

NORTHSIDE NEWS

Vol. 18, No. 2, Issue 104

www.NorthsideMadison.org

October / November 2012

North Star Awards celebrates Northsiders



10th Annual North Star Awards to be held November 2

As the Northside Planning Council looks forward to its 20th anniversary in 2013, plans are underway for the 10th Annual North Star Awards celebration in 2012. Mark your calendars for this year's celebration at Warner Park Community Center from 6-8 pm.

NPC sponsors North Star Awards every year to honor our local heroes who have been nominated by their fellow Northsiders for contributions to our community. Individuals, businesses, nonprofits, schools, neighborhoods and faith-based organizations can be nominated for this prestigious award.

This year's emcee will be Rebecca Ryan. Rebecca is a Northsider who is a consultant at Next Generation Consulting and nationally known speaker. "She is one part economist, one part futurist, and one part humorist" (next-generationconsulting.com).

Along with recognizing specific award recipients, we celebrate one another. We invite you to come and see familiar faces and to meet new people over delicious hors d'ouevres. There will also be a cash bar and entertainment.

Refreshments and conversation will start at 6 pm, with the program starting at 6:30 pm, and concluding by 8 pm. Please join us — network and get to know your neighbors as we honor some of the Northsiders who have shown a passion for improving life in our part of town.

This event is also a major fundraiser for NPC. Funds we receive assist our organization in acting as the key Northside communicator, especially via Northside News, and working in the areas of community organizing and economic development.

Still time to nominate and donate

If you have been reflecting on a great candidate for a North Star award but haven't submitted a form yet please check with us at the phone number or email below.

Also it's not too late to be a sponsor! If you are interested in donating or helping with the event, please contact Cindy Crane or Lauri Lee (ASAP to be included in the event materials) at 661-0060. Or, go to our website www.northsidemadison.org.

Northside youth hit the jackpot this summer with three new playgrounds



Kennedy Heights playground, one of three new playgrounds on Madison's Northside

Evidence of how volunteers make the Northside a better place for everyone is a trio of brand new playgrounds — giving families and children great new options for outdoor recreation.

In addition to the unique natural play-

ground (see accompanying story, page 13) at Kennedy Heights, new playgrounds were installed at Gompers Elementary School and in the Cherokee Park neighborhood.

The Growing Together Initiative of Black Hawk and Gompers schools realized Phase

Two of its mission to create an interactive outdoor space that will cultivate community relationships. Funded with grants from Snapple/Kaboom! and UW Health/Unity, help from MMSD and the Madison Foundation for Public Schools, and donations from individuals and local businesses, the structure dramatically improves outdated equipment at Gompers.

Working with the City, the Cherokee Park Neighborhood Association spearheaded an exciting new playground at Cherokee Park, 1000 Burning Wood Way. A matching grant of \$10,000 from Dennis Tiziani and Golf Affect helped get the project going and residents were pleased to welcome kids to the new installation at their 4th of July picnic.

From major donors to those who gave a couple hours of physical help installing equipment, hundreds of volunteers made these play places realities. Thanks to all who helped.

For more on the Kennedy Heights playground, see page 13

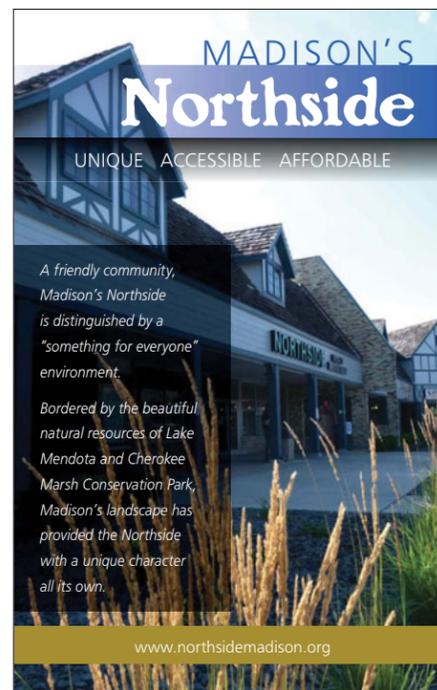
Northside Economic Development Coalition tout Northside assets

