



# Bay Creek Bulletin

## School Board Election on April 3

*Editor’s Note: There are four candidates for the two open seats on the Madison School Board. All candidates were asked to submit brief statements about their positions. The statements below are in alphabetical order:*

**Mary Burke:** Dear Bay Creek residents, I am running for Madison School Board because I care about children and believe there is nothing more critical to our community than strong public schools.

I have worked for 13 years to help Madison children thrive and our schools succeed, beginning with mentoring two boys on the Southside, not far from Bay Creek. Their home life was difficult but they had teachers at Franklin and Randall who were committed and caring.

I realized the boys needed a positive afterschool environment. So for 12 years as a volunteer and Board member of the Boys and Girls Club, I worked hard to ensure that our children learn and flourish.

With an East High teacher, I co-founded the AVID/TOPS program. AVID/TOPS is the school district’s premier program to address the achievement gap, serving 450 students across all four Madison high schools and soon to expand to 800 students.

In addition to my experience with education, I bring broad experience in non-profits, government, finance and business. In 2008 I retired to dedicate my life to improving our community and strengthening education. I was brought up to believe that the more we have in life, the more we should give to others.

Our schools have great assets but also face complex challenges. We can take on these challenges successfully but it requires a fresh approach. We need to be strategic and focused. I am committed to making great public schools our community’s top priority. Please support me on April 3.

**Michael Flores:** I am honored to be running for Seat 2 on the Madison School Board. As a citizen and father of three, I want to ensure all Madison children have the educational opportunities they need and deserve.

A good education for all of our children is a goal I believe we can accomplish if we work together. Our community values education deeply and we are willing to work hard to help our students achieve their full potential. There is no “silver bullet” or “one size fits all” answer to the problems we face. The only common factor is that we need to work together. Our city has an enormous number of people who are passionate about education. We all have knowledge and experience about different aspects of the puzzle and if we work together, I am confident that the pieces will start to fall into place. For example, I grew up poor and understand what it is like to try to learn on an empty stomach. The amazing people who work with our homeless students have insight on how we can best help those kids.

Some of the solutions may not require a lot of funding. Mentoring and community liaison programs are two solutions that are currently being discussed that would require more time and energy than dollars.

Please go to my Facebook page: Michael-Flores-for-school-board or [www.floresforschoolboard.org](http://www.floresforschoolboard.org) for more information on my background, views and goals. I sincerely hope I can count on your support on April 3. Thank you.

**Nichelle Nichols:** I am running for the Madison School Board because I believe in our public schools, in the promise and future of all 27,000 of our students, and because I know that we must bring a new *(continued on next page)*

### Bay Creek Billboard

**Tues Apr 3 Spring General Election** Offices up for election include School Board and Circuit Court Judge. This will also be the Wisconsin Presidential Primary. Polls are open 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. Bay Creek residents vote at Romnes Apartments 540 W. Olin Ave. Union Cab is offering free rides to the polls, please call 242-2000.

**Sat, April 21, \*\*9:00 a.m.\*\* – Noon (Earth Day Challenge Event) and Sat, May 12, ,10:00 a.m. – 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 provided, please bring your own gloves & dress accordingly. Contact Nina for more info. Email: [ninaj@wisc.edu](mailto:ninaj@wisc.edu), phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708.

**Mon Apr 9 6:30 pm Friends of Olin-Turville (FOOT)**

Bi-Monthly meeting at Goodman South Madison Branch Library, 2222 S. Park (in Villager Mall).

**Mon May 14 BCNA Bi-Monthly meeting**

Madison Baha’i Center, 324 W. Lakeside St. Meeting begins at 6:30 pm and runs until 7:45.

Voluntary annual dues of \$10 per household can be paid at any neighborhood meeting or sent to Dan Kennelly 808 O’Sheridan St. 53715. Please make checks payable to BCNA.

**Sat June 2 6:00 a.m. to Noon 15th Annual Susan G. Komen race For The Cure** Many streets in the Bay Creek area will be blocked for this event. Please see page 6 for more info on race route.

**First Wednesday of each month, Friends of Monona Bay**

124 S. Brooks St., Rm 1, 6:30 pm.

## School Board (continued from Page 1)

mindset to our Board leadership. We need Board members who are willing to embrace a new reality and vision for our District that translates into excellence for all kids. We must meet higher standards for all students, and do so with fewer resources.

