

Legent Neighb

Spring 2012 Newsletter | www.regentneighborhood.org

ASSOCIATION

2012 RNA Spring Meeting Wednesday, May 23 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

- Guest Speaker: Mayor Paul Soglin on his administration's goals and initiatives for neighborhoods
 - Spring RNA Board Elections

Best Western InnTowner 2424 University Avenue

Refreshments Served

University Avenue Corridor Plan

The UAC Subcommittee of the RNA and the City of Madison will be hosting an open house on Saturday, June 2, 2012 at the Inntowner from 1:00 to 3:00 pm to present the final draft of the University Avenue Corridor Plan to the neighborhood. This will be the final opportunity for neighborhood residents and business owners to have input on the plan before it goes to the RNA Board for approval on June 27, and then on to the city approval process. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting.

RNA Board Meeting Schedule

- May 23, 2012
- September 26, 2012
- June 27, 2012
- October 24, 2012
- August 22, 2012
- November 28, 2012

The RNA Board meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 7-9 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 John Schlaefer at john_schlaefer@yahoo.com.

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

Officers

President John Schlaefer, 886-3456 john_schlaefer@yahoo.com President-Elect

Secretary

OPEN

Karen Christianson, 298-7500 karen.christianson@gmail.com

Secretary-Elect OPEN

Treasurer Elizabeth Greene, 233-3819 e_greene@charter.net Treasurer-Elect

Treasurer-Elect OPEN

Board Members At-Large
Cathy Cetrangolo, 283-1703
cathycetrangolo@gmail.com
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Ronnie Hess, 238-1828, rlhess@wisc.edu

Karen Mittelstadt, 345-6838 kemittels@gmail.com

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Committee Chairs

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Greenspace Conservation Steve Arnold, 233-1784 siarnold@sbcglobal.net

Membership Peg Cullen, 238-4090

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University Avenue Corridor Plan Contact John Schlaefer, 886-3456 john_schlaefer@yahoo.com

UW Relations

Laura Rose, 238-4386, ldykstal@yahoo.com Zoning

Ron Rosner, 238-1828 rosner7@charter.net

Area Liaisons

Area 1 Peg Cullen, 238-4090

Area 2 Jim & Marion Force, 238-3233

Area 3 Jean Parks, 233-1418

Area 4 Mary Niedermeier, 233-1882

Area 5 Marcel Maul, 231-0621

Area 6 Karen Richardson, 238-0930

Area 7 Sherry & Wally Block, 233-5612

Area 8 Jim Fortner, 238-9221

A Note from the President —

I was going through the RNA archives recently, looking for documentation to clear up a dispute with the city about RNA's boundaries. I happened to find reference in the minutes from 2003 about the need for a University Avenue Corridor plan. It has been a long time in the making, spanning several attempts, but the plan is finally coming to fruition.

The latest effort began just over a year ago, after our magnificent alder, Shiva, got city resources committed to pick up where the 2007 PDI planning effort had left off. Since then, a Subcommittee of



RNA Board President John Schlaefer

the Board was appointed, three open houses and a design charrette have been held to receive input from neighborhood residents, as well as from business owners on the street. The Subcommittee has taken that input and used it to create a vision for the neighborhood for the next seven to ten years.

It has been a daunting task in which the Subcommittee has spent untold number of hours figuring out recommendations for zoning under the city's new zoning code, design and sustainability guidelines, recommendations for public art and pedestrian amenities. Many times we have felt overwhelmed.

We have developed a timetable that contains a final open house scheduled for June 2nd for the neighborhood to see the draft plan, and for the Board to act on the plan at its June 27th meeting. After the Board approves the draft it has to go through the city's approval process, with final approval by the Common Council before it becomes part of the city's Comprehensive Plan.

It has been a long, sometimes grueling process, but once it is in place the plan will help developers know what kinds of projects the neighborhood is most likely to favor in each part of the Corridor. So, I want to thank every one of you who has participated in whatever way toward making the plan. ■



Randall School Playground — Help Finish the Park!

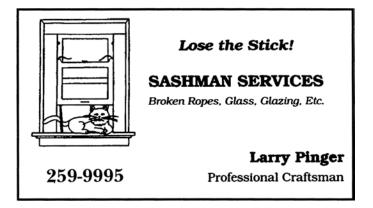
This summer MIGHT see the completion of Olive Jones Park next to Randall School. Alder Shiva Bidar-Sielaff has worked with the City of Madison and her fellow alders to secure much of the funding needed to finish the playground. But your contribution is needed -- we need to raise \$27,000 for construction to proceed this summer!

