

# Sunset Village Voice

Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Fall 2024

# **Sunset Village Community Assoc.** fall quarterly meeting:

Wednesday, November 13, 6:45 p.m. Sequoya Library, 4340 Tokay Blvd.

### Greetings Neighbors,

Dear Neighbors. There's lots of activity to report, both past and upcoming. We sponsored another well attended Ice Cream Social at Lucia Crest Park. The annual Halloween parade is upcoming. We will be putting in the ice rink when it gets cold enough. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt in the spring. There is also our quarterly newsletter, the Sunset Village Voice. And there are always park upgrades to work on.

All these events and activities are free to members, neighbors, and the public. We rely on the generosity of local businesses for some of this. And we make a small amount of money from ads placed in the newsletter. But the bulk of our expenses come out of membership dues.

We never require membership in the Sunset Village Community Association to participate in any events. But I urge you to become a member for only \$15, if you are not already, to help support the continuation of the Association's activities. We accept cash or checks (or gold) which you can send to the address on the membership form in this newsletter.

I also urge all who are interested to attend our next quarterly meeting scheduled for November 13 at Sequoya Library.



Thanks, and have a great Autumn. Jonathan Becker, co-President

> Winter is icumen in - please keep sidewalks and steps clear of snow and safe for your intrepid newsletter

### In this issue:

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- Parking Meters on Owen Drive?

### Halloween Parade in Sunset Park Sunday, October 27, 2 p.m. at Sunset Park

Find your best costume and join your neighbors for the Annual Halloween Parade in Sunset Park. The parade will start promptly at 2 p.m. followed by treats (but no tricks), crafts and games!

Prizes will be given for the best costumes, including the best family/group costume.

If you are interested in helping with the event – making treats, staffing games, helping with the craft table, set-up, clean-up, etc. – please contact Alice Yuroff, alice@yuroff.com, or Erin Courtenay, erin.courtenay@gmail.com



### Sunset Village Neighborhood and Nearby Project Updates

### Midvale Blvd (University Ave to Mineral Point Rd) Safe Streets Improvements

Renee Calloway, City of Madison Traffic Engineering, reports, "We did slow the process down as the City is planning to resurface the northern section of Midvale Blvd in 2025 and improvements will be done with the resurfacing. I anticipate the next public meeting [#3] to be in late 2024 or early 2025 to follow up on the proposed changes and discuss the final improvements."

Project website: www.cityofmadison.com/trafficEngineering/CurrentSafeStreetProjects.cfm

### City of Madison Resurfacing Program: Mineral Point Road from Glenway to Midvale

Alder Vidaver reports that this project will be delayed until 2027. www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/resurfacing-program.

#### **Blackhawk at University Intersection Improvements: Construction in 2025**

www.city of madison.com/traffic Engineering/CurrentSafeStreetProjects.cfm

### **Redevelopment at the Moore's Towing Site on Mineral Point Road**

The developers, JMTG, LLC (Gerardo Jimenez and Jeff Mack) presented initial plans at a public information meeting on November 30, 2023, for a 4-story building with a 5th story setback and 53 residential units. No updates at this time.

### Redevelopment at 3535-3553 University Avenue

This project is a five story multi-family/commercial mixed-use building with two levels of underground parking and 71 residential units. There was a virtual public information meeting on May 20. The project went before the Urban Design Commission, the Plan Commission, and the Common Council without neighborhood opposition. Developer representative, Randy Christianson, reports, "our plan at the moment will be for a Fall 2025 start date and a Spring 2027 opening." Website: www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/planning/development.cfm?record=LNDUSE-2024-00047

#### Harvey Street and Blackhawk Avenue Sidewalks

Sidewalk on the south side of Harvey, and on the east side of Blackhawk Avenue between Harvey St and University Ave, remains under discussion at SVCA quarterly meetings. See the SVCA website for meeting minutes and the sidewalk draft resolution: https://sunsetvillagecommunity.org/

