

TENNEY-LAPHAM

NEUSLETTER JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1999

SNOW RULES THE ROAD

"Ah," you're thinking, "it's November 15 and those days of having to move my car at night are over!" Wrong! December 1st brought the winter "Snow Emergency" season which means there will be more "auto shuffle" ahead, but not as much as many of you may think.

First off, let's talk about what determines a Snow Emergency. In a phone call to Harold "Toby" Opheim, of the Madison City Streets Department, he clarified what the term "snow emergency" means. A Snow Emergency is determined by one of two criteria: a snowfall of three or more inches or as circumstances dictate, such as successive snowfalls totaling more than three inches. An example given by Mr. Opheim might be a snowfall one night of one and a half inches and a snowfall the next night of two inches which would exceed the three inch maximum total, with the City Streets Department calling a Snow Emergency to clear the streets. According to Mr. Opheim, once the City determines that Snow Emergency conditions exist, it will usually make the declaration before 6 PM with 10 PM being the latest time the declaration is made.

Now, what happens after the City declares that Snow Emergency? The night of the emergency is when the shuffling begins. After one in the morning (that's 1 AM) following the announcement of the Snow Emergency, your vehicle must be parked on the correct side of the street. Those correct sides are:

from 1 AM to 7 AM on the odd numbered side of the street if the calendar day is odd or from 1 AM to 7 AM on the even numbered side of the street if that calendar day is even numbered.

Mr. Opheim went on to explain that since the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood lies within the Downtown Isthmus Snow Emergency Zone (DISEZ), it is exempt from the alternate side parking requirements that cover the rest of the city. But, he pointed out, "you can't use street parking for storage. City ordinances say that after your vehicle has been sitting for 48 hours or more, it can be ticketed and if it remains for an additional 48 hours, it can be towed".

When asked how the Snow Emergency policy came about, Mr. Opheim responded that the City was concerned that the available offstreet parking in the central city area might not meet the needs of that area. So they conducted a survey which revealed that the offstreet parking was indeed insufficient. It did not exceed 50% of the number of cars that it served. In fact, the survey revealed that both sides of the street were needed to accommodate the number of vehicles that populate the central city. Since the Street Department's responsibility was to maintain a center street path, having a means of guaranteeing plowing to the curbline was necessary. As a result the Snow Emergency Zone was established.

In response to the question of how neighborhood residents could assist the Streets Department in clearing our streets, Mr. Opheim had suggestions. Alternate your vehicular parking whenever possible as this will allow snowplows to clear the snow before it becomes too difficult to move. (He said that there are no mechanical means to keep the plowblades on the street other than their physical weight which makes it almost impossible to clear "hard pack" that can build up.) And, stay tuned to your favorite radio or TV station for snow emergency information or call the **24-hour Snow Emergency telephone number at 261-9111**.

-David Mandehr

Winter Potluck

Thursday January 28 5:30-8 PM Christ Presbyterian Church 944 E. Gorham

Join your neighbors at TLNA's Annual Winter Potluck. Plates, cups, and utensils will be provided along with tea, coffee, milk, and apple cider. Adults - \$1.00; Children under 12 - Free.

Food to Bring: A-G Main Course H-Q Soup or Salad R-Z Dessert

Special Topic: Zoning Changes

The TLNA Council Meets the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at 302 N. Baldwin Street. The next meetings are January 21 and February 18. You are welcome to observe and/or participate in these meetings. Call Tim Olson at 255-9358 for further information.

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Education	Pete Nelson	921 E. Dayton	Pete.Nelson@aebs.com	251-5929
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Parks	Susan Duren	318 Marston		255-3625
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Special Projects	Ed Jepsen	445 N. Few	edjepsen@juno.com	255-2845
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Area B	David Harrison	1116 E. Mifflin	drharris@students.wisc.edu	259-0430
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County Supervisor	Judy Wilcox	620 E. Dayton	wilcox@co.dane.wi.us	255-8913
Mayor	Sue Bauman	403 City-County Bldg.	sbauman@ci.madison.wi.us	266-4611
County Executive	Kathleen Falk	421 City-County Bldg.	falk@co.dane.wi.us	266-4114
State Representative	Mark Pocan	418 N State Capitol		266-8570
State Senator	Fred Risser	119 M.L.King,Jr., Blvd.	Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us	266-1627
Member of Congress	Tammy Baldwin			*
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The Newsletter of the Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association is published bimonthly and distributed without charge to all households in the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood (delineated by Lake Mendota, North Livingston 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. The deadline for the March/ April issue is February 15. Views expressed in the Newsletter are the views of the writers and not necessarily the views of the TLNA Neighborhood Council.

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Business

It's the Same Old Burnie's Rock Shop . . . Almost

Recently, ownership of an old neighborhood institution, Burnie's Rock Shop, quietly changed hands when Burnell "Burnie" Franke and his wife, Marilee, sold their business to Ryn Etter and Karen Shmerler. Both Etter, a stone cutter, and Shmerler, a jeweler, had previous relationships with Burnie, Etter, as a long standing patron and Shmerler, as co-owner of the adjacent business, Heart of Stone, with Burnie's son, Nevin.

