

# Lawrence Neighborhood News



## EAST SIDE STORY

### Oread Folks to Meet April 3rd

By Bob Marvin

About 20 people attended the February Oread Neighborhood Association meeting. Discussion centered mainly on the upcoming neighborhood survey. Garner Stoll of the City Planning Office attended the meeting to discuss the housing surveys which will be used in formulating a comprehensive plan for the Oread neighborhood. We decided to set up a committee to assist Garner in the survey and nine members signed up.

Edgar Boles showed "A Place in Time", a film about historic preservation in other cities around the country.

Forty people showed up for the March meeting. The major subjects discussed were the proposed law office at 13th & Mass., Community Development Fund proposals, and incorporating the neighborhood association.

Richard Zinn and Fred Six presented the plans for their law firm's office located on the vacant lot between South Park and 13th St.

Marcie Francisco, an Oread member and representative to the Community Development Committee described their budget recommendations. They included a revolving fund for restoration of historic buildings, a renters' winterization project, and neighborhood associations' funding. Under this last proposal, Oread would receive \$8,000; \$3,500 for operating expenses (mailings, etc.) and \$4,500 in discretionary funds. The discretionary funds could be used for documentation of historic buildings or for materials to be used in other projects such as cleanups or alley repairs. No firm commitment was made on incorporating the association.

The Oread Neighborhood Association meets the first Monday of every month at 7:30 pm, at the South Park Recreation Center. The next meeting will be April 3.



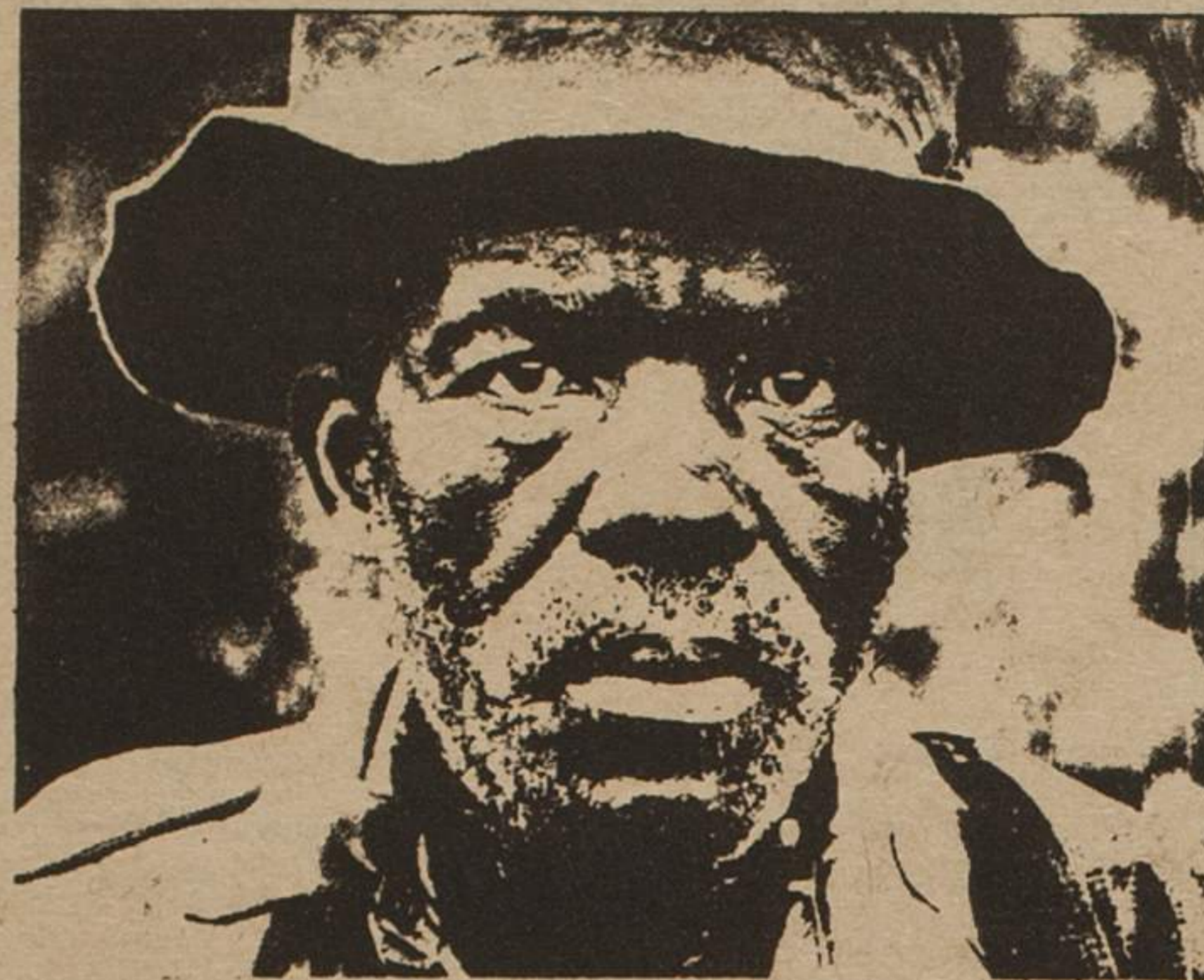
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OF THE BEST KIND  
WITH JUDY\*

