

Julie Horst, Liz Ringle, co-presidents; Linda Fahy, secretary; Kate Blumenthal, treasurer
John Ottinger, editor John1149@tds.net



SUNSET VILLAGE VOICE MAY 2006

Quarterly Meeting Tuesday May 16
Sequoia Branch Library
7-8:30pm

Please join us for this meeting. Sharon Persich and Colin Conn from Metro Transit's planning department will lead a discussion on route change proposal plans for our neighborhood, discuss how to encourage bus ridership and answer questions you may have concerning Metro Transit.

Our association meeting will follow with updates on Lucia Crest Park improvements, neighborhood signs, and Hilldale, Midvale Plaza, and Hill Farms construction. Information on Fit City Challenge and Neighbor Nation.Net will be presented. **Nominations will be sought for a new Co-President** and volunteers for the various activities coming up in our neighborhood. We will also discuss traffic, parking, vandalism, and dogs in the park. Get involved, stay informed, meet your neighbors, see you there! **Liz Ringle**

Leaving Sunset Village in Good Hands Julie Horst

I'm sad to announce that I will be stepping down as co-president of the Sunset Village Community Association (SVCA) as I will be moving out of the neighborhood in May. However, I'm pleased that the leadership of SVCA is in such good hands. Liz Ringle, John Ottinger, Linda Fahy, Kate Blumenthal and others have great ideas to keep our community a vibrant and neighborly place. I'd encourage others in the neighborhood to

consider a stint as a leader for the SVCA. **(As a matter of fact I think Liz may be looking for a co-president.** She's great to work with, full of ideas and enthusiasm.)

I do hope to continue my work on the neighborhood sign with Bernadette. (See related article - we will have a sign or two eventually!) I'm not moving far - just a little further down Owen Drive in Westmorland. We found a larger house that meets our needs. I'm looking forward to seeing many SVCA faces either at Midvale Plaza or in a park or playground in the area.

Neighborhood sign installation planned for this summer

As we work through the neighborhood sign permitting process with the City, we are planning to install a Sunset Village sign at Fire Station #9 at the corner of Midvale and Regent this summer, likely in August. We expect to publish the exact date in the next SVCA newsletter.

We understand that our Privilege in Streets approval should be granted in mid-May after review by appropriate City legislative committees. Following that, we are eligible to get the sign permit and have the sign made. As mentioned in the last SVCA newsletter, the City of Madison also requires review of the landscaping plan for the signs they help to fund. We've had some excellent and well-qualified volunteers working on that plan. We hope to actually get the sign in the ground in time to still plant some flowers!

pulling the garlic mustard in your purview. If you walk the Stevens Street side of the park feel free to walk along the road. And treat yourself to the joys of pulling it in the woods, most particularly near the Palomino entrance, northwest ridges and northeast corner of the park. If everybody who uses the park put in an hour of work, this annual task would go a lot faster. For good illustrations and more information check these Web sites:

<http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/alpe1.htm>

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/fact/garlic.htm>

<http://www.madison.com/communities/mamga/pages/406WeedWarrior.php>

or contact Liz Vowles, 231-0481, lizlloyd@chorus.net

Hopes for a Pesticide Free Neighborhood!

My husband Sam and I bought our home in Sunset Village almost two years ago and we could go on and on about all the reasons we love living in this neighborhood. Yet I will never forget one of my first days here sitting on my front step with my baby and the warm wind filling our lungs with lawn pesticides as they were being sprayed at a near by home and then carried by the wind right to us (I actually had to go inside and close my windows). As my daughter learned to walk I needed to steer her little curious toes and fingers away from the lawns with the little signs warning of pesticide application (although many times I would be too late). I learned to pick her up and carry her as we passed the "sprayed" lawns. Now this summer I have two children. And I am saddened to think that I have to explain to a two year old that some grass is safe to touch and some grass is not. It just does not make sense to me, but the least I can do is use my voice and write in the newsletter to ask for help to try to change our little corner of the world.

