

# THE TROY GARDENS CONDOS

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 0



## WELCOME!

**I** see more and more lights on at night. Fewer and fewer hard hats. More evening autos than at day. Children running down sidewalks. Grandparents visiting already. Neighbors and neighbors.

Gradually this big empty construction complex is beginning to awaken into a vibrant community.

It is easy to see the physical developments every time you come home from work or school and see a new light fixture or different landscaping or another color of siding going up - but other foundations are being constructed here as well.

I was out on the back few acres walking some neighbors dogs one morning when I ran into Maury and Marcia (Troy Drive neighbors - if you don't know them, you will, I guarantee), who have been watching this whole process develop virtually in their front yard. Marcia commented to me that just as the gardens next to us here (where a great deal of us cannot wait to sink their hands into that earth and grow beautiful, bountiful gardens) that there is a human garden growing here in these condos. We are starting



to sprout up left and right.

I've been thinking about this likening as I see new faces and become more and more familiar with friends, and I realize indeed that we are all planting roots here as assuredly as our vegetables will take root in the spring. As nature takes its course, all of us seedlings will grow together into something larger - a human garden of different colors and origins.

**m**ud. One word of advice: get used to it. It's in your basement. It's on your shoes. It's up, it's down. It's on your car again. It's between you and the dumpster.

It's in your vents. Mud fingerprints. It fills your front yard. It's the expanse in your back. It's in your hair, it's on your tread. It's between your toes and in your bed. It's on your old shoes, and your new. It's on the stairs and probably settling in your vegetarian stew.

I was looking out my immense windows one day and I tried to imagine what this place will look like when we actually have landscaping - with grass, trees, bushes, colorful flowers and birds - and I can only imagine how beautiful this place will be to experience as we will be able to witness our first winter and then spring here. Green everywhere! Your place will become so much larger when you'll be able to have a front door and a back - out into your own backyard and beyond. Your garden right down the path.

I, for one, feel fortunate to be here - so I'm even grateful for this interminable mud. It's a constant reminder of how fortunate I feel to be a part of a garden. So welcome to the mud!

And welcome to our prototype newsletter. We hope it will be beneficial and that everyone will want to contribute!



# Updates & useful information

## Lights

As many of you have noticed, we finally have our path and parking lot lights working. It will take a few days to fine tune the lighting - to both ensure that the lights are coming on in the evening and that they are not shining in anyone's windows (there are little louvres that can be adjusted to help control the lighting). If you are getting too much light in your condo, please contact MACLT or one of your board members. Lights will have sensors so they will come on only when dark.

## Ice Skating Rink

Yes, it's really true! We'll have an ice skating rink in the front corner of our property (along Troy Drive). Won't be finished this winter, but next winter Mark Bergum, a civil engineer from JJR has volunteered to teach us how to sequentially flood and freeze our rink. Keep your eyes out for ice skates!!

## Mailboxes

While earlier problems with both receiving mail and the actual mailboxes hasn't been completely straightened out yet, it is hopefully being worked. If you do have trouble receiving mail, Jake reports he has had some success with a certain supervisor (Dee Shepherd, 245-6092). Perhaps if enough of us call, it will spur them to improve our delivery.

The original planned location for the mailboxes was directly in front of the new nature center in the center of the community. To better enable the Post Office access during construction, McGann moved the mailboxes near the front of the property to their present location. The Post Office would probably prefer they

stay there - but the Condo Association will have the final decision. So plan to consider whether or not you would prefer to pick up your mail in the central location or at the entrance to the property. We'll probably be asked to make this decision at the next potluck/party, so be prepared to express your opinion.

## Sump Pumps

Sump pumps for all units have been officially approved and will soon be installed. Measurement of the water levels in the sump pits of units have been within normal standards so far so these are just in case.

## Transition to Condo Association Control

Near the end of January, all of the units will have been bought. According to the bylaws, from this point control of the Condo Association will transition from the Madison Area Community Land Trust to the Troy Drive Condo Association in 45 days (which would be roughly near the end of March). At this time, the temporary board members will resign and elections will be held for board positions. MACLT will still be there for support, but the condo association is going to inherit control.

Greg mentioned after being at the last potluck that he is "so not worried about the transition."

## Back Sidewalks

Many decisions will have to be made around that time, but one that you will have to decide upon by March 31st are sidewalks to your back doors. Currently, all of the units in the front half of the property have temporary cement sidewalks that were installed to be able to gain access and obtain

occupancy permits. Eventually this half will have paved entry paths and lights around the center expanse, just like the back half.

