



Bay Creek Bulletin

Rick's Roffler--45 Years on Park Street

By Sara Richards

On June 15, 1965, Rick Meier opened his first barbershop at 1214 S. Park Street; he moved to its current location at 1305 S. Park five years later where a Fotomat marked the corner of Spruce and Park. Instead of a supermarket across Park Street, there were garden plots. Quality Hardware was in place, there was a Midland gas station across Spruce Street. Thorstad Chevrolet, Arby's and other businesses along South Park Street had yet to appear although there was a pancake house next to the Labor Temple. The road was mainly empty except for Namio's Restaurant (currently Wisconsin Management), McDonald's and Comstock Tire at the far end. He settled on Park Street after working on the Square and living on Fish Hatchery Road. People kept telling him that Park Street needed a barbershop.

Rick grew up in Monticello and had wanted to study history at the University but his family had little money to help him so when he moved to Madison he attended the barber program at MATC, following in the footsteps of an uncle from California. Rick's Roffler franchise was the first one in Wisconsin in 1969. Roffler franchised 5000 shops nationwide offering training and products. It is no longer a franchise but he still carries the Roffler products.

Rick has been active in the South Metropolitan Business Association (SMBA), serving as president for two years. He has supported southside hockey and has been on the Chamber of Commerce board representing the small business associations. He's pleased that Wingra Creek has been cleaned up stating that that was something the SMBA had wanted to do for a long time. He sees East Washington Avenue with its beautiful median plantings as a good model for Park Street. He adds, "And Park Street needs a good family restaurant, a breakfast place."

Rick has taken an active role on Park Street in other ways. One day when he was cutting a man's hair, a woman entered the shop saying she'd just been robbed. She asked Rick to call the police which he did and then she pointed out the man who had robbed her. He was crossing Park Street. Rick and his customer pursued him and caught him at the Bancroft Dairy where they held him until the police arrived.

Fewer men are going into barbering now as hair stylists are cutting both men's and women's hair. Now the styles are shorter hair again harking back to the flattops of the fifties. He did learn how to cut long hair in the 1970's saying that you had to or you wouldn't have any business.

Rick said he will probably retire in another year, not going for 50 years on Park Street. He still enjoys golf and his grandchildren and will continue to pursue his interest in American history through movies like "Born on the Fourth of July" and "Saving Private Ryan."

Speaking of leaving Park Street he says, "I don't think there is a more friendly area and a more beautiful place to live than on the south side with Vilas Park, the lake, good restaurants, coffee shops, the pool and parks."

Bay Creek Billboard

Sat Oct 9 & Nov 13 10:00 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.

Mon Oct 11 6:30 pm Friends of Olin-Turville

Bi-Monthly meeting Washington Hotel Coffee Room 402 W. Lakeside St

Mon Nov 8 BCNA Bi-Monthly meeting 6:30 pm

Madison Baha'i Center, 324 W. Lakeside St. 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.

Tues Nov 2 Fall General Election

Offices up for election include Governor, Lt Governor, Congressional Representative, U.S. Senator, State Senator, Attorney General, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, and State Assembly. Polls are open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Bay Creek residents vote at Romnes Apartments 540 W. Olin Ave. Wisconsin voters can register at the polls. Call 266-4121 for more info.

Thurs Nov 25 Noon Free Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Marks

605 Spruce St. Homebound folks can request a free home-delivered meal by calling 251-8405. Reservations for home deliveries should be made by noon on Monday, November 22.

First Wednesday of each month Friends of Monona Bay

124 S. Brooks St., Rm 1, 6:30 pm Go to www.mononabay.org for more info.

BCNA September 13, 2010 Meeting Summary

By Dan Kennelly

The City's Parks Department is looking for input from neighborhood residents on how to address the overpopulation of geese in Monona Bay. Some of the ideas discussed included using taller plantings near the shoreline, oiling goose eggs to prevent hatching, and considering opportunities to use geese as a food resource. Russ Hefty with the Madison Parks Division was scheduled to attend the Monona Bay Neighborhood Association meeting on September 14 to take input on the matter and the issue was scheduled for discussion at the next Parks Commission meeting.

