



# The Newsletter of the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association

## November/December 1997

### East Johnson

*Teena Browder*

By the time this newsletter is delivered, we hope to have our sidewalks back together and the new street lights installed on Johnson Street. The city has been very generous in rearranging its schedule to get our project done. The new lights should really dress up our little shopping district and compliment the historic nature of our neighborhood. Banners and bike racks are also in the works. Without Rob Latousek's tireless efforts and the cooperation of the Tenney/Lapham Corporation, the banners and bike racks would never have come into being. We are very grateful for everyone's involvement in keeping the neighborhood business community healthy. After a slow start, the low interest business loan program set up by the neighborhood planning process is showing real results. Kathy Lybarger of Aardvark Art Glass was able to borrow from the program to help purchase her building at 819 East Johnson Street. The people at Madison Development Corporation who administer the loan fund were very helpful in guiding Kathy through the buying process and we have helped fulfill the main goal of the program. We have another owner occupied business space.

We are all geared up and looking forward to a successful holiday season. Watch for holiday sales and open houses. We also hope to see Burnie back in Burnie's rock shop after a successful recovery from heart surgery. As always, it's a pleasure doing business in the neighborhood. Our connection to the neighborhood was emphasized this Fall when our little business district was chosen to be highlighted in a short film to be used by Mayor Bauman in pitching Madison as a location for a national conference on neighborhoods.



### Tenney Nursery

The eighth annual Holiday Fine Art and Craft sale will be held this year at Tenney Nursery and Parent Center on Saturday, November 22nd, from 9:00 to 5:00. Tenney Nursery is at 1321 East Mifflin Street, one block north of East Washington Avenue, behind Fyfe's Comer Bistro. Free parking is available.

The show features new works by 14 area women artists, with some designed especially for holiday gift giving. Art by Tenney students, ages 2 to 5, will also be on display. Several of the professional artists in the show are former Tenney parents or are currently teaching preschool art. Visitors to the show will have a chance to check out the school and enjoy free refreshments as well.

This year's unique collection of artworks will include mixed media jewelry; sumptuous chenille scarves; miniature 3-D watercolors; colorful functional pottery; surreal ceramic animals; hand-painted gourds; hand painted silk clothing and accessories; stained Glass; hand-painted wood furnishings; Beanie Baby accessories; unusual ornaments of all kinds and much more!

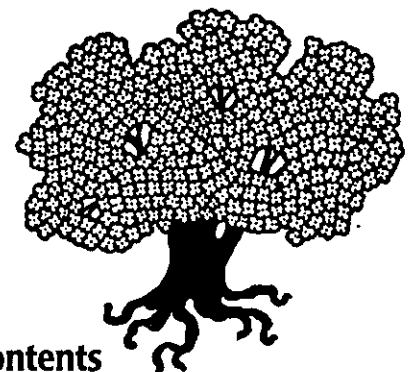
The Holiday Art Show and Sale promises to be one of the most eclectic and dynamic representations of women's art in the area and a great opportunity to see children's art beautifully mounted and displayed. The show has a long history in the Atwood neighborhood, and had moved this year to a larger location to accommodate more visitors. This is a great place to shop for one of a kind, handmade holiday gifts in a pleasant setting. A portion of the artists' sales will be donated to Tenney Nursery, which is a nonprofit parent cooperative offering, a variety of toddler and preschool programs.

## TENNEY-LAPHAM NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

meets at the Tenney Park Apartments  
302 N. Baldwin Street  
Community Room  
on the 3rd Thursday of each month.  
November 20, 1997 at 7:00 p.m.  
December 18, 1997 at 7:00 p.m.

### Fall Leaf Collection

November 10, December 1  
Leaves should be piled loose at the street edge. Do not place leaves in the street or gutter. If you must bag your leaves, leave the bags open at the top. Do not tie them.



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## TLNA Neighborhood Officers

President	Richard Linster	251-1937
Vice President	Ed Jepsen	255-2845
Secretary	David Mandehr	259-1497
Treasurer	Coyla Rankin	257-4932

## TLNA Neighborhood Council

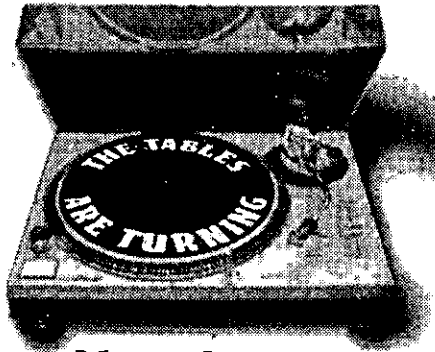
Business	Teena Browder	256-3620
Community Serv.	Gary Lakeman	255-3068
Education	Joe Davis	256-5714
Housing	Shelly Sprinkman	-
Membership	Richard Linster	251-1937
Parks	Dave Wallner	256-2958
Publicity	Bob Shaw	255-3486
Safety	Kathi Bresnehan	251-7399
Social	Dan Baker	251-2501
Transportation	Tim Olsen	255-9358

## TLNA Neighborhood Area Representatives

Area A		-
Area B	Margaret Goodburn	256-0238
Area C	Brad Franklin	256-5850

*The newsletter of the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association contains the opinions of some of its members - the contributors. We hope to be able to define the objectives and principles of the organization in a brief statement which will replace this one once a consensus has been reached about what they will be.*

*Unofficially, the Neighborhood Association is a group of civic-minded residents who have gotten together to make our neighborhood a better place for all of us to live. We meet among ourselves and with city officials to achieve this goal. We hold periodic social gatherings to meet one another and enjoy ourselves. Virtually all of the accomplishments of the association have been achieved through volunteer effort. We encourage all of our neighbors to participate with us in these activities.*



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# AUDIO DEPOT

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Hours: Mo-Tu 11:30am-6pm We-Sa 11:30am-7:30pm

## 608-251-2000

## President's Column

Richard Linster

The other night was the annual meeting & spaghetti dinner. By all measures it was a great success. About one hundred of you plus children in proportion (About 40) spent the evening in dining, visiting, listening to two good presentations and electing the new TLNA council

Several nights earlier it was my honor to be the speaker in Eau Claire before the Historic Randall Park Neighborhood Association. It was interesting to see the similarities with groups like ours. The folks in Eau Claire were dealing with zoning, density, reclaiming housing stock and developing issues. Their alder was interested in our pamphlet the "Renter's Handbook". Their neighborhood police officers were listening closely to our "Drive 25" campaign. One of their members who works for the Planning and Development Department wanted more information about the Community Land Trust.

