



Sunset Village Voice

Your Neighborhood Newsletter

Summer 2026

Sunset Village Community Assoc.
Summer quarterly meeting:
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 6:30 p.m.
Midtown Station, 4020 Mineral Pt.Rd.
(Zoom link will be on the Google group)

Greetings Neighbors,

Summer has settled into Sunset Village. The gardens are thriving, the evenings stretch a little longer, and another Fourth of July has reminded us how fortunate we are to share this neighborhood. As our country celebrates America's 250th birthday, it's also a fitting time to think about the places closest to home and how each of us can help shape the community we leave to the next generation.

Strong neighborhoods aren't built by grand plans alone. They're built when someone decides to show up, offer an idea, and ask, "Why not?"

The Sunset Village Neighborhood Association maintains a modest budget to support community projects and events. Over the years we've helped sponsor favorites like the Halloween Parade, Egg Hunt, Ice Cream Social, and we've also contributed to larger community traditions such as the Westmorland Fourth of July celebration.

Perhaps in the future we'll fund scout troops, eager to build, plant, or repair. Or a fall art walk under the crisp colors our neighborhood prides itself on. Or a wooden pickleball arena? Who knows, but nothing builds itself.

We'd love to hear your ideas. Join us at the Ice Cream Social or at our next neighborhood meeting August 19th 6:30pm at Midtown Station. Share your thoughts, and help shape what's ahead for Sunset Village. If you can't attend, please join the conversation through our Google Group. Half the battle is simply taking part.

Here's to a wonderful summer, and to another season of building a stronger neighborhood together,

James Ream, SVCA co-president

Come to the Ice Cream Social!

Saturday, August 1, 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, Glass Nickel pizza (delivered twice). Help us kick off our 2027 membership drive—**Annual SVCA membership is still only \$15**. Visit the membership table to join. Fun for the kids includes: balloon twister, Joe Beck, of Twist N Shout, and a visit from Station #9 FIRETRUCK.

Vote on ice cream flavors

by July 26:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/SVCA2026



Neighborhood Garage Sales

Dates: **Friday, August 7** and **Saturday, August 8**

It's time to think GARAGE SALE or as we are calling it "R Sale" which stands for Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Redistribute, Recycle.

This year's event will include three participating neighborhoods – Westmorland, Dudgeon-Monroe, and Sunset Village. Basic signage will be posted by each neighborhood; you are encouraged to provide more directed signage closer to your home. There will also be a Google map to serve as a guide through the neighborhoods. The Salvation Army has agreed to pick up leftover items from your residence if packaged properly.

If you are interested in participating, complete the form at: <https://bit.ly/44LacmH> before July 31. If you have questions, contact your neighborhood coordinator, ulrike.dieterle@gmail.com, 608-233-9151 (landline)



Sunset Village Neighborhood and Nearby Project Updates

Midvale Blvd Resurfacing & Safety Improvement Project—July 1, 2026 Update

The City is planning a pavement patching project on Midvale Boulevard from Mineral Point Road to University Ave. The project includes patching pavement in the worst areas. Safety improvements utilizing pavement markings, plastic bollards and rectangular rapid flashing beacons will be all considered. The City's contractor, Payne & Dolan, has delayed the start of construction due to material supply issues. A tentative start date for the project is the week of July 20th.

www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/projects/midvale-blvd-resurfacing-safety-improvement-project

Redevelopment at 3535 University Avenue

Neighbors continue to report (and document) problems with construction noise before 7:00 a.m.; heavy vehicles driving and parking on neighborhood streets; and the inadequacy of the narrow pedestrian lane along University Avenue. Alder Vidaver reports, "Building Inspection visited the Univ. Ave construction site and ensured the crew chief understood that no construction noise can begin before 7am. I am confident the message has been received loud and clear. Some of the vehicles have turned out to be for other projects."

Grandad's Farm Stop Coming to the Moore's Towing Site at 3802 Mineral Point Road

Founder and General Manager, Patrick D. Randolph, anticipates opening by the end of August. Email him at info@grandadsfarmstop.com; visit the website grandadsfarmstop.com; or instagram [@GrandadsFarmStop](https://www.instagram.com/GrandadsFarmStop).

Schedule a Free Red Cross Home Fire Safety Visit

Sunset Village resident, Sharon Mulvey, reports on June 13, "The American Red Cross will replace smoke detectors free of charge. Four volunteers just left my house after inspecting and replacing my smoke detectors. They also provided an evacuation plan in case of fire. I had many questions about a hard-to-reach smoke detector and they gave me a lot of great ideas. They were very thorough and generous with their time."



