

CAPITOL NEIGHBORHOODS, INC.

DOWNTOWN DIALOGUE

Home and Place: In Search of a Home.

By Donna Wong

From a guest post in the blog, Hafa Adai “Thoughts about Culture, Climbing, Cheese and Connections to Professional Life” Wednesday, August 7, 2013; <http://hafaadaime.blogspot.com/2013/08/home-and-place-in-search-of-home.html>

“Right, but you won’t want to live in a condo since you have kids.” We heard this advice tens of times over the past two years, from friends, our realtor and acquaintances.

When Abe and I were newly married, we lived on the first floor of a small row house in Washington DC. We loved living in the city where we could walk to everything. When we decided to have kids and move from DC to Wisconsin, we predictably bought a small house in a family friendly neighborhood. We assumed we should upgrade to a McMansion once the second child came along, and so that is what we did. Almost immediately I felt isolated. As a part-time stay-at-home mom, I craved interaction with other adults, but businesses and parks (aside from one park in our subdivision) were inaccessible by foot. I had to drive everywhere, and drive more than 30 minutes to get most places.

Then, we dealt with home ownership issues we weren’t supposed to have with a new house: a flood, a leaky roof, and constant mowing and weeding 11,000 square feet of lawn. We were one of three families in the 170 house subdivision that didn’t use pesticides on the lawn. We put that house on the market within six months.

When it finally sold four years later, we decided to do what we should have done four and a half years earlier: rent an apartment, take our time and carefully think about what we wanted in a home.

We ended up in a 755 square foot apartment about two miles from downtown Madison. The apartment was small for four people, but the location was a great match for our lifestyle. Both Abe and I worked downtown, so it was a much faster and cheaper commute, and it was also an easy drive to both the east and west sides of town. In addition, since I didn’t have to spend all of my time weeding, cleaning

or driving, I started to work on my own personal enrichment that I had neglected for the past seven years. I took guitar lessons and Spanish, and I learned to knit. On my days off the kids and I walked to the zoo, the pool and the arboretum.

We lived in that apartment for two years. When we started searching for our permanent home, we tried to open our minds to many types of residences. We looked at houses, condos, cohousing and apartments, but the one thing we agreed on this time was the location. We wanted to live near work, the kids’ schools, the library, pool, parks, lakes and restaurants. Downtown houses were beautiful, old and cozy. I loved that they were closer together than the suburban house we finally sold. We

Continued on page 14



Donna is married to Abe and is mom to Ari and Ilan.



The Lens of Equity

By Paul Soglin, Mayor

The City of Madison is establishing racial equity and social justice as a core principle in all decisions, policies and functions through its Racial Equity and Social Justice Initiative (RESJ), which was launched in fall 2013. Equity is just and fair inclusion into a society in which all, including all racial and ethnic groups, can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential.

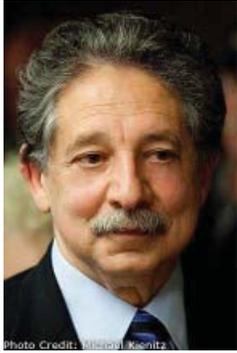


Photo Credit: Michael Keckritz

Why equity? As the nation undergoes a profound transformation, its fate hinges on whether our fastest-growing demographics can fully participate as leaders, innovators, entrepreneurs, and workers. Equity, inclusion, and fairness are no longer only moral imperatives – they are economic ones. America needs a new growth model driven by equity. (from www.policylink.org)

social inequities by implementing strategies in three main areas: Equity in city policies and budgets; Equity in city operations; and Equity in the community. Currently a staff Equity Team is working on making recommendations to the Mayor and Common Council in April 2014.

The vision of success for the RESJ Initiative is lofty but achievable through citywide collaboration and sustained, authentic partnerships. It depicts a Madison in which all people have access to the resources they need to live and prosper, and that one's future is not limited by race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, income or other group status.

The team looks forward to receiving feedback from the community on the initiative. Anyone interested in more information or providing feedback can contact the co-leads of the equity team: Melissa Gombar mgombar@cityofmadison.com or Jordan Bingham jbingham@publichealthmdc.com.

