

NORTHSIDE NEWS

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www.NorthsideMadison.org

December 2011 / January 2012

Photo by Justin Sargent



District 12 Alder, Satya Rhodes-Conway, presents the Special High Impact North Star Award to Mallard President, Vern Stenman with his daughter Chloe.

Madison Mallards wins the 2011 Special High Impact Award

Northside News

The second annual North Star Special High Impact Award was awarded on Nov. 11 to the Madison Mallards. This special award is given to recognize the truly unique and outstanding efforts and investments made by an individual, organization or business in our community. The award is the Northside's opportunity to formally say, "thank you," and show our deepest appreciation to the Madison Mallards for all they have done for the Northside. Last year we honored the partnership and investment made by the Alexander Company in our Northside community.

Over the past year the Madison Mallards worked with the City of Madison to renovate the old Duck Pond Stadium by investing another \$1.8 million to improve the overall fan experience. There is now chair back seating throughout, a new grandstand and seats closer to the field, and a concourse above the tenth

continued on page 12

For more on the North Star Awards, see pages 16 & 17



Celebrating the people and places that make the Northside a great place to live, work and play.

North Star Awards 2011



Ale Asylum microbrewery to stay on the Northside near the airport and will grow capacity and jobs.

Ale Asylum to build new microbrewery on Northside

By Lauri Lee

Northside News

The Ale Asylum, Madison's first and only microbrewery, will continue to be a Northside business reality when it relocates to Pankratz Avenue, near Packers Avenue and International Lane close to the Dane County Airport. The 45,000 square foot building will house a restaurant and bar with outdoor patio areas on the first and second floor, as well as all the equipment needed for manufacturing quality beer and ale.

"The difference between a microbrewery like Ale Asylum and a brew pub, such as The Great Dane or the Grumpy Troll, is that a microbrewery makes the majority of its sales at off-site retail establishments such as liquor stores, bars, grocery stores and restaurants. A brew pub sells most of its product at its own restaurant and bar," said Otto Dilba, operating partner of Ale Asylum.

The location on Pankrantz near the airport will provide Ale Asylum with an ideal spot to brew their beer, but more importantly, it will offer high visibility for their product to people arriving in Madison. "This location gives us a good opportunity to be able to do the manufacturing as well as the retail component while gaining as much exposure as possible," Dilba said. Ale Asylum plans to open by the summer of 2012.

Another reason for choosing the Pankrantz site was that it afforded enough space for expansion. Dilba said they estimate Ale Asylum will outgrow its new building within four to five years. "We didn't want to be landlocked without the ability to knock down some walls and continue expanding. This location, with the options we have on the land, should eventually allow us a building of up to

130,000 square feet," Dilba said.

The restaurant and bar, which will seat between 170 and 200, "will provide a venue where people can sample Ale Asylum's beverages and get an idea of who we are, get an idea of our vibe, experience us on a different level than just purchasing a six-pack, or having our beer at another establishment, Dilba said. The menu, at first, will be mostly pizza, soup and sandwiches, although some menu expansion is planned. "It's important for us to maintain our focus," shared Dilba. "The most important thing to us is our distribution. We don't want to be in competition with the bars and restaurants where we distribute our product. We don't want to pull business from Northside restaurants and bars like the Villa Tap and Benvenuto's. We see our Ale Asylum restaurant/retail environment as a means to directly interact with our customer."

Ale Asylum will double its work force with the new facility, growing from 23 to nearly 50 employees, and will offer a mix of new jobs including office/clerical, front of house bar positions and brewery jobs.

New equipment will make their brewing process more efficient and more attractive to showcase. A large bottling machine, where bottles travel along a conveyor belt as they are filled, will provide an interesting focal point for patrons from several areas. Multiple levels will give diners a variety of angles from which to view the brewing process. "You'll have a different environmental feel each time you come, depending on what you're in the mood for," Dilba said.

