



Sunset Village Voice

Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Summer 2015

SVCA neighborhood meeting:

Wednesday, September 9th at 6:30pm
Sequoia Library 4340 Tokay Blvd

Greetings from President Ken Raffa:

First, a big thanks to all the folks who've been making our recent and upcoming neighborhood summer events successful: Madison Makes Music at Lucia Crest (Tim Gruber), the ice cream social (Brian Andersen), and yard sale (Amanda Struckmeyer), so successful.

We had two presenters at our last meeting. City Forester Marla Eddy presented Madison's plan for dealing with the Emerald Ash Borer. Additional discussion involved opportunities to 'adopt a park tree'; and alternatives for managing your personal trees. UW Architect Aaron Williams presented UW's Campus Master Plan. Attendees stressed that UW hasn't adequately addressed how their decisions affect parking in nearby neighborhoods: limited parking at UW causes commuters to park in Sunset Village. Commuting long distance and parking to take a short hop on a bus or bike doesn't alleviate the bigger problems of energy use and traffic congestion. UW is aware of this issue, but neighbors encouraged them to work harder to develop more Park-and-Rides. In addition to this being a well-attended meeting by Sunset Village residents, we included guests from Westmorland neighborhood. We hope this starts a tradition of joint meetings with topics of broad interest.

As you know, we have lots of ongoing and upcoming road-sidewalk-gutter construction. City Engineer Eric Dundee will hear comments about the city's plans at two upcoming events: 1) Bethany Church, Thurs., July 30, 6:00-8:00 p.m., speaking on the Midvale-Westmorland portion of Hillcrest and Sunset Court (Tree impacts, Curb & gutter, Storm water plan, Traffic calming); 2) our next SVCA meeting, Wed., Sept. 9, 6:30-9:00 at Sequoia Library, which will focus on plans for 2016.



In this issue:

- SVCA Quarterly Meeting Highlights
- Make Music Madison at Lucia Crest
- Ice Cream Social Photos
- Lucia Crest Fruit Trees
- Rev. Kenneth Friou – Eye on the Prize
- Kudos and Farewell to Jean MacCubbin
- Rain Gardens on S. Owen Drive
- Habitat for Humanity & Fred Newmann
- MSCR Art Cart Coming to Lucia Crest
- Falles Court Auto Break-in
- Lakeshore Nature Preserve
- Outdoor Cats & Neighborhood Ecologies
- Maurice Jury Seeks Apprentice
- Cub Scout Pack 120 Looking to Help
- Friends of Hoyt Park News
- Fourth Annual Hillside Terrace Block Party

Sunset Village Scavenger Hunt!

The Sunset Village Scavenger Hunt was such a success in 2014 - that we are bringing it back by popular demand!!!! So put your sleuth caps on and go explore the Sunset Village Neighborhood in search for this summer's scavenger hunt: Pooch Rock! This can be seen from public space, but please remain careful and respectful of the plants; your neighbor will thank you!



Email a photo of you with Sunset Village's best friend to Andrew Bernhardt, dabernhardt@gmail.com, by October 1st to have your name and photo included in the next Sunset Village Newsletter!

SVCA June Quarterly Meeting

source: notes by SVCA Secretary Josh Arnold

Emerald Ash Borer and the 2015 UW Campus Master Plan were the main topics of the June 1 meeting.

City of Madison Emerald Ash Borer Plan

Guest presenter: Marla Eddy, City of Madison Forester, 608-266-4816, meddy@cityofmadison.com

As of April 2015, EAB has been found in 5 areas of Madison and Middleton:

- Warner/Berkley Park
- High Crossing Blvd/East Towne
- Femrite Dr /Dutch Mill Rd
- Doncaster Park/Mohawk Dr
- Middleton: N Gammon Rd/Teideman's Pond

Forestry Staff is systematically inspecting all ash terrace trees within the City of Madison. They are placing yellow dots on ash trees that do not meet the EAB treatment criteria. If you think your private tree is infested with EAB, please contact a private tree care company or certified arborist to verify the infestation. City of Madison Forestry Section will be concentrating its efforts on city street trees.

If you have an ash tree on your private property, you will need to make a decision to treat or remove the tree. If you do not make a decision, it will be made for you. All untreated ash trees will die; EAB is 100% fatal to untreated ash trees. To help you in your decision, we created a homeowner's decision guide.

