

Spring 2021



Madison Community Fridges: An Experiment in Community Care

By Julia Levine

Hello neighbors! My name is Julia Levine and I'm the mutual aid coordinator for Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association, and one of the Madison Community Fridges advocates. As some of you may have seen, in late March the city has ordered the community fridge and pantry at E. Johnson and Brearly to discontinue food distribution, citing zoning violations.

In August 2020, a group of friends and employees of Troy Farm, a small CSA farm on the north side of Madison, got together to bring this community resource to the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood.

This project responded to an increase in food insecurity during a time of compounding health and financial crises. We plugged the fridge into our house, and stocked it with excess produce from Troy Farm, and other small donations. Over time though, the project has been embraced by our neighborhood and larger

Madison community, spawning an incredible collection of efforts.

At first, it seemed like no one knew the fridge was there, but after about a month, there were lines forming at the fridge, and it was clear that this project was fulfilling a need. Volunteers stepped up and built a shelter for the fridge, to keep the temperature stable in cold, rainy, and hot conditions. Now, a team of neighbors check the fridge temperature daily, clean and sanitize, and stock with food. We partner with the River Food Pantry, local chefs, and several CSA farms to keep the fridge stocked, and end up re-stocking around every 72 hours.

I'm sure that some of you reading this have participated in using or stocking the fridge. As a host of the fridge, it has been incredible to experience the ways that neighbors have cared for this resource, and the ways it has affected people. We have gotten notes on our door thanking us, artwork given in exchange, and

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Tenney Lapham Neighborhood Association Council Members

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President's Corner



Jonny Hunter

For the first time in the year-plus that I've written these columns for the TLNA newsletter, I finally feel the hope of seeing the end of this pandemic. The last year has left behind so much loss — of family members, jobs, homes and cherished institutions. So many neighbors went to work every day in the face of the pandemic, juggling new stresses and scheduling challenges along with everything else. Currently, more than half of all adults have been vaccinated in Dane County and the state just made access available to anyone who wants a vaccine. MMSD schools have started in person again and options are expanding to see family and friends safely. I can't wait to see our neighborhood's in-person celebrations and traditions restart.

Speaking of in-person celebrations and traditions, mark your calendar for June 6, 4 p.m. – 7 p.m. in Reynolds Park for the annual Party in the Park. This year's version will be COVID-19 conscious and not the same format as previous years,

but it will surely be a joyous celebration of our neighborhood and togetherness. The specifics of party plans will be based on COVID-19 rates in the weeks before and will be shared through the TLNA listserv. If you haven't yet signed up for the neighborhood listserv, you can do it now by visiting tenneylapham.org and selecting About, then Join the TLNA listserv.

The TLNA board held a productive virtual retreat in February. Board members got to know one another better and committed to enrich and extend council efforts to develop community and support each other throughout the neighborhood. One way the council will achieve this is through a mutual aid position currently filled by Julia Levine. Mutual aid is a voluntary reciprocal exchange of resources and services for mutual benefit and is a model the council is excited to embrace and to learn about. Julia's experience with helping run the community fridge project and connecting with neighbors on rent assistance and other needs makes her a great leader for these efforts toward building a better community through supporting one another.

Before the pandemic hit, The Madison Youth Arts Center was just starting construction but in early February I was able to take a tour of the building and we are so lucky to have a world class arts center right here in our neighborhood. The benefits of the center will be substantial for the whole city but I'm incredibly excited that it is part of Tenney-Lapham and I look forward to its opening this summer and fall.



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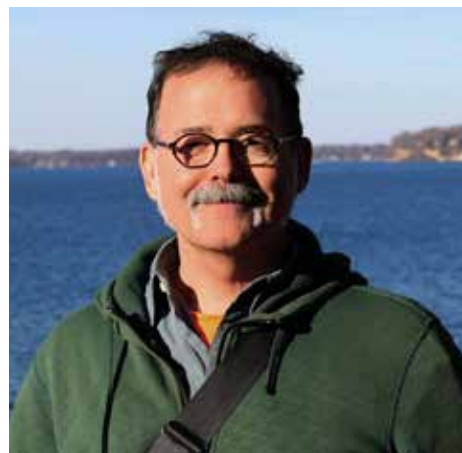
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News from Patrick Heck, District 2 Alder



News from Patrick Heck,
District 2 Alder

I am submitting this article prior to knowing the General Election results. If April is the last month of my being District 2 Alder, many thanks to neighbors that I've had the pleasure of working with as your representative on Common Council. If, on the other hand, I am re-elected, we have two more years of working together to make Tenney-Lapham, District 2, and the entire city a better place to live for all.

