

NORTH STAR AWARDS

The stars shine bright at the 10



2012 North Star Award recipients including: Rebecca Starke (first row, second from left), Kazoua Moua (first row, third from left), Polly Hartman (first row, fifth from left), Wendy Murkve, (second row, third from right), Rev. Carmen Porco (first row, far right), Janet Battista (top row, third from left), Dr. Kathy Oriol (top row, fourth from left), Pastor Gerry Kuhnke (top row, fifth from left), Statue of Liberty Committee, Boy Scout Troop 23 and Boomerang's Retail Store.

By Sue Gleason

More than 130 Northsiders came together Friday, Nov. 2 at Warner Park Community Recreation Center to celebrate and congratulate the 2012 North Star Award recipients. The 10th Annual North Star Awards, (NSA) a Northside Planning Council event, recognizes those who are doing creative and committed work to make the Northside a better place.

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NORTH STAR AWARDS

10th Annual North Star Awards



Emcee, Rebecca Ryan



NPC Executive Director, Cindy Crane



North Star Awards Chair, Ruth Rohlich

Rebecca Ryan, a Northsider and CEO of Next Generation Consulting emceed the event, bringing a special mix of warmth and humor that helped make the evening special. Ryan opened the evening with a great Northside story about two boys on bikes who raced ahead to flag down a bus for her on Sherman Avenue when they saw she was running to catch it.

NPC Executive Director Cindy Crane helped kick off the evening with 2012 Northside Planning Council highlights:

- convening quarterly gatherings of the Northside Nonprofit Network
- cosponsoring two community Sunday Suppers (the next one is Dec. 9)
- bringing together Northsiders interested in creating a youth council
- continuing work to bring the FEED Kitchens project to the groundbreaking stage
- publishing the 100th issue of the Northside News
- convening the first State of the Northside event

- disseminating the Northside community survey
- filming a new video titled "Locate Your Business on Madison's Northside." The nine-minute video is on YouTube and can be found on www.NorthsideMadison.org.
- developing a new Northside business development brochure for use by commercial brokers
- highlighting the business assets of the Northside by hosting a Commercial Brokers event that utilized the new video and brochure

In addition to hosting this 10th annual North Star Awards, NPC is also looking ahead to celebrate its 20-year anniversary in 2013.

Ruth Rohlich, chair of the 2012 North Star Awards and former NPC Board member, kicked off the awards portion of the night. She noted that more than 130 people and organizations have been recognized since the first NSA in 2002. Rohlich extended a special thank you to those who nominate. It takes someone to not only recognize these

North Stars but to also take the time to nominate them. Rohlich also thanked the event sponsors, some new this year but many have been with us from the start. A special thanks went to the lead sponsor and new Northside business, the UW Credit Union.

Boomerangs Resale Store, nominated by Lisa Koch Schuster, was the first award recipient of the night. Boomerang's made a major commitment to the Northside not only when they first located here, but even after the 2011 fire when its store was all but destroyed. It supports Northside efforts such as donations to the River Food Pantry, job training with Community Support Network, sponsoring the North/Eastside Senior Coalition's fashion show and summer concerts and helping Vera Court Neighborhood Center with a Mallards fundraising event. Boomerangs also donated \$1,000 for Kennedy Heights' new playground, gathered targeted donations for neighborhood centers and blankets for the Dane County Humane Society. It employs a high school student in Commonwealth Development's Youth Busi-

ness Mentoring program and a senior as part of the "Experience Works" to give 55-plus seniors job experience. Boomerangs is really a part of the community and even serves as a welcoming Northside gathering place.

Boy Scout Troop 23 and Scout Leader Wendy Murkve were nominated by Wally Meyer. Troop 23 has served the scouting needs of Northside young men since 1974 and contributed countless hours of community service to the Northside. There have been 36 young men who have earned their Eagle Scout awards through Northside projects. Troop 23 volunteers at Cherokee Park, Lake View Woods, River Food Pantry, Salvation Army, Lakeview Branch Library, Knights of Columbus and helps Cub Scout Pack 127 with recruitment and Webelos workshop. Wendy Murkve is the Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 23 and has led the Scouts in several merit badges such as photography, genealogy, pets, bicycling and camping. Murkve is committed to scouting and served as Den Leader for Cub Scout Pack 127 and also served as the leader for Girl Scout Troop 765.

