

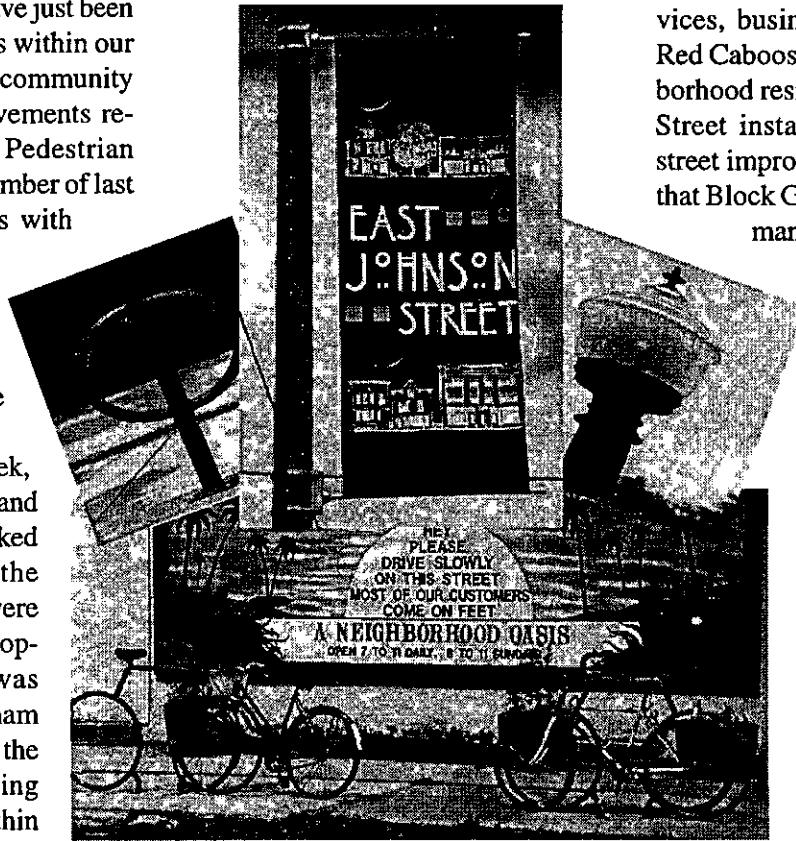
T E N N E Y - L A P H A M

N E I G H B O R H O O D A S S O C I A T I O N
N E W S L E T T E R J U L Y / A U G U S T 1 9 9 8

Bike Stands Complete East Johnson Street Improvements

The bicycle stands that have just been installed at various locations within our East Johnson Street business community complete the trio of improvements recently made to that area. Pedestrian lights were installed in September of last year. Informational banners with the title "East Johnson Street" went up in February. And, the bicycle stands, in two different styles, were in place by the end of April.

According to Rob Latousek, a member of the community and business committee that worked on these improvements, the stands, banners and lights were part of a Community Development Block Grant that was awarded to the Tenney Lapham Corporation. Rob stated that the Block Grant covered housing and community services within the neighborhood, money for Independent Living/Access to Independence ser-





Photos by David Mandehr

vices, business loans, scholarships to Red Caboose summer school for neighborhood residents and the East Johnson Street installations. He said that our street improvements were the first time that Block Grant funds were used in this manner. Latousek also said that the Atwood Neighborhood may very well be the next neighborhood to use the CDBG funds as Tenney-Lapham did for similar business district improvements.

Come on over to the 800-900 blocks of East Johnson Street. Take a look at the additions to our business district and if you like what you see, let the proprietors in that area and the city know that you appreciate what has been done in our neighborhood.



-David Mandehr

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Secretary	David Mandehr	1431 E. Johnson	259-1497
Treasurer	Coyla Rankin	411 Sidney	257-4932
Business	Teena Browder	855 E. Johnson	256-3620
Community Services	Gary Lakeman	1229 E. Mifflin	255-3068
Education	Joe Davis	445 Sidney	256-5714
Housing	Shelly Sprinkman	1024 Sherman	250-9840
Membership	Richard Linster	432 Sidney	251-1937
Parks	David Wallner	451 N. Few	256-2958
Publicity/Newsletter	Bob Shaw	917 E. Dayton	255-3486
Safety	Kathi Bresnehan	1125 E. Gorham	251-7399
Social	Dan Baker	327 N. Baldwin	251-2501
Transportation	Tim Olsen	1331 E. Johnson	255-9358
Area A	Sarah Bremer	203 N. Ingersoll	250-9427
Area B	Margie Dougherty-Goodburn	925 E. Dayton	256-0238
Area C	Ed Jepsen	445 N. Few	255-2845