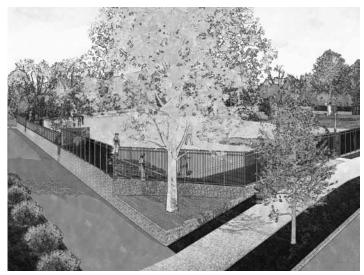
The third and final phase of construction focuses on infrastructure to ensure the safety and stability of the playground – replacement of the cracked retaining wall and broken asphalt, new pedestrian and car gates, a corner planting area, and continuation of the beautiful black fence on all sides. The Regent Neighborhood Association has applied for a grant to add benches and trees to the sunny side near the school.

If you have young children, your family knows all about the new play structure and toddler playground. And you are probably looking forward to when the asphalt is replaced and the new pedestrian gates go in!

But helping the playground and the school makes a difference to more than just little kids. Grandparents contribute to the park so their grandkids have a great place to play when they come to visit. Businesses contribute because they recognize the importance of sustaining schools and neighborhoods in the middle of the city. And former students and their parents contribute because they remember the Randall years as the best years ever for school.

Private fundraising has already made the park into a far more dynamic and attractive area than would have been possible with city funds alone. Now is our chance to finish it well — what we do this summer will stand for years and years to come!





New landscaping for Randall School playground, looking from the corner of the school and Chadbourne Avenue

Even if you have given before, we are asking you to consider another gift to finish the park. Every dollar you donate will be matched by the City of Madison People for Parks Fund. Help us make this a safe, welcoming place for children to play by visiting randallschoolpark.org and making a donation online.

Thanks for making this neighborhood a great place to live. \blacksquare

— Marcia Vandercook and Amy Thomas Halstead

Party for the Park! Sunday May 6, 10am – Noon 234 Lathrop Street

* * * * *

Karen and Craig Christianson invite neighborhood adults to an open house fundraiser for Randall School – Olive Jones Park.

Come talk with Alder Shiva Bidar-Sielaff and Principal John Wallace about plans for the playground and park.

Learn about the great things in store for this summer and how you can help!

★ food ★ beverages ★ movie ★ surprises ★

Madison Trust for Historic Preservation Summer Architecture Tours Begin May 26

The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation will kick off its 2012 tour season Saturday, May 26. The tours run from May through September and feature seven walking tours and one bike tour. They also offer "Twilight Tours" on Thursdays throughout the summer.

Tours showcase architecture in the Mansion Hill district, University Heights, Bascom Hill, the King St. commercial district and State Street. The bike tour covers the east Isthmus. This year's schedule features a new tour of the Westmorland neighborhood. It will be offered only once this season, but will be scheduled as a regular tour in upcoming seasons.

The University Heights tour meets at the corner of Prospect and Van Hise Avenues and begins with Louis Sullivan's Harold C. Bradley House, a National Historic Landmark. Here is where Frank Lloyd Wright, his mentor Louis Sullivan, and local stars Claude and Starck and Alvan Small designed side-by-side. This early suburb maintains historic integrity while showcasing a variety of architectural styles from the last century.

No reservations are required. Simply show up at the starting point at the scheduled time. For details of the time, date and meeting place for each tour, see madisonpreservation.org/tours.

Cost: \$10 Adults, \$5 Students and seniors (60+), FREE for MTHP members. A basic membership is \$30.

This is the eleventh season for the Madison Trust's tours program, which attracts 500-700 guests each season. Jason Tish, the organization Executive Director, says the tours increase appreciation of historic places. "Part of our mission is to provide opportunities for people to interact with the urban environment and to build awareness of the value of



The Charles and Martha Buell house at 115 Ely Place, one stop in Madison Trust for Historic Preservation's Summer Architectural Tour of University Heights (Photo by Paul McMahon)

historic buildings and districts in cultivating a unique identity for our city. Historic places are a big part of what makes Madison such a special community."





Looking For a Few Good Volunteers — RNA Board Openings

If you've thought about stepping forward to help out the neighborhood, here's an excellent opportunity! The Regent Neighborhood Association is looking for candidates to fill several open positions.

The RNA Board meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month from August through June. The meetings are at the Best Western InnTowner from 7–9 pm. It's a great way to support and learn about our neighborhood and get to know some really fascinating people.

What do you need to do to volunteer?

Read through the list of officers and committee chairs to see if there is a good fit for your interests. If you're ready to take on specific responsibilities right away, consider chairing a committee. If you'd prefer to observe the board the first year, consider an at-large or perhaps officer-elect position.

These RNA board positions are **OPEN**:

President-Elect

This position is the understudy to the president, and attends all RNA board meetings.

