

Sunset Village Voice

Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Summer 2025

Sunset Village Community Assoc.

summer quarterly meeting: Thursday, August 21, 6:00 p.m. Sequoya Library, 4340 Tokay Blvd.

(Zoom link will be on the Google group)

"Notes from a stoop"

We live in a neighborhood that once had a ski jump. You heard me right. People used to climb up to Hoyt Park, strap on wooden planks, and fly. That's the kind of madness that built Madison. and I'd like to think we haven't lost all of it. Nowadays, we launch other things: book clubs, water balloons, and strong opinions about bike lanes. Still, there's something about this neighborhood. Something wild underneath the mulch.

I said yes to being co-president because I believe this neighborhood can still surprise us. Not by going back, but by leaning forward. like a slightly tipsy genius on a porch swing, wondering what else we could build if we just got weird enough together.

We've got old trees and older grievances, sure. But we've also got new families, garage bands, porch beers, chalk art, and elders who remember the neighborhood before curbs and sidewalks. We still lend each other sugar. That's what I call infrastructure.

I don't have all the answers. But I know this: cities rot when neighborhoods go quiet. I plan to keep us noisy, in a good way. You might catch me pushing for wild ideas, questioning old assumptions, and maybe once in a while, dreaming just big enough.

So here's to Sunset Village. past, present, and whatever's next. The ski jump may be gone. But the launchpad? Still here.

See you at the ice-cream social, August 2nd!

SVCA co-president, James Ream

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- Rain Water Infiltration to Sanitary Sewer

Come to the Ice Cream Social!

Saturday, August 2, 1-4 p.m. in Lucia Crest Park

Get together with neighbors and enjoy treats from our generous nearby businesses: Chocolate Shoppe Ice Cream favorites, Great Dane beer, Luigi's pizza (delivered twice). Help us kick off our 2026 membership drive—Annual SVCA membership is still only \$15. Visit the membership table to join. Balloon twister, Joe Beck, of Twist N Shout will work his magic. And watch for the Station #9 FIRETRUCK.

Vote on ice cream flavors by July 27:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/ SVCA 2025IceCream



Sunset Village Garage Sales

Clean your closets and gather your treasures for the 2025 neighborhood-wide Sunset Village Garage Sale!

Dates: Friday, August 8 and Saturday, August 9

Get on the digital map by emailing your address and choice of days to ulrike.dieterle@gmail.com.



Sunset Village Neighborhood and Nearby Project Updates

University & Blackhawk Crossing: Median Island and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon

The project is a new pedestrian crossing configuration with no left turns onto University Ave. Work is scheduled for 9/10/25 to 10/7/25. www.cityofmadison.com/traffic-engineering/traffic-safety/safe-streets-madison

Redevelopment at 3535-3553 University Avenue and 733-737 N. Meadow Lane - Doubled in Size

Since the developers acquired the two corner houses at the north end of N. Meadow Lane, the project has expanded to a six-story (stepped back from two to six stories at the rear) mixed-use building with 4,268 sq. ft. of commercial space and 146 apartments, and driving access on N. Meadow Lane. This expansion has generated more public involvement than the previous development plan, with neighbors emailing the Plan Commission and City Council, and speaking at their June 9 and June 17 meetings, with concerns that the N. Meadow Lane access will increase neighborhood traffic and speeding.

Alder Vidaver reports on her June 15 blog, "As one of the conditions for this development, the developers have to contribute \$10,000 to a fund for future traffic control. Traffic engineering will purposefully do a traffic study of the corridor from Meadow Lane to Heather Crest and Midvale Blvd before and after the development is open to determine the best options for traffic calming. The Midvale Blvd resurfacing project next summer will include improved pedestrian crossing at Heather Crest and Midvale, along with multiple other intersections."

