

COMMUNITY

Northside author's first play performed

Forward Theater Company, Madison's premier theater, recently performed "Soul Food," a monologue festival about everyone's favorite subject — food. The company put out a call for submissions from playwrights across the country — out of which only 12 pieces were chosen. One of the pieces selected was The First Thanksgiving by Northside resident and Northside News contributor, Jim Carrier.

Jim has been published in the New York Times and the National Geographic and created multimedia projects for the Southern Poverty Law Center in Alabama. Although he has published extensively, this was his first performed play.



Photo by Trish O'Kane

Jim Carrier celebrates with actor, Sam White, and director, Lynda Sharpe after the opening night performance of Soul Food.

Inspiration for The First Thanksgiving

By Jim Carrier

In 2007, two years after losing everything in Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, my wife and I moved to Madison to start over. She began a PhD in environmental studies, and I resumed freelance writing and filmmaking. I also volunteered to cook at the River

Food Pantry, a mile from my house. I liked to cook, and this was a pleasant way to serve my neighborhood.

It wasn't until Thanksgiving 2007 that I really took notice of the people I was cooking for. That night at home, I jotted some notes about them. The notes became a diary that is now five years long. As it happens, my time at the pantry coincided with the Great Recession, which drove record numbers of people to our

doors. The diary, which is the basis of the monologue, is filled with recipes, profiles and questions about why the richest nation cannot feed its own.

My "Joy of Cooking," which my mother gave me when I left home 45 years ago, was the only book, out of thousands that survived Katrina. I dried it out page by page, and it remains in our kitchen, swollen, split and stained. The recipe index after "R" is rotted away.

Find the Farmers Market indoors December 2 and 16

The Northside Farmers Market continues to bring all kinds of people together, snow, rain or shine, at its indoor winter location in the Video Box Office, Northside TownCenter (corner of Northport Drive and North Sherman Avenue). Remaining markets are slated for Sunday, Dec. 2 and 16, from 10 am-1 pm. Unlimited parking is available in the Northside TownCenter parking lot next to Pierce's Northside Market.

At both the summer and winter versions of the market, neighbors meet and shoppers interact with their local farmers and artisans. Beautiful colors and enticing aromas of the fresh produce, fruit, meat, cheese, jarred preserves and baked goods assail the senses. The Farmers Market is a great place to enjoy a freshly cooked breakfast, stroll down the aisle to sample some delicious Cajun Pecan Praline candies and purchase the items you need for next week's menu. When you arrive at the other end, you can eat a tasty taco or a delicious tamale



Locally grown produce can be found at the Northside Indoor Farmers Market

from Rico Tacos for lunch.

To find out more about the Northside Farmers Market see their website www.northsidefarmersmarket.org or call (608) 217-5941.

Northside Calendar of Events

December 2012 and January 2013

Dec. 1, 8-11 am, NBA Breakfast with Santa, Kavanaugh's Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave.

Dec. 1, 10 am-1 pm Santa Claus comes to Pierce's Northside Market.

Dec. 2, 10 am-1 pm Northside Indoor Farmers Market at Northside Town-Center around the corner from Subway

Dec. 5-7, 9 am-3 pm St. Mary's Adult Day Health Center Holiday Bazaar, 2440 Atwood Ave.

Dec. 9, 5-7 pm Sunday Supper, Warner Park Community Recreation Center

Dec. 12, 6-7:30 pm Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation, "Financial Aid for your Collegeland Adventure" Hawthorne Library, Community Room, 2707 E. Washington Ave.

Dec. 16, 10 am-1 pm Northside Indoor Farmers Market at Northside Town-Center around the corner from Subway

Thursday, Jan. 24, 6 pm Warner Park Community Recreation Center Advisory Committee

Saturday, Jan. 26, 10 am The Friends of Cherokee Marsh member meeting Lakeview Branch Library, 2845 N. Sherman Ave.

Saturday, Jan. 26, 10:30-11:30 am Friends of Cherokee Marsh Wetland bird conservation in Wisconsin: From Avocets to Aythya and everything in between with wildlife biologist Andy Paulios at Lakeview Branch Library, 2845 N. Sherman Ave.

See page 22 for Library programs
See page 26 for Senior programs

Go to www.NorthsideMadison.org for more details, links and meeting information.



benvenutos.com

Madison
1849 Northport Dr.
608.241.1144

Eat Out to Help Out Fundraiser

Bread of Life Food Pantry
Tuesdays, Jan. 8 & 15

Northside Planning Council
Tuesdays, Jan. 22 & 29

Eat Out to Help Out Fundraiser

January Dining Out Tuesday

Help raise money for a cause

Eat out as a family, business, community group or with friends

It's Easy ...

