

BREAKING House Speaker Paul Ryan will not seek re-election

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WEB ONLY

Creative construction: Read the 12 poems being considered for imprinting in the Monroe Street sidewalk

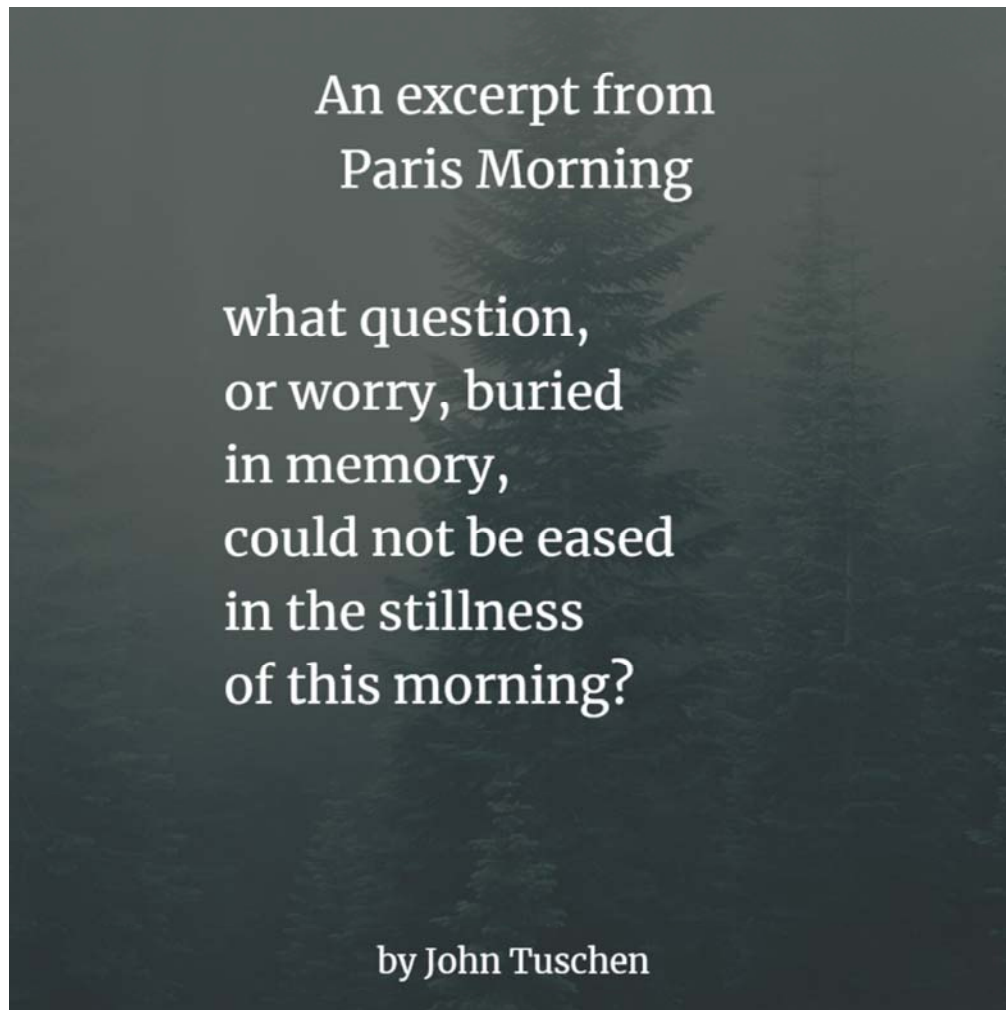
Nick Heynen | Wisconsin State Journal Apr 10, 2018

The Madison Arts Commission will be reviewing these poems for imprinting into the sidewalk along Monroe Street as part of the massive reconstruction project this summer.