As a Board of Education member, my first three priorities will be to keep our district focused and accountable on eliminating the achievement gap; negotiating a fair and balanced employee handbook that respects the dignity and professionalism of our teachers and staff; and ensuring that we provide the high quality schools that all families want for their children and that will attract and retain middle income families in our district.

As a Madison native, proud West High graduate, and mother of one graduate and three sons still attending our public schools, I am invested in our District for the long haul. I am qualified and ready for this incredibly challenging and rewarding job, and ask for your support on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Arlene Silveira:** There are few topics that engender more debate and passion than our **public schools**. I wouldn't have it any other way. For me, public education is one of the most critical components of a community's ability to create a better future, not only for our children, but for all of us. We have work to do in Madison. My commitment to public education, to Madison's 27,000 students and to staying in the fight for effective public schools are the reasons I am running for re-election.

Here in Bay Creek, we have worked together to do great things in our schools: Afterschool language programs, the Randall playground/park, ongoing parent empowerment groups, new afterschool math remediation and funding for a late bus, so all kids who need that program have access.

We have more to do: as a non-SAGE school, classes are too large in grades 2-5. I will continue to fight for reducing class sizes, one of the most effective tools to improve student achievement. District wide, children of color, who are largely in poverty in Madison, do less well in school and graduate at lower rates. This gap is too big. I have pushed for effective steps to combat it: such as 4-year old kindergarten expanded summer school options. We must also ensure rigorous programming and options for all children.

My pledge to you is to continue to apply my experience, independence and compassion to meeting the challenges our schools face. I would be honored by your vote, April 3.

### Notice for Our Bay Creek Neighbors:

The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure will take place on Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 at the Alliant Energy Center. Roads in the Bay Creek neighborhood will be in use by approximately 12,000 Race participants from 8:00am – 10:30am for the Race. No Parking signs will be posted on May 31st. During the Race, law enforcement and volunteers will be stationed at major intersections to help direct traffic.

**Residents are encouraged to make arrangements so that they do not need to use streets along the course during the Race.** Should neighbors need to unexpectedly exit/enter the neighborhood during this time, they are encouraged to do so at the following Intersections:

W. Lakeside Street and Lawrence Street  
W. Lakeside and Rowell Street  
W. Lakeside and Lowell Street  
Cedar and Gilson Street  
Cedar and Hickory Street

We greatly appreciate your support of this event. Please contact our Race Hotline at 608-836-1083 with questions. For more details or to join us in this celebration, please visit [www.komensouthcentralwi.org](http://www.komensouthcentralwi.org)

## BCNA Meeting Summary, March 12, 2012

By Dan Kennelly

**School Board Candidate Presentations:** Three of the four candidates for Madison School Board gave short presentations. Mary Burke did not attend the meeting.

**Nichelle Nichols:** Nichelle Nichols is Vice President of Education and Learning at the Madison Urban League. Her priorities include closing the minority achievement gap, keeping students motivated, and supporting teachers. She favors charter schools in general and supported the Madison Prep proposal. However, as an Urban League employee, she would recuse herself from any votes on the subject if elected.

**Arlene Silveira:** A six-year School Board incumbent, Ms. Silveira is a strong believer in public education and emphasized the need to build on successful existing programs. She believes it is important to create good working conditions for school employees to foster good learning outcomes for students. Ms. Silveira voted against Madison Prep due to concerns about violating the teachers' contract, the school's proposed non-instrumentality status and the proposed management fee and administrative overhead. However, she indicated she is open to revisiting the topic in the future.

**Michael Flores:** Mr. Flores is a Madison native and graduate of East High School. He is a professional firefighter and EMT, a father of three, and a member of the local firefighter's union. He emphasized finding ways to empower both students and teachers and believes all students learn differently and therefore it is important to address each child as an individual. Mr. Flores indicated he had apprehensions about the Madison Prep concept in its current format but is open to innovation and new ideas.

