

COMMUNITY



Photo by Sue Gleason

Northsiders of all ages enjoyed sharing Sunday supper.

Northsiders share Sunday Supper

By Sue Gleason

The Brentwood Village Association joined Northside partners to host the second Northside Sunday Supper. A great turn out with 130 Northsiders of all backgrounds shared conversation and a Sunday meal of jambalaya, fried chicken, salads and desserts. Main dishes were prepared by Dale Matthews, a Northside Farmers Market board member, with the majority of ingredients donated by market vendors and others.

Kids of all ages enjoyed open gym and a few tossed around a football outside on the beautiful fall day. The Warner Park gym was open for the kids and there was no cost.

The first supper held in May brought

together nearly 60 people, so the September crowd more than doubled with the Brentwood sponsorship. The idea behind the suppers was to bring together Northside families from different neighborhoods that might not otherwise meet to share a meal and have some fun.

Want to help with the next meal? Another Sunday Supper is tentatively planned for early December so look for details in the next edition of the Northside News. Volunteers are needed for set-up, clean-up and to bring side dishes. If your neighborhood would like to co-host a future supper contact Cindy at NPC, 661-0660 ext. 2 or cindy@northsideplanningcouncil.org.

Two more Little Free Libraries built on Northside

By Salud Garcia

The first time I read about the Little Free Libraries over a year ago, I was enchanted. Today, I'm the delighted steward of the most recent Little Free Library on the Northside. But honestly, without the support of Northsiders I never would have done it.

I chewed on the idea of building a Little Free Library for a long time but thought I couldn't afford it. Then Northside Alderperson Anita Weier sent an email over the NICE listserv about Little Free Libraries. She asked if anyone would be interested in building one and she offered to help. I told Anita I was thinking about building one and would love it if she could donate books. Of course, Anita was very enthusiastic and encouraging.

I downloaded the plans and then did nothing for as long as I could. The problem

was that I don't know how to build things and didn't know where to start.

This summer, I asked my friend and neighbor Lori Merton if she would help me build it. Lori loves to help neighbors with projects and she was thrilled. One Saturday, we got out all her power tools and proceeded to use just about every last one. Lori was in heaven. As it turns out, it was a lot harder than I could have predicted. Lori, however, is a lot of fun to work with. While we worked, a few of her neighbors stopped by to ask questions, admire our work, and make suggestions. It was like a cheering section for library construction. That day Lori and I got two Little Free Libraries started.

We couldn't finish all in one day, so I took my uncompleted Little Free Library home. Lori finished hers right away. I didn't think I'd ever finish mine and

thought no one would care. But my family jumped in and my neighbors were as excited about the Little Free Library as I hoped. On the afternoon we began to dig the post hole, the ground was so hard, I thought it would take hours to dig. A pastor stopped by, admired our work and offered suggestions on how to make the job easier. Was I ever grateful.

By the time we finished building and installing the Little Free Library, 12 families had in one way or another offered help, materials or books. In each case, I was delighted but not surprised.

My experience here on the Northside prepared me for friendly people who like helping other people.

Please stop by our Little Free Libraries on Utah Court and Arizona Pass and help yourself to a book or two.



Photos submitted by Salud Garcia

Salud Garcia (top photo with a friend) and Lori Merton (bottom photo) with the Northside's newest Little Free Libraries.

CATCH Healthy Habits Fall Volunteer Opportunities!

Catch Healthy Habits is an intergenerational program in Madison helping to fight childhood obesity while improving the health of adults (50+ preferred) who, as a team, mentor children into positive lifelong exercise and nutrition habits. Lesson plans and all supplies are provided, as well as a team training session to get you started!

Join the fun, make a difference and feel better as a result! It's a win for everyone!



FALL PROGRAM OPTIONS:

Meets once weekly; one hour

Midvale Elementary—Mondays, 2-3 pm
 Sep. 17 through Nov. 5
 Training—Sep. 12—12-4 pm

Lowell Elementary—Mondays, 2-3 pm
 Oct. 8 through Nov. 26
 Training—Oct. 2—12-4 pm

Mendota Elementary—Wednesdays, 3-4 pm
 Oct. 10 through Dec. 5
 Training—Oct. 2—12-4 pm

"I have always enjoyed working with kids...guess I'm just a kid at heart!"

