

# **James Madison Park Revival Under Way**

James Madison Park is thriving! As a daily visitor to the park over the past 4 years, I've never seen it more vibrant and polished than it is now. Tangible improvements, activities, and new attention to the park dramatically increased this summer after a low point in recent summers. There remains, however, much work to be done to ensure this amazing city park-- the beautiful heart of our neighborhood -- is maintained and used to its greatest potential.

#### **Recent Improvements**

The shoreline reconstruction at the east end of the park is finished, and has brought new life to this quiet, natural area. Thanks to Tom Maglio of Madison Parks for working closely with Mendota Rowing Club and neighbors while designing the project on a tight city budget.

Expansive, gorgeous limestone steps



Golem surveys the new shoreline

were installed in front of the boathouse, creating easy water access for boaters, a reduction in flooding, and a great spot to sit and soak the feet while watching the setting sun. The boat storage racks are in place on the new concrete platform and the rowing club's pier is in. The city pier is being reconstructed off-site and will be installed in time to be enjoyed next summer.

By removing underbrush along the shore, the project vastly increased grassy shoreline picnicking areas, expanded lake views and access, while preserving a favorite little natural beach behind the city-owned houses. Tall underbrush was replaced by low shrubs, increasing security in the east park by reducing hiding spots.

Bernard-Hoover Boathouse is currently being re-roofed, ensuring the City Landmark will be

sufficiently fortified in preparation for another rough lakeside winter.

Other tangible improvements in the park include the flourishing shelter-top gardens managed by James Madison Park Garden Committee volunteers, excavation and replacement of the sand under the swings and playground area, and the ongoing sales of the city-owned

(continued on page 16)



## Spaghetti Dinner/Annual Meeting Thursday, October 20 from 6:00-8:30

Join us for TLNA's Annual Meeting and Spaghetti Feed -Thursday, October 20 at Christ Presbyterian Church. Food will be served from 6:00-7:30 and the annual meeting will be held afterwards. Adults - \$3.50 and children under 12 - \$1.50 We are doing the cooking - so you don't need to bring anything but an appetite. We will be cooking up spaghetti with and without

meat sauce and providing a fine salad, delicious garlic bread, something fun for dessert, and beverages. So please - mark your calendars - and plan to join us for a great neighborhood event.

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# **TLNA Neighborhood Council**

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The newsletter of the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association is published quarterly and distributed without charge to all households in the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood (delineated by Lake Mendota, North Blair Street, East Washington Avenue and the Yahara River). Requests for information regarding submissions and advertising may be directed to the TLNA Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 703, Madison WI 53701 (tlna.newsletter@gmail.com) or found at http://www.danenet.org/tlna/adrate.html.

The deadline for the Winter, 2012 issue will be December 15. Views expressed in the newsletter are the views of the writers and not the views of the TLNA Council. The contents of this newsletter along with back

issues can be found at TLNA's homepage: <u>http://www.danenet.org/tlna/</u>.

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# President's Report

#### Hope to See You at the Annual Meeting

It's been a busy summer. I hope you are now settling into your fall routines. With children in school, please be careful, particularly around Lapham School.

Some of the issues currently pending (look for complete coverage in this issue) include:

James Madison Park Surplus Property Committee: Recent action by that group has forwarded the bid by Joe Lusson, our housing chair, and his wife Aleen Tierney for 640 E. Gorham St. to the City Council. The Committee has rejected the bids on the other buildings at 646 and 704 E. Gorham, and has decided to reopen the process for them.

**Reconstruction of E. Johnson Street**: Our Alder and several of the Neighborhood Council members have been meeting on this and the associated issue of returning our arterial streets back to two way.

**East Corridor development**: The City recently hosted a meeting at Christ Presbyterian Church to showcase the plans of several developers for 700 and 800 E. Washington Ave.

These issues as well as others could be favorable impacted by YOUR PAR-TICIPATION! Please consider becoming involved. The Association will host the Annual Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> at Christ Presbyterian Church, 944 E. Gorham Street, that will include a spaghetti dinner. I hope to see you there.

Yours for the TLNA,

Richard Linster, President

# These changes will be considered and voted upon at the upcoming annual meeting

Changes in Bylaws Proposed

Article IV Section 2.2: For an individual 65 years or older, or for students --\$5.00

Article IV Add a Section 2.4: For a household -- \$20.00

Article V, Section 1.5 Four area representatives who will be responsible for coordinating with block captains to distribute the newsletter within their areas, coordinate with block captains the annual membership drive within their areas, and serve as active members on the Membership Committee.

Article V Section 1.6: should omit the "and" between Traffic and Transportation, and replace it with a right-leaning slash (/).

Article V Section 4: "There shall be a Nominating Committee consisting of six persons; three of whom, including the chairperson, are appointed by and from the Neighborhood Council, and three elected annually at a meeting of the general membership preceding the Fall Annual Meeting at which the election of the officers is to occur. Nominations for the Nominating committee shall be from the floor. The Nominating Committee shall present a single slate of nominees for all elective offices at the annual meeting. Further nominations may be made from the floor." This reading of the by-law omits the sentence beginning "Officials elected..."



### Transportation

## Will Johnson/Gorham Go 2-Way?

The City has scheduled reconstruction of E. Johnson Street from N. Butler to N. Baldwin Streets to occur in 2014. Planning starts this year and will include a study of returning both E. Johnson and E. Gorham Streets to two-way operation. The City has contracted with Strand Associates, a local engineering firm, to do the study over the next several months.

The Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Plan, adopted by the City in 2008, recommended that this study be done as part of a comprehensive, multi-modal transportation and parking strategy for the Downtown and Isthmus. While the Strand study will not be comprehensive, it will examine traffic implications for the Johnson/Gorham corridor from Wisconsin Ave to First Street and also the East Washington and First Street intersection and the East Washington and Blair Street intersection.

The engineering consultants will look at current traffic data and will also project traffic volumes for the year 2035. In addition, they will be required to determine impacts to east Isthmus streets, to identify and quantify traffic diversion to East Washington Avenue, Williamson Street, and local neighborhood streets, and to quantify any impact to downtown accessibility.

To do all of the above and more, the City received proposals from three firms and chose the firm with the lowest bid and smallest number of staff assigned to do the work. We'll see how it goes. Fortunately, the Mayor has proposed in next year's budget that the City develop a comprehensive, multimodal transportation and parking study. This is much more in keeping with our neighborhood's recommendation. In the best scenario, the Strand study for Johnson/Gorham will provide valuable preliminary data that will inform the larger strategy for the City.

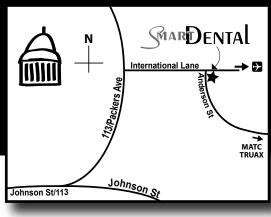
If the City pursues a serious plan to make other modes of transportation, including light rail and bus transit, more convenient and accessible for commuters and local residents alike, then enough single-occupant-vehicle demand can be relieved from Johnson and Gorham to enable them to operate successfully as two-way streets, moving at a steady, reasonable pace that will support local businesses and residential life. The outcomes we seek are valid for the whole City-improved quality of life for neighborhoods and improved mobility/ access for all residents and visitors to central Madison's businesses, employment and culture.

- Patrick McDonnell





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# News & Notes & Opinions

### What's Happening in the Neighborhood

#### **Development Plans:**

Redevelopment plans for the 700 & 800 blocks of E Washington Avenue are underway. The city has accepted preliminary proposals from The Rifkin Group (south side of 800 block), Urban Land Interest (north side of 800 block), and Gephardt Development Group (North side of 700 block). Details as they are now can be found at <u>http://</u> www.cityofmadison.com/business/.

#### **Tenney Park:**

Our new Tenney Park shelter is scheduled to open early winter in time for ice skating (see story on page 6). In 1899 Brewer Joseph Hausmann initiated the events that led to the creation of Tenney Park. His brewery was on the south side of Sherman Avenue near the Yahara River and served mill workers and traders in the area. He offered to arrange selling 460 feet of Lake Frontage to the city for park purposes. Instead Daniel K. Tenney stepped up and offered to purchase the land and to donate an additional \$2500 to develop the park. The Madison Park and Pleasure Drive Association was called upon to raise matching funds of \$2500 and to oversee development plans. The first \$1000 came from Sherman Avenue residents. The city council then appropriated the other \$1500 and declared the park be named Tenney Park. Much the same went into the building of the new shelter: a generous gift, residents chipping in, and the city matching funds. Thereafter, the recognition of open park space as crucial in determining the quality of life for city residents would take hold. At the time Orton Park was the only open space in Madison.

#### James Madison Park Houses:

The surplus property committee charged with disposing of properties 640, 646, and 704 E. Gorham Street at its September 8 meeting endorsed an offer to purchase 640 E. Gorham for \$101,000. The purchase offer is for the building only with a lease agreement for the use of the land. The land lease being proposed is for 99 years with an automatic renewal option for another 99 years.

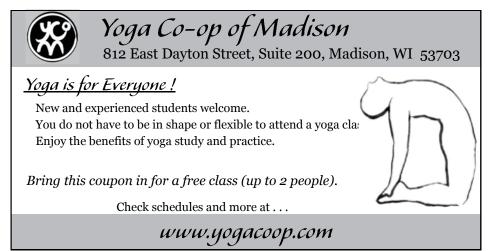
At that same meeting, the James Madison Park Surplus Property Committee recommended that the Common Council reject all bids for 646 East Gorham Street (Ziegelman House) and 704 East Gorham Street (Collins House) and re-issue the Request for Proposals for a period of 45 days. On September 20, 2011, the Common Council authorized the re-issuance of the RFPs for 646 and 704 East Gorham St. Responses to these RFPs are due on November 7, 2011 at 2 PM.

The buildings were purchased in the early 1970's by the city. The original plan was to demolish the buildings to make room for James Madison Park expansion. That idea was defeated by those interested in preserving historic buildings. Then, a proposal to move the buildings failed. Apparently nobody loves the buildings enough to want to move them. The Board of Park Commissioners during the process declared they would not agree to sell any land that was already designated to be park space. That's why the compromise plan to sell the buildings and lease the land was hatched. Any deal regarding the sale will need approval by the park commissioners and the city council. This deal will also have to be approved by a city wide referendum because it involves a change in status for lake front property owned by the city.

There are hurdles to climb before this deal is done. Will the park commissioners feel jilted? Will they accept that their demand to not sell the park land is satisfied by a land lease that gives use of the park land to a private individual for at least 198 years? Will they be satisfied the year 2209 is timely enough for plans to expand James Madison Park?

They should feel jilted. A more sensible deal for the city is a land lease for 49 years at the end of which the building and land revert back to the city free and clear. At that point the city reevaluates the need for more park space. If more park space is needed, the city would have options. James Madison Park is the only open space in the downtown area.