Read what neighbors on Bruce Court, N. Meadow Lane, Lucia Crest, Heather Crest, and Blackhawk Avenue have to say about this project. Go to the City Planning Department website and find public comments under the **Legistar Files** links.

www.cityof madison.com/dpced/planning/development.cfm? record = LNDUSE-2025-00035

Harvey Street and Blackhawk Avenue Sidewalks Remain Under Discussion

At the May 21 SVCA quarterly meeting, Lucia Crest resident, Rich Kedzior introduced a resolution which concluded: "Be it resolved that the Sunset Village Community Association calls on the City of Madison to include the study of sidewalks on Harvey Street and North Blackhawk Avenue in its consideration of neighborhood safety projects, install temporary barriers on the south side of Harvey Street to separate pedestrian and vehicular traffic where needed, and complete construction of sidewalks in the parking lane of the south side of Harvey Street between North Blackhawk Avenue and 3325 Harvey Street and on the east side of North Blackhawk Avenue from University Avenue to Harvey Street no later than December 31, 2026."

With an amendment— "Conduct the proposed study of Harvey Street and North Blackhawk Avenue sidewalks in conjunction with the ongoing study for the Ridge Street project that is currently scheduled for construction in 2029" —the resolution passed by a 12-9 vote.

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

Alder Vidaver reports, "Due to extensive community feedback, city staff have pushed back the Midvale Blvd resurfacing project to 2026, and will assess additional options for the configuration of the resurfaced street."

Look for project updates: www.cityofmadison.com/traffic-engineering/traffic-safety/safe-streets-madison/safe-streets-projects/midvale-boulevard

Mineral Point Road from Glenway to Midvale Resurfacing-Delayed until 2027

www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/resurfacing-program.

Additional Density being Considered at Woodland Reserve Apartments

J.D. McCormick is interested in adding additional density to the Woodland Reserve property between Bluff and Stevens Street. A public information meeting will be held [was held] on July 14 at 5:30 p.m., IN PERSON at the site, at the Stevens Street sign near Palomino Lane.

2025 City of Madison Housing Proposals

The City is considering three proposals to increase the mix of homes in Madison. A Public Information Meeting on these proposals was held on July 2 to provide further details and answer questions. Find more information and watch the Public Meeting at: www.cityofmadison.com/mayor/priorities/housing-forward/2025-proposals

Upcoming Neighborhood and Nearby Events (see also front and back pages)

Westside Community Farmers Market

Saturdays, 7:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., April 12-early November, University Research Park, 505 S. Rosa Road

- Westside Community Market on Facebook: www.facebook.com/WestsideCommunityMarket
- · Website includes a vendor map, vendor list and purchasing options: www.westsidecommunitymarket.org

Hilldale Farmers Market

Wednesdays and Saturdays: 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., **May 3-October 25**, rear parking lot. Contact the Farmers Market Manager at Hilldale@wsdevelopment.com; check the website: https://hilldale.com/about/farmers-market/

Capitol City Band Concerts in Rennebohm Park

Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., June 19 through August 21 https://ccbamadison.org/ and www.facebook.com/capitolcityband

Summer Nights at Segoe Park on Four Fridays

6:30-8:30 p.m., plus food carts at 5:30. July 11: The Waunakee Big Band, July 18: The Cajun Strangers, July 25: The SoundBillies, August 1: The Madtown Man-nish Boys. www.midvaleheights.org/Summer Nights at Segoe



Jim Latimer handing the baton to Dave Pedracine

Madison School & Community Recreation - Play on the Move - in Lucia Crest and Sunset Parks

Remaining dates in Lucia Crest Park on July 30, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and Sunset Park on **August 6**, 1-4 p.m. See all appearances at Lucia Crest, Sunset, Rennebohm, and Westmorland: **www.mscr.org/programs/free-mobile/fit2go-youth/**

Madison School & Community Recreation Art Cart in Lucia Crest Park

Two more dates in Lucia Crest Park: **July 29**, 2-5 p.m. and **August 6**, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. See the full Art Cart schedule, including appearances at Rennebohm and Westmorland Parks: **www.mscr.org/programs/free-mobile/art-cart/**

Ice Cream Social in Lucia Crest Park

Saturday, **August 2**, 1-4 p.m., with Luigi's pizza, Chocolate Shoppe ice cream, Great Dane beer, balloon twisting, Station #9 FIRETRUCK, neighborhood cheer.