- Jane, CATCH Volunteer

SIGN UP TODAY!

CONTACT: Laurie Bibo, CATCH Healthy Habits Program Coordinator, Madison Senior Center, 608-267-8673 or lbibo@cityofmadison.com
 Visit <http://www.oasisnet.org/cities/central/madisonwi.aspx>



COMMUNITY

State of the Northside: Business and jobs

By Sue Gleason

The Northside Planning Council continues to look at State of the Northside information presented in June and covered in the August Northside News. The Northside has a variety of well-paying jobs, and we also have a history of higher employment in manufacturing and construction compared to the city as a whole. We have lost some of those jobs due to the recent recession but they remain a core part of Northside employment.

This is still Madison though and the highest amount of employment is in the public sector of education, government, and social services. The Northside is home to several large public employers such as Madison College, Mendota Mental Health Center, Wisconsin Center, Dane County Human Services and five elementary, two middle schools and one alternative high school.

The Northside is easily accessible from in and out of Madison resulting in large numbers of people coming from outside the area to work here. Is there an opportunity here? Can we develop businesses that would serve these commuters? We could do more to learn about our Northside economy and what the opportunities might be, especially focused on assisting Northsiders to obtain some of the jobs located here.

Jobs located on the Northside

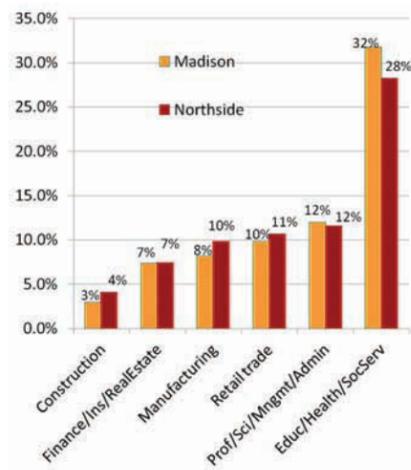
Small job growth from 2005 to 2010

TOP INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT ON THE NORTHSIDE			
	2005	2010	Change
Public Administration	3,615	3,821	206
Health/Social Assistance	3,456	3,604	148
Manufacturing	3,495	2,997	-498
Educational Services	2,195	2,894	699
Retail Trade	2,716	2,692	-24
Accom/Food	2,032	2,240	208
Admin/Support	2,019	1,895	-124
Finance/Insurance	1,153	1,466	313

Industries Northsiders work in

Higher percentage in construction, FIRE, manufacturing, retail

Highest percentage in education/health/social service



For the full report go to:
www.NorthsideMadison.org/State-of-the-Northside

VSA Wisconsin happenings

One, two, three, smile!

“Grab your camera and explore Madison’s Northside.” That’s exactly what participants in VSA Wisconsin’s Photo Town! digital photography class did for three weeks last spring. What did they see when looking through the lens at Warner Park, Tenney Park and Dane County Regional Airport? To find out, stop by the VSA Wisconsin Gallery between Sept. 10–Jan. 2 to view the “Frames of the Northside” exhibition. Gallery hours are 10 am–2 pm, Monday through Thursday or by appointment.

Frames of the Northside

Photo Town! is a very popular class for adults with disabilities. The class was led by Northside resident and VSA Wisconsin teaching artist, Marcia Yapp. She said this about digital photography, “As a visual art [medium], it is an accessible means of expression. Participants can learn about light and composition, which are important visual techniques, choose a desirable scene or moment and have immediate results.” Community volunteers worked one-to-one with participants and the resulting images taken at notable Northside sites are stunning. One participant was so interested in photography after this class that he has sought out a mentor to help him further develop his skills.

The public is invited to meet the artists at a reception on Friday, Oct. 5 from 5-9 pm. The VSA Wisconsin Gallery is located at 1709 Aberg Ave.; artwork will be for sale. For more information go to www.vsa.wis.org or call 608-241-2131.