#### City of Madison Current Development Proposals: See what's in the works in and near Sunset Village

Map and descriptions at: www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/planning/current-development-proposals-/1599/

### Road Construction Planned for 2025-2030: the Transportation Improvement Plan

View the map at: www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/streets-paths/transportation-improvement-plan

### Participate in a Neighborhood Flooding Survey

You are invited to participate in a study by The Water Systems and Society research group at UW-Madison! Our study is focused on learning about flooding across neighborhoods in Madison, WI. We invite all 18+ year old residents of

Madison to participate. You will be asked to complete a survey to help us learn more about flooding and water management in your neighborhood. You may also elect to participate in an interview for us to learn more about flooding in your neighborhood and your personal experiences. If you choose to participate, you are eligible to receive a summary of research findings; email the research team to ask how. Use the link or QR code to participate:

#### https://tinyurl.com/2p873thn

Thank you for your interest and participation! Please contact Marian Azeem-Angel at (azeemangel@wisc.edu) or the Principal Investigator Paul Block at (paul.block@wisc.edu) with questions about this study.



### Friends of Hoyt Park 2024 Event Recap

#### submitted by Cheri Swenson

The Friends of Hoyt Park have been busy in 2024 hosting a number of interesting family friendly events. In April we co-hosted an <u>Earth Day Garlic Mustard Pull</u> along with the Wild Ones-Madison. Working in the park was fun with the large group and the promise of hot waffles afterwards. The Earth Day event was capped off by a Spring Wildflower Walk through Hoyt guided by Frank Hassler of Good Oak Ecological Services.

In early May FHP member and bat enthusiast Anne Reis brought her expertise and Echometer Touch Wildlife Acoustics instrument to Hoyt Park for an <u>acoustic bat survey</u>. Anne shared several bat-detection instruments, and attendees searched for bats that were foraging for insects over the park's open playing field.

June 1st was <u>Nature Everywhere Day</u>. The Friends of Hoyt Park invited the public to explore Hoyt through an <u>Orienteering Game</u>. FHP member and owner of On the Map Orienteering, Susie Madden, set up 3 different orienteering courses in the park, challenging participants to use the provided maps and compasses to find and tag a series of checkpoints across the park. The event was a unique way to explore the park and learn a new skill.

Most recently, the Friends hosted our first <u>Fall Migration Birding Walk</u>, drawing a large group of birders looking up into the trees for those birds either migrating through the area or full-time residents of the park. Guides Megan Heneke and Yishai Blum were infectious in their enthusiasm for birding. Everyone learned something new and some even added new finds to their bird lists.

**SAVE THE DATE** – Saturday November 16th, 6:00 p.m. Join us for discovery and socializing in a <u>Full Moon Night Walk</u>.



The Friends of Hoyt Park thanks people and organizations cited above, as well as Bagels Forever, and Target. To support events like these or to join the Friends of Hoyt Park, go to **www.hoytpark.org**.

### Geneva Campus Church/West High School Partnership News

submitted by Karen Witte

August brought two opportunities for Geneva to continue its partnership with West High through the Madison Public School Foundation's Adopt-a-School program.

Twenty-three Genevans trimmed, pulled, dug, and planted as part of a landscape clean up on the Ash Street entrance of the school. Several members donated plants from their gardens in association with Collaboration Project's "Love Dane" event. The project coincided with the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony marking the completion of extensive renovations at West High School.

Back to school for the staff was marked with an *All Staff Appreciation Breakfast Buffet*. Donations came from members of Geneva Campus church, Ancora Coffee, Madison Sour Dough, Hy-Vee, and Collaboration Project.

We plan to continue to support staff and students by responding to requests for volunteers and supplies in the Library/Media Center, reviewing college essays, and at Christmas Time, stuffing our giant stocking with t-shirts for the Resource Room.

