

# Bay Creek Bulletin

baycreekmadison.org

## Mural update: Thank yous, Video documentary, New building owner

#### **By Stanley Jackson**

**Thanks** go out to the many, many of you in the neighborhood and greater Madison who have generously invested



your time, energy, and finances into making the Bay Creek community mural on Lakeside Street a reality. Thanks to all the individuals and families who have given, supported, or come to the three Dane Art Mural Arts (DAMA) community paint days. Thanks to the amazing artist, Yvette Pino, for her design, to Colby Street neighbor and muralist, Alicia Rheal, to Garbrielle, Veronica, and the entire DAMA crew for organizing and hosting such

successful events. All of your much-appreciated efforts have completed the mural!

Stay tuned: DAMA will schedule a final community gathering to unveil the mural, perhaps in September. As the final coats of anti-graffiti protection are applied, come now to admire the mural on Lakeside St. and the over 100 colorful small paintings of land, water, and air animals and plants, drawn or decorated by neighbors on the 16 mottled blue (formerly grey) railroad barriers in front of the mural. Come and look for the ones you drew. You can see the land animals from the parking lot, the water and air animals from the Lakeside Cafe. Come and see the beautiful, 9 foot crane. Lakeside Street neighbor and videographer Martin Saunders is creating a **documentary** on the mural for the community. You can view a sample of Martin's documentary at this link: https://vimeo.com/576562048 (This video will undergo further changes before Martin completes the final documentary.) Music (used with permission) by local talented musician Maury Smith. If you took videos of the mural going up or the community paint days, you can help him (he'll give you screen credit) by emailing your work to mdsaunde@wisc.edu

Finally, the Lakeside building owners, Ryan and Katie of The Hub Realty, who contributed their wall and more to make the mural a reality, have **sold the building**. We thank them greatly for their vision and all their work – the mural could not have happened without them. We are optimistic that the new owners will be as appreciative and supportive of this community project as they have been. And again, many thanks to everyone who has made a difference. ❖

#### **BAY CREEK BILLBOARD**

**Annual BCNA ice cream social** – Saturday, 8/28 1-3 p.m. (Rain date Sun, 8/29). Corner of Lake Ct and Olin Ave, across from Goodman Pool. Please bring a topping to share. Bowls and spoons will be be provided but feel free to bring your own. Vegan options will be available.

**FOOT Free Fall Concert Series** – 6:00 pm on Wednesdays in September. Lineup to be announced so

Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA) Meetings –
Second Thursdays of the Month: August 12 and September 9,
6:30 pm. See baycreekmadison.org for agenda and information
on joining remotely. Voluntary annual dues: \$10 per household.
May be paid at meetings or mailed to Sara Richards 710 Spruce
St. 53715. Please make checks payable to BCNA (not to Sara

Guided Nature Walks: Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT). Second

Sundays of the Month: August 15 and September 12, 1:30 pm. Meet at the Turville Parking lot off John Nolen Dr.

**Food Pantry** – Tuesdays 10:00 – 12:00 pm and Thursdays 5:15 – 7:30 pm. **Friday Meal** – Free; Fridays 12:00 – 1:00 pm. St. Mark's Lutheran Church 605 Spruce St. Volunteer Contact: Elaine, 608-256-8463; StMarks@StMarksMadison.org

Monona Bay Shoreline Clean-up – Friends of Monona Bay. Second Saturdays of the Month: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Contact Nina for information: Email: ninaj@wisc.edu, phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708.

## Alder Report By Tag Evers

We're not out of the woods with the coronavirus. If you have been hesitant up until now to get the vaccine, the evidence is clear that the Delta variant puts you at increased risk of serious illness. Those who are vaccinated are encouraged to wear masks indoors. Masking up also makes sense if you are in close quarters outdoors, such as at a sold-out sporting event or music festival.



**Shared Streets implementation** on West Shore and South Shore was delayed due to a backlog within Traffic Engineering in terms of getting the new signs. Last year the temporary barricades were too often moved so the goal for this year was for something sturdier in terms of marking the streets for local traffic only. It's unfortunate that **(Continued on page 4)** 

# **Bay Creek Neighborhood Association minutes June 2021**

Allen Arntsen facilitated. City of Madison staff answered questions on the draft South Madison Plan, which includes areas from Wingra Creek to the beltline, and Lake Monona to Fish Hatchery Road – but NOT the Alliant Energy Center or Bay Creek. The city's 2022 incorporation of the Town of Madison is a major reason for developing the plan now. Neighbors spoke of surprise at the lack of inclusion of the area between John Nolen, Olin, Wingra Creek, and the Alliant Energy Center (aka the "Destination District"), and nervousness about development and gentrification associated with that area. The city staff noted that the city is acquiring some property on S Park St, on which it will be able to control affordable housing development. Questions were raised about how Town of Madison residents were involved in the planning process, and about what changes would be needed to infrastructure to support development on Olin and John Nolen.

