



baycreekmadison.org

Apr / May 2015

Bay Creek Bulletin

Proposed Development at South Park and Fish Hatchery

By Carrie Rothburd and Steve Davis

[Editor's note: Carrie Rothburd and Steve Davis were elected co-chairs of BCNA's reinstated Planning and Economic Development Committee at the most recent BCNA meeting. They have been to many meetings with Madison developer T. Wall who has proposed apartments at the former dairy site in the triangular lot at South Park and Fish Hatchery. Pictures of the current plan follow the article on page 3.]

The neighborhood met again with T. Wall Enterprises on March 5th to view the revised plans for the 4 buildings proposed for the site at Fish Hatchery and South Park. These plans contain several modifications that reflect neighbors' input at the first meeting with Terrence Wall in January. (See the revised plans at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/council/district13/development/>.) Wall took questions and comments from neighbors who voiced concerns again that the proposed buildings' height and density will pose traffic congestion, parking congestion, shade along nearby streets, sound and light reflection, and the threat of ground water and Bay pollution in the community.

Tim Parks of the City's Department of Planning & Development spoke at this meeting to explain that Wall's development requires a Specific Implementation Plan (SIP) to grant approval of the specifics of the proposed buildings. This SIP follows upon the city's new General Development Plan (GDP) approved in 2011 that replaced the guidelines of both the Park Street Corridor Development and the Wingra BUILD plans. The new GDP allows up to 7-story buildings on the site at South Park and Fish Hatchery.

On March 11th, the Urban Design Commission (UDC) gave T. Wall's plan an unfriendly review. UDC members suggested replacing the existing design with something with more glass and metal. In response to neighbors present, who voiced their opinion that 4-story buildings with more of a residential feel would minimize problems and better suit the surrounding neighborhood, committee members shared their vision for a building (and a Park Street corridor) that is much taller than its surroundings and is, in their words, more edgy.

On March 13th, Wall submitted his plans to the City, starting the official approval period for his project. The UDC will give its thumbs up or down to Wall's plans on May 6th before the Plan Commission reviews and rejects or approves them on May 16th, and the Common Council ultimately votes whether to go forward or not with the plans on June 16th. Bay Creek will be represented by its new alder at all of these meetings to which neighbors are welcome. The plans will also go before the Fire Department, traffic engineering, and other departments for review.

BCNA's new Planning & Economic Development (P&ED) co-chairs and committee and the District 13 alder candidates met with T. Wall on March 19th to review the building plans in more depth. Wall offered to cap all buildings at 5 stories in exchange for BCNA's official support of his plans. These plans now include replacing the proposed commercial space with several units of TIF housing in the form of work spaces for artists with adjoining living spaces above. Wall also agreed to look at pulling the lobby at the point of the triangle back further from the corner and to limit access to the building's parking structure to a left turn into its entrance south of West Lakeside Street. He is also revisiting the idea of putting a restaurant in the building's main lobby. (Continued on page 3)

Bay Creek Billboard

Mon April 13 6:30 p.m. Additional BCNA meeting at the Bahai Center, 324 W. Lakeside St. Topic will be proposed development at Park St. and Fish Hatchery Rd. See article above for more info.

Mon May 11 6:30 p.m. BCNA Bi-Monthly Meeting at the Bahai Center, 324 W. Lakeside St. Voluntary annual dues of \$10 per household can be paid at any neighborhood meeting or sent to Sara Richards 710 Spruce St 53715. Please make checks payable to BCNA. Thanks to all who have paid.

Tue May 5, 12, 19 and 26 Concerts at Olin Pavillion More info available at olin-turville.org or baycreekmadison.org.

Sat May 30 6:00 - 11:00 a.m. Susan G. Komen Race For the Cure. Registration begins on Willow Island at 6:00 and race begins at 8:25 and goes through Bay Creek. Go to www.komensouthcentralwi.org for race route and street closure information.

