

#### TENNEY - LAPHAM

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

Winter 2018

# Three Cheers for Lapham: Wisconsin's First Scholar

Mention Increase Allen Lapham and you'll get a mixed response. His first name is unusual enough to be intriguing, confusing, and forgettable. The last name is associated with so many different things it has lost connection with the man and his story.

Increase Lapham is called things like "Wisconsin's first scientist" or the "Father of the U.S. Weather Service." Plants, a trilobite, and meteor markings are named for him,

as are streets, parks, and even a WWII U.S. Navy ship. I have always thought it was too bad that his story isn't more commonly known, especially among those of us living in 'his' neighborhood and for the many kids who proudly sing 'his' school anthem.

Increase was born in 1811. He was an explorer and tinkerer who was full of delight and appreciation for the land that we now know as Wisconsin. He had a respect for ecology, the Native heritage, and our place in the universe that was unusual for his time.

He moved to the Milwaukee area twelve years before Wisconsin became a state and immediately directed his curiosity and his skills in observation to understanding the region. He wrote the first book written and published in Wisconsin. He studied and wrote about the geography, topography, history, geology, mineralogy, natural history, trees, conservation, soil, and 'antiquities' (Indian mounds) of the region.



He was a man of endless curiosity who drew the flora and fauna of the area with beautiful precision, who surveyed the land and made the first maps of the area, who discovered mounds and archeological sites in the region, and who marveled at everything in the natural world.

Increase called himself a **citizen scientist**. He didn't have a college degree, but he was interested in trying everything. Much like your typical elementary school student!

When I moved to Wisconsin to work for a state-wide cultural organization, I had to get caught up on the people and places of the region's history. That's when I met Rob Nurre, an enthusiastic expert on Increase Lapham.

My first daughter started kindergarten at Lapham Elementary School in 2015, 110 years after it was dedicated in honor of Increase Lapham. Rob is the one who told me that Increase's daughters, Mary and Julia, annually donated something from the explorer's collection to the school on March

7th, his birthday. One year they gave the school one of his microscopes. These items all ended up as part of the enormous Lapham collection at the Wisconsin Historical Society when the school closed briefly in the 1980s.

Currently there is only a small plaque above a bubbler in the school memorializing Wisconsin's first scholar. It is made of tan ceramic and is hard to read, if you even notice it. My kids are not impressed by this boring sign and I agree: it doesn't really speak to Increase Lapham's play-

(continued on page 18)

#### Save the Date for a Mid-Winter Skating Party!

Save the date for a winter weeknight at Tenney Park and Shelter! Your neighborhood association, with the help of generous neighborhood donors, will be offering free evening skate rentals for all interested neighborhood skaters. To warm you up, we will have free warm cozy food from a food truck parked at the shelter. Please watch the neighborhood email listsery, the neighborhood Facebook page and group, and/or Nextdoor for date confirmation and event times.

Don't know how to connect to the email listsery? It's easy! Send an email to tlna-subscribe@yahoogroups.com"



#### 2017-2018 TLNA Neighborhood Council

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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://tenneylapham.org/adrate.html.

The deadline for the Spring, 2018 issue will be March 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://tenneylapham.org/index.html.

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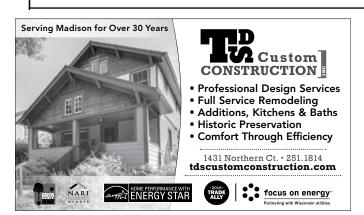
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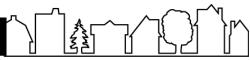
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#### **President's Report**



#### Affordable Housing is TLNA's Focus for 2018



I often wonder if neighbors know what Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association does. Perhaps you know about the social events, like Taste of

Tenney and Party in the Park. If you are reading this, then you know that TLNA publishes a newsletter. Maybe you are a member of the TLNA listserv where announcements and conversations continue. And maybe you have occasion to look at the TLNA web site: tenneylapham.org. We have a Facebook page: tenney-lapham neighborhood association (tlna) and now a Facebook group: Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood.

TLNA also represents the neighborhood in city matters, and many of those city matters have been developments in our neighborhood. You can't have missed the fact that there are new tall buildings along East Washington Avenue. TLNA plays a role in gathering neighborhood feedback for the developers and the city.

In the last few years, TLNA has also elected a theme each year, a different focus each year to help support the neighborhood. In 2017, the theme was Traffic Safety, very logical when you think about the huge increase in housing and businesses in our neighborhood. Traffic of all kinds is increasing with the 50% uptick in people and we want to keep that neighborhood feeling that makes our neighborhood a lovely place to live. With a strong assist from our alder, Ledell Zellers, and in working with Traffic Engineering, TLNA has put together a proposal to help people move more safely through our neighborhood. Traffic Engineering has added stop signs at Paterson and Mifflin Streets,

and at Livingston and Mifflin Streets. They are also conducting a traffic diversion test at Blair and Mifflin Streets. These are meant to help people moving at different speeds coexist. We are still in the working stages of additional changes to make our streets safer.