City of Madison treatment does not extend to park trees; there are approximately 5000 ash trees in parks. Park trees can be adopted, however, as long as they meet the same criteria as street trees. A neighbor (or group of neighbors) can select a tree (or trees) for adoption. Before taking action, people must notify the City of Madison Forestry department via a form through the following website: www.cityofmadison.com/parks/services/forestry/pests/EAB/AdoptaParkTree.cfm

Information is available online at: www.cityofmadison.com/parks/services/forestry/pests/EAB/ It includes: EAB Tree Replacement FAQ, EAB Tree Removal FAQ, EAB Treatment FAQ, Decision Guide to Managing EAB on Private Trees.

UW Madison Campus Master Plan – 2015 Update

guest presenter: Aaron Williams, Assistant Planner, UW Madison Facilities Planning & Management

The Master Plan Update will serve as a tool to help establish a continuing framework to guide the orderly growth and development of the campus while protecting and enhancing important open spaces as well as historic and cultural landscapes. The Campus Master Plan will be consistent with and support the university's current mission, vision and strategic plan. For more information, please visit: masterplan.wisc.edu.



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2015 Ice Cream Social Highlights

submitted by: Brian Andersen;

photos by: Liz Vowles, Brian Andersen & Michael Hare: see SVCA Facebook site for MANY more

Thanks to everyone who came to the July 11 SVCA ice cream social. This is a free annual event, thanks to generous contributions from our neighborhood sponsors. The Chocolate Shoppe contributed 5 x 3 gallons of ice cream at cost; the Great Dane donated 3 x 5 gallon kegs of beer; the Party Port donated 3 x 22# bags of ice; and Luigi's pizza donated 5 pizzas and 2 boxes of cheese bread. Please support these local businesses and thank them during your next visit.

We had a great start to the 2016 membership drive, collecting \$35 in cash donations and \$220 in checks. For those who donated \$35 or more, a Bucky Book will be delivered to your door in late August. Anyone interested in reserving a Bucky Book may send a check to PO Box 5635 or drop a check off at 3553 Lucia Crest.



Lucia Crest Fruit Tree Update

submitted by: Brian Andersen; photos by: Josh Arnold

Thanks to everyone who came out to help plant 15 dwarf fruit trees in Lucia Crest Park on April 18. Turnout was estimated at 50 people from 10 a.m. - noon, including a few master gardeners and a Girl Scout troop. It was a great group effort on a beautiful spring morning.

Three months later I'm happy to report that all of the trees are surviving. While most of the trees' efforts are being put into building root structure, there are a few peaches and apples on two of the trees!

We are scheduling two work days on Sunday, August 2 and Sunday, August 9, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (come as you can). The main activities will include removing weeds from the mulched area and spreading two piles of mulch. If time and interest allow we can also improve the area at the edge of the park where the raspberry patches are being taken over by weeds. Please bring any tools that may be useful: pitchforks, rakes, weeders, etc.



Rev. Kenneth Friou—Eye on the Prize

source: Wisconsin State Journal archives

The Rev. Dr. Kenneth Friou, longtime Sunset Village resident, was a man of many pursuits, one being of racial justice and voting rights. A United Church of Christ campus minister, he was one of two Madison ministers who participated in the third Selma to Montgomery march, along with the Reverend George W. Vann, pastor of St. Paul's African Methodist Church. They were part of a group called the "Freedom Flyers," sponsored by the Madison area Friends of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (FSNCC).

The first Selma to Montgomery march, on March 7, 1965, became known as "Bloody Sunday" after Alabama state troopers brutalized demonstrators. Madison participants in the third march traveled to Alabama on two buses and a plane. Students, riding by bus, brought their own food and were cautioned to leave all potentially dangerous objects (knives, pens, pencils, eyeglasses, neckties) in Madison; each had arranged \$100 bail money. The third march started March 21, 1965, and had protection from federal troops. Marchers walked around 12 miles a day and slept in farmers' fields. When they reached the Alabama state capitol building in Montgomery on March 25, they numbered 25,000. On August 6, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act.

Rev. Kenneth A. Friou died in his home, at 609 N. Meadow Lane, on Thursday, July 2.



Kudos and Farewell to Jean MacCubbin

submitted by: Ulrike Dieterle

Jean MacCubbin has lived in her Cape Cod on Heather Crest since 1985. In these 30 years, she has been a major contributor to Sunset Village activities and organizations. She has generously given of her time and talents to our community in multiple ways whether in city politics, neighbor leadership, district initiatives and projects, always with a smile, a positive approach and an open mind.

