



TENNEY - LAPHAM

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER Spring 2007

School Budget Ax Aimed at Near-East Side

Recently I was listening to a sports related story and the commentator was saying in the next twenty years there will be many great golfers emerging out of China because they are building a network of golf courses. I am glad athletes in China will have as great an opportunity to emerge. On the other hand, it saddens me immensely to think about the contrast we have here in regard to our schools, especially in light of how the latest District Administration Budget Reduction Plan will impact opportunity at our local neighborhood schools. One of the budget items is modestly called the “consolidation plan”. In actuality, it calls for closing Marquette Elementary and Sherman Middle School with wide ranging consequences diminishing educational opportunity for all near east-side students. Much will be heard about this plan in the coming weeks because as dire as it is for how it will affect our students, it does not have much potential for saving money either.

The following are some of the reactions from concerned parents and neighbors.

- Joe Brogan

Anita Krasno

I think the “consolidation” plan, if permitted to go through, would be a disaster for our schools and our neighborhood. First, I really question the assumption that Lapham has enough space to accommodate all the kids from both schools in any comfortable and workable manner. Also, the plan relies on removing the SAGE funding for small class sizes, so that a lot of kids can be packed into each classroom. This means that if SAGE funding becomes available again, Lapham would soon become overcrowded, and the district will need to redraw the boundary lines and send some of our kids to other schools. But of even greater concern to me is the concept of merging O’Keeffe and Sher-

man to form a “mega middle school” at the current Marquette/O’Keeffe site. The socio-economic demographics of a Sherman/O’Keeffe mix would be a lot different than you see at Hamilton, the large west-side middle school that the district holds up as a comparison, and I question whether the school would be able to provide kids with a safe environment conducive to learning.

(continued on page 16)

Pancake Supper

**Tuesday, April 17
6:00-7:30 pm**

**Christ Church
944 E. Gorham**



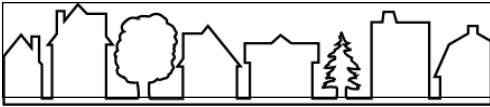
**Join your neighbors at
TLNA’s Annual Pancake
Supper. Enjoy pancakes, sau-
sages, applesauce and beverages**

*Special Guest: Marla Eddy,
Madison’s City Forester,
will give a talk about
Urban Forestry at 6:45*

**Adults - \$3.00
Kids - \$1.50**



Photo by Caroline Hoffman



TLNA Neighborhood Council

President	Patrick McDonnell	441 N. Paterson	pmcdonnell@tds.net	257-0119
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Area B	Richard Freihoefer	919 E. Dayton	rafeihoefer@hotmail.com	256-9393
Area C	Gay Davidson-Zielske	1011 E. Gorham	wipoet@aol.com	257-3844
Area D	Bob Sommerfeldt	610 E. Mifflin	bsegypt@aol.com	255-0266


Elected Officials

Aldersperson	Brenda Konkel	511 E. Mifflin St.	district2@cityofmadison.com	251-2412
County Supervisor	Barbara Vedder	2314 E. Dayton	vedder.barbara@co.dane.wi.us	249-8428
Mayor	Dave Cieslewicz	403 City-County Bldg.	mayor@cityofmadison.com	266-4611
County Executive	Kathleen Falk	421 City-County Bldg.	falk@co.dane.wi.us	266-4114
State Representative	Mark Pocan	418 N. State Capitol	Mark.Pocan@legis.state.wi.us	266-8570
State Senator	Fred Risser	119 M.L.King, Jr., Blvd.	Sen.Risser@legis.state.wi.us	266-1627
Member of Congress	Tammy Baldwin	10 E. Doty St., Room 405	tammy.baldwin@mail.house.gov	258-9800
U.S. Senator	Russ Feingold	8383 Greenway, Middleton	russell_feingold@feingold.senate.gov	828-1200
U.S. Senator	Herb Kohl	14 W. Mifflin St.	senator_kohl@kohl.senate.gov	264-5338

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

The deadline for the Summer 2007 issue is May 15. Views expressed in the newsletter are the views of the writers and not the views of the TLNA Council. The contents of this newsletter along with back issues can be found at TLNA's homepage: <http://danenet.wicip.org/tlna>.

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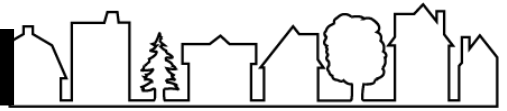


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We're Booked



Books We Never Read and Why

Every book lover has them--those titles that sit on the bookshelf year after year. During your annual dusting, you may pull one down, look it over, open it, flip through the pages. You cradle it a bit and tell yourself, I need to read this. Then back onto the shelf it goes.

Every book lover has them--those titles that will never grace their bookshelves. Those books that for reasons, rational or not, one simply refuses to read.

We have them, and here they are:

I received *Les Miserables* by Victor Hugo as a gift from someone who wanted me to read it so we could discuss it. That was 16 years ago. The length and language remain intimidating. (Jean)

I keep *The Complete Stories of Flannery O'Connor* beside my bed. I consider it a safety book, in case I don't

have anything to read. I've started it a few times; I'm glad it's there. (Jean)

Let me say this up front. Dan Brown is a formula writer. I don't read formula writers. I don't care if *The Da Vinci Code* has a feminist bent. I will not read it. (Ann)

When I think of *Ulysses* by James Joyce, I think of long, stream of consciousness, bawdy. When I think of James Joyce, I think of MCP (male chauvinist pig). Virginia Woolf would agree with me. (Ann)

I will never read:

– Any autobiography or memoir “written” by a former star of stage, small screen, or motion picture show with the exception of Gilda Radner's *It's Always Something*.

– Any book discussing seven habits of highly effective “fill-in-the-blank”

(people, families, teens, mothers, aunts, sisters, dogs, cats, houseplants).

– Any book involving any kind of soup for any kind of soul.

– Anything written by Stephen King (Anna)

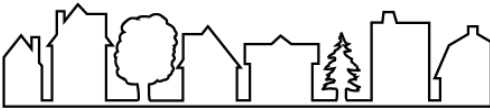
– Jean Dunn, Anna Park, Ann Rulseh

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Parks

Volunteers Needed for Earth Day - Saturday, April 21

Spring is here and, in our beautiful neighborhood, Earth Day is the time to commence spring cleaning and planting. On Saturday, April 21 from 9 to noon we have four parks where you can join your neighbors in tidying up our shared green spaces. We will provide tools (rakes, shovels) and the city will provide trash bags, some rubber gloves and "thank you" bags for the youngsters. You are encouraged to bring your own gloves and any tools you would prefer to use. TLNA will provide snacks and liquid refreshment.