Library, Knights of Columbus and helps Cub Scout Pack 127 with recruitment and Webelos workshop. Wendy Murkve is the Scoutmaster for Boy Scout Troop 23 and has led the Scouts in several merit badges such as photography, photography, genealogy, pets, bicycling and camping. Murkve is committed to scouting and

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NORTH STAR AWARDS

2012 NORTH STAR AWARD WINNERS



Boomerang's Retail Store



Boy Scout Troop 23



Wendy Murkve



Statue of Liberty Committee



Janet Battista



Kazoua Moua



Polly Hartman



Pastor Gerry Kuhnke



Dr. Kathy Oriel



Rebecca Starke



Sean Storch, Felicia Butler and Sherie Hofs

NSA from page 15
served as Den Leader for Cub Scout Pack 127 and also served as the leader for Girl Scout Troop 765.

The Statue of Liberty committee was nominated by Ann Waidelich, Barbara Arnold and John Frey. The committee included Barbara Arnold, John Frey, Sue Morrison, Gary Pechmann, Sue Peck, Paul Rusk, Anita Weir, Karin Wolf, Eric Meulemans, Christine Style and project coordinator Anton "Tony" Rajer who unfortunately passed away in 2011. They worked together for three years to raise funds to have the statue and pedestal restored. The landscape was redesigned with new lights, flags and plantings, in a partnership with the Glacier Edge Boy Scout Council. The project has even received national recognition from the Statue of Liberty Club. The statue was dedicated in conjunction with Ride the Drive Northside in August. This effort was

a model of good community practice and engaged many levels of government and contributors

Janet Battista was nominated by Jan Axelson, Sue Gleason and Paul Noeldner for being a super-volunteer for Northside parks and green spaces. She was a founding member of Friends of Cherokee Marsh, president in 2007 and vice president since 2011, and has served on the Friends of Lake View Hill Park Board since 2008. Battista volunteers as a technical adviser to the Madison Water Utility, served on Maple Bluff Urban Forestry committee, helped with village plantings as a master gardener, and has volunteered with Madison Audubon's Art Fair at Warner Park. She spends countless hours volunteering in the field and during the drought this summer she carried water to newly planted shrubs in Lake View Hill Park. Battista engages youth and has formed a great relationship with Malcolm Shabazz High School to

collect and plant native seeds. She is a true advocate for the Northside's environment with her knowledge, time and passion.

Polly Hartman, nominated by Jim Krueger, has volunteered at the North/East-side Senior Coalition every weekday for four years totaling 4,000 hours. She leads the volunteer crew for the senior dining site with set up, serving and cleaning up. Hartman also helps with NESCO's six summer concerts and with Apple Fest fundraising. She is a strong advocate for senior adults and helps NESCO staff identify who might need help. She also cares for a 90-year-old senior and uses her retired nursing skills as needed too. Hartman brings a positive attitude and a smile every day and goes the extra mile for NESCO.

Pastor Gerry Kuhnke from St. Paul's Lutheran Church was nominated by Margo Dixon. Pastor Gerry joined the Northside

Business Association more than four years ago and immediately joined the "Breakfast with Santa" committee which helps raise funds and collect food for Northside Madison Food Pantries. He then singlehandedly convinced the NBA to add "Breakfast with the Bunny" during the Easter season, reached out to Northside Schools to let families know about the event and obtained matching funds through Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to double the money raised the previous year.