Talking with Ryn Etter, she stated that she and her partner had approached Burnie about buying the business previous to this fall's purchase but the time wasn't right. When Burnie and his wife did decide that it was time to sell, Etter and Shmerler were ready to buy. Since both of the new owners had had good relationships with Burnie, it made perfect sense to them to continue involving Burnie in the activities at the store. But unlike before, when Burnie needed

to assume many responsibilities of the store, Etter said that now Burnie needed to concentrate only on doing the "fun stuff."

When asked if there were any changes planned for the store, Etter said that there were only two really visible changes. One will be the name; now the store will be known as Burnie's Rock Shop, Inc. "The other will be a pair of Art Deco light fixtures we dug out of storage, cleaned up and put back in the store," replied Etter. She continued that "lapidary will still be our primary focus but we plan on including more jewelry and custom work now. We will continue the operation as people know it and take the steps to move the business into the 21st century." She went on to say that as had been Burnie's tradition of involving the local community, particularly the neighborhood school children, in the art of lapidary and the science of geology, the "new Burnie's" will be building on that custom. "We want to expand the exposure of the community to the great things about geology through more school outreach and community activities." Etter also said that another desire of the new owners is to provide a range of prices that will make lapidary as accessible to as many people as possible.

-David Mandehr

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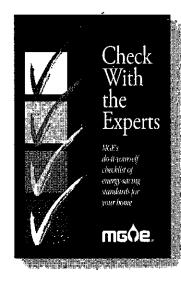


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Transportation

No Jive, It's 25

As the current traffic/transportation coordinator (TTC) for the TLNC, when I am called, I'll let you know if the busses are running late. I also am obligated to give anyone a ride anywhere...and I will, but it will be via my son's jogger stroller.

We bought our house in Tenney-Lapham last spring and moved here during the summer. We are overwhelmed with how wonderful, kind, and accessible the neighbors and the community are to newcomers. However, for the past 20 years we lived in Chicago and Milwaukee respectively-need I write more?

By living in Tenney-Lapham, for the first time since childhood we know almost ALL of our neighbors and for that we are extremely thankful. Tenney-Lapham is committed to community. So after a year of "getting to know the neighborhood" (and Madison in general), it is time to get involved locally.

As the TTC (a role I assumed and cochair with my wife), there are three issues I have addressed with neighbors: the high volume of speeders on Sherman Ave and East Johnson Street among other streets; the upcoming reconstruction of East Washington Avenue and what that means to businesses and neighbors; and the efforts to continue to make our streets safer for children, bicyclists, and pedestrians as they travel to and from their jobs, the parks, the schools, and the shops. I'd welcome talking with you on any of the abovementioned three topics or any other topics as they relate to traffic in our neighborhood. And frankly, as a newcomer to Madison, I'd welcome talking to you about anything.

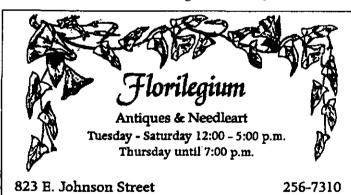
Speeders on Sherman Avenue are more apparent to me because we live on Sherman Avenue. I have witnessed drivers, 24-7, rounding the curve at Few Street as if they are on the Autobahn. It's quite a sight, seeing cars rounding that curve and moving completely into the other lane. As my 4-year son would say when he sees something extraordinary, "How do they do that?" But the

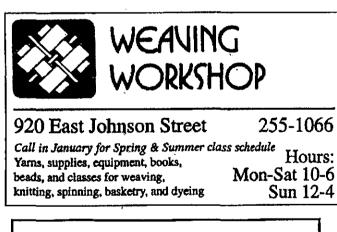
curved corner will be even more extraordinary when a crash happens.

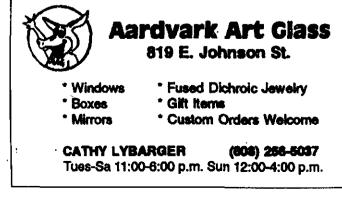
The other day I was driving 25 mph north on Sherman Avenue past the beach area when a Volvo, driven by a man advanced in years, zoomed by to pass me and turned into Maple Bluff. Because this is a neighborhood paper, I will temper what I said to him when we met in Maple Bluff where I followed him to his house. "Please drive 25 mph in our neighborhood," I said, sort of.

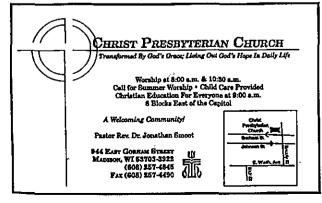
We must report those who speed in our neighborhoods. Sure, because it is the law, but more importantly because children can forget about the dangers of running throughout a neighborhood and dart onto the street by mistake. Do we want to wait until a mistake happens before we enforce "No jive, it's 25"?

When you see someone speeding, call the police hot line at 266-4624 - the police are complaint driven. The hotline is not a complete answer to speeders, but voice your concerns. Leave a detailed message describing the make of the car,









Transportation

the time of the infraction, the license plate if you can get it, and additional information that might provide a good lead as to the offender. You should leave your name and number as well. When I am outside near my house, I usually have a pencil and pad nearby so when a driver speeds past me, I can write down the time of day, the make of car, the gender of the driver and so forth. Knowledge is power. I wait until the evening before I call the hotline because the recorded greeting is long. Your whole day can be taken up listening to the recorded message itself. This is why it is important to record the time of day that you witnessed the alleged speeder.

