited students and the greatest need for enhancements to our athletic infrastructure. And, as you may know, we have the least parking.

The proposed 2020 Capital Referendum addresses these issues specifically. Every instructional space regentneighborhood.org

in the building will be upgraded. We'll have 12 more classrooms and the two additional elevators will increase access to current instructional spaces for our mobility-challenged students. The design includes major expansion of our athletic instructional, practice, and competition spaces. Flexibility in the design of these new learning spaces means that we will have increased capacity to meet not only our current but future classroom needs as well. The addition of large community spaces means that large groups will have additional access to West as meeting spaces, and the school will have enhanced spaces to conduct professional development (right now, it's the cafeteria -not ideal).

Are you interested in learning more? Come to our 2020 Capital Referendum Forum on Wednesday, November 6 at 7:30pm in West's Cafenasium. Childcare will be provided. MMSD facilities staff, project architects, and financial experts will be present to answer your questions and collect your feedback. We hope to see you there!

### Wisconsin Humanities Council Helps Fund "Talking Spirits" Program

#### by Shoshauna Schey, Wisconsin Humanities Council



The Wisconsin Humanities Council, your local cultural non-profit residing on Regent HUMANITIES Street near Hoyt Park, was excited to financially support

the Talking Spirits program that took place at Forest Hill Cemetery in October. Talking Spirits, an award-winning living history program, has occurred in the cemetery for the last 21 years. Short vignettes by costumed actors illuminate the lives of those buried at Forest Hill who contributed to Wisconsin history during the Civil War, and in the growth of our city afterwards. Tour guides led school groups, and the general public (some tours were by candlelight!) through a portion of the cemetery explaining notable details about other points of interest located between the various vignettes.

Featured this year was Governor Louis Harvey and his wife Cordelia; Napoleon Bonaparte Van Slyke, William F. Vilas, and pictured here, Benjamin Butts. As a runaway slave, Mr. Butts became attached to the 5th Wisconsin Battery, and followed the unit back to Wisconsin after the war ended. He became a barber on Capitol Square for many governors, as well as a messenger for the Wisconsin Historical Society. His son was the first African-American to play football for the University of Wisconsin.

One of our current council-conducted projects involves a partnership with Centro Hispano for a travelling photo exhibit featuring eight individuals who have immigrated from south of the border to Dane County. The launch happened this summer



Desmond Hawkins portrays Benjamin Butts, Civil War era runaway slave and Wisconsin Governorship barber, at the Forest Hill Cemetery program.

at the Overture Center, and the exhibit then went on tour to Sun Prairie, Mount Horeb, and the new Goodman Campus for Madison College on Park Street. The exhibit will be on tour statewide this fall.

The Wisconsin Humanities Council is a statewide resource for librarians, teachers, museum educators and civic leaders who create entertaining and informative programs using culture and discussion to strengthen community life. To learn more about the programs we fund and create, please visit us at wisconsinhumanities.org or find us on Facebook and Twitter @wihumanities. You can also stop by our office under the oaks at 3801 Regent Street-we would love to meet you!



## New Neighborhood Business: Garth's Brew Bar



My name is Garth Beyer and I'm opening Garth's Brew Bar, a craft beer bar and bottle shop at 1726 Monroe Street, this fall.

Originally from the Rockford area of Illinois, I moved to Madison right when I turned 18. I had previously

fallen in love with the city when I drove through it during a solo road trip to Sheboygan.

While in Madison, I graduated with a degree in Strategic Communication and Journalism from UW– Madison, I met my wife, Briana, at the only college party I went to, and I got into brewing after one of her friends had me try some homebrew he had made.

I've been super-involved in the community since I moved here. I've led different local advertising groups, hosted unique educational events, connected with the Madison Homebrewers and Tasters Guild, and even had the privilege to write for the Cap Times for a year, covering their beer beat article.

It was through all my connections to brewers, brewery owners, and other businesspeople in the state that the idea to open a craft beer bar popped up in my head. I wanted to do something more than write articles about these incredible people. I wanted to do something that could help their businesses thrive. After all, they have such a significant, positive economic and heartfelt impact on communities throughout our state.

For three years, I've researched and planned the craft beer bar. Part of that research entailed surveying more than 200 craft beer drinkers throughout Madison—and specifically those in Monroe Street area neighborhoods—to ensure my bar is a natural fit for this community.

While I currently live downtown, a quick 5-minute drive to Monroe Street, I knew early on that Monroe Street would be the right home for the bar because of the positive and welcoming attitude of the merchants on the street and all those who live nearby. This is a vibrant area where local, unique small businesses seem to thrive. I hope to become one of those businesses.