At this time, all of the units except the 3 buildings facing green space (buildings #1, #2 & #8) will have to revisit plans and decide (a) do you want a rear walkway at all, and (b) if you do, do you want it to stop at the privacy fence or continue all the way to the back door. Rear walkways will be asphalt, and some of them may incorporate concrete steps. Those units not choosing sidewalks or partial sidewalks may receive rebates as sidewalks were originally part of the construction plans.

## Fences

Along that same line of thinking, privacy fences have not been installed yet to allow owners to decide if they would prefer a fence or an open yard.

## Troy Drive Case Study

The Lincoln Institute for Land Policy is interested in doing a case study on Troy Gardens. They would be interested in collecting stories, photos and videos concerning our history and development. It would be the first case study for the National Community Land Trust Academy. More info to follow.

## Locksmith

As anyone who has tried to obtain a copy of their key will tell you, we apparently have high security keys which cannot be copied at your local hardware store. Margaret discovered our local locksmith was ADC Lock & Key (241-4050) at 2315 Commercial Ave. (kitty corner from Oscar Mayer). Keys are \$3.50 each.



## TROY GARDENS CONDOS NEWSLETTER

## Meet Your Neighbors!

**Name(s):** The Sato family  
(#556, Building 3)

Sataro, Serena, Keizan (pronounced 'K-zan') & Yaoki (pronounced 'Ya-o-ki')

### Where are you from?

Sataro was born on Kyushu, the third largest island south of Japan. At the age of 1 1/2 he moved to Chiba Prefecture, which is an hour south of Tokyo, where he grew up. Chiba Prefecture has a special relationship with Wisconsin - it turns out they are sister states (a prefecture is something akin to a state in America. Somewhat smaller perhaps - Japan is divided into 47 prefectures). Chiba Prefecture is a big dairy area in Japan, just like Wisconsin!

Sataro received a degree in landscape architecture and worked with a big company in Tokyo famous for designing rooftop gardens. He had an opportunity through his company to study English (*to be continued...*)

Serena was born and raised in Huntsville, Alabama - although both of her parents are Canadian and they had just moved to Alabama before she was born. She received an undergraduate degree in international studies from Graceland College in Iowa (small world - David Marshall also went to college there nearly at the same time. No Elvis jokes please!) and then a masters degree in international development from the University of Kentucky. Making good use of her degrees, she embarked to Japan for 6 years to be an English teacher. (*see where this is going...*)

### Where did you meet?

In English class! Serena taught English in Japan when she first arrived. Sometime later, however, she became aware of the fair trade



The Sato family: Sataro, Sataro's visiting mother Yuko who is holding Keizan, Serena and Yaoki.

movement and took a job with a fair trade company. But luckily Sataro met her in class at a private English school located between Sataro's office and the nearest train station - which is how they started to date. They eventually got married on October 10, 1999 in a mountain gazebo.

Sataro was exposed to fair trade through Serena and then got a job with the same company for 2 years. After that, he also worked with an import company and for a year as a minister of a church.

Keizan was born in Tokyo. The two characters in his name mean "grace" and "mountain". Keizan traveled further in the first few months than most people ever get, crossing the Pacific ocean three times in less than a month when Serena flew back to the US for a job interview. The interview was successful and the family flew here to Wisconsin. Serena still works in fair trade for A Greater Gift here in Madison.

Yaoki was born here in the Madison Birth Center. His name means "full of joy" and is made up of a combination of characters from both of Sataro's grandfathers. Spend just a minute with Yaoki and you'll see that he lives

up to his name!

### What do you like to do in your spare time?

The family enjoys outdoor activities together (hiking, biking, canoeing, x-country skiing, etc.) and would like to learn to garden.

Sataro is interested in alternative energy sources and has been studying up on it lately.

Serena enjoys history and keeping up with international issues, fair trade and marketing trends.

Keizan (who is 4 1/2 and professedly a sweet big brother) likes talking, biking and running. He is in pre-school now but will begin kindergarten at Mendota Elementary this fall.

Yaoki loves music, dancing and phones. He also enjoys eating. His second word after "mamma" was "bagel" - his favorite food. Yaoki is 14 months old.

Serena and Sataro recently figured out that the first house they rented together in Tokyo would roughly fit inside their new living room.