The Reynolds Park Corner Garden, a.k.a., People's Communal Flower Garden, turns 16 this spring. From left to right, Dorothy Rennick, Bob Shaw, John Cummings, and Richard Freihofer are pictured as they build the infrastructure in the spring of 1991. Bob still maintains the garden.

TENNEY & FILENE PARKS

TLNA will coordinate with our good Friends of the Yahara River Parkway (FYRP) on Tenney Park cleanup and plantings. Meet coordinator Ed Jepsen at the Tenney beach parking lot at 9 a.m. on the 21st.

Work activities will run from 9 to 12 noon. We may have 20-25 UW Beta Club volunteers courtesy of City of Madison Parks volunteer coordinator, Laura Whitmore. FYRP will also have flowers and trees/shrubs to plant and

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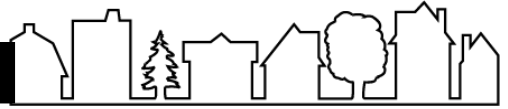
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Parks



perhaps seed to spread. We may also have boats for lagoon cleanup.

JAMES MADISON PARK

Meet coordinator Sandy Ward in front of the boathouse at 9 a.m. On April 17, a group of UW students has volunteered to get an early start on cleanup at James Madison Park. If they are real thorough, we may be able to deploy volunteers to the other parks.

REYNOLDS PARK

Meet coordinator Bob Shaw near the Corner Garden at Dayton/Paterson at 9 a.m. Bring your own rake if you have one.

ADOPT-A-PLOT

While you're participating in E-Day or just taking a walk in the park and you see an area that could use some TLC, consider adopting it. Size does not

matter. In addition to picking up litter, we will, at a later date, provide some instruction on how to control or remove any invasive plants that creep in. If anyone, group or family is so interested email me at sturvoni@tds.net or call me at 255-6931 and we'll provide some coordination to it all.

OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Work has begun on a proposal to replace and upgrade the shelter at Tenney Park as unveiled at the Neighborhood Potluck in January. Funding for this ambitious project would be in the form of city and private sources. A design has been introduced and input is welcome. We are currently tabulating responses from a survey of former shelter renters.

Another active issue is the status of the Collins houses and the land under Lincoln School. The city will form a

committee to study the possibilities. The TLNA Council has voted to support the sale of the land under Lincoln School with expectations that the proceeds of the sale be returned to James Madison for improvements and maintenance.

East High freshman biology students will pull garlic mustard in Tenney Woods (area between the river and Camelot) and the old boathouse site, probably in early May, and East High Advanced Biology students will plant, prune and pull weeds in the same area.

Finally, if anyone would like to help form and join a currently non-existent Tenney-Lapham Parks group or committee just to be part of an identified resource of interested parks people, let me know.

- Jim Sturm

responsiblEnergy

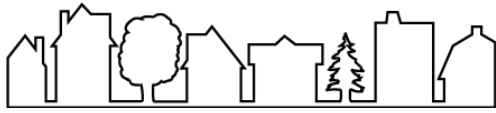


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Lively Discussions Bind Neighbors

Are you seeking an excuse to convene friends and neighbors for stimulating conversation, camaraderie, and inspiration? If so, consider creating or joining a discussion group focused upon a topic related to sustainability through a program supported by *Sustain Dane*. Several families living on Sidney and Elizabeth Streets have tried it and liked it.

Last winter and spring, we (Lauren Bern and John Bell, Jeannette Deloya and Arthur Ross, Jean and Jim Dunn, Ann and Dan Halbach, Ann Rulseh and Tom Kasper, Karen and Alan Crossley) delved deeper and deeper into *Voluntary Simplicity* in eight sessions spanning several months. Based upon the program, reading material, and discussion topics offered by the North West Earth Institute and presented locally by *Sustain Dane*, we got together in one another's homes every other week or so and shared ideas, meaningful conversation, questions, tasty food and drink. Examples of topics we addressed include: *The Meaning of Simplicity, Living More with Less, Your Money or Your Life, Do You Have the Time, How Much is Enough, Swimming Against the Tide, and The Practice of Simplicity.*

This winter, we've decided to join together again and partake of a new series of discussions. This time the course is called *Discovering a Sense of Place*. We're only several sessions into it at the

time of this writing, so please ask any of us for more information and details when you see us later in the spring.

Sustain Dane presently offers seven sustainability courses: *Voluntary Simplicity, Discovering a Sense of Place, Choices for Sustainable Living, Healthy Children-Healthy Planet, Exploring Deep Ecology, Globalization and Its Critics*, and brand-new *Global Warming: Changing Course*. Each course includes eight sessions except that last one composed of only four. The courses are self-facilitated and designed to provide an enjoyable, supportive forum in which friends, neighbors, and/or colleagues examine personal values and habits, engage in stimulating reading and discussion, and make personal changes if desired. In Dane County alone, already over 1,000 community members have participated in one or more of these courses. Registration and support via *Sustain Dane* are free, however the supplemental book of readings for each course costs \$20.

If launching or participating in one of these discussion groups sounds worthwhile and fun, please ask any of us mentioned above for more information. Or, contact Ann Scheerer, Discussion Course Coordinator, *Sustain Dane*, directly at: 819-0689, or ann@sustaindane.org and get started. I think you'll be glad you did!

Karen Crossley

School Board Faces Big Challenges

The Madison Board of Education is faced with several great challenges over the next several months. These challenges include hiring a new superintendent, budget shortfall, and school safety. I would like to update the readers of the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood newsletter on several matters that the Madison school board is addressing that affect district policy.

First, Superintendent Art Rainwater will retire at the end of June 2008. The board will be working with a consultant to assist in hiring the next superintendent. Second, as you may have heard, the Madison School District faces another year of budget reductions totaling \$7.1 million dollars. The administration has recommended budget reductions that consolidates schools, increase class sizes and eliminates programs. While there are program efficiencies that can be achieved, the state imposed revenue limits have a crippling affect on our school district.