Ale Asylum has been in existence since 2006, the brainchild of Dean Coffee, who was Brewmaster at Angelic Brewing Company in downtown Madison before it closed. Coffee wanted to get his beer into bottles for distribution and on tap at bars and restaurants. In 2005 he teamed up with Dilba. They opened a year later in a location on Kinsman Boulevard. Coffee is still involved as one of the two operating partners. He

and Dilba crafted the business plan and worked out the company's long-term strategy, but 21 other silent partners have invested. The operation was started completely by private funds.



Northside Artists' Reception at Coffee Gallerie

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Saturday, Dec. 35

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Boy Scouts will be selling hot cocoa and snacks to raise National Jamboree funds.

On Saturday, start the day by having Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, Dec. 3

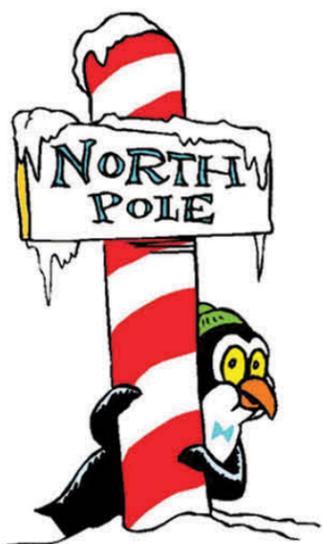
8:30-11 am

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Northside Business Association sponsors their annual *Breakfast with Santa*. Children will receive certificate to redeem at NorthGate for a special gift.

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NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

From
SCOTT HEINIG



NPC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thank you Northside, welcome Sue

I have had the honor of serving as NPC's Executive Director for two years. The partnerships developed during this time have helped strengthen both NPC and the Northside community. The creation of the Northside Economic Development Coalition has played a key role in helping implement several goals outlined in our Neighborhood Plan and our growing partnerships with WWBIC, NBA, SOHO and other business leaders and entrepreneurs, have strengthened the Northside's economic presence and voice in city decision making. Additionally, new

jobs will be formed from the creation of our FEED Community Kitchen Incubator, and our partnership with Northside alders and city officials is helping to execute beautification projects and "brand" the Northside. Hwy 113 is almost done, and new investments are being made to make it economically viable and even more beautiful. As I have often said, I found it inspiring to represent the Northside, as Northsiders clearly represent the best in what we as people have to offer this world.

My last day as NPC Executive Director was Oct. 28. I have begun my next challenge as a Village Administrator elsewhere in the state. I am proud of where NPC is today and of the direction NPC is going. In the interim, we have proudly hired Sue Gleason as our Interim Executive Director. I wish her a warm welcome in her interim role. Thank you for the honor of the past two years. I will carry this experience and these memories with me always.

From
SUE GLEASON



INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Greetings from Sue

A warm hello to my fellow Northsiders. I am thrilled to step in on an interim basis to help the Northside Planning Council (NPC) continue its good work following the departure of Scott Heinig. As a long-time Northsider and like you, very familiar with the *Northside News*, I've wondered just what NPC really does on a day-to-day basis. Well, I've had the opportunity to find out! In just my first couple of weeks, NPC hosted about 60 residents at a Oct. 25 community meeting with our alders Anita Weier and Sa-

tya Rhodes-Conway, and Captain Cam McLay which was followed by another community meeting on Nov. 3 at Vera Court hosted by Alder Weier, Vera Court Neighborhood Center Director Tom Solyist and Police Captain McLay that was attended by 200 people concerned with recent violence.

I also joined a few NPC Board members for a regular meeting with Mayor Soglin, met with the state and county public health officials to review design plans for the FEED Kitchen, jumped into the planning mix for the Nov. 11 North Star Awards, helped put together this issue of Northside News, met with one of our city contract managers, got up to speed on the half dozen new business projects in the works, and convened the monthly Northside Economic Development Coalition. Whew, who knows what December will bring!

Northside Planning Council seeking new board members

Are you excited about the things happening on the Northside? Have you thought of getting more involved but haven't been sure how? Do you have skills and a perspective that you want to share with your community? If so, consider the Northside Planning Council (NPC) Board. The NPC Board is seeking new members for 2012 and talented, passionate Northsiders are needed.