With a specialization in American craft beer and a bright, friendly atmosphere, we'll focus on creating exciting, enjoyable experiences for the community through educational events (beer and cheese pairings, anyone?) and community nights (porters and puzzle nights sound fun to you?).



Garth Beyer and his wife, Briana Beyer, in the space that is to become Garth's Brew Bar. Photo credit @Digfast.

My wife has been an absolute rock in helping me open this business, and we both look forward to opening the doors and welcoming all those who love craft beer and those who don't (non-alcoholic beverages are available, too!).

We'd love your feedback on how we can make this space one that you'll put on your shortlist to enjoy.

If you have any questions or want to connect with me before the opening, feel free to email me at garth@ garthsbrewbar.com.

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## Dane County Board Report — District 10

I hope this edition of the RNA Newsletter finds you and your family well. Over the summer, the County Board took the next step in the redevelopment of the Alliant Energy Center contracting for architectural engineering design services related to an expanded Exhibition Hall and campus.



Supervisor Jeremy Levin

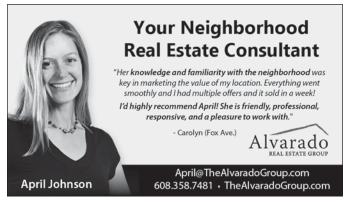
An expanded Exhibition Hall is the first step in a planned redevelopment of the entire 164-acre county-

owned Alliant Energy Center campus. A master plan previously approved by the Dane County Board calls for approximately \$300 million in public and private investment to create a walkable, environmentallyfriendly destination with meeting space, hotels, restaurants and entertainment venues.

The Alliant Energy Center already hosts the World Dairy Expo, the Dane County Fair, the Brat Fest and CrossFit games and the expansion is expected to draw even more large events.

Early in September the Board held two budget hearings to listen to department heads on their agency budgets. The Board committees will hold committee hearings in October to hear from the public and finalized the 2020 budget in November. County Executive Parisi introduced his, "2020 Budget —New Decade, Continued Commitment to Our People and Places," at the beginning of October.

The County Executive is proposing a \$653.7 million for the 2020 operating and capital budgets focusing on human services, the environment and personnel. The budget largely builds on ongoing county initiatives, such as efforts to increase water flow through the Yahara lakes, providing a fourth consecutive year of raises for county employees and proposing the creation of two new county offices — one focused on housing and the other on immigration.



On efforts to prevent future flooding and respond to a changing climate, Parisi is proposing new or increased spending of:

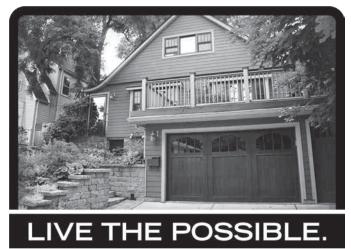
• «\$5 million to purchase hydraulic dredging equipment and hire four employees to remove sediment from the bottom of the Yahara River.

- \$3 million to establish a "Flood Risk Reduction Fund" for purchasing land and preserving or restoring it to wetlands and prairies in an effort to reduce water runoff.
- \$400,000 for continued repair work at Pheasant Branch Conservancy after flooding in 2018 caused major damage.
- \$750,000 more for a program to convert row crops into perennial vegetation, doubling the funding to \$1.5 million in 2020.

In the 2019 budget, the Board included \$23.8 million for flood response and mitigation after a deluge in August 2018 swamped parts of the county and led to weeks of sustained flooding for areas along the Yahara chain of lakes.

As an easy way to engage more residents, the County Board office created a simple YouTube video to better explain the County's Budget process, available at: youtube.com/watch?v=HuRSQVyLPn8&feature=you tu.be

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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## Alder Report — District 5

Dear Neighbors,

It has been a busy few months! I would like to highlight some issues affecting our neighborhood and the City:

## University Avenue Reconstruction: As you know,

University Ave from Farley/ University Bay Drive to Shorewood Blvd is slated for reconstruction in 2021. We held the first project



Alder Shiva Bidar

information meeting on June 13, 2019 ad will be scheduling another meeting in the next couple of months. You can find information about the project at cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/ university-avenue

**Speedway/Regent/Highland Intersection:** City Traffic Engineering is finalizing a document with possible options to improve the safety of this intersection. I am planning a neighborhood meeting on November 4 at 5:30pm, location TBD, to discuss the options. I will be sending information about the meeting to the RNA listserv.

