



NORTHSIDE NEWS

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June / July 2010

Independent Living proposes senior housing on the Northside

By Anita Weier
Northside News

The nonprofit agency Independent Living Inc. has proposed a senior housing facility on Wheeler Road, next to the Cherokee Driving Range.

“We have an option from Cherokee Park to purchase the land,” said Rita Giovannoni, chief executive officer of Independent Living.

The agency has applied for a mortgage loan from the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority, but it will not be known until late June or early July if the loan has been approved.

The project — to be titled Cherokee Prairie Senior Housing — would have 42 apartment units in the first phase. A second phase would consist of more apartments and a third phase would be assisted living. The total envisioned in an application that earned \$39,578 from the city of Madison for a feasibility study was 148 units — including 100 residential care apartments, 24 assisted living units and 24 memory care units.

“We are very excited about it,” she said. “It is near the Cherokee Marsh, and we are interested in programming supportive of the residents and keeping them active. Lifelong learning and active living are our goals.”

The funding request to the city said

that Independent Living would collaborate with the fitness staff at the Cherokee Country Club to “create a new paradigm for senior housing with purposeful attention to fitness, health and wellness.”

Educational programs would be provided, and there would be a kitchen with a “terrific” chef, Giovannoni promised in an interview.

“We have met with Scott Heinig at the Northside Planning Council, and we welcome the opportunity to talk with other groups,” she said.

An informational meeting for the community has been set for June 17 at 6 pm at the Warner Park Community Recreation Center.

The project would provide an option for people on the Northside as they age, she added. There was a six percent increase in persons 65 or older from 1990 to 2000 in the Northport, Warner Park, Sherman and Cherokee neighborhoods.

The target population for Cherokee Prairie Senior Housing is moderate- and low-income adults 55 years old or older seeking rental housing that offers a continuum of care, the proposal stated.

“This is an appropriate use for this location,” said city planning director Brad Murphy. “The concept is good, and Independent Living is a good organization with a good track record.”

Independent Living continued on page 8



Photo by Jeffrey Affeldt

Northsiders can enjoy a Governors Island ramble

By Jeffrey Lee Affeldt

For a cool and shady Northside retreat from the hustle of daily life, there is much to recommend Governors Island. Though not a true island (it’s firmly affixed to the mainland), it is one of many parts of the Mendota Mental Health Institute grounds open to the public for outdoor recreation.

A well-groomed cinder pathway traces a half-mile loop around the perimeter of the “island,” through a lush forest verdant with wildflowers and woodland plants, and stately old cottonwoods form a dense canopy high overhead.

A few joggers, dog walkers and babes in strollers share the trails with amateur photographers, fisher folk and birdwatchers. Numerous short spur trails lead to the water’s edge and to grand vistas of Madison’s largest lake. Cliff swallows, which nest in burrows excavated in the porous sandstone bluffs, swoop and dive for insects in the fresh lake air.

Note: the 40-foot cliffs that form the southern shore of Governors Island are composed of ever-crumbling sandstone, and have no protective railings, so enjoy safely.

On the southwest point of the ‘island’, watch for a pair of elusive kingfishers hunting fish, insects, crayfish and other prey for their young nestlings.

To the northwest, a low rocky spit of land juts out into a shallow bay, and it is just offshore from here that Robert Lamp, a Madison state land office worker and childhood friend of famed architect Frank Lloyd Wright, built a small cottage in 1892. Appropriately dubbed Rocky Roost, the cottage stood above the water on stilts and included an attached boathouse for Lamp’s sailboat. A fire in 1934 destroyed the entire retreat, and the place is inhabited now only by a healthy and vocal population of frogs.

Standing atop the towering sandstone cliffs of Governors Island, gazing across the waters of Lake Mendota to the distant State Capitol dome and the hazy Madison skyline, one is reminded just how far removed from the madding crowds one can be here on the Northside.

Directions: From Warner Park, head west a little over a mile on Troy Drive past Troy Gardens, and turn left onto

Main Drive (it’s unmarked, so look for the first large sign for Mendota Mental Health Institute). Proceed west on Main Drive about one-fourth mile and turn left onto Cinder Lane, then continue south when the drive turns to gravel and you’ll soon arrive at the parking area.



