

NEIGHBORHOOD

Kennedy Heights receives \$30,000 in grants

By Kiesha Young

Kennedy Heights Community Center

Kennedy Heights Community Center will receive a \$20,000 grant to support the community technology center and a \$10,000 endowment to support ongoing maintenance from the Madison Community Foundation.

These funds will allow improvements and expansion to the technology center, allowing over 300 community members access to the center.

Community residents will have regular, supported computer access to improve their quality of life, employability and academic achievement.

The grant provides new and improved equipment and allows the community center to hire a part-time lab coordinator to teach classes and host workshops for community residents.

Kennedy Heights Community Center's mission is to create a community support network for low to moderate income families; increase available resources and programs to improve lives of residents; develop and present social, educational, recreational, and cultural programs for children, youth and adults.

The improvement and expansion of the technology center helps the center meet its goals and mission.

Thank you, Madison Community Foundation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and needed.

The Madison Community Foundation encourages, facilitates and manages long-term philanthropy.

It was established in 1942 as a tax-exempt community trust and is governed by a Board of Governors representing the broad interests of the community.

Individuals can contribute to the Kennedy Heights endowment through Madison Community Foundation online at www.madisoncommunityfoundation.org

The Northside Planning Council

is looking for a dynamic new leader to help build community and create positive social change

See page 2 for details

Troy Drive getting sidewalks

Hybrid option increases pedestrian safety

By Dana Slowiak

The Northside News

Residents in the Nobel Park and Mendota Hills neighborhoods along Troy Drive settled upon a likely sidewalk solution after months of heated debate between residents and the City.

At a Nov. 19 neighborhood meeting, about 35 residents seemed to favor a hybrid of previous proposals, which would result in sidewalks on portions of both sides of Troy Drive in alternating sections. On the south side of the street, sidewalks will be extended from Warner Park to just past Hovde Road.

A crosswalk, possibly including a pedestrian refuge in the street, will cross to Goodland Drive. Sidewalks will continue on the north side of from Goodland Drive to Troy Gardens.

Pedestrians, including children walking to Mendota Elementary School, are currently forced to walk in the street or take alternate routes where sidewalks are not present.

"The hybrid option provides the entire street" with a sidewalk somewhere, said District 12 Alder Satya Rhodes Conway. The south of Troy Drive falls into her district while the north side falls into Alder Michael

Schumacher's District 18.

This spring, residents were informed sidewalks would be installed on the north side of Troy Drive, which was a recommendation of the 1992 Northport-Warner Park Neighborhood Plan. Residents questioned why sidewalks were only planned on one side of the street. Many were frustrated that sidewalks would be installed without their input and at a cost to them.

The financial impact, said Schumacher, was a huge concern. At his request, the City reexamined cost assessments and agreed to pay for extra costs, including retaining walls, surface regarding, etc. Residents with sidewalks installed on their properties will still pay for the direct sidewalk installation. The anticipated cost is between \$45-\$50 per linear foot, he said.

If residents meet income guidelines, they may qualify for a city program that allows payment when they sell their homes. (For information, contact Christy Bachmann of the City's Engineering Division at 266-4095 or cbachmann@cityofmadison.com)

Once the city fleshes out the hybrid option, there will be more opportunities for public input. Schumacher does



not expect a more detailed plan until late summer or early fall. Residents should contact their respective alder for more information.

Contact District 12 Ald. Rhodes-Conway at 242-4426 or district12@cityofmadison.com, or District 18 Ald. Schumacher at 242-1779 or district18@cityofmadison.com.

23rd Annual City-County Martin Luther King Jr. Observance

Mon., Jan. 21, 6 pm
Overture Center
Free and open to the public

Keynote speaker
Rev. Joseph Lowery
Co-led the Montgomery bus boycott and co-founded the Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Community members are welcome to participate in the Community Choir by attending two rehearsals in the week before the event: 7 pm on Tue., Jan. 15, and 11 am on Sat., Jan. 19, both held at Mt. Zion Baptist Church, 2019 Fisher St., Madison

Info: Mona Adams Winston (239-7707) or Edward Lee (213-7907)

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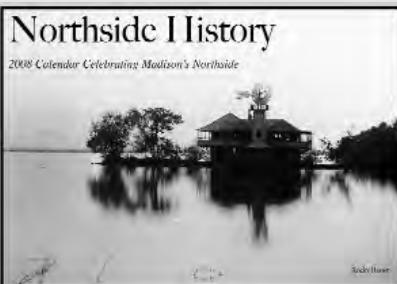
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COVER STORIES

2008 NORTHSIDE HISTORY CALENDAR**The very first Northside history calendar is here!**

Published by the Northside Planning Council and *Northside News*, the 2008 Northside History calendar celebrates Madison's Northside. The 12-month calendar features images of Northside history, including Rocky Roost (the sunken cottage island) and Northgate Shopping Center (when coal silos stood on the site).