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COMMUNITY

Local artist's book shows off her abilities

By Jason Cuevas
Northside News

Writing a book is a dream for many people. A Madison woman recently fulfilled her lifelong dream of becoming a published writer and artist. 25-year-old H.A.S. Frog's book, "My Life: A Guide to Disabilities" is now available for purchase.

Frog acquired her nickname as a child when she would hop like a frog moving around (Frog requested we use her pen name).

Frog has a nervous system disorder that only her mother and she have. This has not held her back in life, and she has used this book to get that message out there and to show how much those with disabilities are actually capable of achieving.

"Basically I was kind of sick of people assuming stuff about people with disabilities," Frog said. "So it's kind of my small way of changing people's minds about people with disabilities."

The book features Frog's thoughts on living with a disability along with a host of photographs, original song lyrics and her artwork. The book contains some sad parts

where Frog speaks on some of the frustrations she has dealt with, but ultimately gives way to an uplifting idea of perseverance and following dreams.

One of the saddest parts is when Frog speaks of how she felt like her sister's one-eyed dog — an animal that no one thought would be capable of doing the things a normal dog could. It turns out, this is not at all the case.

Frog hopes people realize that those with disabilities tend to live lives just like everybody else. They have close social relationships with both able-bodied and other disabled people. They have the same hopes, dreams and fears that everyone else goes through on a day to day basis.

Frog is very proud of her involvement in the group Strong Artistic Ladies Speaking Out (SALSO). This is a group of women that act as the speaker's bureau for the Community Support Network. They will soon be speaking out with a completely reworked program with new art and a power point program. They provide question and answer sessions afterwards.

In addition to her work with SALSO, Frog

has had a number of jobs. She delivers the Isthmus, does cleaning work and has even had a data entry position. Frog has some issues writing at times, but does great work on a computer.

"I'm a song writer and an artist. And I have normal feelings and reactions," Frog said. "Life can change in an instant, and I try to live by that philosophy."

Computers have allowed Frog to express herself through art, writing and music. She uses the computer to do all of these activities which will be on display in her second book. She is going to have a hundred songs with accompanying music for this new project complete with computer generated art.

Frog comes from a very musical family. She hopes to continue her involvement in music and add more to it as time goes on.

The book is available for purchase at the Community Support Network store located at 1137 N. Sherman Ave. or online at visitesn.org. It is \$75 for a hardcover copy and \$45 for a softcover copy. The Community Support store also sells jewelry, greeting cards and other assorted items made there.

Community GroundWorks met to discuss land use at Troy Gardens

By Jill Jacklitz

Troy Gardens has engaged thousands from the Northside and beyond to garden, learn, eat and explore the land. After nearly 10 years it is time to update the master plan for the land, the document that designates land uses and spaces for potential buildings. Consistent with the history of this innovative project, community users are a vital part of that process.

Over 40 people gathered at Lakeview Lutheran Church on Sept. 13 to share their thoughts on a variety of proposed projects including construction of the long-awaited barn, the need for a community gathering shelter, potential expansion of the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farmland and further development of accessible gardens. The lively and informative discussion brought together neighbors, gardeners, CSA members, volunteers, staff and farm interns to share their input and vision for the collective use of the 26 acres of land. Next, Community GroundWorks' Site Management Committee will use the input to develop a proposed master plan for final approval by CGW's Board of Directors. If you have thoughts or want to learn more, please contact Jill Jacklitz at 608-240-0409 or jill@troygardens.org

Dave and Teri Bruns win charity golf event

The American Family Children's Hospital took home \$45,000 in winnings in early September thanks to Northsiders Teri Bruns of Core BTS and Dave Bruns of Sherman Plaza Inc. who played in the "winner takes all" First Business Invitational for Charity golf event.

Business leaders competed at Hawks Landing for a local charity of their choice. American Family Children's

Hospital was announced as the winner after an initial three way tie drove the tournament into a playoff. The event was designed with two person teams competing in a best ball format.

Scott Haumersen and Mike Scholz, playing for Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, and Richard Arnesen and Mark Chriship, playing for Operation Fresh Start, were the other two teams in the final.