The need to organize, to work together, transcends locality. I hope to invite some of their members to one of our events, to tour the neighborhood, to meet you and listen to what you have to say.

I like old time music, and there is a fiddle tune called "I want to go to meeting" (But don't have shoes, so barefoot I will go.) I think of it often. It speaks to me of a human desire for communion with others despite the lack of certain trappings usually considered necessary in polite society. Our members have met frequently to obtain what we think is necessary for our well being and will continue to do so. I hope that in this coming year we will work with our friends and neighbors far and wide. We have abundant talent and many causes to devote our time. Please consider spending some of your time on a project of your choice for the betterment of the world around you. Hope to see you at our meetings.

### Snow Shoveling

City ordinances mandate clearing the snow from the sidewalk in front of your residence.

It is much easier to do if you do it right after the snow falls.

If you do it in the morning, the Sun (yes even in Wisconsin) will help out with the last little bit.

If you wait, the snow turns to ice.

# Flashback

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## Neighborhood Plan

Chris Ingersoll

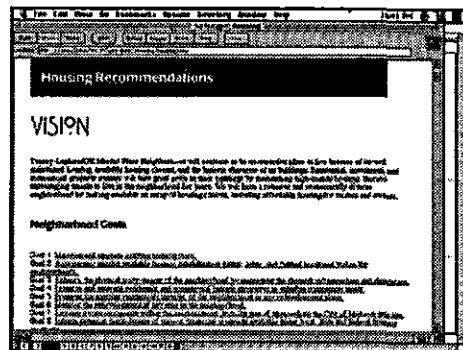
<http://danenet.wicip.org/tlna/>



The Tenney-Lapham Old Market Place Neighborhood Plan is now on the world wide web in its entirety. The 80 page publication was the product of several years of labor by neighborhood residents from the two neighborhoods, as well as City Staff.

The document is presented in a format closely matching the original, with all of the original graphics. Because it is now an electronic document, links have been added between relevant sections.

Internet access to the document makes it possible for many more people to have access to the document and to participate in its implementation.



## Business Changes

Ken Udell

By now most of you have probably noticed that Video Hut has closed its doors. Owner John Erwood had been attempting to open an espresso shop to compliment his eclectic video store, but the city would not grant an occupancy permit. By the time everything was straightened out, Erwood lacked the capital to complete the remodeling. Anyone want to buy a Rancilio Espresso machine? Call 251-2000.

Jennifer Grannis, owner of Juju & Moxie, has rented the former Video Hut location at 845 East Johnson Street. Grannis intends to open a themed vintage clothing store with the neighborhood's tastes and price ranges in mind.

So much for the problem of successful businesses moving out of the neighborhood... Now they all want to move in! The Razor Room has closed its Park Street location and moved into 836 East Johnson Street. The Razor Room offers a variety of underground music including industrial, gothic, punk, and techno records and cds.

## Emerson-East Update

Susan Agee

Eken Park and Emerson-East Neighborhoods will be holding a meeting at 6:30 p.m. on November 3rd, in the East High School Cafeteria. Draft copies of the recommendations made as part of the CDBG planning process are available interested persons. We are hoping to work with Eken Park and make plans for dealing with the prostitution problem on North Street. I am working with area schools and churches to identify some collaborative projects that we can work on together.

In 1998, the city plans to reconstruct East Washington Street in various phases for a few years. Neighborhood Associations will have an opportunity to give input into how to improve the appearance of the "gateway into the city" I definitely feel that we need to be proactive as well as collaborative with other neighborhoods in this process.

# Baldwin Introduces Elder Abuse Bill Measure To Protect Whistleblowers

Elder abuse is an issue that is coming to the forefront in our society. According to a report from the Bureau on Aging, in 1995 2,583 cases of suspected abuse and neglect were reported. Four of those were fatal and another 227 were considered life threatening. Furthermore, the bureau estimated that 85-95% of cases were never reported because "people may be ashamed or afraid to report." (1995 Wisconsin Report on Elder Abuse).

Over the last year, several health care workers have lost their jobs for doing the morally right thing...reporting elder abuse. Current Wisconsin law protects from discrimination and retaliation only those persons who report elder abuse to a county agency. The law does not apply to those who report to other state agencies such as the Board on Aging and Long Term Care.

There has been one case recently, Hausman and Wright vs. St. Croix Care Center that is an example of how lack of protection can result in dismissal of employees. In short, Hausman and Wright, a social worker and licensed practical nurse respectively; were part of a five member interdisciplinary care team insuring that the needs of patients were being met on a continuing basis. Concerns arose as to whether falls from beds resulting in injury were being adequately investigated, the sufficiency of the residents' nutritional diet and whether staff members' disrespectful treatment of residents was being fully addressed. When the Center failed to respond to these concerns, the care team approached the St. Croix

Center's administrator with their concerns. Nothing was done despite a follow-up visit with the Center's director. When the Center failed to take appropriate action, the care team contacted the regional ombudsman for the Board on Aging and Long-term Care and the Bureau of Quality Compliance, a division of DHSS. Both workers were fired shortly after reporting suspected abuse to the State Ombudsman.