**Sataro's name in Japanese means "the helping person" - a very appropriate name for a new member of the Board of Directors. He can be reached at 244-1281 or [satossky@earthlink.net](mailto:satossky@earthlink.net)**

# The Dirt on Furnace Filters



By Jeanne Huber  
Special to *The Washington Post*  
Thursday, January 19, 2006;  
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**Q:** How often should I change the furnace filter? My furnace guy says every month. What do you think?

**A:** The answer is a lot more complex than you might imagine.

For decades, many heating experts recommended changing, or at least inspecting, furnace filters monthly. The filters at that time, like those that still come standard on many furnaces, were generally inch-thick fiberglass pads with so much space between fibers that you could almost see through to the other side. These filters do virtually nothing to stop the tiny particles that cause lung damage, but they are effective at blocking larger particles that could harm the furnace.

Today, though, there are other options. The Health House program, which is sponsored by 3M, recommends high-efficiency pleated filters with a built-in electrostatic charge. Filtrete (made by -- surprise! -- 3M) is the best-known brand of these filters, which look like felt pressed into a zigzag pattern. The folds add significantly to the filter's surface area, so a similar amount of air can flow through even though the filter medium is a much finer sieve. In laboratory tests, these filters remove up to 90 percent of mold spores and pet dander, which are in the range of 3 to 10 microns. (A human hair, by comparison, is about 70 microns in diameter.) The electrostatic charge, which is similar to the static cling in clothing fresh from a dryer, works like a magnet to grab even smaller particles, such as bacteria, the particles that carry viruses, and the soot in smoke and smog. These particles, under 3 microns, lodge deep in the lungs and cause the most health problems.

Manufacturers typically recommend that the high-efficiency filters be changed every three months. The Health House program adds a suggestion to look at the filters monthly. "If filters are obviously dark and

clogged, go ahead and replace them," Moffitt says. "Not everyone's house and habits are the same. If you have three or four cats, or if someone in your house smokes, you should change the filter more often."

Based on all of this, the advice seems simple enough: Buy a better filter, look at it monthly and plan to change it every three months, or every season if you have a combination heating and air-conditioning system that runs year-round. However, here's where it gets more complicated. If you do switch to higher-efficiency filters, you really need to follow through in changing them regularly. And there are significant reasons why you might stick with the less-efficient filters, even if good air quality matters to you.

With the old-style filters, if you forget to change the filter after a month, it's really no big deal. The dirt trapped on the fibers actually increases the filter's ability to block small particles, and plenty of air still gets through for the furnace to run relatively efficiently. The newer filters, however, significantly restrict air flow once they become somewhat clogged. This prevents your furnace from moving as much air as it was designed to do, which causes it to run longer to heat your house, which in turn adds to your gas or electric bill, according to Alan Veeck, executive director of the National Air Filtration Association, a trade group that represents filter manufacturers. So, not only are you paying more for the better filters (perhaps \$15 to \$20 each, compared with \$1 to \$2 for the flimsy kind), you also could end up paying several hundred dollars a year more in heating costs.

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the Canadian government agency that researches housing issues and provides financing, reached some surprising conclusions several years ago when it set out to determine whether upgrading to a better filter made much of a difference in the air quality inside houses. Researchers compared the air quality inside houses when furnaces ran with five different filtering arrangements, including old-fashioned filters; newer pleated, electrostatically charged filters; and electrostatic precipitators

that cost hundreds of dollars. Particle counters installed in ducts before and after the filters showed that cleaner air flowed out of the better filters. But the actual difference inside the houses? Very little.

It turns out that most of the dust, of all particle sizes, in the air in our houses becomes airborne because of our activities. When people walk across a dirty carpet, their feet stir up a cloud of dust. When someone leaves toast in the toaster too long, bits of soot go into the air. Even getting out of bed stirs up a "personal cloud," says Don Fugler, who directed the research. A furnace filter many yards away, connected to equipment that operates only periodically, doesn't do much to remove that dust before it settles. That's why a vacuum cleaner bag, which does pick up settled dust, collects far more dust over one to three months than you will find on your furnace filter when you change it after an equivalent length of time. "Unless the fan runs all the time, you're getting very little filtration for the extra money you are spending," Fugler says.

Running the fan continuously allows the filter to remove more particles, but it adds to the power cost by at least several hundred dollars a year, and it subjects people to moving air all of the time, which many people find unpleasant.

Fugler's advice? Focus on reducing the amount of dust that is stirred up inside your house by encouraging everyone to leave their shoes at the door; keeping pets and smokers out of the house; vacuuming regularly and thoroughly with a central vacuum system or a portable vacuum equipped with a HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filter; and "using as effective a furnace filter as the homeowner's budget allows," changing or cleaning the filter as often as the manufacturer recommends.