**Neighborhood Gateway Sign and Solar Sculpture Project:** Volunteers working on the Neighborhood Gateway Sign and Sculpture Project gave an update and presented the latest vision for the project. The proposed project will be located on the vacant property along Olin Avenue across from Goodman Pool. The current concept includes a concrete neighborhood welcome sign built into an earthen berm; it will utilize the site's topography to create a visually interesting sign with a natural appearance. The sign would be visible to west-bound traffic on Olin Avenue. Future phases call for a vegetable garden and orchard trees, as well as a "solar art" project that would integrate photovoltaic solar panels into a flowing vertical sculpture. Neighborhood artist Aaron Laux is leading this effort with a team of neighbors, artists, and various technical specialists who are donating their time and expertise. Local landscape architect, Ken Saiki of Saiki Design is volunteering his time to help develop the overall plan for the property. The team plans to implement the sign component of the project this summer while continuing to raise funds and finalize plans for the future phases.

**Wingra Creek Meeting:** The City is moving forward with restoration plans for Wingra Creek. However, less money is now available for the project which has led to changes from previous plans. These changes include eliminating a proposed "dog beach" in the creek near Quann Park and scaling back stream bank restoration. Bay Creek resident Ron Shutvet proposed an alternative to the City's current design which would implement a small weir in the Creek near its outlet into Lake Monona. This rock and landscape weir would help stabilize the Creek's water level, allow for native plantings along stream banks rather than riprap, allow for the dog beach concept to remain in the plans, and potentially improve conditions for paddlers. Ron is discussing his proposal with the City.

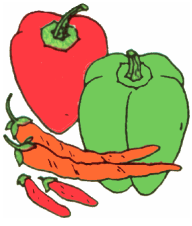
**Lake Monona Water Walk:** The "Lake Monona Water Walk" will take place on July 6-8 as an event to raise awareness and appreciation for our lakes. Friday and Saturday (July 6 and 7) will feature a festival at Winnequah Park and the walk itself will take place on Sunday. Led by Grandmother Josephine Mandamin (an Ojibwe elder and activist who circled all five Great Lakes on foot), the walk around Lake Monona will include stops along the route with activities and educational exhibits. (We will have more information in the June-July issue of the Bulletin.)

**Bernie's Beach Swimming Area Enclosure:** Starting in May, a new system will be installed at Bernie's Beach to improve water quality in the swimming area. The swimming area will be enclosed from the rest of the Bay and a filtration system using sand and ultraviolet light will be installed to clean and circulate water. This system was used at Brittingham Beach last summer and was very successful.

**BCNA Election:** All current Bay Creek Neighborhood Association officers were reelected for another year. Anyone interested in being the Area Rep for Area 2 can attend the BCNA meeting on May 14.

# NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

## **Quann Gardens Plant Sale**



Quann Community Garden is hosting a veggie/herb plant sale on Saturday, April 28 from 3 to 6 pm with a rain date of Sunday, 9 am - noon. This is open to anyone in the neighborhood.

The plants were started using organic methods by Garden To Be. These folks grow produce for area restaurants, so they know what they're doing. Plants are healthy and hardened off, and ready to go in the ground.

Plants likely available: broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, collards, kale, leeks, lettuce, swiss chard, and thyme. They will also be taking orders for warmer weather plants like peppers, tomatoes, basil, cucumbers, squash, and more. Questions? Contact Scott and April at [gardentobe@gmail.com](mailto:gardentobe@gmail.com).

**Directions:** Park Street to Beld to Bram; Quann Community Garden is just past the viaduct.

## **Ride (Bikes) & Dine**

Save the date for Ride & Dine on Saturday, May 26 (rain date Sunday, May 27). This family friendly event features biking in south Madison interrupted with food at various way stations. Interested in helping to co-ordinate? Contact Aaron Crandall at [aaron.crandall@yahoo.com](mailto:aaron.crandall@yahoo.com).

## **Volunteer at the Zoo**

Volunteering at Henry Vilas Zoo is an amazing opportunity for people of all ages in a fun, family-friendly environment. Volunteer positions include guest services, conservation education, and special events. To learn more email [volunteer@vilaszoo.org](mailto:volunteer@vilaszoo.org) or call 258-9490 and ask for Lynn.