- Joe Brogan





### **Tenney Park Shelter to Open in December**

Construction of the new Tenney Park shelter continues at a steady pace, and a grand opening ceremony for the new structure is slated for Dec. 3.

The shelter committee is also planning a gala fund-raising dinner at the shelter on Dec. 1, which will include major donors, local political officials, parks staff, and committee members. Beth Heiden, former Madison Olympic speed skater, will be the guest speaker at the dinner. Funds raised at the dinner will be used to build a new playground at the shelter. If construction continues on schedule, the shelter will be open this winter for ice skating and other community events.

The shelter is a one million dollar project, funded jointly by the city Parks Department and private fund-raising generated by the shelter committee.



Tile sales and private donations, including a major gift from John Wall and his family, covered approximately half the cost to build the new shelter. The new building will include a community room for public events such as weddings and private parties. Contact Mary Lang Sollinger at sollingerml@gmail.com for further information.

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### Community Warm greetings from your neighbors here at Christ Presbyterian Church!

We have had quite the year together. The paths between you all in the TLNA Neighborhood and us here at Christ Church seem to be intersecting and intertwining more and more, which is exciting to us. Here are some of the threads from my perspective:

Last September, after Pastor Dale Chapin visited with Mike Hertl (last year's Principal at Lapham School), we had a very successful "Undie Sunday" where we collected from our membership several large plastic bags full of newly purchased child-sized (sizes 3-7) underwear, socks, regular pants and sweat pants. We delivered the clothing to the Lapham School folks who then distributed them throughout the school year to children in need. Several of our older members had not purchased clothing in this size for quite some time. They enjoyed themselves immensely. We will be having "Undie Sunday" again on Sunday September 25th if you would like to join with us in this much needed project. Just drop the new clothing off during church office hours (Monday through Friday 9am-5pm) until Sunday October 16th.

Last October, our Director of Outreach to Internationals. Jean René Watchou, began to host a time when Internationals could come together with native English speakers and converse together. He called it "English Conversation Partners". He invited members of TLNA to attend as well as members of Christ Church. The response from the neighborhood has been amazing. The attendance on Friday evenings has grown. There are now 10 regulars from the neighborhood who join with about 10 regulars from Christ Church. Many internationals have gratefully used this time to hone their English speaking skills. All are enriched by getting to know neighbors from around the globe. And as a bonus, many TLNA neighbors have attended our international cooking time which occurs every 4th Saturday of the month. Have you ever had Turkish Pizza? Jean René says that it is one of the best entrees her has ever eaten. The meal preparation begins at 4pm. The sitting down to eat? 6:30pm. Come and help prepare or just come and enjoy the many different ethic foods. If you would like to become involved, please contact Jean René at 257-4845 ext 204 or e-mail him at jeanrene@ cpcmadison.org.

The most unusual occurrence happened last November. For several months, we hosted one of the Dane County Youth Services groups because their regular meeting place was undergoing asbestos abatement. On November 13<sup>th</sup>, our own youth had a lock-in. That day, coincidently, as a thank you to us, the young folks from the Youth Services group came and raked leaves from around the church. When our young folks awakened, they met a Madison Parks employee down at Tenney Park who showed them where some invasive species needed to be rooted out around the pond. Our youth spent several hours working in the park. It was an odd and strange episode, wasn't it? Presbyterians would call it providence. I call it just being good neighbors. The generosity of young people criss-crossing across our neighborhood.

Several neighborhood people helped

to support our "Lights for Learning" project in December. We raised over \$73,000.00 in about a month's time. That project (see the May 2011 TNLA Newsletter) is well on the way and continues to marvelously expand.

There have been at least two TLNA neighborhood dinners here after we were able to reopen our kitchen for large venue TLNA neighborhood use. (That is a longer story which I am glad is over)

All in all, it has been a year of growth in our renewed relationship. Because of the diligence and generosity of many Tenney-Lapham residents, our church has been called back into becoming a gentle but vibrant source of energy in our neighborhood. We are partnering with one of the neighborhood major assets: Lapham School, and you all are partnering with us in the English Conversation Partners. I wonder where our energies will intertwine next?

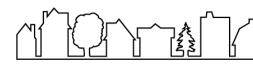
Of course, you are always invited to come to any of our worship services. 9am is the start of our classic service with 8:30 being the time of the Organ pre-service. Our second more contemporary service begins at 11:15.

For those of you who do not wish to worship with us but who like good classical music, we have a new bequest: a stunningly painted (wildflowers and birds of Wisconsin) and resonant harpsichord. You are invited to the dedication recital for our new harpsichord which will take place on Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup> beginning at 3pm in our Sanctuary. Please make a note to come and experience this beautiful instrument. Again, you are warmly invited.

Peace,

Pastor Glen Hall Reichelderfer





#### History

### A History of the Leitch House

Recently I attended an open house for the grand opening of the Livingston Inn, a B&B operated by Dave and Peggy Furlan at 752 E. Gorham St. I had a grand time touring the building and even got up to the cupola for the view. This is the site of the Leitch House, a historic building. Following is some of the information I've obtained concerning the original owner and his family.

William T. Leitch was born in 1808. Educated at Edinburgh,

Scotland he emigrated with his wife Jane to the U.S., arriving in the U.S. in May of 1829. William, a tailor, operated a number of shops in New York, living in Jersey City. By the late 1840's he moved to Brooklyn and entered into clothing merchandising, concentrating on the lucrative southeastern market centered on Savannah, GA.

