

NORTH STAR AWARDS 2011

NORTH STAR AWARDS 2011 WINNERS



NPC Vice-Chair, Terrie Anderson and Jan Axelson

Jan Axelson helped found the Friends of Cherokee Marsh and has served as the president for the last two years. Jan produces the newsletter, organizes lobbying efforts, recruits board members, organizes hikes, cleanups, seed gathering and other activities. Thanks to her effort vital parts of the marsh have been transferred to public ownership for protection.



Award winner Jeff Feinblatt

Jeff Feinblatt has coached youth baseball for over 36 years and deserves a huge thank you from the Northside. Jeff doesn't look for gifts, saying "I don't need presents. If you want to thank me, just play catch with your kids." Jeff fosters teamwork and confidence in the children he works with - many now adults who believe his coaching still helps them in their adult lives.



Virginia Davis and Alder Anita Weier

Virginia Davis through the Virginia Davis School of Dance has taught countless children and adults the beauty in dancing. Her dance groups entertain throughout

Sue Gleason has been active in the Lake View Hill Neighborhood Association and Lake View Hill Park for almost 25 years. She has developed and maintains several communication tools to keep neighbors



Sue Gleason and Alder Satya Rhodes-Conway

informed and has been actively involved with the park restoration efforts.



Award winner Mary Hill

Mary Hill, now age 88, has spent decades volunteering, starting out as a Den Mother and volunteering at the North/Eastside Senior Coalition for the past 12 years. At age 80 Mary taught herself to use the computer and at age 83 she started as a RSVP driver escort to help other seniors get to their appointments. Mary spends 15-20 hours per week with NESCO to help seniors remain independent and active in our community.



Vern and Chloe Stenman (Madison Mallards), Sue Gleason, Anne Pryor and Alyssa Kenney (Margaret's Fund), Judy Kreft, Mary Hill, Tim Nelson (Wild Warner), Mary Schumacher, Jan Axelson, Virginia Davis, Char Tortorice and Joshua Lydick

The stars continue to shine on the Northside

This year's North Stars were celebrated on 11-11-11 as eight individuals and two organizations were recognized for their contributions to the Northside. The Special High Impact award was given to the Madison Mallards and a surprise Madison Common Council Civic Engagement award was presented to Char Tortorice.

Over 140 Northsiders attended the 9th Annual North Star Awards event to support the winners and show their Northside Pride. Special guest presenters were State Representative Kelda Helen Roys, County Supervisors Paul Rusk and Melissa Sargent, and Madison City Alder Anita Weier and Satya Rhodes-Conway.

Entertainment was provided by the fantastic East High Jazz Ensemble and the Davis Dancing Darlings. A special thanks to all of the event sponsors that are listed on the Northside Planning Council (NPC) page, to NPC Board Member Ruth Rohlich for her coordination of the event, Lauri Lee and Beth Swanson for making the room beautiful, Mary Ambrosavage

for her NSA design work, and numerous volunteers for the delicious food! This was one of the best North Star events ever and plans are already underway to make 2012 even better! Check out www.northside-madison.org and the "Northside Madison" Facebook page for more event photos. See you next year!

Joshua Lydick is the new Director at Pierce's Northside Market and under his leadership, Pierce's outreach has increased dramatically. He initiated Cook-out for a Cause, the Christmas Angel Giving Tree, the Reading and Food is Educational program, has increased support for the River Food Pantry, is



East High Jazz Ensemble



Stacey Yang



North Star Awards Buffet



Davis' Dancing Darlings



Char Tortorice

NORTH STAR AWARDS 2011 WINNERS



Judy Kreft and County Supervisor Melissa Sargent

Judy Kreft volunteers to support and promote scouting and is an active member of the Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church. She teaches crafts to children as their mothers attend the English Language Learner Program. Her pastor says, "Judy is ever-helpful, ever-kind."



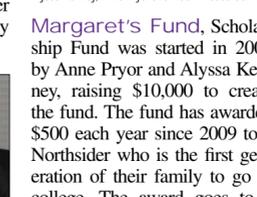
County Supervisor Paul Rusk and Joshua Lydick

Mary Schumacher has been a volunteer writer for the Northside News, writing business profiles to help welcome new businesses to the Northside. She founded the Northside SOHO (Small Office, Home Office) group to help anyone oper-



Mary Schumacher and Supervisor Melissa Sargent

ating or starting a small business. Mary and her husband Michael will be moving to Charleston, South Carolina in January 2012.



Alyssa Kenney, Anne Pryor and Alder Rhodes-Conway

Margaret's Fund, Scholarship Fund was started in 2007 by Anne Pryor and Alyssa Kenney, raising \$10,000 to create the fund. The fund has awarded \$500 each year since 2009 to a Northsider who is the first generation of their family to go to college. The award goes to a graduating high school senior in odd years and to a returning adult in even years. Stacy Yang, a UW-Milwaukee student received this year's scholarship.