- ✓ Pick a convenient time to eat out and help a good cause.
- ✓ Includes delivery and carryout orders.
- ✓ Mention this fundraiser to your server and 15% of all food and beverage sales* generated by supporters of your cause goes to the organization.

*Excludes tax, alcohol sales and gratuity

Holiday Parties and Gift Certificates

Free \$25 Gift Certificate

with each \$100 in gift certificates purchased
November 1st through New Year's Eve








vrv-madison.com

COMMUNITY

Northside community centers a part of creating educational opportunities

By Alyssa Kenney

COMETS is a collaborative program for elementary-aged students aimed at reducing the achievement gap.

Thanks to a three year, \$330,000 grant from the Madison Community Foundation, a collaboration of six community centers (Bridge Lake Point, East Madison, Goodman, Kennedy Heights, Lussier and Vera Court) are launching an exciting new STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program facilitated by the University of Wisconsin and Edgewood College. Creating Opportunity in Math, Engineering, Technology and Science (COMETS) will provide 400 unduplicated youth and 350 parents with 450 fun and engaging STEM sessions over the next three years. Two Northside community centers, Kennedy Heights Community Center and the Vera Court Community Center, are part of this exciting collaboration. The weekly COMETS club has already launched at six community centers and Kennedy Heights hosted the first event for parents on Nov. 8.

“Our children deserve all possible opportunities to help them be active learners, fulfilled individuals and successful



Photo submitted by Alyssa Kenney

Learning can be fun.

professionals. The COMETS program is such an opportunity. The Madison Community Foundation is proud to be a partner in this effort with the community center collaborative, UW-Madison and Edgewood College,” said Amy Overby, Vice President of Donor Relations.

In all of the efforts to address the achievement gap, the fact that we are working with children sometimes seems to get lost in the noise of curricula, standards and educational models. School programs are put under tremendous pressure to tutor, test and drill which can minimize the time available for the basic building block of learning, the joy of discovery. Research is showing that interest in a science, enjoyment of it and belief in one’s own ability are critical if children are going to pursue science-related education and careers. All you have to do is spend five minutes in a community center afterschool program, and you will be quickly reminded that learning can be fun.

The project aims to reduce the MMSD achievement gap of low income children and children of color. The six partnering centers will offer a consistent and significant dosage of fun and engaging science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programming to predominantly low-income children in second to fifth

grades. Program components include:

- University of Wisconsin ARMS volunteers will lead STEM clubs at each center,
- UW will provide center staff with intensive professional development opportunities and will create 50 science learning sessions and a science activity manual and videos for staff,
- expose children to the world of science, technology, engineering and math through regular STEM related field trips,
- engage parents by offering 12 parent activities organized by Edgewood College,
- organize a centerwide Science Symposium hosted at Edgewood College.

“This is a truly innovative and collaborative project. We are excited to be able to lead a program that is most certain to impact the interest and understanding in STEM related fields of so many young people in our Madison community,” said Shaheen Sutterwala, project coordinator and UW-Madison staff member.

Children invited to have breakfast with Santa December 1

By Lauri Lee
Northside News

Old St. Nick, Santa Claus that jolly old elf with the bushy white beard, will be spending some quality time with Northside children and their parents at the Northside Business Association’s (NBA) Tenth Annual Breakfast with Santa. Held Saturday, Dec. 1, from 8-11 am at the Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave., the event includes a pancake breakfast and benefits Northside food pantries.

The menu includes pancakes, sausage, bacon, ham, scrambled eggs, juice and coffee, all cooked and served by volunteer members of the NBA. Dining area hosts are from The River, Bread of Life and Lakeview Lutheran food pantries. A gift bag will be given to the first 300



Photos by Steve Nelson

Northside family enjoys breakfast together

children who attend. Guests may bring donations of non-perishable food items, paper or hygiene products to the event. These will be given to area food pantries and are greatly appreciated.

Over the past 10 years the NBA Break-



fast with Santa event has allowed the organization to donate \$20,000 and more than 600 pounds of food to area food pantries.

“Without a doubt this event provides a great deal of help to our area food pantries,” said event committee chairman Steve Nelson from DuWayne’s Salon.

“Perhaps just as important is the joy the breakfast brings to Northside chil-

dren. The smiles on their faces make it all worthwhile. The NBA is proud to be celebrating its 10th year as the organizers of Breakfast with Santa,” he added.