The focus for 2018 is to promote affordable housing. As the desirability of living on the isthmus skyrockets, so does the cost of living here! Part of what makes Tenney-Lapham a great place to live is its proximity to central Madison combined with the small town feel you get from the variety of housing options. There have been several initiatives to help maintain our eclectic housing stock and convert rental properties to owner-occupied housing.

The city established a fund, now closed, to provide small cap TIF so people could convert small rental buildings, remodel and then live in one of the units.

TLNA worked with the city this year to review the conditions of buildings on

several of our blocks, with the idea that we want quality housing for our rentals and to discourage the deterioration of properties that prompts demolition.

TLNA has supported proposals for new affordable housing and advocated for affordable housing as a component new proposals.

It's true that we as neighbors do not control the economy, the housing market, or city decisions. But we do want to raise our hand and think of ways to encourage economic diversity where we live; to maintain the vibrancy and neighborliness that we value.

Whether it's traffic safety, affordable housing, social events, or development, if there is an area that interests you, I hope you look for ways to add your voice to keep our neighborhood a wonderful place to live.

- Patty Prime





#### **Development Report**

#### 55 Affordable Apartments Opening in January at The Breeze

As you know, our neighborhood's housing stock and population continue to grow quite quickly. In recent years we've seen almost 1,000 new apartments built and more are either seeking approval or on the horizon. There are both benefits and costs to neighborhood growth, but generally TLNA Council has supported the City's need for more housing and its desire to increase density. This approach has helped to increase Madison's tax base, improves chances for better mass transit, boosts walkability and bike-ability, and faciliates sustainable lifestyles.

I encourage you to visit TLNA's development website for details on the larger projects that have been proposed in Tenney-Lapham (T-L):

#### http://www.tenneylapham.org/ development.html

There you can find not just information on present and past projects but also electronic copies of the Neighborhood Plan, TLNA Council's position on affordable housing, and many other documents that help guide development in our neighborhood. If you'd like to learn more and/or get involved in helping to guide future growth and to evaluate development proposals, TLNA Council welcomes your input. Feel free to email me at pwheck@gmail.com.

Below are updates on ongoing and recently completed projects in Tenney-Lapham.

#### **Houden Properties** (700 block E. Johnson, south side)

Shortly after last month's TLNA Council vote (10-4) to oppose this proposal, the Houden team notified the City that they would be submitting their land use application to the City on December 20. A neighborhood association's input is advisory so developers can choose to move forward despite neighborhood opposition. TLNA's opposition to the proposed development was based



The Breeze Apartments

Photo by Bob Shaw

of 2018.

#### Messner Site

on any rezoning request. Public

testimony is usually accepted at

posal, demolitions of three exist-

ing houses, the moving of three others, and construction of two

28-unit apartment buildings with some ground floor commercial

space and a parking level under-

neath would begin in the spring

If the City approves the pro-

all of these meetings.

#### (1314, 1318, and 1326 E. Washington)

Dane County's Request For Proposals (RFP) for a developer/operator for a potentially mixed-use and/or affordable and market rate housing development on this site had seven different responses. The proposal evaluation and selection committee, which includes David Staples of the Tenney Nursery and Parent Center Board as TLNA's official representative on the panel, has scored the proposals and recommended a winner to the County. The County has been negotiating with that winning developer and District 2 County Supervisor Heidi Wegleitner reports that the winner should be revealed prior to or at the Jan. 4, 2018 County Board meeting.

After the County Board approves that selection and County Executive Joe Parisi concurs, the developer will begin the usual City of Madison development approval process. The developer will also need to line up their financing, including the portions that will support their proposed affordable housing component. As is typical of all development proposals in T-L, Alder Zellers is likely to first call a neighborhood meeting so the chosen developer can present their concept and take initial input. A TLNA steering committee will then form where finer details of the proposal will be discussed and neighborhood input will be addressed and potentially be used to improve the proposal. Eventually,

mostly on objections to the demolition or moving of six houses in a built portion of the neighborhood, the large scale of the proposed replacement buildings, the lack of affordable housing in the new apartments, and the proposal's aspects that did not follow the T-L Neighborhood Plan.

The City's consideration of the proposal has started, including the developer's Dec. 11 appearance before the Landmarks Commission seeking approval for their proposed house demolitions and house moves, the latter of which also require demolition permits. In this situation, Landmarks is advisory only to the Plan Commission which makes the actual decisions concerning proposed demolitions.