Secretary-Elect

This position is an understudy to the secretary and fills in for the secretary when necessary.

The primary role of the secretary is to take and distribute minutes from the monthly board meetings. The incumbent estimates a time commitment of no more than four hours a month, including meeting time.

Treasurer-Elect

This position is understudy to the treasurer.

The treasurer maintains the accounts of the RNA, invoices businesses as requested by committee chairs, attends monthly board meetings and presents the Treasurer's report, completes and presents to the board an annual income statement and balance sheet, and attends any meetings of the Executive Committee of the board, and picks up the RNA mail weekly from the Hilldale post office box. Approximately 4 hours per month is spent on treasurer duties.

Greenspace Conservation Committee Chair

This committee provides guidance on the use, maintenance, improvement, and creation of parks, playgrounds, green spaces, and historic open spaces in the neighborhood. It works cooperatively with government agencies and others for the betterment of the neighborhood and the city.

University Relations Committee Chair

This committee monitors impacts of the UW actions on our neighborhood and works toward an equitable solution for all. Issues include development, Camp Randall events, parking, traffic, boundaries, and student behavior. Each year the committee, in collaboration with the Madison Police Department, welcomes students to the neighborhood with information on personal safety, parking, garbage pick-up, and issues surrounding noise and vandalism

Next, make sure you are a RNA member in good standing. That means your RNA membership dues for this year, as well as for next year, must be paid.

Finally, email your interest in the position to RNA President John Schlaefer at john_schlaefer@yahoo.com. **We'd like to hear from you by May 17th.**

We are required by the RNA bylaws to have a nominating committee. We will slate the interested candidates in advance of the Spring RNA Meeting on May 23, so please let us know if you'd like to get involved in this great organization.

About the Regent Neighborhood Association

The purpose of the Regent Neighborhood Association (RNA) is to articulate common interests in the neighborhood, work for neighborhood improvement, and maintain strong communications with and between residents. The RNA seeks to be a broad-based, inclusive, and credible organization engaging as many neighborhood residents as possible in efforts to improve the neighborhood.

Specifically, we strive to:

- maintain the family and residential character of the neighborhood while welcoming small businesses;
- improve the quality of schools, green spaces, transportation, and other features of the neighborhood;
- encourage good relations between homeowners, landlords, renters, and business owners; and
- promote citizen involvement in neighborhood and city affairs.

You Can't Get More Local Than This!

Our Regent neighborhood gallery, La Mop Studio, proudly showcases the unique art of homegrown artist Julia Cattani on Gallery Night, Friday, May 4th, an exhibit sponsored by the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art. This Gallery Night exhibit promises to be as memorable and thought-provoking as its unusual title, "Butter Makes You Fat, No Offense".

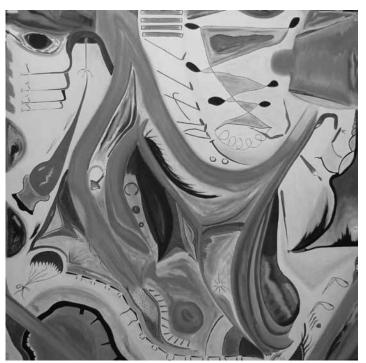
This off-beat humor comes from an artist who spent her childhood sneaking out of recess from Blessed Sacrament School to Joe's Market to buy eleven cent lemonheads and, for kindergarten and third grade, singing "My school is Randall School, R-A-N-D-A-L-L..." Cattani also parked cars for Badger games on her family's lawn on the 2200 block of Chamberlain Avenue. Yes, Julia Cattani is one of our neighbors, and she is back.

In a seasonally appropriate display at La Mop, Cattani's original oil paintings Spring with color and vitality, a visual pick-me-up with a splash of provocative allure. Madison Overture Center for the Arts exhibited seven of Cattani's 36"x 36"paintings this past March and April, and La Mop Studio will feature some artwork that is more "residentially sized," beside a few eye-catching larger ("fat") canvases. The smaller works fit nicely into any space or in groupings, as a collector residing on Virginia Terrace has ensemble with of four 12"x 12" Cattani oil paintings.

For an added entertaining twist, be sure to take a moment to read and contemplate the paintings' titles at this Gallery Night show. You will find the titles as thought provoking as the paintings themselves and, sometimes, interestingly odd, for example, "Scorpion Thrills." There must be a story!

Cattani comments that she is willing to share her ideas and the stories behind her titles with visitors but is more interested in the reactions and ideas of her audience. "I love to hear what each viewer sees in my paintings. It's really great to listen to people share their observations, their experiences that are recalled by the images in these paintings." Viewing these paintings, one may suddenly recognize something as simple as "I see a feather duster!"