The first meeting of Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT) was held on August 9. About eight people attended the meeting to discuss ways to improve the park and address the inappropriate behavior within the park. Jim Dexheimer from the Police Department (pictured below) reported that the level of inappropriate behavior seems to be declining and the Department's efforts (cutting shrubs, blockading the drive between the parking lots, encouraging community events, etc.) seem to be working. However, Jim feels continued focus on the park is needed and hopes the FOOT will help fill that role. (Note: FOOT will continue to meet on the second Monday of even months at 6:30 pm at the Washington Hotel Coffee Shop; next meeting will be on Monday, October 11.)



The Lakeside Street Business Initiative Visioning Session was held on July 10th and several follow-up meetings have taken place. The Initiative resulted in a report that summarizes the Visioning Session and outlines a set of "Strategic Initiatives" that the neighborhood will pursue to enhance Lakeside Street as a neighborhood business district. Neighbors can view the report on the Bay Creek website or contact Dan Kennelly for a printed copy.

The last neighborhood plan had been done in 1991. The comment was made that it's fun to review the old plan to note all the goals that have been accomplished.

Jim Dexheimer reported that there was no new news on the robberies that occurred over the summer. Taqueria Guadalajara is proposing to complete an addition to their restaurant (1033 S. Park Street) and the project was scheduled to go before the Urban Design Commission on September 22.

Sergeant Jim Dexheimer, BCNA liaison officer. To see the interview with Sgt. Dexheimer published in the August-September Bay Creek Bulletin, go to <http://baycreekmadison.org/bulletin2010-08.pdf>

Sara Zien: Feral Cat Volunteer

By Pam Gates

This article is part of an occasional series of interesting volunteer jobs. Past articles have focused on St. Mark's Food Pantry and the Dane County Humane Society. If you know of an interesting volunteer story, please contact Sara Richards.

A real south-sider, Bay Creek resident Sara Zien lives on Olin Avenue, works at Cargo Coffee on Park Street, and volunteers at Dane County Friends of Ferals, 627 Post Road. She started volunteering there in April and goes three to four times a week for about three hours as her schedule permits.

"I volunteered at a no-kill animal shelter before and knew about them," she says. "I found they had recently purchased a place close to us. [The fact that they're close] makes the rest of my day smoother and calmer. I love playing with the cats there." Sara's main job at the shelter is holding and playing with the cats in the "well room," a large space in which 15-20 cats are allowed to roam free, assuming they get along with the others. It's important to keep them socialized as they wait to be adopted. All Friends of Ferals cats are adopted or fostered; it's a no-kill shelter.

Many of the cats end up going to outdoor homes, such as farms, and often several are adopted at once, which Sara says is nice for the cats because not only do they get a home, they also get to keep companions they have grown used to. "We just had 5 or 6 go to one outdoor home," she said.

Friends of Ferals provides complete care for the cats they take in. A staff veterinarian, as well as volunteer and student vets, provide whatever medical care is needed, including surgery. Sick cats are housed in a “sick room” as long as necessary. Friends of Ferals lends live traps to people who have found a cat that appears homeless. They also try to find homes for all the cats they take in.

“Those that seem more domesticated are sent to MadCat or foster homes,” Sara says. MadCat holds an adoption fair every Saturday, and sometimes the cats end up living on the premises. “It’s not a bad life for them,” she adds.

“I go in and clean the playroom every Thursday night,” Sara says. “It’s nice when there’s a whole roomful of friendly cats, though this makes it hard to clean.” The cats, being naturally curious, try to involve themselves in the process, too!

“I can’t tell exactly what got me into doing this, but I can’t imagine not doing it. It really lightens your heart ... I’ve turned a lot of mean cats friendly.”

