

Purple Cow Organics and Dane County Waste & Renewables: a Partnership

Dane County Executive Melissa Agard, August 17, 2025

I recently had the opportunity to tour one of Purple Cow Organics' composting sites alongside Jerod Reuter and Dane County Waste & Renewables Director, John Welch.

Purple Cow Organics and Dane County Waste & Renewables exemplify the power of public-private partnerships in Dane County, a partnership that sparks innovative and sustainable solutions.

Purple Cow Organics has been an outstanding partner, transforming piles of organic waste into high-quality compost. This process not only diverts food waste and other organics from the landfill, where they would produce methane, a greenhouse gas more than 20 times more potent than carbon dioxide, but also preserves valuable landfill space.

Most recently, Purple Cow Organics has begun composting organic materials such as animal bedding and manure from the Henry Vilas Zoo, as well as food waste collected through Dane County's new Food Scrap Program, which offers drop-off bins for residents across the county.

If you or someone you know wants to reduce your own food waste, sign up for the food scrap program.

<https://landfill.danecounty.gov/compost>



tickets at samtalamusic.org

\$10/\$25

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by Micah Behr

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Presented by:



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Geneva Campus Church 401 N Blackhawk Ave, Madison



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Why Do Our Neighborhood Kids Attend Two Different Schools?

submitted by Erin Courtenay



If you've ever wondered why children from our neighborhood attend both Lincoln and Midvale elementary schools, the answer lies in a partnership that has shaped our community for over 40 years. In 1984, the Madison School Board created the Midvale-Lincoln pair as part of a desegregation plan designed to ensure all students had access to diverse, thriving school communities. Students in our neighborhood attend kindergarten through second grade at Midvale, located in the Westmorland neighborhood, and third through fifth grade at Lincoln, in the Burr Oaks neighborhood, creating a unique public schooling experience that connects communities across both campuses. Today, Lincoln and Midvale serve approximately 725 students, 31% of whom are English learners.

Families in the Midvale-Lincoln attendance area consistently express satisfaction with the community they've found at both schools. Parents recognize that the paired model fulfills the promise of public education by bringing diverse communities together in a positive environment that prioritizes every child's well-being. The transition between schools in third grade, which some families initially worry about, turns out to be remarkably smooth thanks to factors like good student preparation and a strong, inclusive culture. "We feel so fortunate that our daughter gets to attend Lincoln Elementary. It is such a welcoming, fun, community-focused school. The teachers and staff are excellent, and my daughter looks forward to going to school every day," says neighbor Hannah Gaines Day.

There are many ways to support our neighborhood schools, whether you have school-age children or not. You can donate through the annual appeal, volunteer at events, help with garden maintenance, or even provide Spanish translation support. Stay connected through the SCO website at www.midvalelincolnpto.org or their Facebook page to learn about upcoming opportunities. These schools are the heart of our community, and investing in them strengthens the entire neighborhood. Let's continue to take pride in our schools and ensure every child has access to an excellent education.

Advent & Christmas AT GENEVA CAMPUS CHURCH

SUN 30 NOV	10 AM Worship for the First Sunday of Advent
SUN 07 DEC	10 AM Worship for the Second Sunday of Advent
SUN 14 DEC	10 AM Worship for the Third Sunday of Advent
SUN 21 DEC	10 AM A Service of Nine Lessons & Carols
WED 24 DEC	5 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

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Rake for Our Lakes

source: *Clean Lakes Alliance*

Raking leaves is a great way to help our lakes from your home. Leaves contain phosphorus, and when they break down, they can create one of the largest sources of urban phosphorus pollution. 50% of the annual phosphorus loading to our lakes from urban areas comes from fall leaf debris in the streets.

When left in the street, stormwater passes through leaves like a teabag. This creates a phosphorus-rich tea that washes down storm drains and into our lakes. Raking leaves from the street edge (three feet from the curb) and onto lawns will help fertilize the grass and reduce cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) blooms in our lakes. Leaves can also be composted or used as mulch around your yard, or properly bagged/piled on the grass street terrace for municipal collection.



Take the leaf challenge! Send us photos of how you are raking for our lakes! We'd love to share how our friends around the watershed are helping our lakes by keeping leaves out of the street. www.cleanlakesalliance.org/top10-survey/

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3505 UNIVERSITY AVENUE, 608-238-1088, Rgenins.com

"Anything we can do to Help" Call Keri jo

Unjust Deeds Exhibit at Sequoya Library in October

City of Madison news release

Unjust Deeds, an exhibition sharing the history of racial covenants in Dane County and beyond, has come to Sequoya Library. For most of the 20th Century, racial covenants were an insidious tool used nationwide to segregate whites from Blacks and other minorities in America's burgeoning suburbs and residential neighborhoods. Racial covenants were clauses inserted into property deeds to prevent non-Whites and non-Christians from buying or occupying land. Although no longer valid or enforceable, they can still be found in the land deeds of almost every American community, including Dane County. [See the Spring 2025 newsletter for racial covenants in Sunset Village.]



Racial covenants were made illegal with the passage of the Fair Housing Act in 1968. Nevertheless, their impacts are pervasive and still with us today. Homeowners are encouraged to look up their properties using the **Prejudice in Places** map online to see if their house has a discriminatory covenant on the deed. If so, you can file a “Discharge and Release of Discriminatory Restriction Affecting Real Property” form. More information at:

www.danecountyplanning.com/Prejudice-in-Places

The *Unjust Deeds* traveling exhibit will move on from Sequoya Library at the end of October, but will continue to be viewable at other Dane County Library locations through February 2026. See the rest of the schedule and look for remaining events online at:

danecountyhistory.org/racial-covenants.

