

# NORTHSIDE NEWS

Vol. 19, No. 1, Issue 109

www.NorthsideMadison.org

August / September 2013

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Madison Meet & Eat food carts**  
Every Tuesday in August (Aug. 6, 13, 20 and 27), 5-7:30 pm  
St. Paul Lutheran Church  
2126 N. Sherman Ave.

**Vera Court youth photography show**  
Featuring a photography series about Northside neighborhoods  
Thursday, Aug. 8 from 5-7:30 pm  
Northside TownCenter, between Benvenuto's and Coffee Gallerie

**Mallards playoff game**  
Monday, Aug. 12 or Tuesday, Aug. 13 7:05 pm  
Visit mallardsbaseball.com for info

**Pounding the Pavement for a Pool**  
Saturday, Aug. 24 at 9am (registration begins at 8 am)  
Warner Park Community Recreation Center  
Visit friendsofwarner.com for info (SEE PAGE 31)

**Nurses' Dormitory Public Information & Design Meeting**  
Saturday, Aug. 24 from 10 am-noon  
Lake View Hill Park  
(SEE PAGE 15)

**Packers Community Learning Center youth film premiere**  
"The Royal Troubadours"  
Saturday, Aug. 31 at 10:00 am  
Eastgate Cinema (admission is free)

**9th Mexican Independence Festival**  
Saturday, Sept. 14 from noon - 9 pm  
Warner Park

**13th Annual AppleFest**  
Saturday, Sept. 28 from 9:30 am-3:30 pm  
Warner Park Community Recreation Center  
(SEE PAGE 29)

**Citizens United Community Meeting**  
Saturday, Sept. 28 from 1-3:30 pm  
James Reeb Community Room  
2146 E. Johnson St.  
(SEE PAGE 9)

**Bird Festival**  
Sunday, Sept. 29 from 11 am-4 pm  
Warner Park Community Recreation Center, Lakeview Library and nearby natural spaces  
(SEE PAGE 14)

**Friends of Lakeview Library 50th Anniversary Celebration**  
Sunday, Sept. 29 from Noon-3 pm  
Lakeview Branch Library  
(SEE PAGE 24)

**Northside Community Supper**  
Sunday, Sept. 29 from 5-7 pm  
Warner Park Community Recreation Center  
(SEE PAGE 4)

SEE MORE EVENTS ON PAGE 4

## Celebrating Northside Youth



Welcome to this special edition of the Northside News, written in large part by youth in our community. We hope you find as much delight in their stories as we found in working with these young reporters.



**Tamika Tupta**  
Age 17

### New DAIS shelter brings new hope for vulnerable families

Domestic Abuse Intervention Services, or DAIS, is a homicide prevention center that helps make Dane County a safer, less violent place. DAIS is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to working with and advocating for domestic violence survivors and their children. The center is a place for women and children to stay safe from domestic abuse. DAIS also provides a 24-hour helpline (251-4445 or 800-747-4045). The program not only gives people who suffer from domestic violence a safe place to stay, but DAIS has also been giving these victims a voice.

For the past four to five years, Holly Berkenstadt, capital campaign chair for DAIS, and her team have been raising awareness of domestic violence in the community. Holly was invited to be a part of making DAIS a reality. She recognizes how important it is to bring attention to domestic violence, saying, "It is an important issue, but sometimes people don't want to think about it."

Domestic violence may not be something people want to acknowledge but statistics speak for themselves. One in four women and one in seven men suffer from some type of abuse, whether mental, verbal,

physical, financial or some other type. DAIS is the only domestic violence shelter in Dane County, which makes it even more important for the community. It is currently in a private location but is being relocated. Holly referred to this new center as a "visible facility," meaning it will be in a public location and the community will know it is there, unlike the current shelter. The improved visibility will make it easier for the community to support and help the center and the victims.

The new DAIS facility will be larger and able to serve more families. The current location is able to take in only about 25 people, while the new location will be able to house about 65 people. With more space, the center will not have to decide which victims get a spot based on their situations. The vision for this new center is that there will be "no barriers," nothing to stop domestic violence victims from being safe there.

Another awesome addition to the new DAIS facility will be a kennel so people can bring their pets with them. This means fear of leaving a pet behind will no longer be a barrier for victims to escape their situations. The new location, larger site, ability to serve pets and possibilities for community involvement

DAIS continued on page 25



Honor Flight veteran Alvin A. Joel with his niece Sharon Gonnering and Northside News writer Foluke Salami. Read about their conversation on page 10.