Recent strategic planning by the board has clarified its commitment to continue to foster community connections, advocate for growth and development of local business, and to link individuals and families in need of resources.

Board qualities and skills that are needed include: management and financial skills; fundraising abilities; com-

munity, business, or political connections; communication and promotional skills. NPC also seeks candidates that represent the diverse communities on the Northside. The strongest candidates will have several of the above qualities, skills and connections. The NPC Board is an active working board which requires a time commitment of more than just the monthly evening Board meetings. A small organization like NPC is only as strong as its Board members.

If you are interested, call Sue Gleason at the NPC office at 661-0060 or send an email to director@northsideplanningcouncil.org to learn more about how to apply. For more on NPC see the website at www.northsidemadison.org

Special thanks to our North Star Award sponsors

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Economic Development Partners



NPC MISSION

The NPC mission is to improve the quality of life for all residents of the Northside community through advocating and supporting the economic growth, stability and connectivity of the Northside community.

The goals of NPC are to enhance opportunities for all businesses and residents by; 1) investing in economic development, beautification and community betterment, and by; 2) promoting community connectivity, participation and voice on issues.



Sue Gleason
Interim Executive Director
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NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

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NORTHSIDE NEWS

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www.northsidenews.org

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From

LAURI LEE

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EDITOR

It's that time of year when people are more grateful. It's just before Thanksgiving, and I'm just finish the production on this issue of the Northside News. As I think about things to be thankful for, many people come to mind — the newspaper staff and volunteers, advertisers, columnists, contributors and writers — it's a bit crowded with all of you swirling around up there!

First, I'd like to acknowledge the departure of Scott Heinig and thank him for the role he played in Northside Planning Council history for the last two years. I hope Scott enjoys northern Wisconsin and visits when he returns for Badger games.

Sue Gleason, the new interim executive director, has been here for several weeks now. Sue is so familiar with the Northside that she has hit the ground running. Welcome aboard Sue!

I appreciate Mary Ambrosavage for her wonderful and creative graphic production and design for the newspaper. Her creative solutions to solve any layout dilemma are very much appreciated. It's amazing what Mary can do after she's had her coffee!

There isn't enough space to cover everyone that make the Northside a special place to live and work. However, I would like to do a shout out to one Northside News writer in this issue, and hopefully in future issues, I can cover other writers as well.

Mary Schumacher has been a valued

volunteer writer for the Northside News for many years. She wrote new business profiles to make Northsiders aware of what these businesses and their owners had to offer and how they were unique. Her thoughtful coverage made these businesses feel welcomed to the community.

The winner of one of the 2011 North Star Awards, Mary was recognized on Nov. 11 for her "Northside" spirit of community mindedness and an active interest in helping others succeed.

An apt description, Mary's supportive community attitude has been exemplified in many ways on the Northside.

Mary represented the Lerdahl community on the Northport Warner Park Sherman Neighborhood Plan team of interested residents, businesses and stakeholders to develop a 5-10 year plan for the Northside area. This was a two year process of meetings every every two weeks for two hours.

To further foster the growth of small businesses and entrepreneurship on the Northside, Mary conceived and founded the Northside SOHO (Small Office, Home Office) group, which offers free, informal meetings and presentations valuable to anyone operating or considering the start of a new small business on the Northside.

Mary and her husband Michael moved to Madison in 1994 and sadly for the Northside community, will be moving to Charleston, South Carolina after the first of the year. Mary's resume writing business, Career Frames, is virtual because of the internet, so she can live in warmer weather and still stay connected with her Northside friends.

We'll miss you Mary! Good luck!

