



# The Newsletter of the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association

## July/August 1996

### Gates of Heaven Celebrates 25 Years in James Madison Park

The birthday party will be held August 11th, 1-4 pm in James Madison Park around the building. Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association will be hosting the party as part of their regular summer social. There will be live music, refreshments, and a free-will offering to help defray expenses.

A set of colorful banners were mounted on the building and the start of landscape and garden improvements were undertaken in late June. The City of Madison Parks Department has awarded the Gates of Heaven Steering Committee \$5,000.00 in matching funds. The improved landscaping will highlight the charm of the beautiful old building and provide floral color and accommodate increases use of the east and south sides of the building. The plaque explaining the building's historical significance will be moved to a more central position.

Volunteers are needed to help with gardening and with the birthday party activities. Please call:

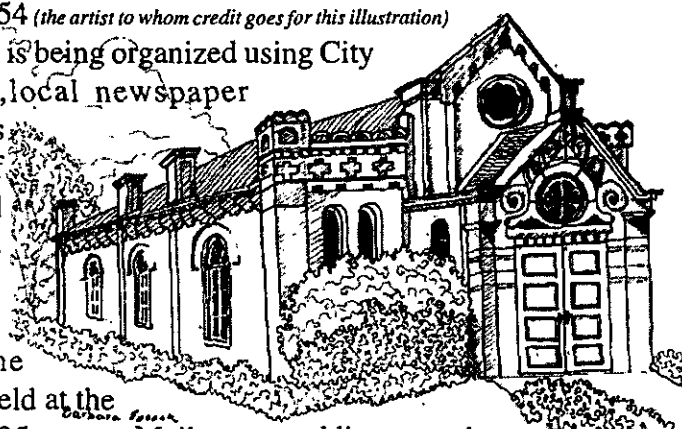
Gigi Holland (Tenney-Lapham) 251-8586

Jane Scharer (Old Market Place and Tenney-Lapham) 251-0850

Barbara Essock (Steering Committee and Trust for Historic Preservation) 221-2454 *(the artist to whom credit goes for this illustration)*

A photo display is being organized using City of Madison photos, local newspaper

photos and materials from the archives of the State Historical Society. The committee is also requesting wedding pictures from the numerous nuptials held at the Gates over the past 25 years. Mail your wedding snapshots with names and date to Gates of Heaven Steering Committee, 200 North Blount Street, Madison, WI 53703. Donations are gratefully received for the gardening and party expenses. Checks may be written to "Gates of Heaven Preservation Fund" and are tax deductible. Mail to **Home Savings**, P.O. Box 1070, Madison, WI 53701 or to Gates of Heaven Steering Committee, 200 North Blount Street, Madison, WI 53703. ■



### TENNEY-LAPHAM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

meets at the Tenney Park Apartments Community Room

302 N. Baldwin

July 9, 1996 at 7:00 p.m.

August 13, 1996 at 7:00 p.m.

### Ice Cream Social

1-4 pm August 11, 1996

James Madison Park

in conjunction with

The Gates of Heaven Celebration

Adults \$1.00

Children \$0.50

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## TLNA Neighborhood Officers

President	<b>Richard Linster</b>	251-1937
Vice President	<b>Tom Sullivan</b>	258-9781
Secretary	<b>Kathi Bresnehan</b>	251-7399
Treasurer	<b>Coyla Rankin</b>	257-4932

## TLNA Neighborhood Council

Business	<b>Teena Browder</b>	256-3620
Community Serv.	<b>Gary Lakeman</b>	255-3068
Education	<b>Joe Davis</b>	256-5714
Membership	<b>Richard Linster</b>	251-1937
Parks	<b>Dave Wallner</b>	256-2958
Publicity	<b>Tom Sullivan</b>	258-9781
Safety	<b>Kathi Bresnehan</b>	251-7399
Social	<b>Anne Katz</b>	256-2958
Transportation	<b>Rex Loehe</b>	255-0245

## TLNA Neighborhood Area Representatives

Area A	<b>John Aagaard</b>	257-4110
Area B	<b>Bob Shaw</b>	255-3486
Area C	<b>Ed Jepsen</b>	255-2845
	<b>Brad Franklin</b>	256-5850

E-mail us at [tlna@danenet.wicip.org](mailto:tlna@danenet.wicip.org)

Check out the website at <http://danenet.wicip.org/tlna>

(Editor's Note: As some of you may have noticed there was a problem with the **President's Report** in the May/June issue. This is what was inadvertently dropped from the issue.)

Over the year our **Social Committee** has been active in around the calendar events such as the Annual meeting and Spaghetti dinner, Winter Potluck, Pancake supper and Ice Cream social as well as special occasions for our membership to attend. Anne Katz has coordinated all these activities and has gotten the work crews out for them.

Rex Loehe is busy earning his spurs as **Traffic/Transportation chair**. He has arranged recent meetings of the committee as joint ones with our neighbors from Old Market Place and East Emerson. He rightly perceives that these issues will have to be addressed at more than a neighborhood level and is forging contacts in surrounding areas and with the City.