Also, if you are interested, residents can borrow the city's speed-o-meter. Set it on top of your parked car (vs. while you are driving) on the street in front of your house and watch the reaction from drivers as they approach the sign that displays their speed. It is amazing to see what happens when drivers notice THEY ARE BEING WATCHED. All

the drivers I observed slowed down; and many of them were very kind and expressed their support to slow down traffic. Some even gave me the peace sign. A couple of drivers, however, only partially supported the traffic watch by giving me half of the peace sign, which I took as a positive sign- they almost showed two fingers worth of support.

To use the meter, please call 266-4862....and arrange a time to borrow it. You really only need to do it for a few hours. Call on a couple of neighbors to help. I recently did this with neighbors up the street and we shared coffee, had some interesting conversations on art, and actually set a time to do this again. As long as you stay near the meter to avoid any mishaps, you can probably do some outside work on your house. If you do borrow the meter, I think you will gain some important knowledge about the effects of "being visible" in the community and how we can make our neighborhoods safer. After all, we are simply trying to keep our neighborhood a safe

place, to live. As for the upcoming reconstruction of East Washington and the impending traffic problems, I will report in the next issue what I learned in a meeting that was held in December. Finally, as the quote reads, "We have not inherited this land from our ancestors, but are leaving it for our children."

There are a lot of families with children living in the neighborhood. As I walk my son to school, it has been an honor to meet/greet other neighbors on their way to work and parents as they are leading their children to school. It is a reminder of the splendor and beauty of a neighborhood like Tenney-Lapham and the people on whom this community depends. Let's move into the year 2000 with a greater sense of community and join forces in reminding those who live, visit, and drive in our neighborhood that the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood is a community we want to keep safe. Remember: "No jive, it's 25".

-Mark J. Fraire



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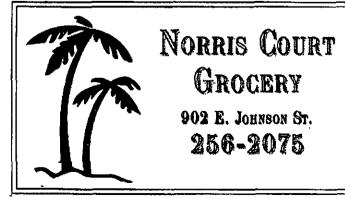
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The Year That Almost Was, Went - 1998

A Holiday Letter by Gay Davidson-Zielske

With a "remote kiss, heat-seeking" Alex just blew out the door to catch the bus. His morning routine is to pick out his most garish, most ill-fitting T-shirt and to argue with me about it for 15 minutes (I'm meanwhile holding up more acceptable school shirts, hopelessly.) I tried to ferret out all the really gruesome ones and stash them in the spidery attic in my annual seasonal "clothes switch," but he apparently had some stashed. Then, since we are shopping for a date palm instead of a Christmas tree now that Wisconsin is officially considered a sub-fropical region, the weather undermined all my good arguments about long versus short sleeves.

The pants are another issue. Now, he has settled on jeans, which are fine with me, but jeans for every occasion? The perfectly good cordoroys (also known as "the fabric of dorks" in his circle apparently) were promptly consigned to the ashpits of history because they were deemed "too feelsome," which was also the rating he loudly gave the red velour wallpaper in a friend's home. I know I'll have a pitched battle (pitched in his direction) to get him into the tuxedo (all suits or even sports jackets are tuxedoes to him) for his cousin Jenny's wedding later this month. He is to be "ring bear" and I think the only reason he consented to participate at all is that he imagines himself lumbering

down the aisle in a fur suit. Ah for the days when I dressed him up in sailor suits and followed him around with a camera. If he ever comes home in a sailor suit again it will be a real one and Mama will keel over.

Speaking of protesting things, (you know, sailors, the military, war, etc.—try to keep up, won't you?) I dragged him and a friend along to protest the building of a gargantuan coal-fired, pollution-spewing power plant in the middle of a pristine little community near here recently. As the rest of us marched on the governor's office, I noticed that he and Ben were lagging behind. I later found out they were mumbling "where's the treat wagon?" and "my (his) mama made me come here."

You all remember Erica Snowflake, my lovely canary who suffered the indignity of complete ingestion (all right, there were three tail feathers left) at the paws of our bad cats? This year things have been a little less violent, but the year did include a little bout with a runaway hermit crab, which Alex had begged us to buy last year on vacation in Cape Hattaras. "Kermit" is the most resilient creature I've ever seen. He lived for months on air alone, fortunately for him, since, as it usually goes, his quiet charm began to pale for Alex almost as soon as we hit Madison. Finally, to save his little life and fearful of karma, I placed his little cage right next to Mr. Coffee, so that somebody would have to SEE him periodically amid the rubble of the kitchen counters.

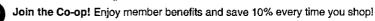
After that he got a sporadic spongewetting and a few sprinkles of something that came in a can labeled "Crab Snax" and looks like larvae in corn meal-I don't ask questions; it smells and looks better than the bait I keep finding in the back of my vegetable crisper drawers until the day we were to leave for this year's summer vacation. I had been whizzing down my "to do" list in a smugly efficient manner. Then, I asked Alex to clean Hermie's cage (a little plastic Barbie-pink clear-plastic case with a "log" in it). All was well until Alex decided that Hermie deserved a little exercise once in awhile and released him to my bedroom floor to do a few laps across the carpet. We-e-ell, three hours later, launch pad ready, countdown begun, I was forced to leave a really crazy note for the neighbors who were watching our place while we were gone, offer Crab Snax and water on the spot where the hapless crustacean was last sighted, lock the doors to keep the marauding cats, Tony and Cleo, at bay, and entertain myself with visions of the crab resting in the toe of my shoes, stuck underneath my pillow, or being batted like a puck around the house by the delighted felines (if he had gotten out of

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the bedroom already.)