City meetings have been virtual since the pandemic shut us down. I anticipate that virtual-only meetings will continue into the summer, but as the vaccinated population grows and the community slowly reaches herd immunity, I hope city meetings will have in-person participation options. It is not yet clear if and how hybrid in-person and virtual meeting logistics might work, but it seems unlikely we will go back to in-person only.

Using Zoom has allowed many more folks to participate in city meetings, but there are downsides. Those who do not have computer, smartphone, and/or internet access are left out; folks who struggle with technology are hamstrung, and those who are not limited by those factors are perhaps overrepresented at meetings. Virtual meetings also

have changed the dynamic of city meetings - alders and city staff typically do not see who is speaking, so eye-to-eye contact is lacking, as is some conveying of emotions. One positive outcome of being in a virtual world, however, is that many more meetings are now streaming live, as well as recorded and available anytime on Madison's City Channel. I highly recommend watching committee and Common Council meetings. Pro Tip: you can speed up the playback to save time and avoid the tedious parts!

A few updates on city issues follow:

New Tenney Beach Shelter

The 1970s-era Tenney Park beach shelter is expected to be replaced beginning this fall. The new shelter will include a pump room as part of the Clean Beach system that is a joint project between the City of Madison and Dane County. The pump system will filter out contaminants and dangerous algae between the shoreline and an in-water curtain wall that will surround the swimming area. A slide presentation from the project's Public Information Meeting can be found at the Parks Division's project website: <https://bit.ly/3wnb0vO>.

Shared Streets Program

According to City Traffic Engineering, they received over 1,000 survey responses on the Shared Streets program from last year. 83% of respondents liked the program. As a result, TE is planning to bring back a bigger and better program, with signing and public engagement improvements. They are also working on ways to improve equity of the program. Staff have been researching the programs in other cities to learn from their successes.

TE also received public inquiries on whether and how they can make

the arrangements on some streets more permanent. Staff are strategizing on whether they can rebrand the program from COVID-19 response to reimagining our streets. They need to work things out with stakeholders, such as emergency response agencies, and bring this year's project list to the Transportation Commission. They hope to start implementing the first phase of this year's Shared Streets program as early as May, but that will depend on how the coordination efforts go. This is promising news, but I will reiterate that this is a citywide program in which equity in resource distribution must be considered. I hope that District 2 and all of the city can benefit from any implementations.

Development Updates 12 N. Few Street

This mixed-use redevelopment proposal for the site of Scooter Therapy, could be considered by the Urban Design Commission in mid-May with the Plan Commission considering their requested demolition permit later that month. The owner proposes to retain the majority of the current structure's shell, construct an addition on the Few Street side, and add a second floor. As proposed, the first floor would contain 8 garage-like commercial spaces and the second floor would have 8 one-bedroom apartments. There would be four parking stalls on site. TLNA Council sent a letter of support to UDC in February.

Madison Youth Arts Center

MYAC at E. Mifflin and N. Ingersoll St. is still expected to open in the early summer, although the composition of classes and performances are still TBD as the public health situation and restrictions evolve. They also plan to have a grand opening in early fall. I toured the site in February with Jonny

Hunter and Patty Prime — we were all quite impressed with the range of performance, rehearsal, classroom, and shop/tech spaces.

Valor

According to Gorman & Co., Valor at 1322 E. Washington will open in September 2021. Valor is an affordable housing development focusing on veterans and their families and will include a first-floor location of a veterans' support organization. 50 of the 59 apartments will be for those with 60%, 50% or 30% or lower of County Median Income and support services will be available.