The list of her accomplishments is impressive, to say the least, and a model for all of us. Jean managed to juggle multiple activities successfully, all the while working at her full-time job for the State. She was always accessible, communicated effectively with fellow residents and helped to identify and improve neighborhood/district issues. In short, she cared! Even her Gmail account speaks to her civic minded nature – citizenjean2@gmail.com.

Jean's local accomplishments include, but are not limited to:

- 6 consecutive terms as District 11 Alder on Madison City Council (1993-2005) where she facilitated, among other initiatives, expansion of dog access to Lucia Crest and Quarry Parks, information flow of 1st Hilldale Mall redevelopment, neighborhood actions over controversial zoning and conditional use permits and improvement of Lucia Crest Park playground equipment; upon retiring from City Council, she passed on 5 linear feet of related documents to new Alder, Tim Gruber.
- Co-chair of Sequoya library capital campaign, raising \$1.2M
- Co-chair of Sequoya Library endowment, raising >\$300K
- Co-chair of SVCA for two years
- Delivered SVCA newsletter for 17 years
- Worked on SVCA newsletter for years
- Served four 2-year terms on Friends of Hoyt Park Board
- Co-chair of Hoyt Park Area Joint Neighborhood Plan
- Provided support of the SVCA visiting Santa program, even donning the red suit herself one year due to a Santa shortage!

Jean MacCubbin recently sold her home on Heather Crest and has moved to the far west side of town. Our loss is surely their gain. Please join me in wishing her well and thank her for all she has done to make Sunset Village and Madison a better place for all of us. All the best, Jean. We'll miss you in the neighborhood.





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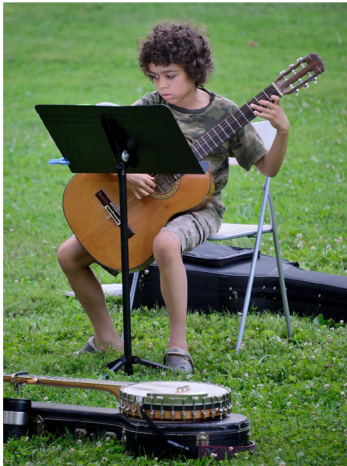
Make Music Madison 2015 at Lucia Crest Park

photos by: Michael and Kristyn Hare



Tim Gruber again organized the event on June 21, the summer solstice, attended by a crowd of Sunset Village adults and lots of children. Toe tapping 6th graders, the Root Beer Brothers Band (RB3), opened the show at 6:30, with “Angelina Baker” and closed several songs later with “Old Joe Clark.” Martin Gruber played classical guitar: “Etude no. 2” by Ferdinando Carulli and “Estudio in A Minor” by Aguado. Dark Gazebo followed— Tim Sharpe (banjo, mandolin, guitar and vocals), Valerie Stromquist (guitar, vocals), Steve Sanborn (mandolin, guitar, vocals) and Mark Pflughoeft (drums)—with an eclectic mix of folk, pop and jazz. Atimevu Drum and Dance closed the evening with traditional Ghanaian folk music. RB3 and Dark Gazebo also played at Bethany Church earlier in the day as part of Make Music Madison.

Valerie Stromquist (Sunset Court) writes: Dear Tim, Just a note to thank you for organizing Make Music Madison in our little neighborhood. It was a ton of fun to have the chance to play for the neighbors and friends, to hear all the kids voice their songs, and the drummers were grrrrreat! Rock on Lucia Crest, such an inspiration, and such a spark of community and positive feeling in these hard times. Martin sounds great, impressive that he already has a guitar named after him. So sweet to see his genuine joy in music, and what an impossible intersection that your drummer built our drummer’s drum!! We had a blast in so many ways.



RB3: Charlie, Burke, Sam



Dark Gazebo: Mark Pflughoeft, Tim Sharpe, Valerie Stromquist, and Steve Sanborn

Red Foxes Continue to call SVCA Home

Photo submitted by: Peggy Lison

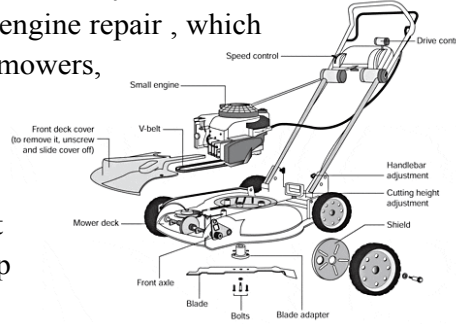
Once again foxes were spotted at the South Blackhawk home near Regent Street eating birdseed. It seems that the road construction on Bluff isn’t bad enough to scare them away! Peggy is glad to see that the foxes are cohabiting peacefully with the birds she loves to watch in her backyard. To learn more about the foxes and coyotes living in the Madison area, check out: <https://www.facebook.com/uwurbananidproject>, led by Dr. David Drake of the UW-Madison Department of Forest and Wildlife Ecology.