Jim Carrier and Supervisor Paul Rusk

Wild Warner has reminded us of the park's natural areas and its diverse wildlife. They have worked with others to develop educational programs that explore nature through photos, stories, maps and hands-on experience. Their advocacy efforts moved the city to use natural population methods for the unwanted geese and work is enhancing and protecting one of Madison's greatest treasures. Jim Carrier accepted the North Star Award for Wild Warner.

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Nov. 1-Dec. 16

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ART

Photograph by Mike Murray, North Sand Photography



"Winter Fog" was taken between Waunakee and Sauk City by Mike Murray. Murray is a lifelong Northsider that specializes in landscape and wildlife prints.

By Seth Albertson and Alex Murtagh

Northside Artist Reception at Coffee Gallerie on December 4

By Carolyn Gantner

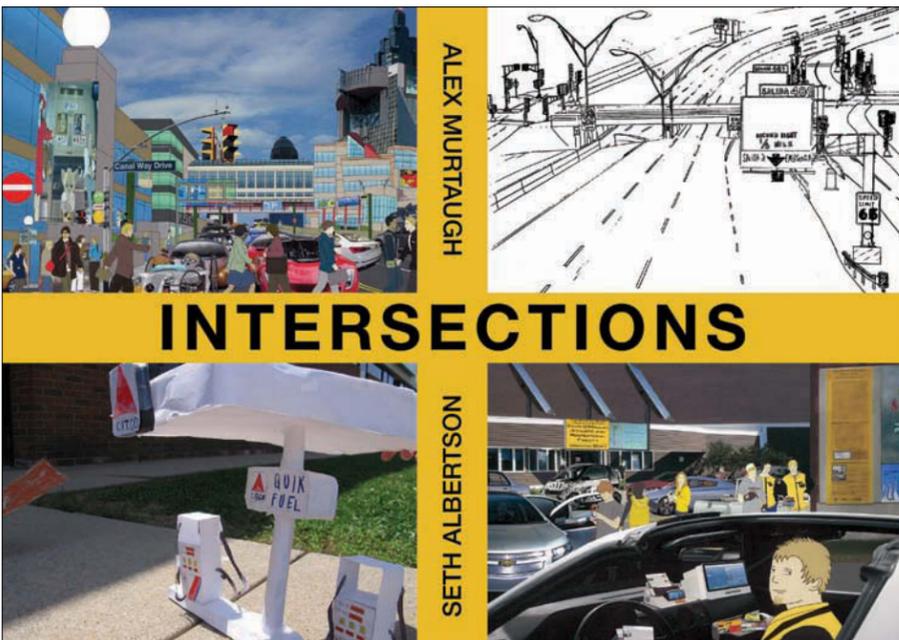
On Sunday, Dec. 4, from noon- 2 pm, there will be a public reception for the "Northside Artist Showcase" at the recently reopened Coffee Gallerie in Northside TownCenter (Northport Drive and Sherman Avenue). The Northside Artist Group (NSAG) exhibit will be on display all of December and January and includes a unique variety of artwork by over 20 members of the organization in the areas of photography, drawing, painting, fiber arts and other media. Some of the artworks were inspired by places many miles away such as Ron Baeseman's watercolor "Barras Nose, Cornwell." Other creations, such as Mike Murray's "Winter Fog," (see photograph above) has Wisconsin written all over it.

with the Northside community, NSAG is inviting those coming to the Dec. 4 reception to bring a donation for The River Food Pantry — either non-perishable food or a monetary donation. NSAG's other current exhibit "Warner's Wonders" is now installed at Lakeview Branch Library until the end of December. The exhibit was previously on display at the Warner Park Community Center this fall and has artwork expressing its many diverse aspects.

Members of NSAG's steering committee include Monique Isham, David Carpenter, Steve Salt, Susan Hoffman, Ron Baeseman and Carolyn Gantner. Visual artists living or working on the Northside are invited to participate. For information about membership, exhibits and more go to www.northside-art.org or contact Carolyn at 244-2909.

In continuing its tradition of connecting

Contribution by Seth Albertson and Alex Murtagh



"Intersections" card

Reception to be held at VSA Wisconsin Gallery

By Kathie Wagner

The works of Alex Murtagh, an artist who specializes in digital collages of urban scenes and Seth Albertson, who draws traffic signals and freeway interchanges will be featured in the VSA Wisconsin Gallery from Jan. 11 through Feb. 29. The gallery is open on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2-5:30 pm or by appointment. The public is invited to meet the artists at a reception on Friday, Jan. 20 from 5-7 pm.

Seth's highly detailed line drawings result in intriguing designs where maps, diagrams, and reality merge to communicate a unique understanding of complex urban planning. Alex's compositions include people, animals and locations, real and imagined; made with elements of his own photography and cartoons. Each can take up to three months to complete because of the complex detail.



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OUTDOOR

Wildlife can't vote, Wild Warner members can

by **Marlene Hardick**

Butterflies can't vote. Birds can't attend public hearings. Trees, fish, fox, and other wild things need interpreters so humans can understand them.

Wild Warner is a non-profit group formally organized in September 2010 to preserve and advocate for the wild things of Warner Park and to educate Madison residents about the urban jewel in their midst. Mention Warner Park and many immediately think of baseball and fireworks. They are less aware of the wildlife that shares this park, including 102 species of birds. In the past year, 15 birdhouses have been erected to encourage nesting bluebirds and

wood ducks. Advocating for non-lethal methods for controlling geese populations has been an important activity.