I can't forget our **Area Representatives** - John Aagaard, Bob Shaw, Ed Jepsen and Brad Franklin. These are the people to thank for getting the newsletters and meeting notices to you! ■

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# Transportation and Planning

Thomas J. Sullivan

As I sit here in my office thinking about the upcoming Isthmus 2020 workshop, I am reminded of all the past discussions that we have had over the last three years about planning. The newsletter has featured many different points of view on how to make the Isthmus a better place to live. Neighbors went through a year long process of planning for Tenney's future. The Tenney-Lapham / Old Market Place (TLOMP) Plan covered a wide range of ideas and thoughts about giving the neighborhood its own identity and strengthening the unifying character of these blocks we call our neighborhood and home.

Unsurprisingly to most, transportation issues were a major focus in the planning process, as it has been with the Isthmus 2020 committee. I was surprised when someone else proposed that Gorham and Johnson be redesignated as two-way streets. The idea was immediately pooh-poohed by the Traffic Engineers.

"Those streets are artirials and you cannot change them" is a common reply when any change is suggested for the one-way pairs. "One way pairs move traffic very efficiently." Traffic Engineers love one-way pairs so much that they are proposing to install another set-Charter and Mills. The University of Wisconsin Master Plan calls for major changes in traffic allignments in the campus area. Although these changes do not affect our neighborhood directly, they do show the thought processes that Engineers are using to redesign our city.

I find it interesting that in the TLOMP plan, and Vision 2020 public participation meetings, people want a more friendly environment, and the traffic engineers want to create eight lane monstrosities in our cities and countryside. From their point of view, the simplest and easiest way to deal with any traffic problem is to put down more pavement.

In the late 1950s, a plan was introduced to build two highways. One, was to be an elevated system where Johnson Street is now similar to the Central Artery in Boston, and the other along the shore of Lake Monona. There were other interchanges and large circular on and off ramps located in the Bassett Neighborhood, at the Field House, and other locations throughout the City.

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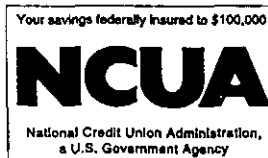
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# The Good, Bad, and Ugly

by Lynn Sommers

Fond childhood memories of firefly hunting are recalled on balmy summer nights. My brother punched holes in the jar covers while I eagerly awaited the chase to begin. We'd sneak our captives into our bedrooms and drift off to sleep with our blinking nightlights next to the pillow. The fireflies were released in the morning, their special gift of glow being undetected by then. The jars were immediately reused to capture lady bugs during the day.

We never harmed these insects believing them to be "good" since they weren't ugly. Quite a different story however with spiders, ants and flies. I won't reveal what we did with them. As children we believed ugly meant bad, pretty meant good. I would like to think this notion is held only by naive children, but I still see many adults squash a spider because it's "ugly" or "creepy".

What is an insect? Are there good and bad ones? And when is it proper to control their populations?

## What is an insect?

Insects are the most successful type of animal on earth. They have been around for at least 350 million years. There are over 87,000 species in the U.S. and Canada and probably over 1 million different species in

the world. Only about 1% of the species are serious competitors with people for food, space or spread disease. One square yard of your garden probably contains about 2,000 insects. Some are microscopic, some you wouldn't want to touch and others are as easily recognizable as the butterfly.

Insects are small backboneless animals (invertebrates) that go through significant changes from the time they hatch from eggs until they are full grown. They have no lungs; a very poor circulatory system with no veins or arteries, and a primitive nervous system that allows them to stay alive even with their head detached. These organ systems function well for a small animal, but prevent insects from ever getting larger than 3 - 4 inches long by 2 inches high and 2 inches wide. (Although I wonder what size our mosquitoes will be this year.) Not all insects are bugs. A true bug (order Hemiptera) has thick fore wings that overlap membranous tips when the insect is at rest. The front of the thorax is usually large and distinctly separate from the rest of the thorax and this forms a highly recognizable triangle. Similarly marked insects which are an exception to these (order Homoptera) are leafhoppers (strict vegetarians) and cicadas (known for their ability to produce sound). Both of these insects however, lack thick fore wings.

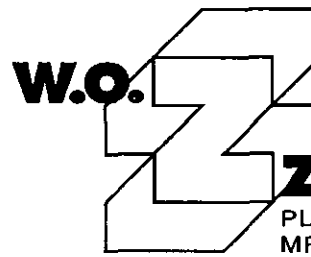


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## Who's Good, Who's Bad

Most insects are directly beneficial to man and necessary to the ecological circle. They are responsible for the pollination of every fruit, flower and vegetable crop. Some serve to be another creature's meal; birds, reptiles, small mammals, other insects and even or man. It is very easy to forget about maintaining the natural balance of pollinators and predators when the plant eaters are feasting on your ornamentals and edibles. Farmers would be in big trouble if intervention wasn't employed when necessary. Most cash crop growers know the secret of successful intervention: timed application of insecticides during a particular growth cycle of the insect. Some insects will survive but their population is generally not great enough to cause substantial damage. Perhaps one should be concerned however, about surviving generations that will become immune to insecticides. The home gardener should always consider alternative choices before grabbing a canister of powder or a tankful of insecticide spray.