The lack of state and federal funding, unfunded and under funded mandates, and revenue limits all contribute to the annual budget woes that ultimately result in the reduction of services to our students. Third, the Board continues to discuss and analyze school safety concerns. These concerns will result in changes that will lead from a punitive approach to a preventive and restorative

continued on page 7

ikens

hardwood floors

installation - designs
repairs - sanding
staining - finishing

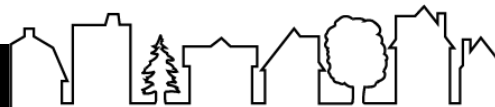
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Shop Your Block

The other day a customer spoke of a shop she had not visited yet. The reason she had not ventured in was the fear of being the only customer in a small shop. She feared she would feel obliged to buy something right then. The guilt and fear of that personal shopping experience was frightening to her.

I completely understood this feeling; I have been on both sides of it. As a shopper I sometimes relish the anonymity of a big busy box store. As a shop owner I know I have patiently waited for the first shopper of the day and have bombarded a browser with questions or suggestions.

This delicate balance of the personal shopping experience is one that we have to re-familiarize ourselves with to combat the new world of super-sized retail.

There was a time when the pharmacist in town, the one who knew all of your family's ailments and afflictions, would be sitting next to you at church or a town hall meeting. Now, with huge pharmacies and unrecognizable cashiers, we can count on a certain amount of anonymity in our shopping experiences.

Madison is a city filled with people who value the unique character of the neighborhoods and business districts they live in. Small shop owners value the support their neighborhoods give to them and want to serve them as best as they can.

Amy Stewart, author of a new book on the floral industry, *"Flower Confidential: The Good, the Bad and the Beautiful in the Business of Flowers."* wrote a beautiful Op-Ed piece in the New York Times on Valentine's Day about the importance of urban flower shops. She asked, *"...if flower shops go extinct, what have we lost?"* Her answer was found in a scene she witnessed, that looked a lot like my shop this year on Valentine's Day: *"I once sat in a florist's workroom on Valentine's Day,*

and I listened as desperate husbands and lovesick suitors called seeking the calm, good-natured help of a stranger who understood what was at stake. You can place your heart into the hands of a florist. Flower shops remind us of who we are – fragile, transitory creatures, not nearly as tough as our briefcases make us look. They call our attention to the passing of spring and to the fullness of love. Every city needs that."

While you may not place your heart into the hands of your liquor store or corner store, I think the sentiment is true of all small businesses. The personal relationship you build with the shopkeepers and them with you is what connects us all to our community, our families and ourselves.

As spring finally arrives please use the nice days to re-familiarize yourself with the personal shopping experience of East Johnson Street. I know it can be frightening to be the only customer in a small shop sometimes, but I promise we never expect you to buy anything...at least not your first time in!

- Ruth Rohlich
StudioBloom Floral Shop

School Board (from page 6)

justice model. This model will increase school safety and lead to changes in the student Code of Conduct and Board policy that can be applied fairly to all students. The challenges of safety are issues that we must all work on in collaboration to solve.

Thank you for your interest and support of the MMSD.

- Johnny Winston, Jr. is the President of the Madison School Board. Comments can be sent to all board members at comments@madison.k12.wi.us.

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neighborhood
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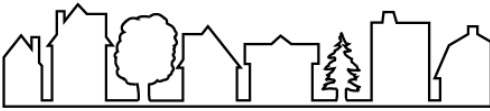


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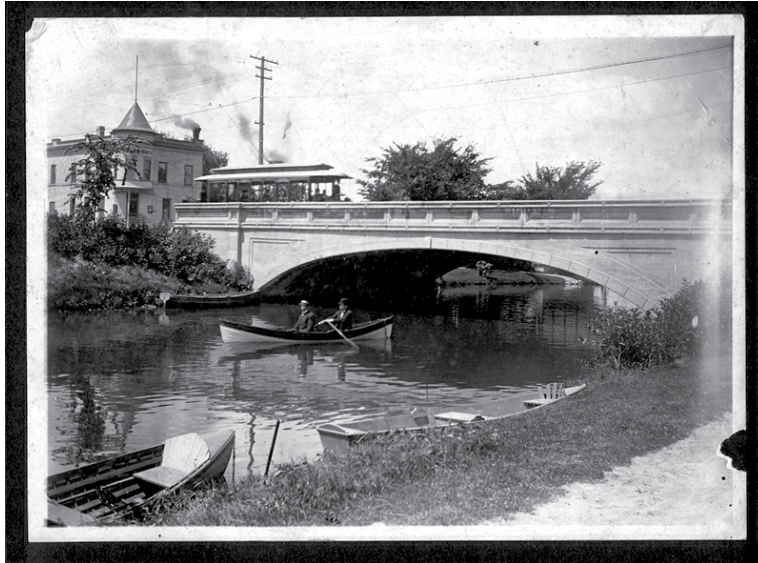
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Walking Tour of Yahara River Parkway Brochure Coming Soon

Ever wonder how Tenney Park came to be? Which park had the curling rink? Where the first Lapham School was located? Or how long Mickey's Tavern at Thornton and Williamson has been a place to meet the neighbors and imbibe a cool one? Check out the accompanying photo for a clue on that last one. Hey is that really a street car? Is that Mayor Dave driving?



copies for their residents. We also want a few copies for the schools, city agencies, historical societies and developers.

Here's where you can help. The neighborhood associations support many worthwhile projects and their funds are stretched. The Tenney-Lapham Council voted support for the printing costs, but requested that the money residents from TLNA donate to this project be used to offset TLNA's donation. That leaves more funds to help

Well to answer those and many other questions, the Friends of the Yahara

River Parkway members are developing a walking tour brochure and webpage. Our goal is to get the webpage up by late spring and the brochure printed by late summer.

The walking tour is being developed in part to celebrate the completion of the underpasses and ped/bike path this spring. It's also a celebration of our east Isthmus neighborhoods and history.

Did you know the centennial of the Yahara Parkway was 2006? Or that Tenney Park celebrated its centennial just a few years ago? Just as we have been working together to renew the park landscape, the goal of the walking tour is to renew our awareness of a cherished neighborhood asset.

The walking tour will cover Tenney Park, the Yahara Parkway and adjacent parks. The bridges and historic struc-

tures will be a focus as well as the immediate neighborhoods. Developing this walking tours will take enthusiasm, volunteers and....ummm.....money? Well we certainly have enthusiasm. We also have a number of highly talented volunteers, but we could also use your help. You could share a classic photo of the parks with us or reminiscences of life next to and in the parks and you could help by donating money.

The Friends received a \$2,000 grant from the Dane County Cultural Affairs Commission. The Friends are throwing in another \$1,000 and each neighborhood association looks good for the same amount. The neighborhood associations were specifically asked if they would help with the printing related costs up to a maximum of \$1,000. That way neighborhood funds are being used to print

the association do its important work. So.....