Nature education plays an important role. Professionals with a variety of expertise have come to lead five public nature walks last summer. Students from UW Nelson Institute have teamed up with middle school students at Sherman for the Nature Explorers After School Club. Since September 2010, 45 Sherman students have gathered weekly in Warner Park to watch birds, make nesting boxes, learn about trees, wildflowers and water quality.

During the summer a similar program took families from Brentwood Neighbor-

hood into the park. During a tree walk, the expert used a used a tape measure to determine that one bur oak is 250 years old. After learning that, Wild Warner negotiated with the Parks Department to stop mowing under this tree.

Additional projects include research about the effect of fireworks/heavy metals on water quality and work to protect park wetlands and improve water quality in the lagoon, which in turn

will improve fishing. Efforts continue to increase habitat by decreasing mowing of meadows in the park.

Wild Warner is seeking more members (see www.wildwarnerpark.org). The meetings are held at 6 pm on the first Tuesday of every month at Warner Park Community Recreation Center.

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FAITH COMMUNITY

Faith in action

By Meg Nielsen
Northside News

In the classic Christmas movie, "It's a Wonderful Life," George Bailey (played by Jimmy Stewart) gets to see what his hometown would be like if he had never been born. The movie shows how a seemingly insignificant life, lived in the shadow of those who are richer, more heroic and more successful, can still have a profound impression on the world.

So it is with the faith-based institutions that operate around us. Small or large, liberal or conservative, these humble, dedicated groups profoundly affect the communities and wider world in which they exist. The aim with this holiday article is to focus on the variety of gifts our Northside Madison faith-based institutions offer. From senior meals to retail clothing shops, these groups fill needs that otherwise would go unmet.

It seems appropriate that those who believe in a God who chose to come to earth as a tiny child of humble birth would follow Jesus' example of serving others and walking with them on life's journey, especially at this time of year when they celebrate one of their most significant holy days, Christmas, the birth of Christ.

Sherman Avenue Methodist Church unites congregation, community

"The economic temperament, as well as the ethnic and racial diversity of the Northside, greatly influences the types of ministries our faith communities provide. The Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church (UMC) is proud of its diversity,"

said Dan Madden, Chair of the congregation's Administrative Counsel. A relatively small congregation of about 120, the Sherman Avenue UMC holds two Sunday services, a traditional morning worship led by Pastor Suni Caylor, and an afternoon worship for non-English speaking Hmong members led by a Hmong pastor, Luke Thao.

Every Wednesday the congregation reaches out into the Northport Drive and Kennedy Heights area with a ministry especially for Hmong women. These Laotian women refugees are often slow to learn English because they stay home with the children. But, every week, they are especially invited to gather at the church where volunteers prepare and serve a meal from 5:30-6 pm. After the meal the women attend English Language Learning classes. Some may also receive help getting a GED or becoming US citizens.

In addition to their active Hmong ministry, the Sherman Avenue UMC also prepares and serves breakfast and supper 12 times a year for the homeless at Grace Episcopal Church on the square in downtown Madison. In May they hold a multicultural event that includes a Sunday worship service featuring an English Choir, a Hmong Choir, Liberian chants, and poems or readings from other cultures.

Northside Christian offers Kingdom Legal

A unique offering of the Northside Christian Assembly on Northport Drive is their non-profit law firm, Kingdom

Faith, continued on page 21

What's the big deal about the birth of Christ?

By Pastor Roy Ratcliff

Mandrake Road Church of Christ

Pastor Roy Ratcliff shares with Northsiders his personal views on the spirit of the holiday season.

Pastor Ratcliff serves the Mandrake Road Church of Christ, a non-denominational congregation on Madison's Northside that is self-governing and independent of any other religious body. They hold the Bible as their only standard for truth. Worship services are held at 10:30 am on Sunday mornings.

As Christmas approaches we think of the little baby Jesus in the manger and all the beautiful songs and traditions celebrating his birth. Because of the commercialism surrounding the holiday, we are sometimes tempted to wonder: What was the big deal about the birth of Jesus? Aren't babies born every day? What's so special about this one?

Obviously, this birth was not unique in the way it occurred, but in the conception and the life of the man we know as Jesus. As a Christian, I believe Jesus is God in human form. The Bible says in the Gospel of John that in Jesus, God became flesh and lived among us. How can Jesus be God and human, since the two terms describe two

seemingly different things? Yet He is. He truly was "Immanuel" of the Old Testament prophecy, Immanuel, which means "God With Us." The most amazing thing is not just this seemingly impossible truth, but the impact this truth makes on our lives. When we believe God loved the whole world enough to send Jesus to come and live among us, as one of us, our lives can be changed forever.

This wonderful truth often translates into service toward one another. When we act lovingly towards others, we behave like the God we find exemplified in Jesus. We are not all that matters, other people matter too. As we learn to love others, not just those we already love, but the unlovable ones, and our enemies, we begin to see how Christ lives in our lives. Thus, you see people volunteering to feed the hungry and clothe those without clothing. They go out of their way to give a hand to those who have fallen down. They're not crazy; they just understand what it means to have Jesus in their lives.