Northside WWII veterans travel to Washington D.C. with Badger Honor Flight
(See story on page 2)

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Eat Local

A look inside this issue will likely inspire you to eat local. Features include a local eating guide to Northside restaurants, tips on buying and cooking sustainably, a recipe from FEED, and of course, highlights from the Northside Farmers' Market and Troy Community Gardens.

Buy Local

Buying from within the local community is an investment in each other. In this issue we're celebrating Northside entrepreneurs and small businesses.

Photo by ©2010 David Nevala

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FEATURE

Profiles in Courage *Northside veterans travel to Washington on Honor Flight*

By Anita Weier
Northside News

It was an honor that sparked pride, memories and a few tears. Their military service decades ago in World War II was celebrated with a free trip to Washington, D.C., where they visited monuments to those who served as well as Arlington National Cemetery.

Three men in their 80s who live in the Cherokee complex on the Northside — Robert Kessenich, John Mulhern and Karl Kleemann — are all grateful for the April trip organized by Badger Honor Flight Inc. and funded entirely by donors.

“It was first class all the way,” Mulhern commented.

They were among 97 vets who gathered at the Dane County Regional Airport before 5 am, flew out on a chartered flight and returned at 9:45 pm to a surprise welcome from 1,200 people, cheers and band music. They were tired but satisfied after being bused to Arlington as well as the memorials to those who served in World War II and the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

“They are trying to get all the vets out to see the memorials, but they are passing away, supposedly at 800 a day,” said Kessenich. Three or four vets who were supposed to be on the Madison flight died before the flight day, he added.

Kleemann served in an Army anti-aircraft group that shot down Japanese planes in the Philippines and then in Okinawa.

Joining in 1943, he spent months in training at various U.S. sites, and then went to Hawaii to guard a naval air base. A high point was the U.S. military’s return to the Philippines in 1944 to take it back as General Douglas MacArthur had pledged after fleeing from the Japanese in 1942.

“I was a tracker for a 40-millimeter anti-aircraft gun,” Kleemann recalled. “The Japs hit rear-echelon guns, but not us.”

His “outfit” was self-formed, he said, almost all privates like himself. “We didn’t join an outfit. We made our own,” he said.

The infantry had the worst of it, going in first before the anti-aircraft groups, he said. But all would have been in serious danger if they had to invade Japan, Kleemann added. The atomic bombing of Japan made that unnecessary.

Kessenich, a sergeant, lucked out, serving in the Army Transportation Corps in Alaska, though the rest of his battalion was sent to Europe. Two of his brothers served in the South Pacific, but “You could only transfer there if you were a paratrooper, and that was not my bag,” he said.

Mulhern was drafted in Montello in 1944 and shipped to Germany after basic training. He was a private with



WWII Vets John Mulhern and Robert Kessenich



WWII Vet Karl Kleemann

Photos by Anita Weier

a line company, in an infantry division that was involved in the Battle of the Siegfried Line and the Battle of Central Germany.

“It was scary. We did a lot of night work. I was in a patrol that was sent out to get information for line companies,” Mulhern said.

“One time we took a ride to the Rhine River to see if we could cross. We had a driver, an officer and five guys. We were looking up and down across the river, but then as we started our truck, they started shooting

and blew out the radiator. We ran to a big house nearby and started shooting back across the river.” The officer called in a tank that got them out of their predicament with its big guns.

All three of the local vets went on to solid jobs in the Madison area.

Kessenich became president of the Robertson Transportation Company in Madison and then served as a vice president for Carnation’s transport division. Kleemann was a printer for The Capital Times and then became

WWII Vets continued on page 10



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NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

NPC April meeting: Food for thought, body and soul

By Char Tortorice

The Northside Planning Council's second Council meeting of the year was held on April 28 at Lakeview Lutheran Church. We had our largest turnout, with over 40 community members; some who've recently moved here and some who've lived on the Northside all their lives. One of our alders was there (the other had a previously scheduled city meeting and sent regrets), both County Board supervisors attended, and our State Assembly rep came. We shared a potluck supper, exchanged information on the Warner Park prairie circle, Canada geese issues and upcoming public hearings of interest. We celebrated the funding of Lindbergh School's summer program this year, and thanked those who showed up to testify at the School Board meeting. Later we formed small groups to brainstorm issues of concern to discuss and act upon in the future.