### Rhythm & Booms moves and Northside starts planning for 2014 on page 9

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# NORTHSIDE NEWS

From  
**ABHA  
THAKKAR**



**EDITOR**

## It takes a village

Welcome to our first issue (mostly) written by Northside youth.

It was a tremendous pleasure to work with all of your wise and wonderful children. I was consistently impressed by their maturity, insight and willingness to take the risk of having their writing published. Through the process of working on these stories, I watched as many of their eyes were opened to new perspectives about the world. We all grew together. It was the most enriching experience I've ever had producing this newspaper.

In my previous job, I worked for years with former child soldiers in northern Uganda. These children were facing a lifetime of traumatic memories against a backdrop of poverty, hunger, disease and very few opportunities for a better life. They were desperate for an education: for access to textbooks that they read hungrily, for notebooks where they could practice their penmanship and their arithmetic so they wouldn't have to write with their fingers on the dirt floor, for shoes that would allow them to walk the many kilometers between their village and their school every day. I remember thinking, "I wish our students in the United States valued their opportunities as much as these kids do."

And while it's true that, in our relatively affluent world, it's easy for even the adults among us to take our privilege for granted, I think I was underestimating our youth. They don't always know how to articulate it, and even if they do, it's not always cool to admit it, but I think our children want to be just as engaged and excited about both learning and service. My favorite moments were the "ah-ha" moments — the moment of connection when I matched the right young person with the right story assignment, and their eyes lit up. Each time I thought, "I wish our readers could see this very moment, so they'd know this story really means something to its writer."

Behind every one of these news stories is a compelling human story. I had the privilege of interacting with so many families from so many different backgrounds, and I have a whole

new appreciation for the vast number of people who invest in each and every one of our children. For all their talent and courage, these young writers could not have done what they did without this community they live in. This issue of the Northside News is the culmination of years of investment on the part of countless families, teachers and other school professionals and volunteers, neighborhood center staff, library staff, youth gardening coordinators, police officers, neighborhood leaders, church youth group advisers, public health employees, environmental educators, mentors, after school program coordinators, business owners, summer camp counselors, artists in residence, scout leaders, parks staff — and those are just the folks that our children interact with directly. But there are so many more of you that help make this a safe, healthy, fun place — a place that allows a young person to spend their summer writing for their community newspaper, if that's what they want to do.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the many adults who helped facilitate this project. I sprung this on them without much notice ("oh, by the way, I'd like to get most of this issue written by kids..."), and many of you went out of your way to either identify a young writer yourself or work with me to do so. Whether it was meeting with me to sign release waivers or driving a young writer to an interview or helping to proofread a story one last time before sending it off to me, I was grateful for the enthusiasm and effort that went into making this happen. You deserve a round of applause.

On a final note, this was a first for us — the first issue we've ever attempted to have written (mostly) by youth. But this was also a first for almost every young writer in this issue — the first time they or anyone they know wrote for a newspaper. I hope more young people will follow their lead and get involved in whatever they're passionate about. In May a 25-year-old woman named Raha Moharrak was the youngest Arab and first Saudi woman to make it to the top of Mount Everest. Her response to all of the acclaim she received? "I really don't care about being the first," she is quoted as saying, "so long as it inspires someone else to be second."

*Abha will hold office hours at Lakeview Branch Library on Wednesdays from 3:30–5:00 pm from Aug. 7–Sept. 11. Come visit or reach her at editor@northsidenews.org or 661-0060 ext 3.*

**Yes! Count me in as a supporter of the Northside News.**

Enclosed is my/our gift of:  \$100  \$75  \$50  \$20  Other

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2702 International Lane, Suite 203  
Madison, WI 53704

NPC is a 501(c)3 and donations are deductible as allowed by law.



If you prefer to donate online, visit [www.northsidenews.org](http://www.northsidenews.org) and click on DONATE.

## Northside News receives grant for new computers

The Northside News would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Frances Hurst Neighborhood Fund, a component fund of the Madison Community Foundation, bequeathed for neighborhood and community development. We received a \$6,300 grant, which will allow us to upgrade our Windows XP computers (circa 2004) to state-of-the-art, refurbished iMacs.

Our operating expenses are entirely covered by our advertising revenue — thanks to our long-standing, loyal sup-

port from local businesses — but we greatly needed this extra boost to improve our technology infrastructure. We're a small operation, with only two part-time staff members and an independent contractor, so the added efficiency will make a huge impact on our newspaper production process, and, in turn, will ripple out to all of the organizations, businesses and grassroots efforts we support on the Northside.