Residents are invited to submit their Northside history photos for future calendars, so start digging through your albums!

The calendar is available from the Northside Planning Council and *Northside News* for \$12, plus shipping. You may also pick up your calendar from our office, but be sure to call Dana at 661-0060, ext. 1 before you visit.

The calendar is also available at many fine Northside businesses and the Northside Winter Farmers Market. Proceeds benefit the non-profit Northside Planning Council and *Northside News*.

cont. from page 1
Forum

schools. These topics, along with reform of state funding for local schools and communication, kept coming up repeatedly during the six-month, grassroots campaign.

The findings from the Superintendent search public input process conducted by school district consultants at around the same time, in fact, closely corresponded.

School Board members generally agreed with community consensus around the need for state level funding reform as a key to the future success of Madison schools.

And, while the Board has taken measures to improve communication with the community, by and large they recognized the need to continuously improve the public input process, especially around the budget.

In October, the School Board decided not to pursue a 2008 referendum after receiving much needed financial relief from a one-time tax increment financing windfall from the City of Madison. Not only will these funds

delay the need for a referendum, but also take school closures off the table for the 2008 budget process.

Attention on equity resumes

Equity, which means that every student is assured access to the resources needed to succeed, received a thoughtful reexamination along with the most immediate anticipated action. The School Board enacted an equity policy in 1994, but never actually implemented it. Since then, poverty levels in Madison's schools have increased and the community's plea to address the issue persists.

"This is an issue that's really important to the community, not just the Northside

Planning Council or the Northside. It's the whole community," said Sauvé, Co-Chair of the PTO Coalition who also served on the Equity Task Force.

"I think the poverty rate is growing faster than the School Board expected. Now [the School Board] realizes that it's time to address it especially when they continue to have to make budget cuts."

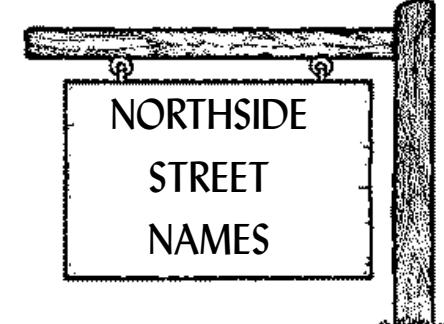
The School Board received a final report and recommendations from an Equity Task Force in April and used aspects of the guidelines in the last budget process but has yet to enact a new policy.

School Board members expressed differing opinions on equity at the forum, ranging from Johnny Winston, Jr.'s statement that equity is in the "eye of the beholder" to Maya Cole's reiteration of the slogan that "equity does not mean equal."

School Board President Arlene Silveira publicly announced that the Board would restart a series of discussions on equity in December, much to the campaign organizers delight.

Discussion of both equity and Title I federal funding to improve educational opportunities for academically disadvantaged children are scheduled for a special School Board workshop on Dec. 3 at 7 pm at La Follette High School, 702 Pflaum Rd.

There is no public comment period; however, the public is encouraged to attend.



With this issue, the Northside News begins an occasional series on "Northside Street Names"

For almost 100 years, most [Northside] street names were the last names of local farmers or businessmen. These include Roth, Mayer, Messerschmidt, Sachtjen, Vahlen, Schlimgen, Woodward, Harbort, Toban, Kennedy, Farwell, Steensland, Fuller, Burrows, Wilder, Veith, McBride, and others.

Let's review some of these names. The Roth family owned a farm and several businesses including a coal yard; in 1961 they built Northgate Shopping Center on some of their land.

Oscar Mayer bought a failed meat packing company and made it successful. Packers Avenue is named for "Oscar's."

The Sachtjens owned several farms; two family members became Dane County judges. An 1852 Sachtjen farm house is still standing at 2215 N. Sherman.

The Schlimgens had many interests including a monument (grave marker) company.

The Woodward brothers, William and J.P., owned land along the north shore of Lake Mendota including "Woodward's Grove," just east of Governor's Island.

Lawrence Toban was a farmer who died in 1986 at age 91.

Edward M. Fuller owned a machine tool manufacturing plant.

George Burrows was a lawyer.

Amos Wilder was editor of the Wisconsin State Journal; his son Thornton became a popular writer. The street is probably named for the son, not the father.