The main topics that arose from small group discussion included:

- Policies for our Northside Parks
- Continuing fear of losing Northside schools to funding cuts

- Jobs and poverty on the Northside
- Safe local activities for Northside youth
- Vacant storefronts and keeping the businesses we have
- Better bicycling options
- Pedestrian safety
- Making events like the Northside Council meetings more inviting and accessible to a more diverse group of neighbors

Several younger participants shared their ideas such as more and better fish in Lake Mendota, which could happen if we can get a handle on agricultural run-off and lake level issues. Everyone listened, contributed and came away energized to work on these and other concerns, many of which are covered in our new neighborhood plan.

NPC Council meetings are held every other month, and all Northsiders are welcome to join us for lively conversation, great problem-solving and wonderful company.



Northside Planning Council Next Community Council Meeting

June 23

Beginning at 6 pm

Warner Park Community Recreation Center

Please plan to attend, all are welcome!

Presentation, Brainstorming and Discussion
NPC's Organizational Capacity and Strategizing on NPC's role in Northside Community Economic Development

Letters to the Northside News

The Northside News welcomes readers to submit letters pertaining to Northside issues. The Northside News reserves the right to shorten letters as needed and does not guarantee all letters received will appear in print.

Viewpoints expressed in letters do not represent the views of the Northside Planning Council and Northside News. As a nonpartisan organization, NPC does not endorse candidates for elected office. Send letters to editor@northsidenews.org.

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The next Northside News issue: August/September 2010

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You are all amazing!

Scott Heinig

NPC Executive Director

This is an exciting time for the Northside Planning Council (NPC) and *Northside News*. With dedicated volunteers and generous financial support, we are strengthening our community each day. New jobs will be formed from the creation of our Community Kitchen Incubator, and we continue to build more partnerships with the business community to support entrepreneurs and job growth. We are working diligently with the alders and city officials to execute beautification projects and "brand" the Northside to create a community atmosphere that inspires and welcomes both residents and visitors. And of course, we continue to celebrate our diversity and identity, advocating for and strengthening our Northside voice, sharing information and networking. This is all only possible because hard-working, dedicated and passionate people are willingly investing their time and resources in their neighborhood. Thank you to all who continue to support and strengthen our beautiful Northside community!

A special *thank you* to the following individuals who donated to NPC this year — you are all amazing!

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BUSINESS

Celebrating entrepreneurs and small businesses

By Ellen Barnard

Northside News

It starts with an idea, becomes a passion, then a vision takes shape in someone's mind and maybe on paper. Before you know it, another small business is born. Small businesses are the businesses that reflect the unique character of a community. Niche shops, restaurants, Mom and Pop stores and food businesses, these are places that express the heart and soul of a community, fueled by the owners' passion for their craft.

Did you know that small businesses ...

- represent more than 99.7 percent of all employers?
- provide 60 to 80 percent of the net new jobs annually?
- employ half of all private-sector workers and 39 percent of workers in high-tech jobs?
- pay 44.3 percent of total U.S. private payroll?
- produce more than 50 percent of non-farm private gross domestic product, or a GDP of roughly \$6 trillion?

Did you further know that ...

- minorities own 15.1 percent of all U.S. businesses, or more than three million firms, and 99 percent of these firms are small businesses?
- minority-owned businesses account for \$591 billion in revenues?

When you buy from a locally-owned



Photo by Lee Graphics

Most of the businesses that Northsiders know and love are small businesses, and we want more!

small business, twice as much money stays in your own community than when you patronize a large chain business, owned far away. Plus, small businesses are run by people who live and work with us, so they know their markets and their customers. This means they can meet their customers' unique needs more ably than some distantly-operated chain. When you patronize locally-owned businesses, you are directly investing in your community and helping increase the chances for the smaller businesses to survive. A higher percentage of business survival equates to a healthier, more vibrant community for us all.

Buying from within the local community is also an investment in each oth-

er. Remember, most often entrepreneurs will invest their life savings, mortgage their homes, borrow money from friends and family and max out their credit cards, all with the hope that they can see their dream become reality, and provide a valued service to their community.

Most of the businesses that Northsiders know and love are small businesses, and we want more! In the 2007 Northside Planning Council Consumer Survey, many Northsiders said they wanted to see more unique shops, restaurants and food businesses, and small, locally-owned service businesses. Clearly the Northside is a welcoming location for these hopeful business people to launch their dreams.

A new website will connect businesses with SOHO resources

SOHO, Small Office Home Office, the group connecting Northside small businesses and entrepreneurs, has a new way to connect to Northside business owners. A website, www.northsidesoho.net, is under development at this time. Periodically check out the site to watch this resource grow in value to small businesses.