\*JUDY, OUR NEW COLOR XEROX



By Kate Duffy

The March 13th ELIA meeting was attended by 20 people. All sorts of things were discussed, including the Community Development proposals, VISTAS in East Lawrence, the Historic District, etc.

Susie Hanna has been working hard at getting the ELIA and Watkins Museum some money from the National Endowment for the Humanities Youthgrant. She'd like to interview some of East

Lawrence's oldest residents about what it was like 50-60 years ago in Lawrence. All this information would first be on tape and then typed into narrative form, a kind of book which would stay at the Museum. Later, an exhibit would show there.

Richard Kershenbaum informed us that the Historic District nomination could be approved this summer. To celebrate the event we discussed holding an East Lawrence celebration in August that would coincide with the annual picnic date. The Museum would like to have a special East Lawrence photo exhibit at the same time. We discussed the possibilities of sponsoring a walking tour of the neighborhood and free buses to the Museum during the celebration. The money to do all this will come from the Kansas Committee for the Humanities and it would be sponsored by the ELIA and Watkins Museum.

The deadline for the grant application is April 15th so we should know by July if we are to get

the money. This money will help pay for a Director and a Researcher for 4 weeks to organize the event and to pay for the photo processing.

Judy Bailey reported that anyone who wanted trees should put their order in as soon as possible. The trees will arrive in the middle of April.

ELIA has also been asked to be a sponsor for VISTA- volunteers in service to America. We would have 2 or 3 VISTAS working for the neighborhood association. They would be paid by the Federal Government. Barbara Willits has applied to be the VISTA supervisor.

Richard Kershenbaum and George Elston reported that all was well with the Community Development Committee. They enjoyed working with the other representatives and felt they all were pretty much working for the same goals. Our proposals have been received well, especially the Housing Rehabilitation.



**THE SKILLS EXCHANGE**



BY DICK COWDEN

The folks at Penn House are kicking around a quietly radical idea--a skills exchange.

They are still filling in the details to make it work; problems such as how much is a haircut worth, or who is qualified to offer child care. In recent American history, coordinated bartering systems have appeared in hard times as ways to sidestep the usual money economy. This one is intended to be different. Though its headquarters will be Penn House in East Lawrence, the organizers hope the exchange will attract participation from people throughout the community.

The Skills Exchange is a system in which people can barter their skills. Basically here's how it will work: A coordinator maintains information on people and their skills and arranges matches with other people who need that particular service or skill performed. A person receives credit for services rendered. The credits are then used to purchase services from other persons enrolled in the exchange.

The exchange is being coordinated by Tranice Morrison and Cindy Hagg who will be explaining the exchange to local civic and church groups in the coming weeks. Kay Fletcher, a research assistant for KU's Institute for Public Affairs and Community Development, is administering the program.

Fletcher said people who sign up for the exchange will volunteer their services in any skills category they choose, from sewing to home repairs to tutoring. They will also pick services they wish to have done for them. All new members get eight free credit units just for joining.

