



# Bay Creek Bulletin

## Washington Hotel Café's Kate Burmeister

By Sara Richards

So how does a journalism major become the manager of a coffeeshop near Monona Bay? Kate Burmeister says it began with jobs she took to support herself while attending the University of Wisconsin. She worked as a waitress both before and after graduation, getting in on the ground floor of Quivey's Grove where she stayed for twelve years. As family demands grew—"at 8 months my son still wasn't sleeping through the night"—she knew she needed to make a career change. Contacts while working in food service enabled her to land a part time job selling wine for various distributors. She notes that the journalism degree actually helped with marketing.

Kate began at the Washington Hotel Coffee Shop, located at the rear of Lakeside Fibers, in January 2009 and immediately saw its potential. Many more tables have been added. Local musicians play, bringing in their fans. Her focus is on the quality of the products and local farmers. Products such as BGH free milk are for sale. A flyer notes the names of local purveyors of meat products. She would like to get more evening business, perhaps adding appetizer plates.

She loves the creativity and management challenges of the restaurant business. Her goals for the venue include adding art displays, encouraging book clubs and group meetings as well as increasing the music offerings. Last year in addition to managing the restaurant side, she took over management duties for the fiber side even though "I know nothing about yarn or knitting."

Kate loves the Bay Creek neighborhood and is pleased that many of the neighbors are regulars.



## Bay Creek Billboard

**Mon May 11 BCNA Bi-Monthly meeting 6:30 pm**

All Bay Creek residents are invited to attend. Voluntary annual dues of \$10 can be paid at any BCNA meeting or sent to Dan Kennelly 808 O'Sheridan St.

**Wed April 21 (Earth Day)** There will be multiple events throughout the city on April 21 and the Parks Dept is looking for volunteers to help clean up City parks. They are asking people to RSVP by 4/18 for supply counts. Call 266-5949 to volunteer or get more info.

**Sat Apr 24 (in conjunction with Earth Day Challenge Event), Sat May 8 and Sat June 19 (Take a Stake In The Lakes) from 10 am to noon**

Shoreline clean ups with Friends of Monona Bay. Meet at Brittingham Park Beach House (corner of Proudfit & W. Brittingham Place). Garbage bags and tools are provided, please bring your own gloves and dress accordingly. Contact Nina for more info. Email: ninaj@wisc.edu Phone: 265-3411 or 258-1788.

**Sat Apr 24 9:00 am to noon** Natural Area Restoration work at Turville Point Park with the Madison Parks Dept. Call 266-5649 for more info or to volunteer.

**First Wednesday of each month**

Friends of Monona Bay, 124 S. Brooks St., Rm 1, 6:30 pm. Go to [www.mononabay.org](http://www.mononabay.org) for more info.

**Sat May 29 10 am until ?** 3rd Annual Bike & Dine, see page 6 for more info.

**Thurs Jun 3 2-6 pm** Celebrate South Madison/Farmers Market opens at Villager Mall, see page 6 for more info .

**Sat June 5th 8:30 am** Susan G. Komen Race For The Cure will start from Willow Island. Map was not available when we went to press but you can go to <http://rfcmw.convio.net> or call (608) 335-8018 for more info.

**Mon July 12 BCNA Bi-Monthly meeting 6:30 pm**

All Bay Creek residents are invited to attend. Voluntary annual dues of \$10 can be paid at any BCNA meeting or sent to Dan Kennelly 808 O'Sheridan St. 53715.

# Bay Creek Neighborhoods: They Change and Remain the Same

By Elaine Moran

When I bought my little house on Gilson Street as a young woman during the mid-70's, I was somewhat of an anomaly. Single women didn't buy homes much then partly because even if they wanted to, banks wouldn't give them reasonable loans. But I bought mine on land contract, thus doing an end run around the whole issue. It's amusing to me that the price I paid for my home was less--in some cases much, much less--than many people now pay for a new car.

When I first moved into this mini-neighborhood, many of my neighbors were retired or near retirement. That provided a real sense of security for me; while I was working they kept an eye on my house, and more importantly, on my dog in his kennel. Through them I knew who had stopped by and what was going on in the neighborhood. Now I am the old retired person! Young people with young children have moved into the neighborhood, and I am the one home during the day to keep an eye on the neighborhood.