"I'd really like to thank First Business Bank for the creative idea to bring so many people together to compete in support of their favorite charities. The day was really enjoyable," Teri Bruns said. "Both Dave and I have been supporters of American Family Children's Hospital since its inception and continue to applaud the efforts of the Children's Hospital to serve the community."

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COMMUNITY

Photo provided by Dorothy Borchardt



Cherokee Marshers team won the traveling trophy at Pounding the Pavement for the Pool.

Cherokee Marshers team wins Warner Pool traveling trophy

By Dorothy Borchardt

The Pounding the Pavement for the Warner Pool winner of the 2012 traveling trophy on August 15 was Mary Schermerhorn and Anita Weier's team, the Cherokee Marshers, with 28 team members. Second place went to DuWayne's Salon with 26 team members. A big thanks to all the other teams, walkers, volunteers and sponsors

that help make the walk a special event. The goal is to get a team from each of our neighborhoods in 2013. Show your support for the Warner Pool by participating in the walk by walking, volunteering or just watching. Contact Dorothy Borchardt at dborchardt1@charter.net to start getting your neighborhood or business team lined up for next year. Go Northside!

Remember to thank our walk sponsors by patronizing their business.

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From

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NORTH DISTRICT POLICE

Greetings from the North Police District

Summer has been busy, but it was a good summer overall for the Northside. Crime trends were well down. The predominant theme on the Northside was youth disorder and some of the low level criminal activities that go with it; thefts from vehicle/garages, disturbances and criminal damage to property. Many of the young offenders were apprehended and the conduct subsided somewhat. As so many concerned parties have observed, there is a huge need to provide our youth with meaningful outlets, particularly during the summer months. To provide kids with positive role models can make a huge difference in the choices they make.

This summer, the men and women of the Madison Police Department created opportunities to engage in just those types of youth engagement activities. In an effort to develop greater understanding and trust with our youth of color, two youth academies were conducted for middle school aged kids from throughout the city, including here on the Northside.

Building on last year's success, the Madison PD's Amigos en Azul, a grassroots outreach program aimed at building connections with the Latino community, created and sponsored a Latino Youth

Academy. Thanks to generous support from MMSD, the MPD was able to partner with the Boys and Girls Club, and officers from other agencies to sponsor a Latino Youth Academy again this year. This program was a huge hit with kids, parents and officers alike.

Recognizing similar needs to build trust-based relationships with African-American youth, a group of MPD personnel built on the youth academy concept, partnered with the Boys and Girls Club to sponsor the first annual, Black Youth Career Police Academy. This event was likewise very well received, and we hope to continue such programming again next year.

Having the chance to have positive interactions with police allows the youth of our community to learn to see police officers as human beings who care about them. These opportunities are likewise therapeutic for our officers, who too often are caught in having far too many enforcement based interactions and too few positive, helping ones. Whether at formal events like these academies, city events like "Ride the Drive," or the more localized, neighborhood-based events, having the opportunity to come together to enjoy moments of celebration helps bring us all closer together and to create community.

If you having a neighborhood block party or meeting, consider reaching out to my office. Whenever our duties permit, I will arrange to have one of our liaison officers or a member of my staff stop by to visit, answer any questions, and get to know you and your neighbors. Take care and be safe....



Lake View Hill Neighborhood Association and Friends of Lake View Hill Park host annual fall event

Celebrate Halloween with your neighbors
Saturday, Oct. 27, 5-8 pm

By Lori Walker

Join the Lake View Neighborhood Association and the Friends of Lake View Hill Park for a fall walk in the woods followed by Halloween refreshments. Saturday, Oct. 27, 5-8 pm, there will be guided walks through the park to learn about the history of the woods and the old sanatorium. Later, sit around a fire for ghost stories and hot cider. This is a family event that will be both fun and educational, costumes encouraged.

Refreshments and decorations will be waiting back at the gathering spot to end the evening as dusk settles in. To help with the event or for more information contact Lorie Walker at 244-1620 or Sue Gleason at 249-9449.

Check out our photo of last year's fall event and other information at the Lake View Neighborhood Association Yahoo group, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lvha/>. While you're there, why not become a member and get the latest neighborhood news and announcements?




