



Midvale Messenger

July-August 2025

Calendar:

July 4: July 4 Celebration in Westmorland Park, 9:30 a.m.
July 11, 18, 25: Segoe Summer Nights, Segoe Park, 6:30 p.m.
July 19: Odana Hills Native Prairie Garden Tour (6 p.m.) + Happy Hour (7 p.m.)
July 29: "Bad River" documentary screening, Sequoya Library, 6:30 p.m.
August 1: Segoe Summer Nights, Segoe Park, 6:30 p.m.
August 2: Friends of Sequoya Library Bookshop Sale, Market Square, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
August 5: National Night Out, Westmorland Park, 5-7 p.m.
August 16: Friends of Sequoya Library Bookshop Sale, Market Square, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
August 26: MHCA Board Meeting, Sequoya Library, 6 p.m.
August 29-30: Annual MHCA Garage Sales

MIDVALE MESSENGER

The *Midvale Messenger* is published six times a year by the Midvale Heights Community Association. Copy deadlines are the 15th of February, April, June, August, October, and December.

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Vice President's Message

There is So Much Going On in Midvale Heights

By Troy Thiel

Vice President of Midvale Heights Neighborhood Association

I'm Troy Thiel, the new Vice President and am excited to step up and help so many great MHCA neighbors and fellow advocates to making our Neighborhood better. I want to thank all of our Volunteers and attendees at our events at making MHCA such a great asset for all of us.

We're just coming off another super successful neighborhood picnic, excellent board meeting with two of our elected officials and in the next month there are many more great events and happenings that the MHCA is supporting. Next up is the July 4 Party at Westmoreland Park, then the week after, starting late afternoon on July 11, our Segoe Summer Nights concerts kick off and continue for the next four Fridays. Food trucks arrive around 5:30 p.m. and the music begins at 6:30. See our web link for the event <https://midvaleheights.org/SummerNightsatSegoe>

Also, on Saturday, July 19, our Green Team will co-host a guided tour, from 6 to 7 p.m., of the Odana Hills Native Prairie Garden followed by a Happy Hour at the Clubhouse bar/restaurant afterwards for more fun.

(Continued on page 3, "Vice President's Message")



Neighborhood News Briefs

Segoe Summer Nights Concerts Return July 11, 18, 25 and August 1

By Lorie Raihala
Segoe Summer Nights

The Midvale Heights Community Association is proud to sponsor another season of Segoe Summer Nights!

Round up your family, pack your lawn chairs, and come on down to Segoe Park for fine tunes, food truck fare, and friendly mingling on Fridays in July (and August 1).

Food trucks are back this year! Our rotation includes Thailand in a Truck, Jakarta Café, Gloria's on Wheels, Jamaican Kitch'n, and the Chocolate Shoppe.

Where?
Segoe Park, 502 S. Segoe Road

When?
Food trucks open at 5:30pm, bands play from 6:30-8:30.

The Bands

July 11: The Waunakee Big Band

July 18: The Cajun Strangers

July 25: The SoundBillies

August 1: The Madtown Manish Boys (pictured right)



Celebrate—and Practice—Summer Reading with Friends of Sequoya Library

By Nadine Pfotenhauer
Friends of Sequoya Library

Summer is a wonderful time for reading and the Friends of Sequoya have BOOKS! At the Friends of Sequoya Shop you can buy chil-

dren's books, books on sports, travel, cooking, crafts, art, nature, history, biography and of course classic literature and fiction. We also have DVDs and CDs and there are more books at the Library on the shelves next to the Friends of Sequoya work room. Many thanks to our wonderful community of generous donors who bring their gently used books for us to sell so we can support our beloved Sequoya Branch Library.

Next sales at our shop in Market Square (6672 Odana Rd.) are July 5, August 2, August 16 and September 6. The Friends accept donations at Sequoya Library every day. You can use the Friends' drop slot (not the book return) or give them to staff at the front desk. We also take donations at the shop on Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to noon. We ask that large donations are brought to the shop or leave a message at 608-288-9848 and we can arrange a pick up. If you have questions about donations or would like to volunteer with the Friends, ask at the Sequoya Help Desk, come to the shop to talk with us on our book sale or donation days or leave a message on our shop phone: 608-288-9848. Find us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofsequoyalibrary/>



Neighborhood News Briefs



Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale Set for August 29-30

By Michelle Kempf-Weiber
Garage Sale Co-Chair

Start cleaning out those closets—the Midvale Heights Community Association (MHCA) annual garage sale is weeks away. Official dates and times for this year's sale are Friday, August 29, and Saturday, August 30, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participants can choose to hold their sale on one or both days and set their own hours. Registration this year is just \$5.