2nd Sat of every month 10:00 a.m. to noon Shoreline clean up with Friends of Monona Bay. Contact Nina for info Email: ninaj@wisc.edu, phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708.

Feb 11 (and 2nd Wed of every other month) 6:30 p.m. Friends of Monona Bay meeting at Barriques on Park St. Call Lisie for info: 266-5248.

BCNA March 9 Meeting Summary

By Carol Medaris

Jane Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Treasurer: Judy Robinson said that we collected \$100 in dues since our last meeting and we are in okay shape for the next Bay Creek Bulletin.

Web: Jim Winkle said that people are continuing to join our neighborhood email list, which currently numbers over 200. In response to concern that the BCNA website is out of date regarding the sign project, Sara Richards agreed to update it.

Newsletter: Sara said that the Bulletin will be ready by the first week in April. Since this will be after the scheduled alder debate, she reminded us that it is scheduled for March 25th at 7:00 in the Bahai Center.

ELECTIONS: Given the development proposals currently due to have a strong effect on our neighborhood, it was decided to re-activate our Planning and Economic Development Committee. Carrie Rothburd and Steve Davis volunteered to co-chair the committee. (Carrie, in particular, has been attending meetings and organizing a neighborhood response to the T Wall proposal for developing the Park Street/Fish Hatchery triangle.) In addition, John Beeman volunteered to assume the duties of the Area Representative for Romnes Apartments, which is currently open, and Doug Noot volunteered to chair the Welcoming Committee, which has been open for some time. Seeing that there were no other new volunteers for the positions of BCNA Officers, Committee Chairs, and Area Representatives, those currently serving (with their agreement), along with the new volunteers set forth above were elected unanimously. (See the last page of every Bulletin for the current list.)

PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Sign-up sheets were passed around for those interested in serving on ad hoc committees related to either the T Wall Park Street/Fish Hatchery corner development or that related to Olin Park near the Medical Society. Ron Shutvet has attended many meetings on the latter development and discussed the process so far. There is concern that interested residents have meaningful input into ongoing discussions about this project, and that they not be presented with a fait accompli.

BYLAWS: After a brief discussion, it was decided that we needed clarification regarding the most up-to date wording that has been adopted in past meetings. Ron, who has co-chaired the bylaws committee, will try to get a final version into the upcoming newsletter so people can review it before voting at our next meeting.

FISH HATCHERY/PARK STREET DEVELOPMENT: Carrie and Steve led the discussion of the T Wall proposed development at the Park Street/Fish Hatchery corner. Carrie described the process so far and Steve read a letter that the co-chairs wish to submit on behalf of the BCNA to the city's Urban Design Commission meeting later in the week. The letter emphasizes the concerns about the development's design that neighbors expressed at the March 5, 2015 meeting with the developers and city staff, and that were submitted to Carrie by attendees in response to a questionnaire she handed out at that meeting. The primary concerns expressed by neighbors and as set forth in the letter are the height and density of the buildings, and the conflict between the T Wall plans and previous city-approved planning guidelines specifying a limit of 4 stories, deemed particularly important for this spot given the residential nature of the surrounding streets. (Apparently these earlier guidelines have been superseded by later city actions to allow six or seven stories in certain situations.) The letter also reiterates the concern of neighbors that the substantial increase in the neighborhood's population, with the 176 units currently proposed, "would present challenges to traffic flow and congestion around an already difficult street corner and nearby intersection."

Following discussion of the proposed development and general agreement that it is important for the neighborhood to have meaningful input into the city's decision-making process, it was moved and seconded that the letter be submitted to the UDC. The motion passed by a substantial majority of those present. (Of approximately 45 people in attendance, 4 or 5 indicated their disagreement with the motion.) A copy of the letter will be posted on the BCNA website.

After attendees voted to extend the meeting, it was adjourned at approximately 8:00.

Please consider volunteering to facilitate the next meeting on May 11!