It is expected that the Houden proposal will be presented informally at the Urban Design Commission (UDC) on Dec. 20 or Jan. 10, with formal consideration by UDC at a subsequent meeting. In this situation, the opinions of UDC are also considered advisory only because the proposal and its site do not fall in any category or district that require formal UDC approval, e.g., an Urban Design District. The Plan Commission is expected to see the proposal at a February meeting where they could consider the demolitions, conditional uses needed for the proposal, the expected rezoning request, etc. Eventually, common council will also need to vote

#### **Development Report**

UDC and Plan Commission will need to approve the proposal. It will also be considered by various city departments and other appropriate committees.

#### Renaissance Property Group (Blount/Johnson)

Excavation for the new E. Johnson building (next to the Caribou) with ground floor commercial space and 21 micro-units is ongoing and construction should start soon. One of the two houses that were on E. Johnson has been moved to E. Dayton across from Das Kronenberg and the other demolished. Excavation for the new 8-unit apartment building at Dayton and Blount should start soon—the house at that corner was also demolished. The three remaining homes on Blount behind the Caribou/Laundromat will also see exterior improvements made.

#### Homeless Resource Center (615 E. Washington)

The day shelter (The Beacon) on E. Washington across from the Salvation Army is open daily from 8am to 5pm. There are many volunteer opportunities available and donations of funds and goods are welcome – all of this is detailed on the Beacon's website and Facebook page. The number of clients they are serving has easily exceeded their original estimates, accentuating the need for The Beacon to receive community support.

#### Stone House Development (1000 block E. Washington)

The Lyric high-rise apartment building and parking garage are open and renting. The larger commercial spaces on the lower floors are rented and those businesses are open. Some smaller retail/commercial space is available on the ground floor. The 4-story apartment building (called The Breese Apartments - https://www.thebreese.com/) along Mifflin/Brearly that will consist of 55 affordable and 10 market rate units is

still under construction and expected to open January 2018. There is still no word on plans for the vacant eastern portion of the block. Car-X has moved to near the corner of E. Johnson and E. Washington and Stone House purchased that smaller lot. Stone House is just beginning the city process for getting approval to demolish the Car-X building.

#### Galaxie (800 block E. Washington)

Most of the 24 Starliner Condos behind the Galaxie have sold. These 1-story condos are in the 4-story E. Mifflin building closest to Paterson. The Starliner Lofts in the E. Mifflin building directly behind Festival Foods are also on the market, but fewer have sold due in part to their being completed just recently with some still finishing up. That building contains 2-story live-work condos with single-level condos on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

Some commercial/retail space in the Galaxie itself remains available, but several new tenants have recently been secured. Deloitte will be moving its Madison offices to a large space in the Galaxie while Eye Contact and Kismet Salon will be opening on the ground floor.

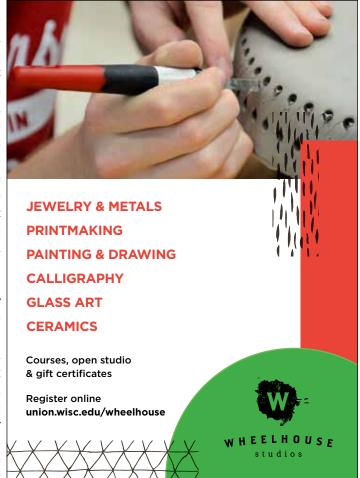
#### Salvation Army (630 E. Washington)

The Salvation Army is working with their national and/or regional offices to revamp their previous redevelopment plan for the site that included new Salvation Army facilities as well as affordable and market rate housing. TLNA will be sure to share any information we receive about those plans. Several TLNA representatives, Salvation Army staff, neighbors and Madison Police Department officers continue to meet periodically to help build better relationships between all of those entities, which is key both for improving the experiences of Salvation Army's clients and the neighborhood.

#### Veritas Village (700 block E Mifflin & E. Dayton)

This development consisting of 189 apartments and a parking level underneath is complete and renting.

- Patrick Heck TLNA Development Chair



#### North Street Cabaret Sparks New Life on the Eastside

If you want to add a little hipster swing in your step for the new year, head over to the North Street Cabaret on ... where else, North Street. It's only five minutes by car and 10 minutes by bike for TLNA folks. Along with the Tip Top Tavern and Ogden's North Street Diner, the cabaret is adding cool cachet to this funky corner at North St. and Commercial.