Working together, we can make Madison a better place to live, work, play, and raise a family for everyone!

The City of Madison will work to eliminate racial and



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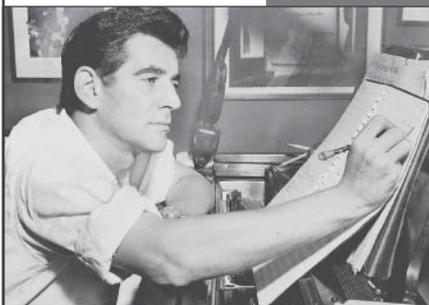
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Big Step for a Stronger Workforce, Economy

By Joe Parisi, Dane County Executive

We're all encouraged to see signs of economic recovery in Dane County. With this welcome news, we must take great care to ensure that as our community rebounds the opportunity exists for Dane County families from all walks of life to do the same.



For months I have worked with representatives from labor, business, and educational institutions, as well as economic and

workforce development professionals to tackle a persistent challenge – connecting skilled employees with construction companies that are ready to hire but are facing a worker shortage.

The result is a new initiative, Project Big Step, aimed at preparing the county's workforce for the growing construction industry – and assuring better access to these family supporting jobs to under-represented people, including minorities and women.

My Office of Economic and Workforce Development, together with the Workforce Development Board of South Central Wisconsin, will collaborate with the building trades contractors; community based organizations working in the construction trades, including WRTP Big Step; Construction Training Inc./START; Operation Fresh Start; the Urban League of Greater Madison; and the Madison College Apprenticeship Program, to build and implement a comprehensive strategy.

Our multi-phase approach will focus on assessing the skills needed for a project and on recruiting and training the work-

force necessary to get the job done. The effort will also identify and bring back workers who left the construction industry during the Great Recession, and ensure Big Step trainees get hired and retained in the industry.

With a series of major building projects ahead, including a new \$18 million expansion at our Alliant Energy Center, Dane County is uniquely positioned to work with key stakeholders to fulfill these goals.

With Big Step, we will strengthen our local economy and give our workforce the training and opportunity they need to find meaningful, family supporting employment.



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Constituents Are The Heart Of My Job

By Rep. Chris Taylor

People often ask me about my favorite part of my job. The answer is simple--having the most amazing, engaged and involved constituents in the state!

The 76th Assembly District is the most active constituency in Wisconsin, and I am proud of the amount of contact I have had with my constituents. Whether it is participating in a flash mob, reading and responding to your emails and letters, speaking together after committee hearings, or marching in a parade with your family, it is a privilege to represent you, hear from you, and spend time with you.



This legislative session, I've held 18 office hours at local coffee shops, visited nearly every local neighborhood association in the district, served as guest speaker for 18 local organizations, held three community listening sessions with other elected officials, sent regular email updates to more than 7,000 people at a time and responded to over

6,000 contacts from constituents. But my outreach won't stop there. Starting this spring, I will knock on thousands of constituent doors and I hope to have the chance to meet you.

This was a tumultuous legislative session. Whether it was passage of mining legislation, the controversial state budget, or bills that curtail voting

rights, I have had the honor of strongly standing against these and other harmful policies while continuing the proud progressive legacy of those who held this seat before me, including David Clarenbach, State Senator Fred Risser, Congressman Mark Pocan and US Senator Tammy Baldwin. Progressive legislation I'm working on include medical cannabis, campaign finance reforms, The ALEC Accountability Act, fighting for the rights of women and children, protecting the environment and the Workers' Rights Restoration Act.

I've also reached across the aisle and prioritized finding issues that everyone can agree on and that improve the lives of Wisconsinites. Examples of my bipartisan efforts include Clean Energy Choice, independent officer-involved death investigations, the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights, Radon Mitigation Act, banning smoking in all childcare facilities and designating March 8th as International Women's Day.

While this legislative session is wrapping up, government continues to operate. I remain available to you for any state issue. Whether you need help navigating a state agency, or would like to share your thoughts on an important public policy matter, I encourage you to call me at 266-5342 or email me at rep.taylor@legis.wi.gov. It is an honor and privilege to represent you in the Assembly.



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What About All Those New Apartments?