### What to Do?

Intervention should be considered if the insect damage is destroying the plant's capability to produce. Observe the culprit, capture it if you can, study it with a magnifying glass and then call your county extension office for help. Many local greenhouses have reference books and trained staff that can also help. You can take your prisoner (in a closed container please) to them for identification. If you can't capture the insect, pluck off some damaged leaves and take them to the greenhouse. Please put these also into a bag, as the leaves may contain eggs. Leaf damage is usually very telling about the type of insect by identifying eating patterns. Some nibble, some suck, some tunnel, and some rip and chew. It is best to use an insect specific product when possible.

You'll often receive a wide range of advice generally starting with the least invasive and drastic. Doing nothing

is doing something. Some insects are very transient. Hand picking and squashing is unpleasant (I really hate doing it) but sometimes the most effective. Some insects can be squashed inside leaves (iris borers) so it isn't as unpleasant as it sounds. Applying a strong spray of plain water will knock insects off leaves to prevent them from feasting. This is effective in controlling small populations of aphids, but usually needs to be repeated and care must be taken to clean the aphids off the underside of the leaf as well.




Applications of natural contact insecticides like diatomaceous earth is effective but expensive in controlling slugs. My neighbor, Joe, is fearless in hand-picking these slimy creatures every night from his garden. I've tried but just can't bring myself to touch a slug.

There are a lot of botanical insecticides that are recommended over a chemical insecticide. Regardless of which route you choose, please bear this in mind. It is important to not exceed application rates. Even botanical products overused can upset the natural balance in the garden. Apply any product when bee activity is low. Understand you are planning to kill targeted insects; the suffix "-cide" literally means kill, and some innocents are also going to die. Excess product will eventually flush into the lakes. Exercise caution with handling and storing these products. Protect yourself, your family and pets.

If you should find it necessary to use chemicals every year, perhaps you should be doing more diversified planting. Maintain your garden by clearing debris and tilling the soil. Encourage birds and bats to your garden, they eat a lot of insects. Be prepared to sacrifice a little of your garden no matter what you do. Some loss of


(continued on page 15, column 2)



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# President's Report

Richard Linster, TLNA President

Dear Neighbors:

As I write this, school has been out for a week. Some updates are in order.

Marty Powers is the new principal at Marquette Elementary and in the last month has spent every moment that he could spare from his interim duties at Mendota with us, at meetings and ceremonies, getting to know us. One of our neighbors who works at Mendota told me how lucky we are to get him. I understand now what she meant and believe that's why the search committee selected him as it's first choice. Congratulations and best wishes for the future Marty!

Thanks to Alice Benn for her stewardship over the last year at Marquette. Our school community was shocked last year when Principal Carolyn Stanford was transferred to Lincoln. Alice came out of a well earned retirement with grace and a sure hand never missed a beat. The year was so short and yet it seemed that she had always been there for us.

Our Lapham school community rallied together at years end and in discussions with the central administration resolved for this year space issues at the site. Staff will be reviewing the Madison School

Community Recreation space to determine possible uses. In other news electrical work that had been slated for this summer will not be done due to the sole bid coming in too high. Lapham's school improvement planning will take place August 5-6. I have been asked to participate as a community representative. If you have concerns, issues or ideas, please contact me.

Red Caboose is offering an expanded summer program at Lapham and I recently stopped by to observe. Field sports, gym activities, a listening center, painting murals, and a fishing trip were on the bill this past week. Our neighborhood children should have many valuable experiences and wonderful memories from the summer of 1996 at Lapham.

The Board of Education's budget committee finished work on the 1996-97 budget last week. Included is a major expansion/remodeling of the Marquette-O'Keefe site. We are now awaiting the arbitration decision regarding wages to see what will be the final budget. It is my hope that the additions will remain. It is a project that is long overdue and sorely needed for our students. It is the cornerstone of the East Area recommendations delivered earlier this year and does the most for the entire East High area in one project and shows a major commitment to the central city. Thanks are due to the majority of School Board members for their support.

Have a Great Summer! ■

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# Twenty-five Years on East Johnson Street

*Gloria Welniak, co-owner of the Weaving Workshop*

Twenty-five years ago, Ann Wolfe and Bill Winfield pulled their van up in front of 817 East Johnson Street (then the Whole Earth Food Co-op) and opened their doors for business. Ann was a weaver and Bill a woodworker who built looms. With a small stock of yarns and looms, the couple tapped into a small but growing Madison market of weavers and knitters. In a few months, the business grew to become the Weaving Workshop and rented space above Whole Earth. Quickly the business expanded to offer classes in weaving, basketry, spinning and knitting and to sell a wide variety of yarns, basketry supplies and weaving tools and equipment.

The need for more space prompted a move down the street to 920 East Johnson Street in 1987, its present location. More classroom and retail space and a large storefront made the store more visible to the public. Today the Weaving Workshop offers classes year round in weaving, knitting, basketry, spinning, jewelry, braiding, lace-making and many other fiber-related areas. Diversification has enabled the store to survive although the owners (five women) have remained true to the original mission of providing a unique center for weaving and the fiber arts.