**MMSD Facilities Plan for Hoyt School:** Here is a brief summary of the neighborhood meeting that I held on September 18, 2019 regarding MMSD's proposed relocation of Capital High to Hoyt School:

MMSD staff in attendance were Kelly Ruppel, Chief Financial Officer; Chad Wiese, Director of Building Services; Andrew Statz, Director of Research, Accountability and Data Use; Karyn Stocks-Glover, Capital High Principal. The meeting was focused on land use issues and impact on the neighborhood as opposed to issues related to the Board of Education such as Capital High's instructional model and building interior remodeling.

MMSD staff present shared information about Capital High:

- Current Capital High enrollment is about 160. Expected growth will be slow and intentional over years to a maximum of 275-300.
- The very large majority of students currently take the bus and will do the same at a new location.
- School hours are 9am to 2pm and it is a closed campus (lunch is served at school).
- Capital High principal expressed much interest in having neighbors involved in activities with Capital High students.

• MMSD is exploring ways that the updated building amenities would be available to the neighborhood: neighborhood meeting space, classes such as MSCR classes after school hours/weekends.

The main issues raised at the meeting that we will be discussing at the next meeting:

- Transportation: neighbors expressed wanting a more detailed estimate on how many students and staff are expected to drive and park; Metro bus route and drop off location; impact on neighborhood and measures to mitigate the impact.
- Stormwater/run-off: existing conditions are bad, how to ensure not only no negative impact but improvement of current conditions
- Hoyt Park use and impacts

A second meeting to include key city staff (Metro, zoning, Traffic Engineering, Engineering) is scheduled for December 10, 2019 at 6pm, location TBD, I will send notices through the RNA listserv.

**2020 City Budget:** The Council is currently in the midst of discussing the 2020 City Budget. The budget details can be found at cityofmadison.com/ budget

**Snow Emergency Zone:** I have been working diligently with other alders and city staff to move forward the expansion of the Snow Emergency Zone and the Clean Streets/Clean Lakes (CSCL) program to the entire Regent Neighborhood. Because of timing and staff resources, we are doing a twophase expansion: Phase 1 will start this Fall/Winter with the expansion to some areas of the Regent Neighborhood and Phase 2—the entire Regent Neighborhood—will happen in the Fall/Winter of next year.

**Phase 1:** The following streets have year-round enforcement of their existing weekly Clean Streets/ Clean Lakes parking restrictions. They will also be part of the Snow Emergency Zone starting this Fall/ Winter:

- Virginia Terrace: from the dead-end to Regent St.
- Stevens St: from N. Franklin Ave. to Grand Ave.
- Kendall Ave: from N. Franklin Ave. to Lathrop St.
- Chestnut St: from Van Hise Ave to University Ave.
- Ash St: from Van Hise Ave to Chamberlain Ave.
- Elm St: from Van Hise Ave. to Chamberlain Ave.
- Walnut St: from Chamberlain Ave. to University Ave.
- Bascom Pl: from Van Hise Ave. to Chamberlain Ave.

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### Alder Report (continued from page 7)

- Chamberlain Ave: from N. Allen St. to Bascom Pl.
- Forest St: from University Ave. to Bascom St./ Forest St. intersection
- Arlington Place: from Chamberlain Ave to N. Prospect Ave.
- Princeton Ave: from University Ave to N. Prospect Ave.
- Ely Place: from N. Prospect Ave to Summit Ave.
- Summit Ave: from Van Hise Ave to Lathrop St.
- Chadbourne Ave: from Roby Rd. to N. Breese Terr.
- Hoyt St: from N. Spooner St. to Lathrop St.
- Lathrop St: from Regent St. to University Ave.

If you park on a street or block **not** listed above, you must still abide by the nightly Alternate Side Parking restrictions.

#### What does this mean for you?

If you park on a block now in the Snow Emergency Zone, you only need to abide by alternate side parking restrictions during declared snow emergencies. All other parking restrictions remain in effect and must be followed. To receive email or text alerts about declared snow emergencies, sign up at cityofmadison.com/winter.

For a map of the Snow Emergency Zone, which is also the same area of the year-round Clean Streets/ Clean Lakes program, go to cityofmadison.com/ winter and click on the "Snow Emergency Location & Rules" link.

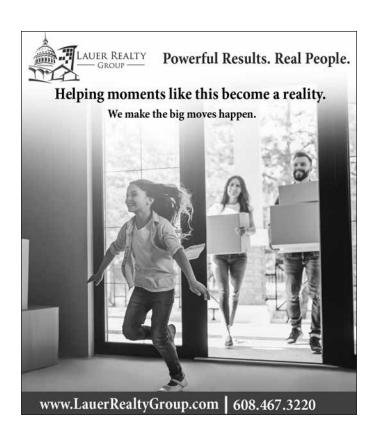
## Why are only these select streets part of the Snow Emergency Zone in our neighborhood?