Julia Cattani's educational background might also seem surprising. Yes, she is a graduate of our University of Wisconsin – Madison, but not with a



My Talking Pet Monchichi by Julia Cattani

degree in Fine Arts as you might expect. No, her degree is in Theoretical Mathematics. Her artwork does seem to embody elements of Chaos Theory, as she claims, but you might need her to explain the details. You can also see for yourself with images on her website jcattani.com.

For our Regent neighbors seeking a fun, local, and free cultural experience, the Gallery Night show at La Mop Studio is too good to miss. Join the fun, support the arts, and support our own local artist. Refreshments will be served, including, hopefully, butter.

The Cattani exhibit continues from May 4 through June 30, 2012, at La Mop Studio, 2201 Regent Street, the south-west corner at Allen Street. Gallery Night on Friday, May 4, is open to all; later viewings are available by appointment by calling 231-1644.

Friday May 4, 5 – 9pm Spring 2012 Gallery Night

Organized each spring and fall by the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Gallery Night features exhibition openings, special events, demonstrations, and refreshments at venues throughout the city.

For a complete list of participants, go to mmoca.org/events/gallerynight/index.php

Joining the RNA Can Put Money in Your Pocket!

Joining the RNA can put money in your pocket!

Although I may have made you look twice it's really not what you're thinking. I joined the RNA and the RNA board a year ago. We are relatively new to the neighborhood. My husband Craig, our 5 children, and I moved from Fitchburg and took on the somewhat overwhelming task of 234 Lathrop Street.

We moved primarily for the cool house and location, we are definitely 'Madison people', and we wanted the neighborhood school concept. The RNA board seemed to be the best place to meet more neighbors, get involved in the happenings, and to try to better understand the role of the RNA. Without a doubt, it does all that and more.

What've I learned? Well, the money part hopefully has kept you interested. Through the informative presentations at RNA meetings, I got engaged with Green Madison. We have saved hundreds of dollars on our energy bill, we also found a whole side of our house that got missed being insulated during renovation. We are still working closely with them to consider solar heating and other creative ideas.

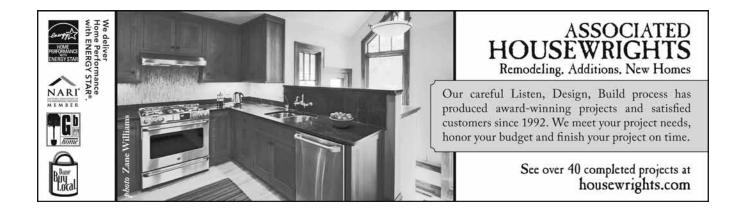
I've learned many new things about Madison and the University Heights neighborhood, for example: development and the proper way to influence change and have my voice heard constructively; the bike path happenings pique my interest; the constant challenge of the relationship between the UW and our neighborhood and the dedicated efforts of the RNA board to keep the lines of communication open; I'd be kind of selfish if I didn't say I honestly love having Shiva, our City Council member, and Jeremy, our Dane County Board Supervisor, at the table. It's one thing to hear what's going on or read about it, but to have the relationship is educational and they give me a different perspective. I'd be lying if I didn't think

that learning about the Cogen plant that is absolutely in the thick of our neighborhood wasn't fascinating. It's cool and it's cool to have board members with history to help me better understand how these changes and developments can and have effected our neighborhood. The dedication of the school liaison and all the committee chairs is outstanding. The school updates are great since my kids attend Randall and West. Olive Jones Park is lovely in every way and has been spear headed by this group of volunteers. I haven't really enjoyed the parties and parades yet but plan to in the future. My favorite activity so far had to be the Walk About with Madison Police to welcome students living in our neighborhood and reminding them ...they live in our neighborhood.

Being the secretary of the board was on purpose, so I'd be quiet and listen. My first few minutes were 14 pages long...yep, still the little girl that wants to please everyone, but thanks to some compassionate guidance I'm not writing a dissertation or biography each month just an update about what happens and whom it effects in our unique and special neighborhood.

Lastly, I've seen and admired the dedication that the others members have to our neighborhood. Nope... you won't always agree and if you have an opinion get ready for an alternate way of looking at things. So far, for me, it's been refreshing and respectful and completely educational. I recommend joining RNA for anyone who's wondered hey what's that noise, I wonder when they are going to change that, traffic traffic traffic, and on and on. It's a win-win when everyone gets involved.