Some things that haven't changed are Franklin Field, only now we have to call it Goodman Field. Or is it Goodman Park? It was much the same then as now, with a lot of activities; softball and baseball games, soccer not so much, that came later; tennis courts, they were moved but are still available. Pet runs were added and bicycle paths and gardens. But the idea remains the same: people enjoying the out-of-doors in their own ways.

Bernie's Beach was there when I first moved in, only it didn't have a name then. It was named later for Bernie of Bernie's Meat Market on Lakeside Street. One thing that has changed not for the better is water quality. There weren't as many weeds and the lifeguards could keep up with the growth so swimming was free of weeds. And there weren't ducks near the beach then, so the water was clearer. But it has always been a small not overrun beach in which to enjoy a quiet swim.

And of course we still have the small skating rink near Wingra Creek, home to many a pick-up hockey game for the young and a perfect place for a quiet evening skate for others.

Some things are gone. Martinelli's Market, the small grocery on the corner of Olin and Gilson is gone. There used to be a very good butcher shop in there and even later when it changed to a small convenience store, it was a heart-warming place to stop for a few grocery items and a friendly word from the grocer, who always had a smile and personal greeting for you. In addition to this little store, there used to be three grocery stores on Park Street: Rendalls where Madison Church Supply is now, Kohls where Copps is and an A&P where the post office is.

Mr. P's is gone too as is Gene Parks. I miss the evenings of good jazz there, but I don't miss the one o'clock racing traffic and noise. And speaking of traffic, it seems to me that cars go much faster using Gilson as a shortcut than they used to. The recently installed speed bumps help, but there are still too many drivers who regard Gilson as a throughway and speed by, regardless of young children and places of business.

Another place gone is the Rennebohm's store on South Park Street. It had a restaurant where you could not only get a good, inexpensive breakfast but also visit with your neighbors and meet new people. It was a place for a social outing as much as a store to get food and pharmaceuticals, and I think it is much missed; although we now have Cargo and Hotel Washington which can fill that niche.

The homes themselves have changed. Former alderman Matt Sloan always said this neighborhood was one of the hottest in the city. And he would cite some of the amenities I have mentioned, but he would also talk about the additions and the "sprucing up".

If you look around, you will see many houses with new paint jobs or new siding. And we have some of the most imaginative, neatest, and biggest variety of color combinations in the city.

Many two-flats have been converted back to one-family homes. And many homes in our small area now have additions. Matt used to say that when people went to buy bigger homes and realized how much more they would have to pay and what they would have to give up in terms of amenities and good neighbors, they decided it was much better and cheaper to stay here and build an addition.

One thing has not changed over time: the people. This area has some of the warmest, most helpful, and most considerate neighbors. They are people who care about others, who are concerned about the environment, and who value the important things of life---family, friends, quality of life---and for that, all of us who live here can be grateful.

# Legislature's Top Spring Job: Jobs

By Rep. Mark Pocan

It will come as no news flash that jobs and economic recovery work continue to dominate our legislative focus this spring.

What is changing is that we're seeing positive local signals of revival: Unemployment rates have declined a percentage point since last July in Dane County, new home construction permits in the county are nearly double last year's numbers for January and February, home and condominium sales are up 21% from last January and the number of passengers flying out of the Dane County Regional Airport is rising.

This is all good news. Yet I continue to hear from people who call my office because they are having problems with their jobs searches, unemployment checks, affording health care or keeping their housing. Until recovery is complete and our economy has steadily improved over time, jobs and recovery will remain my primary focus. All Wisconsinites need to experience recovery before we can check this off our list.

Here are a few examples of recent work on recovery, growth and jobs:

- We continued to invest in highways, harbors, buildings and railways. The construction and transportation industries reported this is saving or creating more than 54,000 jobs.
- The Joint Finance Committee I co-chair approved \$822 million for high-speed rail between Milwaukee and Madison. This also led to Talgo agreeing to build an assembly plant in Milwaukee that is predicted will bring more than 125 direct jobs and at least 450 related jobs.
- My American Jobs Act was signed into law. It requires companies that get state government contracts not to ship those jobs overseas. We need them here.
- Joint Finance has overseen nearly \$4 billion in federal Recovery Act funds, which created 44,000 jobs by January 2010, on track to reach the goal of 70,000 recovery jobs. It has been directed at recovery in many areas including education, health care and the environment.