The Red Cross website reports what to expect during your home visit:

- Installed smoke alarms if no working smoke alarms are present in your home
- Guidance in the development of a Family Disaster Plan
- Valuable emergency preparedness tips and information
- All demonstration and installation services will be performed by Red Cross-trained volunteers and/or licensed/insured professionals.

To request an appointment, fill out the online form:

www.redcross.org/local/wisconsin/about-us/our-work/home-fire-campaign/smoke-alarm-request.html

Summer Solstice Music in Sunset Village

One of the Sunset Village venues listed on the Make Music map was the W. Sunset Court garage and driveway of Valerie Stromquist, who performed with her group, *Dark Gazebo*, followed by *Still Jaded After All These Years*. Valerie sent a photo of their enthusiastic garage audience.



Bat Houses in Sunset Village

submitted by Bill Pomraning

Hello Sunset Village. My name is Bill Pomraning. I live in the neighborhood and am going to begin my first year of college at UW Madison this fall. Several months ago I built and delivered bat houses around the neighborhood as part of my Eagle Scout Project for Scouts' Troop 16. The bat houses were constructed at the makerspace Sector67 by the help of Troop 16 and several other volunteers. The houses were then sent to volunteers throughout the neighborhood; you can find them on S. Owen, Eugenia, S. Meadow



and Standish among other places. Bats are among Wisconsin's most cherished species and most species are threatened or endangered in one way or another. It was a pleasure to be able to do community service for the neighborhood and for environmental justice.

I would like to thank the Sunset Village Community Association's board, especially James Ream for signing the documents and Liz Vowles for pushing for the completion of the project. I would also like to thank everyone in the neighborhood who received and installed one of the bat houses. We are all grateful that you wonderful neighbors of ours supported this project.



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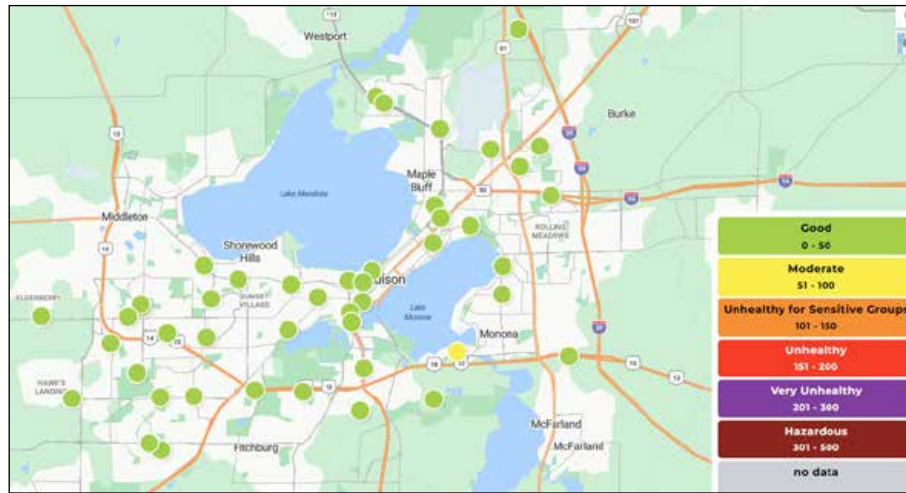
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Local Air Quality Information Now Available at Love My Air Wisconsin

City of Madison, April 6, 2026

Madisonians now have a new resource for information about air quality in their neighborhood. Data from City of Madison's low-cost air quality sensors is now available on the Love My Air Wisconsin website (www.lovemyair.com/wisconsin). Residents can now access real-time measurements of particulate matter at more than 40 locations across town. The project is a collaboration between the City of Madison and the Children's Health Alliance of Wisconsin, which will strengthen local efforts to better understand and improve air quality for residents of all ages.

Love My Air Wisconsin displays hour-by-hour data on fine particulate matter (PM2.5), particles that can cause serious health problems when we breathe them in. Users can explore sensor readings, view air quality trends in their neighborhoods, and learn about actions to reduce exposure.