Energy Recover Ventilator (ERV) units continuously replace inside air with fresh air from the outside — so folks aren't entirely dependent on furnace filters to have a clean air supply.



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### How To Change Furnace Filters

Changing your common style filter is simple. All you need to do is slide the old one out and slide the new one in. ***Be certain that the air flow arrow points toward the furnace or blower motor.***

Your Filter Size:  
**16 x 25 x 1**

### What is a MERV rating?

Most filters are labeled with a MERV (Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value) rating number, which measures a filter's ability to trap particles ranging in size from 3.0 microns to 10.0 microns.

Residential filters commonly have MERV ratings of 1-11. The higher the MERV rating, the more efficient the filter is, and the more particles it can filter.

- A MERV rating of **6** means the filter is 35% to 50% minimum efficient at capturing particles, sized 3.0-10.0 microns.
- A MERV rating of **7** means the filter is 50% to 70% minimum efficient at capturing particles, sized 3.0-10.0 microns.
- A MERV rating of **8** means the filter is 70% minimum efficient at capturing particles, sized 3.0-10.0 microns.
- A MERV rating of **11** means the filter is 85% minimum efficient at capturing particles, sized 3.0-10.0 microns.

MERV is an industry standard rating, so it can be used to compare filters made by different companies.

Changing or cleaning the furnace filter is one of the easiest things you can do to prolong the life of your heating and air conditioning system – and keep it operating efficiently.

*Keep in mind that all furnace filters are not created equal – especially if you have allergies, asthma or other respiratory problems.*

### Types of air filters

#### Traditional Fiberglass or Polyester:

These inexpensive, disposable, 1" filters are recommended to be changed monthly. Because their main purpose is to protect the heating and cooling system from damage, their media is dense enough only to capture large particles. This filter type is not very effective at capturing smaller, respirable particles from the air. These are only a few dollars a piece.

#### Washable/Reusable:

These 1" filters are designed to be washed out monthly and reused. While this filter is initially expensive, it can be used for a number of years before needing replacement. Tests show that this type of filter is not very effective at capturing smaller, respirable particles from the air. Although some brands of this filter type claim an electrostatic charge created by the air movement through the media, the charge is actually minimal and plays little or no role in particle capture.

#### Ordinary Flat or Pleated:

It is recommended that these disposable, 1" filters be changed every 2 to 3 months. These filters are generally made out of cotton or polyester media which is denser than fiberglass and will typically capture more small particles than either fiberglass or washable/reusable. The filters can be found with either a pleated or flat media. These filters are generally \$5 - \$10 each.

#### Deep Pleated:

The previous 3 types of air filters are 1" deep and can be used interchangeably. Deep pleated filters are either 5" or 6" deep and thus can only be used on heating and cooling systems that are specially adapted to accept them. This filter type may have a reusable frame and the media needs to be replaced once or twice a year. These filters have been shown to demonstrate a broad range of efficiency levels between various brands. The efficiency of some brands is only slightly higher than that of fiberglass while others approach the performance of a permanently charged electrostatic filter.

#### Pleated, Permanently Charged Electrostatic:

These 1", disposable filters need to be changed only once every 2 to 3 months. Like the four previously mentioned filter types, this type is also designed to physically capture particles. But its efficiency in trapping smaller, respirable particles surpasses both the other 1" air filters and most of the deep pleated filters because its electret fibers are electrostatically charged. Particles which would otherwise have passed through, are "magnetically" drawn to the filter. This filter type represents an alternative to the more costly electronic air cleaners for households trying to improve their indoor air quality. Electrostatic filters can run anywhere from \$75 to \$350.

**FYI: Filters will be dirtier than normal in the first months of use because of construction dust/debris.**

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# Composting is fun!

**By Megan Cain (#576)**

It's time to start composting in the new year! Composting cuts down on the garbage you have to haul to the dumpster and creates beautiful soil that we can add to our gardens!

There is a compost bin at the end of the future basketball court (behind building three, right next to where the landscape trees and plants are sitting covered with woodchips) that is ready and open for use. To the right of it is straw that can be used to mix in. There is also a bin located between the parking lot by building 8 and the community gardens that is also being used. Feel free to put your compost in whatever bin is closer to you. We will be putting compost in one bin in each location until it fills up, then we will move to a second bin.

A few pointers for those who have never composted or need a refresher...