Sunset Village Garage Sales: Friday, August 8 and Saturday, August 9

Get ready for the 2025 neighborhood-wide Sunset Village Garage Sale! To be added to the digital map, email ulrike.dieterle@gmail.com with your address and choice of days.

Westmorland Summer Nights – one more on September 13

Music for All Ages as well as a variety of food carts.







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Portals: A Children's Book

submitted by Sunset Village resident, James Ream

Inspired by many nights spent reading to my daughter, and my curiosity with how AI can expand the artist's toolkit rather than replace it, I decided to make something special for my daughter.

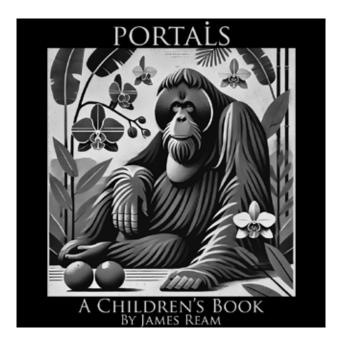
The result of this experiment? — Portals: A Children's Book

Portals is an alphabet adventure. Each page is an exploration of animals, plants, and places — from A to Z — designed to make learning letters feel like discovering a secret world. You'll meet elephants in estuaries, narwhals near Niagara Falls, and a quetzal bird perched in a Queen Anne's laced quarry. It's the kind of book that makes kids point and ask questions, and holds an adult's attention too.

I will be doing a reading of the book at Ink and Ivy on Regent Street on August 9th from 10:30 to noon. Stop by to grab a copy, flip through some prints, and chat about the alphabet, wild things, or the strange new frontier where imagination meets machine. Both hardcover and paperback editions will be available, along with prints from the book. You'll also find it at local bookstores and, of course, online.

Hope to see you there,

-James





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Friends of Hoyt Park News and Updates

submitted by Anne Badey Raffa

Our park ranger, Andy, is sponsoring guided walks through the park on the third Thursday of each month through the Fall. Meet in the main parking lot by the kiosk at 6:30 p.m. There will be a new topic to explore on the walk each month. In May we covered edible wild plants and in June there was a presentation on some of the history of the park.



We have workdays on the third Saturday of each month through November. Meet in the main parking lot by the kiosk at 10:00 a.m. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the park, connect with old friends and meet new ones.

A recap of past fun events included a Spring Migration Birding Activity in May sponsored by the Feminist Birding Club, and all enjoyed a wonderful bird watching experience. Anne Reis hosted an Acoustic Survey of the Hoyt Park bats on May 31 which was well attended and a lot of fun.

The Parks Department had an informational meeting on Hoyt Park improvements, and plans to begin construction in 2026 to replace the main parking lot and access driveways to the upper shelter and to Regent St., with final planting in 2027.

Our annual meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on September 4 at Sequoya Library. Stan Temple, avian ecologist and wildlife biologist, will be the speaker. There will be refreshments as well. More info at: www.hoytpark.org

Enjoy this jewel of a park with its beautiful bird sanctuaries, hiking trails, basketball court, scenic overlook, playground, prairie, wildflowers, shelters for your family and friends, the many fireplaces and so much more.



District Five Alder Candidates Thank their Supporters

Re-elected in the April 1 spring election, Regina Vidaver was sworn in on April 15 for a second two-year term. She says, "Thank you for voting. And thank you for voting to re-elect me to represent you on the Madison Common Council. It is truly an honor to work to ensure District 5 and the City of Madison are the best they can be. Please continue to be in touch with questions, concerns, and ideas."

Challenger, Ulrike Dieterle, thanks her supporters. "Congratulations to Regina Vidaver on her win for another term as alder in District 5. My goal in this campaign was to provide a choice. That done, the people have spoken. We will all move forward together to address new and existing challenges in the district and across Madison.

