

Bay Creek Bulletin

Visit to El Salvador

By Pam Gates

A few years ago, I started sponsoring a young girl in El Salvador through the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging. I gave \$30/month, we sent letters occasionally, and finally I was tempted by a CFCA "Mission Awareness Trip." In October, I joined 10 other sponsors from across the U.S. (literally: Puerto Rico to Alaska) at El Salvador's airport, where local CFCA staff welcomed us for a very interesting week.

The overwhelming sense we visitors got was tremendous appreciation for our commitment to our sponsored children. We were honored from the first day, when we were given flowers and front-row seats at a Sunday Mass complete with First Communion. We met with several Mothers' Groups and individual families to learn about their challenges and how encouraging our sponsorships were to them. Middle and high school students spoke to us about their efforts at learning and their hopes. A group of elders put on a lively, colorful performance of dances, songs, and stories. We visited a coffee factory, were treated to a gala performance by factory workers and their families, and left with gift bags of coffee. We also got some opportunities to be ordinary tourists; more on that later.

On our first day we visited a home in a squatter community that began eight years ago when two families moved onto empty land, probably railroad property no longer in use. Like everyone else in Community Manuel, Gloria, our hostess, had a house with a dirt floor. Her walls and roof were corrugated metal and whatever else was handy, cobbled together with rope and sticks. Her community now boasts 115 families, and they work together, Gloria said. For example, when they first moved in they got water from a nearby river, but that option was closed off by the landowners. The community organized and now their houses have running water.

Community Manuel was holding a meeting in a nearby building. A friendly drunk sang loudly up and down the packed-mud streets, telling us gringos he loved us. Children were everywhere. The general sense was of positive good cheer and of looking out for one another.

CFCA had been working in Community Manuel for three or four years, offering encouragement through sponsorships and community organizing. "We're making their burdens a little lighter," said our guide, Henry, who led us passionately and capably through our week. "They want company, someone to trust, someone who understands." He added, "We are safe here because we are part of the community. People knowing each other is one of the greatest protections against crime." (Continued on page 2)

Alder Forum on February 11

The three candidates running for 13th district alder-- incumbent Sue Ellingson, Zach Madden, and Damon Terrell--will participate in a forum at Arboretum Co-Housing on Monday, February 11, located at 1137 Erin Street. This forum is sponsored by the Greenbush Neighborhood Association. Their meeting at 6:30 p.m. will be followed by the forum at 7 p.m. The three candidates will be reduced to two at the primary on Tuesday, February 19. The general election will be on Tuesday, April 2

Bay Creek Billboard

Sat Feb 9 and Sat Mar 9,10:00 am - 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, phone: 258-1788 or 698-9708.

Fri Feb 15 and Fri Mar 15 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm Monthly neighborhood gathering at Lakeside Coffee 402 W. Lakeside St. Please join us for the monthly neighborhood social hour, children are welcome!

Sat, Feb 23 6:00 pm-9:00 pm Candlelight ski (or hike) at Olin Turville (see page 4 for more info).

Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT) For info on future meetings and other events, please go to olin-turville.org.

Mon Mar 11 6:30 pm BCNA Bi-Monthly meeting

Madison Baha'i Center, 324 W. Lakeside St. Annual election of officers will take place at this meeting. Any Bay Creek resident can serve as an officer. We are especially in need of someone willing to serve as Secretary. For more information, please contact any member of the BCNA listed on back page.

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.

First Wednesday of each month, Friends of Monona Bay 124 S. Brooks St., Rm 1, 6:30 pm.

El Salvador continued

That introduces another topic that was paramount in our El Salvador experience: safety. We were housed in a walled compound and weren't allowed outside it unattended, even to just go for a walk. We went everywhere in CFCAowned or -hired vans. Most people seemed to live behind walls, often topped with razor wire or broken glass. I wasn't allowed to visit my sponsored child in her home town because it was "not safe."