Cabaret manager Al Rasho came

to Madison four years ago, after a career as a filmmaker, art instructor and owner of The Piano Man, a jazz club near Wrigley Field in Chicago. Tip Top owner Ben Altschul bought the old Grieg Club building a few years ago, with plans to turn it into a music venue. The cabaret was opened this past June, and Al and his staff of six have big plans for the future. The space has been transformed into a nightclub offering a great range of music, with a dedicated stage and sound system. Al also has new ideas for the cabaret's food menu after the new year. (He's promising some grand desserts, too.)

From jazz by Madison mainstays like Hanah Jon Taylor and Ben Ferris, New York sax player Tony Malaby, bluegrass bands like The Piper Road String Band, and the cool Claudettes from Chicago, the cabaret is a hopping place on Friday



and Saturday nights. Live comedy acts, swinging blues bands and metal groups have also popped up on the cabaret's eclectic stage. Al has also been working with promoter Bob Queen to bring in performers from other countries when they show up in town for Central Park festivals.

The cabaret's slogan is "Inclusivity is our highest priority. All are welcome at the cabaret." My wife Anne and I visited the club on two nights this fall, and that slogan rang true both evenings. The crowd was a mix of neighbors, college students, seniors like us, male and female.

The first time we visited the Cabaret, we swayed and hummed along with Teneia Saunders-Eichelberger and her husband Ben. This Mississippi duo kept the place rocking and rolling with their bluesy sound. Our second visit was a blast from the past, when the Piper Road String Band showed up. For those of us who moved to Madison in the '70s, we can remember this bluegrass band from those days gone by. Yes, several of the original members are still moving and grooving with this marvelous band. Both times, we were able to ride our bikes and park right in front of the building. You can't beat the music and the accessibility.

So there you have it. You don't want to be sitting around on those upcoming weekend nights staring at that old boring screen; you want to be cool and hip and super fine, at the North Street Cabaret. We're looking forward to seeing you there on a cold winter or steamy hot summer night.

- David Wallner





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#### **U-Frame-It to Exhibit Neighborhood Artist in January**

Featured at U-Frame-It on the corner of N. Paterson and E. Johnson in January and February of 2018 will be an exhibit of paintings by Rick Kelly, our neighbor on E. Dayton

street.



Kelli Hoppman, proprietor of U-Frame-It, says she has been urging Rick to exhibit his work for many years. She calls his work colorful, sometimes ironic, cheerful, and charming. Rick says he paints to make himself and others happy

and to show what people may become in heaven, perhaps after they become more spiritually evolved.

Rick has lived in the neighborhood for twenty-seven years. He's glad he lives in a place so supportive of the arts. His neighbors are eager to have this rare opportunity to see and purchase



his work.

Proceeds from the sales will be donated to a local food pantry.

- Ken Vogel





#### **Parks**

#### A Reflection on Breese Stevens in 2017 - And Looking Forward to 2018

Hello Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood!

Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Ava Janssen and on September 1st, 2017 I was promoted to Director of Events and Marketing at Breese Stevens Field. If you've attended a Breese Stevens Field event or answered your door for a lady with a half sheet about concert information, it's likely you've already met me. I was the first (and only!) intern in 2016 and couldn't be more excited to take on this role. Joining me is Tryg Chinander who was promoted to the position of Director of Operations on September 1st. We can't wait to get started in 2018 with you all. In the meantime, let's look back on everything that happened at Breese Stevens Field in 2017. In 2017, we hosted:

- Two brand new sport leagues including a one day culturally centered Bocce Festiva and tournament, and an eight week long co-ed Monday night Kickball league which will return in 2018 (registration is opening up in February folks, check our website for updates!)
- Four Bodegas with a lineup of over 60 local and incredibly talented vendors and food carts. Our September Bodega featured the Okee Dokee Brothers and we donated almost \$500 to local schools from that night's beverage sales.
- Five Catch & Reel movie and fish fry nights that over one thousand people attended.
- Six incredible festivals including Curdfest, Mad Gael Irish Music Festi-

val, and Yum Yum Fest which we were able to give back by donating a total of \$10,000 to the Community Action Coalition Double Dollars Program and The River Food Pantry.

- Seven concerts with Frank Productions that ended up raising over \$15,000 for the Madison Parks Foundation. We even welcomed back the Avett Brothers, who was our first musical guest when we were trying it all out in 2015.
- Twelve different sporting clubs and teams who came out and enjoyed our field. We had everything from East High to Womens Rugby to Hurling and even Quidditch teams coming from as far away as Colorado.

And a partridge in a pear tree. We're joking of course, but we did a lot of

#### responsibl@nergy

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#### **Parks**

other things as well. In September we hosted our first wedding. In November in conjunction with Festival Foods we organized and hosted the Festival Foods Turkey Trot that benefited The Boys & Girls Club of Dane County as well as The YMCA of Dane County, which raised over \$20,000 for those organizations.