Come meet **Senator Mark Miller (SD 16)** & 48th Assembly Candidate **Melissa Sargent**



Redistricting means that Northsiders are now in Senate District 16 and Assembly District 48.

MEET AND GREET LISTENING SESSION
Monday, Oct. 15, 5:30-7:30 PM
Lakeview Branch, Madison Public Library—Fireside Room
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COMMUNITY

Kennedy Heights builds a new kind of playground

By Char Tortorice
Northside News

Ask anyone why they love living on the Northside and many will tell you it is because of the incredible link to the outdoors. The area is blessed to have four major green spaces where the city fades and you truly feel embraced by Mother Nature herself: Warner Park, Lake View Hill County Park, Cherokee Marsh, and Community Groundworks' Troy Gardens. The Northside also boasts a number of neighborhood parks so you are never far from a place to picnic, enjoy a quiet sunset, walk on the wild side, or just throw a ball with the kids. The local schools and community centers supplement this recreational bounty with playgrounds that target our younger residents with swings and other structured play equipment. Kennedy Heights Community Center changed that dynamic this summer by merging nature with play and learning to turn a corner of the Northside into a natural wonderland.



A community of over 100 volunteers work together to complete the Kennedy Heights playground.

After a busy summer of planning and fundraising, Kennedy Heights hosted a work party on August 24 during a United Way Day of Caring to turn an outdated playground into a new nature space and outdoor science classroom. Over 100 volunteers helped make The Irwin A. and Robert D. Goodman Natural Playground

a reality in just six hours. Generous donations from the Madison Community Foundation and a lead gift of \$30,000 from the Goodman Foundation jump started the project and Northside neighbors and businesses filled in the rest.

A natural playground is not just a meadow or woodland but rather a planned area that encourages children to use their imagination to experience the smells, textures and wonders of the outside world.

The Kennedy Heights space has large rocks, tree stumps, wooden and brick walkways and raised beds for growing projects. The groundcover is a mix of wood chips, pebbles, sand and soon-to-be grass. By next summer, the squirrel family that has already taken up residence will be joined by birds and butterflies. Several

new sheds hold equipment. The natural playground is a place for families to enjoy time together in a way that is not necessarily familiar. A space is set aside for more traditional climbing structures since this natural concept is new and may take some residents a bit of getting used to. The intent was to add options while not taking others away. There is now truly something for everyone. Alyssa Kenney, Executive Director of the Kennedy Heights Community Center, worked long hours to help this project succeed with a goal to provide Northside families with a joyful place that fosters curiosity in children while supporting vigorous physical activity. It is clear that goal is being met.

If you are intrigued by this concept and would like more information, or are interested in donating to the upkeep of the natural playground, please contact Alyssa Kenney at director@khcommunitycenter.org.

Public invited to ADRC ribbon cutting ceremony to be held Nov. 19

By Casey Slaughter Becker

Dane County Executive Joe Parisi is inviting the public to a ribbon cutting for the county's new Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). The new facility will enhance long term care for older adults and adults with disabilities and their families, regardless of income.

"This new facility will be a one-stop shop for high quality services and programs for our most vulnerable citizens," said Parisi. "Through outreach, education and support,

the ADRC will offer individuals and their families with the assistance they need to live healthy, independent lives."

Once open, the county's ADRC will provide individuals and their families with information and access to a broad range of community resources available for older adults and people with disabilities.

Services will include outreach to help staff to identify people at risk and connect them to needed services; education that will enable individuals to make in-

formed, cost-effective decisions about long term care; and support to promote health and independence, such as helping young people (age 17 and a half years) with disabilities transition from their school system to adult services. The services will be provided to individuals regardless of their health condition, long-term needs or income.

The public is encouraged to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony on Monday, Nov. 19 at 11 am at the ADRC's perma-

nent home at the Northside TownCenter (formerly Sherman Plaza), 2865 N. Sherman Ave. in Madison.

Dane County pursued federal and state funding for the new ADRC and is applying to receive more than \$4 million to create it. The authorization to apply was approved by the Dane County Board and the county executive.

