



Published by the Sunset Village Community Assn.

Annual Meeting
Wednesday Feb 8 7 pm
Sequoia Branch Library

Anthropologist Stephen
Mikesell will discuss "Energy Futures in
Suburban America" with anybody
concerned with the coming energy shortages
and how we can confront them.

Let Your Voice Be Heard!

By Liz Ringle, co-president

The annual meeting is your chance to let your voice be heard and set the agenda for the coming year. In addition to a speaker and presentation, this meeting will be your chance to hear an update on the Lucia Crest park equipment, the calendar for the upcoming year will be set, and instatement of officers for the coming year will take place. While there have been no nominations made to date, anyone interested in volunteering to be an officer should come to this meeting. Were there events this year that you enjoyed? Are there problems that need to be addressed? How do you want your membership dues spent? Would you like to have a formal evening event? How about a candidate meeting for the spring elections? What sort of speakers would you like to have at up coming meetings? What can we do to improve our environment and improve our schools? Would you like to have a special celebration as part of the city's 150th birthday? I look forward to seeing you there and listening to you!

SVCA OFFICERS

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co-presidents

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Kate Blumenthal treasurer kate2001@earthlink.net
John Ottinger newsletter editor john1149@tds.net

Dates to Remember

1/31, 2/7, 2/21, 2/28 Midvale School Tour 8:45-
10:00 a.m. 204-6701

2/4 Sequoia Library Book Sale

2/6 ANNUAL SVCA MEETING Sequoia Library 7 p.m.

2/22 Public Meeting on Midvale Plaza, Queen of Peace
Church, 401 S. Owen Dr., 231-4600.

3/4 Sequoia Library Book Sale

SVCA WEB SITES

Sunset Village Community Association has two web sites available with much information. Please visit them to learn what is going on in our neighborhood. If you have photos, files, events or other info to share on the sites, please send them by email to Brad Nordeng - nordeng01@hotmail.com
The "Community Pages" web site is available to all and includes general information, photos, meeting minutes, committee contacts, helpful links, and copies of the newsletter. The "YahooGroups" site requires a Yahoo user ID and password in order to see much of the information. Setting up a user ID and password is easy, just click the "Join This Group!" button on the SVCA home page. This site includes a message board, calendar, files, links and more.

Community Pages SVCA Site:

communities.madison.com/sunsetvillage/

Yahoo Groups SVCA Site:

[groups.yahoo.com/group/sunsetvillagecommunityass
ociation/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sunsetvillagecommunityassociation/)

Landscape planning started for neighborhood sign installation

In late January a small group of neighborhood residents got together to plan the landscaping around our first neighborhood sign. The sign is to be installed on the grounds of Fire Station #9 at the corner of Midvale and Regent this spring. The City of Madison requires review of the landscaping plan for the signs they help to fund, so the group was working on some great ideas to enhance our new sign. Work continues to get other permits needed to install the sign. Efforts continue to find a location for another sign on the south end of the neighborhood. If you have questions or would like to help with the sign installation or landscaping effort (and did not indicate your interest on the fundraising letter sent in 2005), please contact Bernadette at bgalvez@charter.net or Julie at juldar123@sbcglobal.net.

NEWS BRIEFS

Sequoia Library News One-on-One Assistance with the new Medicare Drug Program is available at the Sequoia Branch Library. Assistance is by appointment only. Call 266-6385 to reserve a date. Drop off your used printer cartridges and help fund the Sequoia Expansion. Consider donating your new and used books to the library, then get some more at the book sales on February 4 and March 4 at the library book store located on the south side of Midvale Plaza next to Bergman's.

Midvale School If you have a child entering Kindergarten in the fall and would like to tour the school or have questions, please call Mary Kay Johnson at 204-6701. Tours will be January 31 and February 7, 21, and 28 from 8:45 a.m. to 10 a.m.

MMSD - Please visit <http://www.madison.k12.wi.us/boe/longrange/> to view the Memorial/West School District Long Range planning recommendations. Residents are invited to visit www.mmsd.org/budget/100dollar/ to get more information about the \$100 budget exercise to work to better understand the difficulties in making budget cuts for the coming school year.

Hilldale Mall Please visit <http://www.hilldale.com/redev/redevelopment.html> for the most current info on Hilldale construction.