We hope to make 2018 our best year yet. We are thrilled with the events we have booked so far, and the changes coming to our facility in the fall. On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, The Queens of the Stone Age will be hitting our stage, and we just recently announced that Yum Yum Fest will be returning on August 19<sup>th</sup>. East High will remain a staple on our schedule and we wish the Purgolders a happy winter break, we can't wait to see you all in the Spring! The Lancers (East High and La Follette) Lacrosse will be using Breese Stevens Field as their home field for both

the boys and girls this year so be sure to stop by for a game.

As for our renovations planned, we have a 3,750 square foot addition coming to the West end of the field that will host a brand new kitchen, concessions space, walk in cooler and freezer, as well as provide field level restrooms. This addition will help us cut down lines and production time at our events and provide an even higher level of service to our guests. Construction is planned

for the fall of 2018 and will open in 2019, so take one last look at those beautiful blue shipping containers!

We are going to be doing a lot of event announcements in the early months of 2018, so please stay updated on our website, Face-

book, or by subscribing to our newsletter to be the first to know about all our events. Everyone think warm thoughts, and have a Happy New Year!

- Ava & Your Friends at Breese Stevens Field





#### Who's Nextdoor? People Being People

One of the saddest six-word short stories is also one of the saddest ads: "For Sale. Baby Shoes. Never worn." Purported to be penned by Hemingway, who knew a thing or two about terseness, the quote is probably a little more poignant than the usual everyday practical and straightforward postings found in the Classified section of the neighborhood bulletin board/ website that is serving, uniting (and sometimes dividing) neighborhoods across the country: Next Door.

As stated on their website, Nextdoor is "Based in San Francisco, California... founded in 2010" and is funded by a lengthy consortium of business concerns and financial "angels" Nextdoor (ND from now on) serves 161,000 neighborhoods across the country, with seventeen different neighborhoods just within Madison. A "New York Times" article ("Nextdoor Social Network Digs Deep into Neighborhoods" by Mike Isaac, March 9, 2015) describes ND as follows: "a modern, more attractive version of a community email list service." In the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood (TLN) ND has 774 members in 610 households, which represents 17% of the 3510 households in the entire neighborhood.

If in 2015, according to Isaac, "five million messages [were] exchanged each day" with "80 percent of those posts being discussions of local service providers and businesses" it's not hard to imagine why the service has found wide acceptance. Its 2015 CEO confirms that people like ND because it is based on word of mouth recommendations: "Trust is essential and it has to be authentic," he says. We are advertised at all day long, but we know that there is a hidden agenda for businesses—making money. But, for the most part, if I need something done, I don't just blindly read the ads for services. I ask my bookgroup, my friends. A referral from a person one knows to be honest is much more powerful than a business's slogan.



While I concur that most local users subscribe for very practical reasons, if one reads a typical day of postings, one will find a sort of wild frontier of uses. As Andy Adams, our new TLN chairperson of Communications, puts it, we find "people being people," warts and all. However, there is a kind of virtual sheriff in this wild frontier, as stated in ND's "Help Center / Community Guidelines:

Our mission is to provide a trusted platform where neighbors work together to build stronger, safer, happier communities .... We want all neighbors to feel welcome, safe, and respected when using Nextdoor. For that reason, we've developed a set of Community Guidelines describing what behaviors are – and are not – allowed on Nextdoor. The crux of our Guidelines can be boiled down to one simple statement: Everyone here is your neighbor. Please treat each other with respect....Be helpful, not hurtful.

The site continues: The heart and soul of Nextdoor are the helpful conversations that happen between neighbors. When conversations turn disagreeable, everyone on Nextdoor suffers. Our Guidelines prohibit posts and replies that discriminate against, attack, insult, shame, bully, or belittle others....

That sounds straightforward enough until one actually reads a few responses to even the most seemingly innocuous post. "People being people" sometimes means that individual interpretations of what is "helpful" can vary widely. Though I am a "lead" on ND (and I

don't mind fulfilling the duties most of the time but am not sure how I became so designated) part of my responsibilities include the rather scary burden of having a vote on policing content by making suggestions about what should be banned and what can squeak by. I myself crossed the line early on in the Trump administration by bantering about politics and perhaps violating a difficult rule in these political, polemical times: Don't use ND as a soapbox. My take is that all politics are local and that sometimes it is "helpful, not hurtful" to have the kind of discussion (civil, following rules of debate) that one might find in an actual town square. But I concede that not everyone feels this way and have followed the provision ND makes for this sort of thing-form a Group where like-minded people can discuss politics at length.

Other rules include promoting local businesses and commerce the right way, using your real name and keeping your content clean and legal.