The SOHO website plans to offer informational business articles, lists of low-cost or free resources, information on the SOHO meeting schedule, and how to join the group or attend their periodic free seminars and discussion groups.

Small business owners will find valuable resources on topics of interest to help keep them abreast of useful information they can use to successfully run their small business. The free seminars and discussion groups provide training that may not be obtainable through other avenues. Small business owners are often operating their businesses on a shoestring budget. Finding the time or affording expensive classes is often not an option for them.

Participation in the SOHO group offers camaraderie from other small business owners who have experienced and overcome many of the same business problems that others may be currently facing.

SOHO invites small business owners and entrepreneurs to attend the next meeting at 6 pm on Mon., June 28 at La Finca. For questions, call Lynette at 244-2858.

NORTHSIDE SOHO Small Office | Home Office

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BUSINESS

Do you dream of starting a business ...

By Northside Planning Council

Entrepreneurs are optimistic, creative and take tremendous risks. Do you see yourself here? Have you always wanted to run your own business, or do you have an idea for a business that's unique and needed in our community? Here are some tips to help you take the next steps:

1. Take a class, more than one if you can. Your passion and great ideas are the starting point, but there are a lot of details that need to be in place before you can start and operate a successful business. Both the Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC, and it's not just for women) and the UW Small Business Development Center offer classes for beginning entrepreneurs. If you're on a shoestring budget, start with WWBIC, which has free classes and excellent financial management assistance.
2. Think about where you're going to get the money for your business. You will need enough money to buy any supplies or inventory, pay for your space, pay for some marketing, and possibly pay employees if you can't run the business by yourself. Plan to have enough money on hand to get you through at least six months of expenses without relying on income from the business. This sounds

dire, but more businesses fail because they start without enough money (capital) than for any other reason. The first year is likely to be difficult, and having enough cash to get you through it will make everything easier.

3. Use any available business counseling or mentoring that you can find. There are predictable things that happen to all businesses in the first few years, and having an experienced person to talk to, and strategize with, makes all the difference in the world. It might be someone from WWBIC, or it might be an experienced business person or a retired individual who volunteers with the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) operated through the UWSBDC. Or you may just find a neighbor or other business owner who's willing to share what she or he knows as a way of giving back to the community.
4. Be realistic. Even the best ideas take time to become successful. It's a rare business that pays all of its own bills in the first few years; most small businesses don't start showing a profit until they are five years old! Have a good support system in place and plan for failure. That way you'll be pleased when you succeed.

Some resources to help you get started:

Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation:
<http://wwbic.org/> – (608) 257-5450
 2300 S. Park Street, Suite 004
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Classes, counseling, financial assistance and loans.

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Small Business Owners Gathering Place: Ideas Café:
www.businessownersideacafe.com/
Great information, links and inspiration



Artisans' Row North to showcase community kids art

By Rachael Brooke Winkley

Kids' Art Day
 9 am–1 pm
 July 11

Artisans' Row North announces Kids' Art Day at the market on Sun., July 11 from 9 am–1 pm at the Northside TownCenter. Kids' Art Day will showcase and celebrate the creativity and talent of kids in our community. The event will feature an art exhibition and art-making opportunities. The market managers are currently planning what they hope will be an annual summertime event for kids, families and the whole community to enjoy.

Information regarding how to participate in the art exhibit and art-making workshops will be posted on the website <http://artisansrownorth.blogspot.com> no later than May 31. Volunteers of all ages are sought to help with organizing and running the event. Families, community artists and anyone interested in celebrating the creativity and talent of young people are enthusiastically encouraged to volunteer their time and talents to make Kids' Art Day at Artisans Row North a success.

For general information about the market or details on Kids' Art Day, please check the website or e-mail artisansrow@gmail.com

Northside NBA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION



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Photo by Lee Graphics

Madison Chiropractic building gets a fresh new look due to City grant

By Mary Schumacher
Northside News

If you've passed the Madison Chiropractic building on North Sherman Avenue lately, you may have wondered what's different.

Inspired by a City of Madison grant program, the entire facing of the clinic is all new except for a bit of brick under the windows. The old fascia is gone, replaced by metal siding designed to look like wood. New energy-efficient windows and doors and some trellises and planters with vines and flowers round out the building's fresh new look.