If you would care to help this valuable project and your association's budget, send us a donation, of any size. Also let us know that you live in the Tenney-Lapham area.

We'll make sure you get a copy of the brochure later this year. We are a 501(c) 3 group too so the donation is tax deductible. Oh yes we won't add your name to our or anybody else's mailing list.

Honest!

Checks can be made out to Friends of the Yahara River Parkway and sent to Ed Jepsen, 2317 Oakaridge Avenue, Madison, WI 53704.

- Ed Jepsen



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Mifflin Street Reconstruction Coming

The city will be rebuilding Mifflin Street from North Franklin to North Ingersoll Street this summer. This will involve taking the street out and replacing the storm and sanitary sewers and the water supply lines. New curbs and gutters and driveway aprons will be installed and sections of sidewalk will be replaced as needed.

North Blount Street from E. Johnson to E. Washington will be resurfaced.

The storm sewer will be rebuilt and curbs and gutters will be replaced where necessary. The storm sewer is partially under the terrace on the west side, so the trees there will be removed during the process and replaced later. The sanitary sewer main will also be replaced here.

Work on the project is scheduled to begin May 28th with construction taking 3 to 4 months.

- Bob Sommerfeldt

Annual Art Walk Artists Invited

The Sixth Annual Tenney/Lapham Art Walk will take place on Sunday, June 24 from 1-5pm. Visual artists living in the Tenney/Lapham neighborhood are welcomed to display their work in their homes for the public to see. The artists fee is \$10 per artist. As of this date, the following artists are signed up: Lorna Aaronson, Emily Kircher, Sara Schneckloth, Jeff Wilton, Jane Scharer, Alison Mader, Karl Sheerar, Bill Redinger and Sharon Redinger. Maps will be provided in the summer issue of the Tenney/Lapham Newsletter and at artists homes to guide the public from house to house on this walking tour. If you would like to be in the Art Walk please contact Sharon Redinger (redinger@terracon.net or 256-6282).

- Sharon Redinger

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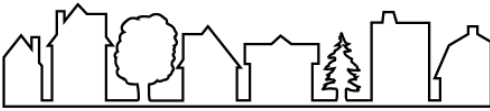
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Musings from Marquette 4th Grade

What's News around Marquette?

Marquette students sponsored a fine arts sale on March 22. Students Emmarose Rankin-Utevsky, Anna Joy Mickle, Linda McClintock, and Linnea Halston, organized the effort to raise money for the sea otters. Homemade arts and crafts were sold for \$3.00 and under.

All three 4th grades either went caving or will go caving. They went/will go to Boaz, Wisconsin to Popp's Cave. While one group caves, the other group will spend time at Camp Stetler, a Girl Scout camp nestled deep in the bluffs. Students at Camp Stetler encounter box elder bugs, enjoy bluff climbing, and have relaxation time. Cavers or spelunkers will burrow 60-65 feet deep to experience bats, dripping water, cave formations, and tiny holes (Mole hole, Keyhole and the Tight Squeeze).

Congratulations to all the students who participated in the "Battle of the Books." That is a competition where students have to read a certain number of books and then compete as teams against other teams testing what was learned by reading those books. The following fourth grade teams competed and won the right to represent the fourth grade in the tri-school "Battle of the Books": Emma Swartz, Jamie Rozzell, Sylvia Hecht, and Maggie Caplan were the "Tic Tac Chickens". Frieda Powell, Annalise Aldin, Olive Earley, and Tabitha Grahn-Galloway were the "Seals". Both of these 4th grade teams took second place in the tri-school (Lowell, Emerson and Marquette) "Battle of the Books".

Math Fest was just held and all of Marquette is celebrating math. First there was a written test and then eight fourth graders and eight fifth graders were chosen to go to Math Fest. All the east-side Elementary Schools were there. One fourth grade Marquette Math Team took first place and another fourth grade Math Team took third.

The fourth grade goes on a lot of field trips. The teachers and students figure it's a good way to learn, and fun to get away. This year some or all of the fourth grades have gone to Old World Wisconsin, to the Farmer's Market, to Lapham School because they have kindergarten buddies, to the Capitol, Veteran's Museum and Historical Museum, to caving/ Camp Stetler, to the Planetarium, and to the Capitol Theater at the Overture Center to see the Lakota Sioux Indian Dance Theatre and a play on the Underground Railroad called "A Cry in the Night".

Finally, Marquette has a new look. Many of the classrooms have been painted and there are now famous or interesting quotes on the walls. Two that we like are:

"The beautiful thing about learning is no one can take it away from you"
- B.B. King

"The love of learning, the sequestered nooks and all the sweet serenity of books." (This one is by the LMC!)

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Hope you enjoyed our "What's News around Marquette!"

by Rachel Mlatowou, Courtney Burns, C.J. Jargue, Nell VandenBrook

Yourself

Scrub yourself
Clean yourself
Cry yourself
Be sad, happy and mad yourself.

Remember yourself
Care yourself
Trust yourself
and most importantly
Love yourself
by Nell VandenBrook

The Everything Drawer

In the Everything drawer there is: tape, pencils and an ape. Crayons, flash cards, matches, markers, and a hatchet to be found. Scissors, glue, dice so new. String, corks, marbles, clay, stickers, tacks, big fat axe. A bracelet reads, "Above the Line". Magic deck, rubber band, and a chopped off hand. Garage sale stickers, Chap Stick, pins, outlet cover, "Oh no, where's my brother?"
by Henry Shotwell

List of stuff that would happen if the world was weird:

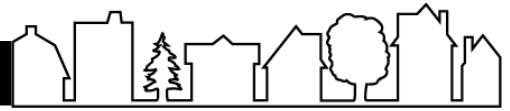
It would rain pigs and frogs.
The water would be plastic.
The roads would be made of marshmallows.
The sky would be green.
The grass would be purple.
The trees would be slimy.
They would arrest people that are good, and elephants would be tiny.
by Josh Spitzer-Resnick

The Starry Night

Starry night
All bright and dark
Beautiful and peaceful
You're always there
No matter what
You're always there
Way up high.
by Julia Edmonds



Ms. McB's Fourth Grade Class



Ice Skating

Courtney: Welcome to the Midnight News. Hello, my name is Courtney and today I saw some older folks walking down the street with their walkers. I also saw a goal taxi waiting for them to cross the street.