Hausman and Wright filed a complaint in Circuit Court. The trial court and later the Court of Appeals — District Three determined that the employees were not protected under one State law because it did not create a "private cause of action." The court also found that they were also not protected under another State law because they did not report their concern to the county department of human services. The plaintiffs have petitioned the State Supreme Court for review.

In September I introduced Assembly Bill 500, a measure aimed at protecting

health care workers from retaliation for reporting to any state official abuse or neglect in certain facilities and providing a cause of action. AB 500 has strong bipartisan support with a total of 50 legislators co-sponsoring the bill. The bill has been referred to the Assembly committee on Judiciary.

As the population has and continues to age, more people will be entering care facilities or using other service providers who may not work in a residential setting. It is imperative that caregivers and other professionals feel protected in reporting suspected abuse without the fear of retaliation from their employers. Protecting the reporters will in turn protect consumers by encouraging individuals to report incidents where they feel that the person under their care is being physically, emotionally, or financially victimized. To feel safe in a facility that is receiving compensation to care for you should be a fundamental right and expectation for all consumers.

Please feel free to stay in touch with me on budget issues or any other issues of interest. I can be reached at 266-8570 or at 266-8463 (fax) or by writing me at:

State Representative Tammy Baldwin  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708-8952

You may also E-Mail me at: [tammy.baldwin@legis.state.wi.us](mailto:tammy.baldwin@legis.state.wi.us)  
or visit my web site at  
<http://www.legis.state.wi.us/assembly/asm78/news/index.htm>



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## "In Alder Words..."

Barbara Vedder

Once again it's the changing of the seasons and with autumn comes the changing of a new city budget.

The harvest season for funding this year, however, is lower and it's not looking any better for next year. Under the state's shared revenues, Madison will continue to be eroded away by receiving \$514,595 less this year than in 1997. Under the state's payment for municipal services, recent news indicated that Madison would receive a \$500,000 increase. However, even more recently thereafter, the governor vetoed this and this revenue was lost. Additionally, a large chunk of money will be going to Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center expenditures. In the proposed operating budget, many basic services as well as proposed new projects and plans are being downscaled or eliminated. Twenty-three departments are slated to receive less funding while only 13 will be getting more.

With this dismal scenario, here are a few brighter highlights specifically affecting the Tenney-Lapham area:

North Baldwin Street will undergo reconstruction. It was prioritized because of the chronic flooding situation which has now been recognized.

\$5,000 included for landscaping in Tenney Park. "Clean Streets-Clean Lakes" curbside streetsweeping program will continue. There will be no expansion of this program elsewhere in the city.

I'm sponsoring a few capital budget amendments which, pending adoption, involve:

Funding a cul-de-sac at the parking lot in Tenney Park, which will be a first tangible step taken for the Yahara Parkway project.

There will be continuation of a bike path between Johnson Street and the parking lot.

A "Main Streets Improvement" fund providing matching grants projects dealing with the aesthetics, beauty and functioning of neighborhoods in pedestrian-oriented public places and thoroughfares. 50% of funding from the city and 50% from a sponsoring group.

Establishing public bicycle facilities in neighborhood business districts and other public areas.

The operating budget is now, as of this writing, under scrutiny. I'm disturbed about a number of things which have been eliminated and will be looking into further. A couple of the outstanding ones specifically for this neighborhood are cutting back on street lighting along several streets or sections of streets, as well as not painting crosswalk markings at intersections with no traffic lights on side streets off of East Washington Ave.

Although the capital budget will be over, the operating budget will be finalized in November. A few dates perhaps of interest are a public hearing of the budget including Board of Estimates recommendations on November 11, and a public hearing on final adoption of the budget with additional council amendments on November 18. Both meetings are at 7:30 p.m. in Room 201, City-County Building.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything, you can contact me at [district2@council.ci.madison.wi.us](mailto:district2@council.ci.madison.wi.us) or 249-8428.

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# SOS Program Terminated

Chris Ingersoll

On Tuesday, September 16, Neighbors in the Tenny-Lapham Neighborhood met with Michael Florek, Director of Tellurian, Inc., Bob Kasdorf, a lawyer who serves as an officer of Tellurian, and Judy Wilcox, County Board Supervisor for this district, to discuss the SOS Program.

Tellurian is a nonprofit social service agency with many programs, some in this neighborhood. They received over five and a half million dollars from the government in 1995. The SOS Program is funded largely by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and is administered locally by Tellurian, Inc. Of all the programs in the neighborhood, the SOS Program has been the most disruptive.

Tellurian officials met with neighborhood representatives in the early stages of the program's implementation. Among other assurances, Tellurian promised not to concentrate the properties used for the program. When problems with Tellurian residences and neighbors began, the TLNA tried to schedule meetings with Tellurian to work out misunderstandings and improve the implementation of the program. Tellurian officers frequently did not respond. On the occasions when they did, they sometimes leveled accusations of bigotry, threatened lawsuits, or just responded that they did not 'feel the need to meet.'

The neighborhood association got no-

where by trying to work with Tellurian. Letters to our elected representatives in Washington, their funding source, were written describing the impact of the program on our neighborhood and the difficulty resolving problems locally. Although no information exists that there is any link between the two events, the SOS Program has lost its funding, and no further placements will be made in our neighborhood by that particular program.

Tellurian's own description of the program makes it sound like a no-nonsense approach to chronic homelessness, but "intensive services to assist the family in learning the skills to maintain permanent housing" may mean different things to different people. Michael Florek described that portion of the program as a "visit" by a case worker three times a week "to ask if there is anything they need." "There has been a great deal of supervision. You just haven't seen it."

Florek admits that the success rate of the program is 10-15%. He did not draw any connection between the intensity or nature of the services provided and the observed success rate.