More than 20 Midvale Heights neighbors usually participate in the sale. There is strength in numbers: the more homes participating, the bigger the crowds shopping the sales! The MHCA advertises the sale on Craigslist, NextDoor, and other websites. Participants are encouraged to also advertise for added visibility.

A feature of the sale is an online map on the MHCA website (www.midvaleheights.org) that buyers can download to guide them through the sale. The \$5.00 registration fee covers advertising, neighborhood signs, and maps for participants

to distribute to sale shoppers. A packet containing sale guidelines, a sign designating participants, and maps for shoppers will be dropped off a few days before the sale.

This year there are two ways you can register: Either use the garage sale registration form on page 7 of this issue of Midvale Messenger OR go to: <https://midvaleheights.org/Annual-Neighborhood-Garage-sales>.

Forms can also be downloaded from the Midvale Heights website.

Michelle Kempf-Weibel and John Weibel are chairs of the garage sale and can be reached at mhcagaragesales@midvaleheights.org with questions. Forms are due back to Michelle and John by August 15 in order to be included in the online map.

Vice President's Message (continued from page 1)

None of the aforementioned...or the myriad of other things MHCA does in the course of a year would be possible without you the members supporting with your donations and time. We are in a membership drive from now through August. If you haven't yet, please renew your membership ASAP!



We start laying out the publishing of our two-year MHCA Handbook and have switched to an annual dues format starting every September 1. So far about half of our members have renewed and we've gained more new members too, but we need your support. Please go to our Membership page to sign up online at https://midvaleheights.org/MHCA_Membership or use the form on page 8 of this issue of Midvale Messenger. We'll also have a membership table at each Segoe Summer Nights concert.

And, if you'd like to help out, we're looking for area directors, and other event and board specific positions/volunteers! Contact me at Troythiel14@gmail.com if you have any questions. I'm so happy my wife Karen and I have gotten more involved. It's been a blast meeting so many great neighbors. Please join us in the fun when you can and thank you for your support.

Happy Summer!

The 15-Minute City

By Bill Tishler

Madison District 11 Alder

Last fall, the Sequoya Library showcased the work of local artist and cartographer Stephen Kennedy. His creative and thought-provoking maps invite viewers to see Madison from new perspectives. Among the maps, one called *15 Minute City* really stood out to me. It illustrated areas of Madison where residents live within a 15-minute walk of key amenities like parks, schools, health clinics, transit, shops, and grocery stores.

What caught my attention was that, in addition to downtown, part of District 11—specifically the University Hill Farms neighborhood—also meet the criteria for a 15-minute city. That discovery sparked my interest and led me to explore the concept further.

One of the most insightful books I found was *Shrink the City: The 15-Minute Urban Experiment and the Cities of the Future* by Natalie Whittle, published in 2021. At just 158 pages and written in a clear, engaging style, the book explores the growing global movement to reimagine cities so that essential services are within a short walk or bike ride.

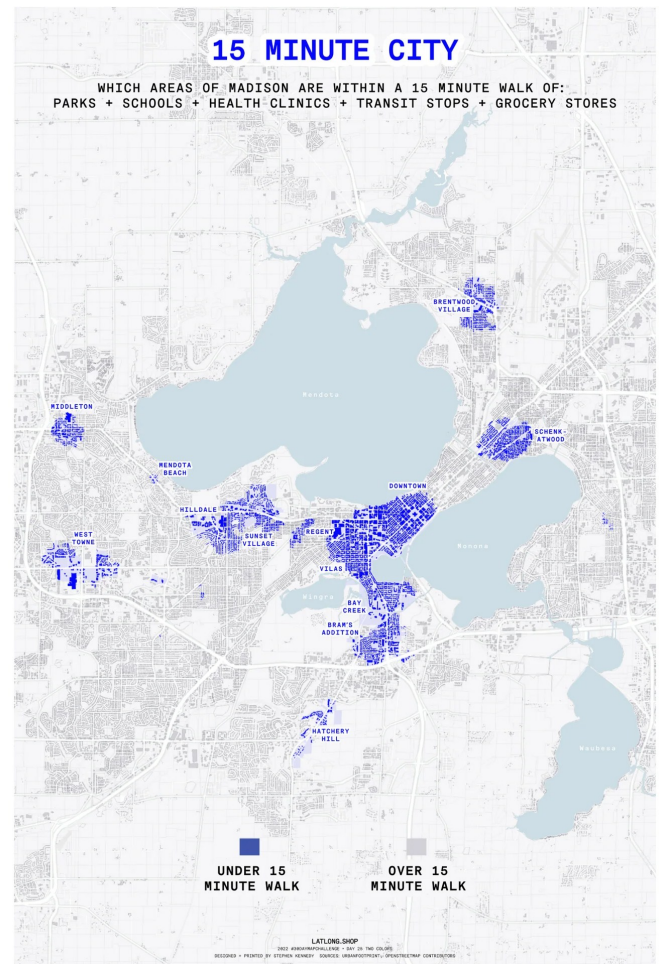
Whittle highlights how the 15-minute city model is being adopted around the world and what it means for building more inclusive, sustainable, and livable communities.