Doctors Ross Royster and Brent McNabb moved into the North Sherman building, previously a PDQ convenience store, in 1981. The building's façade did not change much over the next few decades, until the doctors received a letter from the City of Madison about its Façade Improvement Grant Program.

The City's Department of Planning and Development manages the program that encourages owners and tenants of brick-and-mortar establishments to invest in exterior renovations. Sherman Avenue is one of 13 areas the city has targeted to promote its program.

The City provides up to 50 percent of the total project cost, for a maximum of \$10,000 per street-facing façade. Located on a corner, Madison Chiropractic

has two street-facing facades and thus received a \$20,000 matching grant.

For Madison Chiropractic, the renovation process took almost a year. The doctors received notice of the program in February 2009 and submitted their application in April, having first worked with an architect experienced with Madison city government policies and procedures for building projects. The architect included in the application a project description and plan along with bids.

The project needed approval from the City's Urban Design Commission as well as the Common Council. With the architect's guidance, the project smoothly passed these requirements and by July the doctors were working with a contractor to finalize plans. Construction began in October, and the project was largely finished by December 2009.

Both Dr. Royster and Dr. McNabb are pleased with the outcome, and would recommend other N. Sherman Avenue business owners participate in the façade grant program. The financial incentive was a compelling motivation for Madison Chiropractic's new look, and the city process was reasonable and timely.

For more information about the Façade Grant Program, visit www.cityofmadison.com/planning/Facade.html or call 266-6558.

Northside Business Association highlights DuWayne's Salon

The Northside Business Association (NBA) has often been a faceless organization working behind the scenes to enhance the quality of life for Northside businesses and residents. In its 19th year and with more than 80 businesses in active membership, the individuals representing these businesses have volunteered their time and expertise to help the economic development of the Northside community.

To put a face on the businesses that represent the NBA and their volunteer contributions to the Northside community, the NBA has chosen to highlight a business in each issue of the *Northside News*.

DuWayne's Salon is a second generation business that has been a fixture on the Northside for over 40 years. Owner Steve Nelson, like his late father, DuWayne, has always been a strong advocate for the Northside. DuWayne was a past president of the Northside Community Council and worked to help organize the Fourth of July fireworks before it became Rhythm and Booms. DuWayne, as well as Dorothy Borchardt, had a vision for a pool on the Northside at Warner Park.

Steve is a past president of the Northside Business Association and is the driving force behind the annual NBA "Breakfast with Santa" that benefits the three Northside food pantries. He has also worked tirelessly to raise funds so that his dad's vision of a pool can become a reality. Steve feels that, to fully benefit the Northside, the pool should be indoors.



Photo by Terrie Page

Steve Nelson of DuWayne's Salon

DuWayne's Salon, along with Lois & Co., Serenity Salon and Reflections Salon, all on the Northside, are collecting hair to send down to the Gulf to help clean up the oil spill.

DuWayne's Salon has also adopted Lakeview Elementary School on Tennyson Lane. They help the school in a variety of ways, from raising money for books, to collecting hats and mittens for the kids, to providing gifts for different school events. Steve and his sister, Terri, along with his other five siblings, all attended Lakeview.

DuWayne's Salon, along with Massage East and Northside Yoga recently hosted a Mother's Day Spa Day. It was a huge success and everyone attending loved their experience.

Steve, Terri and everyone at DuWayne's strive daily to keep the Northside a vibrant and exciting part of Madison!

Wordsmith joins Artisans' Row North

Madison author and Northside resident J.C. Bottensek is joining Artisans' Row North at the Sunday morning market at Northside TownCenter this year, bringing with him his newly released novel — *VonJanic: Legend of Arlage* — along with support for a great cause. Bottensek will be donating a gener-

ous portion of the proceeds to Warner Park's Circle of Friends. COF is a Northside nonprofit that raises funds and awareness for a second City pool.

Limited edition signed lithographic bookplates, which depict scenes from the book, also will be available.

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COMMUNITY

Lakeview Elementary students redesign the Northside

By Anita Weier

Northside News

The next time the Northside takes on the difficult task of updating a Neighborhood Plan, perhaps we should turn to fourth- and fifth-graders at Lakeview Elementary School.

Susan Hobart's class is using a computer game from the University of Wisconsin-Madison to redesign the Northside. The Urban Science game simulates elements of the urban planning process to teach middle school and high school students how to think like urban planners.

The students have been divided into four teams — equal opportunities, green space, business and Northside neighbors.

