



Sunset Village Voice

Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Spring 2014

SVCA neighborhood meeting:
Monday, May 5th at 6:30pm
Sequoya Library 4340 Tokay Blvd

Happy Spring, Neighbors:

First, congratulations to our new secretary, Josh Arnold, and a hearty thanks to our outgoing secretary, Linda Fahy. Also, there has been some nice progress on a potential city grant to help with a small community orchard at Lucia Crest Park, thanks to the innovation and efforts of Brian Andersen.

For those who missed it, Alder Chris Schmidt organized an informational meeting with city engineers about the upcoming installation of left turn signals at the intersection of Mineral Point Rd. and Midvale Blvd. Most of you realize that this intersection can be both dangerous and patience-trying, so it's nice to see this improvement. For details, see the city of Madison web page.

Tim Gruber has once again offered to coordinate and host a Make Music Madison festival on the evening of Saturday, June 21, at Lucia Crest Park. Last year's was a terrific success, so plan on this as a fun way to celebrate the summer solstice with your neighbors. If you're interested in helping, please contact Tim.

The Sunset Village annual garage sale will be a bit earlier this year, and will again be organized by Amanda Struckmeyer. Look for details in this newsletter.

Our next meeting will be at Sequoya Library on Monday May 5, from 6:30-9:00.

See you there.

Best Regards,
Ken Raffa



In this issue:

- Garlic Mustard in Quarry & Hoyt Parks
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- Make Music Madison - in Sunset Village
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- What Are Those Green Dots on Terrace Trees?
- City Compost Bin & Rain Barrel Sale
- Pet Loss Prevention & Recovery
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- How to Save a Tree, Part 2
- Lucia Crest Fruit & Nut Tree Grant
- Sunset Park Easter Egg Hunt
- Clean Sweep Open Year Around
- Deer Tick Removal

Find me & win a Chocolate Bar!

submitted by your fabulous Newsletter Editors

Seen from public space - find Sunset Village's famous "Shark Rock" and email Andrew Bernhardt the correct location of this little treasure by July 12th to enter your name into a drawing for a scrumptious chocolate bar. The winner will be recognized in Summer Newsletter!





Thanks SVCA Newsletter Carriers

They deliver all four seasons to every door in Sunset Village: Liz Middleton, Linda Fahy, Kim Peterson, Brian & Karen Kuhn, Ann Raffa, Anne Fuller, Jane Jimaleh, Liz Vowles, Andrew Bernhardt, Bozena Waclawik, Janice Antoniewicz, Melissa Keys, Cheri Swenson, Josh Arnold, and a new carrier, Bruce Michaelis. Jody Guentzel and Donna Morrissey are retiring, and we thank them.

One newsletter route is currently open—Bagley/S. Hillside/S. Meadow, comprising 75 residences. Please contact Liz at 231-0481 or lizlloyd@chorus.net if you'd like to volunteer for this route.

608 233 7142

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SAILing into Sunset Village

Submitted by Ann Albert

Supporting Active Independent Lives is what we do—and you do it, too! I had the privilege of attending the [Sunset Village] Association Meeting on December 2, 2013 and witnessed first-hand the strong ties that exist amongst neighbors at Sunset Village. Are you aware of another strong and special tie that exists with 11 of your neighbors who range in age from 60 to 85? That tie is membership to Supporting Active Independent Lives (SAIL) and we hope you will consider making that tie even stronger! Why? Because 90% of people 65 years old or older plan to remain in their homes as they age. You may be one of them! Creating a plan—one that focuses on prevention—and having a good support system are critical to making this possible. SAIL helps you do this and more. How? We connect members with trustworthy community resources, vetted service providers, and wonderfully talented volunteers (fellow members and non-members). We offer high quality health and wellness, social, and educational programs each month too. And we provide “perks” such as mattress flips, clean sweep pick-up, shredding, and more—at no charge! Interested in learning more? Give us a call at 230-4321 or visit our website at www.sailtoday.org. Or call one of these long-time member leaders who are also your neighbors: John Schmidt (233-4273), Tom Popp (238-8213), or Barb Gessner (238-3619).