Look for photos of our shiny new machines in the next issue.

## ADVERTISING RATES

**Oct/Nov 2013 Deadline: We Design – Aug. 26; You Design – Aug. 28**

**\$15.00 per column inch for grayscale ads — a great bargain!**

Reach 13,000 households with every issue! *Special rates for nonprofits.*

AD SIZES	COST	FULL COLOR	DIMENSIONS
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1/8 Page (square)	\$120	Add \$35	4.917" W x 4" H
1/4 Page	\$240	Add \$55	4.917" W x 8" H
1/2 Page	\$480	Add \$100	10" W x 8" H
Full Page	\$960	Add \$190	10" W x 16" H
Flyers/Inserts	\$960 & Up	Call for details	Call for details

# NORTHSIDE NEWS

[www.northsidenews.org](http://www.northsidenews.org)

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**October/November Northside News  
Contribution Deadline: Wednesday, September 4  
Distribution Dates: September 26–30**

## Northside News volunteers needed

Contact Abha to volunteer!

### Writers

Would you like to help us discover and tell the stories of our community? Even if you don't consider yourself a writer, we'll help you learn how.

### Photographers

Interested in visually capturing life on the Northside? Community celebrations, neighborhood events, youth activities, and our natural spaces and wildlife — we always need people with an eye for taking exceptional photographs of both the ordinary and the extraordinary.

### Cartoonists and Puzzle Creators

Do you like to doodle? Or would you like to help come up with puzzles or games we can print? Be in touch!

## Scavenger Hunt!

Send us a list of all five businesses whose ads you find our new mascot hiding behind, and your name will be added to a raffle for some great prizes donated by Northside businesses!



**Submit your list to:**  
Northside News  
2702 International Lane, Ste 203  
Madison, WI 53704  
Or email it to us at [editor@northsidenews.org](mailto:editor@northsidenews.org)

Include your full name and either your phone number or email address so we can contact you if you win. Also, if you'd like to help us name our mascot, send in your ideas and win a prize if we choose your entry!

## NORTHSIDE NEWS



**FROM THE EDITOR:** *The Northside News welcomes letters to the editor about substantive issues facing the Northside. We reserve the right to choose whether a submission will be printed, and we will work with you to edit your submission, if needed. Please send letters to Abha Thakkar at editor@northsidenews.org.*

## Family of injured child makes plea for pedestrian safety

*To the Editor,*

As parents, we make it our responsibility to keep our children out of harm's way. Inside the home, we try our best to provide a safe and caring atmosphere for our children; however, when out and about, we need to know that our community is also doing its best to secure their safety.

On July 4, our 13-year-old son was hit by a pickup truck on his way home via the crosswalk on Northport Drive. He escaped with his life but sustained multiple injuries, including a broken collar bone and a broken hip bone. He was passed out for several minutes, and when he awoke, he could not remember who he was. He had lost his memory temporarily. Due to the severe concussion, it is unlikely he will ever be able to participate in sports or other physically demanding activities. The doctors tell us that, if he hits his head again in the future, he could lose his memory permanently.

When asked, my son's advice for other children is, "to never cross the street because it's never safe there. Even if you really want to go to some place, never cross the street by yourself. Take a parent or have them drive you there." It would be unfortunate if our children, even our teenagers, could never feel safe crossing the street at a crosswalk in their own neighborhood.

As a community, let us promote awareness for pedestrian safety to prevent future accidents. Parents, please teach your children how and when to cross a crosswalk. Drivers, please slow down for children; please slow down for all pedestrians.

Yours Truly,

A concerned Northside family  
(*Note from editor: We agreed to withhold the family's name to respect their son's privacy.*)

**See page 26 for more information about what both drivers and pedestrians can do to make our streets safer.**

## Balancing recreation and conservation at Warner Park

*To the Editor,*

A few days ago, we attempted to take our grandchildren and their newly acquired fishing equipment across the street to fish. There was absolutely no approaching the lagoon.

Could someone explain the purpose for letting the weeds grow around the entire shoreline? It looks pathetic and should be an embarrassment to the city, especially to the Northside. The brush and weeds (and it is mostly weeds) serve no

purpose, save the provision of a breeding ground for mosquitoes, ticks, various other insects and vermin. Not to mention an occasional outdoor privy and trash receptacle for some park users.