Additional information on the county's new ADRC can be found at www.dane.countyhumanservices.org.

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See current class listing at:

www.safercommunity.net

PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

6:30 pm • Oct. 11

Warner Park Community Recreation Center

North Sherman Avenue study by Traffic Engineering and City Engineering Division to examine how to improve the North Sherman Avenue corridor for all users to include pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists.

Sponsored by Satya Rhodes Conway

Northside October/November Calendar of Events

Monday, Oct. 1, 6:30 pm, Friendly Supper Club, Northside Family Restaurant, 1201 N. Sherman Ave.

Friday, Oct. 5, 5-9 pm, Open house and reception, VSA Wisconsin Gallery, 1709 Aberg Ave.

Monday, Oct. 8, through Sunday, Oct. 14, Madison Magazine Festival of Food

Tuesday, Oct. 9, 1-3 pm, Stepping On class – fall prevention for older adults, at Madison Senior Center, 2330 W. Mifflin St.

Wednesday, Oct. 10–Dec. 5, 3-4 pm, Catch Healthy Habits, Mendota Elementary School Training Oct. 2, 12-4 pm

Wednesday, Oct. 10, 5:30-7 pm, Fall Color Walk, Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park North Unit, 6098 N. Sherman Ave.

Thursday, Oct. 11, 6:30 pm, Public meeting by Ald. Satya Rhodes Conway, to examine how to improve the North Sherman Avenue Corridor at Warner Park Community Recreation Center

Saturday, Oct. 13, 9 am-noon and 1-4 pm, Lake View School: Going out on a limb work day, 1802 Tennyson Ln.

Saturday, Oct. 13, 8 am-4:30 pm, Neighborhood Conference, Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center

Monday, Oct. 15, 5:30-7:30 pm, Meet and Greet Senator Mark Miller and Assembly Candidate Melissa Sargent, Lakeview Branch Library

Saturday, Oct. 20, 1-4 pm, Hayrides and Hikes, Cherokee Marsh Conservation Park North Unit, 6098 N. Sherman Ave.

Saturday, Oct. 20, 8:30 am-2 pm, Autumn Fest Arts and Crafts Sale, Eagle's Club, 2109 Bartillion Dr.

Sunday, Oct. 21, 3:15-4:15 pm, Hayride and S'mores, Cherokee Marsh City Park

Saturday, Oct. 27, 5-8 pm, Annual Fall Celebration with Lake View Hill Neighborhood Association and Friends of Lake View Hill Park

Sunday, Oct. 28, 1-3 pm, Trunk or Treat, St. Paul Lutheran Church

Friday, Nov. 2, 11 am-7 pm, Lakeview Lutheran Church Lutefisk Feast, craft bazaar and bake sale, 4001 Mandrake Rd.

Saturday, Nov. 3, 9 am-noon, Family Caregiver Resource Fair, St. Peter's Parish, 5001 N. Sherman Ave.

Monday, Nov. 19, 11 am, Aging and Disability Resource Center grand opening ribbon cutting ceremony, at the ADRC, 2865 N. Sherman Ave.

Go to: www.NorthsideMadison.org for more details, links, and information on regular meetings.

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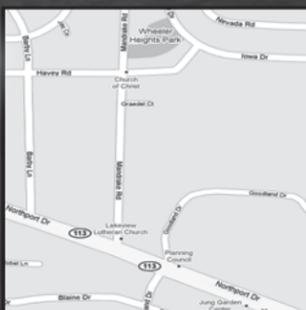
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Roy Ratcliff, Minister
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Madison, WI 53704

(608) 249-8049



"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

COMMUNITY

Water Utility provides Project H2O update

By Gail Gawenda
Madison Water Utility

Open houses are scheduled

The Madison Water Utility is holding open houses to display and discuss the meter upgrade project currently underway. The next open house is set for Sept. 27, at Alicia Ashman Library, 733 N. High Point Road, from 6-8 pm.