As one of the officers of Tellurian who initially gave assurances to the neighborhood association that his program would not be detrimental to the neighbors, Florek came under a barrage of harsh questions from our


neighbors who have suffered from the program. A neighbor complained about a continual noise problem, and he asked "Is there a noise ordinance?" Another neighbor was upset because the SOS participants next door scattered debris all over the back yard. The problem persisted throughout the Summer, [presumably the case worker 'visited' fifty times during that period] and photographs were presented to document the extent of the problem. Florek declined a request that he examine them saying "I don't know what those are." At no point did he accept any responsibility for harm done to the neighborhood by his program.

Along with the negative impact of the program on themselves, neighbors addressed a great deal of concern to Florek about the conditions under which the program participants were compelled to live. One notorious example presented was a building which had five dozen code violations. In another building, chosen to accommodate a family with many children (two per bedroom), four to eight adult males regularly stayed there as well. The presence of ten cars and a boat in the back yard of one Tellurian site never seemed to demonstrate to the caseworker that the occupants might be overcrowded, even though only five adults 'lived' there.


Florek acknowledged that it was bad policy to concentrate the housing units in the program. It is one of the aspects of the



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*Tellurian's description of SOS: The SOS Project provides intensive transitional housing and services to chronically homeless families. The SOS Project serves homeless families who have attempted to enter the Dane County Emergency Shelter System at least 3 times since 1990. The program will provide an apartment for each family and intensive services to assist the family in learning the skills to maintain permanent housing. Families who meet this standard must agree to participate in the SOS Project. If not, they will be ineligible for any Dane County emergency shelter services.*

program that not only magnifies the negative impact on the neighborhood, but also diminishes the effectiveness of the program. It is bad policy, but the established pattern of locating program housing units next to each other makes it appear to be Tellurian policy. Acknowledged as bad policy, and contrary to their assurances it was done. I wanted to figure out why, and Tellurian was not forthcoming with information, so I tried to assemble a scenario consistent with the facts I did have.

- 1) Tellurian pays for properties at a rate calculated in Washington DC by the number of rooms in a unit.
- 2) The buildings used in the program are the ones nobody would ever pay market rate for.
- 3) Landlords of slum properties enjoy getting paid reliably, without the hassle of frequent evictions for nonpayment.
- 4) Putting two SOS families next door to each other is bad for them both.


So at least plausibly: the quality and concentration of the units indicate that the selection is done with something other than the best interests of the program participants in mind. The reliability of the payment to the landlord makes it desirable from his point of view. The difference between what the landlord could get on a good day (remember the five dozen code violations) and what the federal government sets as a rental rate,

yields the potential for side deals, like kickbacks to the operatives of whatever organization might want to rent a slum at top dollar. A slum owner might not be so adverse to returning a portion of the rent to someone who can deliver a steady flow of federal money. The program participants put up with it because they have a problem; "Families who meet this standard must agree to participate in the SOS Project. If not, they will be ineligible for any Dane County emergency shelter services." Someone on the take in that kind of scheme is motivated to get as many families into as many substandard units as possible. (And the more substandard, the better.) Florek explained that the clustered substandard units were the only ones he could get. I have no evidence to the contrary, and his explanation is consistent with renting substandard housing and concentrating units. (Which itself may not comply with government regulations about the kind of housing which can be funded with federal dollars.) He would not elaborate on the methods he employed to find alternatives.

County Supervisor Judy Wilcox was instrumental in obtaining the grant from HUD through the CDBG for Tellurian. After hearing what we had to say she said "It seems as though you have some legitimate concerns." I asked her if she would make a commitment to withholding support from

agencies which would dump people into substandard housing, in concentration, and without adequate support. She answered that she was completely and unequivocally an advocate for a person's right to live where they choose. Several people felt that her reply to my question had nothing to do with my question. Asked to repeat myself, I did just that. Judy Wilcox came out firmly and resolutely on the side of a person's choice; "I'm not ever going to tell someone where they can and cannot live." A second time, several participants felt she had either completely misunderstood the question, or she was being evasive, and said so. After a third request that she commit to withholding financial support from social service agencies which house poor people in brutally substandard housing, without sufficient support and guidance, and in clusters of housing units, she finally committed to withholding support from those agencies which concentrate the housing units.


I admire and fully support Wilcox's stand on the freedom of an individual to live where they choose. I find it glaringly inconsistent with her support for the SOS program, into which people are forced (they could choose to lose all county assistance as an alternative) and which dumps them into subsidized squalor. Under the SOS program, the participants don't have any choice.