The Leitchs had 3 children; Jeanette, born 1830, William T. Jr. 1834, and Ida 1854. William Leitch also had a brother, James who emigrated to Dane County in the early 1850's and settled in Dane



Township where he took up farming. Perhaps William's interest in the area sprang from information provided by James. He purchased land here and looked for an opportunity. On June 13, 1855 William announced in the State Journal his partnership with a man named Nelson Roth for a "jewelry and fancy goods business at the Capital House " in Madison. However, only 2 weeks later another ad appeared dissolving the partnership due to the illness of William's son.

The attraction of Madison must have been strong, because in 1857 William Leitch

commissioned the building of a home here at the corner of Gorham and Livingston Streets. The house cost some \$14,000 to construct. By way of comparison at the time a large frame house could be built for \$500!

Upon his arrival in June of 1858, William entered into local affairs. He was elected President of the Madison Horti-

cultural Society in 1860, serving that group for the next 12 years. An interest in education led to service on the Board of Education from 1863-1879 as President and Clerk. He also was connected with the Madison Institute, becoming their President in 1867. A member of Grace Episcopal Church, he was Vestryman for 10 years. As a Scotsman, he led the local St. Andrew's Society.

William is best remembered as Madison's Mayor during much of the Civil War. Elected first in April of 1862, he defeated incumbent Levi Vilas by 121 votes, despite a concerted effort by the



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#### History

and call into question his patriotism, having relocated his firm to Savannah in an effort to save it after the secession of Georgia.

Re-elected in 1863 with a 255 vote majority, despite being referred to as a "copperhead". He was also accused of insufficient effort in supporting enlistments and bounties to encourage them. After the election, Leitch wrote a letter to the editors of the State Journal to clear the record and thanked them for their faint praise in that he... "had in many respects made a fair Mayor."

That summer Leitch's wife Jane became ill, dying on July 6th, 1863 and was buried at Forest Hill Cemetery. Condolences were offered by many, including the local firefighters, the Sack Company. The City Council as a sign of respect attended the services and burial in a group.

With the tide turning in favor of the North, Leitch barely won re-election in 1864 by only 29 votes. The Journal editorialized that this was due to ..."his redeeming social qualities..." and that ..." the old veteran has heard a loud call, which we hope will prompt him to bear this honor with meekness and care."

Seeing the writing on the wall, Leitch was not a candidate for re-election in 1865. He was however elected to the position of City Assessor that same year. Two other attempts to regain his position as Mayor, in 1868 against David Atwood and J. B. Bowen in 1871 ended in defeat. He again served as City Assessor from 1872-1874.

Leitch still had business interests and friends in New York and frequently traveled there. Upon his return to Madison after one such extended trip, he gave his ..."solemn opinion that Madison beer far surpasses the Gotham beverage."

By 1879 he had decided to return to his old home in Brooklyn for good, though it took him 2 years to wrap up matters in Madison and sell his home. A going away party in July of 1881 was covered by the press, and the guest list reads like a who's who of Madison of the time. The State Journal's opinion of him had also greatly changed. He now was one of the ..."most respected citizens of Madison,...a great favorite here...who's departure is felt with regret within and without the city." The party was held on the pleasure barge 'Solid Comfort' on Lake Mendota, with the guest of honor and his friends..." fishing and indulging in an old fashioned picnic. Complimentary speeches were made with recitations and oratorical and musical accompaniments. "The group reached the home dock at 2:00AM!

William T. Leitch lived comfortably on Hawes Street in Brooklyn with his daughter Jeanette as his housekeeper until his death on Feb. 2, 1897.

His son William T., Jr. had married in 1858 in New York to Ellen Dillow. The couple joined the family in Madison, and from 1861 to 1867 William was engaged in the boot and shoe business on the Capitol Square. He then moved to Dane where he farmed next to his uncle James Leitch and his large family. Eventually after his wife's death, William removed to Lodi, Columbia County, still a gentleman farmer. His only surviving child, a daughter Jane born in 1864, was also widowed after her marriage to a man named Roach. Sometime after 1905 William moved to Brooklyn to live with his sister Jeanette. Jane Roach and her son George moved to Madison where she was a newspaper reporter and he a draftsman. Upon the death of his sister, William returned to Wisconsin and his daughter's home. By 1920 the family was living in Hamilton, Ohio, just north of Cincinatti. It was here that William T. Leitch, Jr died on Nov. 7, 1922. He was buried at Forest Hill Cemetery in Madison. In 1930 George Roach was a photographer with his own studio, living his wife Anna, and his mother Jane in Schenectady, N.Y.

As to William Leitch; though a man of great wealth, this had come to him after years of hard effort. He seems to have had the common touch. More favorable press accounts said ..."Leitch is in favor of all men's rights...he is straightforward and consistant...honest and frank in the expression of his political principles...he will make a Mayor worthy of our City!"

-Richard Linster





### Madtown Pizza Opens on Johnson Street

We are happy to report that our neighborhood pizzeria, Madtown Pizza at 912 E. Johnson Street, is once again up and running. When the previous operator turned in his apron, the business ended up back in the hands of the folks he had leased it from for many years. The circumstances seemed right to get family involved and start making pizza.

Kay Cerniglia and Kelly Grant are the official owners, but Kay's husband, Joe, is the one with Sicilian roots and has

become the unofficial ambassador for the business. The road to reopening proved to be a long one. Doing the work themselves, they spent months of evenings and weekends putting a fresh face on everything from floor to ceiling. All of the furniture and most of the equipment is brand new. It is more than just a take-out restaurant. There is ample seating for different-sized groups in the bright, cheerful dining room and a place to people-watch in the window on the kitchen-side of the restaurant.