- Karen Christianson



Spring Prep for Composting...Collect Leaves and Add Water!

The microorganisms that do all the work in your composter need two kinds of food to thrive. They need "green" materials that are full of nitrogen and they need "brown" materials that are high in carbon. You give them "green" when you put in kitchen scraps and fresh garden debris. You offer "brown" when you add dried grass, moldy straw, and most important, dried leaves. In spring and summer you'll have plenty of "green" material but from now on, "brown" will be in short supply.

Fall is the best time to collect dry leaves, but you can collect leaves in the spring, too. People rake off their lawns and clean out their gardens in the spring and pile leaves out by the street. Keep an eye out for those piles and for those bags of leaves. Bring them home and store them near your composter so that you can add a layer of "brown" every time you add "green." If you can't find any leaves, a bale of hay near your composter will be a good substitute.

Another very important thing to do in spring is to mix up the materials in your pile and check for moisture. The microorganisms that do all the work also need plenty of water to thrive. You can check the moisture level with a simple "squeeze" test. Squeeze a handful of the material in your hand. If you can squeeze out a little trickle of moisture—as if you were squeezing out a slightly damp sponge—it is wet enough. If there is nothing to squeeze out, the pile is too dry and you should water it generously with your garden hose.



Store leaves right next to your composter so you can add them easily

I have one more suggestion for those of you composting in the Regent neighborhood: Why not invite your neighbors who prefer not to compost themselves to add their vegetable and fruit scraps to your composter? Great way to keep all the organic materials right here in the hood! ■

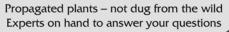
— Joan Laurion joan.laurion@gmail.com





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Dane County Board Report, District 10—Jeremy Levin

I hope this edition of the RNA Newsletter finds you and your family well. As you read this, the spring elections are over, and I'm honored to be entrusted with another two-year term to serve District 10.

Last term we saw the beginning of good initiatives that I look forward to seeing into fruition in 2012-14 term. For the environment: the start of the County's second



Supervisor Jeremy Levin

manure digester, which will decrease phosphorus run-off into our lakes and will produce energy; and, the Clean Lakes Initiative, which will spend roughly \$27 million over the next five years on projects aimed at cleaning up the county's lakes. In the area of human services: funding a drop-in mental health

facility for Dane County so that those in crisis are able to get the medications and support; and, putting the County's detox services on a course for long-term patient success and program sustainability. For public safety: continued 911 upgrades and fully staffing the 911 center; and, completion of the radio interoperability project which will allow the county's emergency responders, regardless of their location, to interact with one another to assure better results.

These are just some of the initiatives I've worked hard to advance over the last two years. Though these projects represent just a handful of the services Dane County offers its residents, I'm proud to work towards the advancement of Dane County as a destination to live, work and raise a family.

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





Thank You, Tom Miskelly

Here's to Tom Miskelly, RNA newsletter distribution manager who's stepping down after 14 years. Thank you for your service to the RNA and for your dedication to our neighborhood. And thanks for making this neighborhood a great place to live.

Tom shared some thoughts that made the distribution job memorable, "First of all, I got to take my little kids....



Tom Miskelly

first my son and then my daughter along with me and have them help. I always thought it was a great memory maker for them...someday they'll say, 'Oh yeah, I remember making deliveries with my dad.' Second, it was the one-to-one connection I got to have with the Area Reps. It didn't happen every time, but I did that job so long that eventually I got to connect with every Area Rep. I'm not sure I would have ever gotten to meet those people and their families if it hadn't been for that. So I'm thankful to have had that opportunity."

If you'd like to volunteer for the RNA, contact Peg Cullen at pegeen14@yahoo.com



RNA July 4th Festival Needs You!

The RNA Festival Committee needs a few good neighbors to help plan the July 4th Festival.

Please consider volunteering just a few hours of your time to help with our celebration. There is a very well-developed protocol for producing the celebration—it just takes bodies to implement it. It does not involve a big time commitment and it's fun.

Here are some of the ways you can help:

- The Parade: obtain permit, contact grand marshalls, drum majorette, RaggTagg band, reserve firetruck.
- The Brat Stand: organize food order and equipment, coordinate grillers and servers.
- Equipment: coordinate volunteers to pick up grills, food, supplies, tents, chairs, tables, barricades, etc.
- Day of the Event: oversee from set up to take down.
- Set Up and Take Down: coordinate volunteers.
- Booth Management: Tickets, Beverages, Cake Walk.
- Box Maze: reserve boxes, contact scout troup to set up, run, and strike maze.