For a city facing a housing shortage, the triangle of land bounded by Olin, John Nolen, and Wingra Creek represent a great opportunity to increase density, as they are located along major thoroughfares, transit lines, with no known utility issues, and near parks and open space. The city's Traffic Engineering department will be doing an **analysis of the impact of development on traffic**. Costs of upgrades to traffic infrastructure are typically borne by the developer.

Alder Tag Evers gave an update on **Truman Olson**. The entities involved are finalizing their financing this month. In order to make up an equity shortfall, money required by Luna's to receive their \$8 million loan, the city is underwriting the grocery store and possibly granting \$750,000 towards the equity requirement. Tag felt like this demonstrates the city's commitment to the success of the project, in contrast to some public opinion. Neighbors inquired if financing delays could cause a gap in grocery service between the closure of the Pick n' Save and the opening of Luna's. At this point, it's not expected to. Tag is seeking input on two areas: **transit-oriented development** / anti-displacement; and the city's **dark sky ordinance** relating to lighted, but unoccupied buildings at night, and lighted signage.

Neighbor Carrie presented an update on efforts to move and preserve the **Wonder Bar** building. The site developer has agreed to shoulder some relocation costs within a 1-mile maximum distance; he has received three proposed sites, all beyond the stated distance limit. Without some more creativity — shared help paying for relocation costs; rallying public opinion to preserve the building, or working with the Alliant Energy Center or the city on relocation ideas — the Wonder Bar will likely be torn down. In the vein of preservation, some neighbors are writing applications seeking **landmark** status for the individual parcels of buildings on the corner of W Lakeside. ��



## **BCNA** July minutes

Fred Turkington note taker. The non-profit **Bayview** Foundation's executive director Alexis London presented on the **redevelopment** of their low-income, affordable housing in the Triangle Neighborhood (between Park, W. Washington, and Regent Streets). New construction will replace the 1971 housing stock, increase the number of residents from ~280 to ~500, add public streets, and enlarge the Community Center and services. The planned redevelopment began in 2018 with resident input, fund raising, and award of tax credits. The three-year construction project begins August 2021.

Neighbors presented on **preserving the Wonder Bar**. The owners, McGrath properties, intended to break ground on the site by September 1. Some neighbors seeking to save it have created a petition and begun to seek landmark status protection for the bar. Neighbors discussed where the Wonder Bar could be relocated and whether the building merits preserving.

Lakeside St. Bare Knuckle Arts studio owner Amy Mietzel proposed a **Chalk Walk** on the 300-400 block of Lakeside St. She would sponsor the free event for families and artists to make chalk art on sidewalk squares. She is seeking people interested in helping out. bareknucklearts@gmail.com

Alder Tag Evers spoke on the dangers of this summer's **illegal fireworks** displays, reminding us that the city requires permits and one-day insurance for displays. The city has cited the **AmStar gas station** for violating their conditional use permit related to hours of operation. Tag, neighbors, and the city are working on a **light pollution taskforce** to revamp the city's 2005 dark sky ordinance. ��

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#### **By Robert Koehler**

# "LOVE" By Roddy Doyle

In Roddy Doyle's latest novel, two men in their late 50's reconnect to spend an evening talking in various Dublin pubs. Fueled by alcohol consumption, four letter words are regularly exchanged. Even so, with awkwardness and evasiveness, these childhood friends, after decades apart, begin to reveal their lives' truths beneath the generalities. One of them, Joe, has recently left his wife for a woman both men were enchanted with back in their bachelor days. Always the dominant member of the pair, he commands the conversation, even if he seems at a loss to fully explain why he left his wife for a woman he barely knows.

Davy is the friend listening, and the novel is presented from his perspective. In flashbacks interspersed through the conversation, we learn about how he met his wife Faye, and their longtime relationship. Like Joe, he has secrets that the novel is slow to reveal. But while Joe seems incapable of articulating his late mid-life crisis, Davy appreciates what life has presented him with, even if his marriage is far from perfect.