Development, continued from page 1

The P&ED Committee will meet again with T. Wall in late March or early April and report back to BCNA on any additional changes to his proposed development. The committee has requested a special meeting of the BCNA on April 13th to discuss Wall's plans and his request for BCNA support. If Wall's plans are not approved on June 16th, he will lose his option to purchase the site, and a different developer will certainly appear with a new plan. This developer will have the right to build up to 7 stories on the site given the existing GDP. **Please see Neighborhood Notes on Page 8 for information on the next meeting regarding this project.**

View looking south on Park St.



View looking south on Fish Hatchery Rd.



PET LOSS PREVENTION AND RECOVERY Dane County Humane Society

Libby went for a run recently after being let out to relieve herself. She was found in a park by some kind people and quickly brought to Dane County Humane Society where she was scanned and, thanks to a microchip, was identified and returned to her owners within hours. A sad fact is that 90 percent of lost pets without proper identification never make it home again.

Last year DCHS received 922 dogs and 1,903 cats brought to the shelter as strays. Most of us never expect our beloved pets to be lost or stolen. The two biggest reasons for pet loss are children and workmen inadvertently letting them out of the house or yard.

Many more pets could be reunited with their owners if they were microchipped and/or tagged. DCHS will be hosting a steeply discounted ID tag (\$5) and microchip (\$15) event during normal hours of operation April 19-25 at the shelter for both dogs and cats. Microchipping services will be offered on a walk-in basis during this time as well as throughout the year at the regular price.

It's also understandable, especially in tough economic times, that some owners can no longer afford to care for their pets. NEVER release your pet into the wild. Doing so will likely result in a slow, stressful, and painful death of your animal. Please surrender a pet you can no longer care for to DCHS so someone else can provide it a safe home.

If you find a stray or injured animal, bring it to the shelter at 5132 Voges Road or call Animal Services (608-255-2345). If after hours, take the animal to Madison Veterinary Specialists at 229 W. Beltline Hwy (phone: 608-274-7772).

Please go to the DCHS website (giveshelter.org) for more information or call 608-838-0413.

Bay Creek Scientist Studies Historic Midwestern Forests

By Pam Gates

Simon Goring is one of the lucky folks who is raising his family in Bay Creek and biking to work just up the street. Simon is a paleoecologist in the UW Department of Geography, working on a broadly collaborative project called PALEON. In this project, survey data from the past is used to create models that will help predict future land use, forest growth, the role of forests in air quality, and the like. One fascinating aspect is what the survey data shows about how our country and our small part of it used to look.

The U.S. government started surveying public lands in the early 1800s, creating a one-mile by one-mile grid across the entire United States, from eastern Ohio to California. Teams of three were sent out to do the mapping: one surveyor and two crew members who cut the trail for him. The team would follow survey lines, stopping every mile to make a survey point. At each point they would blaze two to four nearby trees, noting the species of tree and their distance from the survey point. From this data, Simon says, we can learn the composition and density of the forests of the past, which can be useful as we address current and future concerns.

Of course, nothing is perfect, and this survey was no exception. Surveyors sometimes used the common names for trees when they made their notations, names which may not have been precisely correct. And the trails the team cleared for the surveyor may have distorted the information about forest density and tree size that the surveyor recorded. Nevertheless, this surveying project was a major feat, and a significant benefit is that we have maps of the entire upper Midwest's late 1800s forest cover.

Our forests look younger now, Simon says, both because the trees are smaller and because the types of trees are more likely to be those expected in a recently established forest. Agriculture, which occasioned massive disturbance of forests, occurred in this area in the 1930s. Simon says that 25% of upper Midwestern forests, including many in Wisconsin, are completely different from what they were historically: The composition has changed, and the size of the trees as well. For example, yellow birch, hemlock, and oak savannas were much more common at the time of the survey than they are now. There has been a significant decline in forest diversity as well.