So you are free to grouse if your water is the color of weak tea, as mine seems to be too often, and after you call the Water Utility and get no safisfaction, posting your complaint on ND to get support and ideas from neighbors who may be having the same problem. But you may not threaten or recommend a mob action of taking your basketfull of dripping sepia clothing down and dumping it in the foyer of the Water Utility, as much fun as that might seem. (For the record, I did not and would not dream of doing that.)

Despite these restrictions (and you can be banned from ND if you violate the rules too often or seriously) Next-door is a little bit virtual town square, a little bit community service, and, increasingly, a little bit contentious editorial page. Recently another Lead did a mature and useful thing. He posed the question" What do you want from ND?" after a Next Door neighbor of

his had loudly complained that the posts were becoming more like FB and less like what this neighbor considered the appropriate use of ND—lost and found, recommendations for repairpersons, announcements of community garage sales, and, importantly, crime and police reports. This aggrieved individual was so wrought up that he in fact dropped the nuclear bomb of responses. He would take himself off the service. Obviously, NextDoor responds fast to this threat since if a lot of people grow disgruntled, the purpose of the site is defeated or weakened. To me, it is akin to dropping one's subscription to a magazine (remember those?) if the mag includes a point of view that conflicts with one's own. Though I prefer tolerance and try to practice it myself, I try to take my duties as Lead seriously also. I believe Nextdoor is a wide net and also know that I can adjust my settings on the site to avoid ever having to look at things I'm not interested in. One can also take one's responses off-line and use the Message function to talk to just the individual posting.

The lead who posed the question trying to get some sense of how people want to use ND got a barrage of answers and weeks later is still getting responses. Recently, a surprisingly vituperative exchange erupted on whether or not there is a place for humorous anecdotes. The post occasioning the survey was one seeming to be an actual mugging report that turned out by the third word to be a gentle sendup of the common reports of suspicious activity. (The first perp of a

flying assault from the back of the couch is described as being 2' 3" tall and dressed in sagging diapers) This, on a site usually quite a lot more mundane (a quick scan of posts reveals a pair of gently used hiking boots for sale, a request for a good, cheap handyman, a lost cat and a found dog.) It was cute, cleverly-written and fairly short. I myself imagined a stay at home dad

cooped up with two toddlers and needing a little venting.

But I also recall another post that heavily satirized the many, many reports of cars being rummaged and things tossed in search of change. (It is quite common in our neighborhood not to lock car doors, it seems) In a mock serious tone, the satirist made fun of the victims, implying they were alarmists and perhaps racists or xenophobes. I myself found it in questionable taste, since one only has to be robbed once to feel quite violated.

That kerfuffle blew over in a few days and so will the Fake Bandits. In another instance, my little library was completely emptied once and I inquired on ND whether this was common among other "librarians." The responses ran toward helpful, but one guy felt he needed to shame me for complaining about free books being "stolen." (I had been careful not to use the word—the books are free, but the policy is Take One; Leave One) Rather than duke out our disagreement in public this neighbor and I did take it "outside" and settled with a finally friendly discussion.

But countering the curmudgeon

was another neighbor who came right over and filled my Little Library from her own stash. And so it goes. Recently, to my delight, I discovered a long-standing Song Circle announcement. This group has been meeting regularly for a long time within walking distance of my home—at Cargo Coffee on E. Washington, Wednesdays of each week. I went, I sang, and was warmly welcomed. I'm pretty sure this event would have escaped me had it not been for Nextdoor.

In the large majority of cases, neighbors are using the site exactly as intended—finding a roofer, reporting mysterious sounds or sights that may or may not be dangerous, holding a poetry reading, an art sale, even a political meeting as long as there is no advocating in the post. I'm always happy when I hear that a lost cat has been restored to her owner. But I'm a softie like that. Most people are. All in all, though, political correctness aside (and politics probably best left to its own private group), I like the advice given many, many times by various lovely Madison peacemakers. Before one posts, ask oneself "Is it kind, is it helpful, and is it necessary?" I think I'll post that above my writing desk.

- Norma Gay Prewett Gluten-free, Cruelty-free Girl Reporter



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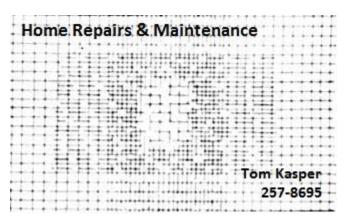
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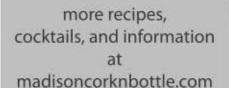
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Congratulations to Anna Wendland for her winning submission to the fall TLNA photo contest.