Pastor Gerry approaches life with a positive attitude, even when events could complicate his mission such as "Ride the Drive on the Northside" this summer. He embraced the event and moved the traditional St. Paul's summer event for parishioners and Northside residents to that date, even canceling church. St. Paul's became a meeting point for the day with variety of bouncy toys for the children,

NSA continued on page 19

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YOUTH

Black Hawk Middle School curriculum enhanced through teacher's world travel

By Andrew Kreuser

Last May, Erin Anderson, Mary Droster and Drew Kreuser from Black Hawk Middle School were awarded a \$10,000 grant from a national foundation called the Fund for Teachers Program. The seventh grade teaching team used the grant to travel to the Galapagos Islands for five days in June, where they became immersed in the culture and diverse ecosystems of the islands. Throughout their time in the Galapagos, they traveled and stayed on three different islands, visited the Charles Darwin Research Center, and had the chance to explore the Galapagos with a personal tour guide.

Highlights of the trip included an eight mile hike up a volcano, snorkeling with sea lions and stingrays, seeing century-old Galapagos tortoises, and learning about the native plants and animals. The islands themselves are located about 650 miles west of Ecuador and were home to many of Charles Darwin's studies on adaptations and natural selection.

Since they've returned, they have put together two interdisciplinary units in the academic areas of science, social studies and language arts. In one project, students explored the themes of geography through the Galapagos Islands; in the other, they investigated native animal species from the Galapagos. In



Photo submitted by Andrew Kreuser

Drew Kreuser, Erin Anderson and Mary Droster in the Galapagos Islands with their newfound friend — one of the century-old Galapagos tortoises.

both these projects, students demonstrated their findings by creating their own websites.

The group was able to apply for the grant because Black Hawk was recognized as a School of Recognition for the third year in a row. Teachers in schools who receive this honor can apply for \$5,000 (individuals) or \$10,000 (teams)

to travel anywhere in the world to enhance their curriculum.

Anderson, Droster and Kreuser have been excited to share their global experiences with their students and colleagues. They hope to continue to help foster strong connections between what students learn about the Galapagos to their own community here in Madison.

Scouting adventures of Troop 27

By Justin Sargent

A tradition of adventure

"Does troop 27 still camp using the 12 giant tepees?," a neighbor recently asked one of our scouts. Our scouts and leaders frequently field questions that are born of fond memories of scouting in days gone by.

For those wondering if we still have and use the giant canvas tepees, their whereabouts are unfortunately a mystery. Our scouts camp in tents and have been actively fundraising to acquire new ones.

Troop 27 has been the vehicle for generations of scouts and their families to explore nature. This rich history has inspired Troop 27 to begin collecting stories and photos of the scouting experience. Now they want to hear from you. Please take a moment share your experiences to help them link the past to the present. Please email iscuba@sbcglobal.net or mail to Troop 27, 1638 Mayfield Ln., Madison, WI 53704.

Camping in the cold

Wisconsin's seasons offer a variety of outdoor options and scouts find winter camping one of the most fun. The idea of sleeping outside seems a bit crazy, but scouts learn to be warm and comfortable while camping in our chilly climate. Proper clothing, layering, staying dry, snow shelter building and proper fire building techniques are just some of the skills learned while adventuring in Wisconsin's winter. While tent and snow shelter winter camping are fun, nothing beats a warm winter cabin. Troop 27 plans outings every month of the year.

Boy Scout Troop 27 meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm at North Sherman United Methodist Church. Boys come from all denominations and backgrounds to enjoy the challenges and opportunities of outdoor adventures. Troop 27 offers skill development and exploration through camping, canoeing, hiking, fishing, swimming, travel, climbing and many more recreational activities. If you are interested in being part of the scouting experience, please contact Troop 27 at 220-2342 or iscuba@sbcglobal.net.

Emerson Elementary Fall Beautification Day

By Mark Geistlinger

Thirty Emerson Elementary students and family members gathered on the bright, chilly morning of Oct. 20 to spruce up the school playgrounds as part of the Fall Beautification Day sponsored by Emerson's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

The workers were fueled by school pride, hot "Emerson Roost" coffee from local roaster Just Coffee, homemade berry scones and doughnuts from People's Bakery. "I came for the doughnuts," confided fifth-grader Zoe Meyer as she inhaled a Bear Claw, "but then I moved piles of weeds to the compost pile. It actually turned out to be fun."