Three weeks later, running bath water for Alex, I peripherally noticed movement along the base of the bathtub where I was kneeling. Yes! Holding a little sign reading "Put me back! Please!" in his one uplifted claw, Kermie came home. One can only shudder imagining his travels in the meantime. The Amazing Journey pales in comparison. And remember Friskie, the giant old denizen of the deep whom we inherited when we bought the Piney Wood Mews by Viroqua? He lasted two winters, the only fish in a small pond, dozing under water and waiting patiently for us to come throw him pebbles of Friskies cat food in the Spring when we opened the place. But alas, Friskie, il est mort!! He apparently mysteriously beached himself—three feet from the pond. I miss him.

The cats, Dumb and Dumber, have a new trick—every night they hunt down and shlepp upstairs some item of dirty apparal from the basement laundry room. Their specialty is socks, though they occasionally present other undergarments. That hunter instinct dies hard in these city cats. Other pets have come and gone—from fish who didn't last long enough to earn names (Note to self: Pine needles and yellow fish don't mix) to the turtle "Yoda," whose voracious appetite for earthworms quickly outstripped our combined abilities or will

to hunt nightcrawlers. He never looked one bit grateful either, and watching him dismember them after craning that serpentine neck about to get a good look chilled me to the bone. He was a dead ringer for a guy I used to date. He had to go.

My students remain entertaining. So far this year I have read the following deathless prose: "After that, I was put into an exhilarated math class." (But the fun stopped when I got to English class.) "The biggest injustification," according to one freshman is having to register last. He felt "driven to disparity." One woman, an ex-waitress, told me she was taught to "serve women first, oldest to youngest, then children, then the second course." Jonathan Swift would understand. Another has his hopes pinned on someday performing in that famous music house "Carnage Hall." A colleague reports that one of his students described the fateful night when he and his parents had a flat tire. "I stayed inside," the guy wrote, "while Dad went out and jacked it up with Mom." Myriad interpretations possible, eh?

Ken has had a fine fishing season. He and his buds have discovered that at night the lights from the brand new Frank Lloyd Wrong Convention Center make excellent strobes by which to fish the killer muskie. The other entertainment, apparently, is watching drunken boaters try to dock their boats. I'm not

a big fan of the part when the guys drag these behemoth carcasses into my hall-way on chains, leaving a fine swath of blood and entrails behind, but it's nearly worth the hassle to watch the testoster-one rise. Not to mention that fresh fish is nice. The hunter instinct dies hard in men as well as cats, I guess. Let's see, kid, pets, students, fishing—that just about makes a life, I guess.

We are both still underemployed, overworked, underpaid — just like everybody else in these United States. We put our pants on over our heads just like everybody else does. We do daily battle with squirrels, the winged monkeys from the Wizard of Oz, just like you do. (I KNOW they gotta eat too, but do they have to eat the Christmas lights?) We feel blessed to live in a country where a guy like Ken Starr can keep a straight Sunday School Superintendent face saying things like "thong bikini pants," he who fathered the edict that there was never any reason to post obscene language on the Internet (Ken Starr 1995 or so). But I'm standing by my president-just not very close by in case he tries something.

I thought this letter had ended, but I have to paint you a little picture of last night's "installing of the Christmas tree." Ken left for Orlando on business yesterday at 6:00 am, and since Ken believes every hóliday is part of a giant

(continued on page 14)

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Zoning Committee Completes Work

In December the Residential Zoning Advisory Committee put the final touches on its report to the city couricil. Copies of this report will be available early in January and can be obtained from the city planning commission. The core of the recommendations, and the aspect that is most important to the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood, is the recommendation that a "Special Exception Procedure" be implemented.

As described in the report "The Special Exception Procedure is one mechanism used by many cities to avoid the rigid, quasi-judicial requirements of requiring applicants to show "unnecessary hardship" before the owners are authorized to make structural modifications or building additions to their property. The Special Exception Procedure is a process where properties with specific

characteristics are given the opportunity to use a process different from the Zoning Board of Appeals' variance procedure to obtain the City's permission to develop the property. Such a mechanism balances the inherent tension between maintaining the existing built environment or "neighborhood character" and allowing renovation and expansion of existing properties. The Committee feels the Special Exception Procedure is ideally suited to Madison's R2 neighborhoods, many of which are already densely developed, because it provides greater flexibility to homeowners while maintaining a review process for projects that have potentially greater impact on both immediate neighborhoods and neighborhood character.

The "specific characteristics" referred to above include: 1) a narrow lot,

less than 50 feet; 2) a shallow lot, less than 100 feet deep, and 3) a smaller than permitted lot size, less than 6000 square feet. There are several other characteristics related to structure placement, significant vegetation, and lot geometry, but for the most part nearly every lot in the Tenney Lapham neighborhood will probably be eligible to apply for the Special Exception Procedure.

These are all just recommendations at this point. The report will be formally received by the Plan Commission on January 11, after which it will be reviewed by several standing council committees before, hopefully, coming to a vote of the full council in spring or early summer. Progress of the recommendations will be updated in this newsletter. Overall, the proposed changes should be quite helpful to the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood and we may need to actively support the proposal in order to maximize the chance of its passage.