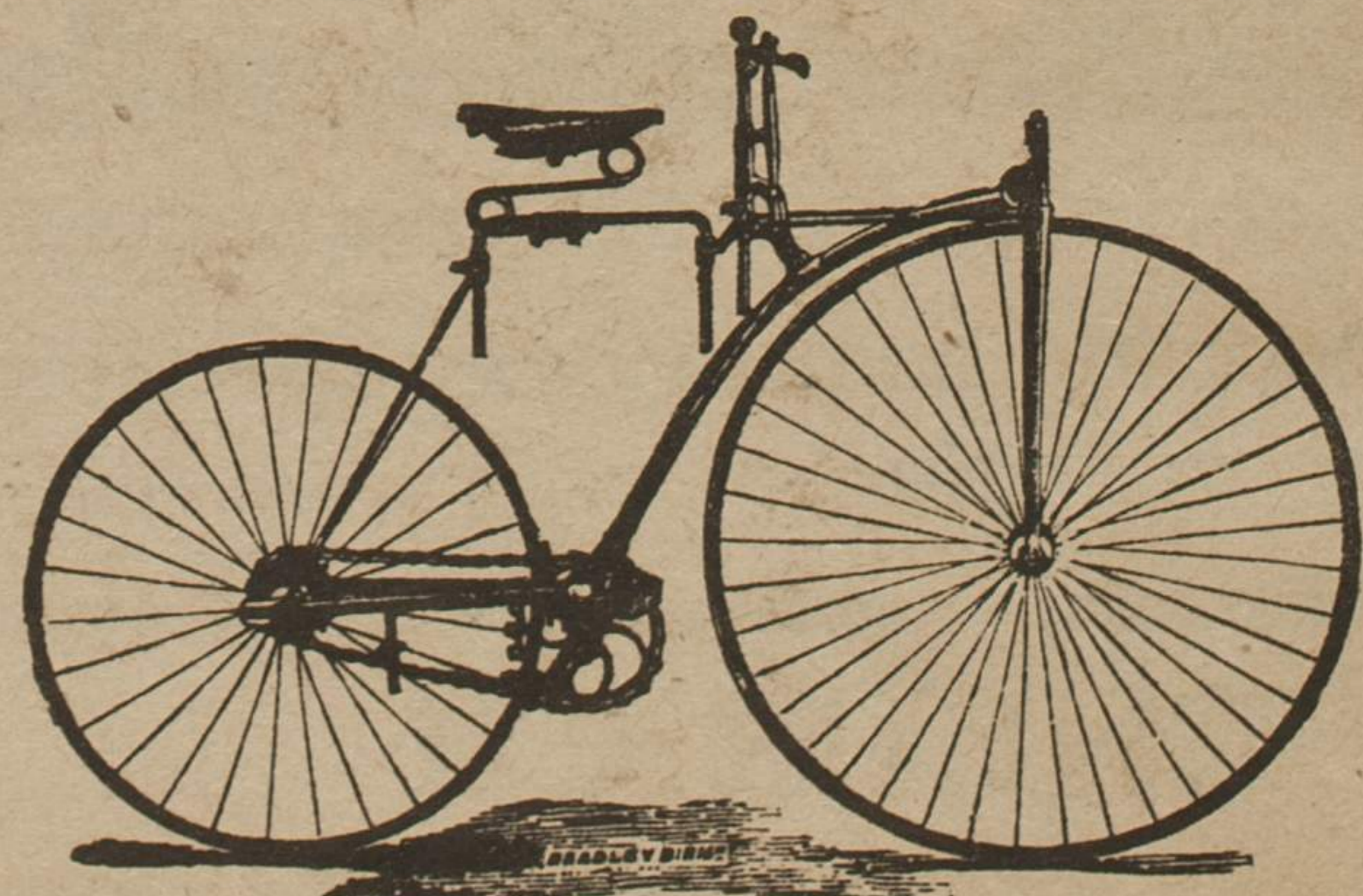
The exchange's formal origins can be traced to last spring at "grant writing time." But the idea for it has been evolving at Penn House for years, Miller said.

"We've had people come in here with the most interesting talents, things, they didn't consider outstanding skills," she said. "Hillbillies from East Lawrence--farmers from the Mississippi Delta with recipes for skunk grease poultices for pneumonia--that work! Just hearing about recipes we started to learn about all the talents these people had. We had women who made beautiful quilts. There was one who made a great jam out of peach seeds; not peaches, but the pits, the way the poor people do."

Miller said among many in East Lawrence the exchange has been functioning informally for a long time. "We wanted a real exchange so they didn't have to depend only on the people they knew."

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