By Northside Economic Development Coalition

The Madison commercial development and real estate community was introduced to many business investment opportunities available on the Northside at the first annual Northside Economic Development Coalition (NEDC) Commercial Development event held on Monday, Sept. 10 at the new Ale Asylum brewery. With almost 40 attendees, the event was very successful. The conference introduced and/or highlighted the vibrant development and redevelopment occurring on the Northside. Another objective was to introduce this community to other properties available for development and redevelopment on the Northside.

Established in 2011, the NEDC has taken a lead role for business growth and development on the Northside of Madison. Convened by the Northside Planning Council (NPC), the members include the Northside Business Association and Northside business leaders. The group shares in the mission of guiding economic growth and implementing economic betterment strategies for the Northside community.

Otto and Hathaway Dilba, founders, were gracious hosts to the event, the first to be held at the new home of the Ale



New Northside brochure

Asylum brewery. Dean Coffey, founder and brewmaster, treated the group to a tour of the 46,000 square foot, 10,500 barrel facility. It is located at 2102 Pankratz (the corner of International Lane and Packers Avenue) and opened to the public in late September.

Much of the new Northside development has occurred in the airport corridor, on Pankratz Street and Anderson Road. The largest of the developments, of course, are the four new investments at Madison College. Others include the new home of Lakeland College and the new, expanded home of Ale Asylum. Other new development is UW Credit Union and Advance Auto Parts on North-

port Drive. We can expect to hear more about the Independent Living development in the next few months.

The presentation included a new video highlighting the assets of and the reason for locating on the Northside. A complementary brochure was also produced. These can be found on www.Northside-Madison.org.

The EDC was fortunate to have time and resources donated to complete the video, brochure and event. The video was completed with the help of donated resources of Madison Media Institute (MMI). Student Louie Pobjecky invested countless hours into the video recording and editing. The narration was provided by MMI instructor and longtime Northsider, Nancy Stillwell. The brochure

NEDC cont. on page 5

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WHEELER ROAD RETENTION PONDS PROJECT

Fall completion planned..... 6

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NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

From
CINDY CRANE

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



“The Northside really has a lot going on.” At least three people living in other parts of the city have said that in so many words to me within the last month. What a difference it makes when communities organize to pay attention to their neighborhoods, the environment, education and economic development. One way to pay attention is through celebration.

As I help to prepare for the North Star Awards with dedicated volunteers and

staff, I recognize the opportunity we have at this time of year to reflect on what is happening in our part of Madison. People who have helped community centers, influenced business growth and economic development, improved the environment and cared for the earth, bettered education, provided food for people in need and worked in the areas of advocacy demonstrate a handful of types of community leaders NPC has recognized. Whether individuals are very well known or working quietly in the background, we are interested in them and the impact of their efforts.

Celebrating new heroes each year we see through a new lens what and who make up the Northside. The word around town is we have “a lot going on.”

NPC welcomes new board members

By Sue Gleason

Felicia Butler and Travis Currier are the newest members of the Board of Directors of the Northside Planning Council. Felicia is raising two girls and a boy on the Northside and is interested in youth opportunities. She has already been involved in several youth planning meetings and is part of a group working to start a youth council. Travis has three girls that attend Mendota Elementary School and is interested in helping to support Northside neighborhoods and other Northside issues. Fellow NPC Board members welcome Felicia and Travis to the board and



Sitting L-R: Felicia Butler, Sue Gleason, Standing L-R: Terrie Anderson, Kevin White, Joshua Morrill, Travis Currier, Nikki Moriarity

continue to look for other Northsiders interested in bringing ideas and energy to help make the Northside better!