-Bob Kinderman





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Business

Fyfe's Celebrates its Fifth Anniversary

In October, Fyfe's Corner Bistro celebrated their fifth anniversary of operation at the corner of East Washington Avenue and North Dickenson Street. Started in the fall of '93, Fyfe's owners Keith Bleu and Susan Breitbach wanted their restaurant to be a mainstay of the neighborhood. Using a light pasta and steak menu modeled after one from Bunns Restaurant in Burlingame, CA, Bleu and Breitbach viewed Fyfe's as being a good fit for the near eastside.

In a phone conversation with Paul Hughet from the restaurant, he reported that their operation had far exceeded the original expectations. Starting in the space once occupied by the Washington Host, Fyfe's has seen steady growth according to Hughet. Much of that growth is attributed to the owners' desire to have a hands-on operation and the fact that one or both of the owners are at the business every day.

Another example given by Hughet was the desire to fill the void left by the demise of the Fess. "We saw a real need for accommodating large groups since their closure. So, in May of this year," said Hughet, "we opened our upstairs banquet space. Since that time, we've

serviced a large number of events in the space." Hughet added that the upstairs facilities provide a good exposure for their downstairs restaurant and its menu.

Fyfe's also has live music on Friday and Saturday evenings with no cover on either night. Music on Fridays is from 6-8:30 and on Saturdays from 8-11.

Future plans for the bistro include continuing their rotating display of local art and focusing on their upstairs banquet space, which seats more than 100, by marketing to larger groups than they have in the past.

- David Mandehr

Fyfe's January-February Music Schedule

Music on Fridays from 6-8:30 and Saturdays from 8-11 No Cover on either night

Friday, January 8

Ron Wood & Paul Hastil

Saturday, January 9 Jim & Rana Ripp with Joe Dieter

Friday, January 15

Saturday, January 16

Greg Boerner

Friday, January 22 Saturday, January 23

Friday, January 29

Saturday, January 30 Gypsy Life

Gypsy Life.

Steve Mortrude Michael Gruber

Jim Stadovich

Friday, February 5 Kelly DeHaven & Paul Hastil Saturday, February 6 TBA

Friday, February 12. Steve Mortrude

Saturday, February 13 Jan Wheaton & Harris Lemburg

Friday, February 19 Jim & Rana Ripp with Joe Dieter

Saturday, February 20 Greg Boerner

Friday, February 26 Michael Hanson Jazz Group Saturday, February 27 Kelly DeHaven & Paul Hastil

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251-8700

Sewer Project to Affect Thornton Avenue

Do you remember the flooded basements in the spring of 1996? I sure do! I was lucky I didn't have sewage back-up in my basement, but I was up all night with a shop vac sucking up seepage coming up through the cracks and under the edges of the walls. I filled up my five-gallon Shop vac canister every minute and a half for ten hours straight. Needless to say I was exhausted by daybreak and fortunately for me the dawn brought relief because the waters receded too. If you are like me you'll never want to go through a night like that again.

The City of Madison Engineering staff responded to the crisis by conducting several critical studies to determine what the scope of the problem was and what efforts were needed to provide future relief. The broad outlines of that effort were presented to neighborhood residents on Tuesday, December 15 by city staff. Professionals from Engineering, Traffic, Parks, and Planning gave a broad overview of how the sewer reconstruction will be phased in and the hoped for construction schedule.

We learned the scope of the project has expanded with work now expected on both sides of East Washington Ave. In fact, the intent is to minimize sewer problems on both sides of the Isthmus with this project. The work is anticipated to take four to five months and if construction begins in April, 1999, the project could be completed in July-August, 1999. The actual timing of the work will depend on getting the needed local, state, and federal approvals/permits as well as construction considerations. A fall, 1999 rather than spring, 1999 construction schedule is a possibility for several reasons, including potential disruption of boat traffic on the river. Sewer line work along Thornton Ave. will be occurring from East Johnson Street to East Main Street with a significant amount of work taking place in Burr Jones Park. The new pipe must be laid quite deep so the entire road bed of Thornton will be disturbed or used as work space by the contractors.

Residents and businesses should start planning alternate travel routes if you use Thornton Ave. Park users and dog owners who use the park will need to navigate around the construction areas. Expect more construction traffic, noise and dust. Some disruption of traffic on E. Washington may occur, but city staff want to keep disruptions on the Avenue to a minimum. The river frontage will not be idyllic during construction, but I think we can all agree that sewer backup is a priority problem that must be fixed. We all want city staff and the contractors to do an excellent job to resolve this issue.

Attending the meeting were Alders

Barb Vedder and Judy Olson and about fifteen neighborhood residents and business people from TLNA and the Marquette area. The effects of the reconstruction on traffic patterns, alternate access routes, and the Yahara River Parkway were discussed. Residents encouraged city staff to minimize disruptions in the greenspace and protect the river. A lively discussion about road removal and implementation of the recently approved Yahara River plan also ensued. The Alders and the neighborhood associations will be offering suggestions to city staff on these important issues.

Stay tuned for more info about this vitally important project in future newsletters.

