

# Oakbridge Neighborhood News

Spring 2018

<https://oakbridge.community/>

<https://www.facebook.com/OakbridgeAssociation>

## Annual Neighborhood Meeting

Our annual neighborhood meeting is on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the Alicia Ashman Library.

Some subjects to be covered will be neighborhood finances and possibly making some changes to the neighborhood covenants. We would love to have the input of all the neighbors. If you have any other concerns we can address those as well.

We are hoping to see you there. Please RSVP to my email address, [candrhay@chorus.net](mailto:candrhay@chorus.net), if you will be attending so we can plan on the number of people that will be there.

## Welcome to the Board!

Please join us in very warmly welcoming our neighbors Abigail Darwin, Laura Schweitzer and Jordan Speicher to the Board.

Thinking about becoming more active in the neighborhood? The Board is looking for more members. Please contact any board member for more info!

**NOTE:** If you've not received your 2018 Oakbridge assessment yet, please contact Treasurer Jeff Wilson at [katmando7474@gmail.com](mailto:katmando7474@gmail.com) or (608) 338-6658.

## Architecture Changes



For changes such as additions, external improvements or alterations to the home or property, certain guidelines must be followed.

The City of Madison also requires the Board to "sign-off" on plans prior to issuing the work permit. If you need assistance, our

**Architecture Review Contacts** are Ron Hay, (608) 698-3747, and Abigail Darwin, (608) 334-7853.

## Website, Facebook & Nextdoor Pages

Please bookmark the Oakbridge Neighborhood website at <https://oakbridge.community/> to read the Oakbridge Covenants, the newsletters and upcoming events such as the July 4th parade and other events that may be of interest to residents. We will post these on the website as we receive them, so check it out on a regular basis! Many thanks to Jordan Speicher for all his work on our new website!

Visit and like our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/OakbridgeAssociation>. Please

use this site to stay in touch with each other on issues of importance to our neighborhood and neighbors. Report any crime or vandalism to you or your property so we can all be aware. Want some recommendations for whom to contact for work on your property? Ask our neighbors on Facebook.

Join **Nextdoor**, a free social networking site for Oakbridge and nearby neighborhoods, to be in the know about what is happening - good and bad - in the area. You can also list items for sale or to give away. Get the phone app, too!

Please be vigilant, notify the authorities and post on Nextdoor.com if you see something suspicious happening. You can join at <https://oakbridgewi.nextdoor.com>

## Neighborhood Garage Sale

Here's your annual chance to sell some of your no longer needed items!

**Friday, May 18 and Saturday, May 19 from 8 am to 4 pm** are this year's garage sale dates and times.



We'll advertise the sale on Craigslist, Nextdoor, Facebook, in the newspaper & on signs at both entrances into the neighborhood.



## Children's Parade/4th of July

Plan to celebrate the 4<sup>th</sup> of July here in Oakbridge with our Annual Children's Parade. We'll be inviting a Madison Fire Department fire truck to lead it, hopefully around 11:00.

Signs will be at both entrances a few days in advance. Specific time for paraders to gather in front of the neighborhood sign will be announced on our Oakbridge and Nextdoor webpages.

Hotdogs, potato chips, lemonade and freeze pops will be served at the end of the parade route for participants, their parents & everyone in the neighborhood. Last year's potluck was a great addition to the festivities; please consider participating in it again this summer!

If you'd like to volunteer in any way with this fun event, please contact Ron Hay at 829-3746.

## Approaching Forty - Oh, My!

by Ron Hay

Those of us over 40 may have a unique memory of achieving that milestone. For those who aren't at this point in life yet, I hope you will celebrate this milestone in a way that is meaningful to you! Interestingly, our neighborhood is closing in on this milestone of 40 years. The year 1979 saw the beginning of this housing development; it was just a few years ago that the last home was built here. I hope that you will agree with me that our Oakbridge neighborhood is a special place that we all call home.

During the years that I have lived here, I have enjoyed watching the transformation of this wide open treeless space turn into what it is now. The landscape has matured and provided us with a pleasant setting. A few residents have lived here from the very beginning. This neighborhood has been a place that has created some close friendships between neighbors.

The 145 homes sit just off the beaten path keeping the roads quiet in this enclave that has only two entrances. As the city of Madison has expanded to the west, our neighborhood has been relatively unchanged.