Breakfast with Santa tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children age 3-10. Children under age three are admitted free. Tickets can be purchased at AnchorBank, 2929 N. Sherman Ave., DuWayne’s Salon, 2114 N. Sherman Ave., The UPS Store, 1213 N. Sherman Ave. and The Esquire Club, 1025 N. Sherman Ave.

Sponsors for the event are still needed, Nelson said. Breakfast sponsor levels are available at \$500, \$300 and \$100 levels and help defray the cost of the breakfast so that more money can be donated to the food pantries. If you would like to help in any way, please contact Nelson at 241-0323.



BUY LOCAL

- Custom Printed & Embroidered Apparel
- Corporate Wearables, Team Uniforms
- Signs and Promotional Products

Call 242-2992

HIGH IMPACT APPAREL

Everything you need to promote your identity.

312 N. Third St., Madison, WI
www.highimpactmadison.com

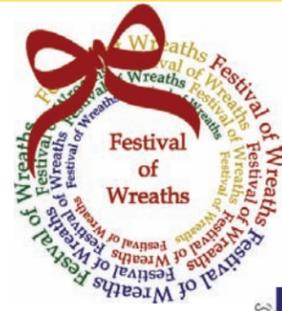


Think a small business needs a big ad agency to grow?
Think again. Think Arcus Design.

[Graphic Design for Print & Web]
Logos, Identity & Branding

Call for a *free consultation* and a *10% discount* on your next design project.

Jeffrey Affeldt | 608.658.2860
ArcusCommunicationDesign.com



Classic English Tea

Dec. 7 • 2:00 pm
\$16.00

String Quartet • 3 Courses

Reserve your spot before Dec. 3
608-266-6581

Madison Senior Center

330 W. Mifflin • Madison • 608-266-6581
www.MadisonSeniorCenter.org



Benvenuto's

ITALIAN GRILL

GREAT FOOD & LARGE PORTIONS!

- ☞ Full Carryout Menu
- ☞ ½ priced bottles of wine
- ☞ Daily Features
- ☞ Mondays & Tuesdays
- ☞ Lunch Prices
- ☞ Catering & Family Style Options
- ☞ Happy Hour Mon.-Fri. in bar, ½ priced appetizers
- ☞ Delivery Available

NEED SPACE FOR A LARGE GROUP?

- ☞ Holiday Parties, Baby & Wedding Showers, Rehearsal Dinners
- ☞ No Charge For Our Space ☞ Selected Menu Options

www.benvenutos.com

1849 Northport Drive 241-1144	2949 Triverton Pike Drive 278-7800	1109 Fourier Drive 826-0555
---	--	---------------------------------------

Gift Cards
Make Great
Holiday Gifts!

For every \$50 gift card purchased, receive a FREE \$10 lunch certificate. Offer expires 01/07/2013

Come, Eat & Enjoy

Open everyday 11 am-10 pm
Fri & Sat bar open until 11pm

Locally owned and operated

COMMUNITY

Berntsen International, Inc. leaves mark on the Northside

By Cindy Crane
Northside News

Phillip Peterson grew up on the Northside of Madison and, as an inventor and entrepreneur, did not stray far from his neighborhood. After he and Peter Berntsen invented the W-1-B magnetic aluminum survey monument, they co-founded Berntsen Cast Products which is now Berntsen International, Inc. located on Hanson Road on the east side of Highway 51. The W-1-B was the first modern geodetic monument that created an industry. Peter Berntsen's innovative monuments and manufacturing, combined with Phil Peterson's focus on the world market turned Berntsen into the world's first truly international maker of durable monuments. "Berntsen" is now a name recognized by land surveyors around the world.

This year Berntsen International, Inc. is celebrating its 40th year as the leading manufacturer and supplier of survey markers and monuments, utility marking products and related accessories. The company works with land surveyors and infrastructure specialists worldwide. Today, Berntsen's markers are used by many of the world's governments, and by infrastructure specialists everywhere as the underpinnings of GIS/LIS networks, transportation systems, boundary mapping, construction references, seismic monitoring networks and anywhere else stable position is required.

Peterson says most properties on the Northside have Berntsen monuments marking their boundaries. Berntsen International built its headquarters on Hanson Road in the midst of farmland in 1980. Many other businesses such as



Photo provided by Berntsen International, Inc.

Phillip Peterson, co-founder of Berntsen International, Inc., an international maker of durable monuments

FedEx, Hatch Building Supply, Great Big Pictures, Inc., the Wisconsin National Guard, Thermo King, Cascade Asset Management, Schoeps Ice Cream, a carpenter's union and several other enterprises have followed suit and now define the business development.

