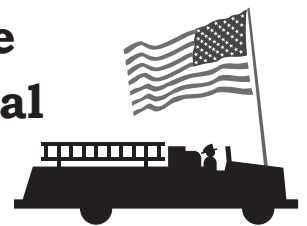




Regent Neighborhood

Summer 2013 Newsletter | www.regentneighborhood.org ASSOCIATION

**The Regent Neighborhood Association
Invites You and Your Family to the
Neighborhood Fourth of July Festival
Thursday, July 4, 2013 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 Grand and Park Place.

12:15 pm

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, and more. And the Box Maze returns!

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

About 2 pm

Egg Toss Legendary Regent Market Egg Toss.

About 2:30 pm

End of Festival

**How You Can
Participate**

- Call a coordinator and volunteer. See other side 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!

**Remember
to renew
your RNA
membership!**

Thanks To Our Sponsors



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RNA 4th of July Festival — Working together makes it happen! Contact one of our organizers and see how you can help!

Set Up: Robin Worth, 219-7634 or rworth13@charter.net. Set up from 7–11 am.

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

Brat Stand: Ron Rosner, rosner7@charter.net. Brat grillers and sellers.

Beverage Stand: LD Oakley, 263-5866 or ldoakley@wisc.edu

Ticket Sales: JoAnne Kloppenburg, 231-3058 or jfkloppenburg@gmail.com

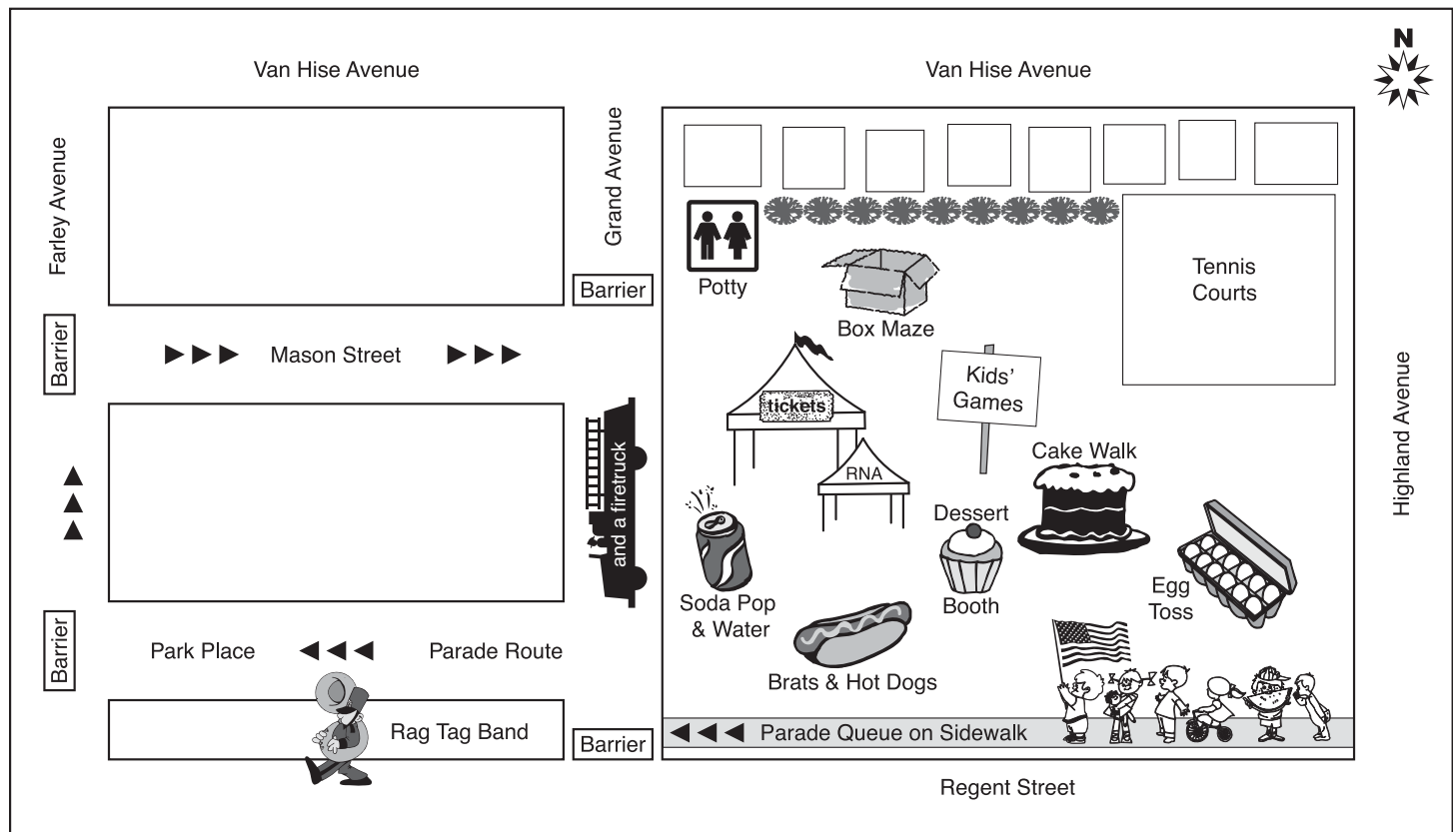
Games: Diana Greenberg, 232-0217 or jerrydiana@sbcglobal.net. Create & run a game, split the profits with the RNA. Prizes provided.