Adding these streets is just the first phase of a larger expansion of the Snow Emergency Zone and the Clean Streets/Clean Lakes street maintenance program. The select streets, along with the addition of Virginia Terrace, already have a year-round 4-hour parking restriction in place and thus we are able to implement the Snow Emergency Zone starting this Fall/Winter. The remaining streets will have posted weekly 4-hour street maintenance restriction and also be added to the Snow Emergency Zone next Fall/Winter.

#### How does this help?

You will have fewer winter parking issues with alternate side restrictions only enforced during declared snow emergencies. The lakes and streets will be cleaner with weekly street sweeping and regular curb access for the Street Division to pick up debris and refuse. The Clean Streets/Clean Lakes street maintenance program prohibits parking once a week for four hours. This program requires vehicles to be removed from the street to allow for garbage trucks, snowplows, tree trimmers, and street sweepers to have access the curb. It is especially important for streets with parking only on one side to be included since they are exempt from Alternate Side and Snow Emergency parking restrictions.

Thank you for your continued involvement in neighborhood and city issues. As always, 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.





### Greetings from Randall!

James Thurber posited, "All men should strive to learn before they die, what they are running from, and to, and why." I reflect on his call for approach/avoidance discernment as we celebrate the fourth Thursday in November. The pilgrims were perhaps motivated by both - seeking freedom and escaping oppression. It is disheartening that this same pursuit is still so prevalent among the descendants of the Wampanoag Tribe who shared the famed Thanksgiving meal, as it is for many other populations in our country and in our world today.

My pilgrimage to Madison from the western part of the state was certainly not due to oppression. I have been extremely privileged since birth. I yearned for a broader range of cultures. Admittedly, few is the number of Native Americans whom Randall can claim as its own. We are becoming more richly diverse, most noticeable perhaps when we gather at the table. Our daily lunchtime holds many of the elements that our holiday hullabaloos feature - food, friends, fun and frenzy. The arrangement of the colorful faces of our youngsters is more likened to an ear of Indian corn than to the segregated hues of an abacus. Yet it is how we now start our day that makes all of us feel a bit more at home. We call it our Soft Landing.

In past years, most students participated in a supervised before-school recess while those receiving breakfast went inside. Now all students enter the building together and go to their classrooms where they meet, greet and eat. Additional options include conversation, games, silent reading or simply being. This approach has been wonderfully successful in setting a sense of self-regulation, belonging and respect. Following the Soft Landing, we have our morning announcements featuring some words of wisdom. The students then share an upbeat morning greeting and a teacher-written positive message to ponder and briefly discuss. Many of our classes end the school day by circling up to share brief words of appreciation. The activity not only affirms the choices of others, but also frames what we hold to be sacred. Meister Eckhart noted, "If the only prayer you ever say in your entire life is thank you, it will be enough."

Sometimes we say "Thank you" without saying a word. A sign language gesture of a hand guided from the lips towards a benefactor. A simple nod and smile. While driving over the river and through the woods, many of us will receive truckers' flashing tail lights sending out a beacon of gratitude for courtesies rendered.

My years in Madison have given me much of the cultural diversity I sought some time ago. I find great



Randall Raccoons assist Principal John Wallace in making a soft landing

delight in using a variety of languages when greeting my students. "Hello," "Hola" and "Nyob zoo" leave my lips most commonly. "Thank you," "Gracias" and "Ua tsaug" possess a precious power. The message goes beyond "I see you" to "I appreciate you—you make a difference in my life." And, oh, what a glorious difference my students make in my life for which I am grateful during this and all seasons!

Go Raccoons! Jallace John



#### regentneighborhood.org

## Regent Market Co-op—Your Neighborhood Store

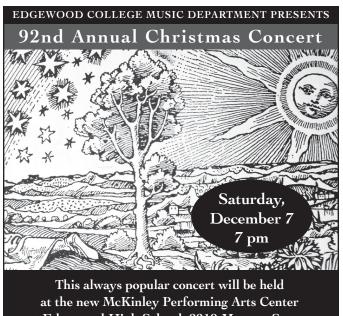
#### by Jordan Tucker, RMC Board Member

When I moved to the neighborhood in July of 2014, I was unfamiliar with the Co-op, but now, like many of you, it's a big contributor to the high quality of life I'm lucky enough to enjoy by living here.