At age 88, Peterson goes to the office several hours every day still filled with a passion to mark the world's infrastructure. A family owned and operated business, his daughter, Rhonda Rushing, has been president since 1990. Rhonda is also the author of "Lasting Impressions, A Glimpse Into The Legacy of Surveying." For people interested in history, geography and land development, this is a photo-filled book of human interest stories from around the globe. The book can be ordered at www.berntsen.com.

FEED from front page

in area food pantries in the winter months. Thousands of pounds of these vegetables end up on compost piles every August and September when local gardeners donate them for distribution to pantries in quantities that can't be used in a timely manner.

The Dane County Public Health Department plans classes that complement their Farmers Market vouchers. Each class will shop at a market and then prepare their purchases in FEED's training kitchen, learning quick, fresh food preparation to increase seasonal vegetable consumption.

The River, the award-winning Northside food pantry, plans to operate a food business at FEED that will be a social en-

terprise to expand their ability to provide for the disadvantaged. Using curriculum similar to one developed at DC Central Kitchens, they'll train people in food service skills while they produce wholesale baked goods and provide commissary services to local businesses. Founder Jenny Czerkas said, "The FEED project is very important to us in 2013. We absolutely need a commercial kitchen site to follow through on our business plans and to begin to create employment opportunities for people who currently depend on food pantries and other programs to survive."

The most important aspect of FEED is its main purpose as a food business incubator. NPC began the project with an eye toward

encouraging small business development and job opportunities for Northsiders. Projections are that by its third year of operation, FEED will be turning a small profit. Those funds will support NPC's continuing work of improving our community for everyone who lives and works here.

Entrepreneurs are queuing up to start new food businesses. Others are counting the months until FEED Kitchens allows them to grow their businesses to the next level. Among them are an organic baby food maker, a caterer, a beekeeper and several bakers. Many farmers and producers who sell at the Northside Farmers Market will utilize FEED's processing team to turn excess produce into value-added products that increase their income and expand their season.

NPC is within \$110,000 of its fundraising goal for FEED. The FEED team has a lot of activities in the works to help raise the final amount needed to confidently start building and fund the first year's operation. You are encouraged to sign up on FEED's website, www.feedkitchens.org, to get news and specific info on all FEED events that are planned this winter. Check out an online auction in early December that will

offer lots of gift certificates to local businesses that would make terrific holiday gifts while helping build the FEED Kitchens. The team promises not to send a lot of email, just enough to keep you informed.

FEED is a true community project. Amounts contributed range from the \$500,000 City of Madison Community Development Block Grant to coins that were dropped into a donation jar by a middle-school student who loved that FEED will help reduce food waste. Donations and grants have come from foundations, businesses and individuals. NPC thanks everyone who has donated time, money and ideas.

Help NPC conclude its capital campaign by participating in one of the upcoming events or with a direct tax-deductible donation of any size. Facilitate the creation of the space and equipment that will allow all this good work to happen. Make a secure PayPal donation at the FEED website, or mail a check to Northside Planning Council, 2702 International Lane, Suite 203, Madison, WI 53704. Specify FEED Kitchen on your donation.

MADISON'S INDOOR FARMERS MARKET

10:00am - 1:00pm
DECEMBER 2 & 16

The Sunday Morning Meeting Spot

Northside TownCenter around the corner from Subway

Visit us online for recipes, news and more!

www.NorthsideFarmersMarket.org

We gladly accept EBT and WIC/Senior Produce Vouchures

We're making the holidays a little sweeter...

Enjoy a 30% savings on Home Décor and Custom Framing and receive a box of chocolates with your purchase.

*Maximum discount of \$30 per project/item.
Not applicable to items already on sale.
While supplies last. Offer expires 12.18.12

Silver Leaf
INTERIORS

301 N. Sherman Ave. Madison
www.silverleaf-inc.com
608.242.0707

Barr's

Home Repair and House Rentals

Painting/Cement Repairs/
Lawn Mowing/Snow Plowing

Steve

Home: (608) 249-5266
Fax: (608) 249-5266
Email: Barr's@Att.Net

COMMUNITY

From

CAPTAIN
CAM
McLAY

NORTH DISTRICT POLICE

Greetings from the North
Police District

The Madison Police Department is highly committed to working in partnership with community stakeholders to sustain and improve quality of life. This commitment necessitates that we continually examine our service delivery model and be willing to change how we do business.