Cake Walk: Susan Robinson, 215-0956. Bring baked goods to the field on Thursday.

Clean Up: Robin Worth, 219-7634 or rworth13@charter.net.

With your help, it won't take long!

RNA Festival Map at West High Field



Please supervise children and let's celebrate safely.

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

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

The RNA invites
you to the
Final Open House
to review a draft of the
University Avenue
Corridor Plan

Wednesday, July 24, 7 pm

Best Western InnTowner
2424 University Avenue



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.

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 chair the following committees:

The Streets and Transportation Committee

advocates for safe streets for residents as they walk, bike, and drive through the neighborhood. It works with city officials and staff on developing equitable and appropriate solutions, and provides leadership and education on neighborhood traffic and parking issues.

The Sustainability Committee serves as a neighborhood resource for promoting sustainable, green practices by the neighborhood as a whole, individual residences, and neighborhood businesses. Its goal is to increase the reuse and recycling of materials, the reduction of carbon emissions, and to encourage other green practices.

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

If either of these sound like something you'd like to do, please email RNA President Jon Miskowski at jonmiskowski@gmail.com. ■

RNA Membership

Joining the RNA supports its work to improve the neighborhood. And, as a member, you'll receive an informative annual membership directory—your personal guidebook to our thriving neighborhood. Membership is \$5.00 for an individual and \$10.00 for a family. What a deal!

To join, **use the form on the next page**, download a form from our website (www.regentneighborhood.org), email Membership Chair John Schlaefer at john_schlaefer@yahoo.com, **or sign up at the RNA booth at the RNA Fourth of July Festival.** ■

Join the RNA Listserv —

[http://groups.google.com/group/
regentneighborhoodassn](http://groups.google.com/group/regentneighborhoodassn)



Regent Neighborhood
A S S O C I A T I O N

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

for membership year

JUNE 1, 2013 – MAY 31, 2014

Join or Renew Today!