"Poem for Jordan" by John Tuschen



An excerpt from "Paris Morning" by John Tuschen

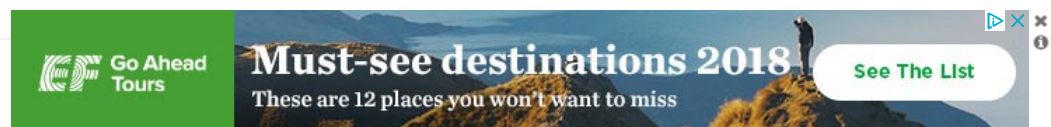
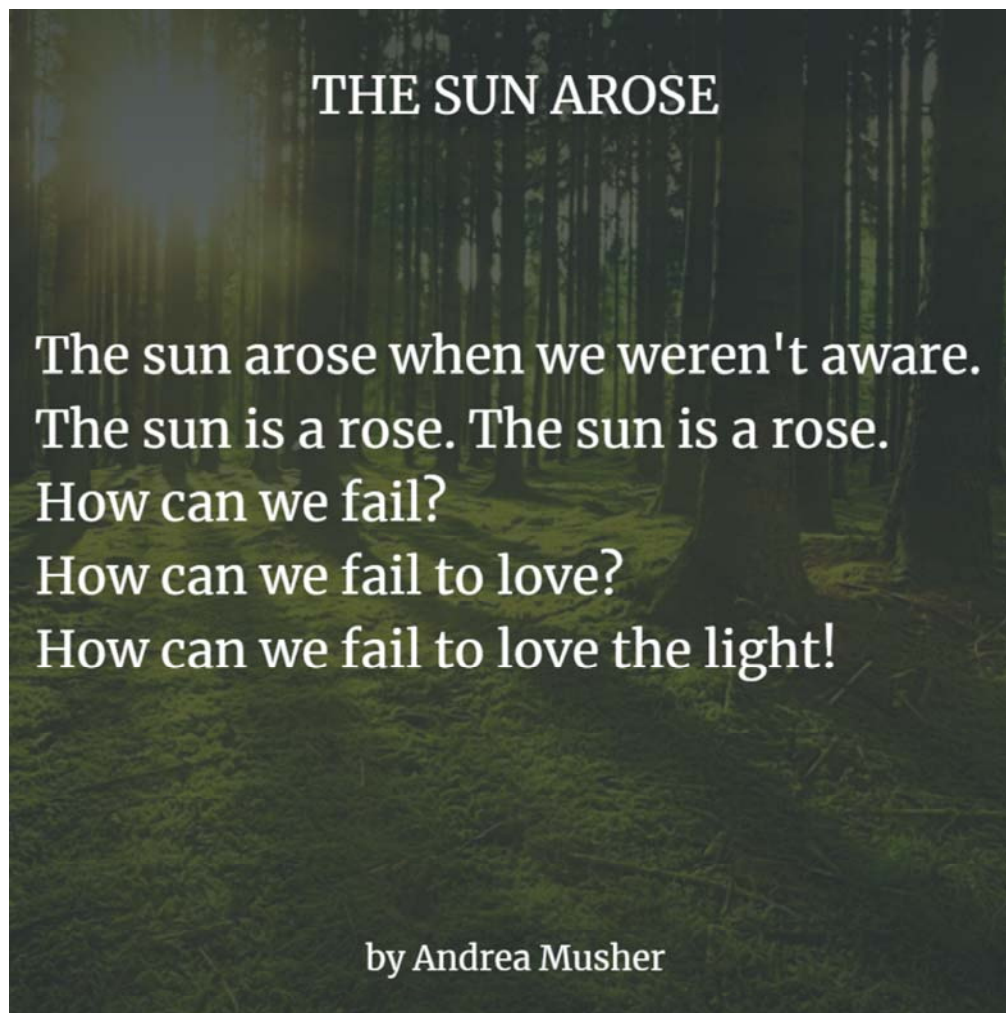