720 E. Dayton St. Parking Lot

Last year Veritas Village opened a satellite parking lot in the 700 block of E. Dayton. The lot was formerly used as Reynolds Company employee parking and for construction staging for nearby developments. Veritas Village has applied for a Conditional Use Permit for the lot that Plan Commission is expected to consider in late April. Some neighbors prefer housing to be constructed on the lot while others want a properly landscaped, lighted, and fenced lot with proper drainage that can relieve pressure on street parking.

Neighborhood Restaurant News

Please continue patronizing our many restaurants and taverns, all of which have pivoted and scrambled just to stay open — they all still desperately need your patronage. We all know that the pandemic has been particularly tough on the food and beverage industry, but there still seem to be opportunities in bustling Tenney-Lapham.

New Sushi Restaurant Proposed at Arden

Red Sushi has proposed a new fast-casual restaurant at the base of Arden on E. Washington. Their plan is to focus on inside and patio dining, as well as pick-up/delivery. They hope to open in the late summer or early fall.

Hone Opens on E. Johnson

Mike Parks has opened a new restaurant at 708 ¼ E. Johnson, for-

merly the location of Forequarter. They are currently offering in-house and pick-up — it is anticipated that Hone will also have café seating along E. Johnson.

Johnson Public House Plans New Venture

In early summer, the JPH gang is planning to open a new restaurant at 824 E. Johnson, formerly the location of Dr. Wilke's Chiropractic. They are planning to focus on a family-friendly atmosphere and propose both indoor and outdoor seating.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions or input.

Patrick Heck
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Foxes in the Hood



Two fox seen in the backyard of a house on the 900 block of E. Dayton in late January. Photos by Bob Shaw



Living Your Life in the Neighborhood

Many of us find comfort being surrounded by neighbors who watch out for each other, share their lives and support each other in times of need. As older adults choose more frequently to age at home, sometimes a little extra help is needed along the way and SAIL — Sharing Active Independent Lives helps to fill those gaps and also provides a real peace of mind for seniors and their families. Since 2005, SAIL has been a member-led, nonprofit organization in Madison and a founding member of The Village to Village Network, an international association of 280 villages. One SAIL member describes the value of her membership this way, “SAIL is just like a village. We get to know each other by doing so many different things. SAIL takes care of the people in our village. I tell all my friends that SAIL is always there

for you, no matter what. Now, if there’s something they can’t handle they can get a hold of someone that can handle it.”

SAIL members volunteer to help each other by providing rides, delivering groceries, lending a listening ear to those vulnerable to isolation, and helping with light chores. SAIL offers a pre-screened Service Provider Directory, a daily Rise and Shine automated check-in program, social and educational programming and many member-led groups and initiatives.

This issue of the TLNA newsletter celebrates Community and Connection. SAIL is a community within a community, offering connection and support just when you need it. To learn more, visit www.sailtoday.org or call SAIL at 608-230-4321.

Spring into the Outdoors with Dane County



By Dane County Executive Joe Parisi

2020 will long be remembered for its many challenges. Yet, through

those difficult times, one resource many of us turned to was the outdoors—where we could unwind and explore Dane County’s many natural resources. Even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Dane County was able to make great strides in the areas of conservation, water quality, prairie restoration, and flood prevention. And as the weather warms and the pandemic wanes, we are eager to welcome Dane County’s many residents back outside to explore recreational opportunities.

In 2020, Dane County permanently protected 600 acres of property with the Dane County Conservation Fund. An additional 600 acres were able to be protected through our increasingly popular Continuous Cover Crop Program, designed to mitigate flooding and reduce erosion. We were also able to collect over 1,700 pounds of prairie seed to

help restore more than 143 acres to natural prairie, including our expansion of the Pheasant Branch Conservancy near Middleton.

Dane County removed over 40,000 tons of sediment from the bottom of the Yahara River between Lakes Monona and Waubesa last year, reducing the risk of future flooding during periods of heavy rainfall. We were also able to complete our "Suck the Muck" project in Token Creek, which will help limit the frequency and extent of hazardous algae blooms. With each passing year, we are improving the water quality in our local lakes, rivers, and streams for future generations.