- From *The Origins Of Some Northside Madison, Wisconsin Street Names* by Burr Angle, Dolores Kester and Ann Waidelich (© Burr Angle 2007). Copies of this 12-page monograph are available for \$3 at the Lakeview Library.

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PEOPLE

Journey from Sudan: 'You have to have peace and love each other'

By Jacki Thomas*The Northside News*

As the world focuses on the intertribal Arab conflict in northern Sudan, now recognized as genocide by the United Nations, many forget that 10 times as many Sudanese have been killed in the conflict between north and south Sudan since the end of British-Egyptian colonial rule in 1955. Newly liberated Sudan saw a concentration of power in the Arab north and resistance to this rule in the Christian south. A peace accord was signed in 2005, but as both sides again increase weapons stores and fail to build cooperation, it appears this peace may be as short-lived as the break in conflict during the mid-1970s.

One Northside resident knows all too well the tragedy of this conflict. A Madison resident for three years, John Riek was born in the short lull between the first and second civil wars in the small southern Sudan village of Aduk.

"Everything is green, a lot of trees... we have a good life," said Riek, remembering his childhood. "We swim in the river, play soccer, climb trees. We have enough food in my house, in my family. My dad is a good worker."

As the oldest son of a landowner, Riek was sent to Khartoum for high school. He earned many medals in boxing and was scouted for the Sudanese

Olympic team. By the time he began college, Western corporations had discovered oil in southern Sudan. In 1980, President Nimeiri began sub-dividing the south, into three states, to pull the newly found oil lands into northern Sudan.

"The government did something no good for the people," said Riek. The government "cut the country into two, two countries, three countries, and four countries." This caused war because the people in the South they didn't understand why the government didn't provide enough food and medicine.

By 1983, southern soldiers mutinied and formed the Sudan People's Liberation Army, or SPLA. Both government and rebel forces were known to

kidnap boys as young as eight or 10 years old and force them to fight in the reignited civil war.

"When the war come so bad, we lose many people," said Riek. "And then the government come to find the kids, young kids. If you have two or three, they took two. They left one."

"The first time they come, they come in my house around seven o'clock at night. They find everybody at home because the life over there is different than like here. When they come, they choose my brother. My mom, she said, 'No, he's little. I have a bigger one in Khartoum'. They said, 'No, we have to take this guy'. My mom, she is crying,

"The government come to find the kids, young kids. If you have two or three, they took two. They left one."



Photos by Jacki Thomas

John Riek, above, left his homeland Sudan to escape civil war. His daughter, Jane, was born in Egypt while John waited to come to the United States.

and they took my brother to the army."

When Riek learned of his 14-year-old brother's kidnapping, he returned to Aduk, determined to find him. Shortly after his arrival, the soldiers returned. They claimed his brother died, and they had to take another person.

"My mom say, 'No.' Then they took the gun out and they talk to my mom so bad. [They said] 'If you don't like, we take this guy, we gotta shoot your head,'" Riek said. His mother stopped crying and tried to talk to the soldiers, only they did not understand her.

"I talk to my mom, 'Don't cry. I have to go.'" His mom protested, but Riek insisted he go with the soldiers. "I have to go. If I don't, they kill you, and we gonna have a bad life when you die." His mom stopped crying, and he went with them.

When the SPLA entered into peace talks with northern Sudan, Riek was able to slip back to Aduk. He married and began farming land owned by his father. This respite was short-lived. When peace talks failed, fierce fighting erupted once again.

Riek described the nightly conversations he would have with his mom. "She say, 'Don't stay here. If you stay here, they take you back,'" said Riek. In the end, he listened to his mom. He and his wife left his country, heading to Cairo, Egypt.

"We go to the United Nations, and then I tell them my story," He said explaining the three-year process to resettle outside of Sudan via Egypt. "They accept me to come here to the United States."

He found employment at a small factory in Cairo. During their third year as refugees in Cairo, his daughter Jane was born. His wife died six days after Jane's birth. He remembers only that they had a happy conversation before bed and that she woke briefly in the night, com-

plaining of a headache.

When he tried to wake her in the morning, Riek said, "She had gone from this world." He had a big problem, and he didn't have anyone to help. He knew his daughter's survival depended on him to purchase milk. He placed the six-day-old infant in a duffle bag given him by an Olympic recruiter, slung it gently across his shoulders and went to work. He continued this routine until he and Jane were resettled in Madison.

In spite of the losses and horrors, Riek is a soft-spoken, smiling man, who radiates peace.

"If your friend is a Muslim or a Christian," he said, "you have to have peace and love each other – no fight and no pain."