"THE SUN AROSE" by Andrea Musher

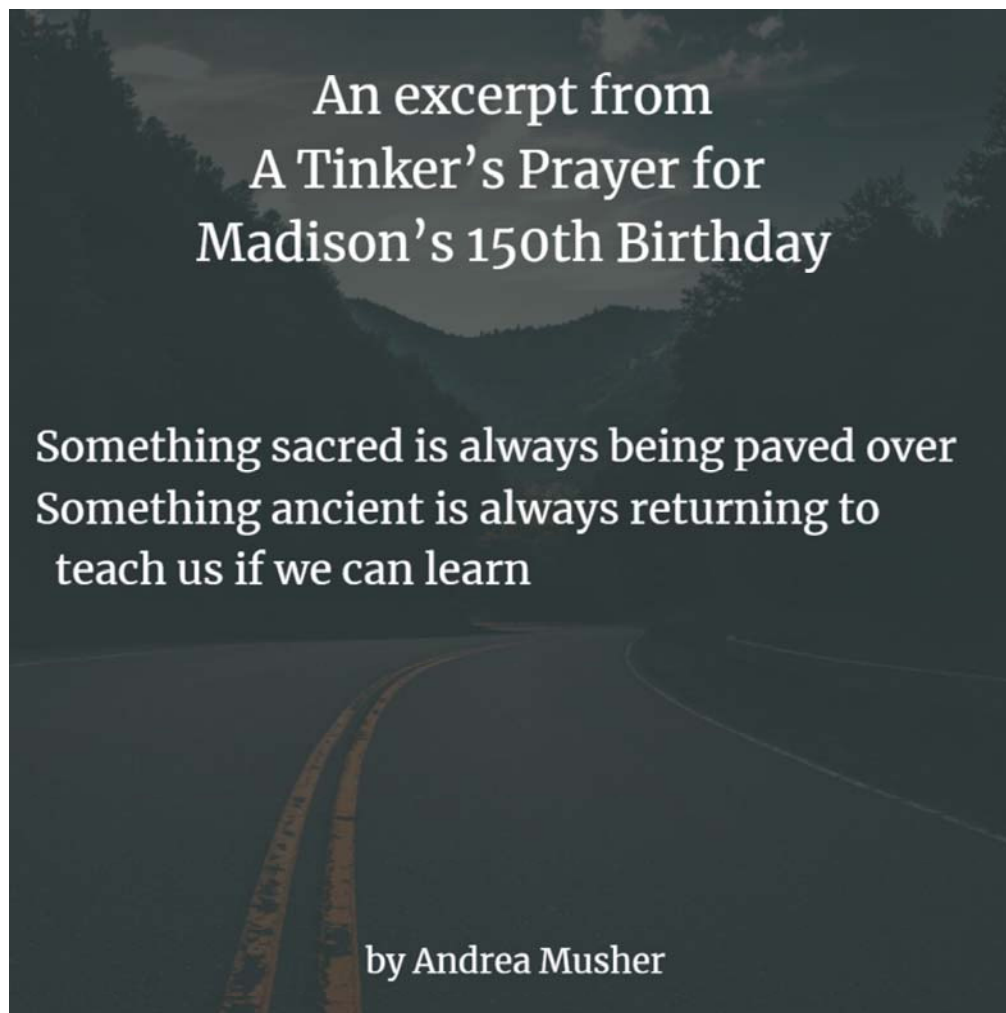
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An excerpt from "A Tinker's Prayer for Madison's 150th Birthday"
by Andrea Musher



"Lightening Girl" by Fabu

Lightening Girl

Struck with power
standing wet under a solitary tree
in a wide green pasture.

Even electric bolts
didn't scare her, slow her down none
just bothered her some.