University Avenue Corridor Transportation Study

The Near Westside Neighborhoods and University Avenue Transportation Study began in 2013 and has included two public workshops, in March and September. (See the Spring & Fall 2013 SVCA newsletters.) A final public information meeting was held on February 24, 2014, with a presentation of the results of public outreach as well as an overview of study recommendations. Large map exhibits illustrated base conditions and specific recommendations.

Recommendations that address Sunset Village concerns in particular are:

- partial signals at the Blackhawk/University Ave. intersection
- Shorewood Blvd. modifications, including enhanced crosswalks, flashing yellow arrow signals, separation of the southbound right-turn lane
- consistent enhanced crosswalks across University Avenue
- crosswalk improvements at Midvale Blvd.
- mitigation strategies for cut through traffic and neighborhood parking

All the exhibits from the public information meeting are on the study website: www.cityofmadison.com/trafficengineering/nearwesttransportationstudy.cfm

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Hoyt Park Area Joint Neighborhood Plan REALLY (no kidding) Nearly Complete

According to Jule Stroick, City of Madison Planning Division, the plan will be available by May 2. The city-consultant team has been making the changes approved by the Common Council. You can read all about it, if you haven't already, in 2011 - 2013 SVCA newsletters and on the website: www.cityofmadison.com/planning/hoytParkPlan.



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Fruit & Nut Trees for Lucia Crest Park

Lucia Crest Fruit and Nut Tree grant application for the 2014 Neighborhood Grant Program has made it past the first step, and faces final review and approval by the Common Council.

Project Title: Fruit & Nut Trees for Lucia Crest Park: Create a community fruit and nut tree planting at Lucia Crest Park that is educational, and will eventually provide edible fruit for neighbors.

Planning Division Conditions and Comments

- Planning and Parks Division must approve a revised, detailed site plan, proposed trees and other plants.
- Parks Division must approve a long-term maintenance plan that is part of a Fruit and Nut Tree Agreement.
- Property owners bordering and/or within view of proposed orchard must approve any removal of trees from park.
- Planning and Parks Divisions must approve a revised, detailed scope of services and budget.

Thanks to Brian Andersen for spearheading this project. For updates and volunteer opportunities contact Brian at banderse@yahoo.com or 608 228-2414.

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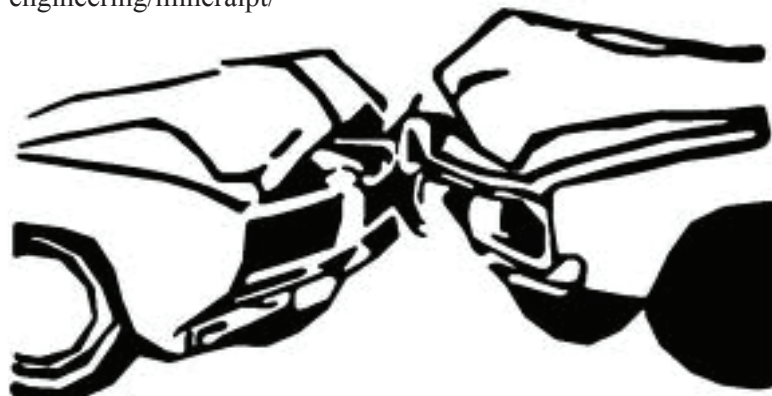
2015 Mineral Point Rd. & Midvale Blvd. Intersection Reconstruction

from <http://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/mineralpt/>

The intersection of Mineral Point Road and Midvale Boulevard is scheduled to be reconstructed in 2015, in order to reduce congestion and crashes. The project summary:

- Add east & west bound left turn lanes on Mineral Point Rd.
- Minor grading on northbound lanes of Midvale Blvd. north of the intersection
- Replace signals, crosswalk ramps, lighting, sidewalk as necessary
- Upgrade storm sewer, sanitary sewer, water main