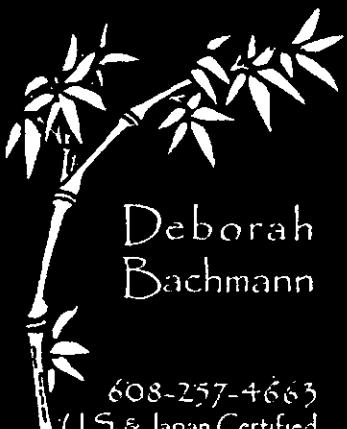
The economic climate in Madison today, as in the rest of the country, is very uncertain for small business.

The failure of 3 co-ops in Madison in 1995 and the closing of a small independent yarn retailer this year is not encouraging. Large chain stores and discount stores cut into the profits of small businesses and threaten their survival. The Weaving Workshop, like many other small independently-owned businesses in our neighborhood, struggles to maintain its integrity by offering personalized services unavailable in chain store. Customers have grown to expect individual help in planning projects and solving problems. If a customer needs one skein of yarn to complete a project, the professionals at the Weaving Workshop will scour the country for the right dye lot, order it, call them when it comes, or ship it out promptly. Try asking for that kind of service at your local chain outlet.

The Weaving Workshop has always been community-oriented, participating in East Johnson Street Business Association, advertising in all the local neighborhood association newsletters, and conducting free tours and demonstrations for day care centers and school groups. Charitable contributions to support local parent-teacher groups, and other community projects are routine. The owners are proud to be a part of this fine neighborhood and invite everyone to stop by to chat, check out our "cat gallery" and see what else we have to offer. And if you can't make it this summer, be sure to attend our Twenty-fifth Annual Holiday Open House in December.

Thanks to all of you for making us a welcome neighbor for the past 25 years! ■

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# "IN ALDER WORDS..."

Barbara Vedder, 2nd District Alderperson

Thank goodness for the change in weather! Today I was actually able to wheel through the entire district, from the Old Market area through Tenney-Lapham to Emerson-East on my way back home from the Hoover Boathouse renovation opening celebration by the Mendota Rowing Club at James Madison Park. It was great meeting and talking with people in the streets. It also happened to be the same day for "Stake in the Lakes" with people raking algae and cleaning the parks. Thanks to all of you who participated in this event.

It's already that time when the 1997 budget is starting to be examined. I have sent in some preliminary recommendations for the Capital Budget, including some specific requests from the neighborhood association and individual constituents. For the Tenney-Lapham area, the following are a sampling:

- Expansion of the Streetsweeping program for appropriate sections of the district (Blair St. to the Yahara River has been targetted by the Street Superintendent). TLNA is in strong support.
- Public access to Lake Mendota from the end of Paterson St.
- Repair of Marston Bridge and culvert on Thornton between lagoon and river at Tenney Park
- Completion of pedestrian-bicycle bridge over Yahara at the end of Burr Jones Field
- Repair of steep slant on sidewalks over Yahara bridge on E. Johnson
- Painting of bikelanes on E. Gorhan and E. Johnson
- Design project, and possible initial development of Yahara Parkway
- Dangerous pedestrian crossing at E. Johnson and Fordem
- Street reconstruction of Dayton St. from Breatly to Few

- Cross-Isthmus bus route

If you have additional requests for the Capital or Operating Budgets for 1997, please contact me.

There's a new business which has moved into one section of the Fiore Center. Its business is that of selling merchandise for printing shops, everything from paper to the machinery. The Fiore representative told me that they want to make this store retail-oriented friendly. Meanwhile, I'm continuing to strongly pursue assisting an interested food services establishment locate there.

Applications are due August 26, 1996 for prospective hoteliers interested in the Conventon Center Hotel. At that time, the Hotel committee will examine the different proposals and choose 2-4 different businesses. These will then be brought back to the Common Council. Among other issues, we will be discussing financing and location. City funding may include money from TIF (Tax Incremental Financing) districts, CDA (Community Development Authority) loans, and other possible financing from the city. Of the four "preferred sites" for the hotel, two involve the demolition of the Catholic Diocese building on Wilson St. A third is the M & I/Anchor Bank location, and the fourth a vacant portion of the Municipal Building block. Contact me if you have any comments regarding this important issue. ■

James Glueck AIA  
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# EYE ON THE HOOD:

## Caught You Acting Neighborly

In an act of generosity and kindness that was moving enough to bring tears to the eyes of those present, a long-time resident of the Neighborhood who prefers to remain anonymous, gave representatives of Tellurian two fifty dollar bills to buy a little girl in the Neighborhood "some toys, a bicycle, or food, whatever she needs ...". The little girl was spotted recently with a grin from ear to ear riding a new bicycle and sporting a new bicycle helmet. Thanks Anonymous, what a great day for that lucky little girl, and what a thoughtful person you are (but we already knew *that*!).