Maurice Jury Seeks Apprentice

Who hasn't noticed the assortment of lawn mowers on Maurice Jury's front lawn at 218 N. Owen Drive, during the summer months? Maurice has repaired lawn mowers and other small engines in Sunset Village for many years. Now he is looking for someone to whom he can pass on his trade. If you're interested in learning small engine repair, which includes lawn mowers, snow blowers, weedwackers, chain saws — call Maurice at 233-4514, or stop by his house.



4th Annual Hillside Terrace Block Party

submitted by: Josh Arnold

The Fourth Annual Hillside Terrace Block Party will take place Saturday, September 26, 2015 at the Island of North Hillside Terrace. We'll have more details coming soon, but expect the bbq and neighborhood potluck to kickoff around noon that day. The Badgers have a night game that evening, so we should be able to wrap everything up by kick-off.



Cub Scout Pack 120 Looking to Help

submitted by: Alice Yuroff

The neighborhood Cub Scout Pack is seeking volunteer opportunities! Pack 120 is made up of boys from grades 1-5, and has recently helped install the Midvale School rain garden and cleaned up trash in Sunset Village. If you have an opportunity fitting this group, please contact the pack leaders at MadisonCubScoutPack120@gmail.com.

When they're not volunteering, the boys are having fun with adventures that have included rock climbing at Devil's Lake, building model cars for the annual Pinewood Derby, bike trail riding, launching mini rockets, touring TV stations, and building friendships at their bi-weekly meetings. If you'd like to learn more about the group, please see the Pack website at <https://madisoncubscoutpack120.shutterfly.com/>

Cub Scout Pack 120 is open to new members! The Pack is open and accepting of all grade 1-5 boys and their families - all types of families and boys who attend any school, or live in any neighborhood on the west side of Madison are welcome to join. During the school year, meetings are held every other Monday evening at Bethany United Methodist Church (3910 Mineral Point Road). We also have some special events on weekends throughout the school year. Please email MadisonCubScoutPack120@gmail.com to get details about an informational meeting to be held in early September.



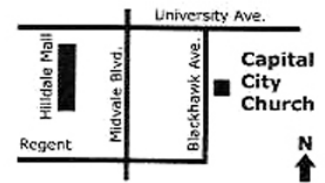
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608-233-5008

www.capcitychurch.org

pastor@capcitychurch.org

Nature Close to Home: The Lakeshore Nature Preserve

submitted by: Bryn Scriver, Outreach Specialist, Lakeshore Nature Preserve

The 300-acre Lakeshore Nature Preserve is a gem of an urban natural area right on the UW-Madison campus. First and foremost the Preserve is an outdoor learning laboratory for university faculty, staff, and students. There were 71 active research permits in 2014 for studies as varied as canid tracking, plant frost tolerance, storm water analysis, and experimental archeology. The Preserve's varied ecosystems and its proximity to campus classrooms make it especially valuable for teaching. The Lakeshore Nature Preserve permanently protects over 4 miles of Lake Mendota shoreline from development and safeguards three Indian burial mound groups. The Preserve is open to the entire community for hiking, picnicking, bird-watching, and other environmentally sensitive uses, including dog walking.

Dogs are welcome in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve—one of the few natural areas in Madison where they are—but please remember: 1) dogs must be on leash and under the control of their owners at all times, and 2) owners must pick up after their dogs. Following these two simple rules ensures that everyone—dogs and humans—can continue to enjoy the Preserve.

Need ideas for outings?

- Hike to the top of Eagle Heights Woods, the highest point on the south shore of Lake Mendota, to view three Indian burial mounds.
- Visit the eastern tip of Picnic Point for a panoramic view of Lake Mendota, the campus, downtown Madison, and the surrounding shoreline.
- Admire the spring ephemeral wildflowers in Bill's Woods, near the entrance to Picnic Point, in April and May.
- Experience the mid-summer glory of a restored tallgrass prairie in the Biocore Prairie.
- Walk onto the frozen lake at Raymer's Cove to see ice formations clinging to the cliffs.
- Join a free Bird & Nature Walk every 4th Sunday from 1:30-3 p.m. Meet at the south entrance to the Eagle Heights Community Gardens at 3016 Lake Mendota Drive.
- Explore the Class of 1918 Marsh with the help of your mobile phone—audio recordings feature topics ranging from Native Americans to water fleas.
- Reserve a fire circle on Picnic Point for a picnic—contact Campus Event Services at 262-2511.