**\*\*** You can put any foodstuffs in there except for meat and dairy products. Eggshells, coffee grounds and filters, tea bags, napkins, tissues are fine. They will all break down eventually.

**\*\*** When there is a nice layer of food in the bin please cover it with a layer of straw. You don't have to put straw in every time you put in food.

**\*\*** I am happy to answer any and all questions about composting. Just knock on the door (576).

It's easy, there ain't nothin' to it. We keep an old tupperware container with a lid on our kitchen counter and fill it with scraps. It doesn't stink and doesn't attract bugs, especially in the winter. When it fills up we walk it on over to the bin and dump it in. Good excuse to take a walk and bump into a few neighbors.

Happy composting!

### Furnace Filter Maintenance Record

Date Changed on	Life of Filter	Date to Change

Clip out and keep with furnace documents



# Recycling

Many of you have discovered the brown recycling dumpster now located in the cedar enclosure next to the mailboxes as you turn to drive around towards the rear of the property.

Troy Gardens Condo Association contracts with a private company to collect our recycling - and I have been recycling full speed ahead when it occurred to me that our contractor may not have the same recycling guidelines as the City of Madison. So we decided to look into it...

## What We CAN Recycle:

**OFFICE PAPER, NEWSPAPER, MAGAZINES, ENVELOPES, ADVERTISEMENTS, PHONE BOOKS**

### **CARDBOARD**

- Only brown paper bags and brown cardboard, with ribbed layer between two flat pieces
- No wax-coated cardboard • Flatten all boxes

### **GLASS CONTAINERS**

- Jars & bottles ONLY
- No light bulbs
- No dishes or glasses
- No window glass/mirrors
- Remove caps and lids • Rinse clean
- No need to remove labels
- No bags, please



### **STEEL CANS**

- Food cans ONLY - no cans for paint or chemicals
- Magnets will attract steel • Rinse clean
- Remove labels
- To save space, cut out ends and flatten
- No bags, please



### **ALUMINUM CANS**

- Cans ONLY
- No foil or caps
- Magnets will not attract aluminum • Rinse clean
- No bags, please

### **PLASTIC BOTTLES**

Only bottles marked on bottom.



all soda, liquor bottles, some other hard clear bottles



### **Notice:**

If the recycling bin is overfull, there will be an extra charge. Please be mindful of this. Pick-ups are every **Thursday**.

Please remember that as of **January 15**, you should take your trash to the new Pellitteri dumpster inside the enclosure instead of the construction dumpsters.



### **PLASTIC BOTTLES (cont.)**

bottles only - milk, juice, soap, shampoo

- Rinse clean
- Remove lids; discard
- Flatten
- No containers for medicine, yogurt, cottage cheese, butter, oil or antifreeze
- No bags, please

## What We CAN'T Recycle

- PIZZA BOXES ● TIRES ● OIL & OIL FILTERS
- 30 - 55 GALLON DRUMS ● CAR BATTERIES
- LEAD BASED PAINT ● PESTICIDES
- HAZARDOUS WASTE ● BRUSH
- GRASS AND LEAVES ● MAJOR APPLIANCES
- OIL & LEAD BASE PAINT ● PAINT THINNERS
- FLOURESCENT & INCANDESCENT BULBS
- BALLASTS
- FOOD WASTE ● REST ROOM WASTE
- MEDICAL WASTE ● CARBON PAPER
- BLUE PRINTS ● CONTAMINATED PAPER
- WASTE, OR ANY OTHER WASTE THAT IS NOT SUBSTANTIALLY PAPER.
- SHREDDED PAPER SHOULD BE LESS THAN 10% OF THE TOTAL.

## TROY GARDENS CONDOS NEWSLETTER



# The First Guests

## The Dark-Eyed Junco



By Ágnes Rédei (#574)

As we always had bird feeders, one of the first things to do after we moved in here was to set up our feeders in our backyard. On the East side of the town we often had chickadees, goldfinches, red and house finches, cardinals, brown thrasher visiting us, so we were very excited to see who the first guests would be. Maybe there were too many activities on the construction site and too much noise, as no one seemed to be interested in our restaurant for a while.

Finally a small flock of birds arrived, but the dark gray and white newcomers were unknown for us. We watched them through our binoculars and used our field guides to identify our new friends. The dark-eyed juncos, which migrate from Canada for winter, are the size of a medium sparrow. The male has a dark gray head, breast and upper parts with a white belly, while the female and the young ones are less dark than the adult male. Their pink beak is rather distinguished. They stay on the ground under the feeder and eat the fallen seeds.

