



Midvale Messenger

May-June 2023

Calendar:

May 6: Friends of Sequoya Library Bookshop Sale, Market Square, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

May 23: MHCA May Board Meeting at Sequoya Library, 6:45pm

June 3: Friends of Sequoya Library Bookshop Sale, Market Square, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

June 8: MHCA-sponsored blood drive at Sequoya Library Community Rooms, noon to 5 p.m.

June 22: Midvale Heights Community Association Annual Picnic, Segoe Park, 6 p.m. to dusk

June 27: MHCA June Board Meeting at Sequoya Library, 6:45pm

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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President's Message

Here Comes the Sun, Here Comes the Fun

by Joy Cardin

I am writing this following a mid-April snowfall that put an end to our early summer temperatures. The cold April showers that followed reminded us how fickle the weather can be in the springtime. Here's hoping the May flowers won't have to endure another blanket of snow.

Plans are underway for all the traditional events sponsored by the Midvale Heights Community Association each year. Youth baseball will be starting soon, the June 22 neighborhood picnic is scheduled, the bands are booked for the Friday Summer Nights at Segoe Park concert series in July, and the neighborhood garage sale is on for Labor Day weekend.

These activities and others are possible because of your membership in the Midvale Heights Community Association. A printed edition of our ***Membership Messenger*** - containing a membership registration form - will be hand-delivered to every resident in the Midvale Heights neighborhood in late May/early June to encourage you to join or renew your membership. The cost will continue to be \$30.00 for a two-year membership. Besides helping to fund the events that make Midvale Heights a great place to live, work, and play, your membership dues entitle you to a member discount card good for money off goods and services. You will also receive (and can be included in) the Midvale Heights neighborhood directory. This booklet contains information for participating neighbors, including those offering services like childcare and snow shoveling, and other helpful community resources. You will also receive an email providing a link to our bi-monthly digital newsletter to keep you informed about issues and events.

The MHCA Board meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month (except July and December) at 6:45 p.m. at the Sequoya Library. You are invited to join us there to get updates on community issues and events or to propose an activity you would like the association to sponsor. Or contact me via email anytime at cardinjoy@gmail.com

Neighborhood News Briefs

Don't Miss this Summers' Friends of Sequoya Library Sales

Spring is a beautiful time of new beginnings including the beginning of our annual Friends of Sequoya membership drive. If you would like to support our library by your membership donation to the Friends, pick up a brochure at the Sequoya Branch Library. The Sequoya Friends are extremely grateful for the donations of books, CDs, DVDs, games and puzzles we receive from our generous community. Volunteers are at the Friends of Sequoya Shop in Market Square on Mondays and Thursdays between 10 a.m. and noon to accept donations. Donations are also accepted at Sequoya, but we request that large donations are brought to the shop. We are also thankful for those who shop our sales because the proceeds are turned into programs for children, teens and adults and provide new books and materials to keep our beloved Sequoya Branch a premier resource for the neighborhood. The next sales at the Friends of Sequoya Book Shop will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on May 6, June 3, and July 1 and 15. We also have books at the Sequoya Branch on shelves and a cart near our work room.

If you have any questions ask at the Sequoya Help Desk, come to the shop to talk with us on our donation days or leave a message on our shop phone: 608-288-9848. Also find us on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofsequoyalibrary/>.



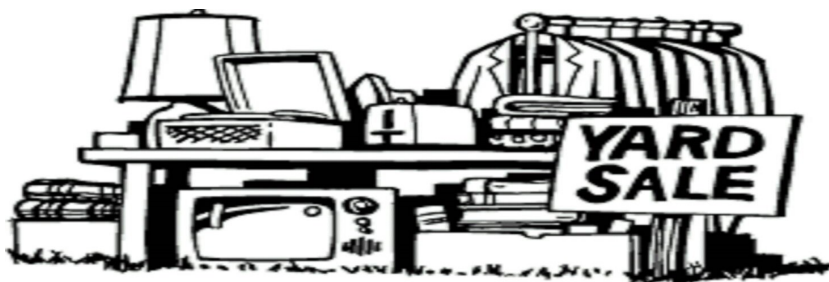
It's Not Too Late to Register for Midvale Heights Baseball

Midvale Heights Community Association Baseball is a fun league for players from 3 to 9 years old. There is T-Ball on Tuesdays, Major Coach Pitch on Wednesdays, and Minor Coach Pitch on Thursdays. The games begin the week of June 5 and, at and end the week of July 24.

Each player will receive a T-shirt, hat and baseball. Applications [are available online](#) and at the Sequoya Library. The cost is \$50 for a family's first player and \$40 per player for the rest of the family. If you have questions, please call Mike Pressman at (608) 288-0993 or email him at mmpress-

Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale is Back Labor Day Weekend, September 1 and 2

This year's annual Midvale Heights Neighborhood Garage Sale will be on Labor Day weekend, Friday, September 1 and Saturday, September 2. Start cleaning out those closets now and watch for more information about the sale and a registration form in the July-August issue of the *Midvale Messenger*. The registration link will also be available online at http://midvaleheights.org/Annual_Neighborhood_Garage_sales starting July 1. Registrations will be due in early August (exact date to be determined).



It's Good to Be Back Again

by Bill Tishler
District 11 Alder

The first time I was in the Madison Common Council chambers was when my middle school went there on a class field trip. We all took turns sitting at the desks to learn how city government works. It's good to be back in the chambers again and looking forward to starting this term by attending council meetings in-person with so many new Alders, but I am also going to miss some friends like Alder Brian Benford and Alder Sheri Carter. When I became an Alder back in June 2022, I found the Common Council was deeply divided. This could partly be the result of incompatible

personalities, but I think the pandemic and holding common council meetings online exacerbated the situation since it didn't allow Alders the opportunity to meet informally before and after meetings to air out their difference in an amiable way. I am also optimistic that things will continue to improve because this new Common Council will be held to a higher standard and must comply with a recently adopted official code of ethical conduct. The code outlines expectations for elected officials and states that, "Bullying, harassment, and discrimination are demeaning to others and undermine the integrity of relationships." You can read more about the Official Code of Ethical Conduct by visiting cityofmadison.com.