Elected Officials

Aldersperson	Barbara Vedder	2314 E. Dayton	249-8428
County Supervisor	Judy Wilcox	620 E. Dayton	255-8913
Mayor	Sue Bauman	Room 403, City-County Bldg.	266-4611
County Executive	Kathleen Falk	Room 421, City-County Bldg.	266-4114
State Representative	Tammy Baldwin	124 North State Capitol	266-8570
State Senator	Fred Risser	Room 102, M.L. King, Jr., Blvd.	266-1627
Congressman	Scott Klug	16 N. Carroll	257-9200
U.S. Senator	Russ Feingold	8383 Greenway Blvd., Middleton	828-1200
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The Newsletter of the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association is published bi-monthly and distributed without charge to all households in the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood (adjacent to Lake Mendota, North Livingston Street, East Washington Avenue, and the Yahara River). Requests for information regarding subscriptions and advertising may be directed to the TLNA Newsletter Editor, P.O. Box 706, Madison, WI 53701. For a reading of the September/October 1998 Newsletter, click on the link below.

[Editor: Barbara Vedder](#)
[Manager: David Mandehr](#)
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The Joys of Traveling by Train

Dear Neighbors,
Please indulge me in a column for fun.

Sorry to have missed the last issue. I can report that my family has increased by one with the addition of my grandson Marcellus! The lad is eight weeks old and has changed marvelously since his birth. We see each other frequently and today we spent some time looking closely at each other and communicating after a fashion.

It seems that summer has arrived again after a very mild winter and changeable spring. I hope you neighbors are enjoying the barbecues, visiting, trips, working in the garden, reading books, etc., that the summer season usually offers. Hopefully you can look forward to the annual TLNA Ice Cream Social (see notice elsewhere). It's always a lot of fun besides being delicious.

I went out to Columbus (Wisconsin) recently to pick up the new Amtrak timetable so I can indulge in one of my favorite pastimes of planning a number of railroad trips, including the one I take every fall when the rates go down

with the Explore America Fare. This year Amtrak and VIA (the Canadian carrier) have developed the North America Pass, good over 28,000 miles and more than 900 destinations for unlimited travel over a 30 day period.

While at the library I stumbled across a great book on train travel, *Zephyr: Tracking a Dream Across America*, by Henry Kisor, book editor for the Chicago Sun Times.

Some sample quotes: "Train time means large blocks of leisure to rest, read a book, write a few thousand words or simply to woolgather; letting my imagination carry me where it will... Part of the wonder for a long-distance train passenger is the joy of encountering humankind in its endless variety. The first few minutes of departure are my favorite time. I'm not quite settled in, still eager in anticipating the adventure of going somewhere, learning my surroundings, which always seem fresh and new. It is a time of expectant change."

Until next time when I will be my usual sober serious self. Have a great summer.

-Richard Linster,
TLNA President

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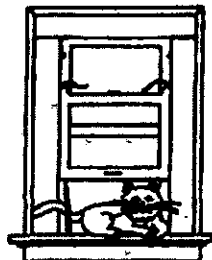
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A Place to Learn Through Growing: Lapham School/Community Children's Garden

Tenney-Lapham neighborhood boasts many creative gardens crafted by both experienced and novice gardeners. Motivations for these gardeners' efforts may include the beauty and value added to home and neighborhood, the sharing of harvest with neighbors and friends or the exercise and relaxation gardening affords. To many, it comes as no surprise that recent studies by the American Community Gardening Association have shown that gardens help reduce air and noise pollution, make neighborhoods safer, and increase community pride and participation.

A garden has a different attraction for children. To a young child a garden is a magical place with hidden surprises - a flower bud opening to reveal the splendor inside, a pollen-drenched bumblebee or a ripe strawberry discovered tucked under a leaf. Even a simple yellow cabbage moth or an earthworm

will fill young children with wonder. As children grow, gardens can be places where they can begin to understand the science of plants and insects, the importance of soil and inter-relationships between plants and animals. In helping young people learn to grasp their own relationship to plants and the earth, a garden can be an extremely effective learning tool—an outdoor laboratory in which children can create, observe and experiment. The possibilities are virtually limitless.