By Gene Devitt, Mansion Hill District Chair

Mike Ivy, in his Cap Times piece, "Boom Town" asks about upscale apartments, downtown, "how much is too much?"

This is a good question in itself, and raises the question about what does this building boom portend for individual neighborhoods, like Mansion Hill? As we all know, the Mansion Hill neighborhood is primarily a historic district and so we won't be seeing new apartment towers here. On the other hand, Mansion Hill, and for that matter, established neighborhoods on both sides of the isthmus will ultimately be affected by the influx of new neighbors, even if their zoning precludes the building of new high rises.

This is because the new urban professional renters typified by employees of Epic, won't stay young forever. They will get married, have families, or just want to

move out of a building populated with socially active youngsters. Tastes may change, or people will begin to feel differently about a no longer new apartment with a kitchen in the living room that is showing signs of use. This is where the other neighborhoods come in. The Isthmus, going all the way to Olbrich Park, and Tenney on the east, meeting up with University Heights and the Vilas neighborhood on the west, provides a great inventory of diverse housing that can fulfill changing needs or tastes. The demand for upgrading that housing stock is almost inevitable as will be an increase in demand for goods and services in the downtown area.

The bottom line, is that the building boom should be good for all of downtown, even though neighborhoods will feel its effects differently.



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TIF Policy Update

By Aaron Olver, Director, Economic Development, City of Madison

Tax Increment Financing is a real estate-based finance tool used to fund investments in private development and public infrastructure. It works by creating a district, called a Tax Increment District or TID, where the tax base is frozen for a period of time. This arrangement freezes the taxes of the city, county, school district, and technical college for a period of time, usually up to twenty-seven years. Any additional taxes generated through appreciation or new development in the district are captured by the TID and used to fund eligible investments. It's a powerful tool. And because the City of Madison administers these funds and affects our local government partners, it's important to have good policies in place to ensure responsible and effective use of TIF.

At Mayor Soglin's request, the city undertook a review of our TIF policy and made significant updates. This effort was aimed at two goals. First, we sought to attract high-quality development consistent with our adopted plans to expand the tax base and fund our community priorities. Second, we wanted to continue to be responsible stewards for TIF and maintain our record of avoiding failed Tax Increment Districts, closing TIDs ahead of time, and balancing public benefits against public TIF investments.

While there are many esoteric and technical aspects of both the Wisconsin statute that governs TIF and Madison's TIF policies, there are several provisions that attract the most attention and where significant changes were made. Here are some of the highlights:

- **50% Rule** - The previous policy limited to TIF investment in private development to 50% of the increment generated. The new policy retains a 50% goal, but recognizes that some deviations may be required. The new policy allows larger awards, but requires additional scrutiny by the Board of Estimates.
- **Equity Participation** – Unlike other communities, Madison previously required developers to repay TIF loans when a property was sold (in addition to

guaranteeing sufficient property tax payments to retire the loan). The effect was to offer a zero percent loan rather than an investment that functioned as a forgivable loan on the developer's balance sheet. This provision was very unpopular with developers, offered comparatively small public benefit, and was eliminated in the new policy.

- **Speculative TIDs** – Madison employs a good practice of avoiding creation of TIDs until a project (which the city calls a generator) emerges that can pay the TID's bills. This prevents the city from running up a tab that can't be easily paid. However, in some cases Madison is at a competitive disadvantage vis-à-vis other communities, particularly when we are competing for office buildings or manufacturing facilities. The new policy allows the city to create up to two TIDs on a speculative basis to try to attract development and puts strict financial controls on these TIDs.
- **Affordable Housing** – Most affordable housing in the U.S. is built with Low Income Housing Tax Credits, which are administered in our state by the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority. TIF can be helpful in matching and leveraging these tax credits. The new policy allows TIF to be provided to projects that set aside at least 40% of their units to individuals at or below 40% of the County Median Income.
- **Jobs Projects** – Madison is often competing with other communities or states to attract projects that create good-paying jobs. The new TIF policy recognizes these situations as distinct from straight real estate development projects and provides new policies on how to deal with job creation opportunities.
- **Reporting** – The new TIF policy also requires additional detail in staff reports, quarterly reporting to the Board of Estimates, and allows the Board of Estimates to be consulted during sensitive negotiations.