# Advent & Christmas AT GENEVA CAMPUS CHURCH

SUN 01 DEC	10 AM Worship for the First Sunday of Advent
SUN 08 DEC	10 AM Worship for the Second Sunday of Advent
sun 15 dec	10 AM Worship for the Third Sunday of Advent
SUN 22 DEC	10 AM A Service of Nine Lessons & Carols
тие 24 dec	5 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

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### **Birding in Hoyt Park**

article and photo by Megan Heneke

The Sunset Village Neighborhood is fortunate to have several attractive spots for resident and migrating birds. A favorite among Madison birders is our very own, Hoyt Park. The Friends of Hoyt Park recently hosted a fall birding walk attended by nearly forty neighbors! Regent Neighborhood resident and member of the Madison Chapter of the Feminist Bird Club, Megan Heneke, and West High Student and American Birding Association Young Birder of the Year, Yishai Blum, taught participants about the fall migrants Hoyt Park hosts every year including several species of warbler. The group also spotted several of Hoyt's permanent residents like tufted titmice and Cooper's hawks.

Fall isn't the only time to see wonderful birds at Hoyt Park. According to eBird, an online database which allows birders to record their observations,

A migrating black-throated blue warbler in fall. This is a hard bird to find in Dane Co. but they seem to love Hoyt Park in the fall.



143 species have been spotted at Hoyt Park. Winter, with the leaves off the trees, can be a great time to spot barred and great-horned owls, both of which have nested in or near Hoyt. Spring brings our migrating friends back to Madison. Songbirds are in their spiffy breeding plumage and often singing. Hoyt in May is usually reliable for favorites like scarlet tanagers and indigo buntings, as well as a huge variety of warblers. Hoyt Park is also a popular spot for nesting birds in the summer like red-eyed vireos; all kinds of woodpeckers; and flycatchers, like eastern wood pewees and great-crested flycatchers.

Thanks to the great conservation work of Friends of Hoyt Park, we hope to have a hospitable spot for birds into the future. These conservation efforts are coordinated with Madison Parks Department staff and carried out, in part, by the Hoyt Park Rangers who are Parks employees paid for by the Friends. The conservation work includes controlled prairie burns conducted at least every other year. Burning the prairies reduces invasive woody plants and invigorates the growth of the prairie plants. The restoration has now proceeded to the point where they can collect a variety of native plant seeds to sow in new restoration areas. In addition, the Friends purchase native plant seedlings and seed from a local nursery to provide species not found in the park or in low numbers thus adding to the diversity of plant life needed to create a healthy environment for both birds and other small mammals. In the woodland areas of the park, they continue to remove invasive non-native brush and replace it with native shrubs and forbs. Based on the number of deer and turkeys seen in the park this year, the wildlife is enjoying the benefits of this work.

# SNOW SCHOLARS Residential snow removal by college students

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### Leave the Leaf - a Program to Keep Your Leaves and Reap the Benefits

source: www.cityofmadison.com/streets/leavetheleaf/

The City of Madison encourages residents to manage leaves on their own property. Our program, Leave the Leaf, is designed to reduce phosphorus runoff from leaves, improve the quality of area soil and lawns, and reduce the need for more leaf collection trucks and staff. The 20th Century attitude towards leaves was that once they fell they created lawn litter and had to be removed. It's a new day, and time for some new thinking. It is time to view leaves as an asset that can be used to improve your lawn and reduce the use of chemical fertilizers. Leaves also make great mulch, garden cover or rich compost.

Why Leave the Leaf? Fall leaves add great beauty to our surroundings in Madison. Unfortunately, they also contribute a large volume of material that we have to collect and haul to the compost sites. The same leaves that add color to neighborhoods in fall also add color to our lakes in the summer - and that's a problem. When you pile your leaves at the curb for City collection each fall, those leaf piles are exposed to rain which seeps through the piles, making a rich nutrient tea that flows along the curb into storm drains and then to the lakes. Those nutrients are a significant contributor to the algae that turns our lakes into a green smelly mess in the summer.