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Serving West High School Through the Madison Public School Foundation

submitted by Karen Witte, Geneva Campus Church

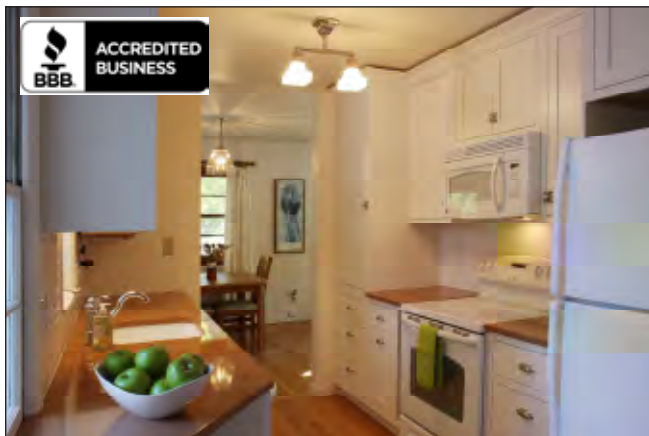
The congregations of Geneva and Resurrection Presbyterian once again provided an All-Staff Back-to-School Breakfast Buffet on August 26. Heartfelt thanks from our congregations and the staff at West High to the generous donors including: Madison Sourdough and Crescendo Espresso Bar.

Collaboration Project's *Love Dane* event volunteers from Geneva, Resurrection Presbyterian, St. Andrews Episcopal, Blessed Sacrament, Covenant Presbyterian, and Bethany United Methodist joined to:

- Spruce up landscaping,
- Shelve books in library,
- Open dozens of boxes of new headphones,
- Help with other housekeeping tasks.

This fall we will again be serving with many others from the Madison community to support senior students preparing college entrance essays.

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



Looks like it's.....

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Online Recyclopedia - Easy Material Lookup

source: www.cityofmadison.com/streets/trash-recycling

We have added a feature to the new Streets Division that will allow you to learn how to handle certain confusing material in your life. Instead of a long list of individual pages, or a hard to search index on a PDF document, we have a new Madison Recyclopedia tool on our website that allows you to look up items. Unsure if you should recycle something, or trash it, or maybe if you have something that has special disposal rules? Use the Madison Recyclopedia tool at:

www.cityofmadison.com/streets/trash-recycling/how-do-i-dispose-of

We can update the online tool anytime there are changes. We can't fix printed ones when something changes (obviously). It seems each time we have printed new versions of the big booklet something in the disposal guide changed at the last minute, and then we're stuck with thousands of booklets that have incorrect information that we can't correct.

A good example of this would be pizza boxes. We were able to update our new online tool with the good news about being able to recycle greasy pizza boxes right away. If our printed guide was out at that time, we would have likely had wrong information about pizza boxes in there and no way good way to get this information out of thousands of printed booklets.

How do I dispose of...?

The screenshot shows the 'Madison Recyclopedia' website. At the top is a green header with the title 'Madison Recyclopedia' and a 'Share' button. Below the header is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Type the name of a waste item and we'll tell you how to recycle or dispose of it.' and a green 'Search' button. Underneath the search bar is a section titled 'Featured Searches' which contains four circular icons with labels: a mattress icon labeled 'Mattress', a microwave icon labeled 'Microwave', a fluorescent tube icon labeled 'Fluorescent Tube', and a pill icon labeled 'Medications (Prescription and Over The Counter)'.

The advertisement for Lauer Realty Group features a group of about ten people, mostly young adults, dressed in casual, edgy clothing like leather jackets and jeans, posing on a grassy field. In the background, there's a dark, stylized image of a city skyline with a prominent dome, likely the Wisconsin State Capitol. The text 'LAUER REALTY GROUP' is in the top right corner. At the bottom, it says 'YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD HEADLINERS' in large, bold, white letters, followed by 'CATCH YOU AT BREESE STEVENS FIELD THIS SUMMER' and the website 'www.LauerRealtyGroup.com | 608.467.3220'.

The advertisement for Midvale Lutheran Church has a blue header with the text 'MIDVALE COMMUNITY LUTHERAN CHURCH' in white and yellow. To the right of the header, it says 'All are welcome. There is a place for you here.' and lists 'Pastor Katie Baardseth and Pastor Blake Rohrer'. Below the header is a large photo of the church building, a two-story structure with a steeple. Overlaid on the photo is the text 'Join us for online or in-person worship!' and 'The full schedule of livestream and in-person worship is available at midvalelutheran.org'. At the bottom left, the address '4329 Tokay Boulevard, Madison, WI 53711' and website 'midvalelutheran.org' are listed, along with the phone number '608-238-7119'. At the bottom right is a logo consisting of a white cross inside a heart shape, with the heart's border made of multiple overlapping rainbow-colored lines.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

SVCA Fall Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 19, 6:45 p.m., Sequoya Library
Zoom link will be on the Google Group

Halloween Parade in Sunset Park

Sunday, **October 26**, 2:00 p.m. sharp!

Hoyt Park Full Moon Guided Night Walk

Saturday, **December 6**, 7:00 p.m.



Oh, summer...



"To say it was a beautiful day would not begin to explain it. It was that day when the end of summer intersects perfectly with the start of fall."

– Ann Patchett

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):

\$72 for 1 issue and \$260 for 4 issues

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, 17-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 West HS junior 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!

Pet Care

I'm William - a 12 year old kid that loves animals, especially dogs. I am available for walking dogs or simple pet care activities if you are busy or want some extra love for your pet. You can text my mom for information 608-770-3783.

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"