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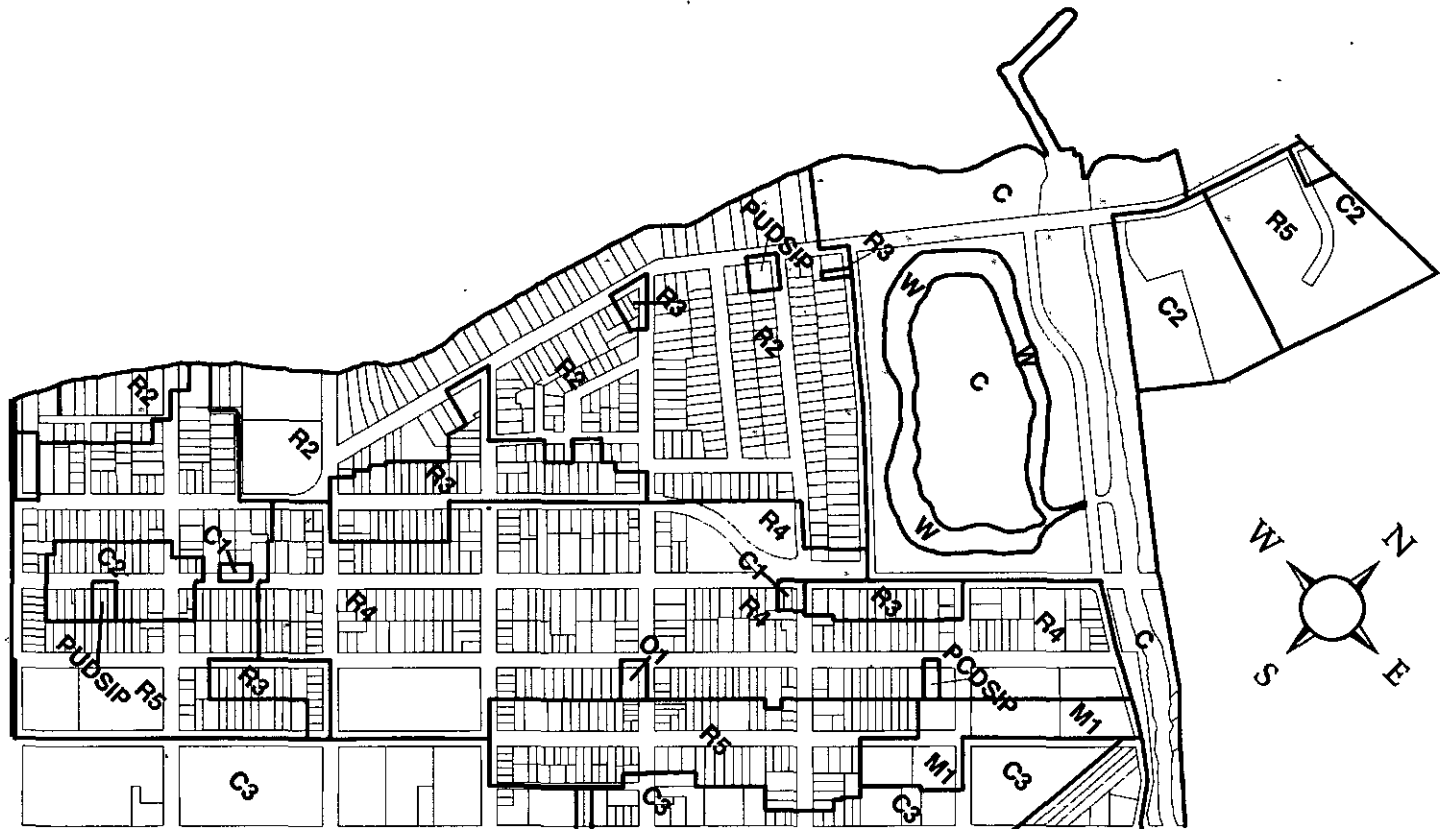
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Happy Holidays to All

823 E. Johnson Street 256-7310

# R2 Zoning Code Advisory Board has first meeting

Bob Kinderman.



The first meeting of the R2 (single family dwelling) Advisory Committee was held on Monday evening, October 15th. This committee was created by the city council in response to ongoing concerns about the possible need for changes in the zoning ordinance. As stated in the resolution creating the committee, it is a neighborhood advisory committee created to provide input regarding the standards and process of granting variances and to consider possible amendments to the zoning code for R2 single family residential zoning districts.

The purpose of the committee is to "identify potential revisions to the existing R2 and R2S codes which are consistent with good urban design and neighborhood character, consider whether a new code for 5,000 square foot lots would be beneficial, submit interim reports on a regular basis to the Plan Commission and Neighborhood Associations, and conclude its work and report its final recommendations to the Plan Commission and Council no later than May, 1998".

Committee membership consists of John Martens and Christopher Dodge from the Zoning Board of Appeals, Tom Hirsch and Lou Host-Jablonski from the architec-

tural and development community, Stuart Levitan from the Planning Commission, Priscilla Arsove from the Dudgeon-Monroe neighborhood, Karen Cornwell and Ron Rosner from the Regent neighborhood, Steve Larson and Steve Schaefer from neighborhoods in the 11th and 13th wards, and GiGi Holland, Diane Milligan and myself from the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood. In addition to the committee members the meeting was attended by several staff people from the Zoning and Planning depts., and a few observers.

Our first meeting was taken up with getting organized and hearing some background information. We set the second and fourth Mondays at 6:00 p.m. for our regular meeting times. The meetings are held in room 300 of the Municipal Building. All meetings are open to the public and one of the topics discussed at the first meeting was how to set aside time for public input. GiGi, Diane and I are looking forward to representing our neighborhood on this committee and are eager to hear from you any concerns and suggestions you have regarding this issue. On Wednesday, November 12th, we will be having a meeting at 7:00

p.m. to update any and all interested on the activities of the committee and listen to your ideas on this important topic. The meeting will be held at The Livery, 200 N. Blount (corner of Blount and Dayton). If you are unable to meet with us on November 12th, please feel free to call any of us at the following numbers: GiGi Holland 251 8586; Diane Milligan 256 1474; Bob Kinderman 251 1358.

## LEGEND

### RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

- R1 Single Family
- R2 Single Family
- R3 Single Family & Two Family
- R4 Single Family to 8 Units
- R5 Multi-family
- R6 Multi-family
- PUD Planned Unit Development

### PARKS & OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

- C Conservancy

### COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

- C1 Limited Commercial
- C2 General Commercial
- C3 Highway Commercial

### MANUFACTURING DISTRICT

- M1 Limited Manufacturing



# Sukhothai: Restaurant & Community Center

One way to tell how true a restaurant is to its ethnic roots is to see how many of its cultural natives eat there. By this measure, anyone can understand that SukhoThai is a truly special place for Thai food and culture.

Nantana Thepboriruk—or just Nan (pronounced “nahn”) to all who know her—is the owner of SukhoThai, and she lives in the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood with her husband, Hyde Slatter. Before opening the restaurant in 1994, she spent several years as a doctoral student at the UW School of Education and as a cook at Bahn Thai (where she met Hyde), before she opened SukhoThai in June 1994. Having been a professor of education at Chulalonghorn University in Bangkok, she often found herself acting as the head of the Thai Student Association on campus here. Many other Thai students would come and go for a year or two at a time, and they found they could always count on Nan to be a friend and sometimes surrogate mother during their stay. She would help them get acclimated and organize gatherings and field trips, so that the Thai students would not feel alone and could keep in touch with their cultural

roots.