The recently adopted TIF Policy balances the need to develop the tax base to fund important civic priorities with the responsibility to use taxpayer dollars wisely and for public purposes. After a year-and-a-half process, substantial input, and consultation with four city committees, Madison is well positioned to meet both of these objectives.

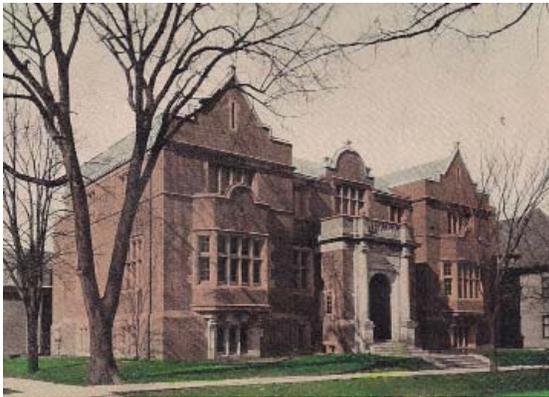
Now & Then

By Michael K. Bridgeman

Editor's Note: With this issue we start another new series. Michael Bridgeman will be writing about buildings and history. He will briefly describe types of buildings in the neighborhood and provide historical and contemporary photographs. Enjoy!

Our Downtown Library

When the new Madison Central Library opened last September, it was an instant hit with patrons and staff. More than 6,000 visitors attended the grand opening weekend and found the usual books, CDs and DVDs. They also found up-to-date technology, 20 meeting rooms, eye-popping public art and a coffee shop.



The library board hired Philadelphia architects Frank Miles Day & Brother to design the 1906 Madison Free Library.

It took \$30 million to bring new life to the previous central library building. It opened in 1965 after voters approved a \$2.2 million bonding referendum and it reflected fresh approaches to library organization, collections and services. The central library structure at Mifflin and Fairchild Streets was built during Bernard



The 1965 library building was the work of Madison architects Weiler & Strang.

Schwab's long tenure as library director (1957-1981) and, after his death in 1990, was named in his honor.

Like many American communities, Madison first had a subscription library supported by those who paid a fee to use the collection. The Madison Institute was chartered in 1853 "for the purposes of establishing and sustaining at Madison a reading room and library, and providing for and instituting literary and scientific lectures and other means of moral and intellectual improvement." After occupying various temporary spaces, the institute settled into regular quarters in City Hall in 1866

Madison created a free library in 1875 after the Wisconsin legislature empowered municipalities to levy taxes for public libraries and, in 1906, the city opened the doors to its first dedicated central library on Carroll street at Dayton. Madison successfully requested \$75,000 for its new building from philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, a Scottish immigrant who accumulated a huge fortune in steel and other industries. In the 33 years before his death in 1919, Carnegie gave more than \$40 million for libraries in communities across America (including a second gift of \$11,000 to Madison for the Sixth Ward Library building that still stands at 1249 Williamson Street).

The central Carnegie library was designed in the Elizabethan Revival style—fashioned of red brick with limestone trim—and had two stories over a raised basement. Initially, the library occupied the basement and the first floor and expanded to the second story in 1938. The Madison Free Library was demolished in 1965 to make way for the State Street Capitol Parking Garage.



The transformed central library was designed by architects Meyer, Scherer & Rockcastle of Minneapolis and Potter Lawson of Madison.

Pet Loss Prevention And Recovery

Most of us never expect our beloved pets to be lost or stolen. The reality is that accidents do happen, and when they do, many owners are unprepared. The two biggest reasons for pet loss are children or workmen inadvertently letting them out of the house or yard. One in three pets will become lost at some point during their lives. And 90% of lost pets without proper identification never make it home again. Last year Dane County Humane Society (DCHS) received 1,020 dogs and 2,043 cats brought to the shelter as strays. 63% of those dogs and only 12% of the cats were returned to their owners!