When she isn't busy retrieving Angelo's bicycle from Calvin's house, Gretta Hughes is involved in numerous Neighborhood activities. You may be aware that she has been appointed Vice-President of the Lapham-Marquette Parent Teacher Group, but you probably don't know that an exhibition of Ted Hughes' (father of Angelo and Robin & Gretta's late husband) art is now on display at U-Frame It at 857 East Johnson Street until the end of June. There will no doubt be another show later this year at U-Frame It. This show is a must see for aficionados of contemporary art. The depth of Ted's work is extensive. The show at U-Frame It includes drawings of Angelo and Robin that are classically representative, yet movingly capture the essence of these beautiful creatures, his children. In what appears to be a complete departure, are large, jubilant, jewel-like pieces; at first a crazy patchwork of color, that become on closer inspection an obvious display of his artistic sensibility. The pastel but by no means passive pieces on display bridge the gap between the two. Each piece is Ted looking at the world from his many loving and exciting perspectives. How fortunate we are to have on display in our Neighborhood the affordable works of such a gifted artist. ■



**902 E. Johnson St.**  
**256-2075**

# The New Isthmus Garden Club

by *Samantha Becker*

A new downtown organization is about to see its first season in bloom: the Isthmus Garden Club. Begun by long-time downtown resident, Lisa Johnson, the Isthmus Garden Club is gaining momentum as the weather warms. This new garden club, the first to encompass the downtown, consists of members who wish to promote gardening and beautification activities. The club will work with Capitol Neighborhoods, other downtown neighborhood groups, and garden clubs to determine, select, and prioritize areas that could use beautification and gardening efforts.


Steadily growing, the club is looking for new members. The club's first major membership drive and fund-raiser was held in April at an elegant "Madhatters' Tea" at the Kennedy Manor Restaurant. Amidst a sea of hats, watercress sandwiches, and scones, women and men gathered in the spirit to dust off their trowels. This first annual event was very successful in raising awareness, interest and springtime spirits—in addition to funds.

There are several projects that have been proposed and are in need of more hands. One of the first projects undertaken will be the redesigning of the plant-scape area

(continued on page 10)



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on the second floor of the Madison Public Library. The present combination of a fountain and plants will be enhanced by different kinds of flowers, ground-cover and trees. Watch for changes in this area throughout the year!

Another project that has already received tremendous support will be the development of gardening activities for senior citizens living downtown. For those who do not have access to their own garden and miss the feel of dirt underneath their fingernails, this will be a terrific opportunity to participate in specialized gardening projects. For those who are interested in future meetings and events, please send your name and address to: The Isthmus Garden Club c/o Lisa Johnson, 1 Langdon Street, Madison 53703.

## Campaign Finance Reports Filed Electronically

*State Representative Tammy Baldwin*

Wisconsin has a proud tradition of open government and access to public records. In reality, such openness is virtually meaningless when it comes to the ability of citizens and representatives of the media to make use of or sense out of the campaign finance reports that candidates for state level office are required to file.

For example, in the last gubernatorial race, Tommy Thompson's paper campaign finance reports measured eight feet in height when stacked on the floor. Challenger Chuck Chvala's reports measured three feet in height. Imagine attempting to do research on which groups are trying to influence the outcome of elections if you had to search through all those pages. Imagine trying to identify whether a nominee for political appointment had previously given a hefty campaign contribution to the appointing authority. Imagine trying to advance and defend comprehensive campaign finance reform legislation without the data which demonstrate the problems and abuses. Despite the fact that all campaign finance reports are a matter of public record, it is essentially impossible for citizens to learn anything useful from them.

The "Citizen's Right To Know Bill" directs the State Elections Board to develop a system by which candidates for state-level office can file their campaign finance reports electronically. The data concerning campaign

No matter how much gardening experience you may have you are welcome to join the Isthmus Garden Club. Either write to the above address or visit our table at the farmer's market on the corner of Pinckney and Mifflin Streets. We are looking forward to the blossoming of the club as well as the downtown area. ■

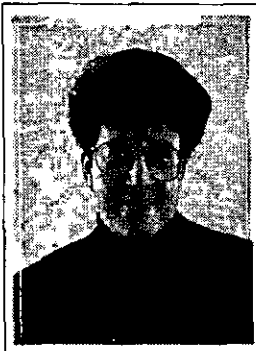


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contributions and expenditures would then be made available to the public electronically.

I introduced the "Citizens Right to Know" bill as a vital first step toward comprehensive campaign finance reform. The bill directs the State Elections Board to develop computer software and hardware so that candidates can file their reports electronically. The State Elections Board would then make the data available to the public electronically. Citizens, researchers, policy makers and representatives of the media could access this important information through home computers or computers available for public use at libraries, schools and the State Elections Board.

The legislation received broad support outside the Capitol, including the endorsement of Wisconsin Citizen Action, the state's largest public interest organization. According to Bob Hudek, Executive Director of Wisconsin Citizen Action, the "Citizen Right To Know Bill" will empower Wisconsin voters. "Voters' ability to make an informed choice between candidates is currently frustrated by an outdated cumbersome and useless campaign finance reporting system," said Hudek. "Voters' cannot answer such basic questions as: Which individuals are the largest contributors to state elected officials? What interests do the contributors to particular politicians have in common?"