On the other hand, attitudes toward roads and transportation were cavalier compared to the U.S. People walked along the narrow roads as traffic rushed by, usually with their backs to the vehicles. Anybody, it seemed, who could acquire a vehicle (often an old U.S. school bus) could make money giving rides. A popular alternative to the old bus was a pickup truck, in which people would ride standing up. Even CFCA had a pickup and sometimes transported families with it. I was so jealous! It looked like such a great way to travel!

Stay tuned! This story will be continued in the next issue.

Make Music Madison

By Elizabeth Simcock

Make Music Madison is a one-day celebration of music set for the summer solstice on Friday, June 21, 2013, and annually. It began in France over 20 years ago as Fête de la Musique and is intended as a day for all ages and levels of musicians to play in outdoor spaces in a celebration of all music. Madison joins a network of cities around the world, and a growing movement here in the US. The celebration is always on the summer solstice.

Think of possible venues in our neighborhood (driveways to porches to busstops to parks), and about whether you want to participate as a musician, or know someone who should.

More immediately, I'm looking for you! We need another person or two who might be interested in being more involved for our neighborhood specifically, and also people who have insider knowledge of a particular genre of music/musicians in Madison.

Please contact me with questions or general interest at elizabethsimcock@gmail.com, and you'll soon be able to learn more at makemusicmadison.com:

Performed by anyone, enjoyed by everyone. Make Music Madison

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Performed by anyone, enjoyed by everyone.

Bay Creek Neighbors Continued Support

Donations towards the new sign continue to arrive. Thank you to those listed below who sent donations and also to the several donors who preferred to remain anonymous.

Andrey Nevinskiy

The Gilsons

Please e-mail leftpaintedtoenail@hotmail.com if your name has been omitted inadvertently or if the attribution is not to your liking or if there is a misspelled name or if you contributed via Kickstarter and would like to be listed in the Bulletin.

A contributor who donated via Kickstarter called the first weekend of December but that information is missing. Please send an e-mail.

The sign has made its way through all of the city approval processes.

Donations can be mailed to:

Sara Richards 710 Spruce St Madison WI 53715. Thanks again to everyone who has donated to this project.

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Open Iron Pour

Bay Creek artist Alisa Toninato announces the 4th annual Open Iron Pour will take place on Saturday, February 9th. "Pour'n Yer Heart Out" community iron pour will happen at Sector67 located at 2100 Winnebago St. from 1-5 p.m.

It's the one time that she opens her process for all to see. Furthermore, people can scratch out their own ideas and designs into the pre-made sand moulds for sale that can be poured at the event. This year there will be two kinds of open-face sand moulds. The "hot 'n' heavy" Valentine's hearts are back as usual, but a new form is a tessellation shape that will be used to create a parking-lot-sized tessellation pattern from with all the pieces cast from that day.

Other events around the furnace include a seasoning demo and complimentary on-site seasoning for people who purchase a Wisco-pan at the event. The event includes food, music and beer.

Paying for the Department of Transportation By State Representative Terese Berceau

A provision in the 2011 - 2013 state budget created the Wisconsin Transportation Finance and Policy Commission. Six members were appointed by Governor Walker. The Assembly Speaker and Minority Leader and the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders each made one appointment. On January $23^{\rm rd}$, the commission released its final report recommending ways we can meet our transportation needs during the next decade.

We spend approximately \$3.25 billion annually to build and maintain our transportation infrastructure – roads, bridges, airports, harbors, railroads, transit, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, the state patrol, and the Division of Motor Vehicles. This represents about ten percent of the overall state budget. The vast majority of funding comes from the gas tax, vehicle registration fees, federal money, and borrowing via bonding.

The commission's report indicates that if current revenue trends continue, we won't be able to maintain existing transportation conditions going forward. We are collecting less money from the gas tax because it isn't indexed for inflation, people are traveling less, and they are driving more fuel-efficient vehicles. Costs for constructing roadways have gone up three times faster than the general rate of inflation over the past two decades. The commission believes that without additional revenue these factors could lead to "deteriorated pavement and bridge conditions, increased traffic congestion, compromised safety, and route and service cuts for transit and passenger rail."