The best surprise is how much they love the quirky, friendly neighborhood. They were welcomed and received encouragement from passersby even before they opened. They also appreciate the feeling of support and camaraderie from the other businesses.

Joe likes to take a break and sit out front and talk to people. Sometimes his





brother stops by to visit and they wind up outside. They are becoming known as the old, Italian guys holding court on the front stoop. He hates to see the cold weather coming, which will force him inside.

The menu features everything from hand-tossed pizza, to spaghetti with the

family tomato sauce recipe (brought over from Sicily many years ago). They serve a selection of Italian sandwiches, including a vegetarian sub. They use Joe's brother Vito's garlic sauce, which can also be found on local supermarket shelves. Choose your own fillings to construct a mini-calzone. Pizza comes in 12, 16, and 20 inch pies, or try an 8 inch round slice. Thom, who works parttime at the Cork 'N Bottle, says it's the best pizza he has had in his years as a grad student in Madison. They have a selection of soda and bottled water and may explore the possibility of serving wine and beer in the future.

At the time this article was written, the restaurant had been open for only seven weeks. They were accepting only cash, but they have an ATM. They plan to take credit and debit cards in the future. They also plan to

expand their delivery area and stay open later on weekends. Their current hours are: Sunday-Thursday, 5-10 PM: Friday-Saturday, 4-11 PM. Stop in or call, 250-3333. You can also find them on Facebook.

- Jim Wright









#### **O'Keeffe to Develop Arts Partnership**

Dear Tenney Lapham Neighbors,

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer. As the next newsletter is published, we will be heading back to school. First, I would like to thank all of our Tenney Lapham friends for the steadfast support you give to O'Keeffe Middle School. We are privileged to be part of such a vibrant, strong community that supports learning. At the end of the school year, O'Keeffe was the recipient of a Community Reinvestment Fund Grant through the Willy Street Co-op. This grant will support the electrical work needed for our new salad bar that we obtained through a grant from Whole Foods. Our students (and staff) were so excited to have a salad bar option for lunch and we will continue to develop this great resource. Thanks, again, to

the Willy Street Co-op for supporting nutritious school lunches.

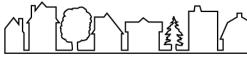
We also will be working with our neighbors to develop a community arts partnership. As you know, all of our students are required to enroll in music and art all three years of middle school. Our school community is committed to rigorous academics as well as the performing and fine arts. We will be having a musical this year in addition to our concert series and plan to participate in community art shows. We are exploring artist in residence opportunities and continued grant-writing to support increasing our musical instrument inventory. As a community, we all agree that music and art education develops better and deeper thinkers.

If you have ideas or input about ways

to enhance our partnerships, call me at 204-6822 or check-out our Facebook Page.

Sincerely, Kay Enright, Principal Georgia O'Keeffe Middle School





#### **Treasurer's Report**

### Where do your membership dues go?

A neighborhood's financial report is like a family budget, only simpler. There is money coming in (hopefully) and money going out. So, how does TLNA get money coming in? Simple! From you. Well, actually there are two main sources: dues from members and from ads in the newsletter. The newsletter costs about \$1300 to print each issue and, with the ads, it more or less sustains itself. (This is a good place to suggest that, when you patronize our advertisers, mention where you saw their ad!)

The dues vary from year to year based on our membership. So, how many members do we have? There are anywhere from 200 to 300 members out of about 2300 households in our area. That adds up to almost \$1500 in the most recent 10 months. If you are not a dues paying member now, be sure to visit our web site to find the membership form at http://www.danenet.org/tlna/ web-data/pdfs/membershipbrochure.pdf.

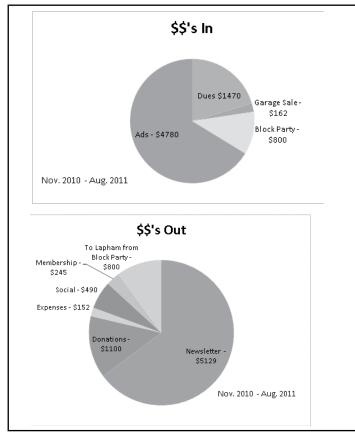
Where does our money go? There are some small expenses, but spending falls chiefly into three categories: the newsletter, of course, donations, and our social events. TLNA sponsors several events, including the annual meeting, the Paterson Street Block Party, and pot luck gatherings in the spring and fall. For donations, we donate a modest amount to each of the schools that our children attend. and this year we also made a donation to the Central Library Capital Fund. I am happy to say that there was \$800 in donations at the Paterson Street Block Party, which all went to Lapham School.

Now is the perfect time to consider attending TLNA Council meetings, or even better, to be on the council. You can help shape the financial decisions that ultimately will have an impact on our neighborhood. - Patty Prime "Breathing new life into. . .Willy St. is. . .Ground Zero, a very accommodating full service coffee shop offering sandwiches, soup, baked goods, juice, lots of elbow room, and strong coffee to boot."

--Isthmus



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### We're Booked

### **Our Fall Wish List**

We spent the summer reading James Joyce (Ulysses and Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man), a task we would not Fitzgerald recommend to anyone. While nearly drowning in Joyce's stream of consciousness, we amassed quite a list of books we longed to read once our indenture was satisfied.