One team of parents and kids cleared the school's vegetable garden and turned the garden's compost piles, leaving the garden trim and tidy for winter. Another group of families planted flower bulbs around the front and sides of the school, while two dads and their kids pulled weeds, laid down landscape fabric and spread out woodchips under the tire swings. The final project involved several students and parents repainting many of the hopping shapes on the blacktop, and a graphic-artist dad repainted the basketball backboard.

The Spring Beautification Day is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, May 18, 2013, when all members of our northeast side community will be welcome to stop by, lend a little help, try some Eagle Roost coffee, and get to know Emerson and its families. For more information about the Emerson Parent-Teacher Organization, visit the PTO's Facebook at www.facebook.com/pages/Emerson-School-PTO/243741130039 or the school's website at <https://emersonweb.madison.k12.wi.us/about>.



Photo submitted by Mark Geistlinger

Students and a parent repainted the hopping shapes on the blacktop.

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YOUTH

Big opportunity taking shape for energy education on Northside

By Dan Tortorice
Northside News

The production and consumption of energy is an important subject for the children in our schools. It's also a challenging one in that it links together the areas of science, math, home economics and environmental studies.

The decisions we make as energy consumers can affect our neighbors and even the future of our planet. So it's important to educate young people now about our energy future.

Northside schools have a long history of participation in energy education. These issues came to the forefront during the "energy crisis" of the 1970's and have been in the schools since then. A new project at Lake View School will hopefully give a big boost to future Northside students.

Teachers today have several resources to help them with energy topics. Madison Gas and Electric (MGE) has a program called Partnership with Schools. This program centers on topics such as Energy Smart Kids, Solar in Schools and a complete Solar Curriculum for grades K-12.

The Energy Smart Kids section informs children how they can help save money and energy in their own homes. Solar in Schools is linked with the solar panels MGE has installed in every high school in their electric service area. Students can connect to a website to monitor the solar energy production at their school in real time.

According to MGE's Community Education Manager, Jim Jenson, all Northside schools are using the Energy Skill Builder

Curriculum, which gives them prepared content for classroom use. Children and their families and neighbors can join an EnAct group to create energy-saving projects such as compost piles and rain barrels. These kinds of projects can create a sense of community as well as energy savings, which currently average about \$281 per year for EnAct families.

There is a statewide program called K-12 Energy Education Program (KEEP) that offers professional development to teachers in the area of energy literacy. Other partners in this area are UW Madison, MATC and community environmental groups.

The Lake View School project combines energy education with the opportunity to bring those beautiful woods on the school campus right into the student curriculum.

Fourth-fifth-grade teacher Susie Hobart has received a partial state grant to build an outdoor classroom in the woods next to the school. The project will include upgrading the woods by removing invasive species, the building of an open-air classroom, the installation of solar panels on the roof of the main school building and passive solar hot water to service an outdoor kitchen for use by students and staff.

Volunteers are producing a building plan that will be finished by the end of this year. Formal fundraising for the solar installation will begin early next year.

The "Northside News" will bring you more information soon about this exciting opportunity to help put our community right at the leading edge of energy education for the future.

Tips for finding college financial aid

By Heather Wilde
Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation

Every year, college is made possible for more than 1.5 million students through the help of federal financial aid programs. Despite this, there are millions more students who don't get the aid they are eligible for — simply because they do not complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Every high school senior or adult who is thinking about college should complete the FAFSA. The form, available at FAFSA.gov, is a key step to accessing over \$150 billion in available aid, from federal grants to loans to work-study.

It's important to know that the FAFSA is available on Jan. 1, and takes an average of just 22 minutes to complete. Here are four tips to help make FAFSA completion even easier:

- File your taxes first and be aware of each college's FAFSA application priority date. Many colleges give aid on a first-come, first-served basis — so the earlier you apply, the better.
- Have these six pieces of information ready before completing the FAFSA. The student and their parent(s) should have their:
 1. Social Security numbers
 2. Dates: birth, death, marriage and divorce
 3. 2012 W2's and tax returns
 4. Most recent bank statements
 5. Amounts of any other income
 6. Value of any other assets
- Take advantage of free expert help. The Northside's own Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation hosts regular community presentations on financial aid, and offers hands-on FAFSA completion assistance.
- Know what to expect after you submit your FAFSA.
 1. The Student Aid Report (SAR) lets you check the information

you entered on your FAFSA. Just follow the instructions if you need to make any corrections. If not, simply save a copy for your records.