**How to get started?** We know that many Madison homes produce too many leaves to be composted or mulched on site. But, any amount of leaves that you can handle at home will benefit the environment and help save tax dollars. Here are a few ways you can handle leaves on your property:

- Mulch Leaves on Your Lawn
- Make Leaf Compost
- Make Leaf Mulch
- Make Leaf Mold



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GS3351 12/31/2020



### **Sunset Village Community Association**

Membership Form

### **Quarterly Newsletter**

Sunset Village Community Assoc.	in this issue:
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### **Playground Upgrades**



Sunset Park

### - Social Events -



Ice Cream Social



Halloween Parade

### Neighborhood Improvement Projects —



Perennial Garden at Midtown



Adopting the ash tree that guards the Lucia Crest playground





Ice Rink at Sunset Park

Suggested Contribution: \$15/household Mail to: SVCA, PO Box 5635, Madison, WI 53705

Name:	

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email and/or Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_ Check

### Growing Shade - an Interactive Tool to Access, Preserve, and Expand Tree Canopy

Growing Shade is a tree cover prioritization tool created by Capital Area Regional Planning Commission. This tool makes it easy for local planning staff members, neighborhood groups and residents to figure out where planting new trees will have the most impact. Users can explore this tool, which combines demographic, environmental, public health, and socioeconomic data to illustrate how tree canopy cover differs across Dane County and how it has changed over time.

The Growing Shade Tool indicates that the Sunset Village Community has an existing tree canopy coverage of 39.6%. Compared to other neighborhoods across Madison, the tree canopy in Sunset Village Community is above average (24.7%). Tree canopy in nearby neighborhoods is: Rocky Bluff 41.4%; Westmorland 26.2%; Hill Farms 32.5%; Midvale Heights 22.4%; Shorewood Hills 34.3%.

Access the Growing Shade Tool at: https://daneclimateaction.org/Initiatives/Tree-Canopy

### Firefighter Fun Day at Station #9 – Meeting Without the Emergency

The fire/EMS crew at Station 9 at 201 N. Midvale Blvd. opened their doors on Saturday, September 21, for an afternoon of fun for the whole family, with tours of the fire trucks and fire station, free food and drinks, dancing with our DJ, and much more!



### Summertime Nightmare for Those Who Live Along the Construction Area of South Owen Drive

Those of us who live along the construction area on South Owen Drive knew that this year access to our driveways and (therefore our homes) would be limited as road construction crews replaced not only our street but also the underground utility lines. However, our real fear was that it would come to this!

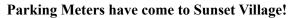




Photo by Cora Lee Kluge | Photoshop work by The Camera Company



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### 2024 Ice Cream Social in Lucia Crest Park – A Gathering of Neighbors

The Sunset Village Ice Cream Social in Lucia Crest Park once again brought neighbors together on a sunny August 3. This is a free annual event, thanks to generous contributions and discounts from our neighborhood sponsors—**Chocolate Shoppe** ice cream; **Luigi's** pizzas; kegs of beer from **Great Dane**. Please support and thank these local businesses. Balloon twister, Joe Beck, of Twist N Shout, made magic for the kids along with his son. The Station #9 fire engine made its usual cameo appearance. See the SVCA Facebook page for MANY more photos (in color).