Economic Development Partners



NPC MISSION

COMMUNITY-PEOPLE-BUSINESS

The Northside Planning Council reaffirms its mission to improve the quality of life for all residents of the Northside and to enhance opportunities for businesses. NPC's priorities for 2012 are:

- COMMUNITY** — Communication and Connections within the Northside
- Support and enhance communication on the Northside
 - Serve as a key convener of Northside events
 - Engage with the community to understand the overall needs of the Northside

PEOPLE - Individuals and Families

- Facilitate awareness of and access to services
- Partner with others to identify service needs
- Foster development of additional support services for individuals and families in need

BUSINESS - Economic Success and Growth for The Northside

- Promote the Northside as a great place to live, work, play, start or grow a business
- Support existing businesses
- Encourage and support new investments

Northside Planning Council

Board of Directors

Sue Gleason
Chair

Liaison to: Lake View Hill, Friends of Lake View Hill Park

Joshua Morrill
Treasurer

Liaison to: Sheridan Triangle, Mendota Hills, North/Eastside Senior Coalition

Terrie Anderson

Liaison to: Community GroundWorks, Troy Gardens Community Co-Housing, Friends of Cherokee Marsh

Kevin White
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Liaison to: Cherokee Townhouses, Cherokee II Condos, Cherokee Garden, Vera Court Neighborhood Center

Nikki Moriarity
Secretary

Liaison to: East Bluff, Northport Apartments, WPCRC

Felicia Butler

Liaison to: Northside Youth

Travis Currier

Liaison to: Neighborhoods for community events



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Northside Planning Council
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NORTHSIDE NEWS

From
LAURI LEE
 Editor@NorthsideNews.org
 661-0060 Ext. 3
EDITOR



“Volunteering is an act of heroism on a grand scale. And it matters profoundly. It does more than help people beat the odds; it changes the odds.”

— Bill Clinton

It takes everyone working together to make a difference in our community

The theme of this edition of the Northside News focuses on nonprofits. We want to recognize the importance of the work they do and their role in the community. Nonprofits are an important part of the fabric of the Northside. What would we do without them? These organizations help youth and seniors, improve the lives of those with disabilities and feed the hungry. They help to raise money for a new pool, protect the environment or represent other worthy projects. And the list goes on.

The Northside has an incredible symbiotic relationship between the business community, non-profits and residents. Northside pride is evident in the supportive environment where everyone comes together to help each other.

Nonprofit organizations are critical to the health of communities. According

to 2010 national data from the Corporation for National and Community Service, 62.7 million volunteers generated volunteer activity of 8.1 billion hours of service to produce an estimated value of \$173 billion. Though many people are not aware of it, the nonprofit community is an enormous contributor to the American economy. It provides 5.5 percent of the nation’s entire GDP (gross domestic product) or \$751 billion worth of output. It is estimated that over 65 percent households give to charitable causes or volunteer.

The Northside Planning Council (NPC) takes the opportunity to recognize and honor volunteers at our annual North Star event, being held this year on Friday, Nov. 2. Nominated by their fellow Northsiders, 10 volunteers are recognized in a special ceremony. Please be sure to nominate a volunteer before Oct. 3. You’ll find a nomination form at www.NorthsideMadison.org. The event is free and open to the public, so please consider coming to celebrate the Northside and the impact that volunteers have on our community.

I hope our articles will give you a glimpse into the kinds of services non-profits provide, how volunteering benefits both the volunteer and those receiving their aid and how these organizations interface with the business and private sectors of our community. This kind of mutually helpful atmosphere is what our community is built upon, people working together — some of them paid, many of them volunteers — all of them united in the task of trying to make a difference, all of us trying to make our community a better place.

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www.northsidenews.org

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December 2012 / January 2013 Northside News

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BUSINESS

A nonprofit profile

Northside Business Association

The Northside Business Association (NBA), a nonprofit business organization, has been committed for the past 20 years to enhancing life on the Northside of Madison. Organized to provide networking for those who own or manage businesses and nonprofit organizations, they provide speakers on business topics at their monthly meetings. They meet on the academic year calendar on Tuesday or Thursday nights at Kavanaugh's Esquire Club.