Each team has learned that if they make a change in a zoning map in the computer game, other effects will occur. For instance, if manufacturing is increased to provide jobs, there may be less green space. Or if green space is added, more sandhill cranes would likely appear.

"More green space makes neighborhood character better," said Bryn Bennett-Feinblatt, a fifth-grader on the green space team.

Azir Pate, a fourth-grader also on that team, explained — as he casually replaced my home with wetlands — that he likes nature.

Sydney Walter, a fifth-grader on the business team, said the group was trying to balance the desires of interested parties, who are "stakeholders" provided by the computer game. For instance, one wanted more businesses so people could live near their jobs, and another wanted more traffic to get more sales.

The computer game lets students play the role of interns at Urban Design Associates, an urban and regional planning firm. Students take eight to 10 hours to play through an online notebook that can be shared with peers. Specialized mapping software allows them, with



Fifth-grader Pangdee Thao works on her computer redesigning the Northside.

instructions from computer-generated characters, to learn about the history of the neighborhood and issues of community concern. Mapping tools allow the students to change the zoning of various parcels. The students suggest changes they think "stakeholders" would support.

After the teams integrate and adjust their recommendations, the students will write a final proposal this month to be presented to the Northside Planning Council and the mayor of Madison. During the last school year, Mayor Dave Cieslewicz visited the class to learn how the students would redo State Street. (It turned out that they suggested much the same things as the current State Street plan, except with more green space.)

"Kids who are nine and 10 are ready for this. We underestimate their critical thinking skills," Hobart said.

Part of the students' experience was a presentation by NPC Board member Char Tortorice, who explained the lengthy process involved in the recent update of the plan for our area. "People were dedicated enough to go to a meeting once a week for two years, and

they did a lot of dreaming," she said. A lot had changed since the last plan in 1992, so they had to take that into consideration.

For instance, the economy has changed and some businesses closed. And more people are riding bicycles.

Tortorice closed her presentation by stressing that Northsiders love their community, but that the area has a less than wonderful reputation outside the Northside.

"People from other areas of town have said this is a tired area, a Rust Belt, and they judge it on the litter and traffic from Rhythm and Booms," she said. "They don't know how beautiful our neighborhood is."



Share your snapshot of the Northside

The Northside Art and Design team is finishing up our "Northside Identity" project, which we hope will inspire public art projects for many years ahead. We have a lot of words that convey different aspects of the Northside, but now we want images to go with the words. So we need your help!

If you have a digital camera, please take pictures of the things around you that mean "Northside" to you. This might be a particular building that only the Northside has, or our wildlife or our diverse culture with faces of many colors. Take pictures of anything you think speaks "Northside," and e-mail them to cherokeeemars@gmail.com by June 30 with the subject "Northside photo."

We'll sort them into our "identity" categories and set up a public photo album for everyone to visit. These images and categories, plus style guidelines, will then be used to plan for public art projects and guide artists so that they know the kind of images that we think represent the Northside.

Share your view of our wonderful community with your neighbors, and help us create meaningful public art for everyone to enjoy.

Photo by Anita Weier

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COMMUNITY

The Road Home on the Northside

By **Mary Schumacher**
Northside News

A new initiative on Madison's Northside has brought shelter, social support and dignity to families who braved the plight of homelessness.

On Sat., July 17, The Road Home Dane County will celebrate completion of phase one of its Housing and Hope campaign with a ribbon-cutting ceremony that the group warmly encourages Northsiders to attend.

The local nonprofit organization purchased and rehabilitated two eight-unit apartment buildings on Vera Court with the goal of transitioning families with young children into safe and stable housing. Currently 19 adults and 42 children are in residence, helped by an on-site case manager with an on-site office. The housing is not free. All tenants pay rent according to a sliding scale to strengthen the concept of self-reliance and self-worth among people hit hard by circumstances resulting in

homelessness.

The economic recession has caused an alarming increase in the number of homeless families across the nation. Executive Director Rachel Krinsky wants to change at least some of those numbers. She is championing The Road Home's vision to create housing solutions for homeless families, and in so doing, contribute to building strong Northside communities where neighbors support each other.

Another 15 apartments are planned for phase two in Madison but The Road Home must raise an additional \$1.1 million to complete the \$4.5 million project.

The Ribbon Cutting:

Sat., July 17 1-2:30 pm
714 and 802 Vera Court

To RSVP, contact Cyndi Wood at cyndiw@trhome.org.