Storm Water Education Marcia Hartwig, MAMSNAP Storm Water Education Coordinator would like to remind all of us of the many opportunities we have to become involved in protecting our lakes and water sources. Visit <http://www.myfairlakes.com>

Holiday Events a Success by Kathryn Maloney

Rain did not dampen the spirits of the many who attended the Halloween Parade at Sunset Park on October 30th. The costumes were fun and creative, and Halloween themed books were awarded as prizes in various age categories. After parading around Sunset Court, we returned to the park to enjoy cider and apples, donated by Sentry Hilldale. Despite the weather, it was a fun opportunity for socializing with friends and neighbors. We hope that the parade will become an annual event.

Lucia Crest Park became North Pole Central when Santa made a visit on Dec. 3rd. Again we had to contend with some inclement weather, but the cold and snow did not prevent us from having a festive time. The shelter provided the perfect spot for visiting with Santa and enjoying hot cider, cocoa and cookies. Fresh snow also made the occasion a sledding opportunity. One of the goals of the Sunset Village Community Association is to sponsor and promote a variety of neighborhood events. Ideas for events and suggestions are welcome, and volunteers are needed plan and organize. If you can help please give us a call!

AREA KIDS FOR HIRE

Please contact these youth to hire for jobs as listed.

Yard work; pet sit for dogs, cats and other animals.
Henry, 11, phone: 238-2351

Baby sitting and dog walking.
Cynthia, 16, phone: 232-1779 (h), 335-0941 (c)

Come Spring and Summer, we'll have the need for extra hands to help in the yard, getting out the old leaves we missed before the snow fell, clearing perennial beds, raking dead grass, watering lawns while away, picking up wind-blown twigs, etc. Contact Jean MacCubbin at citizenjean@tds.net, 238-4863 and include the following information: Tasks for hire, name, age, address, and phone (no e-mails for kids, please.) We will list your ad in upcoming newsletters and on our Webpage!

YESTERDAY AND TODAY By Jill Andersen

On a recent Friday, I scrunched my two girls into the little red wagon and pulled it to the Potter's house on the 200 block of North Blackhawk. I had called Fran Potter and she agreed to be the subject of this article about Sunset Village back in the day. I've known the Potters for close to a decade. We always talk when we cross paths on the sidewalk.

But I'll admit my main reason for calling them up: I really just wanted to see their house.

You can't see much of the house from the street. All you see is driveway, garage, and landscaping. Fran's husband, Ross, is an architect in town, and he designed this Modern gem back in the early 1960s. Fran herself is a creative type, being a preeminent restorer of Navajo weavings and a weavings instructor for more than 30 years.

So I knew their house had to be cool. And I was right.

But I was there to talk about the neighborhood as a whole, and I tried really, really hard to stay on track. Following are bits of our conversation:

Jill: Your house is absolutely incredible. When did you build it?

Fran: In 1963. We moved in in 1964. Ross designed it. He had his practice going at the time. Actually this was his third design for our house. The first two were unaffordable.

Jill: Really?

Fran: Oh yeah. The first two designs were much bigger than this. But nobody would give us a loan in 1963 because it was too contemporary. Everybody was getting loans like crazy, but nobody would give us one. Because they wouldn't take a chance on it.

Jill: That's hard to believe. So why did you choose this neighborhood over all the others?

Fran: Because it had an empty lot. And we didn't want to be way out in suburbia.

Jill: At the time this wasn't suburbia?

Fran: No. It wasn't. Hilldale was just being built. And Hill Farms was starting to be built. It was close to where we work, close to where we shop.

Jill: Ross was working. Were you working too?

Fran: No. I wasn't. I was raising children. Our son was born before we moved in, and our daughter was born when we were here. We have nine neighbors along our property. So this became pretty much the neighborhood park, because it was protected from the street. Far out in the backyard we had a tree house, and a little barbeque pit so the kids could cook out.

Jill: There must have been a lot of young families around at the time.

Fran: Oh yeah, with young kids. But this has always been a mixed neighborhood, all ages. Even then. We always had young families but also older people, which was wonderful for raising a family. Our kids learned to respect everybody.

Jill: When you describe your neighborhood to someone from out of town, someone who hasn't necessarily seen it, what do you say?

Fran: It's a mixed neighborhood age-wise, money-wise, everything. It's really a good neighborhood, a great neighborhood to raise children in because they're exposed to people of all ages. And people from all walks of life. Professionals, retirees, students, everything. And it's always been that way. And I think location has a lot to do with that. It's well-located. Close to the university, downtown and Hilldale. We can walk to everything we need. We can walk to the grocery store, we happen to go to a dentist in the neighborhood, we can walk to church. We can walk to everything, which we often do.