At times, the repetitive aspects of the two men's conversation seem a detriment. But like any clever poker player, Doyle knows how to hold the cards close to the chest. In the novel's final section, a shift in its focus changes everything, and the secrets hinted at throughout are cleverly woven into the story to complete it. Doyle deftly delivers a finishing punch that makes the reader sit up and applaud a job well done.

### NOW THIS IS A CLOUDBURST

By Robert Koehler

Visibility reduced to near zero Puddles swelling exponentially Pea-sized hail, the sound of a fast ball meeting bat Interstate steaming A mere second between each crackle and boom In the back seat our newly arrived guests from Oregon are white as sheets, thinking this is surely the world's end Not knowing that within moments we'll accelerate into full sunshine again

The Midwest introduced

— Robert Koehler is a Bay Creek neighbor and poet.

See his work at: robertupatdawn.wordpress.com



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The Food Pantry and Friday Community Meal Continue With Adjustments for Physical Distancing

**Food Pantry Hours** 

Tuesdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon Thursdays from 5:15 to 7:30 PM Order & Pick-Up by the Gazebo in the Parking Lot

Free Friday Community Meal

Fridays, Noon-1:00pm: Carry-Out Hot Meals Physical Distancing is Maintained; Masks Required Southwest Entrance by St. Mark's Playground

605 Spruce St. Madison StMarksMadison.org StMarks@StMarksMadison.org





## ALDER REPORT From page 1

much of the summer was lost, but the new signage will be available in succeeding years as the shared streets program is expected to continue.

#### The City Ensures Food Access for South Madison.

Luna's was not able to close on their financing in time for the project to move forward, so the City is planning to purchase the condominium unit housing the grocery store. This will enable construction to commence without further delay. The redevelopment of the Truman Olson site is slated to contain 150 units of affordable housing, along with a fullservice grocery store. City staff remain engaged to ensure that this project is successful.

The 18-Story Building on E. Olin was unanimously placed on file without prejudice at Plan Commission on July 26. Concerns were expressed about the environmental impacts of a building this size, particularly with respect to light pollution and migratory species. Concerns were also noted about the absence of thorough planning for the parcels adjacent to future Alliant Energy Center (AEC) expansion. Lastly, a large number of complaints were registered about the possible loss of the Wonder Bar.

The developer, McGrath Property Group, retains the option to come back to Plan Commission with a revised proposal. Plan Commission members expressed support for a mixed-use development at this site given our need for more housing, and the delay affords an opportunity to find solutions for the concerns that were raised.

Noting that development in the Destination District and AEC is likely forthcoming, I have asked Traffic Engineering to implement traffic calming measures for all of Olin Ave, similar to the traffic calming efforts on Lakeside. I regularly

hear complaints about dangerous traffic speeds on both Olin and Lakeside. I intend to keep pushing for increased safety for residents on both these streets.

#### The John Nolen Reconstruction

Project will be the subject of a Public Information Meeting on September 30. Though the reconstruction is not expected to commence until 2025, planning has begun. Engineering staff will provide an update as to the work plan, as well as a description for how this plan is being coordinated with the Lake Monona Waterfront Project. Save the date and I'll provide more details as soon as I have them.

Be well and stay safe, Tag \*







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# Channeling the Lorax By Steven Davis

We are fortunate in Bay Creek to have such a green and leafy neighborhood full of big trees and easy access to high quality, biodiverse forests and savannas in the Arboretum, Turville Woods, and Goodman Park. However, the health and permanence of our tree canopy in Bay Creek cannot be taken for granted. A combination of invasive pests, drought, storms, development and human neglect have taken their toll and put some significant stress on our urban trees. Emerald Ash borer, like Dutch Elm



**Photo by Steve Davis** 

disease before it, has wiped out whole clusters of trees. The City has largely done a good job in inoculating big street ashes and replacing the lost ones with a more diverse canopy of hackberry, sycamore, hophornbeam, Kentucky coffeetrees, oaks and disease resistant elms. However under our abundant overhead power lines, they now insist on planting only dwarf species like the non-native lilac tree and crabapples that do not form a canopy nor provide much shade. Through a process of attrition, we might eventually lose our big street trees to these dwarf trees on many streets.