These open houses are a perfect opportunity to see the actual meters, ask questions and interact with utility staff and the company representatives from Corix, the contractor installing the new equipment. Other displays offer information about your account and answers to your billing questions, the benefits of the more frequent information for leak detection and conservation choices, safety facts from Public Health of Madison and Dane County and technical descriptions of the wireless monitoring. Kids will enjoy a table of water activities designed just for them, and the utility's new water wagon will be available for cool drinks.

Background

The system upgrade, known as an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) system, will automatically read the water meter and send encrypted data to the Utility via a secure network. Such systems are currently installed in cities throughout the USA. When Madison installations are complete city-wide, customers will be able to use the internet through the MyWater website to monitor their own water usage via a password-protected account. The system will allow

MWU to detect small leaks early and notify the customer, resulting in significant water and homeowner cost savings, and also to detect leaks in underground water mains that can waste hundreds of gallons before becoming apparent above ground.

Monthly billing will also make it easier for customers to budget for the municipal services bill, which includes not only water usage but also charges for the city storm water utility, sewer utility, public fire protection and landfill remediation. Water usage will be measured in gallons instead of the current cubic feet.

The current situation

On Aug. 28, the state Public Service Commission (PSC), which regulates the rates and rules of all utilities in the state, made its decision on a petition for review of the meter program from 33 citizens. According to the PSC's decision:

The Commission took up — and denied — the request for an investigation. The commissioners found that Madison did have the legal authority to install the AMI system, and that the Commission had explicitly directed Madison to proceed with its AMI project in its last two rate cases. The commission denied the second request that the Commission open an investigation or rulemaking docket on health, safety, privacy, security and cost concerns with AMI. The commissioners felt comfortable that Madison had considered these issues with regard to its program, and that available information did not justify opening a rulemaking docket on the issue at this time. The commissioners also denied the request

for a moratorium on implementation of Madison's AMI program.

If an opt-out policy is adopted by a utility, it is the commission's expectation that any costs associated with opting out be fully allocated to those causing the cost. This means the opt-out tariff would reflect the actual costs associated with opting out, such as different equipment or additional staff time to read meters and process bills.

The commissioners agreed that each utility should determine whether or not to provide an opt-out policy for AMI. An opt-out policy should provide a statement or justification that the opt-out will not be detrimental to the goals of the AMI program. They indicated that although AMI systems are not without controversy, they saw great value in moving to these systems because they provide a better price signal, facilitate innovative rates and are ultimately going to provide long-term savings to customers and the utility.

The Water Utility is currently developing proposed opt-out policy language to submit to the PSC for their approval in the near future. Options likely will include a choice of having the meter "end-point" that transmits the usage readings placed outside of the building as well as an option to have no AMI installation. This latter option would require a monthly visit to the basement water meter by a meter reader for a monthly charge. Until the opt-out policy and charges are approved by the PSC, customers can request to be put on a waiting list, and then receive the approved policy to make an informed decision for the type of installation they would prefer.

Lakeview Lutheran Church ready for 61st lutefisk feast

Friday, Nov. 2
11 am-7 pm

Celebrating its 61st year serving the beloved (and oft-ridiculed) lutefisk, Lakeview Lutheran Church will delight nearly 1,000 diners with the unique Norwegian fish at its annual meal from 11 am-7 pm on Friday, Nov. 2.

The appetizing menu includes all-you-can-eat lutefisk, homemade meatballs, lefse, mashed potatoes with gravy, rutabaga, coleslaw, cranberries, pie and cakes.

No reservations are taken for the feast in Lakeview's roomy East Hall. Tickets are available at the door on Nov. 2 only.

Lakeview Lutheran Church is located along Northport Drive at 4001 Mandrake Rd. During the lutefisk meal, the church offers an extensive craft bazaar and bake sale, including large amounts of lefse. Funds from the entire event go to one of the church's outreach missions, ranging from housing support to its food pantry.

The meal costs \$15 for adults and \$6 for kids ages 6-12. A Norwegian chorus will perform in the evening.

Call Lakeview Church at 244-6181 with any questions or go to www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org.

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COMMUNITY

Photo by Barbara Arnold



The rededication ceremony for the Northside's Statue of Liberty at Warner Park was held in August.