One way the NBA works to achieve the goal of enhancing the quality of living on the Northside is to give to those who are less fortunate and to contribute to schools and other community projects.

Since 2005, the NBA has raised almost \$20,000 and collected 1,600 pounds of food for the Northside food pantries. This was accomplished through sponsorship of Breakfast with Santa and with Breakfast with the Bunny, an event added in 2012 to further provide for the great need.

The NBA was a leader in creating and paying for the "Welcome to the Northside" signs. When Sherman Middle School needed a new flag pole, the NBA helped to make this possible. The organization also contributed to the East Madison Little League with funds and signage.

Funds for the expansion of the Lakeview Branch Library and for building the Warner Park Community Center were early projects the NBA.



Breakfast with Santa, an annual fundraising event to benefit local food pantries, will be held on Saturday, Dec. 1 at Kavanaugh's Esquire Club.

The NBA continues to encourage, promote and support the continued growth and development of existing and new businesses on Madison's Northside. It serves as an member of the Northside Economic Development Coalition. This helps to further the mission to ensure that future development is well planned, of high quality and provides a balance of commercial, residential and industrial opportunities that enhances the quality of life for all businesses and residents of the Northside.



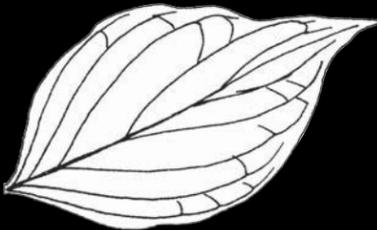
Photo provided by Heritage Credit Union

Heritage Credit Union held school supply drive for Sherman Middle School

Heritage Credit Union is happy to share the success of the annual school supply drive for Sherman Middle School. Heritage partnered with Sherman nine years ago and has been providing support in various ways. Most recently Heritage asked the community

and members of the credit union to donate backpacks, notebooks, scissors, folders, markers, pencils, erasers, rulers and calculators for the students of Sherman. The supplies were dropped off at Heritage's Northside branch, 2555 Shopko Drive, Madison.

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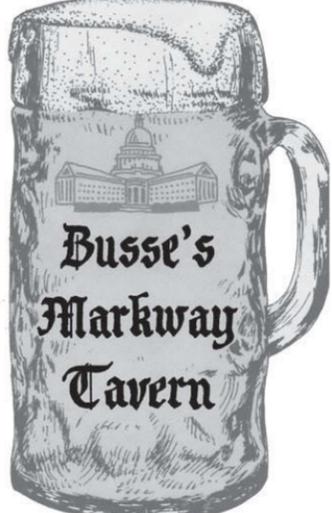
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BUSINESS

Summit Credit Union names new Assistant Manager at Westport and Waunakee



Rachel Spreckels

Rachel Spreckels has joined Summit Credit Union's Waunakee and Westport branches, located respectively at 304 E. Main St. in Waunakee and 5419 Blue Bill Park Dr. in Madison, as assistant branch manager.

Prior to her move to the Waunakee and Westport branches, Spreckels held the same position for two years at Summit's Yellowstone and CUNA branches in Madison. Before joining Summit, she was branch manager at Amcore/Harris Bank Lodi, Wis.

Spreckels is completing her associate degree in supervisory management at MATC and is an alumna of Baraboo Senior High School. She lives in Baraboo with her daughter, Teagan.

Established in 1935, Summit Credit Union is a member-owned financial cooperative open to anyone in Wisconsin. For more information, visit www.summitcreditunion.com or call (608) 243-5000 or (800) 236-5560.

New Capitol Petro opens on North Sherman Avenue

By Lauri Lee
Northside News



Farooq Shahzad of Capitol Petroleum

A new state-of-the-art convenience store and gas station, Capitol Petro Mart North opened for business at 1101 N. Sherman Ave. at the end of August. The shiny new, sparkling clean facility is the latest addition in a chain of 10 stores in the Madison area.