In its report, the commission recommends several sources of increased transportation funding, totaling \$120 per year for the average passenger vehicle, including:

- Hiking the gas tax by five cents per gallon
- Raising the fee for a drivers license by \$20
- Increasing the registration fee for commercial vehicles by 73 percent
- Eliminating the current exemption on sales tax on the value of a trade-in vehicle
- Indexing the gas tax and vehicle registration fees to reflect the impact of inflation
- Creating regional transportation authorities that can levy ½ percent local sales taxes, subject to voter approval. (Last session, Republicans in the legislature abolished several existing and proposed RTAs.)

Implementing a new registration fee of 1.02 cents per mile for passenger cars and light trucks. The proposal envisions the fee would not be charged on the first 3000 miles driven, and would be capped at 20,000 miles per year. According to the commission, the fee would "be collected through a self-reporting system, where vehicle owners certify mileage as part of the annual registration process. There would be no on-board technology or tracking systems."

Please let me know what you think. The legislature will be debating the state budget soon. What should our transportation priorities be? If we do need more revenue, where should we get it? Feel free to call my office at 266-3784 or e-mail me at Rep.Berceau@legis.wi.gov.

To view the full report, go to http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/about/tfp/docs/keep-wi-moving-report.pdf

Candlelight Ski and Hot Chocolate on February 23 at Olin-Turville

Come to a unique winter event in one of Madison's beautiful places. Ski scenic, moonlit trails by candlelight, or just enjoy hot chocolate around a warming fire. This event is for all ages and will be held from 6:00-9:00 pm on Saturday Feb 23

Come even if there's no snow -there will be hiking instead. Bring your skis or rent a pair in advance. Or just

enjoy the warm fire and free hot chocolate. Help reduce waste by bringing your favorite mug. Meet at the Turville Point entrance off the south parking lot.

Questions? Check the web at www.olin-turville.org.

Ski rentals available at

Fontana Sports: www.fontanasports.com

Rutabaga: www.rutabaga.com, or

REI: www.rei.com.

This event is hosted by Friends of Olin-Turville (FOOT) and Madison Parks Department.



BCNA January 14, 2012 Meeting Summary By Sara Richards

Bob Stoffs reported the South Metropolitan Planning Commission (SMPC) will soon have a new director. Bob is going to look into having <u>Southern Exposure</u>, SMPC's newsletter, on the Bay Creek website.

The treasurer said the newsletter is investigating a 6 page issue for those issues where ad revenue is projected to fall short of the costs of the usual 8 page issue. Currently the newsletter account is negative but invoicing for ads is now up to date so if everyone pays, there will be sufficient funds for four more issues. The treasurer also reported that the sign fund is at \$5400.

Friends of Monona Bay reported there is lawsuit pending about violation of erosion control at the new clinic site at Park and Fish Hatchery. This is disputed by the contractor and under review. The weekend of January 19-20 DNR is sponsoring Fishing for Free at Monona Bay and other lakes throughout the state where a license is not needed and there is free gear. This also happens in May but without the ice.

Friends of Olin Turville (FOOT) is hoping for snow for the February 23 Candlelight Ski (see Page 4). There will be small grills and they hope to have drummers. FOOT is installing a bluebird trail with the Audobon Society and will be putting up birdhouses soon. The houses must be monitored every week against English sparrows. Anyone interested in sparrow patrol, please contact Andria at ablattner22@charter.net

Discussion of the proposed gun resolution resulted in a desire to link it to the one passed by the Common Council. There were questions about banning handguns since police officers carry those. It was decided to concentrate on assault weapons. The resolution will be rewritten.

Kyle Richmond reported the County Board also passed a gun resolution as well as urging the UW to take a stand with respect to the labor unrest at Palermo's Pizza. Kyle introduced a resolution to bring war money home. John Hendrick has been elected the new chair since Scott McDonnell moved on to be county clerk. Kyle himself is on the Dane County Food Council and the city food committee. The Public Market, the year round indoor farmers market, is one concern of the city group. Kyle believes South Madison would be a good site for this market, for example, at the former Thorstad location. He would like SMPC to host a meeting about siting the Public Market in South Madison. City staff want a food district which can include wholesalers and restaurants as well as a farmers market.