The city held a public information meeting on March 13, 2014 to present the project and give opportunity for public input. Presentation materials and the preliminary design plan may be found on the project website: www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/mineralpt/




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 **Bethany**
United Methodist Church

How To Save A Tree (part 2)

adapted by Ulrike Dieterle

from the Alliance for Community Trees website (<http://actrees.org/>)

(see **How to Save A Tree - Part 1** in the Winter 2014 newsletter issue at http://sunsetvillagecommunity.org/newsletters/SVCA_Winter2014.pdf)

If your neighbor, landlord, or a developer is cutting down a tree on private property:

1. Talk with the property owner to find out the reason for the removal. If the reason is aesthetic, share your concerns and information on the benefits of trees. If they believe the tree poses a hazard of some sort, see if you can compromise or help find a feasible solution to keep the tree.
2. Rally support from neighbors. The collective voice of many neighbors may encourage the property owner to preserve the tree. This may be especially helpful in apartment complexes. A strong response from residents may help convince a building manager or owner to preserve trees.
3. Private trees of a certain species or size may be protected by city law. Check your city's municipal code for ordinances related to tree protection. If a tree is protected, inform the person planning to remove the tree, as they may not know about the law. If the ordinance is being violated, you can also call the City Arborist for assistance. There may be fines and replacement requirements for removing protected trees.
4. Consult a professional. Homeowners may want to remove a tree because they believe it poses a hazard or will cause damage to a structure. You can hire an arborist or other tree care professional who can assess the situation and may help you save the tree.
5. If the tree is cut down, consider working with your neighbor or landlord to plant a new tree. Evaluate the site to determine if another appropriate tree can be planted in the same location or nearby.



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www.capcitychurch.org
pastor@capcitychurch.org

Make Music Madison at Lucia Crest

Submitted by: Tim Gruber

Lucia Crest Park Saturday, June 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Tim Gruber will be organizing a concert of acoustic music in Lucia Crest Park on June 21, the summer solstice, as part of a city-wide evening of music in public places called Make Music Madison. Neighborhood musicians are invited to play. To volunteer to perform or help out, please call or email Tim Gruber, (608)338-3840, timothy_gruber@yahoo.com.

Performances will happen in a variety of outdoor spaces across Madison all day long; visit www.makemusicmadison.org for FAQ, to get involved and to sign up to perform.



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Sunset Park Easter Egg Hunt

Article and photos submitted by: Cheri Swenson

The annual Sunset Park Easter egg hunt was held on Sunday April 6th with sunshine and temperatures in the 50s. The unofficial headcount of participating children was 20-25 kids of all ages. Organized by Sunset Ct. residents Katie and Steve, there were hundreds of colorful Easter eggs hidden all over Sunset Park. Children two and under got to find the eggs “hidden” in the grass while the 3-5 year olds had a little more of a challenge finding eggs hidden around the upper park periphery. The older kids were sent down to the lower park area by the creek. After the hunt everyone munched brownies and cookies while kids explored what they had in their eggs. Adults and kids alike enjoyed the nice weather, staying in the park to talk and play. Thanks Katie and Steve. Fun was had by all.



What Are Those Green Dots on Terrace Trees?

submitted by: Liz Vowles

You may have noticed green dots painted near the bases of some Sunset Village terrace trees. These are ash trees, and this winter the City of Madison Forestry Staff has continued branch sampling for emerald ash borer (EAB). Using a recommended 0.6 of a mile sampling grid, staff has peeled bark off 5 branches on the south side of each of 5 sample ash trees to check for EAB larvae. No infestation was found in the Sunset Village neighborhood, hence the green dots.

For updates see: www.cityofmadison.com/parks/services/forestry/pests/EAB/plan.cfm



Clean Sweep, Removing More Pollutants From Our Environment

A Column by Dane County Executive Joe Parisi

Warmer weather has finally arrived, and with it, the unofficial ritual of de-cluttering closets, basements, garages, and barns to start off fresh. Thankfully the county's new Clean Sweep facility, now operating year-round instead of a limited time during the year, is making it even easier to get rid of the old paint, car batteries, or unwanted electronics like computers and cell phones you may have piling up. Clean Sweep first opened two decades ago and has kept 10 million pounds of waste from filling up the landfill or being disposed of in unsafe ways that pollute our water and soil.