2. Wait for award letters from any schools listed on your FAFSA. Be sure to compare different schools to see what may best fit your family's budget.

The aid you need to pay for college is waiting for you. To learn more about the FAFSA, visit uhaftaFAFSA.org or collegegoalwi.org.

Mark your calendar for these free events offered by Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation

Financial Aid for Your Collegeland Adventure provides an overview of the types of financial aid, the process for applying and how financial aid is awarded.

Dec. 12, 6-7:30 pm
Hawthorne Library
Community Room
2707 E. Washington Ave.

Finding Money for College: Completing the FAFSA provides information on the types of financial aid available and hands-on help to complete the FAFSA.

Feb. 2, 2013, 11 am-2:30 pm
Feb. 4, 2013, 6-7:30 pm
Warner Park Community Center
Community Room
1740 Northport Dr.

Feb. 6, 6-7:30 pm
Lakeview Branch Library
Conference Room
2845 N. Sherman Ave.

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NORTH STAR AWARDS



Rev. Carmen Porco and NPC Chair, Sue Gleason



Bolanle Olubi with Alyssa Kenney, Lesleigh Luttrell and Anne Pryor from Margaret's Fund Scholarship



Top: James Johnson (far right) and colleagues from UW Credit Union - NSA lead sponsor.



Right: Mo Cleland, long-time friend and supporter of NPC.



(Top) NSA Chair, Ruth Rohlich with NPC Board, Kevin White, Travis Currier, Terrie Anderson, Marti Ryan, and Nikki Moriarity



(Right) NPC Executive Director, Cindy Crane and Lesleigh Luttrell of Margaret's Fund.

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music for the adults and free food for all. Pastor Gerry is committed to the members of his church, the residents of the Northside and truly has a mission to improve the lives of families on the Northside.

Kazoua Moua was nominated by her neighbor, Clare Norelle. Kazoua has been very active as a neighbor and community leader. While her children were at Lindberg School she organized Hmong parents to be more involved with the school and PTA. She led cooking and other cultural activities that helped to strengthen connections between Hmong and non-Hmong parents and children. She has been involved at Kennedy Heights Community Center as a bilingual/bicultural UW Extension Nutrition Educator. She has also worked with Troy Gardens. Kazoua has been very active at her congregation, Sherman United Methodist Church, coordinating fundraising activities and weekly ESL classes.

Kathy Oriel, M.D., nominated by Marti Ryan, has provided family medical care since 1995 at the Northeast Family Medicine Center. Dr. Oriel loves the diversity and resiliency of the Northside community. She serves on the faculty at the UW School of Medicine and Public Health. She is currently program director of the Family Medicine Residency and loves inspiring new family medicine physicians. Dr. Oriel provides sensitive care to the LGBT community and in particular transgender people and families. She was named to 2011 Best Doctors in America list.

Rebecca Starke, nominated by Marge Pitts, launched Gardening for Good in 2012, a supported gardening project for people with developmental disabilities. After 20 years of working with people with disabilities, Starke brought her passion for gardening to share with these new gardeners. This past summer, a group of adults, each with a support person, shared a plot at Troy Gardens. They met weekly to tend the garden and have mini-workshops to learn about gardening, share snacks and fellowship. Starke, as the project facilitator, also created a blog to share stories, poems, photos and successes at gardeningforgoodmadison.com. Her ideas, energy and vision made this all happen.

Sean Storch and Sherie Hohs: Sean Storch, principal at Blackhawk Middle School and social worker Sherie Hohs were nominated by Felicia Butler. Storch and Hohs are committed to achieving harmonious cultural

and racial relationships at Blackhawk Middle School for minority students and families. They worked to support a new family engagement group that met at three community centers. This has led to the formation of a Minority PTO that will work with the regular PTO. Storch and Hohs remained dedicated to the effort throughout the summer.