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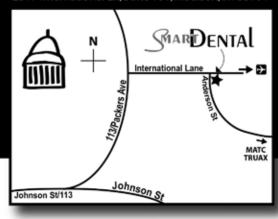
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Tamim Sifri, DDS

#### **County Executive's Report**

#### The Beacon Opens!



It was with great excitement that The Beacon, our new Homeless Day Resource Center located in downtown Madison, opened in early October. Our partnership with the United Way, Catholic

Charities, and the City of Madison will make a real difference at advancing our community's goal of helping those who struggle with homelessness get into housing.

My budget includes \$175,000 for our share of operating The Beacon seven days a week in 2018. Partner agencies across the community will team with Catholic Charities, the operator of The

Beacon, to provide employment and training, mental health, alcohol/drug addiction, and housing services like case management, outreach, and housing navigation for hundreds of men, women, and children who face homelessness.

I'm also including \$100,000 in my budget to help fund Porchlight's Safe Haven, a program that provides transitional housing and case management for those who suffer from mental illness to stabilize their living situation and reduce homelessness.

In addition, my budget includes new money to support the critical work that NAMI (National Association of Mental Illness) Dane County does to better train and prepare front line responders and medical personnel on strategies to help de-escalate incidents where mental illness is a factor.

Addressing homelessness and its underlying causes is a priority in my 2018 budget. Dane County's investments in The Beacon, Safe Haven, and NAMI Dane County are going to help our residents access vital services and improve the overall wellbeing of our community.

- Joe Parisi



#### **Parks**



#### Help Plan the Future of James Madison Park!

What do you love most about James Madison Park? What are your dreams for improvements? What are your concerns? How can James Madison Park best serve our community as Madison grows and changes?

The City of Madison Parks Division invites community members to explore these questions and more during the James Madison Park master plan and

shelter design process. It started in December 2017 and will go through October 2018. The updated James Madison Park master plan will be used as a guide for future development of this iconic park and the existing shelter.

This planning process will include park user and focus group interviews, distribution of comment cards, an online survey (January 2018), and hosting four meetings.

The first meeting - a Community Kickoff Meeting: Master Plan and Shelter Design – will be held from 5:30-8:00 pm on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at the Central Library.

The second meeting - a James Madison PARKitecture Workshop with Hip-Hop Architecture Camp Founder Michael Ford - will be held Saturday, February 10 from 1:00-4:00 pm at the Bubbler at the Central Library.

For information about further meetings and project updates, see https:// www.cityofmadison.com/parks/projects/james-madison-park-master-plan.



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#### **Business**

#### Yoga Coop Inaugurates New Daytime Classes in January

New Year's brings new resolutions often to eat better, exercise more and generally take better care of ourselves in the upcoming year.

To help us with those resolutions, the Yoga Coop of Madison is expanding its weekly class line-up starting January 22 to include two daytime classes on Mondays (10-11:30 a.m. and noon-1:30 p.m.), taught by physical therapist and certified- Iyengar Yoga teacher, Jill Johnson, who recently moved back to Madison from New Hampshire.

"We're thrilled to have Jill back in the community. She brings a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to her teaching," noted Yoga Coop founding member/instructor, Faith Russell. "This also means the Coop can better serve residents looking for daytime classes in the neighborhood."

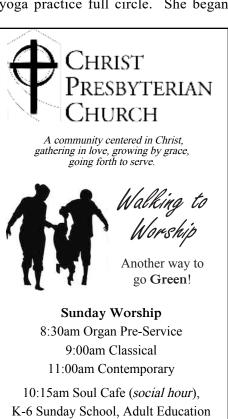
Jill's return to Madison brings her yoga practice full circle. She began taking Iyengar Yoga classes in Madison in 1988. Ten years later, she moved to New Hampshire continuing her studies with East Coast Iyengar teachers and at the Iyengar Yoga Institute in Pune, India. An Intermediate Junior Level II instructor, she has been teaching for 24 years and has a daily practice that includes asana (physical postures), pranayama (breathing techniques), meditation and sutra (sacred texts) study.

The Yoga Coop, located in the heart of our neighborhood at 812 East Dayton Street, offers a full menu of classes for beginners to seasoned practitioners (see <a href="https://www.yogacoop.com">www.yogacoop.com</a> for classes/registration).

Yoga Coop instructors emphasize the yoga philosophy and postures espoused by B.K.S. Iyengar, considered one of world's foremost yoga teachers, which

allows students to develop flexibility and strength as they progress safely through classical yoga postures.