Many more pets could be reunited with their owners if they were microchipped and/or tagged. A microchip is about the size of a large grain of rice and is coded with identifying information that is placed under the skin of an animal; it uses passive RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology that can be read by an external scanner). The Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association has shown a return-to-owner rate of 52% for dogs who are microchipped, versus a rate of just 22% for dogs who enter a shelter and are not microchipped. That means microchipping your dog more

than doubles your chances of finding it if it's ever lost! Cats had an even more dramatic increase in successful returns home. Only 2% of non-microchipped cats were returned to their owners, compared to more than 38% of cats that were microchipped. The combination of a tag and microchip gives the best of both worlds by providing a visual and implanted identification.

DCHS will host a steeply discounted tag (\$5) and microchip (\$15) event April 21-22 and 24-27 at the shelter for both dogs and cats. Microchipping can also be done at the shelter on a walk-in basis any day during normal hours of operation or by appointment with your veterinarian.

It's 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 it 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 at 608-255-2345. After hours, take the animal to Madison Veterinary Specialists at 229 W. Beltline Hwy, 608-274-7772. For more information go to our website giveshelter.org or call 608-838-0413.



Where Is It?



We are starting a new series with this issue. Test your downtown knowledge. Do you know what it is and where it is? Turn to page 11 to find out and learn of its significance. Thanks to **Pete Ostlind** for starting this series.

Contribute to this series!. Do you know of an object or architectural feature people may have never noticed or don't know about? Send in a picture and a brief description to be considered for publication in the newsletter!

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Madison Senior Center

April – May news

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The Sweet Spot!

Program and support group about diabetes and its related health conditions with Ben Heiser from Mallatt's Pharmacy on Thursday, April 10, 1 pm. This month: Lowering the Cost of Diabetes. Please register.

And Then There Was One

Facilitator Donna Hutter reviews *And Then There Was One*, by Charlotte Fox, a tactical survival workbook following the loss of a loved one and the Guidelines for End-of-Life Preparedness. Other presenters include Brenda Haskins, Lawyer and Estate Planner, Michelle from Agrace Hospice. No charge, but the 258-page workbook is \$30. Tuesday, April 22 & 29, 9:30–11:30. Please register.

Starting a Small Business?

Madison SCORE counseling for potential or small business owners. Free. Tuesday, April 8, 10 am–11:30 am. Please register.

Live and Learn: Gardening (basics of composting)

Joe Muellenberg, UW Extension. Wednesday, April 30, 1-2:30 pm. Fee: \$5. 204-3023 to register or mscr.org for Madison Senior Center Course # 45111.

Sixth Grade Intergenerational Essay Contest

Eight Madison Metropolitan School District students read winning essays on: "My Best Older Friend" or "My Grandparents." With ice cream sundaes! Wednesday, May 7, 3:15 – 4:30 pm. Please register.

Veterans Benefits Overview

For veterans or a surviving spouse, with Dan Connery and Lisa Vining from the Dane County Veterans Service Office. Tuesday, May 20, 10 am. Please register.

AARP Safe Drivers Course

Vern Schultz. Fee: \$15 for AARP members; \$20 for non-members. Thursday, May 22, 9–1 pm. Please pre-register.

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Downtown Dialogue

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Where Is It?



Ruth Bachhuber Doyle Administration Building, 545 W. Dayton St.

By Pete Ostlind

Built in 1939 as the Washington Grade and Orthopedic School the building currently serves as the administrative offices of the Madison Metropolitan School District. The building was designed by Madison architect John Flad and constructed using financial assistance from the federal Public Works Administration by J.H. Findorff and Sons.

The architecture is an example of the Art Moderne style with round corners, continuous horizontal bands and narrow vertical stacks of windows along the auditorium portion of the building. Decorative metal grilles are installed over these windows. Each grille consists of five panels of a stylized design of chevrons along the base, with featherlike verticals at the sides.

Upon the school's opening the Wisconsin State Journal noted the many advantages of this new school including: a gymnasium, shower rooms, an auditorium, science rooms, art and music rooms, a room built specifically as a library and automatically controlled heating and ventilation.