Our accomplishment in the outdoors—direct investments into the quality of life we enjoy here in Dane County—are many. Like you, I look forward to warmer weather when we can get back outside and enjoy all that our incredible county parks and recreation areas have to offer.



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Tenney neighborhood yard sale is coming back on Saturday, August 7th!

You may have been stockpiling your stuff over the past year as the pandemic dragged on. Well, summer's coming and here's your chance to get it out of your house and into the hands of someone who's been waiting for that purple fringed lampshade or some such item.

The Tenney neighborhood yard

sale will be held on Saturday, August 7th, 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

To sign up as a seller visit tenneylapham.org and fill out the Google form under Events. We'll keep you posted about the details, including recommendations for safe and distanced yard sale-ing, as we get closer to August. We'll keep promoting the sale and there

will be plenty of neighborhood and online promotion leading up to the date.

TLNA is so glad to be getting back to neighborhood events!

Questions? Contact Anne Katz at tenneyyardsale@gmail.com

. See you at the yard sale!

Tenney Park Pedestrian Bridge Designer Bud Arnold Dies at 87

There is not a more iconic structure in the Tenney-Lapham neighborhood than the pedestrian bridge at Tenney Park. In fact, a silhouette of the bridge is emblazoned on the masthead of this very newsletter, as well as our social media accounts and street signs around the neighborhood. The original designer of the bridge, Orville "Bud" Arnold, passed

away peacefully at the age of 87 at home on February 2nd, 2021.

The Tenney bridge was not all the Madison native was responsible for. Arnold left his mark around the state, contributing to many key projects, including structural analysis of the Camp Randall upper deck, Pettit Ice Arena, The Wisconsin Center and multiple Uni-

versity of Wisconsin buildings, as well as the Monona Terrace Convention Center. His involvement in creating the multi-government financing and governance concept ensured that the convention center would successfully be completed. He went on to win many awards for his contributions to our city

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Community Fridge

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even a fresh dish of potatoes made from the fridge stock.

One of the most unique aspects of the Madison Community Fridge and probably one of the things that

made the fridge open to criticism is its accessibility. The fridge is located right next to the sidewalk on E. Johnson, thus making it a safe and anonymous place to pick up food. The fridge offers barrier-free access to food that doesn't require paperwork and can be used at any time, day or night. Another upside to this model is its simplicity. The fridge allows for food "waste" to be dealt with in an efficient and simple manner. Much of the recovered fresh and healthy food at the fridge would otherwise be composted or thrown away by the industrial food system.

The fridge has been cited for being in violation of zoning codes and plugged into a residential lot. Unfortunately, it must come down at the E. Johnson site, but we are working with community partners to move the fridge to another location.

Ultimately, we are extremely proud of what we have been able to

accomplish as a neighborhood. This effort has been a demonstration of the power of grassroots mutual aid work. Hundreds of people have contributed to the fridge in large and small ways. Grocery workers bring by excess food after their shifts, neighbors drop off handfuls of produce after their weekly runs. We've raised over \$5000 in donations, started another fridge in the Regent neighborhood, and distributed thousands of pounds of food. It's been a tremendous success.

For now, the odds are against community fridges working out in the long term. They are currently in violation of Madison zoning codes and that probably won't be changing soon. But from what we've learned, neighbors coming together can be a powerful force for good. And that won't be changing anytime soon.

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Pencil It In — Sunday Party in the Park is Back!



Following in the long and wonderful tradition of Cork 'n Bottle founders, the TLNA hosts a neighborhood block party each June that is now called Party in the Park and is held at Reynolds Park. This neighborhood party is intended as a welcoming space for all neighbors to gather together, greet old neighbors and friends, and meet new ones. Last year, the event was cancelled due to COVID-19. It's unsure yet whether circumstances will allow for a safe and fun Party in the Park gathering this summer. For now, pencil in Sunday, June 6 from 4-7 p.m. on your calendar. Plan to bring a picnic. If you haven't yet, subscribe to the TLNA listserv [visit groups.io/g/tlna](https://groups.io/g/tlna). We'll keep you posted on developments as we get closer! Watch for updates in the email listserv, facebook.com/TenneyLapham on Facebook, or follow

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Mutual Aid Efforts in the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood — and how you can plug in!