The bill emerged from the Assembly Elections

Committee on a unanimous vote. It is currently pending in the Joint Committee on Finance. As the end of the legislative session draws near, the bill's chances of passage diminish. However, the "Citizens Right To Know" bill keeps gathering increased public support including editorial endorsements from the state's three largest newspapers.

In other campaign finance reform news . . .

Early this session, I authored Assembly Bill 80 which limits the contributions that candidates for state level office can accept to \$100.00. Currently, candidates for the State Assembly can accept campaign contributions of up to \$500.00. Candidates for State Senate can accept up to \$1,000.00 and candidates for Governor can accept up to \$10,000.00. This legislation, modeled after initiatives in several other states, enjoys broad public support. Unfortunately, the majority party refused to even give the bill a hearing.

As always, I invite you to keep in touch with me on issues of concern to you. You can reach me by phone at 266-8570 (w) or 241-6675 (h); by FAX at 266-8463; at my new e-mail address:

[tammy.baldwin@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:tammy.baldwin@legis.state.wi.us); and now on the internet at <http://www.state.wi.us/agencies/wilis/assembly/asm78/> or drop by my office in Room 412 - North at the State Capitol. ■




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# Focus on Flood Fashion

*Kathi Bresnehan*

You can tell a lot about a person by their raingear. To and from the office, a beige trenchcoat works quite nicely. In a Neighborhood flood, that trenchcoat doesn't stand a chance. There are really only two really cool types in a flood: people who are not afraid to get wet; and people with great raingear.

Those unafraid to get wet can wear anything they want because getting wet in a flood is not only done, it's expected.

Those with really cool raingear, on the other hand, show either a "Boy Scout readiness" or actually camp, exercise, or walk their dogs in the rain! They are the prepared, the people we wished we were at 6:00 p.m. Monday night, June 17th. Most importantly, they were dry. Armed with rubber boots, a Norleaster hat, rubber raincoat with taped seams, a person might look peculiar, but they are also the essence of Flood Chic. Flood chic will no doubt replace offerings from New York and Paris. To be noted, every retail store at East Towne Mall had raingear front and center June 18th.

Contrary to rumors floating around (pun intended), I did not do a rain dance just so that we on East Mifflin Street could have a block party and drink Margaritas! ■

## ...Addendum - Flooding

*Barbara Vedder, 2nd District Alderperson*

Since parts of the Second District were among the hardest hit areas affected by the storm of June 17th, I've been in close contact with Larry Nelson, City Engineer. Larry and I have received many calls and the situation is being taken seriously. He's planning on having consultants look at targetted problem spots in the city, including parts of Tenney-Lapham. We agree that water mains and sanitary sewers be upgraded when streets are under reconstruction.

The situation is stable at this time. However, the lakes are at high levels and any strong storms could tip the balance. Therefore, the following information may be useful. Document your damages and repair costs. For insurance purposes and possible Federal assistance, call Dane County Emergency Management, 266-4430. Elderly and disabled may call 266-4751. Volunteer help for those left homeless, call the Red Cross or Salvation Army. Brochures on repairing flooded homes, 266-4821.

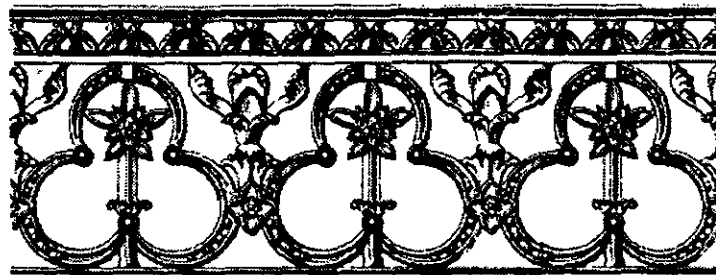
**IMPORTANT:** remember that electricity and water don't mix and cross your fingers for good weather! ■

# Newsletter Changes

*Chris Ingersoll*

With this issue, the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association Newsletter returns to its natural state serving TLNA. At long last, the Old Market Place Neighborhood Association has a capable and willing editor for thier own newsletter, and was eager to get out on their own. I join many in our neighborhood who wish them well on their renewed endeavor.

Other than the change in the front-page logo, little else is really different. We encourage our neighbors to contribte articles on neighborhood matters of interest, and thank our loyal supporters for the advertising that makes the newsletter possible. ■



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# A Brief History of the Gates of Heaven

Gigi Holland

Twenty-five years ago, the Gates of Heaven Synagogue faced demolition to make room for progress. A new office complex to be built on the original site located on West Washington Avenue. Concerned citizens quickly rallied to save the building by raising funds. It was successfully moved to its prominent location in James Madison Park.

For the first time, government and private citizens in Madison formed a partnership for historic preservation. Citizens, who had seen so many buildings torn down, were inspired to become active in historic preservation. Forming the Gate of Heaven Foundation, the group raised over \$20,000, joined the City of Madison to obtain federal matching funds and brought the \$60,000 moving project to fruition.