So here is our list. Please proceed Larson with discretion. Anything looks good compared to Joyce.

#### Fiction

The Marriage Plot by Jeffrey Eugenides

The Paris Wife by Paula McLain State of Wonder by Ann Patchett My American Unhappiness by Dean Bakopoulos

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott

Cutting for Stone by Abraham Vergheese

#### **Non Fiction**

In the Garden of Beasts by Erik

One Hundred Names for Love: A stroke, a marriage and the language of healing by Diane Ackerman

Unbroken: A WWII Story by Laura Hillenbrand

-Jean Dunn and Ann Rulseh

#### Thanks Joe!

With this issue Joe Brogan is stepping down as editor after five years. As somebody who has been involved with this newsletter for twenty-five years, I have no hesitation in saving Joe has been the best editor this newsletter has ever had

It's a hell of a lot of work doing this newsletter - soliciting advertisers (the newsletter is self-supporting), generating ideas, getting copy by the deadline (you know who I mean!), etc.,

Joe has done this volunteer job with a passion, grace, and a dedication that is amazing. The neighborhood owes him a deep thank-you for a job well done

- Bob Shaw



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13



### First Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale a Success

After a soggy start – Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, turned into a beautiful day for a yard sale. I had my first sale at 7:20am (even though the sale didn't start until 8:00am). Visitation on Sidney Street seemed pretty steady through the day. I had great conversation with folks that had just moved into the neighborhood, as well as with long-time residents who were out scouting the yard sale scene. That story-line was repeated across the 38 yard sales that were going on in the hood.

I was able to promote the benefits of joining the neighborhood association and handed out a few membership brochures. I sold some stuff, cleared out my basement a bit, made a deposit at St. Vinnies, and tithed my proceeds



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to TLNA.

Overall – I'd say the yard sale was a great success – measured both by the sense of community it fostered and our contribution to reducing, reusing, and recycling. Quite a few neighbors, new and old, commented on what a fun event it was. Quite a few (this year's participants and others that didn't get in on the action) hope we do it again next year. We will!

Thanks to everyone that participated. A special hats off to Bob Shaw who created a great front page for our website to promote the event, a really sweet Google Map showing the locations of all the yard sales that we knew about, and got the word out on Craig's list. To top it off, last I heard from Patty Prime - we were closing in on \$200 raised for the neighborhood. Start setting aside those treasurers for next year's neighborhood yard sale. It will happen!

- Alan Crossley

### A Veritable Tenney-Palooza

The Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association hosted its third annual neighborhood party on July 16. HUGE thanks to Jim Wright, Kaeser Enterprises, Cork N Bottle, Connie, Teena, Susan Bauman-Duren, Chocolate-shop Ice Cream, Burnie's Rock Shop, Larry Godding (and his il Corvo Pedicab service), and all the many members of the extended Wright Family.

We may have to change the name of the neighborhood party in future years to Tenney-Palooza as this year's music stage (ok - music driveway) featured the Cork N Bottle String Band, Andy Moore, the Kristy Larson Trio, and The Flannel Bats. The weather was perfect, the food was excellent, the music was superb, the neighbors were plentiful, the ice-cream and root-beer were cold, and the sense of community was palpable. And heck, we raised \$800 in donations to support our neighborhood school - Lapham School. Three cheers for Lapham! And three cheers for our neighborhood!

- Alan Crossley



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KELLER WILLIAMS

#### Community



#### **Welcome New Neighbors**

Word has it that many new residents moved into Tenney-Lapham this year, more than the usual number. On behalf of Tenney-Lapham residents, welcome one and all. The change of seasons and new faces always energize and invigorate body and mind. That's why this time of year we are excited to say welcome to new people in the neighborhood.

The season of spring brings on wonderful feelings, animation, and joyfulness for being alive. Self awareness and relationships naturally dominate our feelings at that time of year. We feel the abundance of nature and part of the prosperity it portends. The fall season feels almost the opposite. It's the time to plan for the challenges and rigors ahead. The harvest is over, the garden looks desperate, the leaves are falling, the wind is colder, the squirrels are hustling to store food, and the mice are scratching to find a way inside our kitchens. The season flirts shamelessly with our primitive instincts for survival. We feel a need to get ready for what's coming. If we plan ahead, prepare, and hunker down, we can make it to spring. We know how to enjoy our imagination!

#### **GRAPE JELLYING AT THE END**

Never will the grape be as sweet, the juice as hot My hands will never stain and sting like this again Everything I put by today, this whistling yellow-winded Leaf-twirling day, will have to last until the end.

I must sustain my grip on this scalding bag And wring the sweetness from the matted grapes. And think, at the beginning of this last hundred years, Women did not jelly for pleasure. Their wild currants And tiny blue-black grapes had to last, to help keep A family over four dark months out here on the plain. We may have to do the same again.

They must have boiled until they could not stir down While babies ran barefoot, picking up burrs and brambles Had to sometimes drop the spoon from skimming The froth that is the wild grape's last retort And run to counter snakebite or aid the neighbor's birthing

There will never be a Fall again, Never one exactly like this ever, I taste history and future in this tangy sweet Grandmother and great-great-grandchild together. Nothing, not even jelly, will ever be this clear again. - Norma Gay Prewett/ Gay Davidson-Zielske

Times have changed, for now. Survival has become all too real for many. This year the economy for many has become the focus of daily life. Survival is no longer a playful challenge rooted in our distant past. Survival has become a feeling as real as the cold north wind. Most of us are not down and out yet, but most of us do have good reason to fear the writing on the wall, especially for our children. Changes in our community structure forced by state government this year has created fear about the future and concern about our comfort level with each other, and doubt about ourselves being able to share one world. Even if you support the state government changes as necessary, the picture they paint, the insensitivity they embrace, the acrimony they arouse, the hardships they cause, makes coming times feel bleak and foreboding.