Our trees are unbelievably important and incredibly complex, long-lived organisms that too often are treated by people as no different than utility poles—we nail things into them, run over and scalp their exposed roots with our lawn mowers, compact the soil around their roots into something resembling concrete and during severe droughts, ignore their signs of stress and decline. And as our climate heats up and rainfall grows more erratic, this will only increase the strain on our trees. In fact, it is estimated that a third of a billion trees died in the 2011-2012 Texas droughts, while the hazy air in Madison this July is comprised of the smoke of incinerated trees from Oregon to Montana to Ontario.

If only we could appreciate even a fraction of what trees do for us, we might be better stewards of this urban canopy and perhaps the climate as well. Consider the fact, for example, that the EPA reports that the shade and evapotranspiration (breathing out of water) provided by trees reduces the temperature in city neighborhoods by 2-9 degrees F and the temperature of shaded vs unshaded surfaces (cars, sidewalk pavement, playground equipment, etc) by 20-45 degrees F. Trees also reduce many types of air pollution and provide vital habitat to innumerable bird, mammal, and insect species.

United State Forest Service research, meanwhile, finds correlations between the extent of neighborhood tree cover and physical health, mental health, and social cohesion.

There is possibly not a more important element to the well-being of our neighborhood, nor indicator of it, than the state of our tree canopy. To quote the wise botanist in Richard Powers' novel *The Overstory*, (based on real life University of British Columbia Forest researcher Suzanne Simard) as she describes trees:

She could tell them about a simple machine needing no fuel and little maintenance, one that steadily sequesters carbon, enriches the soil, cools the ground, scrubs the air, and scales easily to any size. A tech that copies itself and even drops food for free. A device so beautiful it's the stuff of poems. ��



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# FOOT NOTES By Andria Blattner

# Snakes in the Prairie, Blue Birds, and Summer speakers

A new project at Turville Point Conservation Park prairie studies its snake population. UW student Will Vuyk leads the snake study in several locations around Madison. On May 22, he positioned five plywood and five metal boards out in the prairie; visiting once a week, he checks under the boards, catches any snakes – to identify, weigh, and measure – and then sets them free. So far, he reports that on every visit to Turville he has seen from two to six snakes – all of them (non-venomous) Dekay's brown snakes (Storeria dekayi). I've never seen a snake in Turville, but plan to join him some evening soon. He has offered to take visitors, let me know if you would like to go.

For the first time in three years, we had bluebirds nesting in two boxes. In one, three chicks fledged, but unfortunately in the other all three eggs were pierced and on the ground under the nest; the female was dead on the ground too, no wounds. I don't know what happened. Tree swallows were in five boxes.

Bird and Nature Walks in Turville: Sundays, 1:30 to about 3:00, depending on the weather. Join us if you can.

September 12: Ron Shutvet - The Natural and Cultural History of Turville

October 10: Sean Gere – Turville Trees

Both speakers are excellent. Enjoy the parks this summer – a walk in the woods is good for your health. ❖

# **Neighborhood Notes**

Good Neighbor Gathering! Festival: Saturday September 25, 2021 at Brittingham Park, 12 to 5 PM, organized by Madison's 13th alder district neighborhoods (Bay Creek, Bayview, Dudgeon Monroe, Greenbush, Monona Bay, the Triangle, and Vilas) for all to enjoy. Events include music (D.J., and Panchromatic Steel Drum Band), shoreline cleanup, bicycle parade, bouncy house, Madison West High Poms with Reggie the Regent lion, Madison Police patrol horse, food and craft vendors, and community groups' information tables. Email Dana Scheckel with questions or to volunteer: dana.scheckel@gmail.com

**Free summer yoga classes** at Olin Park Pavilion; all levels. Wednesdays 6 PM through September 1 (except August 10 a Tuesday). Bring your mat, but mats and props will be available.

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**2021 Wagon Drive** for Food, Basic Care and School Supplies

**When**: Saturday morning and early afternoon, August 7, Franklin Elementary School.

**Bring**: schools supplies, personal essentials (toiletries, toilet paper, paper towels, deodorant, etc.), and non-perishable food.

**Donations go to**: St. Mark's Lutheran Church Food Pantry; teachers and school social workers for kids at Franklin/Randall; Bayview neighborhood; Madison Schools' Transition Education Program; Atwood Personal Essential Pantry.

**Baked goodies** from JustDane and bottled drinks offered for a donation. (You may donate to the goodies table, but please label ingredients.)