I have lived across from Warner Park since 1971, and I have never seen it look so ill-kept as it has been in the last three or four years. More and more area has been turned over to the natural growth philosophy. Not only the shoreline but practically the entire south half of the park is unusable; even the sledding hill is difficult to access. Ice fishing, kayaking, canoeing, fishing, just walking along and looking at the lagoon have all but disappeared.

I'm all for conservation, environmental caregiving and animal protection. Moreover, Warner Park comes with its own natural game preserve, wetlands and woods, and they work very well to serve these purposes. However, Warner is a city park, intended to serve the community by providing areas for recreation, gatherings, sports activities, festivals and other events. If you want prairie, deep woods and swamp land, you have Cherokee Marsh close by. Meanwhile, it would be nice to be able to see and utilize the entire park for what it was intended for.

Sincerely,  
George M. Cunningham

## Move forward with changes to North Sherman Avenue

(*Note from editor: As of press time, work was scheduled to begin on North Sherman Avenue on Monday, July 29.*)

*To the Editor,*

We, as a representation of Northside residents and business people, are writing to make it known that we fully support the TWLTL [two way left turn lane] changes that have been approved for North Sherman Avenue and do not wish to see any delay in the implementation of this process that we have been wanting for over a decade.

A recent letter submitted by John Kavanaugh, Margo Dixon and Steve Nelson outlined a plan to stall and ultimately override the improvements, stating that the "business community and many residents ... were blindsided" by the approved changes. However, Northside residents and property owners were fully informed of this proposition over six months before the vote was made on March 5, 2013. The resolution for these changes was introduced on Sept. 18, 2012, and a public meeting was held on Oct. 11, 2012. Add to that the 10-plus years which residents have been asking for these changes while a small handful of merchants continue to fight it, and one could hardly call this a "blindsiding."

Furthermore, the business community of the Northside should welcome these changes as they have been proven in multiple



## Volunteer Spotlight

Q&A with Foluke Salami, age 10, a Northside News volunteer

*Q. Describe your volunteer role with the Northside News.*  
A. I write articles for the newspaper, as well as fiction that will be included sometimes.

*Q. What made you decide to volunteer with the newspaper?*

A. I enjoy writing about people and using writing to inform and help others. I've always wanted to share my writing and become better at my craft.

*Q. How long have you lived on the Northside and what do you like most about our community?*

A. I've live on the Northside for a little over two years, and one of my favorite things about the Northside is Vera Court.

*Q. What else do you enjoy doing in your free time?*

A. I love to hang out with family and friends and write songs, poems and books. I also love music, acting, performing, making and designing clothes, and inventing and creating future businesses. I'm a huge bookworm. Once I start reading a book I enjoy, I can't put it down. And I really love to volunteer and give back to the community and the world.

*Q. Is there anything else you'd like to share with us about your background?*

A. I was born in Nigeria and lived there for five years, and then my family moved here to Madison for a month. Then we moved to California and lived there a little over three years. After that I moved back here to Madison.

*Q. What is the best book you've read in the past year and why?*

A. I really love Greek mythology. I find it super interesting and exciting. My teacher started reading the first of the "Percy Jackson and the Olympians" books, and I was hooked and couldn't rest until I read all of them.

cases across the country to improve property values, business economy and community livability. In a recent study done at Portland State University, it was found that pedestrians and bikers made more stops per month at their local stores than did those commuting by car. If merchants want their Northside commerce to spurt and stutter, then by all means, continue to let drivers fly on down the road so fast they can't see your "Going Out of Business" sign. But if the goal is to revitalize and strengthen the Northside, it is imperative that we foster an environment that welcomes everyone.

The needs of the Northside community have changed over the decades and it is past time to make these changes. Let us not delay to move forward and open a new chapter for our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Zacarias Barnes, Susan Day, Ann Freiwald, Beth Hougen, Kira Milnick, Steve Paddock, Sarah Shatz, Bridget Snell, Jackie Sobolewski, Justin Sprague, Sandryae Thistle, Angela Trentadue, Diana Wheeler, Daithi Wolfe

## TWLTL study results to be shared at August 13 meeting

By **Lauri Lee**  
*Northside Business Association*

Independent Traffic Engineering study results of the TWLTL (two way left turn lane) for Sherman Avenue commissioned by the Sherman Avenue Merchants (SAM) will be presented at a community meeting Tuesday, Aug. 13, at 6 pm at Warner Park Community Recreation Center. Because these street changes will change the character of the Northside's main traffic corridor to area businesses, the downtown and outlying communities, the public is invited to hear the report and see the exhibits from the traffic engineering firm.