One of her chief motivations in opening the restaurant was to provide a sort of community center for Thai students and others seeking a place to feel a touch of their Thai homeland. She keeps in close touch with the Thai communities in Milwaukee and Chicago and has hosted visiting groups from there and abroad, including Buddhist monks and Thai dancers.

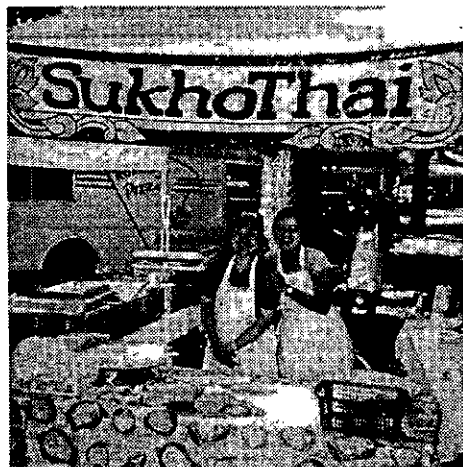
SukhoThai (named after the ancient capital of Thailand) also offers a good taste of Thai culture to anyone curious enough to try it. Many of the dishes on the menu are ones that Nan grew up eating and cooking at home. The range of items offered is quite impressive, and you are sure to find many things not offered by the other Thai restaurants in town.

Some people get scared away from trying Thai food because they have heard that it is extremely spicy. This is not necessarily true. Even though it is traditionally spicier than Americans are used to—much like authentic Mexican food—many dishes are not spicy (noted on the menu), and you can always ask for your own preference on any item.

Once you have gotten hooked on the unique flavors of Thai food, you may be inspired to try cooking it yourself at home. SukhoThai can help you out there, too, since it also acts as a Thai grocery store and cooking school. Nan started teaching cooking classes as Union Mini-Courses well before she started SukhoThai. (Many of her students urged her to open her own restaurant after sampling her work.)

Further evidence of Nan’s cultural outreach effort is the appearance of the SukhoThai food booth at almost every possible outdoor festival in Madison, including Concerts on the Square (via their competitive selection process). Most recently, Nan and her old friend and new business partner, Jiraporn Nam-Arsa, have designed and set up a SukhoThai food cart on the UW Library Mall. You may find Nan’s daughters, Khanjana and Weerawanna (or Wendy), both UW students themselves now, either staffing the food cart or waiting tables in the restaurant.

As you might gather from all these various activities, Nan and her family do not get to spend much time just hanging out around their Tenney-Lapham home, so your chances of seeing them are much better if you come down and try some real Thai home-cooking at SukhoThai—or you can have them cater the next party at your house!



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# Monona Terrace is a White Elephant

Chris Ingersoll

I am an admirer of the work of Frank Lloyd Wright. He is a genius of the first rate, and his ideas have impact on our everyday lives in ways which make them better. His ideas influenced the design of the recently opened Monona Terrace Convention Center, which is beginning to impact our everyday lives, but not necessarily in a positive way.

The convention center is built, so no amount of protest can now undo it. Now that it is completed, however, it might be useful to examine how it really did come about.

A referendum on the subject of gun control was put to the voters, and special interest groups, most notably the NRA, outspent the opposition by a margin of seven to one, and won by a razor-thin margin. Paul Soglin was on the losing side, and proclaimed it a miscarriage of democracy. A year later, a referendum was put before the voters again. Those who stood to profit from the convention center outspent its detractors thirty-two to one and the margin of victory was similarly thin. Paul Soglin proclaimed it a victory.

One of the benefits of having the convention center was all of the money it would generate. A new structure by such a famous

architect would draw tourists, and as a convention center, it would draw business people who would spend money here. While it was built with public funds, it would be self-supporting. It wouldn't block the view of the lake from the square- no it would enhance it!

Even before the doors opened, someone finally punched a few numbers into a calculator and discovered that even with 100% occupancy, the center would lose a million dollars a year. Ald. Mike Verveer assured me that it would all come from hotel taxes, so I wouldn't have to worry about property taxes going up at all.

Many examples exist of the benefits which were highlighted to win our votes, but which have not been realized. It should surprise no one that the costs associated with the project are higher than its advocates advertised. It is indeed a remarkable structure, and those who can afford it appreciate the opportunity to use it.

The Madison Community Orchestra has a long history of giving a free concert in the holiday season. The concert is the center of a canned food drive for charity. Traditionally, this has taken place inside the capitol rotunda, but that is impossible this year because of the renovation. In its at-

tempt to relocate, the organizers of the event investigated the nearest public building with an open space large enough to accommodate the orchestra and audience, Monona Terrace. The orchestra was refused the free use of any space, but the staff helpfully suggested that they might use one of the smaller convention rooms - at a cost of several thousand dollars. I'm not even going to get started on doughnuts.

That the Monona Terrace would be an undesirable place to hold a convention without an attached hotel was never much of a secret. The magnitude of its failure is illustrated by the difficulty in attracting an investor to build one. What greater inducement could a hotelier need than a good convention center - paid for by someone else - next door? If the idea had been a good one, the city would have its pick of several, and might even benefit by selling the rights to build a hotel near the Terrace. What does it say about the convention center when a \$25,000,000 inducement isn't enough? The difference between a hazardous material and toxic waste is the price. One is very expensive to get, the other is expensive to get rid of.

The only real question about public financing for a hotel near the convention

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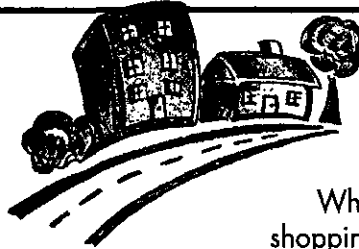
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center is one of damage control. The amount of financial damage to the city might be limited by financing a hotel. It could also be just throwing good money after bad.