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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 11-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 2-October 31**, 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-2026

Thursdays, 7:00-8:00 p.m., **June 18 through August 20**

<https://ccbamadison.org/>, and www.facebook.com/capitolcityband



Summer Nights at Segoe Park on Four Fridays in July

6:30-8:30 p.m. **July 10:** Waunakee Big Band, **July 17:** Honey Pies, **July 24:** Cajun Strangers, **July 31:** Madtown Mannish Boys. www.midvaleheights.org/post/segoe-summer-nights-free-concerts-fridays-in-july

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

Remaining dates in Lucia Crest Park on **July 23**, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and Sunset Park on August 13, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. See more appearances at Rennebohm, and Westmorland parks: www.mschr.org/programs/free-mobile/fit2go-youth/

Madison School & Community Recreation - Art Cart - in Lucia Crest Park

One more date in Lucia Crest Park: **August 6**, 1-4 p.m. See the full Art Cart schedule for all appearances at Dane County parks: www.mschr.org/programs/free-mobile/art-cart/

Ice Cream Social in Lucia Crest Park

Saturday, **August 1**, 1-4 p.m., with Glass Nickel pizza, Chocolate Shoppe ice cream, TBD beer, balloon twisting, Station #9 FIRETRUCK, neighborhood cheer.

Sunset Village Garage Sales: Friday, August 7 and Saturday, August 8

Get ready for the 2026 neighborhood-wide Sunset Village Garage Sale! See the newsletter front page for details and signup info.

Westmorland Summer Nights – one more on September 12

Music for All Ages and a variety of food carts. <https://westmorland-neighborhood.net/>



Serving West High School Through the Madison Public School Foundation

By Karen Witte, Geneva Campus Church

West High School's Madison Public School Foundation partners—St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Resurrection Presbyterian Church, Geneva Campus Church, and First Baptist Church—bid the staff a fond farewell for the summer. This spring we provided an All-Staff Lunch Snack Buffet. Wonderful Madison area vendors helped make this possible. They include Bloom Bake Shop on Monroe St., Crescendo Espresso Bar, HyVee Grocery on Whitney Way, and Madison Sour Dough. A heartfelt thanks from staff and churches for these generous and delicious donations. Thanks too to all of the West High School staff who serve our community so faithfully. Wishing you a refreshing summer break.



News from Friends of Hoyt Park

submitted by Anne Badey Raffa

Hoyt Park has many great activities and events planned for this summer and fall. On Thursday, July 23, Elizabeth Braatz, a UW Entomology PhD student, will lead a special evening walk about pollinators from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. All are welcome. Workdays are held on the third Saturday of each month through November from 10:00 a.m. to noon, and volunteers are encouraged to join. These workdays are a great opportunity to connect with neighbors and meet new friends. Please meet at the Historic Main Entrance on Regent Street.

Our annual membership meeting will be on Wednesday, September 16 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. with Guest presentation by the UW Urban Canid Project. Our location is TBD.

The parking lot reconstruction has started, scheduled to be completed by the end of August. The park shelters cannot be reserved during this time. The FoHP, in cooperation with the Madison Parks Department, have started to restore parts of the park to oak savanna, the dominant vegetation type in Southern Wisconsin in the mid-19th century. Many native wildflowers and grasses were recently planted as well.

Enjoy the beauty this park has to offer, hiking trails, a prairie, wildflowers, a playground, bird watching, picnic tables, and historic fireplaces. Consider becoming a member as well. Please visit our website www.hoytpark.org for updates.

Thanks to SVCA for Contributing to the Midtown Precinct Gardens

submitted by Sue Reynard

The Sunset Garden Club (SGC) thanks Sunset Village Community Association for its contribution of nearly \$200 towards enhancement of the gardens at the Midtown Police Station. Last year, the City decided to convert the prairie spaces surrounding the building into lawns (for easier upkeep). SGC volunteered to take over maintenance of four garden plots and worked feverishly last year to rescue as many prairie plants as possible before the conversion to grass lawn. This year, SGC's focus has been on creating a red-white-and-blue garden in a small plot near the front entrance of the police station in honor of our country's 250th anniversary. We are also removing invasive weeds from all four plots, filling in gaps, and doing other maintenance. The contribution from SVCA went towards the purchase of a dozen perennials (native and non-native asters, bee balm, and meadow rue) that have been planted in the largest plot near the front entrance of the station. We will do more planning over the coming winter for renovation of these long-neglected plots.



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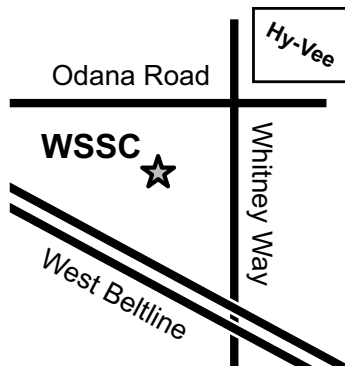
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