Luke: You may not know what she is talking about. My name is Luke. I'm one of Courtney's friends and I was there too. The older folks were really some fourth graders from Marquette Elementary School using chairs on the ice. The goal taxi was really a hockey goal they were pushing around.

Courtney: Luke, I think we should tell them about ourselves. We are from Marquette Elementary School and, our class went ice skating for a field trip. The older folks were kids from our class.

Luke: Remember Courtney we played broom hockey also.

Courtney: Yes, I do remember that. Also, I remember the star player was on your team, right Luke?

Luke: Yeah, he was on my team. The final score was four to one and we won.

Courtney: Yes, you did. When we were done skating, we went into the warming house and got hot chocolate. On our way there and back, Alban tried to sneak off to his house. We stopped him before he got away.

Luke: When we got back to school, we had more hot chocolate. This time with marshmallows that my mom brought.

Courtney: Yum, those marshmallows were great! There were about ten more minutes left of school.

Luke: The class rated the field trip with 21 tens and 3 nines which ended up being an average of 9.91. The highest rated field trip yet!

Courtney: Mrs. McB said that it was her first time going ice skating in all of her 35 years of teaching.

Luke and Courtney: Thanks for watching the Midnight News
by Courtney Burns

The Veteran's Museum Mess-Up

It was October 31st. In the pitch-black night the only light to be seen was the occasional, brilliant three second flashes of lightning. There was a dark hunched shadow that could barely be seen sneaking into the tall foreboding shape of the Veteran's Museum. The shadow was a man by the name of Victor and he was carrying the heart of the most hated vicious warrior that the museum owned.

"Yes," cackled the sinister figure of the Victor Krakenleaf as he smuggled the case inside. "Tonight is the night to bring back my ancestor, James Krakenleaf!"

Even as he spoke it, he felt as if an electric

charge had shocked the air around him. "But now," he muttered, "down to business." And with that, he was gone.

Victor walked inside and closed the gate with barely a creak. Even so, he felt nervous. "Come on, there's nothing to worry about," he chided himself nervously. "The guards are all asleep."

He let out a great "Ha" of laughter, trying to convince himself. Then out of nowhere a night guard's flashlight made a wide arc of light.

"Who's there?" The guard's voice boomed out. "Reveal yourself!" "Nobody here," Victor whispered with fear, hoping the guard wouldn't hear him, and sure enough, the guard turned away to look in other places.

"Whew," Victor muttered. "That was a close call." He slunk into the basement and was lost from sight. "Blast these rickety steps," Victor grumbled. "I feel like they'll cast me into oblivion any second now." He groped in the darkness. Then "Aaah" Victor sighed contentedly. He had found what he was looking for. He felt the plate with his hand. It read, "James" – the rest was scratched out. Victor set up his folding table, got out his supplies and got down to work. Within seconds the room was filled with smoke of varying colors and the smell of chopped liver.

Suddenly a voice boomed out, "Who has dared to call me from the darkness of death?!"

"It is I, your servant, Victor Krakenleaf!" Then the ghostly apparition said, "I am James Thoran, fighter for truth, justice and the abolition of slavery!"

"No," cried Victor, "Go back to the realm of the dead and bring me James Krakenleaf!"

"Are there any wars to fight?"

"No and even if there were, I wouldn't tell you" sneered Victor Krakenleaf

"Very well," said James. "I shall have to start one."

"Actually," said Victor with a sly grin, "The south is acting up again."

"The dirty scoundrels", James yelled. "What did they do this time?"

"I can't remember but they've done something," Victor said.

James Thoran was suspicious immediately and cried out, "I'll give you something to smile about! "You will come with me to the realm of the dead." And he grabbed poor Victor and neither was ever seen again.

by Maggie Caplan

Marie Versaille

On an early Tuesday morning Miss Marie Versaille came bursting into the room with a gigantic dark blue suitcase with white flowers on it. The class was wondering what was in it.

Marie put it on the couch and walked up to the front of the class to introduce herself. She was wearing a red sparkly wig with pink tights and a dark blue dress with hoop earrings.

She then walked over to her suitcase and opened it. There was a ton of different clothes and she asked kids to put them on.

CJ and I were called up to put on yellow shirts and skirts. I was nervous. Then I got embarrassed because my skirt fell down. I was lucky, I had pants on underneath.

We had to do a pose. It was sort of embarrassing, but then again it was a little funny. Marie had us get off the chairs and go back to our seats. AJ had a question so he raised his hand and instead of going around the desks to call on him, she climbed on the desks. That was really funny, I thought.

Marie looked at her watch and it was five hours later. She was gone in a flash. We ordered pizza from Pizza Hut and wow did we have a blast. It was just our little secret!

by Hannah Ralson

Bozo at Build-A-Bear

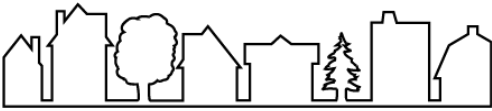
One day I was at Build-A-Bear getting some clothes for Moo, when a sweet little girl walked in. She walked up to Linda (a person that works there). "May I help you", Linda asked. The little girl opened her mouth wide like an alligator and yelled, "I want a pink cat and I want it to be soft and beautiful. And her name will be Princess Kitty Wincles!"

"O.K.," said Linda, too frightened to say anymore. Linda grabbed the already stuffed pink cat off the display shelf and thrust it toward the little girl. The little girl ran over to the clothes wall. She grabbed an outfit with a cheetah spotted skirt and a t-shirt with a picture of the cat on it. The little girl grabbed a handful of accessories and went to the table where you put clothes on your animal. Doing this, the little girl took her time. She forced a wig on the pink cat. She opened up a little plastic cell phone bag and put the paw of the big pink cat into the space where you put the phone. The little girl thought the cat might want a boyfriend. So the little girl grabbed a display bear and went to dress it. She found an army suit. The cadet kissed his new girlfriend. The little girl put many more outfits on the bear and the cat. She loved the way they looked together. She got each of them 14 pairs of sunglasses and three pairs of regular glasses. She made them dance around on the counter. The little girl hummed a little tune so they could dance to music.

The little girl was happy till she got to the price. She threw a fit but really liked the animals and she paid for them. Then she skipped out of Build -A-Bear. Two hours later a grumpy woman came in and said "have you seen a small little girl?" "No", said Linda with a smile on her face. "No I Haven't."

by Rachel

A special thanks to the student writers and their teacher Ms McB.



Friends of the Yahara River Parkway Nominated for Volunteer Award

The Friends of the Yahara River Parkway (FYRP) was chosen by Madison's Park Department as their nominee for the United Way Volunteer Award in 2006 and the group was featured at the Parks Department volunteer appreciation ceremony in February at Olbrich Gardens.