-Ed Jepsen



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Parks

City Council Takes up Tenney Park Alcohol Ban

At this writing (December 19), a proposed ordinance to ban alcohol at Tenney Park, except when a Parks permit is approved (as for using the shelter), is on the agenda of the City Council Meeting for January 5th. Though there has been a great deal of support in our neighborhood for the ban, there are also people who object to it. Most recently, the ordinance failed to receive the support of the Safety Review Board. It has been supported by the Parks Commission, where it originated and was sponsored by Alders Vedder and Borchardt, and supported by the Alcohol Licensing Review Board.

Objections to the ordinance have included the concern that it would infringe the rights of everyone who drinks socially and responsibly in the park. A ban could constitute a harassment of people who have a right to meet and enjoy the park as much as anyone does. Some individuals have stated that they feel confident that they can go anywhere in the park and do not have to be concerned for their safety, including near to where the 'ongoing party' took place during the summer. People have been concerned that the problems will just move to another nearby park. There has been a concern expressed that this ban is part of a pattern of restricting the rights of citizens in the City of Madison.

Background on this ordinance would include the following: on Thursday, August 20 the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association Council voted unanimously to recommend that the

City Parks Commission forward an ordinance to ban alcohol, except by Parks permit, at Tenney Park, Filene Park, Burr Jones Park and along the Yahara River Parkway from Lake Mendota to E. Washington Ave — all within TLNA boundaries. (TLNA then-President Richard Linster: 251-1937 or current President Tim Olsen: 255-9358). On September 9, The Parks Commission supported an ordinance to ban alcohol, except by permit, in Tenney Park. That ordinance does not include any areas outside of the park boundaries.

This action was taken in response to a rash of problems associated with alcohol abuse as has been reported in the WI State Journal on 8/13/98, 8/14/98 in the Local section and on the front page of the Sunday, August 23rd Edition. The Madison Police Department has carried out a survey of nearby residents that has shown overwhelming support for the alcohol ban; 80% of more than 200 respondents. (Central District Captain George Silverwood: 266-4575; Alder Barbara Vedder: 249-8428) The police department has also documented, via a memo to Parks Department Superintendent Dan Stapay (266-4711), a few of the numerous police calls for violent and illegal behaviors that may be attributed to alcohol abuse in Tenney Park. A letter to the TLNA of 11/16/98 confirmed that the police department research found that of the 40 individuals who were identified in the park during police calls, only four had any contact with the drop-in homeless shelter. Anecdotally, officers reported that some individuals drinking on a regular basis in the park and near the shelter had a history of being ejected from bars for inappropriate behavior. (Lieutenant Offerdahl: 266-4022)

Behaviors and consequences associated with alcohol abuse have proved very expensive for taxpayers throughout the city (Alder Tim Bruer 221-4848). Superintendent Stapay has also reported previously on the costs of maintenance and repairing damage to Parks property and on refunds made to groups who had reserved the park shelter for special events. An October 6, 1998 letter from the Parks Dept. (Stapay) to the Parks Commission found that many cities in the U.S. ban alcohol from all public parks. These include Milwaukee and a wide distribution of other cities from Juneau, Alaska to Michigan, North Carolina, and Arizona including Phoenix and six other cities.

On August 23 at 4:00 PM there was a Kids Parade to "Ban Alcohol Not People" organized by park users and nearby residents that proceeded to Tenney Park where two local television stations provided coverage. (TLNA then Safety Chair Kathi Bresnehan: 251-7399)

Neighbors and park users are all encouraged to make their views known to various media. Past articles locally have included a September/October 1998 TLNA Newsletter article written by David Mandehr (259-1497) titled "Should Alcohol Be Kept Out of Tenney Park?" and TLNA President Richard Linster wrote a column titled, "Let's Take Back the Park!"

Current names and contact information for City Council members may be obtained through the City of Madison web page or with the assistance of the Mayor's office at 266-4611.

I'll report on the results of the January meeting in the next newsletter.

-Tim Olsen



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President's Report

Thanks for Making Our Neighborhood Great

On one of those warm amazing days of December, I was out making good use of a last chance to caulk our old house and savor the weather. In the clear blue sky one big bird floated and drifted. This bird was different from most; even I could tell. When it came nearer and turned just so, the white head and white tail flashed and lit up my whole day. So we had a big bald eagle alert at my house, running in and running out, pointing and appreciating until it cruised on out over Lake Mendota and disappeared.

Meanwhile a few hundred of the forty or so thousand cars per day passed through our neighborhood and I'm betting not one of them noticed.

Many are called to pass through our neighborhood but few tarry here long enough to appreciate it. And though we want more people to appreciate it, we're not keen to have more people pass through. We're a fairly friendly place but I like to tell 'outsiders', "When you drive through and see us out and about, just remember, wave but don't honk."

Our neighborhood is a wonderful treasure - nestled alongside the lake and the Yahara River, close to many work-places, served by our very own neighborhood business area, within a walk or an easy bike or chair ride of culture, cuisine and a dozen parks, outstanding neighborhood schools, an overflowing abundance of talent, creativity and character. Sure there are plenty of challenges to work on but this is a great place. We know it. The assessors seem to know it. And we are seeing an influx of new families into the neighborhood who have figured it out as well.

Sometimes, I think we should keep it more of a secret. Let's tell people that when they drive by at night and see skaters gliding and laughing on Tenney Lagoon, framed by the trees and the proverbial winter wonderland, like a scene out of Currier and Ives - "Oh that, that's just the latest in outdoor Imax. Olin has its light show. We do that fake skating thing. Looks good though, doesn't it?"