Madison was surveyed in 1834, and some of the survey lines became major streets, such as University Avenue and Mills Street. In Bay Creek, Spruce and Colby streets were originally survey lines. There is a survey point at the southeast corner of Bascom Hall on the UW campus (the marker trees were two burr oaks), and there are two more on Colby Street, if Colby Street extended south into Franklin Field and north to the lake. The marker trees in Franklin Field were a hickory and a burr oak, which were only 8" and 15" in diameter but far from the survey point (400' and 450'!) Two white oaks were the marker trees at the survey point where Colby Street would meet the lake; they were 18" and 16" in diameter and 33' and 55' from the survey point. Our surveyor was Orson Lyon; his are the notes that provided this information. "It's interesting to note that Bay Creek has many more trees now than it did in 1834," Simon observed.

A project like PALEON provides information and adds to our knowledge; there is also hope that such projects will affect public policy by engaging people's interest and concern, Simon says.

Thanks for sharing your work with us, Simon!

RSVP Helps To Meet Transportation Needs

Bus Buddy Tours – Helping Seniors Ride the Bus

Seniors get first-hand experience riding the bus as part of a group traveling to an enjoyable local destination. Included in each tour is a free lunch, destination entrance fees, a goodie bag, Madison Metro Ride Guide, and a 10-ride bus pass to encourage future bus use.

Bus transportation is an accessible, affordable and dependable way to get around every day of the week. With a generous grant of \$5,000 from AAA WI, as well as support from Dane County Human Services, the program will expand this year to include four fun-filled trips: Chazen Museum of Art, April 29; Capitol building, June 10; Olbrich Gardens Butterfly Exhibit, August 5; and a movie at Market Square Theater, October 14.

The program is designed to ease the way for those who have little or no experience using public transportation, while creating a fun social group outing for participants age 60 and older. Last year's trips to the WI State Historical Museum and the new Madison Central Library were well attended and met with rave reviews. If you're interested in joining the fun, please contact Diana Jost at 608-441-1393 or djost@rsvpdane.org. If you're unable to make any of these trips, RSVPs Bus Buddy program also offers one-on-one guides on Madison Metro, which are also scheduled by Diana.

Driver Services' Growing Demand

Every day, volunteers from RSVP's Driver Services programs are out in Dane County driving eligible seniors, veterans, and veterans' family members, as well as delivering meals in rural Dane County. You may even know someone who benefits from our services – a neighbor, a friend or a family member, or maybe volunteers in your hometown are providing similar services to a family member or dear friend. It's a beautiful system of people helping people.

Last year, 362 volunteer drivers provided 8,703 rides across Dane County for 1,128 passengers – of these rides 3,800 were for 500 veterans of all ages and their families. In addition, 392 RSVP volunteers delivered 70,840 meals to 808 frail elderly in Dane County.

With the increase in the number of seniors, comes an increase in demand for rides. RSVP has experienced a decrease in the number of volunteer drivers during the past two years, leaving a gap between the number of rides requested and the number of volunteer drivers available – RSVP is working to recruit more drivers to fill this gap and prepare for future needs. Volunteers receive mileage reimbursement, extra accident/liability insurance coverage and the satisfaction of helping seniors/veterans remain independent. Come volunteer, your neighbors need you!

Contact Mary Schmelzer at 608-310-7280 or mschmelzer@rsvpdane.org.

Senior Notes

The South Madison Coalition of the Elderly invites you to lunch at Romnes Apartments, 540 W. Olin Avenue, Mondays-Fridays at 11:30 a.m. All lunches include an optional vegetarian entrée and, on Wednesdays, you can opt for a main dish salad as your entrée. Suggested donation is \$4 per meal for persons age 60 and older. Others who attend the meals are asked to pay \$7.50.

Meals must be reserved no less than 24 hours in advance, but you can sign up for all your choices in the month at one time, if you wish. Call the coalition office at 251-8405 for more information or to reserve meals.