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS	Newsletters, Directory and Website	Neighborhood Planning/Beautification
July 4th Festival	Volunteer Community Watchdogs	Garden Tour and/or Garage Sale

REGISTRATION FORM	Join by July 31 & we'll include your name in the 2013-14 membership directory. All paid members receive directories in September. Please include an email address so we can send membership renewal notices.
--------------------------	--

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION		Renewing Member <input type="checkbox"/>	New Member <input type="checkbox"/>
Street Address: (required) _____		Phone: _____	Zip: 53 _____
Adult #1	Adult #2		
First Name: _____	First Name: _____		
Last Name: _____	Last Name: _____		
Occupation: _____	Occupation: _____		
Email Address: _____	Email Address: _____		
Do you want your email published in the directory?	Yes No	Do you want your email published in the directory?	Yes No
May we send RNA-related email to you?	Yes No	May we send RNA-related email to you?	Yes No
Interested in volunteering?		Interested in volunteering?	
Work on RNA committees or board	<input type="checkbox"/>	Work on RNA committees or board	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plan RNA Neighborhood events	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plan RNA Neighborhood events	<input type="checkbox"/>
Become block captain or area rep	<input type="checkbox"/>	Become block captain or area rep	<input type="checkbox"/>

CHILDREN			(Optional) List any children at home and jobs they'll do:		
Kids' names/job will not be carried over from last year so please provide updated information if your child is interested.					
B-Babysitting O-Odd Jobs P-Pet Walking S-Snow Shoveling Y-Yard Work					
Child's Name	Birth M/Y	Jobs (Circle)	Child's Name	Birth M/Y	Jobs (Circle)
_____	_____	B O P S Y	_____	_____	B O P S Y
Child's Name	Birth M/Y	Jobs (Circle)	Child's Name	Birth M/Y	Jobs (Circle)
_____	_____	B O P S Y	_____	_____	B O P S Y

DUES/REGISTRATION	
Dues - Check one:	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5.00 - Individual <input type="checkbox"/> \$10.00 - Family <input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____ Additional donation - optional
Mail completed form and check payable to RNA to:	Regent Neighborhood Association c/o John Schlaefer 1814 Kendall Avenue Madison, WI 53726
Questions? New to the neighborhood? Contact John Schlaefer at john_schlaefer@yahoo.com or 886-3456	

www.regentneighborhood.org

Thank you! Your involvement keeps our neighborhood thriving!

RNA use: Date rec'd: _____ Amt: \$ _____ Check #: _____ Cash: ☐

06/13

A Note from Jack the Crossing Guard—

On June 13th, I will be retiring as a City of Madison crossing guard from our popular RNA intersection at Regent Street and Highland Avenue after five years of service. My wife will be retiring soon, and we are looking forward to more travel during the school months, especially during the winter.

In late May, I was able to post a note at West High School to give a warm-hearted thank you to the West students who I've had the pleasure to assist through the intersection. At 7:50 a.m., and again at 3:40 p.m., the intersection gets extremely busy for about ten minutes, and traffic is difficult to control without some help from the students. The West High kids have been asked to pause for a few seconds at the curb, and wait while I can allow a driver who has been waiting their turn from earlier pedestrian crossings to navigate the intersection and continue through it. The students have accommodated this request every time I've asked over the years. This newsletter also gives me the opportunity to thank the parents of both the high school students and the elementary school kids which use the intersection and let you know how polite and helpful your children have been. They're the best!

My background prior to being a crossing guard was in the engineering world as a product designer. Standing at that corner, I couldn't help but imagine how this intersection could be reconfigured to be safer for pedestrians and less confusing for drivers. My oldest son showed me a map from 1877 that showed the shape of the intersection the same as it is today. It was a poor quality document with streets represented by a single line. Five years ago, the painted crosswalk stripes were wearing away from the heavy traffic at the intersection and about 60% obliterated. Alder Shiva was kind enough to spend about an hour walking through all four crosswalks and taking notes on my concerns. In a very short period of time, the two major crosswalks were boldly painted by the City in what is called a continental



City of Madison crossing guard Jack O'Keefe helps neighbors cross safely at Regent Street and Highland Avenue. The intersection recently rated first on the Cap Times informal survey of most-hated intersections in Madison.

pattern and can be seen by drivers from a further distance which helps for earlier braking.