This is not a time for policymakers to play the naysayer, sit on the sidelines and complain. It is a time for creating results-creating jobs. That's what my past year in the Assembly majority has been about – promoting recovery and prosperity for all by working boldly and swiftly in the public interest to get our state economy and Wisconsin families back on track.

I'll be sending out a survey on state and local issues with my spring newsletter, which will have lots more information on jobs and other important topics. Please send it back with your thoughts and check in for results on my website: [www.markpocan.net](http://www.markpocan.net).

# BCNA Minutes of March 8, 2010 Meeting

By Dan Kennelly

Sergeant Jim Dexheimer from the Police Department provided an update on the Department's ongoing efforts to address inappropriate and illegal use of Olin Park. Over the last several months, the Department conducted an analysis of the park and collected survey data from the neighborhood to better understand the problem. Jim shared a document summarizing the results and discussed ongoing work with the City Parks Department to develop solutions. The Police and Parks Departments plan a series of events such as nature walks, bird watching, and astronomy outings in the Park in April and May to encourage positive activity and use.

The Neighborhood Contact Person reported that Park Street Partners and the South Metropolitan Planning Council are developing a map of businesses in the Park Street Corridor.

The Web Committee reported that the neighborhood website is back up thanks to a donation of space from a community member. The address is baycreekmadison.org. The Web Committee is considering a facelift to update the design of the site.

The Treasurer reported that the Association has \$962 in the general account and \$687 in the newsletter account. In addition, \$300 has been collected in response to a challenge from the Burr Oaks neighborhood to match their contribution in support of the south side library. The Treasurer also reported that she talked with the City about replacing the damaged neighborhood signs. The sign company provided a quote for the cost of repairs and the City agreed to share a portion of the cost. Before committing to the cost of the repairs, the neighborhood agreed to look into options for partnering with neighborhood residents who could potentially help with the repairs or could create new signs.

Those present at the meeting voted unanimously to re-elect the current BCNA officers for another one-year term. There are some parts of the neighborhood that do not currently have a designated area representative.

As follow up to Rick Marolt's presentation at the November meeting, BCNA introduced a resolution asking the City and County to create a task force to study the ethical implications of using primates for medical research in Madison. Some concerns were expressed about whether it is appropriate for the neighborhood to address this issue. However, those present passed the resolution by a vote of eight to two.

## South Madison Coalition of the Elderly Senior Notes 128 E. Olin Ave

**Sunday Afternoon Program:** Enjoy an afternoon at the Madison Senior Center on Sunday, April 18, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Begin by sharing a classic Sunday dinner, then sing along as Steven James performs familiar tunes on his bass fiddle, and finally, play bingo. Cost is \$3.50. Reservations are needed by Friday, April 16; call the South Madison Coalition at 251-8405. Transportation is available from the near south side.

**Songs of Spring:** Soloist Diane Robinson welcomes spring with songs about flowers on Tuesday, April 27 at Romnes Apartments, 540 W. Olin Avenue at 12:00 noon. The audience is invited to join in "name that tune" and "stump the singer" segments. For more details on this free event, call the South Madison Coalition of the Elderly at 251-8405.

# NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

## **BCNA meets Burr Oaks Challenge**

We did it! BCNA received \$500 in donations meeting the challenge from the Burr Oaks Neighborhood Association to assist the South Madison Library in its upcoming move. Thank you to The Chakra House, Bob Stoffs, Judy Robinson, Sara and Rick Richards, Kathy Cullen, Betty Schuchardt, Ellin Doyle, Jane Smith, Maxine Tiff, Jim Winkle and Bonnie Schmidt, Davi Post, Kyle Richmond and other anonymous donors.

## **Bay Creek website is up again**

Once more Bay Creek has a working website thanks to Jim Winkle who recreated the website and to Davi Post who donated server space. Davi develops websites and web applications (see DaviWorks.com for more info). The Bay Creek website is <http://baycreekmadison.org/>

## **3rd Annual Neighborhood Bike & Dine**



Join friends and neighbors for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Neighborhood Bike & Dine on **Saturday, May 29!** The family-friendly bike ride will start at Vilas Park, near Vilas Beach, leaving around 10 AM for various parks on the south side of Madison including Penn and Brittingham with longer and shorter options for the ride. It's not just another bike ride but a neighborhood social opportunity. At Vilas baked goods and coffee kick off the day. Each stop will have different foods and snacks. At the last stop, enjoy a "final fiesta" of foods from local restaurants, cake, bicycle tune-ups, giveaways, and more! Please contact Aaron at 294-9505 or Christy at 251-0909 for questions or to volunteer.