"I love people and started working with them when I arrived in the USA, the land of opportunities," said Farooq Shahzad, owner of Capitol Petro (CP). "I worked hard, tried my luck and now our locally owned, locally operated company, Capitol Petroleum LLC is growing. We have 10-plus locations under the umbrella of Capitol Petro Mart chain, which includes CP Marts, British Petroleum (BP) and Mobil."

"Our company is an example of a locally owned, locally grown and locally operated phenomenon. We have grown here in the city of Madison, having experience with all the colorful weathers of this charming city and obviously removing the snow too," said Shahzad.

CP works hard to provide excellent customer service to their valued neighbors and clients, he added. In a few months, the Northside location will include a restaurant featuring Middle Eastern cuisine



The new Capitol Petro Mart on North Sherman Avenue opened in August.

and an ice cream parlor.

"Business is very delicate these days," Shahzad said, "the company focuses on training of store associates with the idea that every customer should be happy."

Planned expansion in the Madison

area includes a project at Rimrock Road, which will be under construction by the end of 2012 and opened as CP Mart South. For more information about CP Mart, BP and Exxon Mobil, visit <http://capitolpetroleumllc.com>.

NEDC from page 1

was a joint effort of NEDC members: Lauri Lee, editor, the Northside News, Jeff Affeldt, Arcus Communication Design and Margo Dixon, The UPS Store at NorthGate. Kevin White of Vierbicher Associates and an NPC board member, created several maps showing Northside development and redevelopment areas. Madison Gas and Electric has donated printing services.

This event was successful in introducing and re-introducing what the North-

side has to offer to new developers and possible employers. Watch for much more exciting news about other developments on the Northside.

The event, and the NEDC projects of the Northside Planning Council (NPC) are a part of the NPC's mission to promote the Northside as a great place to live, work and locate or grow a business. The NEDC will continue to meet with the objective of generating new development on the Northside and enhancing life in the community over the long-term.

We love the Northside!



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COMMUNITY

Wheeler Road retention ponds project to be completed this fall

By Jan Axelson

For many Northsiders, it's been hard to miss the clamor of construction activity going on north of Wheeler Road between Comanche Way and School Road. The City of Madison's Engineering Division, in cooperation with the Parks Division, is supervising the creation of two ponds and the restoration of an open oak woods on the land. The project will also extend Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park's trail system into the area.

The need for the ponds dates back to the 1950s and 1960s when two large ditches were cut to carry stormwater from neighborhood streets to the upper Yahara River. The stormwater brings with it sand, salt,

leaves, grass clippings and whatever else gets picked up along the way. For years, the ditches have dumped their loads directly into a canal that feeds into the Yahara River, which in turn flows into Lake Mendota.

The new ponds will capture the sediments and other pollution before it reaches the river. To maintain the ponds, the City will remove the collected sediments about every 10 years.

The opportunity to put in the ponds arose when the City bought the property from former owner Cherokee Park, Inc. in 2009. The Common Council approved the project in June 2012. The ponds will help bring Madison into compliance with its stormwater management permit from the

Department of Natural Resources.

In the shallows of the ponds, Parks will plant bulrushes, arrowroot and other wetland plants. The edges will be ringed with native prairie plants and shrubs.

A grove of mature white oaks will remain on the site. Cottonwood and ash trees and invasive shrubs are being removed to free the oaks and restore a more open landscape of flowers and grasses. The area may look rough during construction, but the payoff will be a cleaner river and lakes, a restored open oak woods, prairie, and wetlands, and new trails to enjoy.

Jan Axelson admires a tall oak in the area to be restored north of Wheeler Road.