In 2011–2012, the RNA Streets and Transportation Committee discussed a range of potential improvements to the corner with hopes of influencing the City Engineers on their late-summer construction changes at the corner. There were other improvements to help drivers understand their proper lanes when approaching, and a second stop sign added at the Speedway stop. Even with the many improvements, the intersection has its warts and we have to continue to be cautious whether walking or driving through it.

I have met many wonderful people in the Regent neighborhood by working at this strange intersection. I'm fortunate that I can still walk our dog down Kendall Avenue, Chamberlain, and others, and still see many of the children and parents I've meet over the past five years, and maybe have a chat with a few of you. Hope you all have a great summer.

Happy Trails,

Jack O'Keefe ■

photo Zane Williams

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Alder Report, District 5—Shiva Bidar-Sielaff

Dear neighbors,

Did we really have a Spring?
Seems like we jumped straight
into Summer!

Here is a summary of the
neighborhood issues I have
been working on:

- **Randall School/Olive**

Jones Park: As I am sure you are aware of there was an unfortunate fire at the playground on May 2, 2013. For safety reasons, the lower playground needs to remain closed until the damaged pieces of equipment and playground surface is replaced. The City Parks Department and I have worked to make sure the equipment is replaced as soon as possible. The replacement equipment has been ordered and we anticipate the order to arrive in early July. The Parks Department is planning the removal of the rubber surfacing and site prep for the new replacement equipment starting the week of June 17. Based on this information, and weather permitting, we should have the playground ready for play in mid-late July. Based on discussions and recommendations from the Parks Department, and feedback from PTO and neighbors, the playground surface of both the upper and lower playground will be replaced with woodchips.

- **The major reconstruction project in the**

neighborhood is under way: the installation of a large storm sewer main between Highland Avenue and 2202 University Avenue (Octopus Car Wash). Details about the construction can be found at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/universityAvenue/stormSewers.cfm>

- **2635 University Avenue (former Scooter U site):**

A two-story doctor's office building was approved by the Plan Commission on May 6.

- **1615 Summit Ave:** The owners of this current rental property are proposing to convert it into a small 3-guestroom owner-occupied bed & breakfast. The proposed project would require a Conditional Use approval by the Plan Commission as well as approval by the Landmarks Commission. They will be going before Plan Commission on July 8. I have shared the information through the neighborhood listservs and the owners also presented the information at the RNA Board meeting. I have



*Alder Shiva
Bidar-Sielaff*

received very positive feedback about the conversion of the rental property into a small owner occupied B&B.

- **Traffic-related issues continue to be one of my highest priorities as your alder.** I have been working both with MPD on enforcement and placement of temporary speed readers and with Traffic Engineering on ways to improvement of pedestrian and bicycle safety, from crosswalks to additional signage. The results of the near-west side traffic study currently under way will help guide more comprehensive decisions on reducing commuter traffic impact in the neighborhood and improving walkability and bikeability.

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. ■



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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. While the County Board will not approach our budget until the fall, I want to update you on some of the recent occurrences with the Board. In June, we will welcome our second class of Youth Governance Program (YGP) members, students from county high schools, who will participate on the Board's six standing committees. Following the first year of the YGP program, the benefits of having two students on each committee participate in the County's governance process has offered a fresh perspective for me and fellow supervisors in how we approach our jobs and I look forward to the continued experience.

Recently, we passed a resolution that will require clients of Dane County services seeking information on reproductive health options to be provided access to comprehensive and factual information. The law requires clients with reproductive health concerns to




Supervisor Jeremy Levin

be referred only to organizations that provide “comprehensive, non-directive reproductive health care information, including but not limited to family planning, birth control, pregnancy, and post partum.” The proposal comes in response to growing evidence that a number of crisis pregnancy centers in Wisconsin and across the nation provide biased and medically disproven information to women about their reproductive health options, and was a concern to many district 10 residents who contacted me, which is why I supported the resolution both in committee and before the full Board.