Flashing out of her mouth
for the rest of her life
were words that shocked and stunned.

by Fabu

"Cuando El Niño Tiene Un Buen Crecimiento" by Fabu (Nydia Rojas)

Cuando El Niño Tiene Un Buen Crecimiento

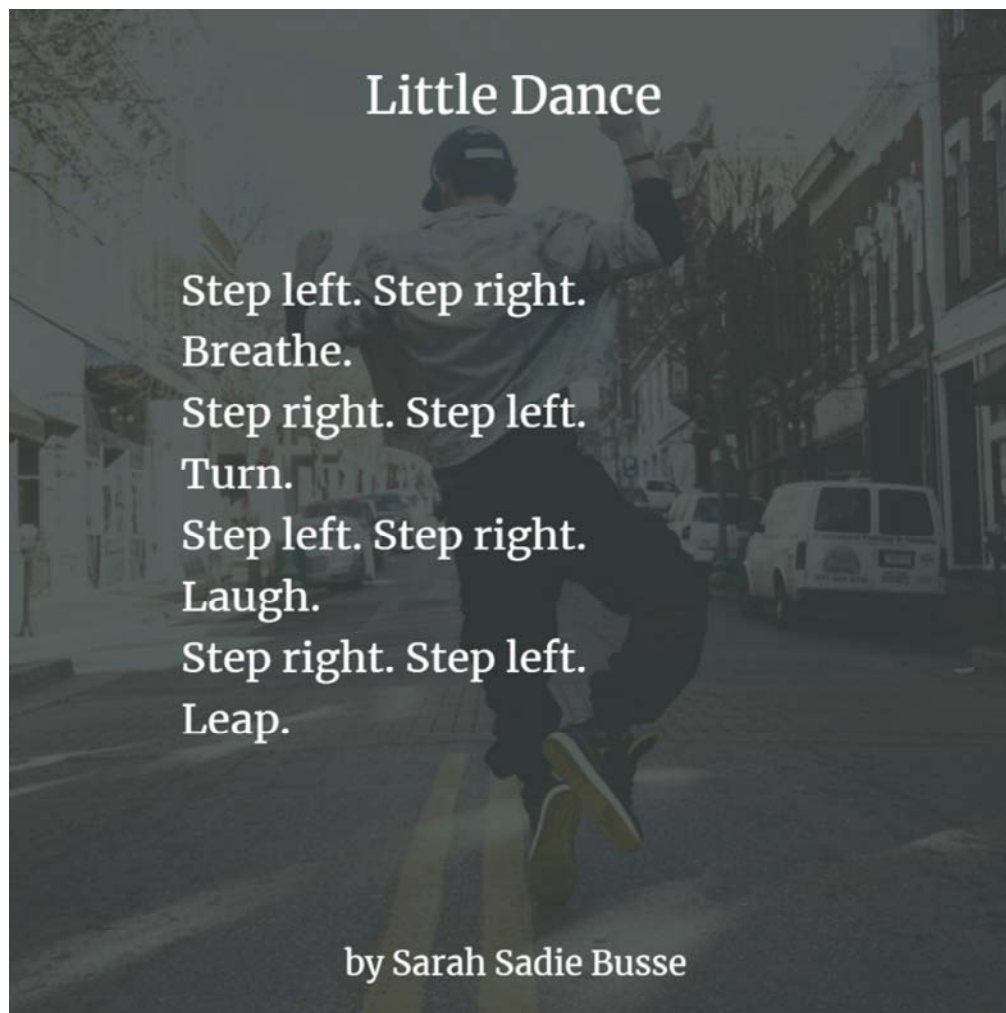
Es un maravilloso tesoro de incalculable valor
ver cómo el entendimiento despierta
suavemente
dentro del alma de un niño
ver como fluye hacia fuera, puro y brillante
reflejado en ojos grandes y brillantes.

by Fabu (Nydia Rojas)