**Volunteer**: All ages welcome for set-up (7AM), staffing, and take down (2:45 PM). Drop in to help, meet neighbors and a whole lot of kind people.

**Wagons needed**: If you have a wagon to share, it can be picked up one or two days before the drive, or dropped off Saturday morning. Please label with your name.

**Donate online**: If you can't make it and would like to donate later, you may help online: https://thewagondrive.wedid.it/

Check out the Wagon Drive social media for more information or to contact organizers Sandy Fowler:

Website: http://www.thewagondrive.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TheWagonDrive

Instagram and Twitter: @thewagondrive Email: thewagondrive@gmail.com �

# **Senior Notes**

**NewBridge Madison** provides helpful services for older adults, 60+. They are excited to announce the reopening of most in-person programming in August and September.

For up-to-date services, classes, and activities information, check newbridgemadison.org, and Facebook: @NewBridgeMadison, call (608) 512-0000; email info@newbridgemadison.org.

Programs: Participants must follow all Madison Dane Public Health guidelines.

NewBridge: matches older adults to volunteers who do safety-check calls and/or friendly social calls; provides Case Managers to connect older adults to resources; delivers food pantry groceries to older adults' door on an ongoing basis; does home chores – only case management clients may receive home chore assistance; gives Zoom and In-Person Classes & Activities; runs Zoom Diversity & Inclusion Activities – for Dane County Black and Latinx older adults, feeds older adults.

**NewBridge congregate meals** sites are open. Meals provided for free, but NewBridge accepts donations mailed to 1625 Northport Dr. Madison, 53704. **Make meal and** 

**transportation reservations one week prior** by Thursday 10:00 am with Candice at (608) 512-0000 Ext. 4006

#### **SOUTH MADISON**

 Madison Senior Center, 330 W. Mifflin St. Monday-Friday, 11:30 am: Opens August 2

#### EAST MADISON/MONONA

- Messiah Lutheran Church, 5202 Cottage Grove Rd. Tuesday and Thursday 11:30-12:30 pm
- Hy-Vee East, 3801 E. Washington Ave. Wednesday, 10:00 am-1:00 pm and Fridays, 10:00 am-1:00 pm

#### **WEST MADISON**

- Hy-Vee West, 675 S. Whitney Way Wednesday, 10:00 am-1:00 pm
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5701 Raymond Rd. Tuesday, Thursday, Noon: After August 12 -> Meadow-ridge Commons, 5734 Raymond Rd. Tuesday, Thursday, Noon
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 5701 Raymond Rd. Friday, Noon

#### NORTH MADISON

- Warner Park Community Recreation Center, 1625 Northport Dr. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 11:30 am: Closed to the public August 30- September 4 for maintenance.
- Goodman Community Center, 149 Waubesa St. Monday-Friday, 11:45 am: Opens August 17 ❖

## **Bay Creek Neighborhood Association**

**The Bay Creek Bulletin** is published every other month by the Bay Creek Neighborhood Association (BCNA). The Bulletin provides news and information about our neighborhood and helps connect neighbors to one another. We welcome your contributions: comments, articles, drawings, photos, poetry, announcements, book and restaurant reviews. Next Bulletin will be delivered the first week of October. Submission deadline is Friday, September 24.

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**Transportation** – Allen Arntsen 608-692-4293 • allenarntsen@gmail.com

#### NEIGHBORHOOD REPRESENTATIVES

Area 1 – Abby Davidson
Wingra Dr., west of Park Street
1025 High St • abby.s.davidson@gmail.com

Area 2 – Jody Clowes jclowes72@gmail.com • 608-213-3455

**Area 3** – Janelle Mums janellemums@gmail.com • 608-320-7085

Area 4 – Jim Winkle Central area between Lakeside St & Olin Ave 259-1812 • jimwink-madison@yahoo.com

Area 5 – Jenny Hayes Tree Streets 608-630-9102 • letsdisco79@yahoo.com

**Area 6** – John Beeman Romnes Apartments 520-7173 • jbeeman53715@gmail.com

**SMPC Representative** – Cindy McCallum dotckk@gmail.com

Police Dept Liaison – Carrie Cotter Neighborhood Officer chemming-cotter@cityofmadison.com Michael Goodnight 608/640-9499 Office phone: 608/266-4830

# Bay Creek Government Representatives

City Council – Tag Evers 2329 Keyes Ave Madison 608-255-4071 district13@cityofmadison.com