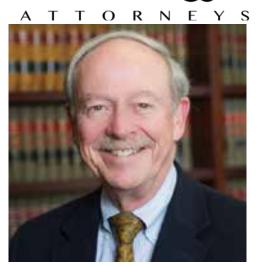








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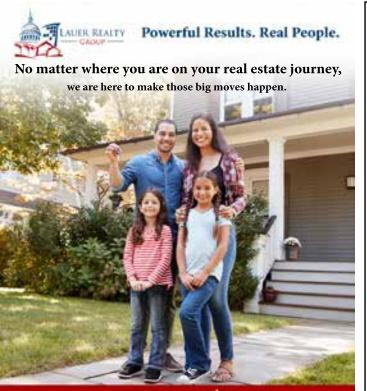
If you've been injured, our attorneys are ready to help. Here are some of our results for our clients:

Location of Bike Crash	Amount Recovered
-Mineral Point Road	\$2,000,000.00
-South Owen Drive	\$1,925,000.00
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-Rosa Road	\$ 360,000.00

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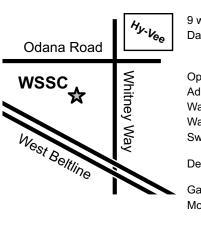
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www.westsideswimclub.com

### NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

#### **SVCA Fall Quarterly Meeting**

Wednesday, **November 13**, 6:45 p.m. Sequoya Library

#### Halloween Parade in Sunset Park Sunday, October 27, 2:00 p.m. sharp!

#### Hoyt Park Full Moon Night Walk Saturday, November 16, 6:00 p.m.



#### Hoyt Park Winter Sledding Party TBD, www.hoytpark.org



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Half Page size (7.5x4.5):
\$110 for 1 issue and \$396 for 4 issues
Deadline for newsletters:
January 5 April 5 July 5 October 5

January 5, April 5, July 5, October 5

Send ads as jpgs or pdfs to Clark at clarkkellogg65@yahoo.com

Mail contributions, dues, or ad payments to: SVCA, P.O. Box 5635, Madison, WI 53705

## NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

#### Babysitting (preschool and up) / pet-sitting /dog walking

Completed Red Cross babysitting course. Contact Dane (age 15) 608-354-4102

#### Pet Sit, Dog Walk, Babysit

Finnoulay Kaump Luedtke is 15. She is an experienced dog handler of both bully and small breeds. She is available for dog walking and pet sitting services. Finnoulay is also completing her American Red Cross Babysitters course and available for baby/Kid sitting! She can be reached at 773.426.1123 or Cynthia.Kaump@gmail.com

#### Pet Sitting, Babysitting

Fun, responsible, 16-year-old, West High rising junior in Sunset Village available for babysitting and pet sitting. American Red Cross certified in Babysitting and Child Care. Experienced camp counselor and life guard. Loves kids! References available. Text or call Charlie at 608-209-3765

#### Dog-walking, Pet-sitting and Babysitting

Hi, I am a 15-year-old West high student who wants to take care of your kids and pets! I have completed the Red Cross babysitting course and can speak Spanish. Please contact me at wayland@tds.net or (608) 598-9816 if you are interested.

#### Snow shoveling, Spring mulch and Summer lawn mowing

I'm a 14yr old that lives near Hillcrest and Westmorland Blvd. Text or call (608) 722-8992 for a quote!

#### Sunset Village Neighborhood Book Club

Meet your neighbors, enjoy great conversation, and discuss a wide range of books. Contact Linda Fahy, lbfahy\_27@hotmail.com

### Your neighborhood info:

Co-Presidents: Jonathan Becker & James Ream 262-332-0500

info@sunsetvillagecommunity.org

Secretary: Anne Badey Raffa, dancinthrulife14@gmail.com

Treasurer: Rich Kedzior, rkedz@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editors: Liz Vowles 608-658-9726, lizlloyd@chorus. net & Clark Kellogg, clarkkellogg65@yahoo.com

Neighborhood Website: www.sunsetvillagecommunity.org

Online Message Board: https://groups.google.com/g/sunsetvillagecommunityassociation

District 5 Alder: Regina Vidaver, district5@cityofmadison.com 608-616-0669, www.cityofmadison.com/council/district5/

County Board: Richelle Andrae, 414-469-6664 Andrae.Richelle@CountyofDane.com www.facebook.com/Richelle4DaneCounty

Facebook page: "Sunset Village Community Association"