Finally, the County Board also passed an ordinance calling for a preference for locally-sourced goods in all County purchasing. The County has long given preference to local vendors in its purchasing and contracting, but — with the passage of this ordinance — now will also give an advantage to vendors that supply goods made in Dane County.

As always, please feel free to contact me at levin.jeremy@co.dane.wi.us or call me at 608.577.9335 with specific questions and concerns. ■

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Greetings from Randall School!

by John Wallace, Randall School Principal

Our halls now empty, they still hold the echoes of the final school bell and the laughter and cheers of our exiting Raccoons. Graduating fifth graders now have their sights set on middle school and incoming Franklin Falcons are balancing a bubbling blend of uncertainty and excitement. It's all part of the fabulous flow of "School days, school days..."

I fill the silence of our office with a from-the-hip soundtrack. A recent Pandora mix landed one of my most beloved bards, Joni Mitchell, center stage for her singing of "The Circle Game." I was captured by the line, "Yesterday a child came out to wonder, caught a dragonfly inside a jar." In my Louisiana youth, we called the helicopter critters "mosquito hawks." I was certainly no stranger to the catch and release of the fluorescent figures, but I mostly courted fireflies, known to us as "lightening bugs." My bare feet trampled high grasses across dark, damp fields, as I held high in one hand a Mason jar and its lid in the other. I was always careful to make sure the receptacle hosted a fine bed of clover and that no glow bug was ever without the company of another. Their gentle incarceration was always short-lived. The only greater delight than beholding the wee ones' blinking beacons from the end of my nose was witnessing their Roman candle reentry into the sultry Southern air.

Nowadays, I simply cup my hands to provide a brief showcase for our flickering friends. I fill the cylindrical glass vessels with different fare. Garden stems and stalks will soon dangle luscious fruits and vegetables. Many of the gathered goods will be belly bound within seconds of the picking. Others will hide over time in crystal crocks on basement shelves until they are released across holiday tables. There's nothing quite like the taste of summer during the winter.*

We Wisconsinites are perhaps more like trees than plants. Our growth rings inch out a bit more during the hot-to-trot months as we remember who we are and who we wish to be. We recreate ourselves, reveling in the present while also jarring our memories in a different sense. Later, as daylight shortens and shadows lengthen, we strive to maintain the merry mania of the preceding months. In short time, hoodies hide T-shirts and sandals are sidelined. Falling leaves become surrogate mosquito hawks and fireplace sparks mimic lightning bugs.

We can learn from the insects, especially the ant and the grasshopper. As we frolic and fiddle through



Randall principal John Wallace shares the art of catching fireflies during the day with Regent Neighborhood friends Mimi Carre, Simone Asen-Klaskin, and Maurion Dunahee.

the days and nights ahead, we will take care to grow and store the fabulous fruits of the season. Let us include a multitude of memorable moments that we can preserve and then break open as needed to warm our souls when the snows of winter provide us with a different playground.

Go Raccoons!

*"Canned Goods" by Greg Brown

www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0rmS1hbPoU ■

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Volunteer Gardener Needed at Forest Hill

After fifteen years of tending flowers and weeds, this neighbor finally hung up her mud-caked gardening gloves last January.

Sarah Brooks has maintained the Flag Perennial Bed at the entrance of Forest Hill Cemetery since 1997. She started as part of her master gardener training at UW-Extension and continued—watering, weeding, planting annuals, maintaining perennials—about 80-100 hours each season.

"It was a hard decision, but I was getting slower and slower in my tasks," Sarah Brooks reflected on her 'retirement' from Forest Hill. "The cemetery staff is terrific, the drivers on Speedway sometimes honk and wave—it was a really fun job."

Madison Parks is looking for gardeners to mulch, weed, and water the perennial bed throughout the summer. The commitment can be shared among friends!

For more information, or to volunteer, contact: Anne Whisner at Madison Parks awhisner@cityofmadison.com. ■



Artist Sarah Brooks' "Seed Packets" were transplanted from Speedway Road to John Nolen Drive for "Ride the Drive 2013." Thanks to Donna Lotzer for the use of her truck.