The fact that the city is having to cut back on basic services to pay for this disaster is bad. Equally depressing are the things the city council is now doing to protect its unwise investment. The loitering law just passed is a ham-fisted attempt to empower the police with broad authority to harass people who look like they're up to no good. Prior to the referendum, the convention center was described as having large areas open to the public 24 hours a day. I worried that MT would become a \$66 million homeless shelter, and better ones could be built cheaper. Those areas aren't open at night, and the downtown is now safe from loiterers at the terrace, on the square, and on State Street. Whatever the advantages of Monona Terrace may be, they have come at a price of street lights, street sweeping, snow plowing, and a weakened Fourth Amendment. Increased property taxes are the least of it.

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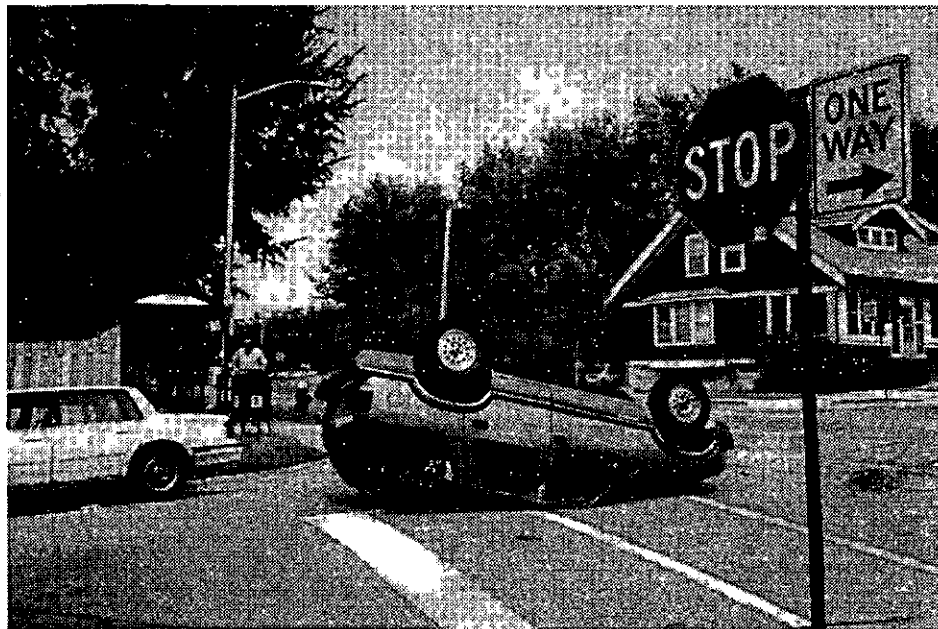
## Neighborhood Support Program

Neighborhood associations are the primary forum and voice for clarifying and articulating neighborhood standards. This ongoing work of our associations is an essential element in maintaining and enhancing our sense of community and our quality of life. To further support the work of these organizations **The Christensen Company will donate \$100 to the pertaining neighborhood association for each real estate sale we participate in during 1997.** This program covers the following neighborhood associations: Tenny Lapham, Old Market Place, Capitol, and Marquette\GWABA.

**Thank you for your referrals.**

# Zoom, Smack, Flip

photo by Tim Olsen

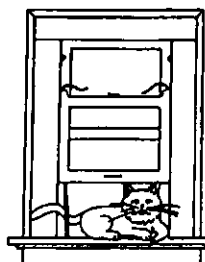


*The Intersection of East Gorham Street with North Few Street is a dangerous one. The car shown at center had just emerged from the acceleration curve between Baldwin and Few when the car at left was trying to cross Gorham. Experts are considering the possibility that a speed in excess of 25 mph may have been reached by the inverted vehicle. This crash occurred on a sunny afternoon. As Winter approaches, be careful.*



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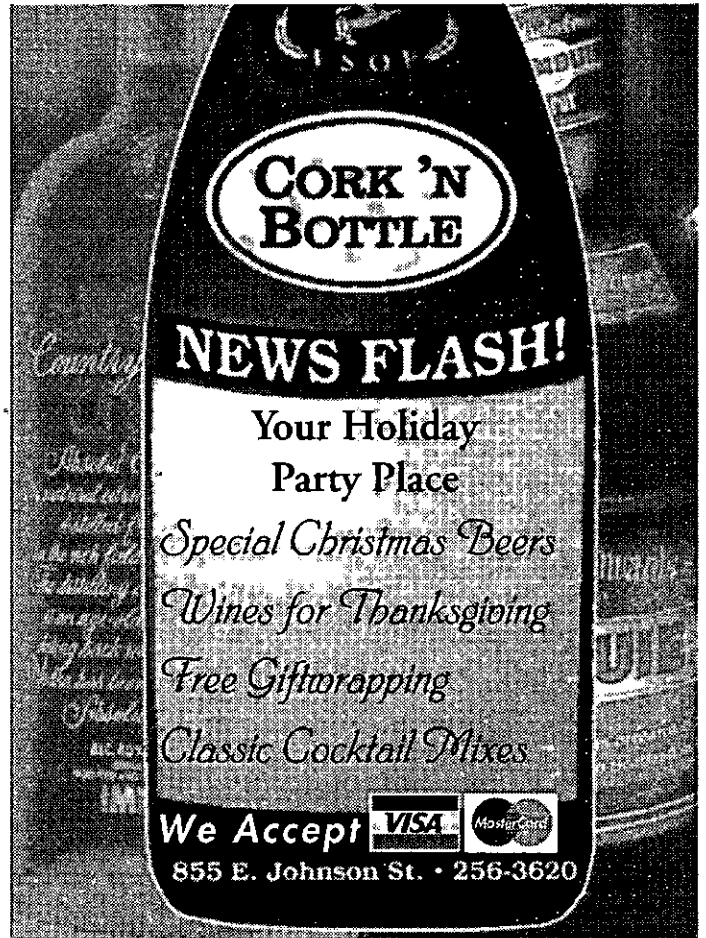


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# Confused about winter parking rules?