(Illustration: Copyright Stephen Kennedy, LATLONG.SHOP)

In many ways, Madison is already moving in this direction. Our city benefits from a well-established network of bike paths, neighborhood parks, libraries, local schools, and vibrant farmers' markets. But *Shrink the City* also challenges us to think beyond our current successes: How can we extend these benefits to every neighborhood—not just downtown or the near west side? How do we grow while preserving affordability and access? And how can smart planning support a more compact, people-centered city?

As Madison continues to evolve, *Shrink the City* offers a timely and inspiring framework for thinking about how we design our neighborhoods, navigate our city, and support a high quality of life for all residents, regardless of their ZIP code.

I hope you'll consider joining me for the next District 11 Book Club gathering on Wednesday, August 20, from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m. in the main meeting room at the Sequoya Library. We'll be discussing *Shrink the City* with fellow residents and community leaders. A limited number of copies will be available on a first-come, first-served basis at the library's Ask Desk. This informal, public event is open to everyone—and even if you haven't finished the book, I encourage you to join the conversation.



Join Us for National Night Out on August 5

By Bonnie Roe

MHCA Good Neighbor Project

The West Madison Good Neighbor Project (launched in 2021) is hosting our third annual National Night Out Picnic at Westmorland Park on Tuesday, August 5th in conjunction with the Madison Police Department. Please join us for free food, fun, lawn games, and casual conversation! Hang with neighbors and get to know some of the police officers who work in our neighborhood. Ask any questions about policing, crime trends, neighborhood safety, or whatever is on your mind.



Kids and adults alike enjoy seeing the inside of a police squad, watching the capabilities of a police drone, or meeting a police horse or K9 (as resources allow).

Millions of neighbors take part in National Night Out (NNO) events across the country each year during the first week of August. Started in the 1980s, the purpose of National Night Out events is to promote and strengthen police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie which make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

We are grateful for the Midvale Heights Community Association and the Westmorland Neighborhood Association for sponsoring this event.

Tuesday, August 5

5:00-7:00 pm

Westmorland Park

4114 Tokay Blvd.

Free Taco/Nacho Bar (while supplies last)

Some picnic tables will be available, but bring a blanket or chair(s) if you'd like.

Hope to see you there!



A Documentary, A Tour, A Happy Hour and Some Mums

By Wendy Weber

The MHCA Green Team

Let's Watch the "Bad River" documentary

- Tuesday, July 29
- 6:30 - 8:20 p.m.
- Sequoya Library, Rooms A and B
- 4340 Tokay Blvd., Madison
- Yes, we will have popcorn!

Bring a friend and may we all be informed about Bad River Band, a Chippewa reservation in Wisconsin, and its struggles to protect and preserve their native land. For more information go to www.badriverfilm.com.



Marcel's Prairie Restoration Site Tour

You are invited to Marcel's July 19 Prairie Restoration Site Tour at Odana Hills. The Midvale Neighborhood Association and Green Team, together with the Madison Wild Ones Chapter, are excited to host another prairie restoration site tour at the Odana Hills Golf Course on Saturday, July 19 at 6 p.m. We will meet at the south end of the parking lot, all the way at the end.

Marcel Wuethrich is the garden's creator and will be offering the tour with other volunteers. The prairie restoration area is 1.5 acres and owned by Madison City Parks. Volunteers have established and maintained a highly diverse native prairie plant community to showcase the beauty of native plants and foster

habitat for pollinators, birds, and other wildlife.

Don't miss the next event at 7 p.m. at the same address!

Midvale Heights Neighborhood Association invites you to a Happy Hour at the Odana Hills Golf Course Bar at after the tour about 7 p.m. Come visit with neighbors and maybe meet someone new. The club bar will be open for business (And no, it's not an "open bar" in the sense that MHCA is paying for your favorite drink!) Who knows, but we may even have something for you to munch on which would be on the MCHA house.

Garden Tip for Chrysanthemums (mums)

Prune your mums around the 4th of July and definitely by mid-August. You can use your fingers or a scissors. Why prune in the summer?

- Pruning back stems encourages bushier growth and the mum branches out and becomes fuller.
- Pruning promotes fall growth and the plant focuses its energy on developing flower buds for the fall, rather than prematurely in the summer. Without pruning, mums can become tall and spindly, with flowers only at the top.