The Preserve is open from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. every day. Parking is available in lot 129 at 2004 University Bay Drive. You can find more information about the Lakeshore Nature Preserve and explore our interactive map at: www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu.

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MSCR Art Cart Coming to Lucia Crest Park

August 11, 9:00 a.m. - noon

Art Cart is a free outdoor art program for children ages three and above that travels to parks, playgrounds, and beaches across Dane County. All children should be accompanied by an adult. Families are invited to drop in with no pre-registration necessary. Art Cart is a joint project of the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art (MMoCA) and Madison School & Community Recreation (MSCR). Call 608-204-3021 for info and see the Art Cart schedule at: www.mschr.org/images/PDFs/Arts/ArtCartFlyer2015.pdf



Outdoor Cats and Neighborhood Ecologies

submitted by: Steve Johnson, 702 Eugenia Avenue

Do outdoor cats affect urban neighborhood ecologies?

Many reports on the Internet claim outdoor cats may be responsible for reducing neighborhood bird populations through predation, such as the 1996 Wisconsin Natural Resource magazine article, "On the Prowl" at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/wnrmag/html/stories/1996/dec96/cats.htm>. However, NPR published a more recent 2013 article titled "Do We Really Know That Cats Kill by the Billions? Not So Fast,"



which questioned how certain statistics had been gathered and manipulated to arrive at "conservative" estimates that "billions" of birds are being slaughtered (www.npr.org/blogs/13.7/2013/02/03/170851048/do-we-really-know-that-cats-kill-by-the-billions-not-so-fast). I have no doubt outdoor cats will try to catch birds if an opportunity presents itself. However, in my experience most cats prefer to go after easier to catch higher-caloric prey incapable of flying away. This means rodents, ground squirrels, and rabbits, much to the appreciation of some gardeners.

Having lived in our neighborhood since 1989, the most significant reduction to bird population I have witnessed has been from West Nile Virus, a far more insidious killer of local birds than cat predation. A County public health document, "West Nile Virus Surveillance in Madison and Dane County 2014" (20 January 2015) provides WNV statistics. (www.publichealthmdc.com/documents/DaneCountyWNV2014.pdf) Epidemics have hit Dane county hardest in 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2012. I saw crow carcasses in our streets during one epidemic, and my wife recalls reporting dead blue jays in the early epidemics. Repeated WNV epidemics appear to have skewed our neighborhood bird populations somewhat. A family of crows has yet to return after one WNV outbreak; we've seen fewer blue jays as well. WNV appears to have been responsible for decimating our crow and blue jay population, not outdoor cats. In the meantime, we have seen more robins, cardinals, yellow finches, and lots of scrappy sparrows move in. After repeated WNV outbreaks I noticed that bird populations tend to rebuild their numbers in our neighborhood despite the fact that outdoor cats have been prowling before, during, and after each incident.

Responsibilities of cat owners who allow their cat to roam outdoors

It should be no surprise that many cat owners disobey Madison ordinances which forbid cats outdoors unleashed and unsupervised. In my opinion such disobedience is largely because the code does not address the serious difficulties owners face if their cat refuses to accept being leashed or caged. Ironically, the 1996 Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine article acknowledges that sequestering certain cats indoors at all times may not be practical. It states "If possible and practical, keep your cat indoors." Former Illinois governor Adlai Stevenson perhaps said it more eloquently when he vetoed a state bill that would have fined owners who allowed cats to run at large (23 April 1949). "The problem of cat versus bird is as old as time. If we attempt to resolve it by legislation who knows but what we may be called upon to take sides as well in the age old problems of dog versus cat, bird versus bird, or even bird versus worm. In my opinion, the State of Illinois and its local governing bodies already have enough to do without trying to control feline delinquency. For these reasons, and not because I love birds the less or cats the more, I veto and withhold my approval from Senate Bill No. 93."

Things can get complicated for homeowners with outdoor cats and neighbors who don't want unsupervised cats on their property. Despite Madison code, resolution of such issues largely falls to homeowners. Cat owners must do their best to accommodate neighbor concerns, one way being to immediately remove the cat from the complaining neighbor's property if called. Another measure is the purchase of repellents containing potent scents such as cougar and coyote urine, and give these repellants to the concerned neighbor for free. Other suggestions include high powered squirt guns, garden hoses, motion detector automated sprinklers, or ultrasonic cordless pest repellents.

