



Tenney-Lapham

newsletter

APRIL 1982

GARDEN TIME

April is the month when home gardeners can spring into action.

Cool weather crops like spinach, lettuce, broccoli, swiss chard, peas, cabbage and cauliflower can be set out as soon as the ground can be worked--about the middle of April, depending on the weather.

Don't forget that any plants that were started indoors need a period of adjustment before transplanting. Reduce watering and gradually expose the plants to cooler temperatures for about 2 weeks. A cold frame can be made from scrap lumber, and an old storm door. Placed in a southerly exposure, the low slanted box will protect the plants. By raising the lid a little each day, adequate ventilation can be provided.

Young plants can be purchased, if you haven't started seed indoors. Be sure to check the roots on cauliflower and cabbage plants and throw away any that have thick knobby areas. They probably have a disease known as Clubroot.

If you live where there isn't room for a garden you can still have fresh vegetables this summer by starting a tub garden. There are varieties of tomatoes, bush zucchini, cucumbers, eggplant, lettuce, peppers, onions, herbs and vining squash that will do quite well in 5 gallon buckets. The main requirements for a tub garden are good drainage, a rich porous growing medium and plenty of nutrients.

For more information on container growing see Making Vegetables Grow by Thallasso Crusso.

Joey Mercurio

NEIGHBORS & PETS

The insert in this issue of the newsletter contains a graphic message to those pet owners who use their neighbors lawns as litter boxes. All pet owners should be aware that a whole lot of people are mad as hell about all the crap lying around, and it appears that otherwise peaceful, mild-mannered and downright friendly people are exploring quite drastic measures for attacking this problem.

So, please take the responsibility that goes along with owning a pet, and clean up after it. As a reminder, leashes must be used for dogs and cats. If anyone catches a stray animal, call 266-4275 and the Animal Control Officer will pick it up.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH POTLUCK

Thursday, April 22

Lapham School Cafeteria

6:00 p.m. Dinner
7:15 - 7:45 Speaker: Paul du Vair, Arbor Hills Neighborhood Association
7:45 - 8:30 Discussion

We have had a significant number of inquiries from neighborhood residences and businesses regarding establishment of a Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Watch program. We encourage anyone interested in such a program to attend this potluck.

Please bring a dish to pass and your own tableware. Beverages will be provided.

THANKS!!

The recent neighborhood association fund raising appeal resulted in a strong and gratifying level of support from individual residents and business establishments. The TLNA Board thanks everyone for their generous contributions and assures that the funds will be put to good use.

MAYDAY! MAYDAY! MAYDAY!

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP

SAT. MAY 1

9:00 am to Noon

Lapham School Parking Lot

1045 E. Dayton St

Grossed out by what the melting snow has revealed? Come, help your neighbors clean up the streets of Tenney-Lapham. We'll meet by the City-provided dumpster in the Lapham School parking lot. Bring a garbage bag (or two), gloves and a friend.

"Treasures" for All!

Contact Tom Kasper, 257-5695 with any questions.



HOUSING UPDATE

* For further details on these programs, please contact Mary Kay Garrow; at the Lapham School Housing office, Room 116, or 258-9060.

...New first mortgage program...

The legislature is expected to pass a bill in April creating a new state 1st mortgage program making 12-13% fixed rate interest mortgages available for home buyers.

First time buyers in our area with incomes under \$33,950 (and previous owners under \$27,150) may qualify. Several Madison area lenders will participate by making loans under the program with state funds provided through the sale of tax-exempt revenue bonds. There will be dollar limits placed on the purchase since the program is geared toward moderately priced existing homes. If you are interested, perhaps you should get ready to apply as soon as possible. Given pent-up demand from high interest rates, it is expected that the money will be exhausted in a short period of time.

... Small multi-family rental rehab...

The Tenney Lapham Corporation, in cooperation with HUD, the city of Madison and 1st Federal Savings & Loan, is pleased to announce the beginning of an investor-owner rehab program. If you own rental property in Tenney-Lapham, loans will be available at below-market interest rates to make energy conservation and building code related improvements to your property. This program is available only in the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood and applications will begin in the first week of May. Funds are expected to go fast. The program will emphasize work which preserves a buildings integrity and liveability. Cosmetic type improvements will not be permitted.

Since the city has passed an energy code for rental property which becomes effective in August of 1983, this program is an excellent opportunity for landlords to make energy related improvements to their property. Tenants who now pay their own heating bills also have an incentive for alerting their landlords to this program.