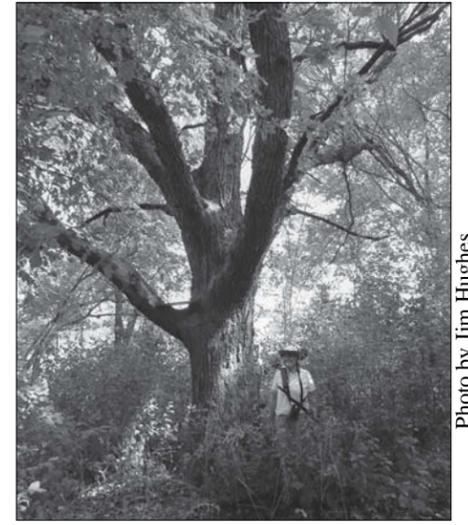


Photo by Jim Hughes

US Highway 51 safety studies continue

By Cindy Crane
Northside News

Finding ways to increase safety on US 51 (Stoughton Road) corridor from Voges Road/Terminal Drive to WIS 19 has been a long journey. Discussions about the 11 mile stretch have been in the works since 2002, prompted by the city's concerns about congested traffic and a high number of accidents along the highway.

The Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) Southwest Region and the Federal Highway Administration initiated the study of US 51 with the assistance of KL Engineering, Inc. They are including in their study the environmental impact, bicycle and pedestrian accommodation, noise level and aesthetics as they determine ways to alleviate traffic congestion.

The WisDOT also has included a committee of community leaders to give opinions on their study and are holding public information meetings. At the first meeting several alders showed concern that people from their districts had given their input in the past and wondered how much this new phase of the study would take past feedback into consideration and how much they were beginning from scratch.

In the Stoughton Road Environmental Study from WisDOT the three alternatives for Stoughton Road from the previous study included the following:

Alternative A – A Transportation System Management alternative that includes improvements designed to improve mobility and increase the safety of several intersections by maximizing the

existing infrastructure. Turn lanes added, and access points restricted, but only one interchange is included.

Alternative B – An Enhanced Expressway alternative has additional turn lanes at intersections and interchanges at the areas with the most significant traffic safety and mobility needs.

Alternative C – A Freeway concept with no traffic signals or stop signs on Stoughton Road from Terminal Drive/Voges Road to WIS 19.

Wetland and farmland acreage significantly affected increases between Alternatives A and B and again somewhat between B and C. Each alternative also adds a level of safety benefit.

Alternatives B and C would immediately affect the Northside by changing drivers'

ability to turn directly from Stoughton Road on to Anderson Road by directing vehicles to turn off on to an exit ramp.

In the new study the same three alternatives are offered plus the possibility of creating a new alternative or a combination of aspects of A B and C alternatives. There is also the choice of the No Build Alternative – an option that incorporates infrastructure maintenance. Pavement and structures are maintained, but there are otherwise no changes to the current configuration of the corridor.

The WisDOT anticipates completing their study in May 2014. To keep up with the study's progress and to find posts for meetings where you can give input please go to www.dot.wi.gov/projects/swregion/51/index.htm.





Melissa
Sargent
for Assembly
**VOTE
NOV 6**

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COMMUNITY

Ride the Drive Northside – A great success

By Anne Whisner
City of Madison Parks

Bikers, runners and walkers took to the streets of Madison’s Northside on Sunday, Aug. 12 for Ride the Drive – Northside. The event drew approximately 11,000 participants who left their cars behind to get on a bike or walk some of the signature streets of Madison’s Northside.

In 2012, Ride the Drive changed things a little by hosting the second event in a neighborhood, rather than the downtown location. The Northside Planning Council, along with Alders Rhodes-Conway and Weier, lobbied to have this first neighborhood Ride the Drive event on the Northside. The Northside threw out the welcome mat and the event certainly set the bar high for the next neighborhood. Event organizers appreciate the support of businesses, residents and other organizations for their wonderful response.

The route circled Warner Park along Sherman Avenue, Northport Drive, Troy Drive, Sheridan Drive, through the Brentwood neighborhood and back to Sherman Avenue. Riders were treated to views of Lake Mendota, the expansive gardens at Troy Gardens, and the unusually quiet ride along Sherman Avenue.