Independent Living from page 1

Noting that city agencies would have to review additional details and determine needed improvements, Murphy pointed out that the site is in the city's urban services area, so water and sewer service is already available.

Metro bus stops are located nearby, at Sherman Avenue and Wheeler Road, though hours of service are limited.

"The adopted plan for the Cherokee Special Area calls for residential housing in that area," Murphy said.

But UW-Madison zoology Professor Joe E. Meisel opposes development on the lands north of Wheeler Road in the area being considered.

"Those lands clearly form the upland rim of the current marsh, due to their north-facing slope," he said. "Development in this sub-area would lead to greater runoff of storm wastewater and lawn-care chemicals directly into the marsh, with potentially severe and pervasive negative impacts on the marsh community."

As a nearby upland, such lands could serve as valuable habitat and foraging grounds for wildlife species such as cranes that roam the marsh, he added.

"Decisions made about the land north of Wheeler Road will affect the health of Cherokee Marsh," said Jan Axelson, president of the Friends of Cherokee Marsh.

"Increased storm water runoff due to development would harm the nearby wetlands; (but) preserved and restored natural areas would improve the habitat for cranes and other animals that need uplands as well as wetlands. The Friends of Cherokee Marsh look forward to participating in the discussions about the proposed development."

No final designs have been com-

pleted for the Wheeler Road project, and construction would not begin until 2011, Giovannoni said. The development site would be nine acres, according to a map submitted to the city.

The property is now in the town of Burke, but District 18 Alderman Michael Schumacher said Madison has an agreement to annex properties in that area into the city as they are developed.

The project would create construction jobs during development, and Giovannoni estimated that ultimately the facility would create 40 to 50 permanent jobs, including cooking, maintenance, resident assistance and management.

"We absolutely would try to get employees from the nearby area, for a whole host of reasons," she said.

"That would provide economic vitality for the Northside, and when people live close to their work, they do better because there is not a long commute. The cost of travel to work is diminished."

Schumacher, who previously owned a company that managed senior citizen housing facilities in south-central Wisconsin, is solidly for the proposed senior housing.

"Of course there is a need. People would rather stay in the community they live in (when they age). A continuing care concept would be phenomenal for those who will eventually need assistance," he said. "I am confident that Independent Living would do a good job."

Independent Living has three other properties for senior citizens in Dane County: a 42-unit in Fitchburg, a 69-unit condo community in Sun Prairie, and a property in Madison with 92 units on Segoe Road across from the Hilldale Post Office.

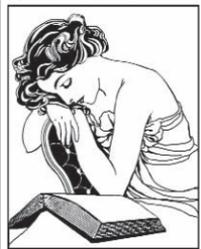


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COMMUNITY

Walking and bicycling improvements the result of community involvement

By Lisa Bullard-Cawthorne and Lisa Wiese

Two years ago, in the fall of 2007, 50 youths and 40 adults helped the Northside community by taking part in walking and biking audits, to identify barriers to walking and biking in our neighborhoods. The project was organized and run by Safe Communities and Public Health of Madison and Dane County, with the help of the Northside Planning Council and the cooperation of Alders Satya Rhodes-Conway and Michael Schumacher.

How much good did the efforts of these 90 neighbors produce? From the audits, we have a list of barriers to walking and biking in our neighborhoods. On the ground, not much has changed — so far. But, community involvement is a lot like planting an orchard. It takes a few years before you get a harvest. And the Northside is about to harvest a bumper crop!

Our alders, Dane County supervisors and many government agencies have worked with Safe Communities and Public Health to create a plan to carry out improvements to walking and biking on the Northside. Some improvements were already in the works, like sidewalks on Troy Drive. Alder Schumacher had already taken on this

issue and used the walking audit results to emphasize the need for sidewalks. Because of the walking audit results, crosswalks that stand out were added to North Sherman Avenue as part of the desperately needed resurfacing. And the resurfacing of North Sherman Avenue along Warner Park that will happen this summer addresses all the problems identified by the audits along that stretch of street. Most of the recommendations from the audits were included in the new Northport-Warner Parker-Sherman Neighborhood Plan, the blueprint the city uses when considering changes in a neighborhood. Even the plan for Highway 113 has been designed to make walking and biking easier along this traffic corridor. Changes that have already happened and changes that will be happening are outlined in the table below.