I often think about what the neighborhood would be without the Co-op. I'd miss after-dinner ice cream runs with my children. I'd miss food truck nights, brat frys, and a quick pint after work. I'd miss running to the store without my wallet and being able to get a full cart of groceries on prepaid store credit, not to mention being able to do it at almost any time because of the most incredible hours of any grocery store around (8am-9pm 364<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> days a year).

It was only after joining the board in 2018 that I realized I took the Co-op for granted—that I'd simply assumed it would always be there for me and my family.

The Co-op is currently focused on staying financially viable. In 2015, the Regent Market Cooperative took on considerable debt in order to expand and offer more services and products. The debt is primarily in the form of bonds from our members. We aren't on track to pay those bonds off when they come due. We are approaching this problem from multiple angles; one is strengthening ties with the neighborhood. The store is sustained by the patronage of the neighborhood, and in turn the store exists as a central hub for the neighborhood.



at Edgewood High School, 2219 Monroe Street. Check our website for purchasing tickets.

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#### What you can do to keep your Co-op viable

If you're like me and can't imagine the neighborhood without the store, here's how you can help.

- Think of the store less as a convenience store and buy a full cart of groceries (if you can).
- Pay with cash or check, not plastic. (We pay fees for credit cards.)
- Deposit cash in your store account ("pay forward").
- Become a co-op member, if you aren't already.
- Tell your friends/neighbors why they should join and shop at the Co-op.
- Volunteer to help with quarterly inventory, leafleting, or any services you can offer.
- If you're a bond holder, extend the payback years or other terms of your bond.

If you have questions or think you can help, contact me, jordan\_tucker@hotmail.com.



## Big Buddies and Little Buddies Raising Money for the Hungry

#### by Steve Castrogiovanni, Principal, Blessed Sacrament School

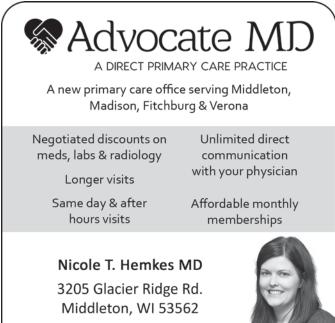
Blessed Sacrament School students marched, jogged, and flat-out ran to raise money for various charitable causes related to hunger recently.

Last year, the annual Hunger March raised more than \$12,000 that was distributed to local, regional and international organizations. "The Hunger March was started in the 1970s," says Mrs. Megan Richards, coordinator. "Sr. Marie Cagnoni, who taught in our Primary Unit (gr. 5K-3), wanted our students to know that while they were little, their impact in helping others could be great."

The Hunger March is now school-wide and the youngest (age 3) to the oldest (8th grade) collect pledges to donate to hunger-related charities. "This year," Richards reports, "with just half of our pledges turned in, we're over \$6,000, so I think we'll meet or exceed last year's total."

Older students run or walk for an hour but the youngest students march just once around the block, accompanied by their big buddies from the Middle School. Many are siblings which makes it even more special.

Later this fall, the Social Justice committee, chaired by parent Rebecca Rapp, will bring in representatives from a number of local charities to speak to the students and to let them know how their efforts make a difference. Students vote on which charities to support (their votes influence the amount of the



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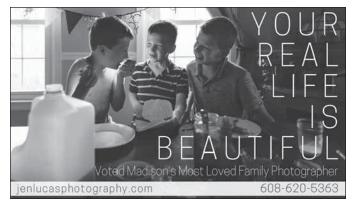




Eighth-Graders Josh H. and Kate B. have the lead on teacher Mr. Joe Thompson.

donation although all the charities invited in will receive support).

Last year, the Hunger March funded local agencies including St. Vincent DePaul Society food pantry, Luke House Community Meal Program, Porchlight, and Our Lady of Hope Clinic. Other organizations, from further away, also receive money annually including the Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa for their hunger-related work, and Sr. Stella Storch, former principal at BSS, who coordinates U.S. fundraising for an organization in Tanzania that teaches young women to sew and provides them with an alternative to human trafficking to feed themselves and their families.





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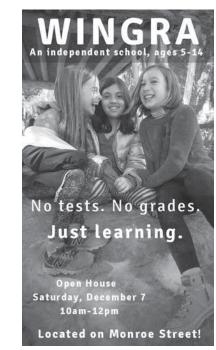


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### Go green.

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Shared Solar—Make it your energy.

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GS3291 4/19/2019



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



## In Search of an Ad Coordinator

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 listserv communications.

The Ad Coordinator will learn 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 "Com Com" 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 February edition is January 7, 2020. 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.