After watching them for a while, we can discover the juncos interesting behavior. They live in

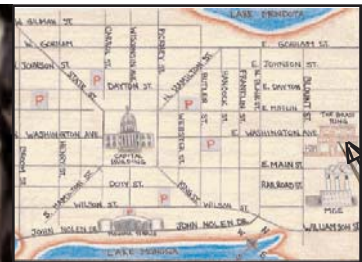
a social hierarchy, in which the males dominate the females, and the old birds rule over the younger ones. Dominant birds will face another bird and raise and fan their tails revealing the white outer tail feathers. They may also rush at and peck or chase subordinate birds. Sometimes two dominant birds may face one another, extend their necks, and repeatedly raise and lower their bills as if in a little "dance." Rarely will this end in a fight.

The flock stays in an area of about ten to twelve acres. Not all of the birds are together all of the time so you may see varying numbers of juncos. However, they all stay in that fixed area. Juncos tend to winter in the same area year after year, so chances are the birds that arrive at your feeder are the same birds that were there last winter. However, they all stay in that fixed area.

In the spring the males will chase the females around the feeder as part of early courtship behavior. Males will also begin singing their musical trills. By April the juncos will have migrated north to their breeding grounds but we will meet them again next winter.

## a note from Sharene...

And, for the newsletter--our potluck has changed into a party! We were planning on having a party for McGann and everyone else involved at Troy Gardens at the end of construction. We'll be inviting all of the McGann crew and the subs and all the people that have supported the TG project--fundors, boards, City of Madison folks, etc. We've decided to turn the potluck on January 18th into a party at the Brass Ring from 4:00 to 7:30. We will have a brief business meeting with the homeowners at 7:00.



**The Brass Ring**  
**701 East Washington**  
**Ave, Suite #104**  
**256-9359**







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### Troy Gardens Vision Statement

A group has formed to create a vision statement for Troy Gardens Cohousing Condo Association. After a first brainstorming session, they came up with a working draft - about which they'd earnestly like to hear what everyone has to think:

"Troy Gardens is an inclusive cohousing community where we live and share in a cooperative, sustainable environment. We foster an abiding connection to the land while creating meaningful connections by supporting each other's common values and celebrating our diversity."

After arriving at an accepted vision statement, they'd also like to write up some value statements for our community. If you'd like to participate in further discussions (or just to share your opinion), you'd be most welcome to join. Please contact Cheryl Redman at [ceredman@wisc.edu](mailto:ceredman@wisc.edu) or 241-4820.

### Gathering

Anne & Justin Markofski  
518 Troy Drive

Date: 01.08.07

Time: 6:30 - 9:00

Beginning this Monday, and each to follow, our home will be open for friends and neighbors to gather. We want to provide a weekly venue for those interested in sharing life.

We will provide bread and wine. Feel free to come empty handed or bring a favorite snack or beverage.

**You're Invited!**

## HELP WANTED

Looking for a few good people who want to work on a newsletter. No experience necessary. If you like to write, meet people, take photographs, draw, do research, proof-read, edit - or would like to learn any of the above, we'll take you!

This is your newsletter - so we'd also like your ideas on what kind of newsletter you'd like, what kind of articles would be interesting and useful. Possible topics for future issues: further profiles on new neighbors, practical information for new homeowners, updates from MACLT and our various work groups, gardening tips, bird and wildlife articles, good recipes, getting to know our "other" neighbors (Friends of Troy Gardens, Mendota Mental Health Center, etc.), getting to know the Northside (where to vote, schools, churches, restaurants, who your elected officials are, community centers, parks, festivals, etc.) and sundry other topics such as what is cohousing, history of Troy Gardens, etc.

So we'd like to get you involved. E-mail me at [dabas10@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dabas10@sbcglobal.net) or [marshall.david@co.dane.wi.us](mailto:marshall.david@co.dane.wi.us) or talk to me at the upcoming potluck party (see page 8) and we'll arrange our first newsletter meeting soon! Don't be shy! It'll be fun.

**Troy Gardens residents are in the 18th Dane County Board Supervisory District & the 18th Aldermanic District in the City of Madison (ward 22).**



Please put a blurb in the newsletter about the Yahoo listserv that has been set up for people to communicate with one another. Not everyone has signed up yet, I just checked the other day. They can send an email to: [troygardenshousing-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:troygardenshousing-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) to subscribe to the group. I am the moderator of the group, so if anyone has problems they can email me.

Thanks!

Megan (#576)