Our neighborhood was developed with its open green spaces—common areas along Tree Lane, the entrance off Tree Lane, islands in the cul-de-sacs and sidewalks that connect one court to another. Keeping these spaces up has become more of a challenge as the neighborhood has aged. Some trees have grown into real beauties, like the two sugar maples that grace the entrance off of Tree Lane. A few other deciduous trees and conifers have not fared as well. A few pines along Tree Lane are well past their prime due to the shade they're receiving from the city trees in the terrace. Some of these trees will need to be removed in the future. That is another element that adds to the cost of maintaining our common area properties.

The costs of maintaining the lawns and the snow removal has been increasing at a rapid rate—a year-over-year increase. We've also seen large increases of both our liability insurance rates and water utility rates that the neighborhood is charged for run-off from the common areas. To keep neighborhood expenses in control, several residents have stepped up to help with raking and seasonal cleanup of the common areas, as well as pruning trees. Their contribution of time is greatly appreciated by all of the neighborhood board and we extend a sincere "Thank you!"

The Board has heard a few concerns about the need to raise our Association's Annual dues. The total neighborhood expenses have increased 25% year-over-year since 2013. There were no dues increases in the years from 2010 – 2014. In contrast, the annual dues have only increased 9% during for just each of

the past 3 years (2015 – 2017) to deal with rising costs. The neighborhood covenants restrict the Board to 10% increase when the dues are adjusted. Please understand that we have a responsibility to maintain our common areas in a tidy fashion to keep property values as high as possible, as we're sure you'll agree. The OCSA Board is comprised of volunteers who donate their time.

Other things have changed, too. The City has provided trash and recycling receptacles for quite a few years, although this wasn't the case when the neighborhood was developed. If possible, the City and the Board encourages you to make room for them in your garage rather than leave them outside. If this isn't possible, consider the solution that some residents have made to add a nice-looking screen to hide their trash containers after getting approval from the Architectural Review committee comprised of some Board members.

So, as we turn forty in 2019 - and look towards the next forty years - let's be thankful for the great neighborhood we have here and continue to appreciate the little gem that we call the Oakbridge Neighborhood.

## Oakbridge Pool & Tennis Courts at Oakbridge Condos

(7817 Tree Lane & E. Oakbridge Way)

*2018 Summer Memberships Available in May*

Enjoy a summer of fun and recreation at our 2,240 square foot pool and two full-size (36' x 120') professional tennis courts!



Annual key exchange will be held from 11 am - 2 pm on both Saturday, May 12th and Sunday, May 20th.

**Pool:** Open Saturday, May 26 thru Monday, September 3 (Mon–Fri noon – 8:00 pm; Sat, Sun & holidays 11:00 am – 8 pm)

- Life Guard on duty daily; No diving (WACHR 90.08)
- Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult
- Changing Areas/Rest Rooms in Club House

**Tennis Courts:** Dates and times to be determined.

**Membership Fee:** \$350

A flyer with more details will be distributed throughout the neighborhood in early May.

**Contact:** Joan Henry at (608) 833-4410 for additional information about our recreation facility and memberships, available in May.

## Doggie Do's - and Don'ts

When you and your best furry friend go for a stroll around the neighborhood, and doggie dearest does the unmentionable, *please* have supplies along and make sure to clean up any droppings.



Not only will your pooch be much more popular, it will keep him/her "legal" within the city ordinances.

## National Pet ID Week at Dane County Humane Society April 19-25

During National Pet ID Week, April 19 – 25, DCHS will offer discounted ID tags (\$5) and microchips (\$15) at the main shelter for dogs and cats. Doing both gives both visual & permanent identification.

Microchipping services will be offered on a walk-in basis from 3 - 7 pm weekdays, weekends 12-5 pm, closed Wednesday.

DCHS is at 5132 Voges Road, Madison. If you have any questions, please call (608) 838-0413.

## Gigantic Used Book Sale

### 2018 Alicia Ashman Branch Library Book Sale

May 3 - 5 at High Point & Old Sauk Roads. Adult and children books, videos, CDs.



Pre-sale: Thursday, May 3, 5 to 8 pm.  
Friends only; may join at the door (\$5/individual, \$10/family)

Public sale: Friday, May 5, 9:30 am to 7:00 pm and Saturday, May 7, 9:30 am to 3:00 pm.