The formation of the Friends group is partially a product of the neighborhood planning process. The mid-1990's neighborhood plan called for parkway improvements and the city, under Mayor Paul Soglin, established the Yahara River Ad Hoc Committee to develop a master plan. The Urban Open Space Foundation saw an opportunity to cultivate a grass roots support group for the parkway with the completion of the master plan in 1997. With grant money from the Madison Community Foundation, the Friends of the Yahara River was formed in 1998. The group became a tax deductible 501(c)3 organization in 2002.

The Friends act as stewards for the river. Membership in FYRP fluctuates between 40-60 volunteers who participate in bi-monthly work parties that



East High students with a mound of garlic mustard

involve planning projects and then doing the planting, weeding, and watering.

Volunteers from the organization also work with Madison area students who volunteer their time as part of class projects. Friends work with East High freshmen biology students who pull up the invasive weed garlic mustard. East senior students in the Advanced Biology class are going to be involved in a more complex monitoring plan. Seventh graders at Marquette also help weed and plant native perennials in the parkway by the school.

Ed Jepsen, current chair, of the Friends said he considers the main accomplish-

ments of the FYRP to be: 1) master plan development – he said this was the key because it lends legitimacy to their goals, 2) underpasses at E. Johnson and E. Washington and the paths (grand opening tentatively scheduled for June), 3) landscaping renovation – hundreds of trees, shrubs, and perennials have been planted along the river and in Tenney Park following the spirit of the original design by O.C. Simonds of over one-hundred years ago, and 4) the impending development of a walking tour brochure

(see related article on page 8).

The major projects for 2007 (besides the walking tour brochure) are continued work in the plantings by the Tenney Park swimming beach and a new project where the Yahara enters Lake Monona.

The Friends are always looking for volunteers for the Saturday workdays. You can contact Ed at 244-8847. If you would like to join FYRP's listserv, contact Margaret Bergamini at margamini@tds.net. The Friend's website is at <http://www.madison.com/communities/foyrp/index.php>.

As Laura Whitmore, volunteer coord-

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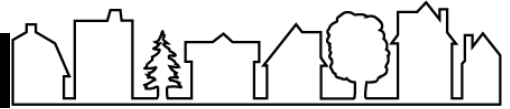
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Parks



dinator for the Park's Department, wrote in her nomination form:

Madison is a community proud of its parks and its heritage. The Yahara River Parkway is a place where both of these come together. The Parks Division has long recognized the significance of this piece of land, but has lacked the proper staff resources to restore and maintain it. The Friends of the Yahara River Parkway have risen to the challenge. With

guidance from the Parks planning staff, the members of the FYRP have volunteered on average 100 hours per month of public education and natural area restoration work – including planting of native species, removal of non-natives, and in times of drought working to keep these things alive!

Madison is a unique community not only because of the physical beauty of the lakes and parks, but because these

lakes and parks are the legacy of the civic-minded Madison Park and Pleasure Drive Association (MPPDA). The MPPDA, founded in 1894, purchased land around the lakes to create parks for the people of Madison. The MPPDA was a forward-looking organization that had the vision to create a Madison we know today.

The Friends of the Yahara River are cut from the same cloth. They are a group of citizens who realize that Madison's past makes Madison what it is today and what Madison will be tomorrow. They are willing to put in sweat, time and money to accomplish the goal. They have set the standard high for all of the parks volunteers and friends groups. They continue to demonstrate year after year what a cooperative spirit and hard work can accomplish."

- Bob Shaw

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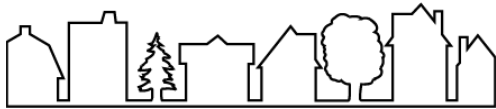
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We are offering you the opportunity of a lifetime to help out a needy family.

In 2004, Christ Presbyterian Church embarked on a campaign called "With Hearts, Hands and Voices." We hoped to raise enough money to refurbish our organ, make a significant contribution to the Area Development Program (ADP) in Nyamagabe, Rwanda, sponsor a needy family through the IHN/YWCA Second Chance apartment program, install a new, more efficient HVAC system in the church and, last but not least, be able to fund a Dane County Habitat for Humanity home build. The generosity of the church members was rapid, tangible and contagious. We quickly reached all of our goals. It is amazing what good-hearted people can accomplish when they join together.

This year the rubber meets the road. It is the year when we put our bodies where our money is. We actually get to build the Habitat home. So we are getting prepared. We have a point person and a committee that is working behind the scenes to get us organized. Our family has been selected by the folks at Habitat; a couple from our church has become the liaison between the family and the church. The members of Christ Church are reading and discussing a book written by Millard Fuller, Habitat's



founder, during Lent.

As we take care of all the preliminaries, this dream of ours is quickly entering the starting blocks. We just learned that our house (two stories, four bedrooms) will be built in the Twin Oaks Subdivision. Our kickoff date is May 5, 2007 and we will be a part of a two-week intense build beginning May 12, 2007. That's right! Some of us will be on sight every single, fun-loving day, helping to build walls, hang joists, nail down floor boards, raise roof rafters, provide lunch for the crew, and eventually shingle the roof. The goal is to have the skeleton of the home completed by the end of the second week (May 26).

This is going to take a lot of time, a lot of food, and a lot of sweat. We will not be able to do this alone. So I would like

to present you with an unprecedented opportunity. If you have ever wanted to help a needy family find dignity through their own sweat equity, if you have ever wanted to give a hand up instead of a hand out, if you ever wanted to bask in the warmth of a job well done by all, please contact me at glenr@tds.net or at 257-4845 ext 23 and tell me how you would like to lend a

hand. We welcome your help.

- Glen Hall Reichelderfer

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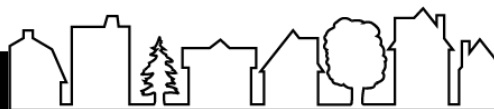


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Business Updates

The East Johnson Business Association is heartbroken to lose **Circa**. Cypress' beautiful shop and amazing creativity will be missed tremendously. We wish her well in her new adventure. Stop by and pick up some great deals as she and PishPosh prepare to close. Thanks for everything you have done over the last few years!

The **Glitter Workshop** is thrilled to announce the expansion of their GlitterNet web server. With new capabilities they can host your site, set up email and much much more. Go to www.theglitterworkshop.com and click on the GlitterNet hosting link on the top for more info. This is definitely something you should check out!