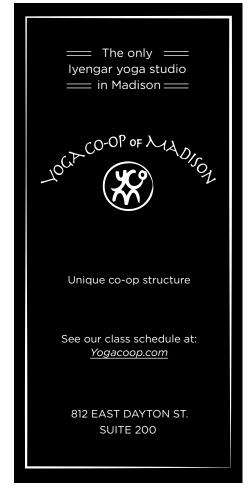


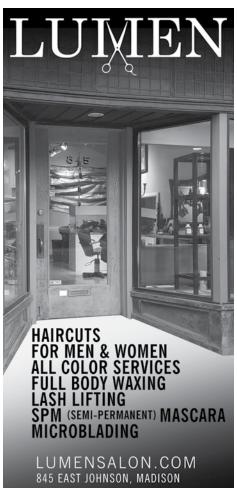


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(Lapham - continued from page 1)

fully curious character.

Here is where the story takes a modern turn: this spring every kindergartner, first and second grader at Lapham Elementary School will make a personal acquaintance with Increase Lapham. Hopefully that antiquated first name will start rolling off the tongues of neighborhood children (and their parents)!

Using grant money from the Madison Community Foundation, with additional funds from our good neighbors Stone House Development and materials from Thermo Fisher Scientific, Lapham Elementary students will be celebrating the legacy of Increase Lapham through art and music and more:

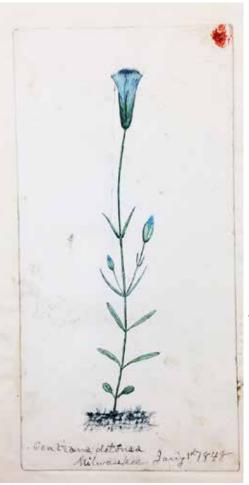
Increase Lapham will spend a day visiting each classroom! Rob Nurre, dressed in period clothing and with pockets filled with trilobites, rocks and other curious bits from the natural world, will come in character to talk with students about the world of Wisconsin in the mid-1800s.

An exhibit about Increase Lapham in the school hall will help students, teachers and parents get to know the curiosities and achievements of this influential Wisconsinite. It will include images of Lapham, copies of some of his drawings and journals, as well as the kinds of scientific and artistic tools he used.

Students will make special notebooks to record their observations on the natural world. Modeled after Lapham's own notebook held in the Wisconsin Historical Society collection, a little pocket in the front of the notebook will

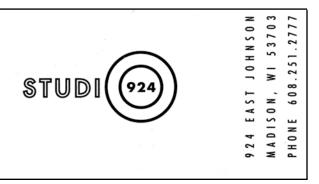
hold a magnifying glass. Fact sheets will be pasted inside the cover of the book. Guest artist Amy Mietzel will spend two weeks in the art classroom to help each student decorate and customize their notebook.

Information about In-



Lapham Flower Study of Gentiana detonsa

crease Lapham's interests and studies will be provided to all teachers so they can make connections within their lessons. For example, in music class students will compose lyrics to a song connecting the dots between life as a Lapham student and the endless curiosity that leads to a life of learning. The Gardener-in-Residence will help the students use their notebooks to record observations in the garden.



#### History

Increase Lapham was interested in and influential in so many spheres, the story has many entry points. There are fun ways for Kindergarten, first and second grade lessons to connect to his studies and accomplishments. For example, my second grader observes the weather every evening and records the data. My kindergartner made binoculars in art class. Now they might also come away from their time at Lapham Elementary School proud that they, like Increase Lapham, are citizen scientists. And curious about all there is left to explore around them!

- Jessica Becker

(This article originally appeared in Jessica's blog - Between Two Lakes

- http://betweentwolakesandahardplace.blogspot.com/

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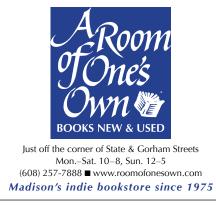
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827 E Mifflin	931	\$274,900
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819 E Mifflin #308	1189	\$374,000
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	\$249,900	\$251,920
60	\$368,000	\$280,000
72	\$299,900	\$290,000
5	\$289,900	\$299,550
2	\$299,900	\$305,000
	\$299,900	\$316,574
	\$321,900	\$341,336
	\$362,900	\$352,769
	\$364,900	\$366,000
		\$370,000
9	\$389,900	\$380,000
27	\$389,900	\$383,000
	\$424,900	\$424,900
	\$419,900	\$428,571
6	\$450,000	\$431,392
	\$425,075	\$450,000
	\$442,675	\$470,653
2 E. Dayton (2 parcels)	\$495,000	\$490,000
	6 115 60 72 5 2 2 9 27 6 2 E. Dayton (2 parcels)	17 \$69,000 6 \$116,800 115 \$335,000 \$249,900 \$249,900 \$249,900 \$299,900 5 \$289,900 2 \$299,900 \$321,900 \$362,900 \$364,900 9 \$389,900 \$419,900 \$419,900 \$425,075 \$442,675





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