Bag sale: Saturday 1 to 3 pm, \$5 a bag

## Brush Collection

Brush collection runs April through October. 2018 dates have not been announced yet. The crews follow the refuse collection pattern, working systematically through the city, going as far as they can every day.

To find out when the collection crews will be in our area and their rules, check their website at: <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/yardWaste/Brush/>

## Two Spring Leaf, Yard Waste & Grass Clippings Collections

Curbside collection is usually early April for just two collection rounds, then stops until fall. 2018 dates have not been announced yet. "Yard waste" includes grass clippings, leaves, plant debris and twigs less than 18" long.

To find out when the collection crews will be in our area, call the Streets Division's recorded message at

267-2088 or check their website at <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/yardWaste/leaf/LeafWest.cfm>

Leaves should be piled loose at the street edge and may be covered with tarps of plastic sheeting. If you bag them, leave the bags open at the top. Do NOT place leaves in the street or gutter or on the cul-de-sac islands.



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*All leaves, brush and grass clippings need to be on your property and **NOT** placed on the common areas such as on the cul-de-sac islands or the property by the entrance sign. Not only does it ruin the grass, it becomes an eyesore to the neighborhood. Thanks!*

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Yard Waste drop-off sites are open 7 days a week (except holidays) from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, and until 8 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The nearest drop-off site is about 2.5 miles west at 402 South Point Road. Head west on Mineral Point Road and turn south at South Point Road. This location does not accept brush longer than 18".

For more info, call (608) 266-4681 or their website: [www.cityofmadison.com/streets/dropYard.cfm](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/dropYard.cfm)

## Who's That Knocking On My Door?

Intrigued and confused by all those Smart Doorbell Cameras? And amazon just bought well-known Ring. Some recent various brand comparison links:

<https://thewirecutter.com/reviews/best-smart-doorbell-camera/>

<https://www.cnet.com/news/you-wont-have-to-guess-whos-coming-to-dinner-with-these-smart-doorbells/>

<https://www.pcmag.com/roundup/358684/the-best-video-doorbells>

## Madison Police Department Vacation Watch Request

Planning an extended trip in the future? Along with the typical preparations for a trip, such as halting your mail, having your papers held, your lawn mowed/ driveways plowed and notifying your neighbors to keep an eye on your home, we would like to add another level of "community" to this process by offering extra patrol, when available, to your neighborhood during the time when you are gone.

Please provide your info at the link which will be shared with our patrol officers. We ask that you submit your info 72-hours prior to the start of your trip. This service is intended for extended periods of time that you are away from your home (longer than one day). Short term requests can still be submitted, however



as is the case with all requests, this service is not guaranteed. Officers will only be able to provide additional patrol to your area if calls for service allow for it. If you have questions, please contact your local district. <https://www.cityofmadison.com/police/forms/vacationWatch.cfm>

## Madison Police Department MPD Burglary Crime Unit

Strong neighborhood organizations make a difference in preventing and solving crime in the community. MPD's Burglary Crime Unit (BCU) enables a multi-faceted approach to preventing, tracking and solving burglaries. The BCU teams detectives, analysts and a sergeant working to investigate all Madison burglaries. This group works closely with each police district, its officers and citizens to be responsive to immediate needs and emerging trends related to burglaries.

As your neighborhood association's liaison, I am available to speak with you or your group about burglary prevention and/or burglary concerns in your neighborhood. We encourage people to call police about suspicious persons or vehicles they see in the neighborhood. These tips often prove very valuable in stopping or solving crimes. I look forward to working together to address the issue of burglaries in your neighborhood.

Detective Nick Ryan, Burglary Crime Unit, Madison Police Department, (608) 261-5576,  
[NRyan@cityofmadison.com](mailto:NRyan@cityofmadison.com)

## West District - Coffee With A Cop

The West District has a weekly "Coffee With A Cop" talk at Steep & Brew, at 6656 Odana Road, every Thursday at 9 am. It is simply a way for officers and citizens to engage and interact in a relaxed setting. West District patrol officers, supervisors and commanders all participate.

We make every attempt to have an officer present every week, though sometimes it just isn't possible. Please stop by, enjoy a cup of coffee and chat with one of your district officers.