Jill: Would you have done anything differently if you had known in 1963 what you know now?

Fran: Probably not. We liked building into an established neighborhood, where we already knew what was here. [Many houses in the neighborhood had been built between the mid-1940s and mid-1950s.] That was the farmhouse next door, our neighbor to the south. And this was the apple orchard that went with the farmhouse. When we bought this lot, it was two rows of apple trees. We just built the house, and only cut down two apple trees. We kept the trees till they died. I used to pay the kids in the neighborhood so much per bucket to pick up apples. And then a volunteer would come from the zoo, and we'd set the buckets out on the curb, they'd feed the animals, and return the empty buckets for us to refill. We didn't want apples on the ground, so we picked them up and fed the animals at the zoo. Isn't that kind of cool?

Jill: Very. And didn't you have a paper route, too?

Fran: Oh, yes. Our children delivered the Cap Times. They'd come home from school and deliver the paper. And I kept the route for a long time after the kids grew out of it. It was my disciplined exercise. The best excuse for exercise you could ever have.

Jill: Besides having a dog.

Fran: That's true.

We're looking for longtime Sunset Village residents to share their experiences with us. If you're interested in contributing to this series please contact Jill Andersen at jandersen1999@yahoo.com



EDITOR'S CORNER JOHN OTTINGER

It's been a satisfying and fun experience putting out this newsletter for the past 15 months. But it wouldn't be possible for it to arrive at your doorstep without the dedication and commitment of our carriers. It's time to acknowledge their contribution with a well-deserved pat on the back. I want to especially single out Brian and Karen Kuhn (and their children, Brian says) for the approximately nine years they've been delivering the SVV; Janet Murphy, who says while she isn't sure exactly how many years it's been, it's about that long; and Ann Raffa, similarly closing in on the 9 or 10 year mark. Their delivery areas are, respectively, Hillcrest Dr., Bagley/Hillside, and Westmorland Blvd. The others, no less appreciated for their efforts, are:

- Jennifer Dargan
- Molly Krolczyk
- Liz Middleton
- Fred Gooding
- Linda Page
- Kim Peterson
- Jody Guentzel
- Matt Wayland
- Marjon Ornstein
- Anne Fuller
- Kathryn Maloney
- Jane Jimaleh
- Liz Vowles
- Karla Knobel

- Hillcrest w of Midvale
- Merlham Dr.
- Midvale Blvd.
- Upland/Falles Cts.
- S. Owen
- E. and S. Sunset Cts.
- N. and W. Sunset Cts.
- Bagley/Vaughan
- Alden/Larkin
- N. Meadow La.
- N. Owen Dr.
- Lucia Crest/Heather Cr.
- Blackhawk Ave.
- Eugenia Ave.

Recently I have joined the Meals On Wheels program with Home Health United as the Volunteer Coordinator. As a new member of this caring program, the term "volunteering" has taken on a special meaning. Meals On Wheels delivers hot noontime meals to needy and homebound older and disabled individuals 365 days a year in the Madison, Middleton and Monona area. After a referral process the client is placed on a route according to the location of their home. Dedicated volunteers who donate their time over the noon hour deliver our meals. We are very fortunate to have our meals catered by Hoffman House in Janesville. The meals are delivered to four pick up sites and then delivered to the client. Meals on Wheels volunteers deliver vital nutrition, but more importantly, volunteers deliver a healthy dose of friendship and social connection. Learn how your spare time can make a difference in the lives of the homebound in your community. If you would like to volunteer, but cannot commit to one day a week, consider this option: Adopt-A-Route. Through Adopt-A-Route, groups such as corporations, church groups, or local clubs can choose one route to be theirs, and alternate among them. This way, no one member must commit to a weekly delivery and everyone can share in the great feeling of satisfaction and pleasure in seeing what a difference they are making in someone's life. Please at least consider volunteering to deliver meals on holidays, as this is a time that we are usually short-handed. This small commitment can be incredibly rewarding and is a tremendous help to us. Volunteers are the heart of our organization. I would appreciate any help that you can give this vital program. Please call or email me with any questions or concerns: 276-7598 Jdaniels@hhuvns.org or visit www.homehealthunited.org

ADVERTISE IN THE VILLAGE VOICE!

\$20 FOR A BUSINESS CARD SIZED AD

**WE REACH 1,000 HOUSEHOLDS
FOR MORE INFO AND OTHER RATES
WRITE JOHN1149@TDS.NET**