## Historic significance

Gates of Heaven was built in 1863 from Victorian Romanesque designs by August Kutzbock, who also designed the second capitol building, for the Ahavath Achim (Brother Love) congregation of German Jewish immigrants. It was the first synagogue in Madison. It is the third oldest surviving synagog building in the United States. In 1879, the Ahavath Achim congregation rented the building to the Unitarian Society. The building was sold in 1916, subsequent users were a funeral parlor, government storage facility, headquarters of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, the Church of Christ, a succession of professional and business ventures including a dentist office and veterinary clinic. Today, the building is owned by the City of Madison and used

as public meeting house.

## Saving and Moving the Gates of Heaven

In 1970, then owner, the Fiore Coal and Oil Company, decided to demolish Gates of Heaven for a new office complex on the site at 214 West Washington Avenue. Citizens, organized by Dr. Norton and Mrs. Lois Stoler, founded the Gates of Heaven Foundation and were successful in a last minute effort to raise over \$20,000 and to place the building on the National Register of Historic Places. A partnership of the City of Madison, lead by Sol Levin, and the Foundation was successful in gaining federal matching funds to complete the \$60,000 moving fund. The building was successfully moved by jacking it up on 96 aircraft wheels and rolling it one mile through the downtown Madison streets to James Madison Park. ■

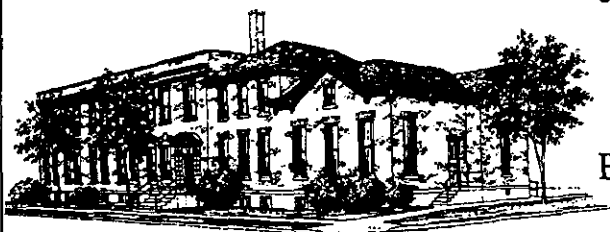
## Give Blood

*The American Red Cross, Badger-Hawkeye Blood Region will be opening a new, permanent blood donation center in the M.A.R.C. -East Building at 3939 Lien Road. The center will begin its operations on Tuesday, June 4 and will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 4-7 pm and Saturday mornings from 8 am-Noon.*

*This new blood donation center will offer donors on Madison's East side and Eastern Dane County a convenient opportunity to give blood. The goal for the center will be to have at least 25 people successfully giving blood per day. The blood given at the east side center will contribute to the daily need of 720 pints in the Badger-Hawkeye blood region.*

*For more information or to make an appointment to give blood, please call the Red Cross at 233-9300, ext. 357.*

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This plan was nixed. Well, not quite. The Plans for the highway along Lake Monona was scrapped but the freeway that was to go down Johnson Street went in after a fashion. Yes, I know there is nothing like the I-93 running above us here, but the freeway did go in none-the-less.

At the end of the 1950's, the orchard located between Few and Baldwin streets was purchased by the city and razed. Gorham Street was extended into its current configuration, creating the Johnson/Gorham Freeway. It is not obvious what has happened until you get to Universtiy. Seven lanes of traffic, two for bicycles, and one for high occupancy vehicles and buses.

One of the other ideas which has surfaced, and has even been modeled, is a North Beltline or Ring. Different alignments were explored between I-90/94 and US Highway 12. The traffic increased slightly in these areas, but a major assumptions were made predicting a decrease in traffic on the Isthmus. There were to be enhancements made to the bus system in July of 1995, but they have been postponed, and have not been implemented to date. Indeed, the whole revamping of the Metro Service has been shelved. Other aspects of the enhancement include some type of rail system, either commuter rail or some version of light rail.

I know that thought of light rail is scary to some. Those ugly wires blocking the view of the Capitol. Dave Wallner asked us to "imagine a light rail line running down East Washington Avenue." Well, maybe not East Washington, but the existing rail bed on the south side of the Isthmus would work very well as a starter line. As any model railroad enthusiast will tell you, you have to start within your means. At approximately \$138 million for a self propelled system (No electric wires or third rail), rapid transit can be within the grasp of Madison. I know that \$138 million sounds like a large sum of money, but the cost of construction for the North Ring, the US Highway 14 expansion, and Milwaukee


Road and US 51 interchange, or the cost of the expansion of I-39 would be more than that.

As I was returning from a trip up to Phillips, Wisconsin, I noticed that most of US 51 has been resigned as I-39. The road is being expanded into four lanes of blacktop far north of Wausau. The question is; will I-39 run through Madison? Chances of that happening are not good right now because the City has balked at creating the same mess at East Washington Avenue and Stoughton Road which has existed at the intersection of Milwaukee Street and Stoughton Road.

What does all of this tell us? The car is almighty? Perhaps, but perhaps not. City dwellers are becoming more and more disenchanted with the automobile. Most of us walk, bus, or bike to wherever we are going. If our buses were faster, or could travel better through traffic, then even more people would ride them. As the system runs now, the bus is just two slow for many people. There needs to be some faster way to get from one place to another if we are going tempt people out of their cars and into public transit. There are a couple of ways of accomplishing this. Among these are 1: Build a light rail system, and 2: Designate more lanes for buses only. 3: Don't have all the buses come through the Isthmus. 4: Designate some shorter routes with strategic transfer points. 5: Establish a cross town express. Then there are the radical ideas of 6: Slowing traffic down or 7: Just letting the traffic get more congested.