Teachers and parents from Lapham Elementary School in association with members from the University of Wisconsin are hoping to build on children's natural attraction to gardens with an exciting new project. The Lapham School/Community Children's Garden is a collaborative venture which involves the University in partnership with the Lapham School community in develop-

ing a year-round inter-generational initiative. The program will also provide educational opportunities for school children (K-2) during the school year and into summer. The long range goal is to generate interest and create an awareness of careers in math and science related fields and to foster cooperative community-minded experiences for children.

Participating members from the Lapham School community include parents, teachers, students and administrators. The Lapham-Marquette Parent Teacher Group and the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association have voted their support. Participating members from the university community are the School of Education, Pre-College Programs, Center for Biology Education, Wisconsin Teacher Enhancement in Bi-

continued on next page

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Gardens

continued from previous page

ology, the Division of Continuing Studies and others.

The first year of the project (1998-99) the focus will be on establishing the garden site at Lapham Elementary School. The approximately 140' x 30' garden space will run parallel to E. Dayton Street adjacent to the existing north fence. As a deterrent to damage from runaway balls and excessive foot traffic, the garden will be enclosed on its south side by a 5' high chain link fence, yet easily accessed by two unlocked gates. Other preparations will involve the addition of topsoil and the planting of a cover crop to be turned under prior to planting. Acquisition of garden implements, a tool shed and miscellaneous materials are also needed. Partial funding has been received in the form of grants from Willy Street Coop and the Evjue Foundation. Volunteers are work-

ing to obtain additional financial support from other community businesses. The garden committee hopes to have sufficient funds to install a fence by September so that groundbreaking and site preparation can commence this fall.

Beginning in the spring of 1999 and in years following, the garden will be devoted to implementing garden-related curriculum efforts of Lapham teachers as well as offering a Summer Garden Camp for Kids. The University of Wisconsin will operate two camp sessions in June and July with the exact dates and times yet to be determined. Scholarships will be offered in an effort to make this experience accessible to all. Since only a portion of the garden space will be employed by classrooms and the summer camp, some gardening opportunities will be available for neighbors who will be invited to work remaining portions of the garden space as well as fol-

low through with those begun in the camp sessions.

School community gardens are not a new concept. In cities throughout the country, such programs have proven highly successful in bringing neighbors of different generations together to learn from each other and improve the neighborhood while having a great time. If you or your business are interested in becoming involved in this project or would like to offer financial support, please contact either Ken Swift (251-4738(H), 266-6450(W)) or Margie Dougherty-Goodburn (256-0238).

-Margie Dougherty-Goodburn

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The Speed Board

One too many cars had whipped by me on East Johnson Street as I stood at the corner, waiting to cross. Short of throwing stones, all I could do was jot down a license plate number and call "the Speeding Hotline." Although unsatisfying, at least it was something. After the third call that week, (and it was only Tuesday) I left a rambling, whiny message asking what really happened to the miscreants I reported.

A polite Officer returned my call, explaining that a letter was sent to the registered owner of the vehicle and that if I wanted to do more, I could borrow "the Speed Board."

So I did. After setting up the radar/LED board, I was delighted to see it had an immediate if temporary effect on the pace of the passing traffic. My delight was offset by disappointment and frustration when the board flashed "47 mph" in the 25 mph zone.

The number of people who flipped me off, squealed their tires or floored the accelerator was much higher than I expected. The worst offenders stared straight ahead as I gestured at them and the sign.

Adopting a lower-tech method of communicating to the speeders, I stenciled a sign that warned them "Picture

Radar Ahead." Kind of like, "Visualize World Peace." The effect was unbelievable. People slowed down, they smiled, they gave me thumbs up, they laughed and waved. I stenciled a bucket "TIPS" and waved it at them. They gave me money, nearly \$20 an hour...until the Madison Police Officer told me to pack it up.

Setting up a speed trap, I parked the sign just over a small rise. This resulted in higher readings (35 mph to 45 mph) as there was no advance warning. This lasted until the Madison Parking Monitor moved me on. Hmmm, priorities?

Finally, I called Captain Silverwood. The next morning there was an officer shooting radar down the same block as the sign. As we spoke, our conversation was interrupted as he flipped on lights and siren, pulling over an offender doing 40 mph in the 25 mph zone.

To my wife's relief, the sign goes back today. My cynical side says that the pace of traffic will also go back to where it was. I just keep reminding myself, something is better than nothing and I did all I could.

-Paul Anderson

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The boat can be rented by non-profit groups or organizations, senior citizens, low income groups or individuals with disabilities. If you want to rent the entire boat call MSCR Information at 266-6255.