Traffic Engineering Services (TES) of Elm Grove, contracted to prepare a traffic assessment and peer review,

will present the traffic analysis and traffic model of the existing four-lane cross-section.

Because this is a peer review by TES, the outcome is not guaranteed to be against the TWLTL. SAM commissioned the study because they felt Northsiders deserved an independent study from a Northside perspective, done now, so everyone knows this was evaluated through more than one point of view. Even if study results support the city's plan, recommendations to make the project even safer and more effective may be found. In addition, it may point out areas of concern to monitor that can be addressed at the 18-month evaluation benchmark established by the Madison Common Council, a motion made by Alder Anita Weier.

## WESTPORT SQUARES

Present this ad for 2 free square dance lessons  
First lesson September 15, 2013, 6:30-8:30

www.westportsquares.com  
or call Rosie at 244-1185

**Westport Town Hall**  
5399 Mary Lake Rd.  
Waunakee, WI

## NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL

From

**KAREN  
BASSLER**



**NPC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Hello Northside, I have joined the Northside Planning Council (NPC) as executive director in the middle of some very exciting projects: FEED Kitchens construction, Northside Youth Empowerment Summit planning, reinvigoration of the Northside Economic Development Coalition, and preparations for NPC's 20th anniversary celebration. It is exhilarating to be on board now, and I look forward to launching the next 20 years of successful and innovative Northside projects and programs.

The work of the NPC is really the work of all of you: identifying what you like best about our community and building on that, coming together as a team to get big ideas to reality (Warner Park Community Recreation Center!), making sure our neighborhoods are well represented via neighborhood associations, and sharing in the delights of living, working and playing on the Northside. Our role is as a facilitator: bringing together the people and agencies

and funding necessary to accomplish a project, coordinating community discussions on key issues, representing your needs and opinions to our elected officials. We are here to help you work together to build and maintain a strong, lively and engaging community.

As residents and business owners and employees and park users and Mallards game attendees, you are tapped into the key issues and opportunities on the Northside. I would love to hear about those from you. My phone number is 661-0060, ext. 2, and my email address is [director@northside-planningcouncil.org](mailto:director@northside-planningcouncil.org).

In addition to your ideas and volunteer time and involvement, we also rely on your financial contributions to NPC. We run a lean, mean, fighting machine, with just one full-time and two part-time staff, but there are still expenses to meet (office rent, internet service, printing, mailing and so on). Your individual donations help make up the difference when the city grant funds are reduced or we need to invest in a new printer. We are grateful for every donation, no matter the size, because it means that someone believes in us.

I am looking forward to talking more with you, either in individual conversations or at one of our events. Cheers!



**Tamika  
Tupta**  
Age 17

### June 30 Sunday Supper featured great food and beautiful scenery

The Warner Park Community Recreation Center (WPCRC) is a beautiful building located on Madison's Northside. One of the many events the WPCRC holds is the Northside Community Supper, or "Sunday Supper," a relaxed gathering held quarterly on a Sunday evening from 5-7 pm, which brings people within our community together. The dining room in which Sunday Supper is held has beautiful views, with glass windows making up two of its walls.

day Supper. Renee Jackson, a hardworking mother of two growing boys, agrees that the supper allows her one less thing to think about. Renee has also volunteered as a food server and said, "I really enjoy helping [at the supper]."

On June 30, when I attended the Sunday Supper for the first time, I brought my 11-year-old brother with me, and he agreed that the food was awesome and the people we talked to were wonder-



Volunteers Diana Quinn and JoAnne Nelson enjoyed serving food at the June 30 event.

The most recent event was held June 30, and almost everyone commented on the view and the beautiful cranes that walk around right outside the building.

The Northside Community Supper brings people from our community together to share a nice meal. It is a great opportunity to meet new people, eat with their families or help in the kitchen. Diana Quinn and JoAnne Nelson, who served food for the first time at the June 30 supper, said they really enjoyed serving and "it was a very nice dinner event."

At each Sunday Supper, there is a delicious free meal served at 5 pm. At the June 30 event, co-sponsored by the Lake View Hill Neighborhood Association and the Northside Planning Council, tacos were served with fresh taco toppings from the Northside Farmers Market, which everyone enjoyed thoroughly. Carolyn Anderson, a retired teacher who taught at Mendota Elementary and Lindbergh Elementary for years, commented that "there are always delicious food selections" at the Sun-

ful. However, the most fun part of the evening for him was the activities after the meal. After people finished up their meals, a game of kickball formed right outside the center in the field next to the dining room.