Continued on page 13



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Downtown Business District News

By Mary Carbine, Madison's Central Business Improvement District (BID)

Spring is indeed on its way to downtown, with upcoming events including the **Dane County Farmers' Market** on the Square opening Saturday on April 19, Isthmus Green Day and Crazylegs Classic Run/Walk on April 26, the **Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's** "Design MMoCA" April 25-May 4 and Gallery Night on May 2, the Syttende Mai Run/Walk, May 17, and the Madison Marathon (Twilight 10K & Half Marathon), May 24-25. For more downtown event information see www.visitdowntownmadison.com or call (608) 512-1342.

Madison's Central BID is looking forward to partnering with City of Madison Parks and Mall Maintenance to bring pansies and other spring greenery in downtown planters by late April, and summer annuals to be planted in select garden beds in late May.

Current employees of **Four Star Video Heaven** (449 State St.) are in the midst of a crowdfunding campaign on Indiegogo to help convert this longtime downtown business into a worker-owned cooperative. They are seeking initial investment by April 24 so that Four Star can continue to offer a personal touch for movie rentals. More information and a link to contribute are at www.fourstarvideoheaven.com.

Recently opened downtown businesses include **Red Rock Saloon** at 322 W. Johnson St., which features local and national country and rock music acts weekly, award-winning regional BBQ, burgers, signature wings and Texas Red Chili, and **Which Wich** at 411 State St., where you can order a customized sandwich

Arch Apothecary, an independently-owned makeup boutique with brow and blowout bar will open on the Square this spring at 27 E. Main St. Arch has locations in Chicago and Rockford, and will offer premium makeup brands as well as beauty services. **Yellow Rose Gallery** also plans to open this spring at 122 State St.

(upstairs from The Fountain). This community gallery space will feature sculpture, paintings, photography and more by artists from Dane County. Also in tap to open this spring; **Rare**, a steakhouse at 14 W. Mifflin St. that will offer on- premise dry aged steaks and is the latest venture from the owners of The Ivory Room, Capital Tap Haus and Buck and Badger; Short Stack Eatery, a breakfast diner at 301 W. Johnson St., and Palmyra Mediterranean Grill at 419 State St.

To keep up with downtown events and new businesses, stop by the Downtown Visitor Center at 452 State St. or see www.visitdowntownmadison.com. Staffed by BID Information Ambassadors, the Visitor Center is open Sun.-Wed. 11:00am-2:00pm and Thu.-Sat. 11:00am-5:00pm through May 2. Beginning May 3, the Visitor Center will be open summer hours: Mon-Thurs: 11am-5pm; Fri: 11am-6pm; Sat: 9am-6pm; and Sun: 12pm-4pm. The Capitol Square Info Booth will also open May 3 (weather permitting) with hours Mon-Tue: 11am-2pm; Wed-Thur: 11am-5pm; Fri: 11am-6pm; Sat: 9am-6pm; and Sun: 12pm-4pm.



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Where Is It?, Continued from page 11

As the name implies the school was built to accommodate the crippled children within the Madison School District. Accommodations to make the building accessible to students with disabilities were designed into the building. The auditorium had wide spaces between rows, broad ramps led to the gyms and lunch room, and an elevator was installed in one corner of the orthopedic unit. Special features of the unit were to include a physio-therapy room, a hydro-therapy room, a cubicle for ultra violet treatment, showers and exercise and activity rooms.

Blair St. Gardens Bloom Again

By Ellen Henningsen, President, Blair Street Gardens

The Blair Street Gardens will make their 29th annual appearance this season. The Gardens consist of beds on Wilson Street across from The Cardinal Bar, on Willy Street in front of the Gateway Mall, and on Blair Street next to MGE. They are planted and maintained by an independent, nonprofit group of Capitol and Marquette neighborhood residents.

This year we will continue with the perennial plantings on Wilson Street. We also plan to redesign the Gateway area, and plant native species and add a seating area.

The Gardens need help with administrative and gardening tasks. If you can help with spring planting, maintenance, fall cleanup or administrative work, please e-mail volunteer@blairstreetgardens.org. You can also help by sending a tax-deductible contribution to Blair Street Gardens Committee, Inc., P.O. Box 1333, Madison 53701-1333. For volunteer and other information, visit www.blairstreetgardens.org or our Facebook page.