"Summer's To-Do List" by Sarah Sadie Busse



"Little Dance" by Sarah Sadie Busse



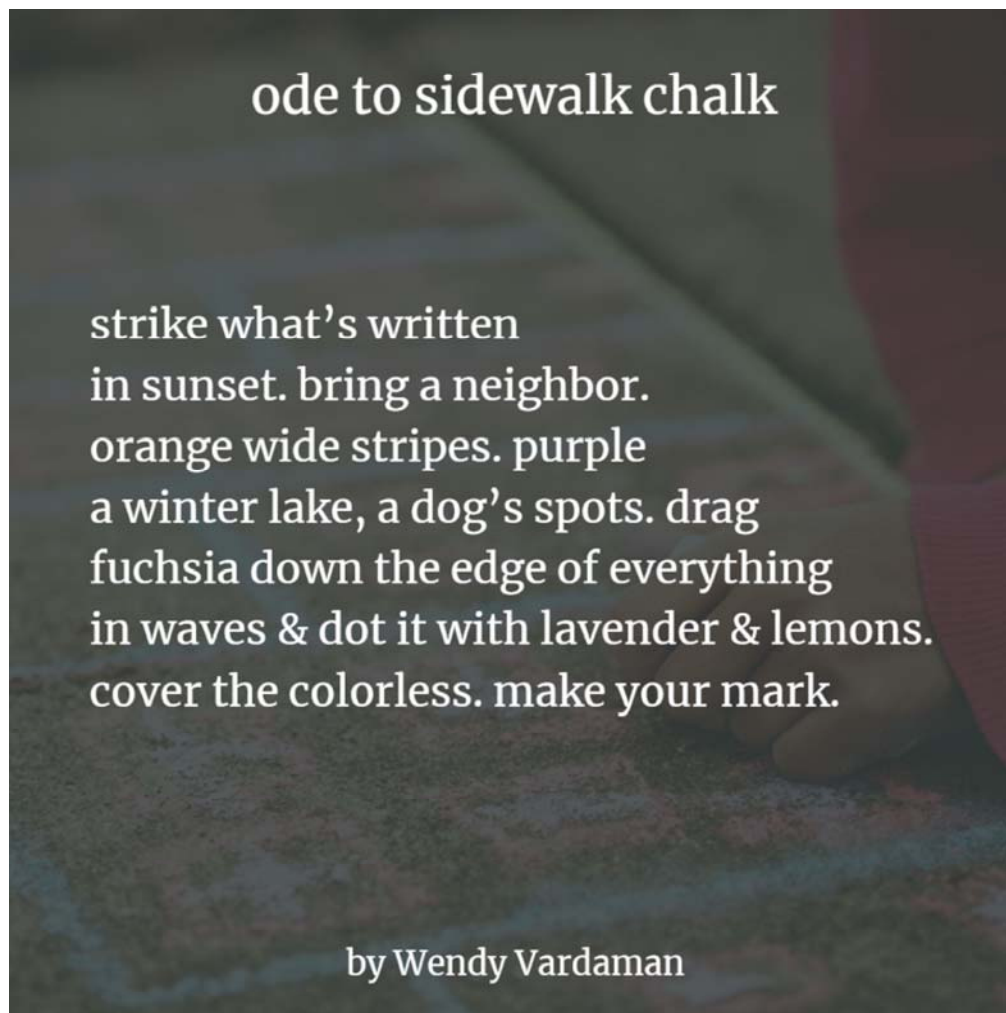
"neighborhood repair" by Wendy Vardaman

neighborhood repair

failure risks include settlement,
root damage, insufficient slab thickness,
inadequate expansion gaps, lack
of drainage, cycles of freeze
& thaw, heavy loads. ask me
to map the patched cracks
in my concrete. tell me about yours.

by Wendy Vardaman

"ode to sidewalk chalk" by Wendy Vardaman



"Monroe Street 900 years ago" by Oscar Mireles

Monroe Street 900 years ago

walking towards the direction
of Lake Wingra,
it was a sea of reeds and wild rice
one had to bypass several effigy mounds
that not only celebrated death, but life
a reminder that history never gets lost
as often as it seems
we try to bury it with progress.

by Oscar Mireles

"Monroe Street History" by Oscar Mireles



Nick Heynen | Wisconsin State Journal

Nick Heynen is the online editor for the Wisconsin State Journal and manages the newspaper's social media accounts. A Maryland native transplanted to Wisconsin, he joined the paper in 2007 as data reporter.

As featured on



Madison Arts Commission set to select poems to be stamped on Monroe Street sidewalks

The commission will look over 12 poems submitted by Madison's current and former poets laureate at its Tuesday meeting.