A central focus of our community policing model is the manner in which we deliver more direct, localized policing services and our Neighborhood Police Officers (NPOs) are the backbone of those efforts. These NPOs are assigned to specific, high-needs neighborhoods and work very closely with community stakeholders as their primary job function. They are free from routine dispatched calls and are highly proactive in their efforts to build community in their neighborhoods. At times, district commanders are authorized to create temporary neighborhood positions to help neighborhoods in crisis.

We recognize that, in order to develop trusting relationships, regular interpersonal interaction is required. Our neighborhood officer positions are our best opportunities for such engagement. Our Community Policing Team members also assist with such efforts. This team has much larger areas of re-

sponsibility and more collateral duties like traffic enforcement, drug enforcement and assisting with major citywide events, all of which keep them from having as much time for engagement as neighborhood officers.

The North District presently has a full-time neighborhood officer for Northport/Packers and a temporary neighborhood officer for Vera Court, but we recognize our needs for neighborhood officer style engagement exists beyond these two areas. Given the level of poverty and concentration of high-density, low income housing in this area, we believe the Northport area features challenges and opportunities for improving our service delivery. NPO Adler has been working with the Brentwood Neighborhood Resource Team and city officials, hoping to develop a more effective way to deliver community services to the Northport corridor. Our goal is to work more directly with community service providers to streamline service delivery and to prevent at-risk individuals from falling through the cracks. This effort is still in the formative stages, but represents my strong belief that we must continually examine how we do business, and be willing to make adjustments when the need to change is indicated.

The North District will continue to explore opportunities for collaboration with other service providers as a means to help stabilize neighborhoods and make the most of the limited personnel resources we have available. We will also continue to urge resident stakeholder engagement, knowing that police and government service providers alone cannot sustain or change neighborhood communities alone.

Take care and be safe ...

Legacy Gardens free home visit
service for seniors expanding

At this time of year when seniors are emotionally vulnerable and at greater risk of depression, a free service is expanding to assist them. The Home Visit Program initiative by senior care professionals at Legacy Gardens designed to check on the well-being of older people throughout the region is being expanded.

The public is invited to take advantage of the Home Visit Program by calling Legacy Gardens at 249-5558 to request a visit to a local senior. Since being launched in 2009, the initiative operated primarily through referrals from agencies and emergency services providers.

"Just in the past year, we have conducted 100 home visits, so we know the need is great," said Lisa Ford, executive director of Legacy Gardens.

Through the Home Visit Program, family members can arrange for a Legacy Gardens expert to go to the home of an elderly loved one to see if he or she is doing well physically and psychologically. If appropriate, a nurse conducts an evaluation to help identify care needs. Emeritus then connects the senior and family with the proper resources and services to provide assistance.

"We may bring a hot meal, snack or

dessert, and we also offer a listening ear and companionship," said Ford. "If needed, we coordinate between families and community resources and may also follow up with additional visits. All of what we do through the Home Visit Program is complimentary."

"Most seniors know little about depression and they are unlikely to seek professional help for it," Ford said. "Still, depression can cause them to eat less, turn to alcohol, stop taking care of their daily needs and even consider suicide. Knowing this, we felt it would be very important to expand the Home Visit Program during this season."

Offering the Home Visit Program as a free service to the public reflects a central philosophy at Legacy Gardens, Ford said.

"We are committed to the principle of 'safely somewhere,' which means that we do what we can to ensure that each senior in the area is residing in a safe environment that meets his or her needs, whether it is in the home or in a senior living setting.

Legacy Gardens is located at 1601 Wheeler Rd. and is operated by Emeritus Senior Living. It offers assisted living and provides care for those with Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.



Like us on Facebook!
northsidemadison.org

responsibleenergy



how can you turn this down?

It's that time of year for a simply irresistible energy-saving opportunity. By setting back your thermostat just 1° Fahrenheit, you could save \$25 per heating season. Bigger setbacks save even more. If we all set back just 1° Fahrenheit this winter, we could save enough gas for 3,100 homes. To find out how much you can save with larger setbacks, visit mge.com/setback and use the calculator.

mge
your community energy company

GS1339 10/30/2012

Re-elect District 18 Alder Anita Weier in 2013!

She's on your side, for the Northside



Anita helps clean up litter from Cherokee Marsh during Take a Stake in the Lakes Days.

Anita has fought for:

- Increased Neighborhood Safety
- Enhanced Environmental Protections
- Improved Economic Opportunity

Anita provides a ready ear and strong voice for the Northside.

