Marking the close of another Madison summer season, the Willy St. Fair celebrates its community pride, strength and uniqueness throughout two days of festivities! With a soft start on the 900 block of Willy St. on Saturday afternoon, crowds will move to music from around the globe as the Wisconsin Union Theater hosts the Madison World Music Festival on the Main Stage in the Plan B lot. Dancers can also find solace in the stirring sounds from the Willy St. Beats stage in the Heartland Credit Union lot, featuring local, regional and international electronic music artists. After you’ve had time to rest and repair overnight, venture back out for the whole shebang along three full blocks of Willy Street. We’ll kick it off with the Annual Willy St. Parade! Musicians, performers and neighborhood organizations take to the streets to celebrate the whimsical, magical time that the Willy Street Fair is known for.

WWW.CWD.ORG/COMMUNITY/EVENTS/WILLY-STREET-FAIR/
JOIN THE FIGHT FOR FAIR HOUSING!

Housing discrimination is common, yet most people remain unaware of its prevalence. Equal housing opportunity – the idea that all people should have equal access to all the housing they can afford – is still an elusive dream for many Dane County residents.

Fair housing laws make it illegal for housing providers to discriminate based on race, marital status, disability, family status (including presence of children in a household) and other protected characteristics. In this day and age, however, housing discrimination is often subtle and difficult to detect. In many instances, people leave an interaction with a housing provider unaware that they have been treated differently than someone else because of their race, because they have kids, or because they have a disability.

If you are concerned about housing discrimination in your neighborhood, please consider becoming involved in the ongoing struggle for equal housing opportunity. The Fair Housing Center of Greater Madison provides educational workshops for civic and social service groups, neighborhood organizations, and others interested in learning more about fair housing issues, including residential segregation, the nature of discrimination, and how to become a volunteer in a unique part of the fight for social justice in our communities. Call 608-257-0853 for more information or to schedule a presentation for your group. If you think you may have been illegally denied housing on the basis of your race, national origin, sex, familial status, disability, age, lawful source of income, sexual orientation, or another characteristic, please contact our toll-free statewide complaint intake hotline at 1-877-647-FAIR (3247).
$1000 TOP GRAND PRIZE AT 2015 WSF RAFFLE

For the 23rd consecutive year, Common Wealth and Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center are joining forces to raise funds for our Youth Programming through the Willy Street Fair Raffle. Madison’s biggest and best street fair takes place on the weekend of September 19 & 20, 2015.

Local businesses have already donated over 125 raffle prizes, with the top grand prize of $1000 cash coming from Applied Tech Solutions. In addition to eight other grand prizes, there are chances to win gift certificates, prize baskets, merchandise, event tickets, and experiences around Madison; every winner will have something to smile about.

Tickets are available for purchase at Common Wealth (1501 Williamson Street) and the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center (953 Jenifer Street). They will also be available at the Willy Street Fair. Cost is 1 for $2, 3 for $5, and 10 for $10. The drawing will be Sunday, September 20 @ 6:30 pm at the Third Lake Market Lot. Ticket holders need not be present to win. Please help support this wonderful cause!

CHANGE THE WORLD IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD!

SUPPORT COMMON WEALTH AND COMMUNITY SHARES OF WISCONSIN THROUGH YOUR EMPLOYER’S WORKPLACE GIVING CAMPAIGN

The oldest social action fund in the country, Community Shares of Wisconsin, connects donors with 60 local nonprofits building social and economic equity and a healthy environment. These organizations are committed to effecting positive change in people’s lives, whether they’re cleaning up a river, creating more affordable housing, or educating people about the issues that shape their community.

Community Shares of Wisconsin raises funds for its member agencies – including Common Wealth – through workplace giving campaigns at private sector employers in the Greater Madison area. Public sector employees can designate Community Shares and its member agencies through their Combined Campaign.