Jane began kindergarten this fall. Already the small, quiet girl with the enormous and ever-present smile is a favorite of the teachers. After school, she loves to read and draw pictures in the community center. She draws happy pictures, with a giant sun in a blue sky. Below, everything is green and there are lots of trees. If you look closely you just might see children, swimming in the river, playing soccer and climbing the trees.

Join the Northside Planning Council in supporting the United Way and other social service organizations throughout Dane County through your donor designations in this fall's United Way workplace campaign



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CHURCH**"Hammer with a Heart" aids homeowners**

Project Home's annual "Hammer with a Heart," to be held on Sat., May 3, brings together volunteers from the community to assist low-income homeowners with much needed repairs to their homes.

If you meet the income guidelines, you just might get needed repairs or improvements this spring.

Homeowner Information

- Skilled and unskilled volunteers will provide labor for Hammer with a Heart.

- A committee will select which homes will be repaired based on financial need, condition of the home, and availability of volunteers.

- All repairs or improvements will be discussed with and approved by the homeowner prior to the day of the event via Project Home's Outreach Specialist and Volunteer Team Leader.

- This will be a one day event, although some prep work may need to occur before the event date.

Repairs will be provided at no cost to the recipients, however some homeowners may need to sign a 5 year forgivable loan for the assessed value of the repairs.

This loan will be forgiven at 20 percent per year and completely forgiven if the homeowner does not sell, transfer ownership, take equity out of, or move from this home for five years.

The assessed value of the repairs will be determined after the home inspection has been completed and before any loan agreement is signed.

Eligibility Requirements

- Single family owner occupied home, but not a mobile home
- Located within Dane County
- Home must be in need of repairs or accessibility improvements, but structurally sound

- Total annual household income must be at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines:

Household Size	Annual Income
1	\$15,315
2	\$20,535
3	\$25,755
4	\$30,975
5	\$36,195
6	\$41,415

If you meet these guidelines, call Project Home at 246-3737 for an application.

Who knows you may find your home surrounded by many "hammers with a heart" this spring!

**Lakeview Lutheran breaks records
Raises over \$10K for CROP Hunger Walk****By Lynn Case**

Despite the rain, 79 walkers from Lakeview Lutheran Church raised \$10,400 for the Madison Area CROP Hunger Walk on October 14. This is Lakeview Lutheran's highest total amount ever raised (by \$2,000) and the top church total for the Madison event for the second year in a row.

Lakeview also had the second highest church total for all 70 CROP WALKS held in the state of Wisconsin this year. Lakeview raised the money through a pie auction, selling this year's purple "Walking Together" T-shirts, pledging online, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans supplemental funds (\$1,600) and through the supplied pledge forms.

While totals are still incomplete for all Madison churches, Lynn Case, Program Assistant for Church World Service/CROP is hopeful that the 2007 event will surpass the \$71,000 raised in 2006.

About 55 Madison area churches and several groups participated in this annual event. Twenty-five percent of the total dollars raised for CROP is returned to local community food pantries or hunger agencies.

The Madison Walk supports the Dane County Food Pantries through Second Harvest and Evening and Holiday Meals on Wheels through Independent Living.

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BUSINESS

La Queretana fills Mexican, American niches

Family-run store serves up fresh authentic cuisine

By Mary Schumacher

The Northside News

No matter where you live in the Northside's mosaic of neighborhoods, La Queretana grocery and deli are worth a trip. Located in the triangle of businesses between Northport and Troy Drives, La Queretana provides Mexican and American grocery and household products, deli and bakery items, and a tantalizing menu of Mexican cuisine.

Named for the city in Mexico where owner Froyland Miranda comes from, La Queretana replaces the former La Regional but remains a small, neighborhood grocery store. Miranda, who came to the United States 20 years ago, learned the grocery business from family-run stores in Mexico.

"My family has always had this kind of business," Miranda said. "I saw that more and more Hispanics are moving to Madison, so I thought it would be a good idea to have this kind of store."

Upon acquiring La Queretana in 2004, Miranda quickly made some improvements, such as installing new coolers for milk and beverages, and expanding the number of items for sale in the store. He also added inside seating for grill customers.

With prices starting at two dollars for a freshly made taco, La

Queretana's authentic Mexican cuisine also includes tortas, tamales, and menudo (tripe soup). Taco and torta fillings are steak, carnitas, and tongue, while tortas also come with chicken.

The store fills with Hispanic customers especially on weekends, when soccer games are played at Warner Park.

"Americans come, too," Miranda said with a smile, "now that we sell fresh meat and fish."

Even with the help of his brother Antonio, Miranda puts in many hours of work.

"You can have a better life working for yourself but it's a lot of hours. Still, you work for yourself, not for any company," he advised.