More information on the idea is available at:  
<http://coffeewithacop.com>

## Did You Know You Can Donate...

- Tech items to Goodwill
- Cell phones, laptops, LCD monitors and PCs to MARC (Madison Area Rehabilitation Center West) See next article for more info.

## Madison Area Rehabilitation Center West (MARC-West)

MARC, a 501(c)(3) organization, is located at 805 Forward Drive and 5 other area locations. You can drop off e-waste at this address including cellphones, laptops, LCD monitors, computers and more.

For a full list of items that can be eRecycled, visit <https://marc-inc.org/services/electronic-recycling/> or call (608) 273-3630.

For a modest charge, they will shred old hard drives.

MARC offers a full suite of electronic recycling services, managed securely and professionally. MARC provides a convenient, environmentally conscious process for disposing unusable electronics and ensures compliance with government regulations, industry standards and corporate policies.

MARC is the largest provider of community and center-based employment and day services for adults with developmental disabilities in Dane and Sauk counties. Emphasis is on the importance of choice, the joy of work and power of compassion.

Your e-waste donations support MARC and the environment. Please share this information with your friends, family and businesses clients.

### Oakbridge 2018 Board Members

Ron Hay, President & Architectural Review	(608) 698-3747 <a href="mailto:candrhay@chorus.net">candrhay@chorus.net</a>
Abigail Darwin, Legal & Architectural Review	(608) 334-4971 <a href="mailto:akdarwin@gmail.com">akdarwin@gmail.com</a>
Dan Gronemus	(608) 220-5205 <a href="mailto:gronney@hotmail.com">gronney@hotmail.com</a>
Nancy Kern Secretary	(608) 833-1429
Katherine Holt	(608) 203-9383
Barb Prigge Newsletter Editor	<a href="mailto:byjiggy@yahoo.com">byjiggy@yahoo.com</a>
Laura Schweitzer	<a href="mailto:schweitzer2@uwalumni.com">schweitzer2@uwalumni.com</a>
Jordan Speicher Website	<a href="mailto:jordan+oakbridge@jspeicher.com">jordan+oakbridge@jspeicher.com</a>
Jeff Wilson Treasurer	(608) 338-6658 <a href="mailto:katmando7474@gmail.com">katmando7474@gmail.com</a>

**YOUR NAME HERE?!?**

### Other Contacts

Julie Roach Bookkeeper	(608) 833-7853
Joan Henry Pool & Tennis Courts	(608) 833-4410



## Camping With the Ancient Greeks & Romans

A new day-camp on the UW-Madison campus this summer will focus on the world of the ancient Greeks and Romans (July 23 to August 3). Students entering sixth through twelfth grades are eligible for this pre-college summer immersion experience in classical antiquity. Details and registration information can be found at:

<https://canes.wisc.edu/classicscamp>

Contact:

William Aylward: [aylward@wisc.edu](mailto:aylward@wisc.edu)

Wendy Johnson: [wsjohnso@wisc.edu](mailto:wsjohnso@wisc.edu)

## West Madison Senior Center

The West Madison Senior Center is a non-profit organization governed by a local Board of Directors. Incorporated in 1975, our mission is to help older



**West Madison**  
SENIOR CENTER

adults stay independent and active in our community by providing programs, services and resources. The Center is funded by the City of Madison, Dane County, United Way of Dane County and individual donors.

Our programs and services include a case management services, three west side lunch programs, volunteer home chore service and senior activities located at various west side locations.

Case Management services are designed to provide older adults, 60+, the support they need to live

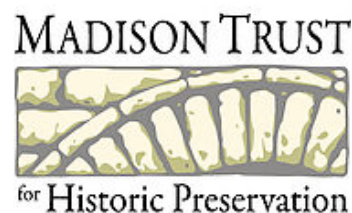
independently in the community by identifying resources and coordinating supportive services.

The lunch program provides a healthy meal for a donation cost. Meals are Monday at Beth Israel Center through Jewish Social Services, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Meadowood Neighborhood Center and Friday at the Lussier Community Education Center. Transportation is provided to west side residents for a donation cost as well through Transit Solutions. Senior activities are also held at the meal sites over the year. Check out our monthly newsletter for menus and activity calendar at [www.wmseniorcenter.org](http://www.wmseniorcenter.org) or pick up a copy at our local library or grocery store.