Disclosure: We have two cats in our household. One goes outside supervised on a leash; the other, we learned, is far less accommodating of such restrictions. She is let outside unleashed after dinner and brought back inside around midnight. Both cats have collars and ID tags. Our outdoor cat is chipped and has a wireless RFID locator attached to her collar. The device's detection range is about a block, allowing us to locate her for quick retrieval. I highly recommend such wireless devices for outdoor cats with extensive ranges; they cost around \$100.

We Say it Again – Lock Your Car!

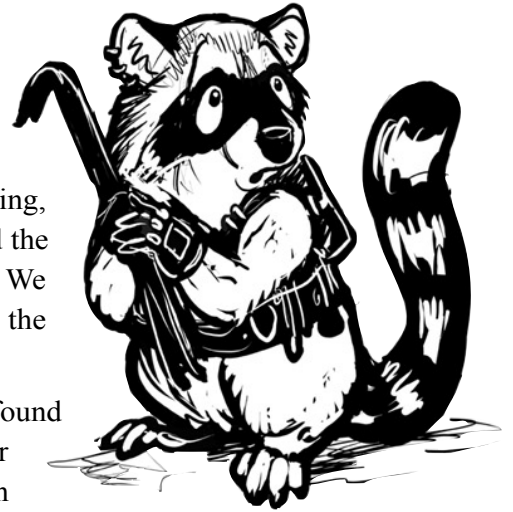
source: listserv email from Rodee & Vanessa Schneider, 5/26/2015

Hi Neighbors - I wanted to give everyone a heads up about an auto “break in” in the off-chance that anything in your car or on your property seemed out of place yesterday morning. We’re new to the neighborhood and are at 321 Falles Ct. As we were getting ready to go to breakfast yesterday morning, we noticed a bit of ash on the passenger side seat (we’re non-smokers), and the glove compartment door was ajar. Nothing seemed out of place otherwise. We couldn’t find our daughter’s diaper bag, but we figured we misplaced it in the house or while out the prior day.

We received a call later in the morning from a neighbor to our east who had found the diaper bag and one of my wife’s unused purses emptied and thrown in her yard. It doesn’t appear that anything was stolen, but there really wasn’t much to take unless you needed a changing pad, a container of wipes or size 4 diapers.

They may have walked away with other stolen items, but if they did, we haven’t noticed. \$1 in change, two jackets, and a few other things went untouched.

The car was parked in our driveway, and must have been accidentally left unlocked before we went to bed around 11 p.m. Sunday night. Based on where the diaper bag and empty purse were thrown, the perp was likely walking from Midvale towards Owen Dr. We’re reporting it to MPD on their website, and will be sure to double-check car locks going forward.



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Habitat for Humanity Tours

submitted by: Fred M. Newmann

Since 2003, I've volunteered at Habitat for Humanity of Dane County doing construction, deconstruction and ReStore work, and remain really enthusiastic about how in the last 25 years the organization has helped more than 230 low-income families gain home ownership. As part of our new outreach effort we're holding a series of 1 hour "Unlock the Dream" tours. We invite 10-15 people to each session, and I'd love to have Sunset Village neighbors attend one, which I think you'll find informative and inspiring.

These are not fund raising events or requests for volunteers, but are outreach efforts to inform and inspire the broader community about Habitat's mission (e.g. not simply building homes, but also communities and hope), its accomplishments, the resources it needs, how it finds them, and the experiences of people served (e.g. Habitat families are not just given their homes—they have to pay a mortgage, and meet many requirements to be eligible). The tours include presentations

from volunteers, the Habitat CEO, a homeowner, and specific examples of Habitat's work, impact, and needs.

The tours are held at the Habitat for Humanity of Dane County Headquarters in Harmony Park at 1014 Fiedler Lane, 29#, Madison, in our first large scale housing redevelopment project in Dane County, which involved revitalizing a severely troubled community—the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m., and the third Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Upcoming tours are Wed., August 5, at 8 a.m. and Thu., August 20, 5:30 p.m. Contact Fred M. Newmann, mobile: 608-239-3772, fnewmann@wisc.edu.

SVCA Resident Fred Newmann

source: Habitat for Humanity newsletter & WKOW-TV

78-year-old Fred Newmann has been volunteering for Habitat for Humanity of Dane County for more than a decade, building homes for families in need. Construction sites have become his second home and the other volunteers, his family. "I think about what working with the volunteers means. Because they inspire me every day," he says.