As the father of three children, Miranda balances work with family by making use of Northside amenities.

"After I pick up the kids from school, I give them something to eat



Owner Froyland Miranda (left) and employee Amelia Nuñez of La Queretana Grocery and Deli

Photo by Mary Schumacher

here, and then we play soccer at Warner Park," he said. Miranda admires Madison, noting that the city is "really clean, really nice."

A man with plenty of energy, Miranda has ideas for La Queretana's future, which include a better kitchen, new suppliers offering more variety of items, and an expanded menu of Mexican food, particularly burritos. He hopes to soon distribute flyers advertising special offers, to introduce more Northsiders to La Queretana and its Mexican roots.

La Queretana, 1417 Northport Dr., 242-9750. Open daily 9 am-9 pm.

2008 NORTHSIDE HISTORY CALENDAR

Northside History

2008 Calendar Celebrating Madison's Northside



The very first Northside history calendar is here!

Published by the Northside Planning Council and *Northside News*, the 2008 Northside History calendar celebrates Madison's Northside. The 12-month calendar features images of Northside history, including Rocky Roost (the sunken cottage island) and Northgate Shopping Center (when coal silos stood on the site).

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The calendar is also available at many fine Northside businesses.

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On December 21, a single mother will receive a car, thanks to **Sparkle Auto Body** owner Mark Quell, who decided to give away his own car to a person in need. **Chet's Car Care Center** provided a free mechanical check-up.

Long-time Northside law firm **Sipsma, Hahn & Brophy LLC** wants to inform their Northside clients and friends that they have moved to a convenient location on 701 E. Washington Ave.

The **Trendsetters/ Cazam Training** building 1438 N. Sherman Ave. is getting a facelift, with the dark cedar siding being replaced with a fresh stucco exterior.

The **Northside Business Association** is holding a membership drive. Join this fun and informative group by getting a membership form from www.madisonnba.com or contact Julie Savidusky at 255-5191 for more information.

AnchorBank customers and Z104-FM listeners are invited to drop off new and unwrapped toys at any AnchorBank location in Dane, Rock and Green Counties until Dec. 11, including AnchorBank's Northside TownCenter location. All toys collected will be distributed to underprivileged children by local police departments.

Silver Leaf Design Gallery at 301 N. Sherman Ave. has opened a clearance room offering up to 75 percent off on select merchandise, including holiday decorations and gifts.

- Compiled by Mary Schumacher

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LAND USE AND DEVELOPMENT

NORTHSIDE PLANS

What's in the works?



Have you noticed how much the Northside is being studied lately? There's a neighborhood planning process about to begin, a walking audit that was just concluded (see page 7), as well the Northside News' own consumer questionnaire (see front page).

Well, there's more planning about to happen. Here's a quick reference guide to what's in store for our community. These processes include public participation, so we'll do our best to make opportunities for public input known to you as they occur.