Next Northside News: February/March 2012
Editorial theme: Home improvement

Ad and article deadlines

- Ad reservations deadline: Tuesday, Jan. 3
Ad electronic file deadline: Friday, Jan. 6
Writers & Contributors deadline: Tuesday, Jan. 10

Please email your ad reservations, ad pdf files, article ideas and contributions to Lauri@northsidenews.org

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Letter to the Editor

It was asked (by one man in attendance) at the last Northside Planning Council meeting on Oct. 25, where are the Black leaders in the community? in response to "assuming the recent murder in the neighborhood was involving blacks or Hispanics" since it was in the Vera Court neighborhood. I say, when was the last time you were in the neighborhood? I live on Camino del Sol, one block from Vera Court, my neighborhood is one of the most diverse in the city, that's what I love about it. Our leaders are all around, especially at Vera Court Neighborhood Center. Youth of both black and white ethnic backgrounds are mentoring our young people in after school and enrichment programs. My neighbors are all watching out for our neighborhood kids without race as an issue. We don't need to ask where are the black leaders, does it really matter if they

are black or white, there are concerned people who live right here in my neighborhood that will not, and do not let our neighborhood down. We are the leaders. When was the last time you visited your neighborhood center or supported it? We are all part of the Northside, neighbor to neighbor. In contemporary times, it is unrealistic, and untrue to assume that any young male of color, or group of males is a "gang." Yet, that assumption holds true for many, on a daily basis in our very own neighborhood. I, for one, find this incredibly sad, on both a personal and a community level. Our leaders are involved and present. It is ignorant and uninformed to think otherwise. Please take a moment to visit our neighborhood community center and meet your neighbors. You might just be pleasantly surprised at the wonderful and diverse people you will meet.

Marge Dresen and Cindy Milbrath

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BUSINESS

Ninth Annual Breakfast with Santa fundraiser to benefit Northside food pantries

Bring the kids, have breakfast with Santa and benefit the Northside food pantries at the Ninth Annual Breakfast with Santa Fundraiser on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 8:30-11 am at Kavanaugh's Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave. Sponsored by the Northside Business Association (NBA), the event is a fundraiser and food drive for the The River, Bread of Life and Lakeview Lutheran food pantries.

Breakfast includes scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, coffee, orange juice and milk. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children. Donations of canned foods and nonperishable food items will be collected during the breakfast and distributed to the three Northside food pantries which collectively serve over 750 families a week.

Santa will be present to listen to the Christmas wish lists of all the children. In addition, kids who attend receive a coupon for a special gift from the NorthGate merchants that can be



redeemed at the Shopping Center's Celebrate the Season Event on Saturday, Dec. 3 from 10 am to 5 pm.

Advance tickets are available at Kavanaugh's Esquire Club, The UPS Store at NorthGate Shopping Center, AnchorBank on Sherman Avenue and DuWaynes Salon. Tickets may also be purchased on the day of the breakfast.

For more information, go to www.madisonnba.com or contact Steve Nelson at 241-0323.

Northside Business Association Member Profile

St. Paul Lutheran Church: A revitalized church seeks to build community

By Meg Nielsen
Northside News

Some might be surprised that a church is a member of a business association. But if you meet Pastor Gerry Kuhnke from St. Paul Lutheran Church, 2126 N. Sherman Ave., you'd soon know that community relationships are very important to him and the church that he pastors. "Our responsibility as a congregation is to love and care for the people we encounter every day," Pastor Kuhnke said.

St. Paul Lutheran reaches out to their neighborhood and surrounding community in many ways. One way that they meet the needs of the community is through the operation of a food pantry.

"Every Wednesday at the Bread of Life Food Pantry we go through 1,500 pounds of produce, 200 pounds of sliced bread and 350 pounds of sweets," Pastor Kuhnke said.

A couple of years ago the congregation constructed a 1,580 square-foot building on church property to store foodstuffs so supplies are readily available. Food pantry sources include Second Harvest and Community Action Coalition (CAC) and others.

This year Copps Food Store donated 2,900 pounds of food and a \$500 check to Bread of Life. "That \$500 check allowed us to purchase about 2,750 more pounds of food. We were so thankful because the need is so great," Kuhnke said.

Their Senior Connections ministry is another example of St. Paul's involvement in the community. Every Thursday from 11 am-2 pm, 100 to 120 seniors gather at the church to eat an elaborate free luncheon, pick up pantry items and participate in fellowship. Around 1,250 pounds of produce and 400 pounds of bakery items are shared weekly.