Rev. Carmen Porco: The 2012 High Impact Award recipient was Rev. Carmen Porco, CEO of Housing Ministries of American Baptists in Wisconsin and director of the Northport Apartments and Packers Townhomes. Over the past 38 years Porco has developed an innovative management system that creates a new way to think of low-income housing. The focus is on education with these communities of dedicated learners taking control of their own destinies. The honors and recognitions that mean the most to him reflect the local community's changing relationship to these "communities of poverty" as it comes to view them as under-appreciated resource bases that benefit their neighborhood, the city and the world.

2012 Margaret's Fund Scholarship: The evening ended with the presentation of the 2012 Margaret's Fund Scholarship. Bolanle Obuli received the scholarship from Anne Pryor, Alyssa Kenney and Lesleigh Luttrell representing the Margaret's Fund scholarship committee. Obuli is originally from Ede, Nigeria a town located in Osun State in western Nigeria. Now a Northside resident with children in Lindbergh School, Obuli is a member of the Lindbergh PTA and helps with Girl Scouts. She is pursuing an associate's degree in nursing at Madison College while working part time at St. Mary's Hospital with the goal of becoming a licensed nurse practitioner so she can help people.

Thank you to all who attended, sponsored or nominated. Most of all, thanks goes to all our fellow Northsiders who continue to do all the amazing things that make our community strong, caring and a great place to live.



(Left) Harpist, Cora Wiese provided beautiful music for NSA attendees.



(Below) NSA winner, Kazoua Moua surrounded by family and friends.

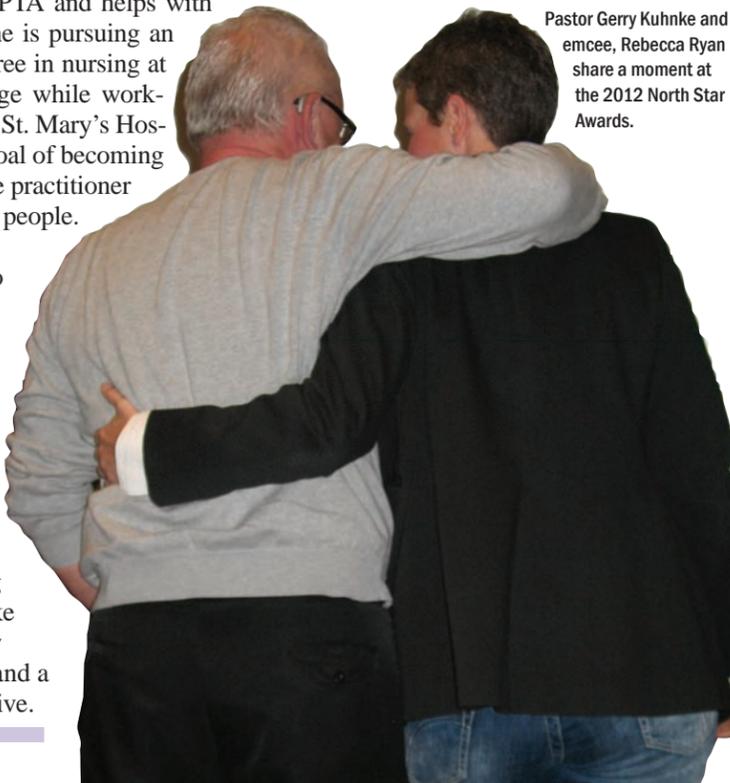


(Top) NSA Winner, Polly Hartman with her family.



(Left) NSA Winner, Rebecca Starke with friend and Gardening for Good gardener, Rick Lewis.

Pastor Gerry Kuhnke and emcee, Rebecca Ryan share a moment at the 2012 North Star Awards.



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FOOD



Deborah Roussos

Nutrition Nuggets

Savoring holiday foods for comfort, joy and good health

By Deborah Roussos, M.S., RD, CD
Registered Dietitian

If you want to eat well this holiday, there is no need to call in the food police or predict that you will gain weight. By practicing and listening to your body, you can enjoy all your favorite holiday foods with comfort — and in good health.