Neighborhood Plan Steering Committee to be confirmed by the City Council. Phase I (Northport Dr. corridor and surrounding areas) begins Jan. 2008. Phase II (N. Sherman and Packers Ave. corridors and surrounding areas) in 2009.	Mallards Stadium The City is hiring a consultant to do soils testing and a renovation feasibility study. Public meetings in early 2008. Potential to be done in time for 2009 season.	Warner Park Parks Commission to consider creating a master plan (green space, ball fields, stadium, Center, future pool, parking) in December, which wouldn't be started until 2009.	Northport/N. Sherman Traffic Study The City will create a baseline for traffic and safety around Warner Park, which along with the recently conducted walking audit, will help determine the impact of Mallards' games on the area.
N. Sherman Ave. Traffic Safety After looking at the Warner Park area, the City will use the walking audit results as it begins to consider ways to increase safety along the N. Sherman Ave. corridor from Fordem to Northport.	Business Market Study The City will hire a consultant in 2008 to analyze the Northport-Packers-Sherman areas to determine what kinds of businesses might succeed in the area.	Cherokee Park, Inc. The developer will be holding neighborhood meetings in December and January as it will unveil plan for single family homes in the "5th Addition" (at the north end of Wheeler Rd.) and multifamily units in the Hornung parcel (at Wheeler Rd. and N Sherman Ave.). The properties will remain in the Waunakee and DeForest school districts, respectively.	N. Sherman/Packers Development The 40 acres south of Whitetail Ridge and north of Lake View Elementary is a farm field and rolling hills. The Raemisch family is developing plans that they will unveil in early 2008. But most of the property, even after housing is built, will remain in the DeForest, not Madison, school district.
Old Tennyson Warehouses and Industrial Park The low-slung buildings set back from Tennyson and Packers Avenues (behind Lake View Elementary) and adjacent undeveloped land is for sale. Tennyson Terrace LLC bought the 21-acre parcels in 2006.	Lake View Hill While the county park is now zoned conservancy, the county is looking at the overall property (buildings, woods, lawn) to create master plan. Should the big grass lawn stay? Should there be more prairie? These and many other questions will be addressed as the County seeks to hire a consultant to create a master plan--after public input meetings--in 2008.	State Highway 113 The State will be repaving (and renovating?) Northport Dr., also known as State Highway 113, in 2011. Other planning processes that are occurring right now will help influence what the reconstructed road looks like.	Maple Bluff Maple Bluff now has a business district at N. Sherman and Commercial Avenues since several properties were annexed last year. The Village has created Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning that will allow developer Rifkin et al to take a multi-use approach to future plans.
Packers Ave. Farm Field The old farm field south of the Oak Park Terrace neighborhood is owned by manufactured homes landlord. Plans are in the works, to be unveiled later.	Madison Economic Development The City is creating its first plan since 1983. The Economic Development Commission is getting public input now for plan to be completed in 2008.	Dane County Regional Airport The County has completed a major terminal expansion and safety improvement project in the past two years. It broke ground in October on a \$30 million parking ramp expansion and "green" exit plaza. Construction of three new hangars will be completed in January.	Town of Burke Annexations As property owners seek to develop parcels in the Town of Burke, they will be annexed into the City, but the school district (and school district taxes) will remain in DeForest.
LAUNDRYLAND	Drop-off Laundry Service (by the pound) Dry Cleaning Self-Serve Laundromat King-Size Washers Fully Attended	North Mendota Parkway The original 2001 County study is being followed up by an environmental and transportation study that is going on now through late spring of 2008. It will identify key natural, agricultural and recreational resources worthy of preservation and possible transportation corridors.	Bike Path The Sherman Flyer, approved by the City and Metropolitan Planning Organization in 2006, was not funded by the State though it has the highest local ranking. Public officials are hoping to get federal funding for what would be the Northside's first bike path.

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cont. from page 1

Mallards parking

games, but business falls during and after games. He believes the spike is regular customers adjusting their shopping schedules, not new customers stopping in before a game.

"There are lots of cars coming [to the shopping center] for the Mallards," said Alder Satya Rhodes-Conway whose district includes Warner Park and the shopping center. "If those cars are coming in, other cars aren't."

She isn't sure the TownCenter businesses are the kind of businesses baseball fans patron around games, especially since carry-ins such as food and drink are prohibited by the stadium.

Tom Miekle, owner of Miekle's True Value, isn't as directly affected by parking issues, primarily due to the location and hours of his business. His store is farther away from prime parking for Mallards fans, and peak games times are not his peak business hours. He thinks people "bee-line to the game," even if they do park at the TownCenter.

"The Mallards did a good job providing parking enforcement," Mauer said, "but the enforcement is only as good as people will listen." Mauer himself once watched one man ignore the parking enforcement and him, park

in right in front of Pierce's and walk straight to the stadium. Post-game trash in the parking lot is another big concern.

"I understand we are a challenge and we recognize this is a difficult situation," said Mallards General Manager Vern Stenman. He believes there are also many positive aspects for the Northside and hopes to continue to build positive relationships with businesses, residents and neighborhoods.

The City requires the Mallards to have an "acceptable parking plan" per the city lease, said George Twigg, Communications Director in the Mayor's office.

"The Mayor is very interested in the success of Northside TownCenter and the Mallards. The [shopping center] is an anchor for the Northside neighborhood. He wants to see a win-win situation to keep both assets benefiting the neighborhood," Twigg said.

Bruns believes the trouble began when stadium capacity increased to 7,000 people and should go back to 5,000. Stenman doesn't see these challenges related to attendance.

Stenman believes 10 percent of Mallards fans are Northside residents. Between 60-70 percent come to nine or less games, and less than 10 percent come to all games. He defines most as casual customers, with young families the most consistent fan base.

ENVIRONMENT

Photo provided by Jan Axelson



Friends of Cherokee Marsh members Janet Battista and Aaron Stephenson collect lotus seeds in the marsh.

News from Cherokee Marsh

By Jan Axelson

Friends of Cherokee Marsh

This summer, over 15 inches of rain fell in the rainiest August on record. Lake Mendota rose over a foot and a half above the target summer maximum level recommended by the DNR.

In times of normal rainfall, Dane County manages Lake Mendota's level by controlling the flow in the Yahara River at the Tenney Park dam. The river can only carry so much water, and when the rains are heavy, lake levels rise.