Family ministry is a vital part of St. Paul's mission. Kid's Stuff is offered every Wednesday and includes a free dinner and religious education for the children.

Brentwood Family Night, held every Thursday, also begins with a family dinner at 6 pm. After the meal children and parents have the opportunity to interact with the principal and social workers from Emerson Elementary School and Sherman Middle School.

"What our congregation hopes to do by opening our doors to the people of this community is to provide a center where they can gather, a safe place to come," said Pastor Kuhnke. "Most church buildings are used only on Sundays and sometimes on Wednesdays. Why not use that space to meet the needs of the people in your community?" he said.

Sunday worship at St. Paul's is as follows: traditional at 7:45 am, ReSoul'd at 10 am. A blended worship service is held at 6 pm on Wednesday.

Small business strategy will be feature of January SOHO meeting

Interested in growing your small business but don't know where to start? Small Office, Home Office (SOHO) welcomes any small business owner to attend the group's meetings and seminars in 2012. Knowing that resources are often limited for small business owners, the group is dedicated to offering free discussions, seminars and workshops on topics that help to promote and grow a business. SOHO will continue their partnership with Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative (WW-BIC). Watch for future class listings.

SOHO (Small Office, Home Office) Feature: Small Business Strategy Thursday, Jan. 19 - 6-8 pm Benvenuto's, 1849 Northport Dr.

Small Business Strategy

If you don't have a strategy, your business cannot succeed. A good product or service isn't enough. A good brand isn't enough. Neither is being the best at what you do. In the end, the question is, do you have a strategy to get, keep and build upon the customer base you need and will that strategy work?

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BUSINESS



This rendering for the Capitol Petroleum gas station, car wash, convenience store and cafe planned for 1101 N. Sherman Ave. shows the view across Roth Street. The new building will be set back a little to make full use of the property.

New business planned for blighted Sherman Avenue property

Plans are in process for Capitol Petroleum, LLC, a Madison-based company to redevelop the blighted 1101 N. Sherman Ave. property. Instead of reusing the existing structure however, the plans are for a new, nicely designed building.

“It will be good to have this vacant site in use again, and to have a nicer looking building there. It’s always great to see more businesses interested in the Northside!” said Alder Satya Rhodes-Conway who has helped with the early planning.

The City of Madison Plan Commission held a public hearing on Nov. 21 and was expected to approve the application to demolish the existing con-

venience store and construct a new gas station, car wash and convenience store with restaurant/cafe tenant space. Attractive landscaping is planned for both sides of the building.

The Northside Economic Development Coalition reviewed the proposal at their October meeting and sent a letter of support to Capitol Petroleum’s owner Farooq Shahzad. Capitol Petroleum has been in business for ten years and owns five other convenience/fuel stations in Madison that are affiliated with either Mobil or BP. If all goes as planned, construction should begin next March-April and be completed in three to four months.

Area businesses help FEED Kitchen with fundraising opportunities

by Terrie Anderson

Did you like the rendering of the Food Enterprise and Economic Development (FEED) Kitchens on the front page of the October/November Northside News? So did City of Madison officials. The Urban Design Commission (UDC) approved the FEED building design with positive comments about the fact that the architects crafted a building that fit both the site and the purpose well. All the members of the UDC are excited to see the project succeed.

Many area individuals and businesses are jumping on the bandwagon to support the Northside Planning Council’s economic development project that will make commercial kitchen space available to food entrepreneurs, nonprofits doing fundraising and teaching, training programs for food service skills, food preparation for healthy snacks for school kids and much, much more.

Whole Foods of Madison generously donated five percent of one day’s sales on Nov. 17 and shared the excitement with hundreds of shoppers.

The Old Fashioned Restaurant, on the square at 23 N. Pinckney St., has made FEED the recipient of their November and December meat raffles and daily shakes. On any weekend morning, during breakfast or brunch, you will have an opportunity to purchase a raffle ticket to win a Wisconsin ham. And at the bar anytime, participate in the “Shake of the Day.” One dollar gives you a roll of the dice to try for daily free food and drinks. So head downtown with friends and family before the end of the year for delicious local food and a chance to win big while helping support FEED.