You can survive the season. The key is to slow down and take the time to really savor whatever you are eating. We think about food all day but don't think about it much when we are eating. We tend to eat quickly and not pay much attention to the flavors, colors, aromas, sounds and textures of our food. When we eat hurriedly, we often eat more than we want with less satisfaction.

To savor food means, "to taste appreciatively" or "to relish." When we appreciate and relish our food, we often eat less and enjoy it more. If you are used to chowing down and moving on, paying attention to food may take a little practice.

Prevent overeating by not getting overly hungry: It is almost impossible to make smart food choices when you are super hungry. Instead of starving before parties, eat regular meals and have a protein snack before you go. A cup of soup, a string cheese, a piece of beef jerky, or a handful of nuts work well.

Eat and drink slowly while listening to internal cues of satiety (fullness). When you eat too quickly or inattentively, it's easy to overeat — past the point of pleasure and even past the point of physical comfort. Real satisfaction comes from eating slowly, from savoring the aromas, textures and flavors of food, and from letting your body say, "that's plenty," before you are overly stuffed. Try a five minutes pause before eating more food or seconds to assess your body needs.

Take a time out from food to check your stress levels. Much of our usual holiday eating and drinking has everything to do with coping with stress. Move away from the food and spend some quality time with a friend — or walk around the block. Often, this is all it takes to realize that stuffing more food will make you feel worse rather than better.

Eat as well as you can as often as you can.

Adapted from "Eat Right Montana"

Northside food pantries work to satisfy increasing demand

By Emily Genco

Walking into the Bread of Life Food Pantry storage unit, cardboard boxes filled with dry goods pack the shelves. This abundance fails to reveal the difficulties some pantries have encountered to secure the items necessary to meet the increased need for donated food on the Northside.

"Recent food shortages have been tremendous," said Pastor Gerry Kuhnke of St. Paul Lutheran Church and one of the driving forces behind its food pantry Bread of Life.

Betsy Ezell, development director at The River Food Pantry, first noticed shortages in 2010, but in the last six months they have gotten worse. Items like cereal and peanut butter have been nearly "impossible" to obtain, Ezell said.

Dan Stein, President and CEO of Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin, recognizes the organization has been less successful obtaining certain items including fruit and meat this year, while they have had great success securing others like potatoes and onions.

"The drought this year really decimated the apple crop and the cherry crop, so we're not seeing donations in those products," Stein said.

Second Harvest distributes the food it receives to 300 partner agencies in 16 counties including Dane County. The amount of food it has distributed so far this year is up, Stein said.

Still pantries on the Northside like Bread of Life and The River must purchase food to fill the gap between accessible items and the amount required to supply their clients' needs.

The shortages have not been reflected in The River's food offerings, Ezell said. "As a food pantry we've been really fortunate to have the funds to purchase the wholesale food we need to meet the growing demand."

Bread of Life food pantry also purchases wholesale food to supplement supply. Kuhnke buys from the NBC 15 and Second Harvest "Share Your Holiday's" food drive.

The drive allows pantries like Bread of Life to order bulk food like meat, dairy and fruit through an online ordering system.

"You have to check [the site] literally 10 to 15 times a day, because when they put it on there it flies right off," Kuhnke said.

Such is the demand for food in Madison. Ezell and Kuhnke believe the economy



Photo by Emily Genco

Bread of Life Food Pantry feels the crunch of food shortages.

is a contributing factor to the food shortages. Companies are watching their bottom line and aren't donating as frequently, Kuhnke said.

Ezell agreed. "The price of food has gone up, so I think people are donating less. Businesses are tightening their budgets and getting wiser about how much food they order, so there's no excess."

Pastor Dean Kirst of Lakeview Luther-

an Church has not seen evidence of shortages at the Lakeview Food Pantry but has noted a growing demand for food. The Lakeview pantry serves between 20-27 households each Monday. Families who wish to visit the food pantry must put their name on a list.

"More often recently we have had to tell people that the list is full, and we cannot serve additional people," Kirst said.

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