May this holiday season be an opportunity for you to participate in the divine nature as you perform acts of love and kindness toward others.

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Illustration
Todd Starks © 2008

For God
So Loved the world
that He gave His only begotten
that whosoever believeth in **Son**
Him should not perish, but have
everlasting life. John 3:16

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FAITH COMMUNITY

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Legal Services. Pr. Krystal Oby, wife of Pr. Joe T. Oby, is a graduate of the UW Law School and serves as its attorney. Kingdom Legal helps moderate-income families who make too much money to obtain free services but whose income isn't enough to afford the cost asked by most legal firms. They have also provided assistance to churches and have helped a number of non-profit organizations get started.

Other Northside Christian Assembly ministries include the "Backpack Giveaway" in August and a multicultural holiday feast in November that celebrates the different races and cultures in their congregation. Next year they hope to become one of the sites of Dane County Girls on the Run, a program to help third to fifth grade girls build character as they transition from children to pre-teens.

The congregation also claims an active Hmong ministry, which includes a Hmong worship service at 2 pm on Sunday afternoons and a joint worship service and meal on the first Sunday of every month. They are currently waiting to call a Hmong-speaking pastor.

Lakeview Lutheran is home to the homeless

Three to five times a year Lakeview Lutheran on Mandrake Road offers its space and hospitality to those who have lost their homes. The congregation participates in The Road Home, a ministry supported by a number of Madison faith-based institutions. For a week at a time, the congregation hosts three or four families who are temporarily without a place to live. During



Lakeview Lutheran Church's ministry program The Road Home, ribbon cutting in 2010

that time, each family is given a room in the church where they can sleep. Meals and children's activities are provided. Adults are given rides to and from work.

Lakeview Lutheran also operates a food pantry where about 20 families are served Mondays 5:30-7 pm. But, Lakeview Church is probably best known for its Thanksgiving Day dinner that, according to Pastor Dean Kirst, typically serves 300 people from the community who would otherwise go without.

In addition, Lakeview members partner with Habitat for Humanity of Dane County to build affordable homes. They also contribute regularly to Lutheran Disaster Response and have taken adults on work trips to help clean up after natural disasters such as hurricane Katrina and the floods in North Dakota. High school students spent a week last summer on the Crow Indian reservation in Montana painting houses. Middle school students have gone to Milwaukee to take part in Feeding America. The congregation is also home to quarterly Red Cross Blood Drives.

Their senior ministry provides hospitality, lunch and euchre time for 30 people

who gather weekly to enjoy fellowship and socialization. Lakeview Church is an "open congregation" that affirms and blesses public unions of same gender couples.

Seventh Day Adventists focus is on family

The Madison Community Seventh Day Adventist Church keeps a sharp focus on families. Every August they provide a week of Vacation Bible School for the entire neighborhood. Families and children are encouraged to come to enjoy the crafts, songs, Bible stories and fun.

One of the most important services offered, said Pastor Abraham Swamidass, is to provide marriage and family seminars. He provides free marriage counseling and a 10-week Prepare/Enrich course for married couples and pre-marriage singles. Wedding and family life seminars are offered as well, covering topics like forgiveness, intimacy, anger management and conflict resolution. Couples' groups meet frequently to discuss how to strengthen a marriage.

Parenting, discipline and classes on how to motivate children are also offered. Their annual Christmas program gives families the opportunity to view

the usual Biblical skits, and a Christmas Cantata features popular carols, instrumental music, and readings. Hmong services in the Hmong language are offered on Saturday afternoons along with regular worship services.

Holy Transfiguration centers on prayer

A fledgling, multi-ethnic group, the 50 to 60 members of Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Mission still manage to participate in the annual Thanksgiving service at Lakeview Lutheran, collect food for the Kennedy Heights neighborhood and support the Madison Urban Ministry and the Madison Ecumenical Center. Globally, they support A Clinic at a Time, an organization that provides healthcare services and clinic supplies for the people of Ethiopia.

The group meets in a chapel they have devised on the lower level of the Cambridge Place Building at 621 N. Sherman Ave. The worship service they celebrate is said to be the oldest existing Christian liturgy, dating back to the first century worship initiated by St. James, one of Jesus' disciples. These orthodox worshippers are part of the Mission Society of the St. Gregorios of India Community of Madison. Many members celebrate East Indian roots. Others have connections

Faith, continued on page 22

Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church

Pastor Suni Caylor

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FAITH COMMUNITY

Faith, from page 21

to Syria and Ethiopia.

Because some members of the Orthodox Mission come from Fitchburg and Waunakee, the support they provide to the Northside community is mostly spiritual. An open lecture/discussion on topics of Eastern Christian Spirituality is held on the fourth Monday of the month at 7 pm with a gathering for prayer and meditation at 6:30 pm. A healing prayer service is offered the second Wednesday of each month at 7 pm.