By Julia Levine

Hello neighbors! My name is Julia Levine and I am the new "Mutual Aid Coordinator" for the Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association (TLNA). This position started at the beginning of 2021 to address the acute needs that neighbors face during these difficult times. Through this article, I hope to give some helpful background on what exactly mutual aid is and how it works, and at the end of the article, I will provide some ways to plug into the work, if you are moved to do so.

Mutual aid is the practice of working collectively to meet the needs of everyone within our communities. It involves seeing ourselves within a common struggle and responding to the acute needs of those within that struggle. This form of solidarity-based support has been practiced in resource-starved communities for centuries, but has more recently entered the mainstream conversation with the proliferation of mutual aid projects in the face of Covid-19.

One of the most prominent examples of mutual aid work is from the Black Panther Party. Their late 60s and early 70s programming included free medical clinics and testing for sickle-cell anemia, an emergency-response ambulance program, and, most well-known, a Free Breakfast for Children program which fed over 20,000 youths in 19 cities within a year of its launch. Their efforts differed from a charity model, as they aimed to develop new social relations of communal care from their organizing. As founder Huey Newton recounted, "the purpose of these programs was two-fold. One to meet people's direct survival needs and two, by doing so, illuminating capitalism's inability to fulfill people's daily needs." Thus, people would be moved to organize to change

those conditions and care for each other in the process.

In Madison during the COVID-19 crisis, these efforts were built upon with solidarity-based support networks forming across the city. In the initial days of the crisis, hundreds of volunteers came together in the organization Dane County Community Defense. Within two months, they had raised and re-distributed over \$80,000 in emergency assistance payments. In addition, they developed a network of volunteers to drop off groceries and provide emotional and legal assistance to those navigating stressful circumstances. Other groups such as Feeding the Youth, Urban Triage, and Freedom Inc. have implemented similar efforts across the city.

Within our own neighborhood, we have several examples of mutual aid efforts occurring. The Lapham-Marquette Parent-Teacher Group has developed the Acute Needs Fund to distribute funding to families with school-age children within the neighborhood that are experiencing financial crises. In addition, the Madison Community Fridge, on E. Johnson and Brearly, has been established to bring easily accessible food to neighbors in a simple, effective way. This work is volunteer-based, and is a form of direct-democracy participation, in which people take responsibility upon themselves for caring for one another, in the hope of building new social relations in the process.

Recently, the TLNA has formed a mutual aid working group. So far, we have distributed \$1150 of funds, \$750 has gone to a neighbor facing threats of eviction, and the rest has been distributed in the form of eight \$50 festival food gift cards. Over the coming months, we hope to expand our collection and distribution efforts. This Mutual Aid Fund from TLNA will go to support the acute needs of neighbors, such as rent assistance, supporting food

access and the community fridge, gas cards, and direct payments to houseless families. If you would be interested in supporting the Mutual Aid Fund, it's very simple. Every donation made to the TLNA over the next three months will go to this fund. Just to visit our website at tenney-lapham.org or send in a check to donate to the fund at P.O. Box 703, Madison, WI 53701.

Beyond monetary support, there are many other ways to contribute. Mutual aid is a dynamic process of re-imagining neighborhood and community relations. If you are interested in contributing in other ways — maybe you are willing to help someone with a flat tire, or give someone a ride across town in an emergency, or can cook regular meals for a neighbor — please email me at jlevine312@gmail.com. We will be building on this work for the coming months and all voices are welcome.

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Honoring a Legacy — The Linster Memorial Bike Ride

On September 11th, 2021 the TLNA will be holding the Linster Memorial Bike ride (and membership drive). What better way to honor Richard Linster's two interests than riding a bike and recruiting membership in TLNA. The event will start at 1:00 p.m. at Reynolds park. While there, you can renew your membership or newly join. Somewhere around 1:30 p.m. we will do a mass bike ride (or any mobility of your choice) down

the bike boulevard to the Yahara river bike path ending at Tenney Park. We will end the ride at the bike racks that will be newly installed in Richard's name where the TLNA will be serving snacks. Finally, if you choose to, you can "look like Linster" He would find that amusing!