Families transporting their kids in trailers or bike carriers were certainly the most popular of the attendees. Families and participants had five activity villages along the route to stop and enjoy fun events like bounce houses, games and music. Neighbors along the route enjoyed the day by inviting friends out for a bike ride and a BBQ, or sitting on the front

porch and waving to the participants.

For one young girl, Ride the Drive will forever be the day she learned to ride a bike. Carly’s parents had been working with her for over six months to try to teach her to ride her two-wheeler. Carly saw the write up about the Ride the Drive activity “Learn to Ride” in the Northside News and said, “Dad, I want to go to this.”

Carly and her family arrived on Sunday morning eager to begin. So after six months of working with her parents, and about 45 minutes of work with the City Bike Safety Education coordinator, Steve Meiers, Carly was riding her bike. As a reward for her hard work, she decided to ride her bike down to St. Paul’s Church and enjoy the afternoon in a bouncy house. Well done Carly.

Ride the Drive is possible only with the support of sponsors, volunteers and participants who come to the event. Thank you to our sponsors: Trek, 105.5FM, UW-SP Adventure Tours, Northside Planning Council and Hallman/Lindsay Paints for making such a great event possible. Thank you to the volunteers who worked as intersection guides, area captains, set up managers and assistants, bike ambassadors, and helped in the information, merchandise and donation booths. Your hard work, friendly faces and enthusiasm made this a great community event. And thank you to everyone who came out to enjoy the day at Ride the Drive. Your participation shows us how important this event is to our city, our neighborhoods and our community.

Check out photos on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ridethedrive.

Behind the scene at the Northside Farmers Market

By Fiona Stoner

You arrive at the Northside Farmer’s Market and it’s all ready to go; the vendors have their food and veggies out, meals are cooking in the hot food tents, the kids tent has chalk waiting for artists and doodlers, the dining tent is welcoming with table cloths and chairs, and there is fresh coffee waiting at the info tent. How did this all happen? The vendors set up their own booths, but set up for the info, dining and kid’s tent is the result of several volunteers’ efforts each week. Here’s why our volunteers are so dedicated to the market.

Julie Lentz lives on the Northside and has been taking online classes in community nutrition so volunteering at the market is a natural fit for her studies. She has learned more about how WIC and Quest operate and will one day transfer her first hand knowledge into teaching children and families about the importance of nutrition and the community resources available. This is her first year as a volunteer doing the set up the market shift starting at 7:30 am.

Mary Schermerhorn volunteers at the info booth most Sundays from 8:15–10:30 am. This is her third year volunteering for the market. She works with several organizations and this gives her an opportunity to do something different. She answers questions at the info booth, processes any Quest purchases and makes sure there is coffee.

Lindsay Everly has worked all of the shifts at one time or another: set up, info booth and end of market take-down. She

was looking for a community service project for her Sunday mornings and found the Northside Market.

I began volunteering this summer because I love going to farmer’s markets and wanted to be more a part of what’s happening. In addition to writing an occasional newsletter article, I have been helping with the early morning set up. I enjoy the slow gathering of vendors and patrons as the sun rises higher and then the rush to the coffee decanter once it arrives.

Since 2005 the Northside Farmer’s Market is the place to be on Sunday mornings. The market has a laid-back, relaxed atmosphere where you can chat with vendors and friends. It has set itself apart as an innovating market by piloting the first program in Dane County to reintroduce use of the Quest card. Patrons receiving assistance have access to fresh food directly from farmers.

The Northside Farmer’s Market operates each Sunday morning from 8:30 am-12:30 pm. It is located at the corner of North Sherman Avenue and Northport Drive, in the parking lot of Pierce’s Northside Market, 2817 N. Sherman Ave., in the Northside TownCenter. To locate a vendor or product, visit the information tent at the west end of vendor’s row. EBT Food Share is accepted. The market is open rain or shine, every Sunday, May through October.

If you have questions about the market or vendors call 217-5941, email orders@capitolcitycookies.com or visit www.northsidefarmersmarket.org/.



