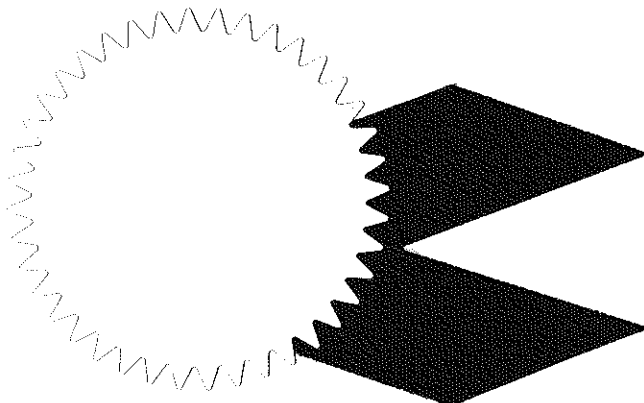


MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** on June 14, 1951, the Madison Rotarians donated the gift of a Statue of Liberty replica to Madison in honor of the 40th anniversary of the Scouting movement and dedicated the replica as a pledge of loyalty to preserve our heritage of freedom; and
- WHEREAS,** on October 28, 1971, the statue was repaired and relocated to Warner Park; but after 40 years of harsh weather and vandalism, the statue was severely damaged; and
- WHEREAS,** the Madison Arts Commission, which attends to the long term stewardship of historic works, held a public meeting in the fall of 2009 to determine if there was community will to restore the statue, which has become a cultural marker for Madison and the Northside and an important part of our country's historical legacy; and
- WHEREAS,** a dedicated group of Madisonians committed themselves to saving the piece; and
- WHEREAS,** for nearly three years, volunteers including co-chairs Barbara Arnold, John Frey and Sue Peck; and community members Anita Weir, Paul Rusk, Gerhard Pechmann, Carol Krizmanic, Alex Coyie, and Erich Pechmann volunteered countless hours to restore the statue; and
- WHEREAS,** on November 18, 2011 members of the Liberty Restoration Committee were saddened to learn of the unexpected death of Tony Rajer, historic preservationist, hired to conserve the Statue and a tireless advocate for Madison's public art and cultural treasures; Christine Style, Mr. Rajer's widow and Eric Meulemans, the artist Mr. Rajer hired to complete the repairs, persevered in conserving the statue; and
- WHEREAS,** with the assistance of the Parks Department, "Madison's Court of Honor" in Warner Park, has also been restored with new flags, lighting and landscaping; and
- WHEREAS,** on May 29, 2012, the sculpture was placed back on her plinth in Warner Park; and
- WHEREAS,** June 14, 2012 is the anniversary of the original dedication of America's Statue of Liberty; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor of the City of Madison, Wisconsin, does hereby proclaim Flag Day, Thursday, June 14, 2012, as "Liberty Day;" and encourage citizens to reflect on the enduring principles of enlightenment, freedom, justice, and hope represented by this universal icon of our nation; and invite the press and all Madisonians to join the volunteers of this restoration on Sunday, August 12, 2012 at the Court of Honor site, Warner Park, Madison, Wisconsin, to witness the rededication of Madison's Statue of Liberty.



Mayor Paul R. Soglin

Signed and sealed this 14th day of June 2012 at City Hall.