Enjoy your mums in the fall!



ANNUAL MIDVALE HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE

Friday, August 29, and Saturday, August 30, 2025

(Labor Day weekend)

8 a.m. – 2 p.m. both days

(Each homeowner may choose to set their own hours)

Registration cost is just \$5. This fee provides signage, many varied forms of advertising, and listing of your house on our garage sale map that includes categories of items in your sale.

THREE EASY STEPS:

1. Fill out the form below OR register online at:
https://midvaleheights.org/Annual_Neighborhood_Garage_sales. Please check the box to designate if you will be holding your garage sale on both Friday and Saturday or Saturday only or Friday only. Check the boxes to show which categories your sale will feature.
2. ***Please consider an additional tax-deductible contribution to benefit the Midvale Heights Community Association.***
3. Return the form **no later than Friday, August 15, 2025** to:
Michelle Kempf-Weibel and John Weibel, MHCA Garage Sale Coordinators
5122 Sherwood Road
Madison, WI 53711 (forms can be either mailed or dropped off in their mailbox)
Garage sale packets will be distributed to each sale site by volunteers **a few days before** the garage sale. Packets include general guidelines, Garage Sale Maps for distribution at your sale, and an Official Sign to post at your sale.

Questions? Please email Michelle and John at mhcagaragesales@midvaleheights.org.

REGISTRATION FORM (please complete all areas)

Name (print clearly) _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ E-Mail Address _____

☐ **I plan to hold a garage sale at my home.** Enclosed is my registration fee of \$5.00. \$5.00
PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- ☐ My garage sale will be held on **both Friday, August 29 & Saturday, August 30**
☐ My garage sale will be held on **Friday, August 29, only.**
☐ My garage sale will be held on **Saturday, August 30, only.**

MY GARAGE SALE will feature the following categories of items (please check all that apply):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kids/Baby Clothing/Toys | <input type="checkbox"/> Furniture |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Women's or Men's Clothing | <input type="checkbox"/> Antiques/Collectibles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Household | <input type="checkbox"/> Books/Jewelry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ (limit of 25 words) | |

☐ I would like to make an additional contribution to support the Midvale Heights Community Association. \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED _____

Please make your check payable to: Midvale Heights Community Association (MHCA). We **MUST** receive your registration by August 15 to include your sale on the Neighborhood Garage Sale Map.

Midvale Heights Community Association Membership Form

To renew or register online, go to <http://midvaleheights.org/MHCAregister>

Friends, Thank you for supporting MHCA and the many activities that make our neighborhood so special. Please print and be careful to write legibly, so that your name and information are entered in our database correctly. Welcome to MHCA!

Midvale Heights Street Address: _____

First Name	Last name	Phone	Email	Occupation / Business
Adult #1 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Adult #2 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Adult #3 _____	_____	_____	_____	_____

☐ Please check here if you want to be added to the Good Neighbor Project email list

☐ Please check here if you do not want your email address used to send other announcements

First Name	Last Name	Baby sitting	Odd jobs	Mowing	Snow shoveling
Child #1 _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child #2 _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child #3 _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child #4 _____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ I do not wish to be listed in the directory (you will still receive a directory)

☐ I do not wish my children to be listed in the directory

INFORMATION OBTAINED BY MHCA IS USED ONLY FOR THE DIRECTORY AND DISTRIBUTED ONLY TO MHCA MEMBERS. IT IS NOT SOLD OR DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE MHCA.

I would like to volunteer / contribute to neighborhood programs:

<u>Contribute</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>	<u>Contribute</u>	<u>Volunteer</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain or Area Director/Co-Director	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Visits	
<input type="checkbox"/> Contribute articles to Newsletter	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Green Team	
\$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Annual MHCA Neighborhood Picnic	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> MHCA Youth Baseball	
\$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Annual MHCA Neighborhood Garage Sale	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> WIDE-LP 99.1 FM	
\$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Summer Nights at Segoe Concerts	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Good Neighbor Project	
\$ _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Annual MHCA/Westmoreland games			

Suggested MHCA membership donation: ___\$20 ___\$40 ___\$80 Other: \$ _____

Membership period: Sep 1, 2025 – Aug 31, 2026

\$ _____ Membership donation

\$ _____ Total of the above voluntary contributions to MHCA programs

\$ _____ Additional, undesignated contribution towards MHCA programs

\$ _____ History Book (*Forests, Farms, and Families: A History of the Midvale Heights Neighborhood*, \$10 / copy)

\$ _____ **TOTAL** Check number: _____

Please make check payable to: MHCA

Mail to: Midvale Heights Community Association
P.O. Box 44426
Madison, WI 53744-4426