I also want to send a BIG THANK YOU to Sunset Village residents who encouraged me throughout the campaign, cheered me on as I went door-to-door, who put my signs in their yards and gave me their endorsements. The campaign was a positive experience which only serves to strengthen my belief that we have great neighbors. Thank you all and see you in the neighborhood!"

Serving West High School Through the Madison Public School Foundation

submitted by Karen Witte, Geneva Campus Church, June 25, 2025

The congregations of Geneva Campus Church and St. Andrews Episcopal Church have continued to partner with staff and students at West High School, coordinating with West High's Academic and Career Planning Coordinator and Instructional Coach, Sarah Quinn.



Volunteers from Geneva and St. Andrews and others from the community participated in the following this spring semester:

March 14—Provided a variety of pies for a staff celebration of Pi Day.

March 19—Performed mock interviews with junior-year AVID* students as they prepared to apply for summer employment and internship programs.

April 17—Read and reviewed resumés with sophomore students.





June 8—Celebrated with an End of Year All Staff Breakfast Buffet, with generous donations from Bloom Bake Shop, HyVee Grocery on Whitney Way, Madison Sourdough, Willy St. Co-op on University Ave., and Woodman's Grocery on Gammon Rd. Many thanks to those donors and all who participated!

We look forward to many more opportunities to partner with the dedicated staff at West High in the 2025-2026 school year.

*AVID is a college readiness program that serves primarily low-income, first-generation, college-bound students of color.

Cool and Rainy and Fun Easter Egg Hunt

photos by Erin Deeley and Susan Pommer

Organizer Erin Deeley reports, "We have a nice system set up—a neighborhood scout troop stuffs all the eggs for me the week before! Saves me a lot of sanity."





How to Denounce Your Discriminatory Racial Covenant

Most Sunset Village neighborhood properties have racial covenants (reference the Spring 2025 newsletter). These covenants are not legally enforceable, but property owners may not remove the text from their deeds. They can, however, denounce the discriminatory covenant. Find whether your home has a racial covenant on the INTERACTIVE MAP at: www.danecountyplanning.com/Prejudice-in-Places.

Then choose one of two options at the Property Owner Guide to Discover and Denounce Discriminatory Restrictive Documents.

Property Owner Guide to
Discover and Denounce
Discriminatory Restrictive
Documents





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Flooding Risk Map Shows Areas Likely to Flash Flood During Storms

A new map is available for the community to see areas known to historically experience street flooding during storm events in the City of Madison. The City of Madison Engineering Division created the new map to be a simplified tool to help residents understand the locations of street areas that are more likely to flash flood and should be avoided when driving and parking during extreme storm events. This map compliments the more detailed watershed flood risk maps.

www.cityofmadison.com/flooding/understanding-flooding/historical-street-flooding-map



Zucchini Cherry Chocolate Cake

2 cups shredded zucchini (any size)

½ cup water

2 teaspoons vanilla

1 teaspoon salt

1 egg

½ cup oil

1 1/4 cup sugar (or less)

2 ½ cups flour

½ cup cocoa

1 ½ teaspoon baking soda

½ cup broken nuts

1 cup (or more) sour cherries, pitted

Mix all ingredients.

Bake in 9" x 11" pan, 350 degrees, 20-25 minutes



Thank you Ice Cream Social Sponsors!







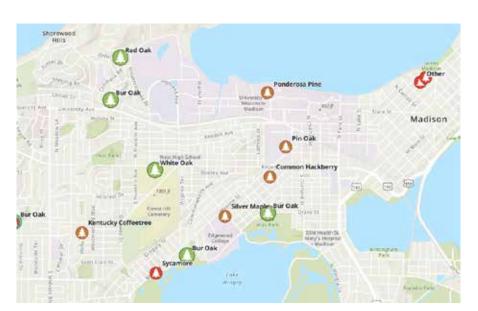
Remarkable Trees of Dane County

source: Dane County Tree Board

They are in your backyard, the local park, or along the highway as we head out on a family road trip. For many of us, trees are simply in the background of everyday life. We don't think about them much unless perhaps we need some relief from the sun, if they need to be pruned away from a roof, or if a famous tree becomes a news story.