As a breathing citizen and a mother I would like to urge all home owners not to spray their lawns this year. Together we can promote fresher air and a safer environment for our families. Please join me this spring by advertising our safe friendly lawns to each other.

Those little happy signs can be found at www.pesticidefreesign.com This website also contains more information about the harmful cancer causing effects and dangers to our environment from pesticide use. Please read it

first if you are thinking about spraying your lawn. I would like to thank my neighbors on both sides of my home who do not spray their lawns. It makes a huge difference in my daily life when playing in the backyard with my children. I would also like to applaud the houses I pass on our walks to the parks that already advertise "pesticide free lawns," you inspire others.

Thank you for listening,
Molly Krolczyk

Sunset Village Gardens

At our last SVCA meeting somebody suggested having a Sunset Village garden tour. Preparing for a garden tour is lots of work, so others of us thought of getting together a list of neighborhood gardeners who would be willing to show people their yards on a drop-in basis. Gardens change every week, and that allows appreciation of them at a variety of times and states. Here are a few early volunteers; check the next newsletter and the community web site for updates and additions.

- >Liz Vowles, 633 Eugenia yard and garden, beer
- >Peggy Lison, 6 S. Blackhawk yard, birds, more
- >Brian Anderson, 3553 Lucia Crest rain garden along driveway
- >Nancy McClements & Ian Gaylor 318 South Owen Drive dahlia garden, peak time Aug-Sept

SVCA Book Club

The Sunset Village Book Club was formed last fall and meets every 6th Tuesday. Books we have read so far are: *Mapping the Edge*, *Confederacy of Dunces*, *Master Butcher's Singing Club*, *Rule of the Bone* and *Death Comes for the Archbishop*. The next books are *1984*, *Spoon River Anthology*, and *Letters to a Young Contrarian* (Hitchens). We will discuss *1984* on Tuesday, May 30. Contact Liz (231-0481) or Linda (233-5139) for meeting place and further info.

Babysitters

If you would like to become a certified babysitter or if you are a parent wanting information on finding a certified babysitter, please contact the American Red Cross Badger Chapter at 227-1260 for a list of up coming Babysitter Training Classes.

Thanks to all for your patience with this process. We appreciate the dollars contributed towards the sign. They will be put to good use! If you have questions or would like to help with the sign installation or landscaping effort (and have not already indicated your interest), please contact Bernadette at bgalvez@charter.net or Julie at juldar123@sbcglobal.net.

Lucia Crest Park Update

Brian Andersen / Ben Ringle

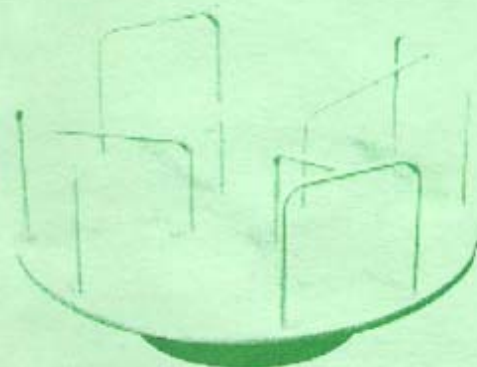
An opportunity to make improvements to Lucia Crest Park has been made possible by a donation from the developers of Hilldale Mall (Joseph Freed & Associates), as well as the City of Madison and the SVCA. At the February SVCA meeting, a motion to move forward with plans for park improvements was approved.

Over the past few months, a group of neighbors has worked with a city landscape architect to develop a plan. In an effort to make the most of the budget and to appeal to all age groups we propose the following:

- 1) Addition of two slides, a climbing wall and a crawl tube onto the existing play structure in the northward direction.
- 2) Relocation of the infant swings closer to the play structure.
- 3) Sand volleyball court in the area where the infant swings and horse swings were.
- 4) Addition of a spinning ride in the play structure area.