Please consider giving to Common Wealth through your employer’s workplace giving campaign. There are two ways that you can support Common Wealth through Community Shares. First, consider designating your gift to Common Wealth, and we will receive 100% of your contribution. (No part of your gift will be held back for administrative purposes!) Or, direct your gift to Community Shares and support Common Wealth along with many other worthy nonprofits. Both types of gifts are needed and appreciated.

To learn more about Community Shares of Wisconsin’s workplace giving program, please visit www.communityshares.com or call (608) 256-1066.

Thank you for your support of Common Wealth and Community Shares of Wisconsin!
Well, autumn has crept up on us all after a Madison summer full of festivals, music, and the best we have to offer. Orton Park Festival turned 50 this year, and what a great event it was! Orton Park Fest is truly our neighborhood’s festival to celebrate with music, local food, and the friendship of all who love living in this neighborhood we call home. Thanks to all who organized, volunteered, and attended!

So the question I get the most is “What is the Marquette Neighborhood Association?”

My answer: A group of people who take an interest in where their neighborhood is going, giving input on local issues, and working to make our neighborhood the best it can be. We are all volunteering our time for the betterment of our area.

Looking forward, the Marquette Neighborhood Association membership meeting will take place on October 15 at the Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center, located at 953 Jenifer Street. For the first time MNA will sponsor a neighborhood dinner for all to attend before our annual meeting. Come, have a great meal, meet new people, and then stay for our membership meeting to learn more about the great neighborhood we live in. We will offer a buffet dinner at 5:30 pm, graciously prepared by the Wil-Mar Center staff, with our annual membership meeting beginning at 7:00 pm. We will be electing new board members, reviewing and approving the MNA budget for 2016, and voting amendments to the MNA bylaws.

If you are interested in running for the board send an email to lynn.lee90@yahoo.com

If you’d like to get involved in the Marquette Neighborhood Association you can;

• Join the neighborhood discussion group at MarqNA@yahoogroups.com
• Join our Face Book page Marquette Neighborhood Association
• Come to a board meeting held the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Wilmar Neighborhood Center at 953 Jenifer Street
• Check out our website at http://marquette-neighborhood.org/
• Plan to attend the October 15 general membership meeting to learn more!

Thanks to all who make MNA as successful as it is!

— Lynn Lee
MNA president
Locally grown

[ lōh’kuhl-ee grōhn ] – adjective

1. Contemporary expression describing a person that has resided in an area long enough to know about all the unique shops, restaurants, coffee shops and more that make the Atwood/Williamson area such a vibrant community.

2. A diminishing description for a bank that resides and invests in the same community as the customers it serves.

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ACE Hardware Center
1398 Williamson St. 257-1630 acewilly@tds.net
Assist with a craft project, serve a meal or just engage in conversation with the young at heart whose health is frail. Or be an escort on van trips into the community.

Weekdays from 8 a.m to 4:30 p.m. Come help make someone’s life happier and emotionally healthier.

To view “A Life Transformed” and “The Best Day” go to www.stmarysmadison.com and click on “Patient Stories”.

FRIENDS NEEDED

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Christ Presbyterian Church

Sunday Services at 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
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September 19 & 20

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www.willystreetfair.org for the latest details.
La Fête de Marquette
July 9-12, 2015 Central Park

NICK DANIELS OF DUMPSTAPHUNK PHOTO BY TODD JENSEN

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ROBIN PLUER PHOTO BY TODD JENSEN
I hope that you have been able to follow the developments in the City’s involvement in My Brother's Keeper Community Challenge (MBK).

MBK is a White House issued challenge accepted by the City to implement programs and policies to improve life chances for boys and young men of color. It is an initiative on which the City has focused for several months. One portion was a youth survey to ask boys and young men of color their preferences for what focus our efforts should take.

Over 200 youth took the survey and shared their ideas and opinions. I cannot emphasize enough the value of the information survey participants provided. Although we asked broad questions on how we can solve complicated social problems and remove barriers to opportunities for our boys and young men of color, our youth exceeded our expectations, sharing thought provoking ideas, personal experiences, and even making some policy recommendations of their own!