Let's not tell people how easy it is for us to walk to Fyfe's or the Avenue for dinner, lunch, or an evening out. Keep mum about the sunsets at Giddings. We can at least be a little bit possessive about it.

OK, you can go into Spruce Tree and pet the golden retrievers, just kind of look at the beautiful guitars and relish the ambience. Right, other businesses are that welcoming too. Yes, people have commuted to the University on their cross-country skis along the lake. Our children have gone to school in canoes and kayaks. Marquette School just beautifully expanded its space and resources. Lapham has that song, "Our school is really cool. It even has a pool." Housing has become more expensive but to exactly replace the quality of construction, design and character of many structures would cost three times as much but then there's the maintenance.. really that's a pain. There are some great routes for running and biking but umm.. I forget where you go exactly.

New Urbanism? We know where the best of urban life is but we're not telling. Tell them, please pay no attention to the world beyond your windshield as you drive by.

The problem is, as so many of you know, hiding out in our nice neighborhood and enjoying it quietly is not enough to sustain it. We have to begin with taking the time to meet and greet one another, to revitalize our community, to reach out and garner support and cooperation from the rest of the city. Ignoring problems that we don't want to deal with is not going to make them go away. Hard work is involved in protecting the qualities we enjoy and a great deal more effort is required to realize the full potential of our gifted locale and inhabitants. The good news is that we have many individuals who can and have ably assisted us in many ways.

As the new TLNA President, I get to say thank you. Thank you. And keep up the good work. This newsletter

points out many of the great qualities of our neighborhood and presents both problems and possible solutions. There are lots of opportunities to find good work that you can do, like to do, and can deservedly feel proud of doing. We'll still keep quiet about a few of the gifts of our neighborhood. But when the time comes to defend and sustain it, let's continue to speak clearly and loudly and do what needs to be done.

-Tim Olsen
TLNA President



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In Alder Words . . .

Planning Begins for East Washington Reconstruction

I'd like to welcome all of the new members to the TLNA Council. It was great seeing new faces along with the veteran council members at the last meeting. I look forward to working with the council and especially with the committee chairs. Please contact me so we can work together for what is best for the neighborhood during the upcoming year.

One of the greatest challenges facing our neighborhood in the coming years will be the impact of reconstruction of East Washington Avenue from Blair Street east to Thierer Road, starting in 1999 and continuing through 2003. The work affects all Second district neighborhoods. It's a huge project which will unfortunately divert substantial traffic onto East Johnson, Gorham, Mifflin and Dayton Streets as well as the many cross streets in between. Both strategic and technical advisory committees are being formed to provide guidance to the consultants' study, including public input on future characteristics of the roadway and its impact on and ability to meet the needs of adjacent development, both commercial and residential. The process will include neighborhood meetings, a newsletter, and two public information meetings. Data collection began in December and the study is scheduled for completion by June, 1999. I'll try my best to keep you informed; meanwhile, watch for developments as they proceed!

This fall the city Council passed its Operating and Capital Budgets which include several important initiatives for our neighborhood:

- * Establishment of a Traffic Enforcement Safety Team. Seven officers will be assigned solely to reducing speeding throughout the city. Also, increased funding for the Traffic Calming project.
- * Major reconstruction of new sanitary sewer under the Yahara River, from North Thornton to First St., below Thornton, and between E. Washington Ave. and Johnson, is expected to reduce sewer flooding in the Baldwin/Elizabeth St. area.

*Expansion of facilities at

Hawthorne Library and East Public Health Center and siting both on separate floors of the present Aldi's building, East Washington Avenue.

* Construction of bikepaths: one from North Dickinson to East Johnson and a Demetral field bikepath (Upham to Sixth Street).

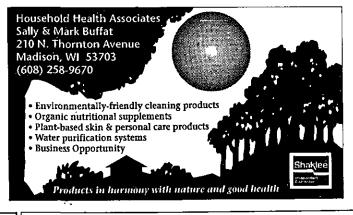
The Council also blocked amendments that would have cut support for AIDS Support Network, the beginning of 1999 Living Wage funding, and tenant-landlord mediation services provided by the Tenant Resource Center.

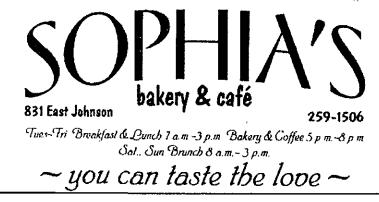
-Alder Barbara Vedder 249-8428

district2@council.ci.madison.wi.us

Last October the TLNA nominating committee voted to establish a new office in the TLNA Council, the position of Special Projects/Emeritus Officer. A vote will be taken of the membership at the Potluck Supper in January to accept or reject this new position.









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The Year That Wasn't (from page 7)

Hallmark conspiracy to make him look bad and doesn't really so much enjoy the tradition of getting, dressing, and having a needle-dropping dead bush in his living room, I thought I would seize the opportunity to get the tree. So Alex and a woman friend (mine, not his, silly!) went and picked out the biggest one I could find-more branch for the buck, I say. She got a tasteful, shapely little Frazier Fir—but I have never been accused of throwing tasteful Christmases, so I got one that dwarfed the car. And I set it on the deck in water for a few hours while I took a Bushhog to the house to make space for it. Then, I realized that the friend would probably rather be home with her family putting up her tree, so I decided that I would find a way of getting this giant evergreen vertical.