"We are constantly praying for the whole Northside community," said Rev. Fr. John Brian Paprock. "In our worship we are constantly celebrating 'God with us' as we pray for those around us. That's what we, as Christians, believe Christmas is all about," he added. Rev. Fr. Paprock serves the Madison community as a hospital chaplain and a hospice chaplain.

St. Paul Lutheran Church reaches out

St. Paul Lutheran on North Sherman Avenue reaches out to the surrounding community in many ways. The Bread of Life Food Pantry is just one of the weekly events through which they minister to the needs of the community. The pantry is open Tuesdays from 5-6 pm and Wednesdays from 9-11 am. Under-resourced families receive produce and bakery goods and choose from a shopping list of over 200 items. At Thanksgiving more than 300 baskets are prepared and distributed. More than 25 volunteers, many of whom have been there since the pantry opened in 2007, staff the pantry.

Family events at St. Paul Lutheran include a free dinner at 5:15 pm followed by religious education from 6-7 pm on Wednesday, where children are taught 36 virtues, i.e. honesty, respect, compassion, etc., one per month. Brentwood Family Night seeks to build community every Thursday night with a 6 pm family dinner followed by a time when children can interact with the Emerson Elementary School principal and social workers from Emerson and Sherman Middle School.

On Thursdays at 10:30 am, the congregation hosts more than 100 senior citizens at an elaborate free luncheon followed by fellowship afterwards that may include playing cards, watching a movie or doing board games.

Mandrake Road Church of Christ

Sunday worship and Bible study spur members of the Mandrake Road Church of Christ to put their faith into action by volunteering in a number of North-

Wild places can renew the spirit

By Jeffrey Lee Affeldt

Northside News

I don't know if I'll ever find the meaning of life, but oftentimes, when walking in wild places, I feel like I'm getting a little closer to it.

I distinctly recall my first discovery of a beautiful Northside wild place, many years ago. I had just moved to Madison from a smaller, northern city, and I lived alone here. I would start school in a few weeks, but was already beginning to doubt the rather rash decision to sell many of my possessions, quit my job and start a new life far from home.

Now, I was somewhat dispirited by the hustle and noise of a friendless city, my newfound poverty, the overwhelming demands on my time, and the seemingly endless paperwork required to try to put down roots in a new and unfamiliar place. Late one afternoon, I sought a brief respite someplace green and quiet, and set out for a country drive.

I didn't get far. My battered old station wagon took me north on Sherman Avenue, which I quickly learned peters out into a gravel road which dead-ends in ... a park.

I was soon rambling the wooded trails of Cherokee Marsh, the dappled sunlight playing across the pathway, and a fresh breeze stirring the canopy of leaves overhead. Before long, the forest gave way to open sedge meadow, stretching out in seemingly endless miles of gently undulating grasses, and I could see far into the hazy distance.

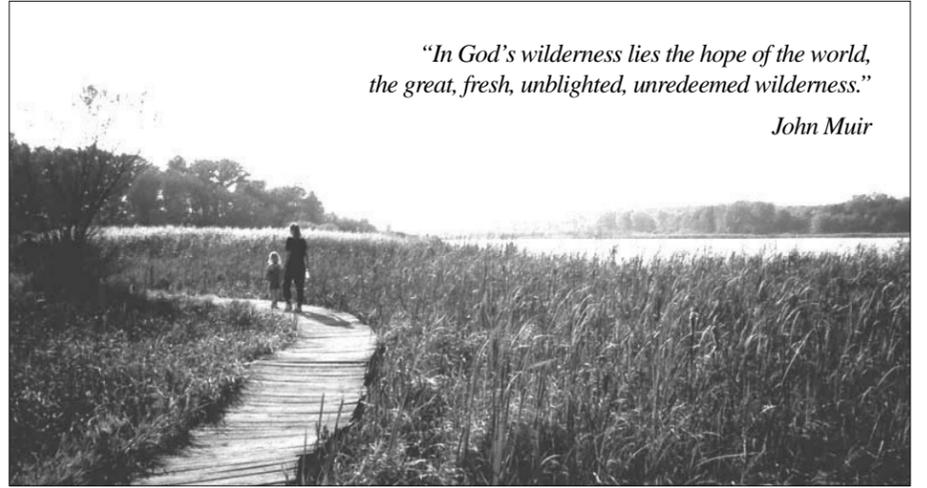
I eventually found my way to the quiet shore of the namesake marsh, where I sat on an ancient Woodland Indian mound

side activities. Members are heavily involved with Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin. Many volunteer there, sorting and packing food for other Madison area food pantries. Some also volunteer at The River Food Pantry.

The congregation also holds an annual garage sale to benefit Second Harvest and from November through early January they collect canned food and dry goods to support the foodbank. Anyone who wishes to contribute may drop off food items at the large bin at the front of the church, which is located at 4301 Mandrake Rd.

A weekly movie night started in November. Adults and children are invited to come and enjoy an evening of fellowship and G-rated movies.

A small congregation of less than 100 people, Mandrake Road Church of Christ has been in existence since 1943. Pastor



"In God's wilderness lies the hope of the world, the great, fresh, unblighted, unredeemed wilderness."