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In Search of a Home, Continued from page 1

didn't aggressively explore condos at this point because of the underlying belief we still had that kids needed a house. After seeing most of the housing on the market in that two year period, we made five offers - all of them on houses. We were outbid on all five. Reality hit - downtown houses were beautiful, old, cozy and expensive! This was the turning point in our decision making process when we started to challenge our assumptions. We were content living with less in the apartment and we didn't miss the house like we imagined we would. Maybe home didn't mean a house for us?

That was when we started seriously considering living in a condo. We always liked the concept of a condominium, but we were hesitant about rules, fees - the unknown! The idea of reducing our carbon footprint was appealing too (not to mention 1,700 square feet of unnecessary stuff), but we wondered if we would be sacrificing privacy and independence. Plus there were the constant reminders from friends - kids can't live in a condo. Kids need space to run around. They need a yard. There won't be any other kids around.

The condos we looked at in the beginning weren't a good match for our family either. All of them were in terrific locations, but many of them had too many units, were sterile or had no green space. Still, we kept looking at both houses and condos and didn't ever consider compromising on our ideal location since we were content staying in the small apartment another year. In May, two years after we moved into the apartment, we found the perfect home - and it was a condo. It has a beautiful shared courtyard and an herb garden, and yes - a family upstairs with kids the same age (and a few younger kids too)! There are restaurants and parks two blocks away, a bike path right outside our door, an effective owner run association, a friendly and diverse group of neighbors, and, it ended up being the exact right combination of community and privacy.

For us, much of the initial decision was practical. We didn't want to do lots of lawn care, we liked the location and we liked the economies of scale realized by the condo association. However, after living in our new home for over a month we've also come to love the sense of community and friendship that make this a home.

Events at the Library

April-May 2014

UW Center for Humanities lecture

The Mismeasure of Crime: How Numbers Lie About Race by Khalil Gibran Muhammad

Historian and civil rights scholar and author of *The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America*. Committed to



moving Black history from the margins to the center of American public discourse, his scholarship reshapes our understanding of the enduring link between race and crime and the persistent ways it has defined and limited opportunities for African Americans. **Thursday, April 3 7:30 pm**

Extending the Stage

Madison Opera is partnering with the Library to present educational activities leading up to the performances of *Dead Man Walking* on April 25 and 27, 2014, culminating with the discussion between Sister Helen and Jake Heggie. See http://www.madisonopera.org/performances-2013-2014/dead_man_walking/?ID=328 for a complete calendar.

- **Madison Opera Preview of Dead Man Walking.** A talk with General Director Kathryn Smith, Tuesday, April 8 7:00 pm
- **Race To Execution, a film by Rachel Lyon.** Traces two death row inmates, Robert Tarver in Russell County, Alabama and Madison Hobley in Chicago, Illinois. Professor Carolyn Fields of Edgewood College will lead a discussion following the film. Thursday, April 10 6:30 pm

Central Cinema Thursday Films

For April and May Visit <http://www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/calendar/film> for descriptions and a complete calendar of films.

- April 17 6:30 pm – **Policewomen** (1974) by Lee Frost.

- May 1 6:30 pm - **Paths of Glory** by Stanley Kurbick.
- May 15 6:30 pm - **Desperate Lives** by Robert Michael Lewis.

Classical Music in the Library

Ensemble SDG Celebrate the 300th birthday of Carl Philipp Emmanuel Bach. Sunday, March 23 3:00 pm

Poetry in the Library

“Poet Fabu in Wisconsin” Former Madison Poet Laureate Fabu presents a Celebration of National Poetry Month. An open mic follows with readings by local poets. Sunday, April 6 2:00 pm

Wisconsin Book Festival

Biggest Book Club Ever with Nevada Barr, Free!

Thursday, April 24 6:00 pm - Join a discussions of **THE ROPE** by Nevada Barr. Librarians, library students and retired librarians facilitate discussion groups of 10-20 people all around the Central Library. At 7:30, Nevada Barr will give a brief reading followed by a question and answer session. Call 266-6350 to register.

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Wisconsin Historical Museum

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Look for a postcard and listserv announcements in May for more details



Spring is coming to Downtown! Photo: Lone Oak Interests