Thieves Coffee is now offering curbside coffee to go 7-9 am weekdays. Just pull up and they'll take your order, get your drink for you and you don't even have to get out of the car! It's kind of like a drive-up window with out the window.

Cork-n-Bottle hosts wine tasting every Saturday afternoon – make sure you stop by and try something new!

StudioBloom is so excited to welcome spring! Stop in for a bunch of tulips or locally grown lilies and iris.

Don't forget....**Mildred's** has daily lunch specials.

Did you know? **Jade Mountain** now has clothing in addition to beads from around the world.

Do you have your **East Johnson Street Discount** card yet? The card that entitles you to 10% off at some of your favorite East Johnson Street Shops? No? How embarrassing for you! Pick one up at any of the following stores: Mildred's, Circa/PishPosh, The Glitter Workshop, StudioBloom, In the Company of Thieves Coffee House and Jade Mountain.

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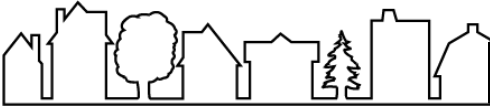
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Schools - from page 1

For years we near east-side parents have been making the case that our neighborhood schools are as good as those you would find on the west side, but if this plan goes through, I think it will be a lot harder to make that argument. In fact, for the first time in the many years I have lived in this neighborhood, I am hearing parents talk about looking for alternatives to our neighborhood schools.

Lapham-Marquette is one of the highest performing elementary schools in the district, yet it has been routinely targeted for consolidation or closure. The constant threat to our schools has been really demoralizing for families with kids, and it should be of concern to everyone in our neighborhood. Good schools are crucial to a thriving neighborhood, whether or not you have school age kids.

Audrey Lesondak

The latest MMSD budget proposal calls for consolidating Lapham and Marquette schools; increasing class sizes at these schools and others; closing Sherman Middle School and sending these kids out of their neighborhoods to Blackhawk and O’Keeffe, and relocating the alternative high school programs at Sherman. These are drastic proposals for the Isthmus and east-side neighborhoods. In the last few years there have been proposals to shrink, to eliminate or combine our neighborhood schools. We will continue to see these kinds of proposals put forth as development on the edges of the city increases and school funding decreases. So the question is how do we make sure kids and communities aren’t uprooted?

I propose that the School Board develop and commit to a policy where no new schools are built until existing schools are adequately funded. With this mandate, community members may be more responsive to referendums both

now and in the future and may plan more carefully as to how and where they locate new housing developments. With elections for new school board members just around the corner, one of our jobs as community members is to get a public commitment from the school board candidates who back this idea.

Lapham, Marquette, and O’Keeffe Schools serve as models for their award winning teaching staffs, awesome collaborative team teaching, and other amazing activities like second-grade drama and choirs. Our schools should not be altered but should be shared models to be proud of? Are we mixing up what might be good for a school district and what might be best for the individual schools and the students they serve?

Perhaps MMSD doesn’t worry so much about offending the voters in our communities with their proposals because the election results show that we support school referendums. So let’s use our combined voices to advocate for a board policy that supports existing neighborhoods and their schools.

Nancy Kathman

I think this is a closing of a neighborhood school and I am strongly against this. Consolidation is just a feel good friendly term that benefits the board. I feel that it is punishing very successful neighborhood schools and the central city. Closing schools pits neighborhood against neighborhood...family against family. Instead of fostering community with walk to schools, this plan creates distrust. It doesn’t foster interdependence of nearby neighborhoods. The mayor recently wrote a letter to the board praising and supporting neighborhood schools. Rumors say that school board candidates supporting this idea ridiculed this letter as meaning nothing.

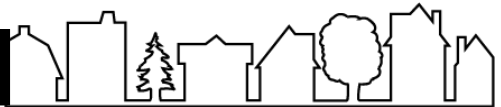
I feel disappointed and stressed out due to these plans. The board has left little time to address these issues and it seems they would prefer to allow

neighbor to fight neighbor to see who stands the longest. A neighborhood school is the heart of a community. Neighborhoods need to feel self worth, authenticity and respect. The board has put us in a win-lose situation. Don’t our citizens, teachers, and children deserve more respect than this? What about the interdependence of the neighborhoods. Will we feel good about each other when this win-fail plan goes forward?

Reports center on the board saving money by this plan. Does it come even close to saving what is needed? At what cost to the near east side of town. How many young families see this plan as proof, that urban sprawl is better since neighborhoods there get new schools while we face closings. Are the assumptions then that it is better to live in the suburbs? Can’t we save significant money if there is less busing? Children can easily walk to their neighborhood schools in these areas where it is impossible on the fringe.

This plan needs to be voted against. Neighbors in all of the areas affected need to contact the board to file complaints and register against this plan. Creative win-win planning can result. The end of busing could make it a Green Plan in these areas where that is possible. That saves money and our earth. Our children need not be put through this yearly struggle with walk to schools in these 3 neighborhoods. Plans for these buildings can be resolved by not looking in either or terms or thinking in dichotomies. This plan does not save enough money to justify the injurious atmosphere and disharmony created. The board is distressed from fear, from a contracted mind that is limited in its ability to see alternatives. Please call the board today and request that this plan is turned down and that creative thinking be used to develop a win-win plan.

Schools



Deborah Mulligan

It is difficult for me to support the consolidation plan because the process has not been transparent. How can we advocate for what may be best for our children when there are so many unanswered questions? What is the real cost benefit analysis of this plan? What are the real savings the District could realize, after transportation and the costs of consolidation are factored in? How does this event feel for our children? For my fourth grader, it feels like going backwards to return to Lapham. He is wondering what will the new school be like; will there be familiar Marquette staff? Will there be safety patrol for the fifth graders? Will the playground accommodate the older kids for recess? Are six grades going to eat lunch in the gym? These are his concerns. It is hard because we are not just losing a building in leaving Marquette, but also possibly the continuity of familiar faces and seamless curriculum.