Transportation to lunch door-to-door from your home is available on a donation basis (\$1 round trip). Rides must be reserved separately by calling Transit Solutions, 294-8747, at least 24 hours in advance.

Celebrate Siblings Day with BBQ Ribs

If you have a photo of your sister or brother as an adult, we invite you to bring it along to lunch on Friday, April 10, and hand the photo to the kitchen manager. Our diners will then have an opportunity to guess which sibling belongs to which diner, with a prize for the “best guesser.” Celebrate over a meal of barbecued ribs, cheesy potatoes, cucumber salad, peaches and apple pie.

Good Time Music with Michael Gruber

Hear Michael Gruber perform some of his great original songs, as well as old favorites on Tuesday, April 21, from 11:50 am - 12:50 pm.

Foot Care For Diabetics and Those on Blood Thinners

For some time, South Madison Coalition of the Elderly has coordinated with a local nurse to offer a monthly foot care clinic for persons who are diabetic or on blood thinners. Sadly, the nurse is no longer able to provide this service and we have not found another nurse who can do so at the same \$20 price. We believe this is an important service to offer older adults who live on the south side so have arranged to offer a clinic staffed by a nurse from Home Health United for a cost of \$28.

This clinic will be held at Romnes Apartments, on the second Friday of each month, between 10:30 am and 12:30 pm. Advance appointments are needed. They will include a blood pressure check and take about 20 minutes. Persons who have difficulty trimming their fingernails can have that done for a \$10 fee. If you have questions about the clinic or want to sign up, please call South Madison Coalition at 251-8405. Sign up now for the first clinic on Friday, April 10.

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

Extra BCNA Meeting

The neighborhood council approved scheduling an extra meeting to discuss development at the intersection of South Park and Fish Hatchery. This will be held on Monday, April 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the Bahai Center, 324 W. Lakeside St.

In order to keep up with news that does not make it into the Bulletin by press time, please visit the BCNA website at baycreekmadison.org or subscribe to the Bay Creek email list.

To subscribe to the email list, send a blank email message to baycreek-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. You'll receive a welcoming message back with instructions, usually within a day, with a confirmation request to which you should respond. If you aren't approved within a day, contact Jim Winkle at Jim@EventsGalore.net.

FOOT Concerts Return

Friends of Olin-Turville (FOOT) will again sponsor a May Concert Series in the Olin Pavilion. The four Tuesdays in May are reserved (May 5, 12, 19 and 26). Two of last year's groups are returning for sure: Lou & Peter Berryman, and The Whiskey Farm. It's not settled yet who will play when or who the other two groups will be. Check the FOOT website for more information at olin-turville.org.

Summer Camp at Neighborhood House

Whether your children (ages 7-12) love running around at the park, expressing themselves artistically, or exploring the city of Madison, they will feel at home at Neighborhood House. Summer Camp introduces a new theme each week.

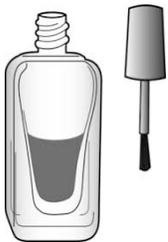
Weekly sessions start June 22 and go until August 21. Camp hours are from 9am to 4pm Monday through Friday. Cost is \$189/week. Please go to <http://www.neighborhoodhousemadison.org> to download and fill out an application or contact Amanda Ryan at 608.255.5337 or amanda.ryan@neighborhoodhousemadison.org with any questions.

From the Clean Lakes Alliance

You're invited to celebrate with Clean Lakes Alliance as we review our community progress towards cleaner lakes and share our plans for a watershed year. We will explore how our lakes and our working lands enrich our economy, our environment, and our culture. Ben Brancel, Wisconsin Secretary of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, will give the keynote address.

The event will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 7:30-9:00 a.m. at Monona Terrace Convention Center. Price: \$100 per seat regular pricing (\$45 for government professionals, \$19.95 for students and educational professionals) For more info contact James Tye at (608) 255-1000 or visit cleanlakesalliance.com/breakfast.