For taking the walking audit results and incorporating them into plans for the Northside, we applaud Madison Planning, Traffic Engineering, Engineering, Police, Parks and Metro; the Village of Maple Bluff; and the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. And to those 90 Northsiders who stepped up and volunteered their time on a project bigger than just themselves, we send a big thank you for the harvest we already have and the harvest we will soon receive!

NORTHSIDE IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED IN 2009		
N. Sherman between Roth & Trailsway	High visibility crosswalks at Roth, Aberg, Faragut & Schlimgen	
Troy Drive corridor between Northport & Green Ave	Installation of sidewalks	
NORTHSIDE IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED		
Aberg Avenue corridor between N. Sherman & Packers	Pedestrian island at Huxley, Ruskin & Crowley Bike lanes	2010-Complete by September
N. Sherman between Trailsway & Northport	Pedestrian islands at Warner Park & Northside TownCenter shopping center entrances, Windom & Trailsway. Bike lanes.	2010-Late August through October construction
Darwin Road from Packers Avenue to the railroad	Sidewalk on south side of Darwin Road	2010-September construction
Commercial Avenue	Bike lanes between N. Sherman & Packers	Complete by 9/2010
Between Commerical & Aberg	Bike path	2011 construction
County Highway 113 (Northport betw. Debs & Packers, Packers betw. Darwin & Commercial)	High visibility crosswalks: Kennedy Rd., School Rd., Troy Dr., Walgreen's entrance, Dryden, Darwin, & Schlimgen Bike lanes	Construction in 2011 & 2012
Northport "Main street" between N. Sherman & Troy and between N. Sherman & Dryden	Redesign of Northport/Sherman intersection Redesign of Northport/Packers intersection; improve Northport Warner Park exit	Construction in 2011 & 2012
Woodward/Sheridan/Forster intersection	More visible crosswalks Close sidewalk gap	In 2009 Neighborhood Plan

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Olbrich Home Garden Tour to feature Northside gardens

Experience a world of garden wonders on Olbrich's Home Garden Tour. Tour private home gardens on Madison's Northside and collect ideas for your own garden on Fri., July 9 from 10 am-4 pm and Sat., July 10 from 9 am-3 pm. Many of the gardens on this year's tour creatively include edible plants. Also see unique patios, soothing water features and bold, attention-grabbing plants; wander through intimate, shady backyards or stroll through sunny areas dotted with vegetables. Be inspired by innovative solutions to gardening problems, beautiful landscapes and interesting homeowners during Olbrich's Home Garden Tour.

During the tour, enjoy a stop at Troy Community Gardens to see first-hand how gardening can be a community effort. Wander through the community gardens, prairie, edible landscapes, maple woodlands and the organic Community Supported Agriculture farm. Other Northside gardens on the tour will be on Hanover Street, Morningstar Lane, Randy Lane and Troy Drive. Pastries and sandwiches by Manna Café will be available for purchase onsite at Troy Gardens.

Pre-tour tickets are \$10 for Olbrich Botanical Society members and \$12 for the general public. Tickets the day of the tour are \$14 for members and \$16 for the general public.

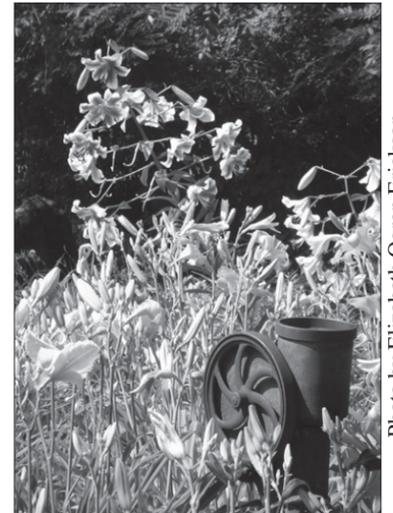


Photo by Elizabeth Ogren Erickson

Inspiration can be gathered from Northside gardens during Olbrich's Home Garden tour in July.

Olbrich's Home Garden Tour is sponsored by the Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Association; Jung Garden Center; K2 Graniteworks; Klein's Floral and Greenhouses; Steve Lesch, Landscape Designs, Inc.; Madison Area Master Gardeners Association, Inc.; and ZDA. Sponsors will have displays and representatives at some gardens on the tour.

Tickets are available at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Felly's Flowers, and Jung Garden Centers. For more information and ticket outlet locations visit www.olbrich.org or call 608-246-4550.

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