Our Volunteer Home Chore Program was developed in 1986 to link community volunteers with low-income older adults, 60+, who need help completing basic home chores in order to remain in their own homes. This program has grown to include not only individual volunteers but also groups interested in doing volunteer projects for older adults.

We also provide a broad range of Senior Activities that include opportunities for learning, socializing, volunteer work and community involvement. The activities take place in different neighborhood centers, libraries and churches on the west side.

Please contact us if you'd like more information about any of our programs and services. We are located at 517 N. Segoe Rd. Suite 309, Madison, WI 53705. Our phone number is (608) 238-7368 and our website is [www.wmseniorcenter.org](http://www.wmseniorcenter.org).



## Historic Architecture Tour Season Begins Saturday, June 4

East side, west side and downtown, too. Madison-area residents and visitors are invited to discover the buildings, landscapes, people and events that have shaped our city since immigrant settlers came to Madison in the 1830s.

June 4th through Sept. 24th, the nonprofit Madison Trust for Historic Preservation will offer historic architecture tours at 11 am Saturdays and 6 pm Thursdays. Knowledgeable volunteer docents will lead seven walking tours and one bike tour at the various locations.

Go to [www.madisonpreservation.org](http://www.madisonpreservation.org) and click on "Tours and Programs" for more details about content, dates, times, length and the meeting place for each tour.

Phone: (608) 441-8864

Email: [info@madisonpreservation.org](mailto:info@madisonpreservation.org)

Facebook: Madison Trust for Historic Preservation

Twitter: MSNpreservation

## Annual Madison Compost Bin & Rain Barrel Sale

This is the year to join the tens of thousands of area households that have already participated in the annual Madison Compost Bin and Rain Barrel event.



**PHOTO: 100 Gallon Gray Rain Barrel with Diverter**

When it comes to easy, cost-effective ways to lessen your impact on the planet, rain barrels and compost bins provide an eco one-two for your home!

Harvesting rainwater for your plants saves money and reduces stormwater run-off into local waterways. And rather than sending more stuff to the landfill, compost bins will help you create nutrient rich soil by turning yard waste and food scraps into organic fuel for the garden.

Compost bins and 50 and 100 gallon rain barrels with diverters are available at discounted prices on Saturday May 12th at the Alliant Energy Center north parking lot from 10am – 2pm. The annual event is open to resident and non-residents of Madison. Supplies are limited, pre-ordering is strongly recommended. Pre-order online before May 1<sup>st</sup> with the promo code MAD18 and save an additional \$10 off.

For more information visit <http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/compost/CompostBinSale.cfm> or order directly from [www.rainreserve.com/madison](http://www.rainreserve.com/madison)

## Are You a CATCH?

The Community Around the Children's Hospital (CATCH) can always use more professionals and local advocates who want to make a difference in children's lives at the American Family Children's Hospital (AFCH).

**Volunteer opportunities:** <https://www.uwcatch.org/volunteer-1/>

**Events:** <https://www.uwcatch.org/events/>

Annual CATCH memberships are \$100 or choose a family membership for just \$150. Every dollar benefits patients and families through programs at AFCH. All new members who sign up have the added benefit of an extended membership through the following year for the price of a yearly membership.

### Membership Impact

- Served over 1,800 family meals to family members staying with patients in the hospital (as of August 2016)
- Provided over 200+ volunteer hours at AFCH (as of August 2016)
- Host the annual Tyler's Place Sibling party each April for siblings of hospitalized patients
- Plan a festive carnival with fun games and prizes at AFCH for patients and families each spring and fall
- Fund important programs at the AFCH such as:
  - Inspiration Beads for neurology patients
  - Therapeutic Art Cart
  - Enhanced the services provided at the Positive Image Center
  - Trach Buddies - Provides medical play and support for patients with a tracheostomy
  - Massage Therapy Program - Supports kids with chronic pain or other difficult circumstances who cannot find relief using traditional pharmaceuticals
  - Child Life Program in the Emergency Dept - Provided services to 200+ children in 2016. When a child arrives in the ER dept, they are thrust into an unfamiliar environment which can lead to crying, fussing and tantrums. This fear can make proper treatment a difficult task for providers. Child Life Specialists and their services help make the child and parents' time as stress-free as possible. This leads to better care and treatment of the child.