She can be reached at (608) 320-5820 or district18@cityofmadison.com

Her Website is anita4northside.com; campaign e-mail is anita4northside@gmail.com

Anita has early endorsements from: Madison City Council President Shiva Bidar-Sielaff, Council President Pro Tem Chris Schmidt, and Alders Lauren Cnare, Paul Skidmore, Larry Palm, Lisa Subeck, Sue Ellingson, Matt Phair, Scott Resnick, Tim Bruer, Brian Solomon and Mike Vermeer. She is also endorsed by Dane County Board Members Melissa Sargent, Paul Rusk, Diane Hesselbein, Sharon Corrigan, Matt Veldran, Jeff Pertl and Tim Zweifel. State legislators endorsing Anita are: Senators Mark Miller and Jon Erpenbach; and Representatives Kelda Helen Roys, Terese Berceau, Chris Taylor, Gary Hebl and Sondy Pope-Roberts. Former officials who endorse Anita include: Kathleen Falk, Dorothy Wheeler, Spencer Black and Elaine DeSmidt.

"Anita is an active, engaged member of the Northside. She is a dedicated hard worker who listens and acts in the best interest of her neighbors. I am proud to support the re-election of Alder Weier."

— District 18 County Board Member and 48th District Assembly Rep. **Melissa Sargent**

"Anita Weier is a diligent and dedicated alder, and we are lucky to have her in our corner of the city."

— **Kimberly Hazen, chair, Northside Neighbors greenspace protection committee**

Authorized and paid for by Friends of Anita Weier, Belinda Genda treasurer

COMMUNITY

Coming home for Christmas

By Pastor Suni Caylor
Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church

There's a special feeling about coming home to church at the holidays, the lights, the candles, maybe a tree with symbols of Christmas on it. There's a richness of tradition in the air, warmth in the colors and songs that are only sung at this special time of year. And other faiths, synagogue, temple and mosque, have traditions that make this time of year feel especially like home, too. Maybe it's the childhood memories that make a church feel so special, maybe it's the memories of our own children, but a church feels so welcoming, so reassuring in the holiday time.

In the Christian tradition, Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas. Advent, the approach of something anticipated, is when the traditional songs and colors and foods that we associate with Christmas begin. This year the first Sunday of Advent is Dec. 2, time enough for the Thanksgiving turkey to have worn off and to get ready for cookies and sugar plums. At Sherman

Avenue United Methodist Church, we light the first candle of the Advent wreath, the candle of Hope, remembering all those who waited for the coming of the Messiah. The second candle, the candle of Preparation, reminds us to get ready for God's greatest gift. The third candle, the candle of Light, reminds us that that darkness cannot exist if even the smallest light has entered it. The fourth candle is the candle of Love, or, the Mary candle, our opportunity to thank God for the love and trust of Mary who birthed the Christ Child in the cold and dark of a stable. And the fifth candle, the one in the middle of the wreath, is lighted on Christmas Eve. This taller white candle, recalls to us that Christ was born, only a baby, to fulfill all the prophecies, dispel the darkness of fear and tyranny, and with his love renew our lives now and give us the wholeness of life forever.

We light our Advent candles near the altar to begin each Sunday service. We have a Christmas tree outside the altar rail to remind us that all God's creation awaited the

baby. And we have cookies, coffee, tea and punch after the service because sweet treats are a tradition, too. All this happens at 9:30 am Sunday morning, and what a pleasure it is. Then you could come to Sunday School at 10:45 am, you or you and your children and grandchildren, and at 11:30 am you could come back to the sanctuary for a worship service done mostly in Hmong — yes, we are a church of two worship languages and people from five different countries. Everything about our little church is a blessing, starting with its people.

Whatever your tradition is, church is a home for the holidays. It is welcoming, comforting, satisfying and safe, a real home no matter where you have been or what you've experienced in the world. Christmas could be a wholly new holiday this year, just because you went home to church. I hope you will. I hope you will find every hope of your heart met as the candles are lighted and the songs are sung and that the memories you create will keep you warm all yearlong.

Carmen Porco from page 1

released about him and his lifelong dedicated work. Executive producer Chuck Taylor of ROAR Enterprises, Inc., premiered the "Journey of Hope – A New Model for Urban Housing," at the Sundance Theater recently. Porco referred to the communities in the housing he has managed as "beloved community." The phrase, based both in Christian scripture and the teachings of Martin Luther King, Jr., echoed throughout the documentary.

Part of what NPC shared about Porco

at the North Star Awards event included the following:

"Over the past 38 years Carmen has developed an innovative management system that creates a new way to think of low-income housing and community. The model shatters stereotypes surrounding low-income communities and what they are capable of.