County Board – Cecely Castillo 608-616-0312 Castillo.Cecely@countyofdane.com

**State Representative** – Shelia Stubbs 266-3784 Rep.Stubbs@legis.wisconsin.gov

**State Senator** – Kelda Roys 266-1627 Sen.Roys@legis.wisconsin.gov

**U.S. Representative** – Marc Pocan 258-9800 • pocan.house.gov

#### **U.S. Senators**

Tammy Baldwin 264-5338 • www.baldwin.senate.gov

Ron Johnson (414) 276-7282 www.ronjohnson.senate.gov

#### New to the Bay Creek neighborhood?

Contact the Welcome Committee at baycreek.welcome@gmail.com

# **Preventing Bird Deaths**

#### **By Andria Blattner**

What do you think causes more bird deaths – disastrous oil spills, like the Deepwater Horizon, or glass windows? Collisions with glass windows kill billions of birds worldwide because birds can't see glass, only reflections of clear skies or a friendly environment. Bird safe glass can prevent this. Some bird glass is imprinted with 2" by 4" squares that small songbirds avoid, knowing they cannot fit through; another type has a UV reflective coating, invisible to humans, but visible to birds.

Bird safe glass can be expensive, but will become more affordable with increased research and development and increased demand generated by local governmental bird friendly building development guidelines and green building program incentives. We can help turn these guidelines into laws by supporting Madison Audubon's work. Many big cities, such as Toronto and Fort Worth, have instituted dark skies laws during bird migration that mandate turning lights off this most dangerous time of the year when light can disrient birds and lead to collisions.

Some things individuals can do to prevent bird-window collisions:

- Create patterns on reflective glass surfaces (quantity and spacing matter: multiple markings 2 to 4 inches apart are recommended)
- · Add decals.
- Install external screens on windows.
- Close blinds or curtains.

- Move interior plants away from windows.
- Place bird feeders directly on windows or 10 to 12 feet away

During migration periods controlling light sources is very helpful:

- Turn off exterior decorative lighting.
- Extinguish pot and floodlights.
- Substitute strobe lighting wherever possible.
- Reduce atrium lighting wherever possible.
- Turn off interior lighting especially on higher stories.
- Down-shield exterior lighting to eliminate horizontal glare and all light directed upward.
- Install automatic motion sensors and controls for lights wherever possible.

When converting to new lighting, assess quality and quantity of light needed, avoiding over-lighting with newer, brighter technology



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# Fun with Mnemonics (Say, "Ne Mon ics" – the M is silent.) By Stanley Jackson

A mnemonic helps you remember something. Here's a mnemonic, a sentence whose first letters help you remember how to spell "mnemonic": "My Nanny Eats Mostly Old Noodles In Cans."

#### Here are more Mnemonics!

**Colors** of the Rainbow: ROY G BIV, [Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo, Violet], or Richard Of York Gave Battle In Vain

**Planets'** order from the sun: My Very Excellent Mother Just Served Us Nachos [Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune].

**Compass points**, clockwise: Never Eat Soggy Waffles; [North, East, South, West].

Moon Phases: DOC or Right Returning, Left Leaving.

Music treble staff lines: Every Good Boy Deserves Fudge

**Great Lakes**: HOMES [Huron, Ontario, Michigan, Erie, Superior]); or west to east: Super Man Helps Every One [Superior, Michigan, Huron, Erie, Ontario]

**Mathematical** Order of Operations: Please Excuse My Dear Aunt Sally [Parentheses, Exponents, Multiply, Divide, Add, Subtract].

Invent your own! The word mnemonic comes from the Greek goddess of memory, Mnemosyne (Ne Mos inee). Percy Jackson tells us in *Greek Gods*, "Mnemosyne was born with a photographic memory long before anyone knew what a photograph was... Just to be helpful she invented letters and writing so the rest of us poor schmucks who didn't have perfect recall could keep permanent records of everything." In Greek mythology, Mnemosyne is actually called a "Titan," one of the powerful immortals who came before the Greek gods; she is mother of the nine Muses.

The words Remember and Memorial go back to the Greek word for memory, but have lost the N. A few related English words have still kept and pronounce both the M and N: Amnesia, Amnesty. The silent M in the word mnemonic – the only "empty" silent letter M in English – is an exception. Find out more about mnemonics, Greek mythology, and Mnemosyne online and at the library. •