Rockabetty's is planning to move!



But they will be staying in Bay Creek, their new home will be right next door at 1115 S Park. The final details are still being worked out, we'll have an update in the next Bay Creek Bulletin. In the meantime you can get the latest news at Rockabettys.com or check out their Facebook page.

News from Olin-Turville

By Andria Blattner

Winter has passed, the Canada Geese and Mallards had a good time swimming in the ice skating rink and Killdeers have been running behind Quann dog park. Sandhill Cranes call from way up in the blue sky, the birds mere specks. The bluebird houses are clean and waiting.

The Bird and Nature Walks will continue to be on the 2nd Sundays at 1:30. The April 12 and May 10 walks will feature the spring flowers and the migrating birds, especially the warblers. Turville Point has spectacular Spring ephemerals! Our efforts at clearing brush and burns should help produce a beautiful show this year. There will be an Audubon Warbler Walk in Turville Point on Thursday April 30, from 6 - 8 am. This should be at the peak of the warbler migration. Russ Hefty's walk will be showing off the wild flowers on his Discover Madison's Wildside Conservation Parks walks on Wednesday, May 13 at 6:30. And don't forget there are a great many native plants in gardens around the neighborhood – Get out and take a look at them.



There was a lot of interest in the foxes (and other wildlife) on the listserv this winter. Dr. David Drake of the UW-Madison Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology has started a project to learn more about urban canid (fox and coyote) populations in Madison by capturing and radio collaring them. They have a Facebook page (UW Urban Canid Project) which has beautiful pictures of red foxes and a map tracking the movements of a fox on campus.

As soon as the frogs start peeping we will have frog identification sessions in the parking lot. Call me if you are interested. 255 8001

Further afield --The Bird City Celebration at Warner Park this year on April 19. There will be many activities and a dedication of the new Northside Nature Center.

Looking way ahead --- Sean Gere will lead a Tree Walk on June 14 and on July 12 Ron Shutvet will lead a walk featuring the history of Olin and Turville Point Parks.

Hope to see you out and about the neighborhood.

600 Gallons of Free Water

600 gallons. That's the amount of free water that comes from a 1000 square foot roof in every one inch rain. Harvesting rainwater and backyard composting don't just make healthier plants; they also help sustain communities by reducing runoff.



Stormwater runoff, a by-product of every rain, carries organic materials loaded with phosphorus into our waterways and is fueling excess plant and algae growth that plagues Madison lakes. It is estimated that the urban communities alone contribute about 30% of the total phosphorus that enters local lakes each year. Just one pound of phosphorus, the equivalent of about one large compost pile of leaves, can generate up to 500 pounds of algae if not managed correctly by homeowners.

Rain barrels along with compost bins will be available for discounted prices at the Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Sale on Saturday, May 9th at the Alliant Energy Center parking lot. Compost bins will be sold for \$69.99 and 50 gallon rain barrels with a diverter are \$119.99. Area residents who pre-order by April 27th will save an additional \$10 off.

For more information and to pre-order visit www.cityofmadison.com/streets/compost/CompostBinSale.cfm.

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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When Spring Goes By

Duncan Campell Scott

The winds that on the uplands softly lie,
Grow keener where the ice is lingering still
Where the first robin on the sheltered hill
Pipes blithely to the tune, "When Spring goes by!"
Hear him again, "Spring! Spring!" He seems to cry,
Haunting the fall of the flute-throated rill,
That keeps a gentle, constant, silver thrill,
While he is restless in his ecstasy.

Ah! the soft budding of the virginal woods,
Of the frail fruit trees by the vanishing lakes:
There's the new moon where the clear sunset floods,
A trace of dew upon the rose leaf sky;
And hark! what rapture the glad robin wakes-
"When Spring goes by; Spring! Spring!
When Spring goes by."

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Area 2—Northwestern railroad tracks east to Olin-Turville Park
ly.dan@gmail.com
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
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