Sara isn’t exactly lacking for feline companionship in her personal life; she has three cats, all of them take-ins. As the picture shows, they are truly happy cats and make their owner happy, too!

Every Sunday, 2 to 4 p.m., Dane County Friends of Ferals holds an adoption fair. An adoption charge helps cover the organization’s costs; discounts for multiple adoptions. The shelter is east of Fish Hatchery Road off Greenway Cross. Visit www.daneferals.org for more information.



A Different ‘School of Hope’ (Compiled from www.khmerschool.org)

The Cambodian School Project is a small, local charity helping poor farm children in Cambodia attend school. Their goal is to prepare poor children to succeed in Cambodia’s changing economic landscape. These children and their families still live as they have for hundreds of years, growing rice and vegetables on small plots of land. Literacy is unimportant in this way of life and school attendance gives way to farm chores. As Cambodia is modernizing, farmland is being sold to speculators. These children will not have land to farm and are at grave risk for poverty.

To help these children we have built four elementary schools and adopted a fifth. We support 1000 elementary school students with books, supplies, clothing and food. We are teaching skills that will help them thrive in the modern world-basic literacy and English-important skills to employers.

We are proud of how we care for the donations given to our small charity. Our By-Laws do not allow for administrative purposes. This limits the size and scope of our work somewhat, but overall, we believe it is an asset. All cost of mailings is paid for by the Board of Directors. The cost of hosting our website (www.khmerschool.com) is donated by one of our long term supporters and the website design is done by volunteers.

Travel to Cambodia is expensive, but when we go, all pay their own costs. We get most of our work done through phone calls which are paid for by the Board member making the call. People in Cambodia who are helping to purchase materials or address problems at our schools are given payment, this is included in the cost of building and running our schools. We are proud of the fact that every dollar donated results in a dollar of benefit to the children of Cambodia.

One of the biggest challenges is providing the children with transportation to and from school. Bicycles provide reliable, inexpensive transportation and we are seeking funds to help buy locally rebuilt bikes. We buy rebuilt bikes because it is so costly to ship into the interior of Cambodia. A rebuilt bike costs \$45, which is the equivalent of a month’s wages for a laborer so it is out of reach for poor families. Each bike we buy has a heavy frame and a basket, bell, rear carrier, headlight and new tires. Repair parts are available locally and they can be inexpensively maintained for years. Bikes encourage attendance and help poor families transport produce and access resources. In the 5 schools we support, we have had almost no dropouts.

Our project is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization and your donation is tax deductible. If you would like to make a donation, please mail to: **Cambodian School Project PO Box 259112 Madison WI 53725-9112**. If you would like your donation to be used specifically for bikes, please write ‘bikes’ on the memo line. You can visit [ww.khmerschools.com](http://www.khmerschools.com) to learn more about our project, we invite any questions you may have. **Thank you!!**

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Bohemian Bauble Anniversary

In September the Bohemian Bauble, 404 W. Lakeside St., celebrated its fifth anniversary. The shop is an artist cooperative where those that have items for sale also staff the store. Owner Tami Beirne says the supportive nature of the coop has made it possible for the store to stay in existence. Since its beginning Bohemian Bauble has taken part twice a year in the citywide Gallery night, most recently on Friday, October 1.

Ice Cream Social Report

BCNA's annual ice cream social at Franklin School was a big success. It was a beautiful day to enjoy delicious ice cream in the company of neighbors. Many thanks to all those who helped in setting up, serving and clean up. Leftover ice cream—not much—was donated to the Friday lunch program at St. Mark's Church.

Christmas Wreaths

St. Mark's Church is selling many sizes of wreaths in three types: pine/balsam mix, balsam, and noble fir mix. Also for sale are swags, roping (again three types), yule logs, candle rings (with candle), cemetery easels and more. Orders are usually due a few weeks before delivery--generally the weekend before Thanksgiving. Contact Pam Gates at 255-2337 or pml.gts@gmail.com or call the church at 256-8463.