However, if you are interested in taking a ride by yourself or with a few friends, there are six drop-in times every week through September 3. You don't need a reservation; just drop on by during the following times:



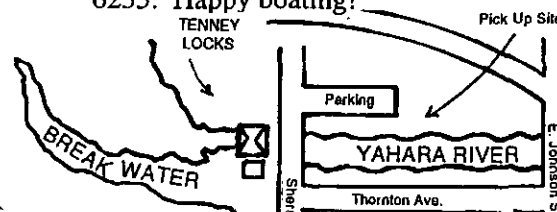
Sunday 7-8:30 am (trip 1)
 Sunday 8:45-10:15 am (trip 2)
 Tuesday 5-6:30 pm (trip 1)
 Tuesday 6:45-8:15 (trip 2)
 Thursday 5-6:30 (trip 1)
 Thursday 6:45-8:15 (trip 2)

In addition there is a moonlight drop-in every 2nd and 4th Thursday from 8:30-10:30 pm.

For the drop-in schedule, the trips tour either Lake Mendota or Monona, depending on weather and group preference and there is no fishing allowed. For the drop-in there is a limit of 6 individuals per group. Other individuals may be on the boat with your group at this time. There is a wheelchair capacity of 5. A donation of 50 cents per person is recommended.

The pontoon boat has a capacity of 17 individuals. Each boat is equipped with life jackets, deck chairs, and safety equipment. For

further information call MSCR at 266-6255. Happy boating!






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Looking for a Sign from Seinfeld

Friends have often said of me that if one digs past the calcified layers of culture and education, I am deeply superficial. They don't often add "and that's what we love about you," though I think they should. But I'm so shallow that I just move on instead, like a shark, and pick up some casual new friends. That's how I am and nothing pointed it up better than this week—Holy Sweep and Dalai Lama Week.

At the last minute, a friend laid two tickets to his Holiness's lecture on me. I felt burdened from the start. I had already started imagining what kind of scene it might be at the Kohl Center, which I must add, I grudge deeply as its whole east side crouches Jaba-like on what was once my bedroom and tiny garden with lilac bush. Some of my fondest memories of arriving in Madi-

son are buried in that sacred ground where Frances Court intersected Frances St. That rowhouse of ramshackle but charming apartments once housed Phil Ball, Karlton Armstrong, Hank Haslach (who sits on his porch talking about the Weatherman Movement in the film *The War at Home*) several other famous politicians and musicians and for a short time, me.

At about this time each spring, I would try to trowel up a few peas and some lettuce in the dumpy soil outside my kitchen door. I enjoyed screaming at people for robbing MY lilac bush. But knowing I wasn't worthy of them, I still could not turn down free tickets, especially since everybody I miss seeing when they are in concert ends up dying. Janis Joplin, Jimi Hendrix, Jerry Garcia. I missed 'em all and it was curtains for

them. It's true Jerry gave me a second chance, but still, you see the trend.

So I wanted to catch the Rock Dalai show, even if it meant going alone, since early on my husband refused. But all the time I was halfheartedly calling around to see who wanted my spare ticket, I was secretly planning the Superbowl of all Shallowness—the party I was going to have Thursday night for the Demise of Nothingness, the Finale of Folly, Seinfeld Exeunt. That's how it is with us "skin deep" types. We're always dreaming small and sordid dreams.

I went to Tosca recently and all I could concentrate on was how the diva could sing from a divan—lying down. Her heaving bosoms looked mighty uncomfortable to me too, though they

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came in handy in the groping scene. Instead of being overwhelmed by the glitter and grease of the circus, I'm the type who thinks about how fast a Pez would rocket out of the pocket of the trapeze artist turning somersaults.

Oh yeah I'm all surface when it comes to culture, but did I mention I'm also seriously compromised in the crowd department? I sat mortified through the time-before-last Stones concert at Camp Randall (see above for reasons I went.) Glancing furtively around, I was sure nobody noticed because they were all Medusa-ed by other substances. And rationally, I suppose I knew that it was highly unlikely that hundreds of high ex-hippies-turned-lawyers and housepersons would suddenly leap to their feet and stampede the stage. They were just too tired, I think, being middleaged like me. But of those hundreds, I'll bet more than a few were fantasizing about being home in front of the tube, where you can really SEE the en-

tertainment.