There was a reminder about Make Music Madison (see Page 2). Judy Robinson raised the possibility of community dinners, perhaps quarterly, perhaps at the VFW or St. Mark's (see page 8).

Sue Ellingson reported that Thorstad is expected to be vacant for a couple of years per the new owner. Access Community Health is moving across Park Street to go into a new building in Villager on the northeast corner. Sue is interested in hearing suggestions about improving safety on Olin Avenue. Traffic Engineering is loath to install any stop signs on Olin. There will be a median at Olin and Park but it has to be low enough to allow fuel tankers entry to the gas station. Sue is hoping No Right Turn on Red can be implemented at that intersection.

A Volunteer Opportunity Right In Our Back Yard

By Allyson Crowley, Race for the Cure

On the morning June 1, 2013 thousands will gather for the 16th Annual Komen Race for the Cure on Willow Island at the Alliant Energy Center. During this event, participants will run or walk through beautiful Bay Creek neighborhood, celebrate breast cancer survivors, honor those lost to the disease, and raise needed funds...75% net of which stay right here in South Central Wisconsin for needed breast cancer services and education...the remaining 25% go to national breast cancer research.

This event cannot take place without the help of over 400 kind volunteers. Would you like to join the movement to end breast cancer forever? For detailed volunteer job descriptions, dates and shifts available, please visit our website: www.komensouthcentralwi.org and look for Race for the Cure>Volunteers. Thank you!!

NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

BCNA Looking for Secretary

BCNA elections take place at the March 11 meeting. Dan Kennelly has served ably as secretary for several years. Changes in his family make it difficult for him to attend every meeting which makes it difficult to record the minutes. Is someone interested in taking on this role, even if only for a year? Please note that if the secretary can't make a particular meeting, a volunteer is found to take notes. If interested, please contact any of the officers listed on the back page of the Bulletin.

Nessalla Kombucha, Truman Olson

Nessalla Kombucha is opening a plant at 1414 S. Park Street, next to the former Truman Olson Center. Kombucha is a fermented tea that is described as effervescent and tangy.

Upcoming plans for the Truman Olson site call for a small street to be built in the triangle of Park, Wingra and Fish Hatchery to encourage development in the interior of the site. No public meetings have yet been scheduled regarding this development which may take place in 2014.

Looking To Buy in Bay Creek

Greetings fellow neighbors of Bay Creek! After three years of renting, my wife, Lucia, and I are now looking to purchase a house without needing (or wanting) to move far. We are currently looking to purchase a 2-3 bedroom home with a garage and yard. Would love to chat. Feel free to contact Dominic and Lucia at baycreekneighbors@gmail.com. Thanks for thinking of us and hopefully we'll be in touch!

Home Repair Workshop

The Madison Trust for Historic Preservation will host home repair workshops at Gates of Heaven Synagogue in James Madison Park. All workshops are held on Thursdays beginning at 7:00 p.m. and cost \$10.

February 7 – Federal historic tax credit program

March 7 – Life after vinyl siding

April 13 – Exterior finishing and painting

For more information email info@madisonpreservation.org or call 608-441-8864.

Carousel Rides at Zoo

It's hardly ever too cold for a carousel ride, so come to Henry Vilas Zoo on Saturday, February 23, from 10 to 4 for carousel rides, refreshments, kids' craft activities, and photos with Henry the Lion. Rides will be \$2 and donations will be accepted for refreshments and kids' activities. The Zoo will be celebrating Polar Bear Day and all proceeds will benefit Polar Bears International.

International Women's Day Dinner

St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 605 Spruce St., will host a second annual International Women's Day dinner Friday, March 8. The free dinner plus entertainment will run from 4:30 to 7; donations welcome. This is sponsored by the local chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. See Bay Creek website for (baycreekmadison.org) for details.

Regent Resale

The West High School PTSO will be holding its spring resale on Saturday, April 20 from 8:00AM-1:00PM in the West High School Cafeteria. Items will include clothing, household items, sports equipment, furniture, games and more. Please enter the resale by following the signs on Regent and Van Hise Street.