No sign up necessary just come and show your support for our lost friend.



Have You Seen This?



Have you ever noticed the street signs with pictures? There are several at the capitol and a few in our neighborhood too! Several years ago, TLNA learned that the city would add a small picture on street signs representing the neighborhood, but only if they were replacing them anyway during construction. TLNA asked if they would add the bridge logo for us. Last year, the 400 block of Ingersoll and the two blocks of Elizabeth were redone and the city added the TLNA logo to the new street signs. You can also see a couple of them on Johnson Street that were added a few years ago. See if you



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can find which block!

Hopefully, the city and neighbors alike will remember as construction occurs over the years. There are a few blocks of Gorham to be refinished this year, so it's a good reminder to ask if there will be new signs with the bridge picture on them. TLNA is lucky to have such a distinctive icon!



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Please Join us for
TLNA Council
Meetings

Meetings are
currently held by
Zoom on the sec-
ond Thursday of
every month.

Check out our
WEB page for
Zoom details and
the meeting agen-
da.

tenneylapham.org



Bud Arnold

continued from page 8

and the state’s design aesthetic.

Arnold’s benefactions to our city’s infrastructure will be enjoyed by Madisonians for years to come. His passing will leave

an indelible void of knowledge and commitment to this and other Wisconsin communities. The next time you are ice skating, taking a walk, or cycling through Tenney Park, be sure to remember Bud Arnold’s contribution to this wonderful neighborhood.

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Housing Listings

Active	Square Ft	List Price
702 E. Johnson (commercial)	1104	\$275,000
111 N. Blair	1193	\$315,000
1019 E. Gorham	1200	\$319,000
201 N. Blair, #303	1224	\$425,000
833 E Mifflin	1194	\$439,900
1254 E. Washington (commercial)	2799	\$529,000
819 E Mifflin #304	1319	\$534,900
648 E. Johnson	2202	\$619,000

Pending	Square Ft	List Price
37 Sherman Ter #6	852	\$125,000
1209 E. Mifflin	989	\$289,000
825 E Mifflin #406	820	\$310,000
201 N. Blair, #202	1106	\$335,000
115 N Paterson	1166	\$350,000
1142 Elizabeth	1362	\$374,900
153 Dayton Row	1351	\$379,900
1049 E. Gorham	2600	\$539,000
825 E Mifflin #312	1329	\$550,000
123 N. Blount, #401	1014	\$444,000
947 E. Johnson	3504	\$650,000

Sold	Days on Market	Sale Price
22 Sherman Ter #2	1	\$120,000
938 E. Dayton		\$255,000
201 N. Blair, #106		\$267,000
825 E Mifflin #404	44	\$294,500
1158 E Washington	179	\$329,900
105 N Few	6	\$299,900
825 E Mifflin #206	67	\$322,900
23 N Ingersoll	5	\$299,900
819 E Mifflin #302	2	\$497,000

Tenney-Lapham Neighborhood Association

TLNA

Membership Form

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Annual Membership Options	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Adult Membership (age 18-64) - \$10 each	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership – \$5 each	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Membership (65 or older) - \$5 each	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Household - \$20	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> Business Membership - \$20	\$
Total Enclosed	\$

Name(s)

Address

Phone

E-mail

☐ Add me to the TLNA E-mail Listserv
☐ I would like to be more involved it the neighborhood.
Please have someone from TLNA contact me.

Join theTNLA Neighborhood Association

Make checks payable to:

TLNA
PO BOX 703
Madison, WI 53701

Seeking Green

by Gay Davidson-Zielske

Outside, the half snowman
Gives me a lascivious, melted
wink
A garbage truck growls up the
street,
Coughs and scoops contagion,
Moves on.
Everywhere the late-March snow
Is as gray as the undercarriage of
my car

The pretty drifts are black and
corrugated.
But when the sun struggles up
And finds the aperture of my
window
Finally gold, it sends me to
Spring
And I seek green the way
Crossed willow sticks seek w
ater.

15

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