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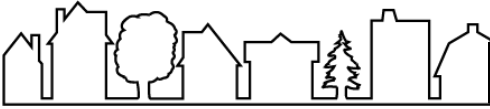
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Safety

Crime Report for the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood - Dec. 2006 thru Feb. 2007

<u>Date</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Crime</u>	<u>Targeted/Stolen</u>
Dec. 2	400 block Marston	Burglary	Unlocked door - credit cards, cash
Dec. 8	400 block Russell Walk	Burglary	Front door forced - DVDs, Playstation games, Playstation II, cell phone
Dec. 9	Marston Ave.	Robbery	Suspect (male, black, 20-23 years old) asks victim to pull over and asks for money. Victim shows him he has \$2-\$3 and suspect pulls jacket back to display handle of gun. Victim gives him \$2, suspect left
Dec. 10	1100 block E. Washington	Burglary	Non-residential - safe entered and cash and checks taken
Dec. 11	1400 block E. Johnson	Graffiti	Tenney Park shelter and signs
Dec. 19	700 block E. Mifflin	Graffiti	Multiple tags
Dec. 20	800 block E. Washington	Burglary	Non-residential - window broken, video game machine & cash
Dec. 25	700 block E. Johnson	Theft	Broken window on auto; CD
Dec. 31	600 block E. Dayton	Robbery/Battery	Victim knocked out, no memory, slightly intoxicated, missing wallet. Was attacked when walking home
Jan. 4	1000 block E. Dayton	Burglary	Unlocked patio door; laptops
Jan. 10	N. Paterson	Sexual Assault	Victim picks up hitchhiker who pulls knife, takes her to house in county and sexually assaults her. Victim is let go and found at house in Westport
Jan. 20	1100 block Curtis Court	Battery	Victim hit with crowbar and golf club during large disturbance between two Hispanic gangs
Jan. 21	700 block E. Mifflin	Graffiti	Two tags on building
Feb. 7	1300 block E. Washington	Graffiti	Blue/silver paint on side of building
Feb. 13	700 block E. Washington	Counterfeiting	Four counterfeit \$100 bills passed by M/B, 30's, 5'8", 155 with gold teeth
Feb. 25	1100 block E. Washington	Burglary	Non-residential; garage panel broken
Feb. 27	400 block N. Few	Burglary	Unlocked door; cell phone, laptop, jewelry

The above information comes from police department's Central District Newsletters - <http://www.madisonpolice.com/central/News/centralnewsL.html>

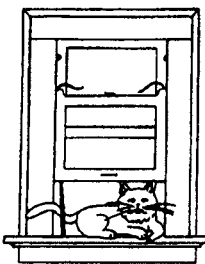
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Housing

ACTIVE

Address	Bdrms	Bath	Square Ft	List Price
35 Sherman Terrace, #4	2	1	852	\$79,900
15 Sherman Terrace, #5	2	1	852	\$92,500
14 Sherman Terrace, #6	2	1	852	\$94,000
11 Sherman Terrace, #4	2	1	852	\$109,900
20 Sherman Terrace, #3	2	1	852	\$114,500
414 N. Livingston, #3	1	1	591	\$149,900
1235 E. Johnson	3	1	1015	\$160,000
102 N. Baldwin	3	1	1128	\$169,900
816 E. Johnson	3	1	902	\$183,000
2 Sherman Terrace, #2	4	2	1704	\$185,000
1248 E. Dayton	4	1	1281	\$189,900
1315 E. Mifflin	2 Units		1557	\$189,900
604 E. Mifflin	3	1	965	\$195,900
111 N. Ingersoll	2 Units		1400	\$199,900
1029 1/2 E. Gorham	3	1	1107	\$199,900
108 N. Brearly	3	1	1138	\$205,900
115 N. Ingersoll	2 Units		788	\$209,900
301 N. Blount	2	1 1/2	1066	\$209,900
313 N. Livingston	3	1	1550	\$214,500
936 E. Dayton	3	2	1174	\$219,000
1118 E. Dayton	3	1	1150	\$232,000
208 N. Ingersoll	3	1	1181	\$244,900
314 N. Brearly	3	1 1/4	1479	\$244,900
414 N. Livingston, #1	2	1	1563	\$245,000
1029 E. Gorham	3	1 3/4	1516	\$249,900
739 E. Johnson	2 Units		2304	\$249,900
1234 E. Mifflin	2 Units		1950	\$249,900
1229 E. Johnson	3	2	1582	\$254,900
1026-1028 E. Gorham	2 Units		2138	\$254,900
305 N. Blount	2	2	1309	\$259,900
1221 Sherman Ave.	3	2	1638	\$299,900
1042-1044 E. Gorham	2 Units		2538	\$299,900
423 N. Paterson	3	1.75		\$324,900
1143 E. Dayton	3	2	2000	\$329,900
940 E. Johnson	4 Units		2000	\$339,900
1339 E. Johnson	3	2	1497	\$359,000
421 Washburn Pl.	5 Units			\$379,900
834 E. Gorham	3 Units		4050	\$399,000
470 Marston	4	3	2772	\$475,000
410 N. Livingston	5		2507	\$699,000
1220 Sherman Ave.	5	4	3471	\$1,200,000
807 E. Johnson	9 Units			\$1,500,000
1658 Sherman Ave.	4	3	3284	\$1,500,000
428 N. Livingston	6 Units			\$1,650,000

PENDING

Address	Bdrms	Bath	Square Ft	List Price
18 Sherman Terrace, #2	2	1	852	\$91,900

SOLD

Address	Days on market	List Price	Sold Price
850 E. Gorham	87	\$249,000	\$225,000
931 E. Johnson	63	\$258,500	\$249,000
1114 E. Johnson	152	\$310,000	\$287,000



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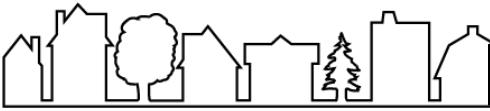
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Neighborhood Occurrences

Elizabeth Street Neighbors Kristy Larson and Mark Roeder have formed a new band (Kristy, most recently played with the Dang-Its) and have upcoming dates at Fyfe's Corner Bistro, 1344 East Washington Ave.

Kristy, on rhythm guitar and vocals, and Mark on fiddle, mandolin, steel guitar, and vocals will be performing vocal driven, tortured honky-tonk in a trio with bassist Steve Kasprzak. Dates scheduled at Fyfe's include Saturday, April 21 from 7-10 and Saturday, May 12 from 7-10.

Kristy recently was nominated in the 'Country Music Entertainer' category of the MAMAs (Madison Area Music Awards) and invites you to vote during April at themamas.org and come to the party on May 12.

Is the city still planting ash trees with the threat of the emerald ash borer coming? Why doesn't the city plant gingkos on the terraces? What can be done about MG&E's drastic pruning of my terrace tree? - Find out the answers to these and other questions at TLNA's Pancake Supper on Tuesday, April 17. Our special guest will be Marla Eddy, Madison's City Forester.



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