Perhaps these trees deserve a bit more thought or recognition. Just think what our daily routine and lives would be without them. Not only do these trees provide environmental and economic benefits to the communities we live in, but they are living artifacts, witnesses to historical events, as well as inspirations to poets and architects. They may have grown unmistakably true to size and form or taken on a charisma all their own, regardless, trees add vitality to the background of our lives.

Explore Remarkable Trees of Dane County on the Dane County Tree Board website (https://treeboard.org/). And add a Remarkable Tree of your own!



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Housing: Thinking Outside the Box

submitted by Alder Regina Vidaver, May 25, 2025

Many of us experience a "typical American" progression in our housing: moving from our parents' or guardians' home to a dormitory, then to a rental (often with roommates), and eventually, to purchasing our own home, often with a partner. Over the past decade it has become much harder for individuals and couples to make the leap from renting to owning, thus delaying the ability to begin to build equity and generational wealth. With the current high demand for housing in the Madison region, continued high interest rates, the increasing costs of construction, and the uncertainty of current tariff policies, the likelihood for people to make the transition to home ownership continues to decrease.

So, what are some solutions? District 5 boasts more than one building that is co-operatively owned. Co-ops are limited liability corporations (LLCs) or non-profit organizations. When you buy into a co-op, you purchase shares in the corporation that owns the property. In a co-op, all residents are shareholders, and the size of your dwelling unit typically determines your stake in the building. Shared meals, helping to clean shared kitchen facilities, and participating in other household tasks is generally expected. Joining or creating a co-op allows the owners to build equity and generational wealth at a lower price point than if they were purchasing a structure individually or as a couple. This arrangement was made even more feasible in 2023 when Madison relaxed the rules on the number of unrelated individuals who could reside in a single dwelling: five unrelated individuals are now allowed in any single dwelling, if the available living space can accommodate them (see www.cityofmadison.com/dpced/bi/occupancy-standards/60/). Co-op housing has become a creative way for two single-parent households with children to come together to afford stable housing, sometimes with agreements to occasionally share childcare-associated tasks. Joining or starting a co-op can also be an attractive transition from renting to owning, allowing a younger person to begin to build equity on their way to eventually owning their own home.

Another type of arrangement, co-housing, exists in the District adjacent to ours, District 13 (Arboretum and Village Cohousing), as well as in District 18 (Troy Gardens Cohousing) and 6 (Linden Cohousing). In a co-housing arrangement, individuals or couples own their own unit, but the unit is situated within a group of other dwellings, and there is shared kitchen and event space, with an expectation of sharing some meals, and a process of shared governance. By design, co-housing encourages frequent interactions among residents, leading to the development of a feeling of being part of a larger community. This engagement can be particularly beneficial for individuals who might otherwise feel isolated in more conventional housing settings. Often the price point for owning in a co-housing community is lower than an individually owned condo or single-family home, and some have income restrictions on a percentage of the units to ensure lower income individuals and families can have the opportunity to join.

While both aforementioned arrangements allow people to build equity, they are not always affordable, as defined as requiring no more than 30% of one's income to be spent on housing. But the Madison Area Community Land Trust (MACLT; www.mcalt.org) is working to both help folks build equity and keep homes affordable. Briefly, MACLT buys the land that dwellings are located on, and prospective owners then only need to buy the home itself, thus reducing the cost of the purchase generally between 30-50%. Because MACLT retains the land in perpetuity, leasing it to the building owner, the organization can govern the use of that land, and therefore require all owners to be making 80% or less of the area median income (AMI; currently \$68,500 for an individual, \$78,250 for a couple, or \$97,800 for a family of four). Residents who would like to ensure affordable housing is available in our district can make the choice to gift their home or sell at a reduced price to MACLT, including through estate planning. If you are interested in investigating the opportunity to will or sell your home to MCALT, please contact 608-285-2304 or info@maclt.org.