Through the surveys, we have gained great insight into places where our Madison community could use improvement and identified our two My Brother’s Keeper focus areas: ensure all students graduate from high school, and ensure all children and young people remain safe from violent crime and receive second chances.

I am pleased to report that I was recently joined by MMSD Superintendent Cheatham, Judge Koval, Chief Koval, District Attorney Ozanne, Sheriff Mahoney, Alder Bidar-Sielaff, Dr. Ruben Anthony, Dr. Jerlando Jackson, Dr. John Odom, and Mr. Everett Mitchell on behalf of UW-Madison Chancellor Rebecca Blank to release the My Brother’s Keeper Madison Report and Recommendations for Action and unveil the MBK Madison Community Pledge. I am grateful for the partnership of these individuals, the organizations they represent, and many more that have made MBK a priority.

While the City of Madison and our MBK partners are committed to fulfilling the two goals selected by our boys and young men of color, change cannot happen alone. We are asking that Madisonians sign onto the MBK challenge via the pledge.

The pledge is simple; we are asking community members to take action and join in on the MBK initiative. From taking time to volunteer and mentor youth of color, to simply working to change one’s thought processes, there is something for everyone. Join me in taking the pledge by visiting http://www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/programs/my-brothers-keeper/ and encourage your friends and colleagues to do the same.

Stay Well!
The Common Council adopted a comprehensive revision of the 1971 Landmarks ordinance on July 21, 2015. Since 1971, the city has created 182 designated landmarks and landmark sites. The city also created five historic districts: Mansion Hill (1976), Third Lake Ridge (1979), University Heights (1985), Marquette Bungalows (1993) and First Settlement (2002). Three of the five historic districts are in the 6th District.

The Landmarks Commission spent almost four years working on a new draft ordinance. The draft was introduced in May 2014 and referred to the Landmarks Ordinance Review Committee, an ad hoc committee composed of alders created to review the Landmarks Commission draft in two phases. I served on the Ad Hoc Committee. Phase One focused on policies and procedures, Phase Two will address each of the historic districts.

The Ad Hoc Committee spent the last year reviewing the policies and procedures section of the draft ordinance. We received testimony from the preservation and development community, interested alders, neighborhood association reps, and others as we put together the new ordinance.

Highlights of the ordinance include three key policy goals. The first acknowledges the public interest in preserving and maintaining historic resources. Second, the city will vigorously enforce the ordinance. Finally the intent is to preserve existing resources but when new construction happens it must comply with the standards of the ordinance and complement existing historic fabric. Other major changes include new definitions and clarification of the visual compatibility standard; a clear obligation to maintain historic resources and provides penalties for failure to maintain and demolition by neglect; and a variance process to allow for economic hardship, historic design and projects that provide unique benefits to the public. The language describing the appeal process has been clarified. The council must use the standards for review that the Landmarks Commission uses and the 2/3 favorable vote is still required to overturn a Landmarks decision.

Phase Two will consist of rewriting the historic district standards, which will include a public input process for each of our five historic districts. The process will start with the Landmarks Commission and then drafts will be reviewed by LORC. Phase One will be primary policy framework and will function along with the existing historic district standards. In cases of conflicts between the two there is a section that defines how those should be resolved.

I urge every property owner in the Third Lake Ridge to take a look at the new ordinance; it is now in Chapter 41, instead of Sec 33.19. Review of Phase Two will likely start with the Mansion Hill historic district standards and then move on the Third Lake Ridge.
After nearly five months of budget deliberations by the Legislature, Governor Walker recently signed the 2015-17 state budget into law. And let me tell you, as I observed first hand as the ranking Assembly Democrat on the Joint Finance Committee (JFC), this budget is as much of a mess as when the Governor introduced it back in February. Although my Democratic colleagues and I tried to do everything we could to fix this budget, including proposing adequate funding for our K-12 public schools, restoring the proposed cuts to our stellar UW system, and maintaining critical scientists at the Department of Natural Resources and other environmental programs, our efforts were rebuffed.