Space Place Workshops

Space Place family workshops are offered every Saturday at 10 a.m. for children ages 6-10 and their parents. The workshops are free and open to the public. No registration is required for any of the workshops. Space Place is located in Villager Mall. For more information see <http://www.spaceplace.wisc.edu/>

Friends of Olin-Turville (FOOT)

The next meeting of Friends of Olin-Turville (FOOT) will be Monday, October 11, at 6:30 pm at the Washington Hotel Coffee Room 402 W. Lakeside St.

Bay Creek Listserv

To subscribe to Bay Creek email list, send a blank e-mail message to baycreek-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

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

Free Breakfasts: Enjoying good food in the company of friends is a proven--and enjoyable--way to stay healthy as we age! The South Madison Coalition of the Elderly invites neighborhood adults over 60 to join in any or all of the events below. Call us at 251-8405 to sign up.

Women's Breakfast at Romnes Apartments, 540 W. Olin Avenue Thursday, October 28 at 9:00 am
Reservations needed by Tuesday, October 26

Men's Breakfast at Romnes Apartments, 540 W. Olin Ave., Thursday, November 11 at 9:00 am
Reservations needed by Tuesday, November 9

Sunday Afternoon Programs at the Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin Street
Second Sunday of the month 12:30-2:30

Sunday Afternoon Programs begin at 12:30 pm with a classic Sunday dinner served restaurant style. Afterwards there is live entertainment and bingo, with the event wrapping up around 2:30 pm. Reservations are always needed by noon on Friday, two days before each event. Cost for Sunday Programs is \$3.50, payable at the door. Need a ride to get there? Free transportation is available from the near south side; call us at 251-8405 for details.

On **October 10**, dinner will include roast turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, vegetables, cranberries, roll and a brownie. Afterwards, relax to music by the Harmonica Man, DeWayne Keyes. The menu on **November 14** will include Chicken Supreme and carrot cake.

Thanksgiving Day Dinner

The community is invited to a free Thanksgiving dinner at noon on Thursday, November 25, at St. Mark's Church, 605 Spruce Street. This annual festive meal is provided by Faith Community Church. No reservations are needed for folks coming to the church. Homebound people can request a free home-delivered meal by calling the South Madison Coalition of the Elderly at **251-8405**. Reservations for home deliveries should be made by noon on Monday, November 22.

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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<p>BCNA officers Bay Creek contact person Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence; 255-1074</p> <p>Secretary Dan Kennelly 808 O'Sheridan St 217-7470 kennelly.dan@gmail.com</p> <p>Treasurer Judy Robinson 469-1218 jbella@merr.com</p>	<p>Standing committees Welcoming committee Julie Campbell, 818 Emerson St.; 258-1495; juliejamescampbell@hotmail.com</p> <p>Web committee Jim Winkle, 813 Emerson St.; 259-1812; jim@EventsGalore.net</p>	<p>Advertise in the Bulletin!</p> <p>Business sized card ads start at only \$30.</p> <p>E-mail Sara Richards for info: leftpaintedtoenail@hotmail.com</p>
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<p>BCNA area representatives 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 jbella@merr.com Open Open Jim Winkle 259-1812 Bob Lockhart; 633 Cedar St.; 256-0444 Open Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence; 255-1074</p>
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Government representatives	
City council	Julia Kerr, 260-2661; district13@cityofmadison.com
County board	Kyle Richmond; 929 O'Sheridan St.; 251-3171; richmond.kyle@co.dane.wi.us
State representative	Mark Pocan; 266-8570; rep.pocan@legis.state.wi.us
State senator	Fred Risser; 266-1627; sen.risser@legis.state.wi.us
Congresswoman	Tammy Baldwin; 257-9200; tammy.baldwin@mail.house.gov
U.S. Senators	Herb Kohl; 264-5338; senator_kohl@kohl.senate.gov Russ Feingold; 828-1200; russell_feingold@feingold.senate.gov
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.	