John Muir

beneath a grand old cottonwood tree, standing like a sentinel over the water. I almost couldn't believe my good fortune in discovering this beautiful and wild place, and I rested there awhile. The sun was already falling behind the distant tree line, now silhouetted darkly against the flaming sky. Near my feet, the placid water was deep and black, but shimmered with viscous swirls of liquid fire borrowed from the sky — midnight blues and oranges, royal purples and golds ...

As the waters of the Yahara River flowed in at one end of the marsh, they slowed and swirled, their currents dissipating and losing their strength, until it seemed they didn't move at all. But at the other end, I knew, those same languid waters gathered once again and found their way, now with the full weight of the marsh behind them, to converge and rush and flow through the outlet and on to the next portion of their long journey.

Roy Ratcliff says the church is a congregation of believing Christians, who uphold the Bible as its standard of truth.

Boomerang's Resale Store

Although Boomerang's sponsoring congregation, Door Creek Church, is not located on the Northside, this vibrant resale establishment has been filling a need in this community since it opened in 2008. "The congregation researched the Madison area to find the best place to open a store and settled on the Northside because of the socio-economic factors at work here," said store manager Craig Gielow.

Donations of clothing, housewares, knick knacks, craft items and small appliances come from all over Madison including Door Creek Church. Second-hand furniture often comes from local furniture store customer referrals. The store can now offer pick up and delivery of larger items.

I lingered there, I don't know whether for a minute or an hour, and my troubled spirit finally grew calm and tranquil. All the cares and worries of the previous weeks had been washed away from my mind, and as I turned back for my new home, I knew that soon enough, I too would find my strength, find my way.

Years have passed, and like those waters of Cherokee Marsh, life has indeed flowed onward, sometimes fast and full of strength, sometimes slow and weary, often taking a turn in an unexpected direction.

But I still go there and to other quiet places on the Northside, to calm the mind and rejuvenate the spirit. Because in a world generally inhabited by the mediocre, the ordinary, and the mundane, and all too often by greed, violence, stupidity and other ugliness, we must take that glimpse of beauty and insight when it chooses to reveal itself to us.

Before fire ravaged the store last August, it served 50 to 60 customers every day. Even in their temporary location they are able to help 30 to 40 customers a day. Around 80 to 90 percent of Boomerang's clients are from the Northside. The renovated store should re-open in mid-January.

"Many of our customers wouldn't be able to purchase at regular retail prices what they can get here. The state of the economy is such that it's becoming difficult to afford the things a normal household needs," said Craig Gielow.

"What goes around comes around," Gielow said. He has been pleased with the outpouring of love and support from the Northside community since the fire last spring. That's the way it is. Faith communities that offer acts of kindness, compassion and acceptance often find themselves richly blessed in the loving and serving of others.



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YOUTH

Madison East High School



Photo by Richard Lyons

Madison East High School students show their "Fo' solid"-arity while attending the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Regional Conference in Milwaukee

Erin Barry, Kim Chung, Alondra Harris, and Isaiah Oby took second place in the Engineering Design Competition. David Cann, Leon Dinh, Jonathan Graham Jr, Sheikh Jammeh, and Jacob Ottelien placed fourth in the Try-Mathalon math and science quiz bowl.

Also attending the conference were

Emily Barry, Manuel Navarro, Tobias Pointer, Alicia Pope, Ricardo Ruiz, and Angela Stahl. Parent Freda Harris and 11 college NSBE members from UW completed the Madison group.

The UW-Madison NSBE chapter provided transportation and other fees were subsidized by school-based fundraising.

Thanks, everyone!

Math multiplies your options

by Cynthia Chin

East High Math Teacher

East STEM students — Science, Technology, Engineering, Math — have many opportunities to explore, discover, and challenge themselves in 2011-2012.

Any student enrolled in Algebra I/Integrated Math 1 or higher is welcome to attend UW-Madison Math Circle meetings on Monday evenings throughout the year. Parents are also welcome. These talks and game sessions — offered by UW faculty and graduate students — are informal, fun, and accessible introductions to cutting-edge mathematics research, as well as classic problems. Recent topics ranged from origami to taffy-pulling machines. To see the schedule of upcoming programs, visit: www.math.wisc.edu/wiki/index.php/Madison_Math_Circle.

Fifteen students attended the Fall Regional Conference of the National Society of Black Engineers in Milwaukee, Nov. 4-6. Two East High teams competed and students benefited from workshops about college and career preparation. The professional weekend, which included a tour of Marquette University's new engineering labs, featured technical and academic

competitions from middle school through graduate school, financial aid workshops, and visits with engineering employers. See the photo above from this event.

About 15 more students attended the UW-Madison Harambee Day the same Friday — visiting with faculty, administration, and students from the College of Engineering, School of Business, School of Education and College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Spring engineering-themed visits may include the University of Michigan — hosted by the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers — and MATC-Madison's Engineering Transfer Program.

East High School had five teams of mathematics students participate in the annual High School Mathematics Competition in Modeling in November. Students were given 36 hours to research and develop a solution to an open-ended applied problem of their choice, with a technical paper being submitted at the end of that time. This year's teams analyzed either (1) post-shuttle options and costs for American use of the International Space Station, or (2) search and rescue missions in public wilderness areas. Contest results will be announced in February.