## **Celebrate South Madison**

Celebrate South Madison is teaming up with the season opener of the South Madison Farmers' Market. The festival not only honors the season and the abundance of fresh produce and goods available at the market, but it also celebrates the diversity, culture, and beauty of South Madison. The festival will bring art, music, dance, film and poetry together with gardening, cooking, and eating, to create a rich, inclusive, and uniquely "South Madison" experience — a sense of our place. The film to be shown features Style and Grace Salon (1610 Gilson Street) and was created by award winning filmmaker Linda Friend.

Celebrate South Madison will take place on **Thursday, June 3, 2010**, from 3–8:30 PM (Farmers' Market open 2–6 PM) at the newly redeveloped Villager Mall.

## **New Pilates Studio in Bay Creek**

"Symmetry Pilates" is in the neighborhood! Jennifer Huggins recently relocated to Bay Creek after several years of practice in Colorado where she moved from personal training to working in integrative medicine. She enjoys working with clients with diverse health concerns and goals.

Besides having completed undergraduate and graduate degree in Exercise Physiology at UW-LaCrosse, Jennifer also earned a master's in Counseling Psychology at CU-Denver and completed training in Pilates through the Physical Mind Institute. She considers Pilates the perfect blend of mind and body.

Jennifer is offering an introductory rate of \$40 Pilates session to the neighborhood. The one-on-one session will consist of postural analysis, the fundamentals of Pilates and exercises using the equipment. The benefit of using the equipment is that it assists beginners and challenges the advanced athlete. Jennifer can be reached at 608-451-2900.

**Bay Creek Bulletin information** The Bay Creek Bulletin is published every other month by the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) and is a news and information service for the neighborhood. The Bulletin welcomes comments and submission of articles, photographs, drawings, poetry, announcements and other information.

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**Next issue: June/July 2010 Deadlines: Ads and Copy , May 21, Delivery: First week of June**

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<p><b>BCNA area representatives</b> Area 1—Wingra Drive west of Park Street Area 2—Northwestern railroad tracks east to Olin-Turville Park Area 3—Lakeside St to Monona Bay and west to Park Street Area 4—Central area between Lakeside St and Olin Ave Area 5—Tree streets Area 6—Romnes Apartments BCNA Rep to South Metropolitan Planning Council</p>	<p>Judy Robinson; 469-1218 <a href="mailto:jbella@merr.com">jbella@merr.com</a> Ishi Buffam 255-2607 Open Jim Winkle 259-1812 Bob Lockhart; 633 Cedar St.; 256-0444 Open Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence; 255-1074</p>
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<p><b>Government representatives</b> City council Julia Kerr, 260-2661; <a href="mailto:district13@cityofmadison.com">district13@cityofmadison.com</a> County board Kyle Richmond; 929 O'Sheridan St.; 251-3171; <a href="mailto:richmond.kyle@co.dane.wi.us">richmond.kyle@co.dane.wi.us</a> State representative Mark Pocan; 266-8570; <a href="mailto:rep.pocan@legis.state.wi.us">rep.pocan@legis.state.wi.us</a> State senator Fred Risser; 266-1627; <a href="mailto:sen.risser@legis.state.wi.us">sen.risser@legis.state.wi.us</a> Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin; 257-9200; <a href="mailto:tammy.baldwin@mail.house.gov">tammy.baldwin@mail.house.gov</a> U.S. Senators Herb Kohl; 264-5338; <a href="mailto:senator_kohl@kohl.senate.gov">senator_kohl@kohl.senate.gov</a> Russ Feingold; 828-1200; <a href="mailto:russell_feingold@feingold.senate.gov">russell_feingold@feingold.senate.gov</a></p> <p>BCNA police department liaison: Sgt Jim Dexheimer; South Side Station, 825 Hughes Place; Phone: 266-5938; Fax: 266-4452; office hours 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.</p>
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