Our new year-round facility opened last year at the county's landfill, and has increased hazardous waste collection throughout the county by 3% percent – an amazing 764,939 pounds – resulting in even less pollution entering our water and our soil. Electronic waste collection, a new addition to Clean Sweep, has also been successful – 57,477 pounds or enough to fill 3 semi-trailers, of unwanted electronics were kept out of the landfill in the first year.

We're making homegrown bio-compressed natural gas from decaying trash at our landfill and using it to fuel our county vehicles; helping build manure digesters that clean up our lakes and reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and updating county facilities to save energy and taxpayer dollars.

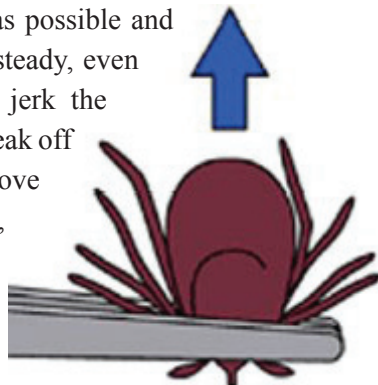
We hope you'll visit Clean Sweep at its new location at the county landfill (7102 US Hwy 12, Madison), Tuesdays – Fridays from 7:00am - 2:45pm, or Saturdays from 8:00am - 10:45am. Clean Sweep will be closed Sundays, Mondays and Holidays. Dane County households will be asked to pay \$10 per drop-off.

Please call 608-838-9555 or visit www.danecountycleansweep.com for additional details, including a full description of products and electronics that will be accepted, fee structure, and exceptions.

Spring is here and so are ticks!

Submitted by: Andrew Bernhardt

If you find a deer tick attached to you, don't panic, and avoid folklore remedies such as "painting" the tick with nail polish or petroleum jelly, or using heat to make the tick detach from the skin. Use tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible and gently pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick. If the mouth-parts break off and you are unable to remove them with clean tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal. Save the tick for testing and contact your doctor.



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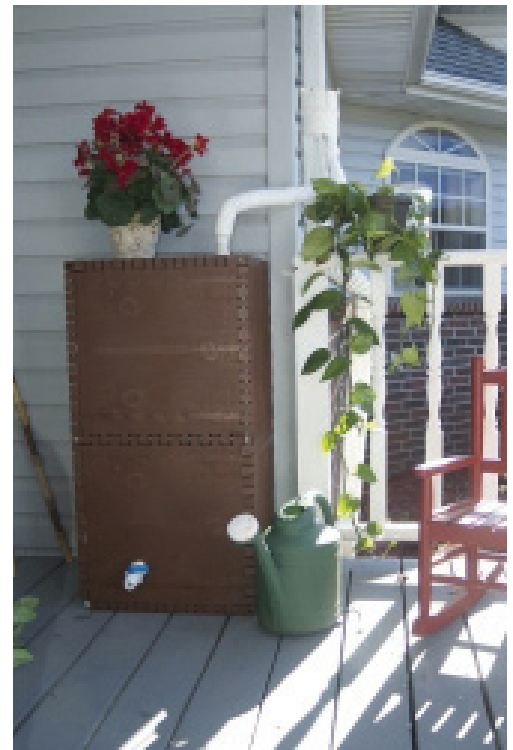
submitted by: Bryant Moroder

Spring is finally here and that means it's almost time for the annual City of Madison Compost Bin and Rain Barrel Sale on Saturday, May 3rd at the Alliant Energy Center parking lot.

This year's event features a modern rain barrel equipped with a high-flow spigot and includes a downspout diverter. Rain barrels, as well as a sleeker designed compost bin, are available in three different colors: brown, tan and gray. The standard rain barrels can hold 50 gallons and the larger systems can hold 200 gallons per downspout.