This year, Lake Mendota remained over its target maximum level for 74 days, from August 18 to October 31. The lake levels would have been even higher if not for the wetlands of Cherokee Marsh, which absorb rainfall and runoff before both reach the river and lakes.

Friends of Cherokee Marsh ventured out in canoes this fall and harvested several pounds of American lotus seeds for

Madison Parks to use in future plantings. Lotus has been one of the most successful plantings in the restoration efforts in the marsh. The plants help catch sediment, lessen damaging wave action, and help keep portions of the banks from breaking off and floating downstream during high water. Lotus plants have large, fragrant, pale yellow blossoms on stalks that rise several feet over the water.

To find out if the restoration plantings in the marsh are attracting fish, university students from the Gaylord Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at UW-Madison surveyed minnows in four habitats in the marsh. The survey found many bluegill minnows around the restoration plantings and few minnows in other areas surveyed.

To find out more about Cherokee Marsh and upcoming events in and around the marsh, visit the Friends of Cherokee Marsh website at www.CherokeeMarsh.org.



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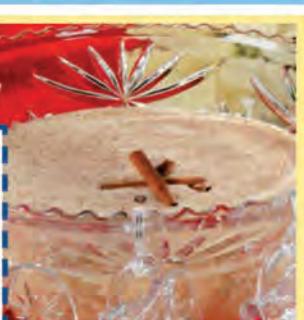
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Winter doesn't slow Friends of Lake View Hill Park

By Jon Becker

Friends of Lake View Hill Park

On Oct. 20, The Friends of Lake View Hill Park celebrated final rezoning of the park from residential to conservation. Special awards were presented to Dorothy Wheeler and Nelson Eisman, in honor of their work on the effort. A celebration edition of "Save the Hill" T-shirts worn by community activists who saved this area for a



park were presented to Shirley Swenson and Susan Gleason. Other activists not present will receive T-shirts.

Dane County employees Rhea Stangel-Maier and Gaylord Plummer also received T-shirts, in gratitude for their support of the Friends' work. The evening closed with food and beverages around glowing firebowls, while neighbors, Friends and elected officials enjoyed a late autumn night on Madison's highest elevation.

With this county park's status now assured, the Friends' board met on Nov. 8 to discuss the bid review process for the first master plan. The board also authorized steps leading toward a separate archaeological, historical and cultural survey, pending final approval by the county.

In addition to other research, in 2008 the surveyor will invite community members to share stories about the hill and its history.

The board also discussed public feedback to the new Managed Meadows program, which was quite positive. Some landscape projects, intended to help control erosion, address neighbors' concerns, or enhance the park's beauty, were authorized.

These 2008-09 projects, if county approved, will involve the community. Finally, the board was updated on the planting

of butternut saplings in several areas of the park. These nursery trees were grown from seeds collected in the park some years ago.

The Friends board will not meet in December but will continue tabling at the Winter Northside Farmers Market on Dec. 2 and 16.

Board meetings resume Thurs., Jan. 10, 7-9 pm, in the Dane County Department of Human Services building, 1202 Northport Dr.

Public comment will be taken at the start of the meeting. Preparation for the park's first master plan will continue toward completion in mid-2008 with publication by the end of 2008.

The Friends activities for 2008 will also be discussed, in preparation for the Friends annual meeting on Feb. 2.

For more information about the other winter activities of the Friends, please visit www.Madison.com/Communities/friendsoflakeviewhill or call Nelson Eisman at 244-2055.

Rare butternuts restored on Lake View Hill

By Nelson Zane Eisman

Friends of Lake View Hill Park

The butternut is a species of walnut native to this area seriously threatened by fungal cankers that destroy its vascular system similar to fungal diseases in elm and oak. Some years ago, I was excited to find some thriving butternuts in the woods above the former Dane County Tuberculosis Sanatorium (now the Dane County Human Services Building).

I described the trees to the county arborists who was skeptical. He thought it more probable that I had mistaken the butternut, sometimes called white walnut, for the more common and hardy black walnut. However on a field trip, Dane County Parks Arborist Fred Paasch confirmed we had butternuts. But were they pure or hybrids?

After some research, I contacted Professor Keith Woeste of the U.S. Department of Forestry and Natural Resources Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center at Purdue University. Following his instructions, I sent him cuttings from the trees for examination, and he confirmed we had pure butternuts that escaped the blight.

The butternut does not flower every year but 2003 was bountiful, and I was



Nelson Eisman (left) working with an Applied Ecological Services, Inc. employee begins planting the new butternut trees.

able to harvest over 100 of the distinctively oblong nuts, which otherwise look like round black walnuts. The butternuts also smell like citrus. Taylor Creek Nursery in Brodhead agreed to grow the butternuts in exchange for 10 trees when they were ready to plant. I am planting them this year.