Northside Statue of Liberty rededicated

By Barbara Arnold

The Statue of Liberty replica that stands in Warner Park is back on her pedestal overlooking the park lagoon in between the Warner Park Recreation Center and the park shelter. She was rededicated to the people of Madison on Sunday, Aug. 12.

Originally a gift from the Madison Rotary and the Madison Boy Scout Council, Little Sister Liberty has undergone a significant conservation and restoration process under Tony Rajer's direction with help from his widow Christine Style and metal artist Eric Meulmans.

The Volunteers of the Statue Restoration Committee succeeded in fundraising her restoration and plan to set up a fund at the Madison Community Foundation. Only \$5,000 is still needed to establish this

named fund. The proceeds of the fund will put her on a regular cleaning and inspection schedule by the Madison Arts Commission and will provide resources to maintain her site in Warner Park.

More information on this project is available on the Madison Arts Commission website under conservation projects.

To help Liberty reach her goal so she never falls into such poor health in the future please contribute to the Madison Community Foundation, P.O. Box 5010, Madison, WI 53705-0010. Please note statue in the memo line of your check or cover note. Credit card contributions can also be made on the MCF website. Search for give now and then search for statue. All contributions are tax deductible and will be promptly recognized with great thanks.

Neighborhood Conference to focus on creating better public places

By Linda Horvath

The City of Madison is hosting a Neighborhood Conference on Saturday, Oct. 13 at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center, from 8 am-4:30 pm. Sponsored by a generous contribution from MGE, this dynamic event will bring together leaders from throughout Madison to learn how to build stronger neighborhood organizations, create great public places, address crime and transportation safety and improve neighborhood sustainability.

Come spend the day with us to build skills, share thought-provoking ideas, network and learn from other neighborhood leaders, city staff, and planning and design professionals. Chat with Mayor Soglin about the future of the city and your neighborhood, and get inspired by Fred Kent, President of Project for Public Spaces, an international leader in placemaking.

Fred Kent will present the Keynote Ad-

dress and lead a placemaking workshop. He will talk about the "Power of 10" in Placemaking. At the core of this concept is the idea that any great place itself needs to offer at least 10 things to do or 10 reasons to be there. Madison neighborhoods already offer unique and inviting public places and experiences, but this is a forum at which we can learn about how the Power of 10 can help us create even better public places. Fred Kent's participation in the conference is due to the generous sponsorship of MGE.

Mark your calendars to attend the city-wide neighborhood conference on Saturday, Oct. 13. Conference information and registration material is available at www.cityofmadison.com/neighborhoods/neighborhoodconference/index.cfm. Early bird registration: \$20 by Sept. 30; and \$30 Oct. 1-13. Scholarships are available. Contact Linda Horvath, Planning Division, at lhovath@cityofmadison.com or 608-267-1131 with questions.

Independent Living purchases land for Northside senior community complex

A land parcel on Tennyson Lane will be home for a brand-new senior community housing project to be developed by Independent Living, Inc. The land purchase was completed late this summer, said Rita Giovannoni, CEO of Independent Living, Inc. "The project is on track to begin construction in 2013.

The next steps include going through the city process for zoning and holding neighborhood meetings this October," Giovannoni said. "It's an exciting project for us. We're just so glad to move forward in meeting the affordable housing needs of seniors who want to live in this neighborhood."



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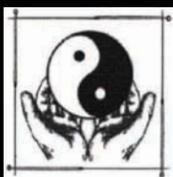
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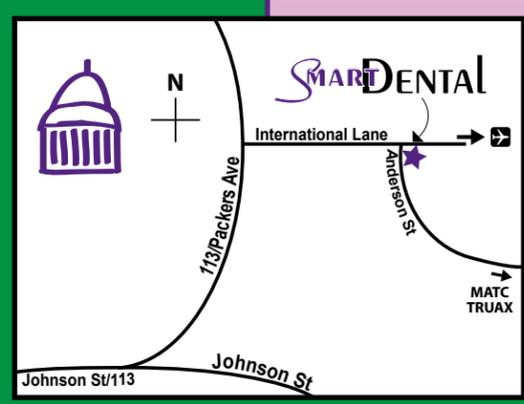
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