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COMMUNITY

Making friends for 26 years

By Marlene Hardick

“We are celebrating 26 years of making friends,” said Lance Green, who regularly attends the Friendly Supper Club. “This group has met all over Madison. The Northside has been so welcoming in the eight months that we have been meeting at the Northside Family Restaurant. They give us a table in our own area. They have been so friendly and attentive. And the food is great.”

There is no way of knowing how many diners might show up at the monthly meeting of this club. Often it is a group of about 12 people from all over Madison. They fit comfortably around a large table. Some have been meeting together for years. Some may be here for the first time.

“No officers, no agenda, no dues. Just fun, friends and an affordable dinner” is the motto. Everyone is welcome and a diverse group shows up on the first Monday of every month. The goal is to meet new friends and exchange new ideas.

Those who would like to learn more can just show up at 6:30 pm on the first Monday of the month at Northside Family Restaurant, 1201 N. Sherman Ave. Or, call Lance at 249-5979.

FEED Kitchens is just steps away from reality

By Ellen Barnard

The Northside Planning Council’s Food Enterprise & Economic Development Kitchens project is in the home stretch. We have \$160,000 left to complete our fundraising effort for the project. There are several ways you and your friends can help us reach our goal.

1. Donate to us, any amount you can afford. Go to www.feedkitchens.org and make a donation through PayPal. You don’t need a PayPal account to donate, you can use a credit card. Don’t like making online payments? Send a donation to the Northside Planning Council – FEED Kitchens Project, 2702 International Ln., Ste. 203, Madison, WI 53704.
2. Enjoy one or all of the events in Madison Magazine’s Festival of Food Oct. 8-14. Every ticket sold means FEED gets a donation to help us reach our goal of being open in 2013.

3. “Like” or “friend” us on Facebook or sign up for our newsletter on the FEED website, www.feedkitchens.org, so we can tell you when we launch our Kick-starter Campaign and when fundraising events are scheduled.

Next steps: making it work, and work well

While we’re busy raising money and finding equipment donations, we have been able to assemble a team of amazing food, non-profit and business people to help us design the operations, classes, job descriptions and marketing plans for the Kitchens so that we are ready to hit the ground running the day we are open. We welcome volunteers for our work groups. If you have skills in kitchen management, food safety or business education, or marketing and outreach, please join us. To get more information on volunteer opportunities, you can email Ellen Barnard, the

FEED Chair, at ellenb@feedkitchens.org. It’s exciting to see this project come so far in four years. We can’t wait to see what happens once it’s open and the community has a place to make all its food business dreams come true.



The first-annual Madison Magazine Festival of Food, held Oct. 8-14, will benefit the following organizations: Madison Originals, The University of Wisconsin Foundation and FEED Kitchens.

Smalleys honored for grassroots efforts in social justice

By Marlene Hardick

Charles (Chuck) and Connie Palmer Smalley have been strong advocates for social justice all of their adult lives. That passion has been recognized with the 2012 Social Justice Legacy Award presented to them by the Social Justice Center on Williamson Street to recognize grassroots advocacy.

The Smalley’s were both social workers in Los Angeles, Cali. until 1992. Connie worked for the County of Los Angeles for 23 years as a child

welfare caseworker. Chuck was hired as the first legally blind social worker in Los Angeles, where he worked for 33 years.

When they retired in 1992, they researched and chose Madison as their retirement home, although they knew no one. In 1996 they bought a home in the Cherokee neighborhood. As nature lovers and environmentalists, they found that they fit into this neighborhood perfectly and became involved in activities at Cherokee Marsh and

across the Northside. The Smalleys helped to start the Northside Farmers Market. Connie became a member of the Northside Planning Council. Fluent in Spanish, she worked with Schools of Hope and Spanish speaking students at Lindbergh Elementary.

Connie was selected to be the delegate from district 12 to the Democratic National Convention.

They also support a number of non-profit organizations, feeling that both public and private sectors are important.

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