For more information, please email Robin Worth at rworth13@charter.net. I look forward to hearing from you soon! ■



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Alder Report, District 5—Shiva Bidar-Sielaff

Dear Neighbors,

There is certainly always much activity going on district-wide and citywide! Here is a summary of some of key issues I have been working on over the past few months:

Traffic/Parking/Bike/Pedestrian Issues

• This summer there will be some great improvements of the Speedway/Regent/ Highland intersection: more



Alder Shiva Bidar-Sielaff

visible crosswalks, refurbished islands, overheard signage eastbound on Speedway at Regent and a bump-out on the northeast corner of Regent and Highland.

- I have requested no right turn signs at exits for the parking lot west of the Mullins project. This will prevent cars going to Grand Ave. and weaving their way through neighborhood residential streets.
- Based on the petition submitted by neighbors, the City has mailed a survey to residents in the immediate area to see if there is support for speed bumps on Lathrop between Summit & Breese.
- The City has mailed a survey to see if there is support for an island on Farley at Chamberlain.
- The City of Madison, UW-Madison, and Village of Shorewood Hills have agreed to partner and conduct a traffic and transportation study that covers the area from Midvale to Breese Terrace and Regent Street to the UW West Campus area. The study will develop and incorporate recommendations to reduce the incidence of vehicles using neighborhood streets to avoid University Avenue traffic congestion and thus, the associated traffic safety problems.
- As far as the proposed lighting of the SW Bike Path is concerned, given the continued controversy amongst neighbors on whether to proceed or not with this project, it is for now on hold.

A special thanks to Troy Thiel, chair of RNA Transportation Committee, and the committee members for their engagement and work on the numerous neighborhood traffic related issues.

Olive Jones- Randall School Park

We have reached the third and last phase of renovation of the park. This phase of the renovation will bring us new fencing around the entire park, improved pedestrian entrances and ADA accessibility, new retaining walls, and repaving the play surface. It is my hope that we will be able to finish this project this year. To that end, I will be introducing a budget amendment to increase the City park impact fee funds allocated to this project. In addition, The Friends of Olive Jones are working diligently to reach the private fundraising goals for this phase.

UW Student Athlete Performance Center

This project is considered a major alteration to an existing conditional use affecting the existing Camp Randall Stadium Planned Unit Development (PUD) and the Lot17/Engineering Centers PUD documents. UW is seeking City Plan Commission approval on April 9. As a result of a number of meetings and conversations between UW, RNA Board President John Schlaefer and RNA UW Relations Committee Chair Laura Rose and myself, UW has agreed to the following conditions:

- 1. All construction vehicles will enter the site from Engineering Drive. No construction vehicles will be allowed on Breese Terrace, except for the few days needed to construct the retaining wall at the south end of the north practice field.
- 2. Construction on weekends starting no earlier than 9:00am and lasting no later than 5:30pm.
- 3. No additional noise will be generated, and no additional light will be directed toward the neighborhood after completion of the project.
- 4. Amplified sound on the north practice field and in the new multi-purpose open space between the Lot 17 ramp and Engineering Hall will meet the existing City of Madison noise ordinance.

City Community Budget Conversations

We are holding community budget conversations for the second year to hear from citizens about your budget priorities. Your input will help align values and services, and guide how dollars are distributed in the 2013 budget. There are five community meetings scheduled. I encourage you to attend one of the budget conversation meetings and/or to complete the online survey. You can find all the information related to the budget conversations at cityofmadison. com/budgetProcess/

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.

West High Sculpture Garden Needs You!

Students at West High School and the UW Art Department Service Learning in Art course are collaborating to create a temporary sculpture garden at the site of the old West High School tennis courts on Regent Street. Their objective is to turn a neglected city lot into public art for citizens to enjoy. This initiative offers students and neighbors the opportunity to get involved in the planning and implementation of their very own sculpture garden, and, hopefully, provide the community with a sense of ownership and pride in the project and the West High campus. The group envisions the gardens as a shared space for students and community members alike and hope the gardens will be utilized in a variety of ways including gardening, recreation, entertainment, relaxation, studying, and education.

Being a small group of organizers, they are interested in partnering with the Regent Neighborhood to make this garden park a reality. They need volunteers! If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in helping install the sculpture garden or adopting a gardening bed (or both!), please contact the project leaders below. They'd be happy to provide more detailed information about the project.

UW Service Team Project Leaders: Nic Bitting: bittingn@gmail.com Lucy Jost: lucy.jost@gmail.com Katey Smith: krsmith6@wisc.edu

Join them on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/groups/westhighsculpturegarden/

Check out their website:

sculptureparkinitiative.wordpress.com/ ■



West High's completed "Holmes Grown" plastic cup mural, featured with install crew.