Images of Bill Tishler taken in Room 201, City-County Building, 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Madison, WI

Make Music Madison Performances on Orchard Drive June 21

by Ken Skog

Again this year as part of Make Music Madison, Midvale Heights neighbors are invited to hear free musical performances on the front deck of 626 Orchard Drive, starting at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 21. There will be seating on the front lawn. Our location (<https://www.makemusicmadison.org/>) is "WIDE-LP Transmitter Garage." Part of the event will be broadcast live over WIDE-LP radio at 99.1 FM. We will post the participating performers on the radio station web page: <http://madisonwi.us/WIDE-LP/photos/MakeMusicMadison/index.htm>.

Annual Summer Nights Concerts Series at Segoe Kicks Off July 7

By Denise Lamb

MHCA's annual summer concert series, Summer Nights at Segoe, will return on Friday nights in July with two new groups along with some old favorites. The series will open on July 7 with Gin, Chocolate & Bottle Rockets playing and singing pop, rock, and blues tunes. The group first appeared in the Segoe Park series two years ago, and we are glad to have this energetic trio of singers and musicians back.

Onadare, a traditional Irish band, will be playing on July 14. This group is new to our lineup but plays monthly at the Malt House on Madison's east side. If you want to check them out before July, they usually play on the third Tuesday of the month.

The Cajun Strangers, playing Cajun and Zydeco music on July 21, need no introduction to our concert audiences, as they have opened the series for the past few years. We are happy to have them back for another year of great music and great tunes for dancing.

Our final concert will feature the Madtown Man-nish Boys playing Chicago-style blues on July 28. We have had requests for this group in the past and are pleased that we can include them in this year's concert lineup.

Concerts will begin at 6:30 pm and run until 8:30. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, picnics, and dancing shoes and enjoy the music.

NOTE on Food Carts: Our loyal fans will know that locating food carts to provide picnic suppers at the concerts has been a major challenge since the beginning of the pandemic. We have begun working with a group sponsoring concerts in Westmorland Park this summer in the hope that we can guarantee enough business over the of the summer to entice some vendors to sign up for the concerts in both parks. We should have more information on this in the July -August *Messenger*. In the meantime, if there is anyone in the Midvale Heights community who could help us find vendors, please contact Denise Lamb at madmiz4009@gmail.com.

Gin, Chocolate & Bottle Rockets open Summer Nights at Segoe Park on July 7



Spring Into Action with the MHCA Green Team

By The Midvale Heights Green Team

The Midvale Heights Communication Association provides numerous opportunities to immerse yourself in our neighborhoods ecology while you also learn, volunteer, and make new friends.

Tokay Boulevard Median Walk

- Join members of the Green Team and median garden “caretakers” for a Tokay Avenue Median Walk
- Wednesday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m. (rain date Thursday, May 11)
- Meet at the corner of Midvale Ave. and Tokay Blvd. We’ll stroll down Tokay and identify and discuss the median plantings
- After our stroll, you are invited to gather for social time with new friends who are interested in gardening and sustainability!

Tokay Median Spring Cleanup is May 20

Spring is a good time to get out and catch up with neighbors while sprucing up the Tokay medians. Besides, it’s a great way to celebrate a belated Earth Day and do something great for our neighborhood! **The cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, May 20 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.** We echo what longtime median supervisor Nan Lager used to say, “Please bring your gloves, clippers, a rake, other garden tools, water and coffee flasks as well as enthusiasm to the Green Table at the corner of Piper and Tokay for work assignments, coffee, and breakfast treats.”

By the way, there are 15 median planting areas and there are 10 that are officially adopted. It would be greatly appreciated if others would be willing to join us, help with this activity and stay as long as you want. If you can’t make it on the 20th but would like to help out, please email wendyweber@att.net to learn where clean-up is



needed and show up to volunteer when it works for you.

We hope to see you on May 20, and, by the way, no experience is necessary!

Flowers and plants on the Tokay median near the intersection with Segoe Road.



Explaining “No Mow May”

By The Midvale Heights Green Team

Why are we delaying the median cleanup and honoring No Mow May by postponing mowing our own lawns?

Easing up on lawn mowing and providing areas with locally native wildflowers gives pollinators, like bees, more time to undertake their work. A decent mow-free period allows more flowers to grow so pollinators can collect more nectar. In the northern hemisphere, minimizing your mowing season until June can help plants create enough nectar for up to 10 times more bees and other [Pollinators](#).

Other Green Team garden-related opportunities:

Laura Brown is the great creator of and caretaker of the Southwest Bike Path gardens. Whether you enjoy walking or biking on the path or not, consider volunteering to help remove invasive plants like. You will meet new people, learn the names of the beautiful specimens and those of the invaders. You will be richly rewarded by what you learn and are surprised with by being up-close and personal. The photo to the right is an example of a reward for this volunteer work.

Look for news of a summer Open Garden Tour at the Native Prairie Garden adjacent to the Odana Hills Golf Course. This garden was created by prairie garden and pollinator enthusiast Marcel Wuethrich.

Please feel free to contact wendyweber@att.net with any questions you may have about the above information and the MHCA Green Team. You are also welcome to RSVP if you are interested in participating in one or more of the events!



A birds' nest photographed on the Southwest Bike Path.