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Thanks to Kopke's Fruit of the Bloom Greenhouse for their donations of flowering plants for the Flag Perennial Bed at the entrance of Forest Hill Cemetery.

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Health and Wellness Center in Our Neighborhood: The Fit

by Kellie Kaddatz, Yoga Teacher and Personal Trainer



Did you know there is a top-notch, innovative, health and wellness center on Monroe Street? Most people know the public library, Orange Tree Imports, and Brocach... but there is this little building right in the middle of it all that somehow goes

unnoticed. Maybe because it has sat empty for seven years since Affordable Futons moved out (remember that?). Or maybe because it looks so little on the outside, but you won't believe how big it is on the inside (really, stop in and see!). **The Fit** has moved in and great things are happening!

The Fit is more like a movement; an upgraded ideal of what a gym should be, a formula to get fit that actually works. When I discovered The Fit, I knew it was something special, and here are three reasons why I think you will want to be part of it, too:

1. The Fit is your neighbor. By giving your business to your neighbors, you help support a vibrant, safe, and walkable community. You also support the environment; when businesses are kept small and local, automobile use is minimized, and the chances of cutting down trees to put up big parking lots is minimized. Furthermore, we rebel against the shift toward clone towns with the same retail stores, neon signs, and fast-food chains; we are unique and interesting, we create a buzz, we radiate with positive energy, we are Madison!
2. The Fit offers a formula that works! This is not a big box gym that thrives on members who never actually use the facility! There are no national sales plans or marketing schemes. Instead, The Fit offers an approach with integrity; the good for sale is not another fruitless trip to the gym or membership you never end up using, the good is a formula that's designed to give you real results.



Kellie teaching Karma Flow Yoga at 'The Fit.'

- You come back for more because you see it working. Just being in the building, you can immediately sense that The Fit wins because YOU win!
3. The Fit is a community. There are no nameless faces here. The Fit is buzzing with your neighbors, your instant friends, your support group, your cheering squad, your allies. You not only gain health and strength physically, but you also score a strong sense of community. You are bonded with like-minded individuals who support each other both in the gym and out in the community. It is this connection that elevates you to an entirely different level and helps you truly live your fullest life.

So, stop in, take a tour, meet us, try a class...The Fit offers Personal Training, Small Group Training, Yoga, "Gym Class," TRX Circuits, Formula Fit Classes (you have seriously GOT to try this one!), and Kid's Capoeira. I can't wait to meet you, Neighbor!

The Fit is located at 1709 Monroe Street. You can also find us online at: thefitonmonroe.com, or karmaflowfitness.com (Community Yoga classes offered at The Fit). ■



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Still a Mystery

Mystery to Me, a new independent bookstore specializing in mysteries, of course, will be opening on June 15 at 1863 Monroe Street in Madison. The store's owner, Joanne Berg, and her partner, Sue Riseling (the UW Chief of Police), are residents of the Dudgeon-Monroe neighborhood. Joanne has been in the 'hood for the better part of 22 years, and both of Joanne's children (Erin and Nate Nagy) attended Randall and West High. Having always dreamed of opening a bookstore, Joanne decided to purchase inventory from Sara Barnes, the owner of Booked for Murder who is moving to Minnesota to be with family. After 26 years at the UW, Joanne decided it was time to retire to follow her dream.



*Joanne Berg, owner of
Mystery To Me*

Why a bookstore when everyone is seemingly buying books on-line and/or reading them on their tablets? Joanne's rather compulsive research into whether a bookstore is a good idea leads her to believe that people are still looking for a physical space that provides the kind of community an independent bookstore has to offer. Having neighbors believe in the "buy local" philosophy will be important to the

store's success — that and a healthy respect for e-commerce. Joanne agrees with a Bookstore Research Report (SBDC Clearinghouse) that notes that the "bookstore business is far from dead and offers opportunities for independent booksellers to combine the latest technologies with a compelling retail environment and customer experience."