NPC and the FEED team thank these businesses for their commitments to local food, the FEED project and all things Wisconsin!

UW Credit Union neighborhood meeting scheduled for Dec. 12

A neighborhood meeting has been set for Monday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 pm to discuss the UW Credit Union’s proposal for a branch at the Pizza Hut location on Northport Drive. The meeting will be held at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center meeting room, at 1625 Northport Dr. Habitat for Human-

ity proposes to locate some housing in back of the credit union.

Representatives of UW Credit Union and Habitat for Humanity will be present, as will City Planning staff and Alderperson Anita Weier. For questions, contact Alder Weier at 320-5820 or district18@cityofmadison.com.

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BUSINESS

Jewelers Workshop gives Domestic Abuse Intervention Services a big Northside welcome

By Jan Loisel

It is never easy to knock on a door and ask a small business for support – let alone when that business is not familiar with your organization. Yet that is exactly what happened this spring when a DAIS (Domestic Abuse Intervention Services) staff member approached Jewelers Workshop. And they certainly did answer the door!

When Jason Braden of Jewelers Workshop, 301 N. Sherman Ave. first encountered DAIS, the request was for a contribution of a small piece of jewelry for the Merrill Lynch Grand Gala Silent Auction. Immediately Braden suggested they could do better.

“We didn’t know DAIS but certainly knew that domestic violence has a serious impact on our community. When we learned they were trying to buy the Sears building down the street and they might be new neighbors, we were in,” Braden said. “We couldn’t think of a better way to say welcome to the neighborhood and thanks for helping make our community better.”

Jewelers Workshop started out big supporting DAIS and then went bigger. They gave gift cards to all 600 Gala attendees and donated a percentage of sales to DAIS. Then in June they designed a necklace that helped raise several thousand dollars at the annual Celebrate Independence! Luncheon. Now this generous, welcoming neighbor has designed a sig-

nature charm for DAIS that can be worn on a bracelet or necklace. The charm costs \$80 and half of that amount will be donated to DAIS and provide an ongoing source of revenue. The piece captures a sense of freedom and transformation and includes an element of the DAIS logo with an amethyst stone that signifies domestic abuse awareness.

This summer DAIS closed on the building across from Webcrafters at 2102 Fordem Ave. and already this site looks better after years of being vacant. DAIS plans to open the 35,000 square foot facility by the end of 2013. In addition to providing 56 emergency-shelter

beds for women who have experienced domestic abuse and their children, the facility will offer room for increased program and support services.

This location was chosen because it is a central location for Dane County, close to community services, adjacent to Center for Families and part of the welcoming Northside. DAIS will bring jobs to the neighborhood and increase local retail and restaurant sales.

To order a charm and support DAIS or to simply thank Jewelers Workshop for being such a great Northside ambassador, call 251-7705 or contact them at jewelers@jewelersworkshop.com.



Jewelers Workshop designed a signature charm for DAIS that can be worn on a bracelet or necklace. The piece captures a sense of freedom and transformation and includes an element of the DAIS logo with an amethyst stone that signifies domestic abuse awareness. Half of the proceeds will be donated to DAIS and provide an ongoing source of revenue.

Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin adds new Executive Director

Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin (LEBW) is pleased to announce that Art O’Neal has joined the organization as Executive Director. Most recently, O’Neal served as Vice President, Donor Services at Tissue Banks International. O’Neal brings extensive strategic, business and Tissue Banks International experience to the organization. “Art’s experience fits well with LEBW’s mission and will help drive results through our vast network of Lions clubs, volunteer Lions, partner organizations, employees, donors, their families and patient recipients,” said Tom King, LEBW Board of Directors President, 2011-12.

The Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin is located 2401 American Ln., Madison off International Lane.

The Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin, Inc., a nonprofit 501 (c)3, is a team of professionals and volunteers dedicated to the mission of restoring the Gift of Sight through transplantation of corneas, research, and education to advance the knowledge and treatment of eye diseases. For more information on Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin visit www.lebw.org or call (608) 233-2354.