Fortunately, we have each other. Tenney-Lapham is a good neighborhood with many events to bring neighbors together to share community and provide encouragement. Just to mention a few: annual art walk, neighborhood wide block party, chicken coop tour, annual spaghetti dinner, annual pot luck dinner, monthly neighborhood council meetings, soon to be annual yard sale, local neighborhood block parties, park clean up days, neighborhood development plans that need your input. It all adds up to being together and caring about each other. Once again welcome.

- Joe Brogan



(James Madison Park - from page 1) houses.

#### **Activities/Amenities**

Although the unfortunate 2009 discontinuation of Supreme Water Sports' boat rental and instruction business at the park shelter remains a major loss, new opportunity for citizens to reserve the structure has great potential. Wouldn't it be an admirable city service that would accommodate **both** rental of the park shelter **and** provide boat rental to our community? Meanwhile, the shelter's city-run Snack Shack improved visibility, offerings, and hours this summer. An independent ice cream truck makes the rounds, too.

The shelter can be rented for \$82-125 depending on the day/hours, plus \$50 for an alcohol permit. A permit is required for amplified sound. The shelter and bathrooms close for the season around mid-October, and a porta-potty is sometimes installed for winter use.

Madison B-Cycle, a bike rental

service sponsored by Trek, installed a kiosk in the park, one of many around the city. Bikers can rent a bike with just a credit card and return it there or to any other B-Cycle kiosk around town.

James Madison Park Beach is clean, staffed, and ready for swimming almost every day during summer (lifeguard service has been suspended for the season). According to the Madison Public Health Department, this summer there was only one beach closure (in early June) versus two last year, and 32 the previous year. My husband and I grew up swimming and boating Lake Mendota, and our baby daughter swims every possible day with no issues whatsoever.

Among other notable events in the park this year was a successful Father's Day Festival, Rhythm and Booms viewing, a 40-year celebration of moving the 150-year-old Gates of Heaven Synagogue to the park, and a lively jousting tournament. Orange Shoe also holds exercise classes in the park weekday mornings.

Perhaps the most widely advertised, celebrated, and attended park events



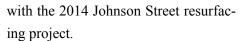
were the two Sunday night silent German films, projected against the park shelter and accompanied by live music. Before the first film August 21, neighborhood children constructed a large clay "Golem" sculpture, the namesake monster in the first film. The statue stood for over three weeks until its unfortunate demise at the hands of vandals.

#### Madison is Discovering James Madison Park

With the opening of the Madison Children's Museum just blocks away, I've noticed a significant increase in the number of children visiting the park. Hamilton Street provides a direct channel from the park playground to the children's museum. Hopefully pedestrian safety in this corridor can be improved







The Downtown Community Gardens group is pursuing an area in the park to establish garden plots, which would be available for lease to the public. The next step is a tour with City Parks staff, and continued discussions with Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association and

Alder Maniaci.

The newly-formed Friends of James Madison Park is still in its early stages, but has great potential as an umbrella group to promote volunteering, park safety, development, and events in the park. Also, some area residents have discussed starting a Parks Watch program in collaboration with the City Parks' Department.

The City Council approved funding a study of two-way traffic on Johnson and Gorham Streets, which is supported in the 2008 Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Plan. Two-way traffic on Gorham Street would benefit the park by increasing access, slowing traffic, and reinforcing the residential nature of the neighborhood

surrounding the park.

#### **Help James Madison Park?**

Enjoy the park! Get outside, rent the shelter, check out the new shoreline.

Support community gardens and two-way traffic. Tell your neighbors and your Alder--Maniaci or Verveer.

If you see suspicious behavior, call the Madison Police non-emergency number -266-4275. Calling **every** time you see a problem will help MPD and Parks identify and address recurring issues in the park. Don't wait for someone else to call.

For maintenance and non-police issues, use the report-a-problem form on the city website or call parks at 266-4711. Park Rangers are also available at 235-0448 for non-emergency issues such as graffiti or shelter issues.

Call speeder's hotline 266-4624 if you see someone speeding through our residential neighborhood. The speed limit on Johnson and Gorham is 25 MPH.

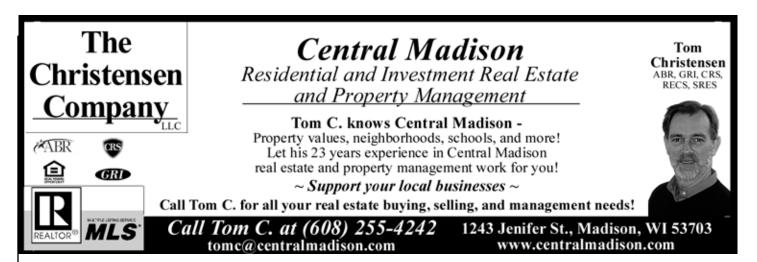
Contribute to the Capitol Neighborhood Inc (CNI) JMP Garden Fund (Checks to: "Capitol Neighborhoods, Inc." to P.O. Box 2613, Madison, WI 53701, with a note designating it to "JMP shelter gardens"

Happy strolling,

- Aleen Tierney, E. Gorham Street



What Can You Do Today to





#### Community

### Little Free Libraries Come to Tenney-Lapham

*This article has been adapted from a feature story that first appeared in Sustainable Times in Middleton, WI.* 

Walk or ride along a bike path sometime soon and you may see one. Stop and open the door. Take a book, then bring a favorite book of your own. Leave a note in it and know you are part of something big that starts right here, with you. Each Little Free Library, you see, is a house of stories just big enough to hold 20 or 30 good books--novels or non-fiction, poetry or "how-to" volumes. These little guys are getting very popular.