The model he developed goes beyond housing and provides an integrated holistic human service delivery system. In each community center, services and programs

are focused on serving others to serve themselves. The focus is on education; these are communities of dedicated learners who have taken control of their destinies and achieved, not because they have been led to success or taught how to succeed, but because they were able to access the resources they needed to achieve what they had always been capable of. The success of each individual leads those around him or her to reach for their own ambitions. Porco continues to work with his staff to innovate and develop new partnerships to strengthen the resources offered at each of the community centers.

The principles and values that Porco has developed and implemented in the Northport and Packers communities stand to make change on a much broader scale. The model has been replicated in other communities both nationwide and internationally. Porco has lectured at Oxford and been invited to present at conferences around the nation and the world; the centers and both he and the centers' resident leaders have received awards from community, statewide and federal groups.

But of all these honors and recognitions, the ones 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."

Congratulations, Carmen and thank you for all you have done for the Northside and beyond.

Sports for Active Seniors

By Yvonne Sorge

Sports for Active Seniors is gearing up for winter activities which will include snow shoeing, cross country skiing, a trip to the Upper Peninsula to downhill ski, ice skating (indoor at the Eagles Nest in Verona), bowling at Ten Pin Alley in Verona, pickle ball at the Salvation Army gym and Turner Hall on the Eastside and also volleyball at Turner Hall.

There will be a winter walk and potluck in December and a bike planning Super Bowl party in early February.

For further information, please contact membership chairman Sarah at 575-9658. A complimentary copy of the monthly newsletter can be requested from Yvonne at yvonnesor@gmail.com or 221-3926.

St. Mary's Adult Day Health Center to hold holiday bazaar

By Jim Penczykowski

It's the most wonderful time of year again — time for trimming the tree, stuffing the stockings and enjoying the tastes of the holiday season. That also means it's time for the much-anticipated St. Mary's Adult Day Health Center annual Holiday Bazaar.

Imagine handmade quilts and other irresistible hand-crafted gift items all under one roof. What a great way to find something unique for someone special on your holiday gift giving list.

What: St. Mary's Adult Day Health Center Holiday Bazaar

When: Dec. 5-7
9 am-3 pm

Where: St. Mary's Adult Day Health Center
2440 Atwood Ave.

(Go to the rear entrance to St. Bernard's Parish Center building)

Questions?

Call 249-4450
for more information.

GROWING IN OUR FAITH
MADISON COMMUNITY
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Illustration
Todd Starks © 2008

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

December 15 at 11am
Love's Pure Light - Christmas Cantata
All visitors are invited for an International Vegetarian Dinner following the Cantata

December 22 at 11am
A Christmas Message: What if Jesus had never been Born?
A Christmas gift for all visitors - don't miss it

Coming Event in February of 2013:
"Building an Effective Family in a Defective World"
- A Marriage & Family Life Seminar for all people.

Join us at Madison Community Church at 11 a.m.
1926 Elka Lane, Madison, WI Phone: 249-2080

SEVENTH-DAY
ADVENTIST
CHURCH

WWW.MADISONCOMMUNITYSDA.ORG

Westmont Law Offices, S.C.
General Practice Law Firm

An injustice anywhere is an injustice everywhere

608.244.9494

1837 Aberg Ave. • Madison
westmont@westmontlaw.net

Kelly's
Studio

Call for an appointment today!
608.246.4027
608.628.4590

Specializing in hair design for the individual. Texture, color and movement to fit your personality, lifestyle and facial features.

Offering **Presage Cutting System**
Revolutionary new shear technology creates texture, volume, energy movement and curl without perm solutions or any chemicals.

5321 Arapahoe Lane • Madison, WI

COMMUNITY

VSA Wisconsin opens Gallery gift shop

By Kathie Wagner

Looking for a unique holiday gift that also supports artists with disabilities and a local non-profit? The VSA Wisconsin Gallery gift shop is stocked with a variety of items including hand-carved duck decoys, tote bags, silk scarves, t-shirts and more. All items feature designs created by artists with disabilities and proceeds from the sale of these items will be used to support a variety of arts programs conducted by VSA Wisconsin.

Among the items for sale are Boonducks decoys which whimsically take flight as Wingdings (Canvasback), Ol' Coots (Mudhen) and Quacker Jacks (Mallard). Created by VSA Wisconsin-award winning artist D.S. Sully, each decoy is hand-carved out of barn timbers, fence posts, pier pilings and other weathered wood using antique rasps, rifflers, chisels, saws and other hand tools. Each duck pur-



Photo submitted by Kathie Wagner

chased will be accompanied by a complimentary copy of Sully's book "Glimpse — A Telling Tattle," which documents his gradual vision loss as a result of early onset macular degeneration.