West High Athletic Boosters

Madison West Athletic Boosters Association is hosting Rally for Regents on March 16 at the Coliseum Bar from 7:00-11:00 p.m. This event has become a popular social evening for the community and includes a silent auction, raffles, games and appetizers. All proceeds are used to purchase uniforms and equipment for West High School athletic teams. For tickets and more information, please check the website at mwaba.org or call Jane Corkery at 258-1615.

South Madison Coalition of the Elderly

News for Neighborhood Seniors: Don't let cabin fever get the best of you! The South Madison Coalition of the Elderly invites you to come to Romnes Apartments, 540 W. Olin Avenue, for lunch and activities. Lunch is served on a donation basis for anyone 60 or over, at 11:30 a.m. Monday-Friday. Please reserve at least 24 hours in advance; call us at 251-8405. Several times each month, we hold special free activities after lunch. Wondering what is on the menu? We publish the menu and activity highlights-as well as other info of interest to seniors-in our free monthly newsletter. Call us to be added to our mailing list—or with any other questions.

Join Us at Romnes on Valentine's Day: Come to Romnes for lunch and stay for entertainment on Thursday, February 14. Arrive by 11:30 a.m. for a lunch of swiss burgers, carrots, macaroni salad, peach slices and a Valentine cookie. We will provide romantic music and décor, poetry and a sweet-tart treat for you to take home. After lunch relax to the sounds of "The Lounge Process," a musical duo featuring Bess Berg on piano/vocals and Bryan Gibson on bass/vocals/ukulele. They will entertain you with the songs they love—a mix of classic ballads, lounge era hits and golden-age country. This event is free, but if you wish to come for lunch, please reserve your meal by noon on Wednesday, February 13. Call 251-8405.

Caribbean Vacation at Lunch: Take a quick trip to the Caribbean on Tuesday, February 26, with sights, sounds, and foods to warm your heart and heat up your day! Enjoy a special meal of Baked Chicken, Dirty Rice, Green Beans, Tropical Fruit Salad, Banana Bread, and Coconut Cream Pie. Reserve your meal by noon on Monday, February 25; 251-8405.

Games & Snacks--Seeking Dominoes Players: Stay after lunch or stop by on Monday afternoons for some friendly competition. Play cards, board games or dominoes from 12:30-2:30 pm. We especially seek dominoes players to connect with others who play. If you have never played, it is easy to learn, fun, and can be as competitive as you want it. Game afternoons include snacks, and all game players receive a prize (grocery item) to take home.

Community Dog Day

Dane County Humane Society, in collaboration with ASPCA and the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County, is hosting Community Dog Day on Sunday, February 10, 2013 from noon to 4 at the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County, located on 2001 Taft Street. Come one, come all, and bring your dogs to receive FREE rabies and distemper vaccines, FREE microchips and I.D. tags, and FREE dog food and supplies; while supplies last. Learn tips for caring for your dog and the importance of vaccinations. For more information, please contact Dane County Humane Society at (608) 838-0413 or Stephanie Schultz at sschultz@giveshelter.org.



Our Old Houses

By Sara Richards

One of the things you learn when you have an old house is that cast iron sewer pipes are only expected to last ninety years. I had assumed that our house built in 1899 was the oldest on the block so was surprised to learn that two houses on the other side of the block were built in 1896. I'm sure they sport the same challenges and charms that our house does: rock and mortar foundation, lead pipes, knob and tube wiring balanced by hardwood floors, a large front porch, and established plantings.

Our house was known as the Rohr house. Although not the original builders, the family lived here a long time. The best known figure in that family was the union leader "Babe" Rohr who also served as a Madison alder. However, my hero is his mother who planted the day lilies, peonies, lilacs, star of Bethlehem, grape hyacinth, bluebells, beeblossom, forsythia, bloodroot and mystery lilies that faithfully bloom year after year.