Rainwater harvesting and backyard composting are impactful, easy individual actions to protect Madison area waterways. As part of the Clean Lakes Alliance citizen action campaign, each customer will receive a "Renew the Blue" sticker with their rain barrel or compost bin purchase. It is estimated that over 8,000 homes in Madison already have rain barrels or compost bins.

Compost bins will be sold for \$79.99, normally \$129.99; and standard rain barrels are just \$119.99 with a diverter. Residents that pre-order by April 23rd will save an additional \$10. Delivery and installation services for busy homeowners are available for an additional cost. For more information and to pre-order your rain barrel and compost bin (supplies are limited) visit: www.cityofmadison.com/streets/compost/CompostBinSale.cfm.



Garlic Mustard in Quarry and Hoyt Parks

Winter is over and garlic mustard is starting to grow 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 (mid-April some years), 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. If your Eugenia or Rocky Ledge yard backs onto Quarry Park, please help by pulling the garlic mustard in your purview (and don't pile brush over garlic mustard stands!). Garlic mustard grows throughout Quarry Park, with concentrations along Stevens Street, the far west end, northeast corner, and numerous central locations. If you live on Bagley or Vaughn Court you can monitor Hoyt Park woods behind your home. And anywhere you live, please pull garlic mustard in your yard—the small seeds are spread into our natural areas on our shoes, bike tires, or dogs' paws. Plants should be pulled getting the entire root and then bagged for disposal, or left in piles to be found for later bagging; please don't just fling them around, as they may still form seed from the flowers. For good illustrations and more information check these Web sites:



- <http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/alpe1.htm>
- <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/fact/garlicmustard.html>
- <http://dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/fr/fr0350.pdf>
- or contact Liz Vowles, 231-0481, lizlloyd@chorus.net



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Pet Loss Prevention and Recovery

Submitted by: Gary Prisbe, Dane County Humane Society

Most of us never expect our beloved pets to be lost or stolen. The reality is that accidents do happen, and when they do many owners are unprepared. The two biggest reasons for pet loss are children and workmen inadvertently letting them out of the house or yard. **One in three pets will become lost at some point during their lives, and 90 percent of lost pets without proper identification never make it home again.** Last year Dane County Humane Society (DCHS) received 1,020 dogs and 2,043 cats brought to the shelter as strays. 63% of those dogs and only 12% of the cats were returned to their owners!



Many more pets could be reunited with their owners if they were microchipped and/or tagged. The Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association has shown a return-to-owner rate of 52% for dogs who are microchipped, versus a rate of just 22% for dogs who enter a shelter and are not microchipped. That means microchipping your dog more than doubles your chances of finding it if it's ever lost! Cats had an even more dramatic increase in successful returns home. Only 2% of un-chipped cats were returned to their owners, compared to more than 38% of cats that were microchipped. The combination of a tag and microchip gives the best of both worlds by providing a visual ID and an implanted ID.

If you find a stray or injured animal or can no longer care for your pet, bring it to the shelter at 5132 Voges Road or call Animal Services (608-255-2345). After hours take the animal to Madison Veterinary Specialists at 229 W. Beltline Hwy (608-274-7772). Please go to the DCHS website (giveshelter.org) for more information or call 608-838-0413.

DCHS will host a steeply discounted tag (\$5) and microchip (\$15) event April 21-22 and 24-27 at the shelter for both dogs and cats. Microchipping can also be done at the shelter on a walk-in basis any day during normal hours of operation or by appointment with your veterinarian.

Sunset Village Homes Sold Well in 2013

Source: Chad Sperry, Realtor with Restaino & Associates

<http://chadsperry.com/blog/2013-sweet-spot-report>

Sunset Village is one of four near west side Madison neighborhoods with above average home sales for 2013. According to Madison realtor, Chad Sperry, "The neighborhoods of University Hill Farms, Sunset Village, Midvale Heights and Westmorland on Madison's near-west side are what I consider the sweet spot of Madison real estate. Homes in these neighborhoods tend to sell faster than average and have held their value through the recession of the last five years. These are stable neighborhoods, in good school districts, have plenty of park space, are bike friendly, often with retail, coffee shops and restaurants within walking distance. Many families are seeking to buy within this area as homes are affordable, the area is close to the capitol, UW and many area employers."