Mystery to Me will be hosting live author events as well as connecting with authors and book clubs throughout the world via Skype. There will be podcasts and other social media opportunities to connect published authors, writers and readers. There are plans to host mini-writer's workshops, book club meetings, book review sessions, and other mysterious events.

Follow Mystery to Me on Facebook: www.facebook.com/mysterytomebooks and Twitter: @mysterytomeT. The website, currently under construction, can be bookmarked at www.mysterytomebooks.com.

The future inventory of the store will depend on feedback from customers. If you would like to let Joanne know about your favorite authors and about your ideas for our neighborhood bookstore, feel free to send her an email at info@mysterytomebooks.com.

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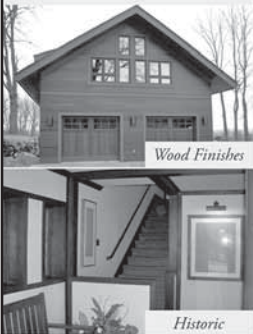
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Regent Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 5655
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Jon Miskowski, 238-1224
jonmiskowski@gmail.com

Secretary

Marcia Vandercook, 236-9028
marcia.vandercook@gmail.com

Treasurer

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

Board Members At-Large

Mary Czyszczak-Lyne, 231-3674
mczynska@wisc.edu

Betsy Greene, 233-3819
e_greene@charter.net

Ronnie Hess, 238-1828, rlhess@wisc.edu
LD Oakley, 263-5866, ldoakley@wisc.edu

Eric Steege, 213-5025,
eric.steege@gmail.com

Committee Chairs

Communications

Mary Sarnowski, 238-1224
sarnowski@mac.com

Festival

Robin Worth, 219-7634
rworth13@charter.net

Membership

John Schlaefter, 886-3456
john_schlaefter@yahoo.com

School Relations

Jen McDonald, 332-0673
jenmariealt@gmail.com

Streets & Transportation
OPEN

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UW Relations

Dan O'Callaghan, 255-2226,
daocallaghan@michaelbest.com

Zoning

Ron Rosner, 238-1828
rosner7@charter.net

Distribution Manager

Rollie Cox, 233-2255, rollie@chorus.net

Area Liaisons

Area 1 Peg Cullen, 238-4090
Area 2 Jim & Marion Force, 238-3233
Area 3 Jean Parks, 233-1418
Area 4 Elizabeth Kerwin, 661-9991
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 —

When Mary and I moved to Madison we wanted our children — children we didn't yet have — to go to Randall School. Starting with Randall School, we fell in love with the neighborhood. From walks through University Heights, Badger games, breakfasts at Mickey's, and lunch at Dotty's — then near the Stadium — we were repeatedly drawn to the neighborhood. After we found our apartment on Breese Terrace, we never wanted to live anywhere else — unless it was next door to Shorewood Pool.



*RNA Board President
Jon Miskowski*

Those 25 years of memories inspired me to volunteer to serve as President of the Regent Neighborhood Association. The most recent Open House with nearly 70 neighbors discussing the future of the University Avenue corridor reminded me again of what I love about the Regent Neighborhood and renewed my belief that the RNA will play an important role in sustaining the neighborhood and what drew us to it.

The RNA's immediate priority is to complete our University Avenue Corridor Plan. After our June meeting, the RNA will distribute a draft of the UAC plan through our website and email listserv. The board invites you to join us for our final Open House on July 24th at the InnTowner to provide your feedback.

— Jon

RNA Board Meeting Schedule

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • July 24, 2013 | • October 23, 2013 |
| • August 28, 2013 | • November 20, 2013 |
| • September 25, 2013 | • December TBD, 2013 |

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 Jon Miskowski at jonmiskowski@gmail.com.

This newsletter is a quarterly publication of the Regent Neighborhood Association with a circulation of 1,700. The deadline for the fall edition is September 30, 2013. 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.