Some time during the course of its history the house became what the city termed "an unauthorized two flat". One of the upstairs bedrooms was converted to a kitchen with an old fashioned sink installed, just the right size to bathe a baby as we discovered a few years after we moved in.

When we acquired the house we removed the dark paneling that created a foyer with separate entrances to the upstairs and ground floor apartments. This revealed a beautiful intact wooden staircase and railing. Later neighbors looked at it and observed it was exactly the same as theirs.

One neighbor asked if our garage had originally been a stable. I had never considered that but it would explain the loft that now stores Christmas decorations. This same neighbor, JoAnn Jenson, said her home on Gilson Street was once a boarding house for railroad workers who reported to duty at the roundhouse on Beld Street where Schmitt's Auto now is. Her house was built in 1906 and has a unique feature: the underlayment to the floors are packing crates from the UW. She doesn't know who the original owner was but a subsequent owner was a contractor who built several homes in the area.

Oh, about that sewer pipe? We now have a PVC one.

Bob Stoffs and Cathryn Hatle on Lawrence Street have a two part house. The main two story part was built in 1883 by the Steele family. Several generations of the family owned and occupied the house until 1989 when Hazel Steele sold it to the Stoffs. The house was expanded with a bedroom and new kitchen maybe in the 1920s. The result is the connection between the two parts is off by a few inches height difference.

These are stories about some Bay Creek houses. Do you have a story about your old house?

Community Dinners In Bay Creek

By Judy Robinson

There was a recent article in <u>Isthmus</u> about community dinners in our area. Is any interest in starting a regular community dinner in Bay Creek? It could be a simple potluck based around a family friendly activity. When I mentioned this topic at the last BCNA meeting one suggestion was to see if some of our neighborhood artists would be willing to donate artwork that could be auctioned off to help raise money for the sign project.

I've thought of a few other activities as well: movie nights, game nights, book exchanges, a toy and children's clothing exchange. Or maybe even a dog wash?

Our monthly Friday night get togethers at Lakeside Coffee are a good way to meet new people; I've lived in Bay Creek for 12 years and have met someone new every time I've attended. But this could be another option for people to meet each other and help keep making our neighborhood stronger.

If you would be interested in participating, please e-mail me at treasure@merr.com or call me at 469-1218. Let me know what day would work best for you and how often you think we should try to have them. 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: Apr/May 2013 Deadlines: Ads and Copy, Mar 22 Delivery: First week of April

Managing editor /Advertising contact

Sara Richards; 710 Spruce St.; 255-5023

leftpaintedtoenail@hotmail.com

Copy editor and layout

Judy Robinson; 469-1218; treasurer@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 treasurer@merr.com

Standing committees

Welcoming committee

Julie Campbell, 818 Emerson St.;

258-1495; juliejamescampbell@hotmail.com

Web committee Jim Winkle,

813 Emerson St.; 259-1812; jim@EventsGalore.net

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

Judy Robinson; 469-1218 floravore@merr.com

Open

Cindy Snyder

Jim Winkle 259-1812

Bob Lockhart; 633 Cedar St.; 256-0444

Sariah Dane; (715) 449-7283

Bob Stoffs, 914 Lawrence; 255-1074

Government representatives

City council Sue Ellingson, 259-1824; district13@cityofmadison.com

Kyle Richmond; 929 O'Sheridan St.; 251-3171; richmond.kyle@co.dane.wi.us County board

State representative Terese Berceau;266-3784; rep.berceau@legis.state.wi.us

Fred Risser; 266-1627; sen.risser@legis.state.wi.us State senator

Congressman Marc Pocan; 258-9800; pocan.house.gov (Click on 'Contact')

Tammy Baldwin; 264-5338 www.baldwin.senate.gov (Click on 'Contact') U.S. Senators

Ron Johnson; (414) 276-7282; www.ronjohnson.senate.gov (Click on 'Contact')

BCNA police department liaison: Sqt. Shawn Engel

South Side Station, 825 Hughes Place; Phone: 266-5938; E-mail: SEngel@cityofmadison.com Fax: 266-4452;

Feb/March 2013 Bay Creek Bulletin http://baycreekmadison.org/