Unfortunately for us all, Republicans passed one of the most destructive budgets in recent memory.

We’ve heard from Governor Walker and his allies that they’re reformers. But really, this budget is about destroying so many of the programs and investments that have made our state great. Budgets are all about choices – and the choices made by the GOP show whose side they are on, and it is not the side of the Wisconsin people.

In this budget, Republicans once again chose to not adequately fund public education. Instead, they prioritized siphoning off millions of dollars from our public schools to subsidize private school tuition and independent charter schools. All while giving more tax cuts to wealthy families while slashing our UW System by nearly $250 million – which we recently learned UW-Madison will be bearing the brunt of by nearly 50 percent.

In this budget, Republicans chose to denigrate our environment. They cut the Stewardship program by millions, fired scientists at the Bureau of Science Services, all while doing away with critical shoreland zoning protections that were created by individual communities after years of cooperation between stakeholders.

In this budget, Republicans chose to tinker with our nationally renowned model for long term care. Despite pleas from over a dozen advocacy groups who were collectively opposed to any changes to current law, Republicans moved ahead with their plans to dismantle our regional long term care system, including the popular IRIS which will create more uncertainty for families.

The commonality of these choices is clear = they do not help the people of this state. They destroyed well respected programs and traditions that Wisconsin is known for and that Wisconsinites love.

I will continue to fight for the Wisconsin that we can be. I do believe that on the horizon is change—and a return to a progressive policy tradition of creating opportunities for the people of our state.

Our energy world is changing. Madison Gas and Electric’s *Building a Community Energy Company for the Future* discussion guide provides a summary look at the complex issues facing our industry today. Explore the guide and share your input as part of MGE’s Community Energy Conversations underway throughout our community. Download the discussion guide and make comments at mge.com/conversations. To participate in an MGE small group discussion session facilitated by Justice and Sustainability Associates, email CEC@jsallc.com.

*Help us shape your utility of the future.*
WHAT’S NEW AT WILLY STREET CO-OP

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Willy Street Co-op is governed by nine Owners serving as our Board of Directors. Any Owner can run for a seat on the Board, and all Owners in good standing are able to vote. This year we had a little over 2,500 ballots were cast to decide who should fill the three open seats. Kathy Kemnitz, Dave Pauly, and Holly Fearing (an incumbent) were elected; congratulations to them, and thanks to all who ran and voted.

MAJOR RESET COMPLETED AT WILLY EAST

Since the Willy East remodel, we have gotten feedback from customers that some of our packaged grocery products were difficult to find or not in intuitive places in the store. In mid-July we relocated a number of these products and even added some new ones. The response has been extremely positive, with customers reporting that the reorganization makes everything easier to find. We hope that you agree!

RECENT COMMUNITY DONATIONS

In June and July, Willy Street Co-op donated to a number of local nonprofits. Below are a few of them. If you know of a nonprofit group that is looking for a donation, please ask them to fill out our Donation Request Form at willystreet.coop/donation-request-form.

• AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
• Aldo Leopold Nature Center
• Common Wealth Development
• Creative Learning Preschool & Child Care
• Dane County Parent Council
• Freedom Inc.
• Gathering Waters
• Good Neighbor Fest
• Heartland Farm Sanctuary
• Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice
• Madison Area Community Land Trust
• Madison Senior Center
• Olbrich Botanical Gardens
• Rape Crisis Center
• Safe Advocacy Child advocacy Center
• Safe Harbor Child Advocacy Center
• Sierra Club (Four Lakes Region)
• Sustain Dane
• United Way
• Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center
• Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault
• Wisconsin Land and Water
• WORT-FM
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