The Friends of Lake View Hill Park worked with the Dane County Adult Conservation Corps to contract with the nursery to plant 50 of the trees in the park.

For more information contact Nelson Eisman at 244-2055 or neisman@yahoo.com.

Photo by A. Hill Critter

ARTS & CULTURE

Working both sides of the brain

Artist and software engineer creates

By Stephanie Dar

The Northside News

Preeti Ojha is not only a software engineer by profession but an amazing artist. Sitting on the floor of her cozy living room, one can find themselves surrounded by an array of paintings and sketches ranging from a traditional-style religious Indian painting to a boat floating in the water with Indian temples in the background. Children's toys are piled in the corner, and Tushti, her 10 month-old daughter, attempts to climb the stairwell.

Seven years ago, Ojha came to the United States from India with her husband. After moving to Chicago for a brief period of time, they came back to Madison, settling on the Northside.

Ojha has taken art classes at the UW-Extension, Madison Area Technical College and Palette and Chisel Fine Arts Academy. Although Ojha does not hold an official art degree, her talent has reached the point where obtaining an art degree would only teach her about the history. Her techniques and styles are versatile, ranging from watercolor and oils to colored pencils and chalk.

"I love to experiment," she said.

Her favorite style of painting is realism. She enjoys painting landscapes and portraits. Ojha's paintings vary based on her mood, so sometimes she uses bright, vibrant colors while at other times she opts for deeper, more subtle colors. As of late, she's been painting many of the beautiful fall colors that have showcased themselves across the Northside.

One of Ojha's favorite oil paintings is of her friend's daughter. It is hanging in her living room above the stairs. The young woman featured has shoulder-length brown hair and is wearing a red and grey sweatshirt. From first glance, it appears as though it is an actual photograph.



Farmers Market, Madison
Oil painting by Preeti Ojha

Many of the paintings that Ojha has done are still in India. She left them behind when she moved to the United States. Over the course of her lifetime, she is unsure of how many paintings that she has completed. The ventured estimate was over 100.

On average, Ojha spends about two hours per painting. She shies away from abstract. People and real colors and lights are her favorite. Ojha said that she derives satisfaction from painting. It feels good when she can put the picture in her imagination down.

Ojha has had her work displayed at the Coffee Gallerie, with the Northside Artists Group, the UW Hospital and a variety of additional group exhibits. She also had some exhibits in India. She plans to enter a piece for the exhibit that will be held at the Overture Center for Arts this January by with the Northside Artists Group. (See article on right.)

NSAG expands to Overture

By Stephanie Dar

The Northside News

The Northside Artists Group presents "Reflections of the Northside" from Jan. 10 through Mar 23, 2008 at the Overture Center for the Arts in downtown Madison. The opening reception is Sun., Jan. 27, noon to 2 pm.

The exhibit's goal is to show the city of Madison how the Northside feels through creative and artistic expression.

This is the first time that the Northside Artists Group will hold an exhibit at the Overture Center for the Art, said Linda Falkenstein, an NSAG coordinator. The group has been planning this event for over six months and was one of 12 to be accepted into the Overture's 2008 exhibition season.

There will be a variety of art styles displayed at the show, including photography, painting, sculpture and mixed media, added Kristi Hall, another NSAG coordinator.

All pieces in the exhibit show one slice of the artist's interpretation of the Northside. Hall is personally planning on submitting a piece of photography.

"We have a wide variety of people," she said, when asked about the features of the exhibit.

The Northside Artists Group is a volunteer organization that has been around for four years, Hall said. For the past three years, regular exhibits have been held at Lakeview Library and the Coffee Gallerie.

After the Overture exhibit, the art will move to Lakeview Library and the Coffee Gallerie for the annual NSAG Northside exhibit, to be held in April 2008.

For more information about the exhibit, please visit www.overture-center.com/galleries.htm.

Artists interested in joining the Northside Artists Group must be a Northside resident or volunteer or work on the Northside. Visit nsag.blogspot.com for more details.

Reflections of the Northside

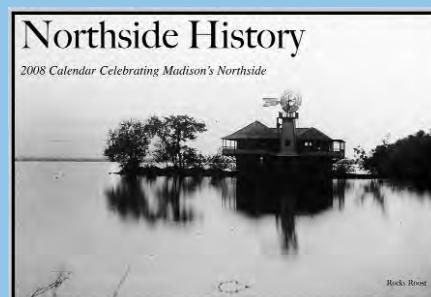


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