Which brings me back to the neighborhood and our plan. We have asked for the lights to be timed for twenty-five miles an hour on Johnson/Gorham instead of thirty-two. We try to drive at the posted speed limit. This is hard to do when everyone else whizzes by you at some ungodly speed, but it is satisfying to pass by them at the traffic light for which they had to stop.


The radical idea of closing and/or narrowing roads has surfaced on more than one committe. Thorton Avenue is a candidate for some cul-de-saccing. The



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removal of either the intersection of Brearly and Sherman or all of Brearly down to the lake has also been proposed. Narrowing Sherman Avenue to one lane for buses and emergency vehicles in the area of Tenney Park is being considered as a way to make the park a safer place for our children. As this goes to print, a letter is being sent to the Traffic Engineers asking for more stop signs on Sherman. Our Alderperson, Barbara Vedder, is checking into the status of the four way flashing red on Johnson and Gorham streets during the evening hours and weekends. (The flashing red signal was to be tested over a year ago for a six month period in conjunction with the 24 hour red-yellow-green cycle. The lighting was changed from flashing yellow on Johnson/Gorham to the 24 hour red-yellow-green cycle under which the lights are currently operate.)

If you have any comments on any transportation or land use planning matter, please let us know what you are thinking. You can comment on any of the planning initiatives currently underway by simply writing a letter to that committee.

Attend the meetings. The times are published in the Wisconsin State Journal and Capital Times, or check out the neighborhood web sites:

<http://danenet.wiclip.org/tlna>.

Write your Alderperson or County Supervisor. Let them know what you think of Isthmus 2020 or Vision 2020. ■

## **Volunteer Braillists & Tapists, Inc.**

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flowers and vegetables is necessary to the ecological balance.

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There are no good or bad "bugs" and beauty truly is in the eye of the beholder.

Enjoy the magic of the fireflies this summer. ■

## **Go Fishing at The Library**

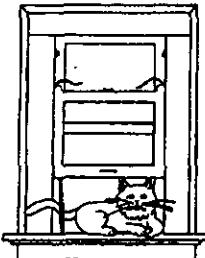
This summer you can go fishing at your local Madison Public Library and make a gift to the library at the same time.

During the month of July, you will find "wish bowls" containing "wish fish" at the Central Library and all seven branches. You may go fishing at the wish bowl and either purchase a specific item for the library or make a general donation to buy children's library materials. This special fund-raiser is being sponsored by the library and its Friends groups.

"We have targeted the library materials budget because we have seen a steady drop in funds," says Library Director Barbara Dimick. "In 1991, the materials budget was \$839,000 and in 1995, it was \$728,00 - a 15 percent decrease even before inflation is factored in."

The library buys children's materials in many different formats, including books, magazines, tapes, videos and compact discs.

Please stop by your local Madison Public Library during the month of July to "go fishing at the wish bowl." Your gifts to the library will help us better serve Madison's children. Contact Mary Knapp for more information at 266-6359. ■



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# Neighborhood Safety TIPS

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A Neighbor on Marston had their garage broken into last summer. What is technically a **theft** (no forced entry) seemed more like a burglary in that the thieves obviously knew what they were doing and had previously scoped the place out. The night before the theft, the homeowners found their outside light bulbs had been turned just enough so the lights didn't work. Thinking nothing of it, the homeowners screwed the bulbs back in so they were lit. The evening of the theft, the lightbulbs had been again loosened. **Tip: If something seems unusual, it probably is. Beef up your home security!**

The same Neighbors reported that last summer after the MPD stepped up patrols in Tenney Park Beach parking lot, illicit drug activity moved to Marston.

## Bicycle Theft Update

New on the list of questionable practices by known bicycle thieves, is the quasi-legal tactic of asking to "borrow" a bicycle. This may seem harmless enough, but if the "borrower" doesn't return the bicycle, you may be out of luck. It is up to you or your parents to go to the "borrower's" house and retrieve your possession. YOU could conceivably be charged with **trespass** if you go into the "borrower's" yard, garage, or house in an attempt

to get your bicycle back. Your best bet is "neither a borrower nor a lender be...". The burden of proof is on you if you decide to call the MPD. Your bicycle must be registered and licensed for them to act on a complaint. In the meantime, lending your bicycle to **anyone** that you are not sure you can trust can lead to one less bicycle at your house. ■



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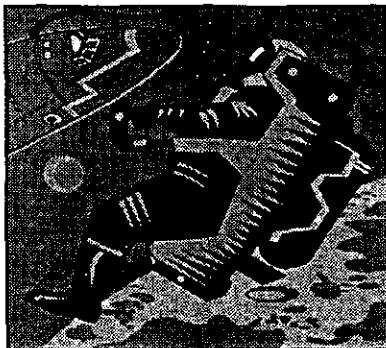
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