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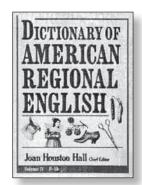


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Author, Author! (or Lexicographer, Lexicographer!)

An occasional series about writers in the 'hood

If you've been reading the news lately, you've probably noticed stories about *The Dictionary of American Regional English* (DARE), with headquarters in Madison. About how one of "America's most ambitious lexicographical projects" to chart differences in word usage across the U.S. has reached a milestone



in its 50-year history. DARE has just published Volume V, with entries from Sl- (slab, as in concrete road) to Z (zydeco, as in American folk music).

But did you know that DARE is a Regent Neighborhood effort? It was begun by UW-Madison English Professor Frederic G. Cassidy, a denizen of Spooner Street when he died in 2000 at the age of 92. DARE is now directed by chief editor Joan Houston Hall, who lives on Regent. Cassidy's mantra was "On to Z!" It's his epitaph, inscribed on his headstone in Forest Hill Cemetery where he lies alongside his wife, Hélène L. Monod-Cassidy, a faculty member in the Department of French and Italian. (He also was fond of saying, "Any day is a good day if it starts with a banana.")

Recent news reports are accessible at DARE's website at www.dare.wisc.edu and UW News' at dare.news. wisc.edu/

But DARE (published by Harvard University Press) has never been out of the spotlight. The New York Times' William Safire frequently quoted Cassidy and Hall in his "On Language" column, trusting them to steer him through tens of thousands of terms, collected coast-to-coast in the 1960's by 80 fieldworkers.

Home figures importantly in DARE. The interviewers asked people across the country, "If you are talking to a friend who lives in another place and you want to inquire about his neighborhood, you might ask, 'How are things _______?" Here are a few replies from DARE's database: "across the row," "your way around," and "down in your diggings." Upscale neighborhoods might be referred to as "below the drain," "in bills and debts," "in the bon-ton part of town," and "on Butter Street." The less-fortunate might live "on bed bug row," "in cesspool heights," "soapsud hollow," or "where the crumbs live." Here's my favorite, whatever your district. It's "where the swells live."

— Ronnie Hess rlhess@wisc.edu

Copies of DARE are available at UW and local libraries. Volume VI, with supplemental information, and a digitized version are planned for 2013. "On beyond zebra," Hall says, with a nod to Dr. Seuss' book.

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We're In the Neighborhood.

News from the Co-op

The Regent Market Co-op board of directors recently conducted a survey to gather feedback on how our members and customers think the store is performing for them. Preliminary analysis of the survey shows that "The Little Store That Could" ... CAN!

The results indicate a lot of encouraging positives for the Little Store on the corner of Regent and Allen. Of the almost 150 respondents to the written and online survey, 90% rated the shopping experience as better (49%) or the same (41%) as compared to three years ago. Only one respondent rated the experience as worse. Of the store's features that gained the most praise, store hours were rated highest. There is something to be said for being open 364.5 days a year and until 9:00 p.m. on all but one of those days! Staff friendliness and competence ran neck and neck for second place with store events (it seems it's hard to pass up a brat fry). The meat and deli section also got high marks from customers.

Given the store's limitations on cooler space and the lack of a humidifying produce cooler, it was not surprising that survey respondents gave somewhat lower marks to the produce section. This is a priority of Randy and the board, and although there have been some improvements, it will take a major investment to fully realize our ambitions in this area. Likewise, the survey indicated the store's diminutive size has an impact on overall product selection—though we like to think that what we do manage to fit

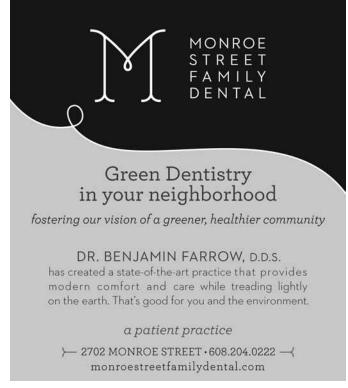
into our limited space is pretty amazing, it's true that we'd have an even wider variety of offerings if we had a larger footprint, and we were glad to see a number of positive comments about the diversity of products available. The survey indicated that those shoppers who do visit other stores from time to time do so not so much on the basis of price but because sometimes they need a wider product selection. We're glad so many of our neighbors have decided they can find most of what they need, most of the time, at the Little Store.

In terms of the store's future, survey results demonstrated strong support for the long-term view. When asked about investing uncommitted funds, respondents expressed a clear preference for saving money for future needs or upgrading equipment. There appears to be little support for instituting a system of member rebates.