And that's the other shocker of the Dalai Lama affair. For such a wise man (and I know he is because I understood everything He said in the few minutes I lasted at the concert) he is very very small. From the third balcony, which looks as improbable as the underside of the Mobius strip the ants crawl on in that famous Escher print, I would say His Holiness is about one-half inch tall. So it was like a dollhouse Dalai. Go figure.

I had the windows of the doors of my perception well-cleaned while I lasted there and I did enjoy the scene on the weirdly-green lawn where Buddhists of various stripe prayed and protested (I'm too light in the brain to bother getting clear about what god has been demoted and why or who is right, the Dalai or his detractors, but it wouldn't be Madison if everybody agreed and had a good, guilt-free time.)

And I loved the Big Screen TV monitors in the lobby, which showed those

saffron robes against that great green chair and His flowers to great advantage and all. As I wandered back up to State Street I saw a mosquito on the back of the guy walking in front of me. I watched that evil thing hunker there for about one-half block as I pondered whether it was more compassionate to let this least of creatures live or swat the guy from behind and risk being swatted back by the man or the skeeter's karmic load. I finally tapped the man on the shoulder, which caused the pest to fly. Then I didn't have anything to say to the man that wouldn't have taken way too many words. I loved it though. It seemed just like the kind of thing they may do tonight on Seinfeld.

-Gay Davidson-Zielske

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City to Target Problem Housing

Today I attended two of the committee meetings that the council is sifting through regarding the Yahara Parkway Plan. It has already passed through six committees and there are three more as of this writing. Kudos go out to Ed Jepsen and David Wallner for their participation. I would urge anyone interested in the passage of this Plan to attend the Plan commission evening meeting on July 6 (please feel free to contact me about the time), and more importantly the Common Council meeting of July 7. You can come at 8 PM that evening even if you don't wish to speak and register in support. The adoption of this Plan will, indeed, be one of the most important events to come about for the neighborhood as well as the entire Isthmus area during my tenure.

An update on housing issues: I met with Linda Grubb, the new head of Building Inspection, and she has agreed to do a survey of the buildings located in the Tenney-Lapham and Old Market Place neighborhoods. At the minimum, 100 buildings will be inspected, beginning with the most obvious worst cases. The second tier will involve buildings with a lesser degree of problems and which have not been inspected within the last five years. Even better news is

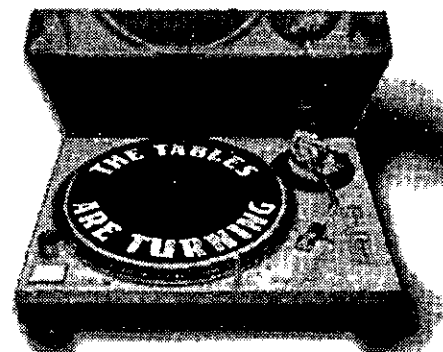
that this policy will be continued on an ongoing yearly basis, making this a targeted area for housing standards scrutiny. In addition, a new stricter code is almost certain to come about very shortly because of the efforts of the neighborhood and me.

Safety issues: Some residents in the neighborhood have voiced their concerns regarding several disturbing incidents which have occurred lately. I've contacted Captain George Silverwood for information and have arranged a meeting which will already have been held by the time the newsletter is distributed. George, Neighborhood Officer Sue Armagost and I will be meeting with neighborhood residents. A request was also made regarding the basketball court/parking lot area of James Madison Park regarding possible drug-dealing. Both George Silverwood and Si Widstrand of the Parks Department have responded and this issue was recently discussed at an Old Market Place Neighborhood association meeting. I suggested a certain period of time of consistent monitoring. All the parties involved decided, including the concerned individual, that the parking lot was the real problem and Captain Silverwood, Old Market Place Neighborhood, and I

are asking for diligent parking enforcement of the parking lot. As to the issue of a pit bull having caused serious injuries, one to a resident holding a cat in her arms and the other the killing of a cat itself, I have been in constant communication with both Animal Control and the Public Health Department as well as the neighbors involved. The dog was impounded and is near the end of the Health Department's investigations. I was just informed this week (of June 15) that the dog will no longer be living in the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood. I'll be giving updates. I want to thank all of the residents who called me, including TLNA President Richard Linster. This has been an example of neighbor networking at its best.

Please keep in contact with me and enjoy the summer weather!