The gift shop is open Monday–Thursday from 10 am–2 pm or by appointment. For more information go to www.vsawis.org/exhibitions_sales/art_for_sale/index.shtml.

Out and About the Northside



The River Harvest Dinner fundraiser Oct. 14 was attended by over 200 people to help the needy. Shown from l-r, Rachel Spreckels, Jim Costanzo and Samantha Annenn from Summit Credit Union in Westport.

NPC Executive Director, Cindy Crane recently gave Ma Ming and Zhang Xiaowen, delegates from the Chinese government in Shanghai, a tour of the Northside.



Girl Scout troops helped stuff food pantry bags for the holiday at Pierce's Northside Market.

VSA Call for Art

VSA Wisconsin, the state organization on arts and disability, is accepting submissions for the annual Call for Art. Wisconsin residents with disabilities, ages 5 and above are eligible and may submit up to two works. The deadline for submissions is Feb. 4, 2013. Guidelines and submission form can be found at http://vsawis.org/exhibitions_sales/call_for_art/cfabro-

[churewebversion.pdf](http://vsawis.org/exhibitions_sales/call_for_art/cfabro-churewebversion.pdf). Submissions will be reviewed by a jury of arts professionals who looked for creativity, originality and craftsmanship. The top 10 selections will be added to Creative Power: VSA Wisconsin's Traveling Exhibition. Work from all artists who submit to the 2013 Call for Art will be on view from March 16 through April 10 at the VSA Wisconsin Gallery in Madison.

Warm the hands and the heart gift idea

By Meredith Evans and Betsy Ezell

We all know how cold Wisconsin winters can be. With a pair of ReMitt mittens, you can have warm hands and a warm heart, knowing that your purchase is feeding hungry families. If you haven't heard of the ReMitt Project, this is the perfect time of year to learn more.

ReMitts are hand-crafted by a dedicated group of volunteers, some of whom have been doing this for years to benefit local food pantries over the holidays. The women take used wool sweaters, felt them, and then craft them into stunning wool mittens.

ReMitts cost \$30 a pair and can be found at a number of local businesses, with 100 percent of the proceeds going to The River Food Pantry. Each mitten sale will provide \$300 worth of food to a family in need.



Photo by Jenny Czerkas

The designs of these mittens come straight from the sweater they were recycled from, but the details the women add make them unique. The designs vary from

retro and vintage to classic and simple. They also make a specialty "Badger Pride" mitten made of recycled red and black sweaters with a real Wisconsin "W." The mittens make perfect gifts for the holidays, as they are practical, beautiful and help a great cause.

Here are locations on Madison's Northside where you can purchase ReMitts:

- The River Food Pantry**
2201 Darwin Rd.
- Savidusky's Fur and Leather**
1191 N. Sherman Ave.
- Coffee Gallerie**
1865 Northport Dr.
- DuWayne's Salon**
2114 N. Sherman Ave.
- The UPS Store at NorthGate**
1213 N. Sherman Ave.

COOK, SERVE, GIVE!

5% of Cookware and Houseware purchases thru December will be donated to the

Luke House Community Meal Program

To Feed Others in Need

ACE Hardware Center
1398 Williamson St. 257-1630
acewilly@tds.net

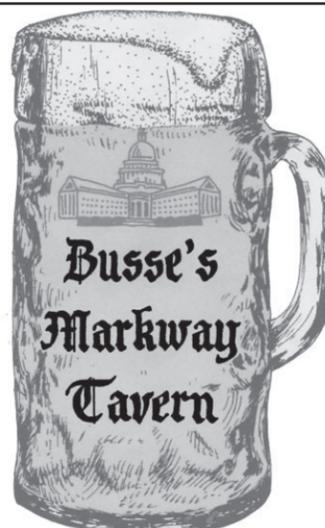
Focus on Your Future with innovative banking



Bank in person at any of our locations, or stop by online. With mobile banking, Home is as close as your phone.



Member FDIC 282.6000 home-savings.com



"Northside home of the Chuck Norris"

Friendliest little neighborhood bar on the Northside
2005 N. Sherman Ave.



Santa Claus is coming!



Saturday, Dec. 1
10 am–1 pm

Fun for Kids

Guessing & Coloring Contest
Holiday Cookie Decorating

5% Discount for first 100 attendees

The first 100 attendees receive a specially marked Pierce's reusable bag. Customers receiving this bag receive a 5% discount on all items that fit in the bag (excludes alcohol, tobacco, lottery, gift cards & money grams).

Pierce's Northside Market
2817 N. Sherman Ave.
Madison, WI 53704
249-9744