Well, two little boys (Alex and friend

Josh) and I were just not up to the task, so I called my favorite ex-student Sami (also Alex's camp counselor last year) and he said he'd bring a friend. Half an hour later, I was balancing on our really decrepit porch banister-1/8 inch from the socket I needed to plug in the lights that light Rudolph's nose, when a small foreign car roared up, lights flashing and radio blaring and out jumped....16 clowns....no, out jumped three handsome Iranians and an equally handsome Jewish boy, (not that I can identify nationalities and creeds on sight, but they soon identified themselves as "three Muslims and a Jew" ready to do something they had never dreamed of doing—put up a Christmas tree for the nice dotty old schoolmarm.

You haven't lived until you've seen this sight—one forgets how much one learns about this art from year to year—

such as starting with the trunk end while passing it through the patio doors. We ended up tieing it off to the wall-listing badly to starboard, but in water and sort of vertical. I paid them off in used books and gingerbread and sent them on their way, laughing all the way. Later on, while Alex and Josh were trying to set up their train at the base, the tree got to really pitching about and I had to call my woman friend's husband Donny anyhow. But not until A and J had given their best little manly shot-hauling box saws ("clear the way, lemme at it with this bad boy!") hack saws, and wanting to just try to NAIL it in with a hammer. (I rejected that one.) This one's captured on video if you ever want a good laugh. But this morning I was very happy to come down and see old tannenbaum (not in spell checker) still upright. Gotta go make sleepover waffles, a specialte de maison Zielske.

By the way, I'm returning to my birth name for publishing —you may now call me Norma Gay Prewett, or simply (since apparently our newfound heritage includes some French royalty as well as the Irish brigands we knew about) Your Majesty.

We love you and hold you in our thoughts always.....

Gay, Ken, and Alex Zielske Tony and Cleo

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1336 E. Mifflin St.	4 Unit		\$131,900
462 Jean St.	3	2.25	\$144,900
434 Sidney	4	4	\$229,900

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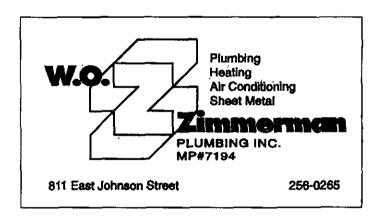
(Accepted Offers That Have Not Yet Closed)

Address:	<u>Bdrms:</u>	Baths:	<u>List Price</u>
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214 N. Baldwin	2 Unit		\$119,900

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			104,10
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1143 E. Gorham	\$89,900	\$86,000	51
410 N. Ingersoll	\$106,900	\$107,000	50
1228 Elizabeth St.	\$127,500	\$125,000	23
415 N. Few	\$147,900	\$144,000	10

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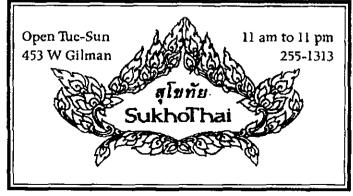
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Education

Your Input Needed for School Issues

Welcome to the TLNA Education Corner! This will be a regular feature of the newsletter, serving as a vehicle to tell you about issues related to our wonderful Lapham Elementary School that are of particular interest to our community.

One of the first things that was suggested to me was that there could be improved communication between the association and the school. This newsletter feature is one small way to help.

At present I am gathering issues to discuss with the committee, and am actively seeking input on issues on which Lapham and the community, through the TLNA, might mutually benefit by working together. There are a few candidate issues about which you will be hearing more soon. These include:

- * New playground equipment for Lapham
- * The Lapham School Garden
- * Infrastructure and wiring
- *Working relationship with the PTG

To-discuss these or any new ideas or issues, please feel free to call me at 251-5929, or email me at Pete.Nelson@aebs.com. I am actively soliciting input as we work to address

the issues of greatest importance to our community.

I know from talking with many people that I echo the thoughts of parents throughout our neighborhood when I say that I am proud to have a school of the quality of Lapham Elementary right here. And, as many of you know, our community has been instrumental in the successful reopening and support of Lapham. Let's work to make it an even better part of our community.

-Pete Nelson, Education Committee Chair

Lapham Students Need You!

If you've ever thought "some day. I'll do some volunteering; some day I'll give something back," now is the time.

This year Lapham Elementary School has a full-time volunteer coordinator. The United Way, in conjunction with the Madison Metropolitan School District, received a grant from VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) which allowed for the training and placement of volunteer coordinators in the 15 Madison schools with the highest levels of students in poverty. The primary focus of these VISTA volunteers is to recruit, train and support volunteers who will work one-on-one with students in

grades K-3 on reading skills. In the second semester, these VISTA volunteers will shift their focus to expanding family and community involvement in childhood literacy efforts.

What does this mean for you? It means that you have the opportunity to get involved, to make a difference in the life of a child by becoming a reading tutor. You can give your time and energy to a cause that is one of the most important factors in the success and happiness of a person, and ultimately of our community as a whole. Don't sell yourself short — every one of us has something to give, and in the giving we get

back one hundred fold what we gave. Times for tutoring will be available both during the school day and afterwards at the WilMar Center, and free training will be provided. If the idea of sitting with a child and sharing with him or her your favorite book from your childhood sounds appealing, please call 267-1608 for more information.

-Melanie Allen Volunteer Coordinator, Lapham Elementary