One hurdle still exists that involves you, as a resident of the neighborhood and supporter of the park. For every project of this type, the City asks that the surrounding neighborhood raise funds to show its support. The SVCA has set a fundraising goal of \$3,000 that we need to reach by June 15, 2006, in order for the park expansion to begin as soon as possible.

Please consider donating to the Lucia Crest Park expansion fund so that these plans become a reality. Checks can be written to the Sunset Village Community Association with a note for Lucia Crest Park and sent to 3557 Lucia Crest Madison WI 53705. Thank you for your support in making Sunset Village an even better place to live!



Give Blood - Save Lives

We are considering hosting an American Red Cross One-A-Week blood donor club for our organization. This means our organization will agree to donate 52 pints of blood in total during one calendar year. These donations can be made by unlimited individuals anytime throughout the year. By hosting a donor club, we will demonstrate our commitment to community health needs. Most importantly, we would be helping to ensure that an adequate blood supply is available at all times for anyone who may need blood.

If you are at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds, and are in good health, you may be eligible to give blood. Giving blood takes only one hour and your donation can save as many as three lives. The Red Cross is counting on volunteer blood donors, like you, to help patients in need.

We need at least 18 responses to start a One-A-Week club. Please contact ELIZABETH RINGLE at 819-1176 or elizabethmringler@yahoo.com if you are interested. Thank you for your consideration! Together we can save a life!

Garlic Mustard in Quarry Park Liz Vowles

It's that time again—garlic mustard in our parks and woods. Garlic mustard is a biennial herb that invades and spreads rapidly in wooded areas and roadsides, such as Quarry Park; it is termed "ecologically invasive" by the DNR. Garlic mustard is most easily recognized when it blooms in early May, and is controlled or eradicated by pulling in April and May, before it goes to seed. It can be identified by its cluster of small white flowers at the top and its round toothed leaves (not to be confused with the phlox-like Dame's Rocket). If your yard backs onto Quarry Park, please help by

Child Abuse Prevention

If you would like to receive a child abuse prevention kit please visit www.blueribbonsonline.org. If you are a parent or caregiver experiencing stress or if you just need someone to talk to, please call the Parental Stressline at 241-2221.

Keeping our Neighborhood and Kids Safe Mary Anne Thurber of the Madison Police Department will lead a special presentation for our neighborhood on the topic of Neighborhood and Child Safety and Crime Prevention on Jun 6 at 7:00 p.m. at Sequoya Library.

Summer Volunteer Opportunity

Many of the elderly in our area are not able to mow for themselves anymore and will need assistance this summer in keeping their lawns trim and tidy. Volunteers can do one-time mowing jobs or be set up with an on-going lawn care assignment with a senior adult. Please contact Nicole Murphy with the Madison Coalitions of Older Adults - 243-5252 or nmurphy@nescoinc.org

Proposed 2006 Calendar of Events

Please contact Elizabeth Ringle at 819-1176 or elizabethmringle@yahoo.com if you have additions or corrections to the calendar.

- May 6, Saturday, Sequoya Book Sale
- May 16, Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. SVCA Meeting with Metro Transit Representative - Sequoya Library
- June 3, Saturday, Sequoya Book Sale
- June 30, Friday, 9:30 a.m. Art Cart ^ Lucia Crest Park
- July 1, Saturday, Sequoya Book Sale
- July 28, Friday, 9:30 a.m. Art Cart ^ Lucia Crest Park

CHILD CARE WANTED - For fall, 10am-6pm, 2 year old, 238-4957, Jennifer

FIXER-UPPER house wanted - Kellie or Dan, 852-7071. kelliedan@tds.net

SVCA Web sites

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sunsetvillagecommunityassociation/>

<http://www.madison.com/communities/sunsetvillage/index.php>

DOGS IN PARKS Not allowed in Sunset Park. Permitted in Lucia Crest Park (off-leash OK) between 5-7:30am only.

ASSOCIATED HEARING PROFESSIONALS

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Traditional: 8:00, 10:45 — Contemporary: 9:00

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