Black Hawk Middle School

Black Hawk named Wisconsin Promise School of Recognition

By Sean Storch, Principal

Black Hawk Middle School

Success is a measure of how hard you work, and how long you work hard.

At Black Hawk Middle School, our teachers and support staff have worked long and hard to engage all students in learning. We appreciate the support of families in this important work, and are proud to share our students' success with the Northside community.

Black Hawk was recently named a Wisconsin Promise School of Recognition by the Department of Public Instruction. This honor recognizes the continued improvements in learning that our students make year after year, as measured by state test scores. We have a high percentage of families who qualify for free or reduced lunch, and who struggle with the stress of living with low income. Most other schools like ours do not sustain the high level of student achievement that we do. We are recognized because we succeed in helping all of our students learn and grow, despite the hardships that they face.

How do we do it? It is not a secret. We work hard. We have worked hard together for a long time to meet the needs of all of our students. As resources available to us have been reduced due to revenue controls, we have learned to work smarter and more efficiently. I hope that our exceptional staff can continue to innovate and evolve to meet the changing needs of our kids, but I know we will need a lot of family and community resources and support to do so, especially in a time of shrinking budgets.

I am proud of our teachers and support staff at Black Hawk. I am proud of our students. I am proud of our families and the Northside community. We have a tradition of excellence, and we appreciate your support of the teachers who work hard to make it happen. Thank you for owning this distinguished recognition with us.

Black Hawk Middle School mentor opportunity

By Ali Brooks

Please consider becoming a mentor for a middle school student at Black Hawk Middle School.

The mentor program is a way for community members to create bonds with youth who need more connection with positive and caring adults. Mentors and mentees have a range of activities they spend time doing together: working on schoolwork, playing games, reading books, going places in the community, or just talking with each other.

For more information or to sign up, contact BHMS social worker Sherie Hohns at 608-204-4379, shohns@madison.k12.wi.us.

Lindbergh Elementary School

Lindbergh Elementary School's cultural depth

By Celine Fox

The Lindbergh community cherishes the wide range of diversity that exemplifies our school. Our children primarily come from local neighborhoods and create friendships that extend beyond the classroom. We invite families to come to Lindbergh and share more about their cultural experiences.

Some of the languages our families speak include: Bambara (Mali), Chinese (China), English (U.S.), Fanti (Ghana), French (Togo and Mali), Hmong (Laos), Khmer (Cambodia), Lao (Laos), Mandinka (Gambia), Somali (Somalia), Spanish (Mexico, Honduras) and Yoruba (Nigeria).

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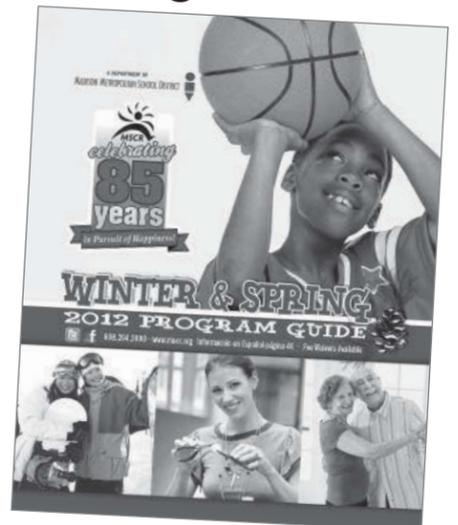
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**Live Performance of Dylan Thomas’
“A Child’s Christmas in Wales”**

Saturday, Dec. 3 – 2 pm

Spend a Christmas holiday in Wales with Mrs. Prothero and the firemen, polar cats, Christmas hippos and Auntie Hannah. A bright, 35-minute renewal of this holiday classic for the whole family, performed by Michael O’Rourke, who will be joined by two fiddlers, one of whom Irish step dances.

Teen Video Game Club

Friday, Dec. 2 and Jan. 6 – 3:30 pm–5 pm
Video games, friendly competition and pizza.

Year-End Yoga for Families

Saturday, Dec. 3 – 10:10:45 am

Family members of all ages are invited to join Heidi Greengus and share a yoga experience. Bring one yoga mat or large towel per person. Call 246-4547 or go online to register.

Cr-Afternoons

Thursday, Dec. 1 – 4-5:30 pm

Join creative librarians for after-school craft fun complete with a project guaranteed to inspire creativity. Colorful paper, glitter glue, paints and more.
For kids in grades K-5.

Nifty Thrifty Gifty

Thursday, Dec. 8 – 4 pm

Make special, one-of-a-kind treasures to keep or to give to your loved ones. Ages six and up. Children under eight must have an adult helper. Call 246-4547 or go online to register.