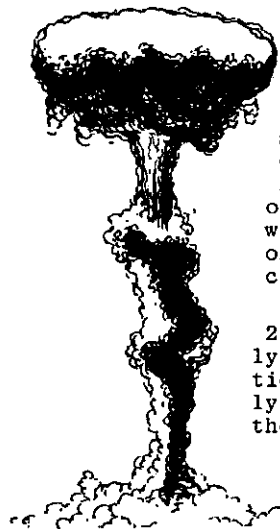
... Owner-occupant rehab money...

This year, the gross income allowable for lower interest home improvement loans under the State Housing & Conservation program, has increased to 120% of the county's median income. For example, in Tenney Lapham, a family of four may have an income of \$38,010 and still qualify.

Also, the Madison city council recently voted to combine HUD block grant funds with this state program, which will permit loans with interest rates as low as 8% to persons with lower incomes.

Under the program, loan funds are to be used for permanent improvements, such as energy conservation, plumbing, wiring, new roofs, painting and similar work. The minimum loan is \$1,000; and the maximum \$15,000 with 15 years to pay.

In Madison, and throughout the country, a nationwide organization called Ground Zero Week will coordinate a wide-range of events designed to convey the most basic and essential facts about the risks of nuclear war.



Several programs, including speakers and films geared to educating and involving the American people on the issue of preventing nuclear war, will be offered to individual organizations, schools and civic groups.

In connection with this week, 20 city groups, working jointly as the Madison Peace Coalition, will sponsor a major rally on Sunday, April 25 with the theme: "Freeze the Arms Race."

For more information or to help with events, contact: Ground Zero 257-7562, or Nukewatch 256-4146

GROUND ZERO WEEK

APRIL 18-25

REMINDERS

The TLNA Board meets on the first Thursday of each month and all residents are invited to attend. Please contact an officer for the location of meetings.

Aluminum Cans From 8:00 - 3:00 people can drop off aluminum cans (in plastic bags) at Norris Court Grocery. Proceeds go to TLNA.

NEW LIFE FOR BREESE STEVENS

After many years of neglect and deferred maintenance, the city council has decided to repair and restorate Breese Stevens in the 900 block of E. Mifflin street. This recent action wards off the wrecking crews and will ensure preservation of this historic structure and valuable central city recreational facility.

Substantial work will occur over the next few months so Breese Stevens can be used this summer for baseball, soccer or general neighborhood and community-wide activities. Special thanks go to Alderpersons Wrzeski, Kratsch and Onsager for spearheading this important renovation effort.

DON'T BUY RED COACH LETTUCE

If you see it at Eagle Foods in Fiore, or wherever you shop, please tell the manager not to stock it! If you do this, you can help a lot of farmworkers struggling for the right to earn a living wage.

NEIGHBORHOODS CONFERENCE

As government funding dries up, as the recession puts more and more people out of work as businesses are forced to cut back, neighbors are turning to one another to help each other through these troubled times.

"United We Stand-Neighborhoods Working Together in the 80's" is a conference on Saturday, April 24, that will help neighbors help each other.

The conference will feature numerous workshops led by experts in their fields. Harry Boyt, of Minneapolis and author of "The Backyard Revolution," will be the keynote speaker. The price for the entire day, including lunch: \$3.00.

Workshops are planned on home energy advice; the role of neighborhood businesses; crime prevention; neighborhood planning; working the political machinery; communications; the role of the church; bartering systems; fundraising; setting up food pantries; and, people resources—that is, how people who want to help can help.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at West High School and is open to everyone. Since space is limited call 266-4635 to reserve a spot. Sponsors include the Capital Times, United Neighborhood Centers, CWON, and the city of Madison.



ADVANCE NOTICE

If you were planning to hold your own garage sale, you may want to hold-off until mid-June and join TLNA for the 4th Annual neighborhood wide garage/rummage sale. We'll do the advertising and you can donate a small percentage of your sales to TLNA. It is also a real fun event. Watch for details in the June newsletter.

FOSTER PARENTS NEEDED

The Dane County Department of Social Services is in special need of individuals willing to become foster families for teenaged males and females. The teenagers need help in growing up and establishing a positive self image. They may have special problems, such as school or relating to their parents and peers.

As a foster family, you become part of a professional team. A foster family helps these teenagers work through their problems which then enables them to return home.

As part of this professional team, you will be given training and support by the Dany County Department of Social Service workers. The training program emphasizes four segments of the foster care system. You will be oriented to agency procedures, working with teenagers in foster care, and working with natural parents. You will also be given the opportunity to talk to experienced foster parents.