We will not solve our regional or national housing issues with any single solution. Rather, we need multiple solutions designed to bring people the housing they need at a price they can afford. <u>Co-ops</u>, <u>co-housing</u>, and <u>Community Land Trusts</u> are a few solutions that contribute to building equity and growth for our community.

Regina Vidaver District5@cityofmadison.com 608-616-0669

How Rain Water Infiltrates the Sanitary Sewers

submitted by Forbes McIntosh, N. Owen Drive, June 26

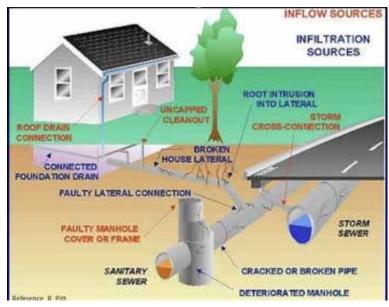
I attended the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District meeting this morning. They did a presentation, which included highlighting an issue on the Isthmus where on one rainy day the sanitary sewerage system was at or near capacity. This meant that rain water was likely infiltrating the system. I thought with all the recent rain - this might be a good time to highlight the following issue...

The City of Madison sanitary sewers are sized to only handle wastewater. The City storm and sanitary sewers are separate systems. Clearwater (rain, groundwater) entering the sanitary sewer system will potentially result in overwhelming the City sanitary sewer system resulting in costly sanitary sewer backups into homes or sanitary sewer overflows into the area lakes and streams. Exposure to untreated wastewater is harmful to human health and the environment.

Do Your Part to Protect from Sanitary Sewer Backups

- <u>Check your Sump Pump</u>: Please check your sump pump to make sure that it discharges to your yard. Sump connections that drain to your floor drain end up in City sanitary sewer. This is clean groundwater that does not need to be treated. Sump pump connections should be discharged to your lawn or a pipe out to the street.
- <u>Check your Gutters</u>: Roof drains that connect to sewer laterals result in rainwater and snow melt entering the City sanitary sewer. Downspouts from gutters need to be drained to your lawn or the street.

Learn more at: www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/sanitary-sewer/programs-initiatives/i-and-i-program





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NFIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

SVCA Summer Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, **Aug 21**, 6:00 p.m., Sequoya Library Zoom link will be on the Google Group

Farmers Markets

Hilldale-Wed. and Sat., 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. May 3-Oct. 25, behind L.L. Bean, off Segoe Rd. Westside-Sat., 7:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

April 12-early November, 505 S. Rosa Road Monroe Street-Sundays, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. **May-October**, Edgewood H.S. parking lot

Capitol City Band at Rennebohm Park

Thursdays, 7-8 p.m., June 19 to August 21 Summer Nights at Segoe Park

July 11, 18, 25, and **August 1**, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Ice Cream Social @ Lucia Crest Park
Saturday, August 2, 1-4 p.m., Luigi's pizza,
Chocolate Shoppe ice cream, Great Dane beer

Neighborhood Garage Sales

August 8 & 9, ulrike.dieterle@gmail.com

Bethany Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 10, 3-5 p.m.

Events and Golf at The Glen Golf Park

www.cityofmadison.com/parks/golf/TheGlen/

Westmorland Summer Nights

Last one on 9/13, approx. 4:00-8:30



Advertise in the Village Voice!

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

Business Card size (3.5x2):

\$36 for 1 issue and \$130 for 4 issues

Quarter Page size (3.5x4.5):

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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

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

Pet Sit, Dog Walk, Babysit

Finnoulay Kaump Luedtke is 16. 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, rising Malcolm Shabazz HS senior 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 16-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 Iris Wayland at wayland@tds.net or (608) 598-9816 if you are interested.

Snow shoveling, Spring mulch and Summer lawn mowing

I'm a 15yr 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/sunsetvil-lagecommunityassociation

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"