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COMMUNITY

Road construction: It is over and we survived!

Northside News

Wisconsin's traditional two seasons — road construction and winter — have really hit home this year. With winter just around the corner, road construction should be just about wrapped up. We'll remember 2011 as a year of finding our usual routes closed or intersections blocked for turns, requiring us to go blocks out of our way to reach our destination.

As a reminder of what all was done, the State of Wisconsin DOT and the City of Madison entered into an agreement to replace the pavement on STH 113 (Packers Avenue and Northport Drive) from First Street to Knudson Drive, a total of 4.7 miles. For details and all up-to-date status reports on activity see www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/sth113/.

A few things that might not be completely finished until the spring are: 1) inbound terrace sod lawn installation between Troy Drive and Knutson Drive, 2) median decorative fence installation between CTH CV and Sherman Avenue, and 3) median street lighting between CTH CV and Knutson Drive.

The new decorative fence will look similar to the fence by East High School, but with an artistic touch. A result of the work by the art and design team, the city will

install public art on the fence, art selected for conveying our "branded" Northside image. Other future plans include artistic images on locations such as bus shelters and benches. All of these improvements will help increase property values and improve the business climate by attracting new business and people to the Northside.

Let's also remember 2011 as a year of learning. We learned patience as we tried to find our way home, we discovered new streets and neighborhoods we had never driven through before, we learned to laugh rather than cry at a few of the absurdities, and we learned what a tough job street engineers and workers must have trying to plan and work around drivers. As we started to see the changes take place many of us probably learned and practiced the mantra of "it will be really nice when it is done."

The April *Northside News* article began with "It is time to celebrate, as Packers Avenue and Northport Drive are scheduled for a long-overdue reconstruction effort beginning in late April." But now is really the time to celebrate because it is over, we survived, and this season of inconvenience has contributed to a beautiful new and improved Northside. Now get out there and visit those Northside businesses to help them recover from the trauma too!

Undersea adventure with Boy Scout Troop 23

By John Sullivan

Boy Scout Troop 23 went to Manitowoc, Wisc. to visit the Maritime Museum and the USS Cobia, a World War II submarine. It was one of the 28 subs made by the Manitowoc Submarine Company. It was night when we got there and we got a full tour of the submarine USS Cobia. We also got to do other activities and drills and then we got to sleep in the submarine's torpedo room. The next day, we toured the attached Maritime Museum. If you want to do fun stuff like this, please join the Boy Scouts and Troop 23.

Scout John Sullivan wrote this article to fulfill a requirement for the Communications Merit Badge. Scouting is a wonderful activity for young men (ages 11-18). Some of our upcoming activities include a cabin outing, trip to the Corn maze and bell ringing for the Salvation Army. If you want more information, please contact Scoutmaster Wally Meyer at 246-8501.



Boy Scout Troop 23 visited the Maritime Museum and the USS Cobia

Photo by Maritime Museum staffer

New group to connect Northside women

Madison Women's Connection — a group that plans to hold fun, relaxing, informative events for women, by women is getting its start on the Northside. North and eastside women are invited to the first Madison Women's Connection (MWC) event on Monday, Dec. 5 from 6:30-8 pm at the Cherokee Country Club at 5000 N. Sherman Ave. The event is free and everyone is welcome to bring a friend. Complimentary appetizers will be served and there will be a cash bar. The social time will be followed by a "Holidaze" holiday decorating presentation by Jodie Amerell from Inner View, Inc. that highlights how to create beautiful tables, centerpieces and tree decorations.

The intention of Madison Women's Connection is simply to provide women an opportunity to reach beyond themselves to build connections and friendships through positive relationships with other women in their community. MWC is open to women of all ages, and is a time to come together to socialize, learn and meet other women. Topic bursts will feature food, entertainment, sports and business. The intention is to connect women from the north and east side of Madison, but the event is open to all women from the Greater Madison area. Please RSVP to Kristina by Dec. 1 at Kristina.plitzner@edwardjones.com or call 249-0622.



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