Sunset Village had 66 home sales in 2013 with an average 48 days on the market and an average annual sales price of \$253,665. 2014 home sales have slowed, due to the usual seasonal slowdown and perhaps to the particularly cold winter, but inventory of homes remains tight.

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NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

SVCA quarterly meeting

Mon., May 5, 6:30 p.m. Sequoia Library

Neighborhood Garage Sale

May 9 and 10

Midvale PTO Playground Fundraiser

Death's Door Distillery, Middleton

Sat., May 31, 6:00-9:00 p.m.

Make Music Madison

Lucia Crest Park, Sat., June 21, 6:30 p.m.

Let's Eat Out Madison Food Carts

Tuesdays, 5:00-7:30 p.m. at Midvale School

Capitol City Band Concerts

Thursday, 7:00 p.m., June 12-Aug. 28

Rennebohm Park

Friends of Hoyt Park Events

Hoyt Park Summer Picnic

Sat., July 12, 12-3:00 p.m., lower shelter

Hoyt Park Nature Walks

Wed., 8:00 a.m. meet at main parking lot

Ice Cream Social

Saturday, August 2, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Lucia Crest Park with ice cream & beer

Farmers' Markets

Hilldale Wed. & Sat. 7:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

May 3-Nov. 1, west parking lot

Westside Sat. 7:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

April 19-Nov. 8 DOT parking lot

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Quarter Page size (3.5x4.5):

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Half Page size (7.5x4.5):

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Full Page size (7.5x10):

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Deadline for newsletters:

January 12, April 12, July 12, October 12

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And send Payments to:

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NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

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Responsible Middle School student with 4 years of neighborhood experience and references. Call 819-1176.

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Neighborhood Family Day Care. State Licensed, certified, degreed provider with 28 yrs. experience working in the Madison community with children & families. A variety of daily age appropriate activities. Nutritious meals, pet and parent friendly! Call 225-2656.

House for Rent

Lovely 3 bedroom house on Lucia Crest available summer 2015 through summer 2016. Rent: \$2,100 monthly, which includes utilities and Wi-Fi internet. For more info, contact Ingrid at ingrid@communitymidwives.info or (608) 231-1882.

Book Club

Meet your neighbors, enjoy great conversation, and discuss a wide range of books. For more information, contact Linda Fahy at lbahy_27@hotmail.com

Sunset Village Single Malt Scotch Club

Can't afford all the Scotch you'd like to taste? Meet your neighbors and enjoy great Scotch - everybody bring a bottle to share. Contact Andrew Bernhardt dabernhardt@gmail.com or (608)345-7970

Neighborhood Garage Sale

This year's sale will be held on May 9 and 10, earlier than our usual July dates. We'll be putting together a map of sales in the neighborhood to help shoppers navigate the neighborhood and locate our abundant bargains. If you're planning to participate and would like your sale to be included on the map, please email Amanda Struckmeyer at amandacmoss@gmail.com by May 1.

Your neighborhood info:

President: Ken Raffa 238-3266, ken.raffa@gmail.com

Secretary: Josh Arnold 204-9202, jlarnold360@gmail.com

Treasurer: Brian Andersen 228-2414, banderse@yahoo.com

Newsletter Co-Editors: Liz Vowles lizlloyd@chorus.net & Andrew Bernhardt 345-7970, dabernhardt@gmail.com

Neighborhood Website: www.sunsetvillagecommunity.org
(read meeting minutes and newsletters - with links - online)

Online Message Board: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sunsetvillagecommunityassociation>

District 11 Alder: Chris Schmidt 238-7494, district11@cityofmadison.com

Facebook page: "Sunset Village Community Association"