-Alder Barbara Vedder



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1019 E. Gorham			2	\$ 89,900
213 S. Baldwin	3	1		\$ 91,900
109 N. Baldwin	3	2		\$ 94,500
1017 E. Gorham			2	\$105,000
1122 E. Gorham	3	1		\$107,000
1140 E. Dayton	1	1		\$109,900
1025 E. Gorham			2	\$117,900
1140 E. Dayton	1	1		\$119,900
1105 E. Dayton	5	2.5		\$124,900
1133 E. Dayton			2	\$125,000
1140 E. Dayton	2	1.75		\$154,900
1423-25 E. Johnson			2	\$194,900
1050 Sherman Ave.	6	2.5		\$399,000
916 Castle Place	4	3.5		\$485,000
752 E. Gorham	5	5.5		\$884,900
1228 Sherman Ave.	7	3.5		\$950,000

Pending Listings

(Accepted offers that have not yet closed)

<u>Address</u>	<u>Bedrooms</u>	<u>Baths</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>Price</u>
1229 1/2 E. Dayton	2	1	1	\$84,900
733 E. Gorham	3	1		\$102,000
111 N. Baldwin	3	2		\$108,900
20 N. Baldwin	3	1		\$110,000
205 N. Paterson	3	1.25		\$123,500
1337 E. Johnson	3	2	2	\$134,900
109 Dayton Row	2	2.5		\$139,900
1140 E. Dayton	2	1.75		\$154,900
1045 E. Johnson			2	\$156,900

Sold Listings

<u>Address</u>	<u>List Price</u>	<u>Sold Price</u>	<u>Days on Market</u>
1133 E. Mifflin	\$96,900	\$96,000	21
1318 E. Mifflin	\$109,900	\$105,000	31
933 E. Johnson	\$112,900	\$108,000	30
815 E. Gorham	\$134,500	\$134,500	177
461 N. Baldwin	\$137,900	\$142,000	6
441 N. Paterson	\$429,900	\$390,000	263
1224 Sherman Ave.	\$449,900	\$410,480	N/A

Statistics compiled by Shelly Sprinkman of Restaino Bunbury & Associates. Shelly can be reached at 232-7737 or by email at ssprink@mail.execpc.com

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Lonesome Traveler Publishing: a Cooperative Press wants poetry submissions for an anthology devoted to Trains and Rains: Poetry of Lust, Rust, and Obsession. Send up to 3 pages of previously-unpublished poetry (no "X"-rated or children's lit, please) and a \$5.00 non-refundable reading fee to LTP at POB 3130 Madison WI 53703. E-mail Gay Davidson-Zielske, Editor, at WIPOET@aol.com for details. Include an SASE and a 3-line bio with submission. Payment is in a contributor's copy, local poetry reading, and discount on additional contributor's copies. Samples of past LTP anthologies \$3.75 (includes S&H). Deadline July 15, 1998.

Sewer Options Under Consideration


The City Engineering staff have been working with Triad Engineering to assess the sewer back-up problems our neighborhood experienced in the spring of 1996. Several options were explored and the current favorite would result in sewer improvements along Thornton Avenue between E. Johnson Street and E. Washington Ave. as well as through Burr Jones Field to the sewer main near the city garage on First Street. Additional engineering studies need to be made, but work may begin in the summer of 1999 if the project is approved in this year's budget.

The timing and location of this sewer project also intersects with the proposed Yahara River parkway recommendations. Sizable portions of the Thornton Ave. roadway may be affected by the sewer construction activities. This presents our neighborhood, affected busi-

nesses, and city staff with an opportunity to reexamine how Thornton Ave. may be reconstructed once the sewer work is completed. This is especially pertinent in light of the proposed reconstruction of the E. Washington bridge in several years. We can hopefully use this situation to balance different perspectives and reach a mutually agreeable solution that is also cost effective.

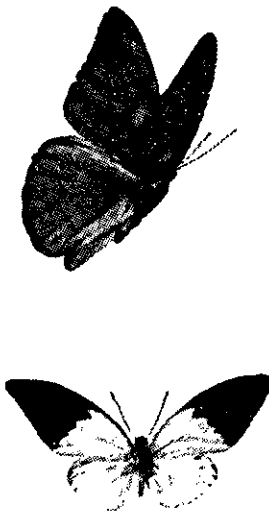
The options range from reconstruction to current conditions, narrowing the road thus creating one way traffic, and finally outright removal of major sections with an emphasis placed on providing alternate access to affected businesses. The TLNA board will consider hosting a forum for interested parties within the next four to six weeks. For further information please contact me at 255-2845.

-Ed Jepsen



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