Don't panic. Just call the Wizard of Odd's  
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The Wizard is the authority on where to park your car  
overnight on Madison's streets and boulevards.

- He also knows when a Snow Emergency has been declared.
- So, don't get a ticket for parking on the wrong side of the street.

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# Call the Wizard at 261-9111

- Before you leave for home in the evening.
- Any time it snows.
- Before you turn in at night.
- Follow the Wizard's advice and you can get through this winter parking-ticket-free



# Neighborhood Issues

## Traffic Safety

The "Keep our Kids Alive, Drive 25" campaign helped raise awareness that the major traffic corridors through the heart of our neighborhood are not speedways.

## Street Lighting

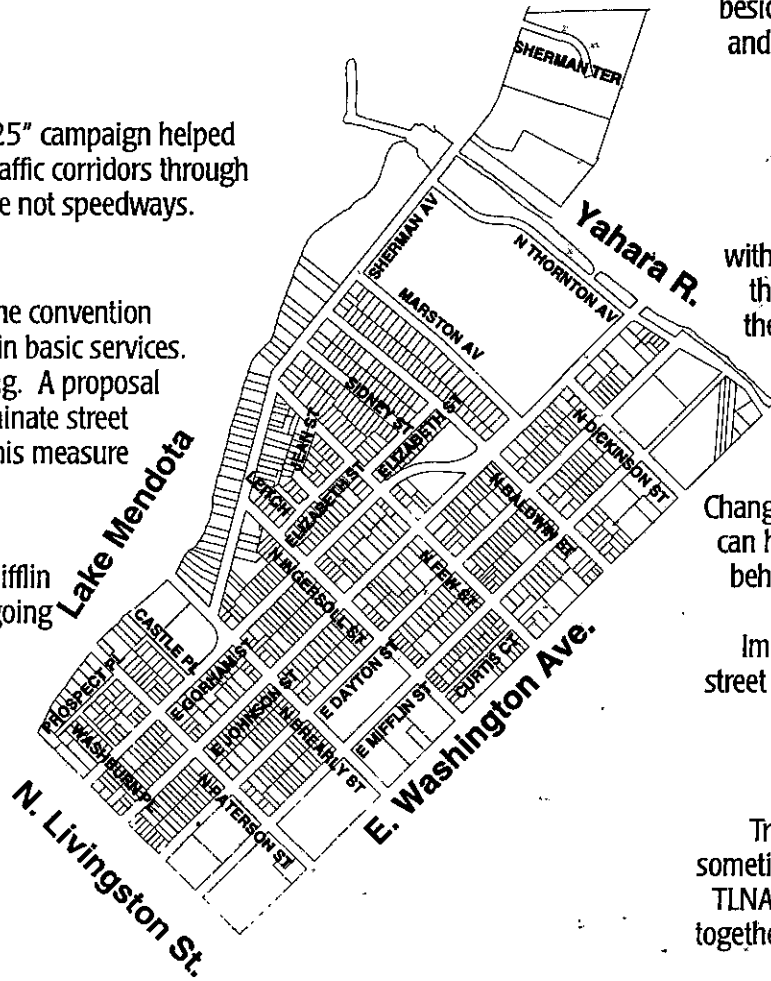
In order to subsidize a hotel for the convention center, cutbacks are being made in basic services. One such cutback is street lighting. A proposal before the city council would eliminate street lighting in our neighborhood. This measure would save \$50,000

## Mifflin Street Corridor

Plans are being made to make Mifflin Street friendlier to bicycle traffic going through the isthmus.

## Zoning

Madison's zoning laws don't reflect the realities of living on an isthmus. TLNA members are working to bring them up to date and make them work for us.



### Yahara River Parkway

A commission is underway to plan and develop the corridor beside the Yahara River for bike and pedestrian use, recreation, and other uses.

### Johnson Street Business District

A vibrant business district within walking distance means that you don't have to hop in the car to get a gallon of milk or a muffin.

### Traffic Calming

Changes made to the streetscape can have a marked effect on the behavior of traffic travelling on the residential streets. Improvements like narrowing street entrances, traffic circles are under consideration.

### Madison Dairy

Trucks parked near the dairy sometimes disturb the neighbors. TLNA and the dairy are working together to keep the impact of the trucks to a minimum.

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**The Newsletter**

*Chris Ingersoll, Outgoing Editor*

This edition of The newsletter of the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association is my last for a while. I am pleased to announce that Bob Shaw will be assuming the editorial mantle beginning next issue. Bob is himself a former newsletter editor, and an active neighborhood association member of long standing.

I have enjoyed being responsible for this publication, as well as its electronic cousin, the *TLNA Web Page*. In this issue as I have in the past, I took the unique opportunity to write about subjects which interested me, and I hope will interest you as well. I have published opinions which were contrary to my own as a matter of course, and I looked forward to the privilege of editorializing as the compensation for the amount of work it takes to produce this publication.

The entire TLOMP Neighborhood Plan is now on the web, and another section about the Reynolds Park Flower Garden is expected soon.

For those of you who wish to contribute articles, artwork, or place advertisements, call Bob Shaw at 255-3486



**Get Involved! Build a Community**

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Minimum dues:  
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Seniors \$1.00  
Business \$5.00

*Additional contributions are welcome!*

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I would like to be involved in the following committee(s):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business       | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity      | <input type="checkbox"/> Education         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Safety         | <input type="checkbox"/> Parks             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social         | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership        |

I would like to volunteer to help maintain one of the neighborhood gardens:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Garden   | <input type="checkbox"/> Gidding's Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly Garden | <input type="checkbox"/> Reynold's Park |