Fred knows what it takes to change lives. "Fred not only works very hard, but he also leads. Most important, he inspires. He inspires other people to get involved and help and that's the most wonderful gift of all," says Habitat CEO Valerie Johnson.

Congratulations to Fred Newmann, who received the Jefferson Award from WKOW-TV for the month of June. Local Jefferson Award winners are ordinary people who do extraordinary things without expectation of recognition. Fred was featured on ABC's Channel 27 on Thursday, June 25 during the 10 p.m. news, and again on Friday morning. Fred has helped build about 50 Habitat homes; volunteers on the Habitat ReStore's Deconstruction crew and at the ReStore; and serves as an Ambassador and Dream Team member to help raise awareness of the need for affordable housing in Dane County. Fred is unique to be serving in so many volunteer roles at Habitat for Humanity of Dane County.

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Terrace Rain Gardens on South Owen Drive

submitted by: Liz McBride; photos by: Liz McBride and Tim Kessenich

Thanks to the generosity of nine caring homeowners, South Owen Drive now has one of the highest concentrations of terrace rain gardens in the city.

What is a terrace rain garden? It's a specially designed garden that collects water from the street and diverts it into a basin planted with native flowers and grasses. (The "terrace" is the strip of city-owned land adjacent to a street.) Stormwater that is laden with soil, leaves, lawn fertilizer, pesticides, bits of trash, and other debris runs off the street, fills up the basin like a bathtub, and then slowly infiltrates the ground where it is naturally cleansed instead of hurtling into the storm sewer and, from there, directly into the lakes—in our case, Lake Mendota.

Why does Sunset Village need rain gardens? We have hills! Impervious surfaces, like streets and driveways, can't absorb water. We've all seen the floods rushing down our streets and into the sewers. This is one of the biggest sources of pollution in our lakes. The pollution, in turn, harms fish, ducks, geese, migrating swans, mink, beaver, and other animals that rely on Lake Mendota for habitat. Rain gardens provide other benefits as well—they offer habitat to birds, butterflies, dragonflies, and other pollinators, and they add beauty to the streetscape.

Why now? The reconstruction of streets in Sunset Village provides a once-in-thirty-years opportunity. As the curbs and gutters are built, city workers dig a basin on the terrace, layer it with gravel and amended soil, and construct a break in the curb through which run-off can flow into the basin. Later, landscapers provided by the city do the planting. Homeowners choose from a set of designs and agree to maintain the garden. (At the time of this writing, the rain gardens on South Owen have not yet been planted. According to Phil Gaebler, the water resource specialist in charge of the project, the contractor mistakenly planted grass on the slopes of the basins, and the grass has to be killed with black plastic before the plants can go in.)

Can I get one? Maybe! Each year, the city evaluates the terraces of the streets that are scheduled for reconstruction to see which ones have enough room to accommodate a rain garden. They then contact homeowners to see who is interested. Gaebler recommends homeowners attend the neighborhood meetings that are focused on the reconstruction to see a map of eligible terraces.

It's a deal! In the past, the city has charged homeowners \$400 for a rain garden, but thanks to a grant from Dane County, the price this year was reduced to \$100. Gaebler believes the \$100 deal will be offered next year as well and may be extended if homeowners continue to show interest. In the meantime, enjoy the gardens on South Owen Drive. And if you run into the homeowners, thank them for contributing to the quality of our neighborhood and our lakes.

608 233 7142

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Friends of Hoyt Park News

submitted by: *Vaughan James and Anne Raffa*

Do you enjoy Hoyt Park – picnics, walks, the view from Sunset Point, quiet appreciation of nature in the middle of the city? Would you like to help preserve the beauty and wonder of this special place? Do you know about the Friends of Hoyt Park? The purpose of the FHP is to: support planning with the Madison Parks Division; assist with the protection and maintenance of Hoyt Park's diverse natural areas, historic structures, and recreational land; raise funds for the benefit of Hoyt Park; link with other organizations and institutions for the benefit of Hoyt Park and the enjoyment and safety of its users.

We have regular volunteer work days with activities including removing invasive plants and seeding native species (and fellowship and refreshments!) We are currently looking for a volunteer interested in leading bird walks and/or nature walks through Hoyt Park one Sunday a month. The time commitment would be for a year. If interested please contact Anne Raffa (dancinthrulife14@gmail.com).

The focus for the 20th anniversary of The Friends of Hoyt Park is the refurbishing and marking of the 14 existing fireplaces, in order to recognize the importance of these fireplaces from a historical perspective as well as to bring them into the 21st century. A fire marshal has walked all of them and our next step is to contact a mason who can predict how much they are degrading and determine the cost of updating each one.