A foster family may consist of a single individual or a married couple with or without children. You need to be 21 years of age to apply. You also need to have the patience, love, and understanding to work with teenagers.

If you've ever thought of becoming a foster parent, now is the time to act. Please call Deena Williams or Nan Schultz (249-5351) if you have any questions or want further details.

**BUILDING
AND
REMODELING**

SCHMIDT

1127 EAST GORHAM STREET
MADISON, WIS. 53703
256-1360

CORK 'N BOTTLE

10% OFF

**6 OR MORE BOTTLES OF WINE
MIX OR MATCH**

823 E. JOHNSON 256-3620

Note: Following is the first in a series of pieces by Gary Tipler, which will describe the way things were or happened in our area years ago. Gary, a neighborhood resident, has become an important link into Madison's past and we hope you will enjoy the fruits of his perceptive eye and his many hours of digging through musty documents. If you have old records, photos or stories to tell, Gary would love to hear from you. Phone 257-9335.

Once upon a time . . .

Many of the hills and marshes which defined the buildable areas in Madison during its early years were reshaped in the 19th and early 20th centuries by those who saw value in the underwater real estate of the growing community. Some dramatic changes to the 4th Lake ridge occurred during this time. The ridge rose above the southern shore of the 4th Lake, later named Mendota, the last in the chain of four lakes to have been surveyed in the newly declared Wisconsin Territory in 1836. The 4th Lake ridge was roughly bounded by the marsh north of Gorham and east of Brearly streets, and the large marsh approximately bounded by Johnson and Williamson streets east of Blair.

The first of these earth-moving projects was the ambitious channeling of the flowage (Catfish Creek, now the Yahara River). This was done by land speculator and developer Leonard J. Farwell, who owned most of the land between Brearly street and Union Corners at Milwaukee street. He built Water street (now Thornton Ave) from the dredgings along the channel, dammed the outlet of the 4th Lake, and built a grist mill--today the site of the Tenney Park Lock. Farwell also was responsible for building Williamson street and East Washington Ave with his own resources and planted thousands of street trees in the area. Probably Madison's best promoter, Farwell christened the lakes and creek with their present, more romantic names, and brought considerable trade and commerce to what was then a sleepy village. Later elected governor, he lost everything in the panic of 1857 and died a poor man.

Most of the hill-leveling and marsh-filling that later changed the appearance of the area took place around the turn of the century. One newspaper columnist noted in 1899 that N. Ingersoll street was cut through the crest of the ridge between Johnson and Gorham streets. This left the handsome cream-brick home of ex-Mayor W.H. Rogers at 1102 E. Johnson high above the street. The following June, Rogers was compelled to lower both his yard and his home by eight feet--presumably without cost to the city. Evidence of these hill-leveling activities can be seen in the grade differences behind properties on the 1000 block of E. Johnson abutting those on Gorham. Fill taken from these blocks was used to reclaim land from the marshes south of Johnson street. Many old buildings were then moved to this inexpensive land--even as late as the 1960's.

Also in 1899, the section of E. Johnson street alongside Tenney Park was raised by 10 feet with soil removed from a hill at First street and E. Washington Ave.

Tenney Park, too, had been created by dredging and filling--a project undertaken by the Madison Park and Pleasure Drive Association. The group's self-appointed civic purpose was to preserve open lands from urban encroachment and improve them for the enjoyment of the citizenry. Their holdings, which included Brittingham, Hoyt, Vilas and Olbrich Parks, was the precursor of the present parks system.



1014 East Gorham Street

Spacious flat for sale. Two bedrooms, formal dining room, fireplace, wood floors. Basement and large lot. Carefully rehabilitated Victorian house with energy-efficiency improvements. \$59,900 with financing to suit. Madison Trust for Historic Preservation 251-3421, The Alexander Co. 257-7506.

**MADISON TRUST
FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION, INC.**

SENIOR NEWS

The Increase Lapham Senior Center is now operating Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Lapham School, 1045 E. Dayton St. Programs offered include hot lunches, blood pressure screening, dances and a variety of social activities.

Reservations for meals should be made by 1:00 p.m. on the day before you wish to attend. For more information, or meal reservations, call the Near East Side Coalition of Older Adults at 257-3322.

KID'S SUMMER PROGRAM

There will be a kid's summer program at Lapham School, 1045 E. Dayton St. Children ages 6-10 may apply. The first session is scheduled to begin on Monday, June 7th, the week after school lets out.

Hours for the program are from 8:00-5:30. For more information, please call Windwood School in the Lapham Building at 257-8953. Ask for Nancy.