Discovery! Thursdays

Thursday, Dec. 8 – 6:30-7:45 pm

Presents Death and Destruction in Wisconsin: Diagnosing Plant Diseases at the UW-Madison/Extension Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

Ever wonder what that poop-like material is on the branches of your cherry or plum tree? Why it looks like your neighbor’s dog has vomited on your newly spread bark mulch? Brian Hudelson, Outreach Specialist, Plant Pathology, affectionately known as “Dr. Death” because of his love of plant diseases, will tell us about the plant problems that arrive daily at the UW-Madison/Extension.

Discovery! Thursdays

Thursday, Jan. 12 – 6:30-7:45 pm

This adult science program will be led by faculty or graduate students from the University. Call the library at 246-4547 or check <http://tinyurl.com/3mmksa8> for the topic to be discussed on Jan 12.

Family Tradition – Three Generations of Hank Williams

Saturday, Dec. 10 – 2 pm

Northside resident, Susan Masino talks about her new book, covering three generations of Hank Williamses, about famous Wisconsin musicians including Les Paul, and about national groups like AC/DC.

Saturday Sweets and Stories

Dec. 10 and Jan 14 – 10:30 am

Enjoy donuts, juice and stories with a take-home craft.

Reader’s Theater

Mondays, Dec. 12 – 2:30–4 pm

Children read and perform children’s books. Must be able to read.

Gingerbread Cookie Fun

Thursday, Dec. 15 – 4 pm

Catch stories, games and more at this fast-paced family event. Participants will get to take home their own decorated sugar cookie. Children age six and under need to be accompanied by an adult. Call 246-4547 or go online to register.

Drop-In Crafts

Saturday, Jan. 7 – 1-3 pm

Drop into the Library and flex your “creative muscle” with Teresa Getty. Children ages 4-12 are welcome. No registration.

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays, through Dec. 13 – 10:30 am

For ages 3-5, with younger siblings welcome.

A happy blend of stories, fingerplays and songs that help preschool children develop print and phonologic awareness, vocabulary, letter knowledge and narrative skills. Groups are welcome.

Storytime for the Very Young

Tuesdays, through Dec. 13 – 11:30 am

Stories, songs and rhymes for children ages 0-35 months. One adult per child is recommended.

Evening Family Storytime

Tuesdays, through Dec. 13 and Jan. 17, 24 and 31 at 6:30 pm

Wind down at the end of your day with some stories and songs for the whole family.

Music Together

Wednesdays, Jan. 11 – Feb. 1 at 11 am

An interactive music experience for children ages five and under and their families, complete with singing and dancing fun for everyone. No registration.

Job and Computer Assistance

Every Friday by appointment – 2-5 pm

Free one-on-one coaching sessions for writing resumes and cover letters, completing job applications, doing online job searches, and learning computer and internet skills.

Call Lakeview at 246-4547 to sign up for a one-hour slot.

Lakeview Chess Club

Second and fourth Mondays at 6 pm

Players any age and skill level welcome. Beginners will be taught how to play.

Adult Noon Book Group

The second Thursday of each month.

Discuss books and have treats with your neighbors. What could be more fun?

Dec. 8: Doc by Mary Doria Russell
Jan. 12: The Cave by José Saramago
Copies are always available at Lakeview.

Knitting at the Library

Every Wednesday at 6:30 pm

Stuck with a project? Neighborhood knitters provide expertise and fun. Beginners always welcome.

Scrabble for Adults

Every Wednesday at 10 am

Keep your brain sharp and give the regulars some competition.



Lakeview Branch Library Upcoming Events

Recipe and Cookbook Workshop

Wednesdays, 6:30–8 pm

Jan. 18–Feb. 22

Lakeview Branch Library

This six-week workshop course taught by Mark Anthony Cayanan is all about food writing and having fun doing it. Participants get to share their favorite recipes — those handed down from generation to generation, or those that emerged from their own experiments in the kitchen — and commit them to writing using the techniques of creative nonfiction. The participants also get to collaborate on a cookbook, working on steps that range from deciding on an over-all concept to selecting its target audience, figuring out the standards for a great recipe to sampling the actual dishes and serving as the culminating project for this course. Register for the session by calling the library at 246-4547.

Mark Anthony Cayanan is the Associate Editor for the literary section of the academic journal *Kritika Kultura*, as well as one of the editors of the *Kritika Kultura Anthology of New Philippine Writing in English* (2011). At present, he is an MFA student in Creative Writing at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. He is the author of the poetry book *Narcissus* (AdMU Press, 2011). He is allergic to shrimp but is otherwise willing and ready to sample every dish known to mankind.



Family Tradition – Three Generations of Hank Williams

Saturday, Dec. 10 at 2 pm

Lakeview Branch Library



Sue Masino

Susan Masino, Northside resident, has been a rock journalist for over 30 years. She will not only talk about her fourth book at Lakeview Library but also can share her wealth of knowledge about famous Wisconsin musicians, including Les Paul, and about national groups like AC/DC. Susan’s new book, *Family Tradition*, covers three generations of Hank Williams, from Hank Sr. — often regarded as one of the most influential of American musicians — to Hank Jr., to this year’s model, Hank III, who melds his deep-rooted twang and high-lonesome sound with punk and heavy metal, launching an all-out war with traditional Nashville in the process. Susan also teaches a continuing education program on the History of Rock and Roll for the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



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