And there are at least two Little Free Libraries in the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood including the one in the adjacent picture at 1339 E. Dayton Street.

Like most ideas, Neighborhood Little Free Libraries can be traced to many sources. Trudy Barash, mother of the sorely-missed Canterbury Books, planted the seeds when she created "Take a Book, Leave a Book" shelves for Madison gathering places. Her



legacy survives and connects us in ways no one might have imagined. The Little Free Library project openly supports the literacy programs and quality reading that Canterbury championed. Coffee shops and waiting rooms about town still carry on the practice of book sharing. The Wisconsin Book Festival, independent bookstores and community libraries that often offer heroic service make Madison a magnet for bibliophiles, and writers' workshops through the university have nurtured many authors over the years.

Todd Bol, a social entrepreneur from Hudson, Wisconsin, got the spirit in a program run by the UW-Madison's Continuing Studies. He built a model of a one-room schoolhouse full of books as a memorial to his mother. It generated such interest that he couldn't resist building almost a dozen more. You will soon find them at Troy Gardens and neighborly front yard locations on the East Side of the city.

With such inspiration, Little Libraries tend to fill up and empty quickly. Library Stewards, who agree to protect and promote each new Library in the registry, say that their collections tend to develop around specific themes, some quite intellectual and academic,

(continued on page 20)



# Housing

Active					
<u>Address</u>	<u>Square Ft</u>	List Price			
6 Sherman Ter #3	852	\$64,900			
20 Sherman Ter #3	852	\$75,900			
9 Sherman Ter #4	852	\$93,900			
17 Sherman Ter #1	852	\$94,900			
6 Sherman Ter #4	852	\$105,000			
2 Sherman Ter #5-6	1704	\$150,000			
816 E Johnson	902	\$139,900			
1124 E Gorham	940	\$149,900			
1015 E Gorham	706	\$162,000			
517 E Johnson	1145	\$164,900			
1123 E Mifflin	1086	\$176,900			
123 N. Blount, #406	1005	\$219,900			
23 N Ingersoll	1156	\$224,000			
938 E Mifflin	1146	\$229,000			
480 N. Baldwin	1444	\$289,900			
841 Prospect	1944	\$340,000			
1026 Sherman	3718	\$545,000			
1662 Sherman	3224	\$795,000			
1140 Sherman	3169	\$825,000			
1240 Sherman	4000	\$1,100,000			
828 Prospect	3330	\$1,250,000			
Pending					
206 N Thornton	1384	\$255,000			
434 Sidney	3198	\$369,900			
Sold					

<u>Days on Market</u>		List Price	Sale Price
0		\$142,500	\$142,500
260		\$179,900	\$165,000
40		\$189,900	\$167,500
94		\$189,900	\$175,500
6		\$192,800	\$186,000
7		\$194,900	\$191,000
58		\$199,000	\$195,000
19		\$219,900	\$214,000
n 6		\$209,900	\$215,000
on 19		\$245,000	\$225,000
	0 260 40 94 6 7 58 19 6	0 260 40 94 6 7 58 19 6	0 \$142,500   260 \$179,900   40 \$189,900   94 \$189,900   6 \$192,800   7 \$194,900   58 \$199,000   19 \$219,900   6 \$209,900

These statistics were compiled by the editor and Tobi Silgman of Stark Company Realtors. If you have any questions about what your home may be worth, please contact Tobi at 608-279-3591 or by email at tsilgman@StarkHomes.com.

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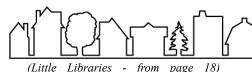
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others more entertaining. Some already have books signed and donated by local authors like Kim Groshek of Whitewater, who gave hundreds copies of *her Bug''s Adventure Series*. Alex Hancock signed and donated copies of his first novel, *Into the Light*, about the hard life of a young man in Chicago. Single edition masterpieces created by real life kids on the block find their way to the Little Libraries as well.

Gardeners would like Little Libraries full of books about horticulture, vegetables and growing things. Dog owners are thinking about novels, short stories and pet care manuals for county dog parks. If they can find underwriters, you could

#### B-Cycle Comes to Tenney-Lapham

There are currently three stations for the new B-Cycle program in the neighborhood: James Madison Park, Tenney Park by the river, and the corner of Brearly/Gorham streets. Another station is being planned for Reynolds Park in the near future.

The system is designed to encourage short-term trips in the central city. For more information see http:// madison.bcycle.com/home.aspx



see books ranging from *Harry the Dirty Dog* to *White Fang* or Patricia McConnell's tomes on behavior training.

Anyone can be a registered Library Steward. Bike riders, PTA members, trout fishermen, poets, writers' groups, community development advocates just plain friendly, giving people—are already part of this modest little effort. A family, a business or donor who would like to join the effort to beat Andrew Carnegie's record of 2,509 Free Libraries? Ask them and join them. Want to know how you can pay it forward?

You an find out more information about Little Free Library at http://www. littlefreelibrary.org/index.html.



Community