Meet the Summer Ranger at Hoyt Park

Jessica Bauer is the new ranger at Hoyt Park for the summer of 2015. She'll be easy to recognize with her official ranger shirt as she works around the park removing invasive plants and helping with other projects. She's excited about working in the park this summer and has several projects she wants to get started. Be sure to check out the kiosk by the main shelter's parking lot for information regarding ongoing projects.



**OUR LADY
QUEEN OF PEACE
Parish Festival**

Saturday, September 19, 2015
2 pm – 10 pm
401 S. Owen Drive, Madison, WI
Live Entertainment, Beer Tent,
Great Food, Kids Games and Bingo!
Fun for all ages!
Visit www.qpfestival.com for details

Purchase tickets for The **BIG CASH RAFFLE!**

16 prizes worth \$10,000

\$2,500 Grand Prize
Five \$1,000 Prizes
Three \$500 Prizes
Two \$250 Prizes
Five \$100 Prizes

Raffle tickets may be purchased for **\$10 each** from QP families, at the Festival on 9/19 or in advance by sending an email to festival@qopc.org.

Buy your tickets today!



NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

SVCA Quarterly Meeting

Wed., Sept 9, 6:30 p.m. Sequoia Library

Bethany Community Block Party

Sun., Aug. 23, 10:00 a.m.

www.bethanymadison.org/upcoming-events.html

Neighborhood Garage Sale

July 24 and 25, amandacross@gmail.com

4th Annual Hillcrest Terrace Block Party

Sat., Sept. 26, noon, North Hillside Terrace

MSCR Art Cart

Aug. 11, 9 a.m.-noon, Lucia Crest Park

Friends of Hoyt Park Events:

Hoyt Park Nature Walks

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

Capitol City Band Concerts

Thursdays, 7:00 p.m., June 11-August 27

Rennebohm Park, 115 N. Eau Claire Ave.

Let's Eat Out Madison Food Carts

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

Farmers' Markets

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

May 2-Oct. 31, west parking lot

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

April 18-Nov. 7, DOT parking lot

Hilldale Events

<http://www.hilldale.com/events>

Blue Moon Lunar Event

Friday, July 31

Advertise in the Village Voice!

Reach 1100+ households, area businesses and the Sequoia Library.

Business Card size (3.5x2):

\$30 for 1 issue and \$110 for 4 issues

Quarter Page size (3.5x4.5):

\$60 for 1 issue and \$210 for 4 issues

Half Page size (7.5x4.5):

\$90 for 1 issue and \$320 for 4 issues

Full Page size (7.5x10):

\$120 for 1 issue and \$420 for 4 issues

Deadline for newsletters:

January 12, April 12, July 12, October 12

Send ads as jpgs or pdfs to Andrew at

dabernhardt@gmail.com

And send Payments to:

P.O. Box 5635, Madison, WI 53705

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

Yard Work, Pet Sitting, Snow Shoveling, Odd Jobs

14 year old boy, six years of neighborhood experience and references. Has own tools and mower. If unavailable will coordinate substitutes among other experienced neighbors. Holden Ringle, 819-1176.

Yard and Pet Care PLUS Light Housework

Yard work, lawn mowing, dog walking, cat sitting and light housework - the Laursen kids are ready to work hard for you.

References available. Contact: tobin@charter.net or 608-790-0970

Babysitting/Petsitting

I am a responsible 12 year old who would love to work with your children or pets -or be a mother's helper. I have taken the American Red Cross babysitting course. Contact Neva, (608) 231-2902.

Pet Sitting, Baby Sitting

Alexa Klodd: experienced babysitting and pet sitting; call 238-2859; fabulous neighborhood references available.

Babysitting and Mother's Helper

I'm Ivory Nordeng; almost 12 years old, with two younger siblings and experience watching other children, I am ready to babysit for you: your home or mine. Taking the babysitter's safety course in August. \$4/hr. (608) 236-0899 or idnordeng@madison.k12.wi.us

Babysitting and Pet Sitting

I'm Halle Andersen and would like to babysit or pet-sit. I am a good student, very responsible, and have taken the Red Cross babysitting course. Call 608-334-6150 or email halle.andersen@yahoo.com.

Seeking childcare for our infant beginning December

Your home or ours. One day a week, Monday or Tuesday, 5-8 hours. Right person has experience with infants and healthy lifestyle. Infant CPR preferred. Contact: Andrew at (608) 658-0060.

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

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

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"