## **VFW Garage Sale**

The VFW on Lakeside Street has invited Bay Creek residents to join their garage sale scheduled for Fri, June 1 and Sat, June 2. Tables will be available to rent in their parking lot. The cost for renting a 6 foot table will be \$5.

For more information contact Sharon Crary at 206-1061 or [Sharon.Crary@yahoo.com](mailto:Sharon.Crary@yahoo.com).

## **Traffic Calming on Lakeside Street**

At the request of residents, Alder Sue Ellingson contacted Madison Streets regarding traffic calming on Lakeside Street. This previously was investigated in 2000. At that time the majority of neighbors were not interested in having islands installed. One reason was that the islands eliminate on-street parking spots, a concern during periods of alternate side of the street parking.

If 50% or more of the residents within the survey area sign the petition asking for the islands by March 31, then Traffic Engineering will study the intersections and calculate a project ranking. Next Traffic Engineering will send a survey, including a final design for the islands, to owners and residents in the survey area. If approved, the islands would be built in the fall of 2012.

## **St Mark's Free Community Meal and Food Pantry**

St Mark's Church (605 Spruce St) serves a free community meal every Friday at noon in the church basement. Their food pantry is open on Tuesdays from 10 am to noon and Thursdays from 5:45 pm to 7:40 pm to anyone in need of extra groceries. To donate food or volunteer your time, please call the church at 256-8463.

## **15 Years of Race for the Cure Memories**

On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 Susan G. Komen for the Cure South Central Wisconsin will be holding its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Race for the Cure®. As part of our celebration, we are gathering Race stories and memories from past years to share with our Race for the Cure® family. Since many of our Races have traveled right through the lovely Bay Creek Neighborhood, we would like to hear from our neighbors! Many of you have walked or run in our Race, volunteered on Race day, or supported us by cheering on our survivors and other participants as they passed by your homes. Thank you! If you have an experience to share related to the Race for the Cure, we would love to hear it. It might be funny, inspiring, heart-warming, or downright silly...we'll take them all. Please send your story to: [racecoor@komensouthcentralwi.org](mailto:racecoor@komensouthcentralwi.org). Thank you!

**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.

**Next issue: June-July 2012 Deadlines: Ads and Copy, May 18. Delivery: First week of June**

**Managing editor /Advertising contact**  
Sara Richards; 710 Spruce St.; 255-5023  
[leftpaintedtoenail@hotmail.com](mailto:leftpaintedtoenail@hotmail.com)

**Copy editor and layout**  
Judy Robinson; 469-1218;  
floravore@merr.com

**Distribution**  
Kirk Elliott; 225 Van Deusen St.;  
255-5646; kirk\_elliott@hotmail.com

**BCNA officers**  
**Bay Creek contact person**  
Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence;  
255-1074

**Secretary** Dan Kennelly  
808 O'Sheridan St  
217-7470  
kennelly.dan@gmail.com

**Treasurer** Judy Robinson  
469-1218 floravore@merr.com

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**Standing committees**

**Welcoming committee**  
Julie Campbell, 818 Emerson St.;  
258-1495; [juliejamescampbell@hotmail.com](mailto:juliejamescampbell@hotmail.com)

**Web committee** Jim Winkle,  
813 Emerson St.; 259-1812; [jim@EventsGalore.net](mailto:jim@EventsGalore.net)

**BCNA area representatives**

Area 1—Wingra Drive west of Park Street	Judy Robinson; 469-1218 floravore@merr.com
Area 2—Northwestern railroad tracks east to Olin-Turville Park	Open
Area 3—Lakeside St to Monona Bay and west to Park Street	Cindy Snyder
Area 4—Central area between Lakeside St and Olin Ave	Jim Winkle 259-1812
Area 5—Tree streets	Bob Lockhart; 633 Cedar St.; 256-0444
Area 6—Romnes Apartments	Sariah Dane; (715) 449-7283
BCNA Rep to South Metropolitan Planning Council	Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence; 255-1074

**Government representatives**

City council	Sue Ellingson, 259-1824; <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> Ron Johnson; (414) 276-7282; <a href="http://ronjohnson.senate.gov">http://ronjohnson.senate.gov</a> (Click on 'Contact')

BCNA police department liaison: South Side Station, 825 Hughes Place; Phone: 266-5938; Fax: 266-4452;