The board thanks those who participated in the survey. The results will help us understand the perspectives of our members and customers as we contemplate improvements to the store in the coming months.

Bob Hanle and Brad Wolbert
 New and Past Presidents
 of Regent Market Co-op







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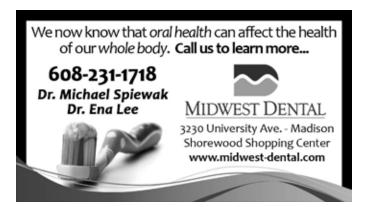


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Monroe Street Fine Arts Center—Summer 2012

Monroe Street Fine Arts Center, a community school of the arts located near Edgewood College, presents week-long, 2 ½ hour daily art camps in the morning and afternoon for school-age children. A variety of camps, including Monsters of Art, 3-D Art, Superhero Art, and Fashion Illustration and Fabric Design are scheduled from June 18 through August 25. Kids will have fun learning to make art in a small group setting and will make new friends, too!

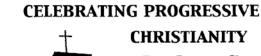
MSFAC also offers Open Art Studios, special classes such as the popular Fabric Storyscapes and Music Together, as well as weekly art classes for toddlers, preschoolers and kindergarteners. All classes are taught by highly qualified instructors.

Private music lessons—in piano, violin, guitar, cello, trumpet and voice—are available year-long for children (and adults) of all ages. MSFAC's music session consists of eight weeks of lessons, beginning the week of June 18.

Monroe Street Fine Arts Center is celebrating its 15th anniversary this year! For more information about programming, teachers, fees and financial assistance, please visit msfac.org, call 232-1510, or stop by the Arts Center at 2526 Monroe Street. ■



Artists and their geese art at Monroe Street Fine Arts Center



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Calendar of Neighborhood Events

Saturday, April 21

Earth Day Challenge. Madison Parks invites you to celebrate Earth Day with your neighbors and friends by cleaning up your local park and neighborhood from 9am–noon. Join this community-wide effort in April to make a difference.

Saturday, April 28

31st Annual Crazylegs Classic. 8K run and two-mile walk get underway at 10am at the Capitol Square and finish inside Camp Randall Stadium.

Wisconsin Badger Spring Football Game. 4pm kick-off at Camp Randall Stadium.

Friday, May 4

Regent Market Co-op Spring Fling. The annual sidewalk fair marking the beginning of the Co-op's Membership Month. Treats, door prizes, live music—and one or two surprises. More members equals a stronger co-op for the neighborhood!

Friday, May 4, 5 - 9pm

Spring 2012 Gallery Night. Organized each spring and fall by the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Gallery Night features exhibition openings, special events, demonstrations, and refreshments at venues throughout the city, many in our neighborhood. For more information, go to mmoca.org/events/gallerynight/index.php

Sunday, May 6, 10am - Noon

Party for the Park! Fundraiser for Randall School-Olive Jones Park. Hosted by Karen and Craig Christianson, 234 Lathrop Avenue.

Wednesday, May 17

Get involved in the RNA! (See page 5) Contact President John Schlaefer at john_schlaefer@yahoo.com to add your name to the slate of interested candidates before the May 23 Spring RNA meeting.

Wednesday, May 23, 6:30 - 9pm

RNA Spring Membership Meeting. (See page 1)Best Western InnTowner, 2424 University Avenue.

Saturday, May 26

The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation Tours season begins. (See page 4). Tours run May through September.

Saturday, June 2, 1 – 3pm

RNA Open House to Present Final Draft of University Avenue Corridor Plan. (See page 1)
Best Western InnTowner, 2424 University Avenue.

Friday, June 8

Tour Alert!

Professor Andrzejewski (Associate Professor of Art History, UW–Madison, avandrzejews@wisc.edu) wants to make neighbors aware that participants of the 2012 meeting of the Vernacular Architecture Forum (VAF) will be visiting University Heights as part of a regional architecture tour. There will be at least two coach buses in the neighborhood and potentially 100 people, on the bus only or walking on the sidewalks during the early afternoon.

Wednesday, June 27, 6:30 - 9pm

RNA Board Meeting. Best Western InnTowner, 2424 University Avenue.



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This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Regent Neighborhood Association with a circulation of 1,700. The deadline for summer edition is June 1, 2012. We welcome articles of general interest to the neighborhood, discussions of local issues, personal interest stories, etc. Please address items or inquiries, or for current ad rates, to Mary Sarnowski, 238-1224, sarnowski@mac.com. Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Regent Neighborhood Association.