Every Sunday Supper has recreational activities, such as kickball, for everyone to join in. If it's nice outside, there is usually a fun outdoor game in the field. If the weather isn't so great, the WPCRC's gym is open for basketball or other fun games. Another cool part of the Sunday Supper, along with good free food, fun activities and new people, is the opportunity to win free stuff from the raffle. The prizes were donated by DuWayne's Salon.

There are so many reasons to attend a Sunday Supper: if you don't feel like making dinner that night, Sunday Supper is a free meal; if you want to meet new people in our community; if you want to volunteer and serve food; or if you just want to have a fun night with the family. It really is a great experience.

### FEED Receives \$100,000 J.R. Albert Grant

Food Enterprise and Economic Development Kitchens, a project of the Northside Planning Council, is nearing its fundraising goal thanks to a \$100,000 grant from the J.R. Albert Foundation. The private foundation, established in 2007 in Kansas City, Mo., supports health through food access, as well as food and nutrition education. The grant will cover the cost of equipment for the kitchens.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS / AUG-SEP 2013

- Sundays - August to October**  
Northside Farmers Market, 8:30 am-12:30 pm, Northside TownCenter
- Mondays - August to September**  
Madison Food Carts, 5-7:30 pm, corner of Comanche Way and Wheeler Rd.
- Sunday, August 4**  
Countryside Montessori Preschool Open House, 10 am-1 pm, 721 Northport Dr.
- August 8 and August 17**  
Honor Flight Fundraiser, Benvenuto's
- Tuesday, August 13**  
Sherman Avenue TWLTL Public Meeting, 6 pm, Warner Park Community Recreation Center (WPCRC)
- Monday, September 9**  
Sherman Neighborhood Association

- Meeting, 6:30 pm, WPCRC
- Cub Scout Pack 127 — New Scout Night, 6 pm, Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church, 3705 N. Sherman Ave.
- Thursday, September 12**  
Madison Senior Center, Health and Resource Fair, 9 am-12 pm, 330 W. Mifflin St.
- VSA Wisconsin fundraiser, Cherokee Country Club, For info, [www.vsawis.org](http://www.vsawis.org)
- Sunday, September 15**  
TimeBank Pet Palooza, 8:30 am-12:30 pm, Northside Farmers Market
- Walk to End Alzheimer's, 10 am, Monona Terrace
- Westport Squares Open House, 6:30-8:30 pm, Westport Town Hall, 5399 Mary Lake Rd.

### Northside Planning Council

#### NPC MISSION

##### COMMUNITY-BUSINESS-PEOPLE

The Northside Planning Council's mission is to improve the quality of life for all residents of the Northside and to enhance opportunities for business.

NPC's priorities are:

**COMMUNITY** — Communication and connections within the Northside.

**BUSINESS** - Economic success and growth for the Northside.

**PEOPLE** - Ensuring individual and family support on the Northside.

#### Board of Directors

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**Northside Planning Council**  
2702 International Ln., Suite 203  
Madison, WI 53704  
608-661-0060

Northside Community

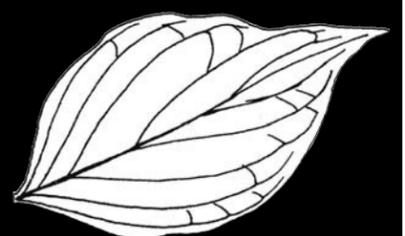
## Sunday Supper

FREE!

Planning is in the works for our next community supper with a good old fashioned menu of brats, hot dogs and hamburgers, all cooked by Brat und Brau, one of our newest Northside Restaurants, in partnership with the longstanding Jim's Meat Market providing

the side dishes. This is our sixth free community supper for the Northside. If you want to sponsor, volunteer or just get more involved with these suppers or other Northside efforts, contact Karen Bassler at the Northside Planning Council, 661-0060, ext 2.

**WEED . DIG . PLANT**  
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*HELP IN THE GARDEN*

**B & Z LANDSCAPE**

**NORTHSIDE PLANNING COUNCIL**

**Kids on the block: youth council members want to know ...**

As we celebrate 20 years of building the Northside community, we want to ensure that we can maintain our momentum and vision for another 20 years. And who will help us do that? The Northside youth.

This fall's Youth Empowerment Summit on Oct. 24 will be a kick-off event for the

Northside Youth Council — an opportunity for kids to sign up, get involved and identify community solutions they can take on. At the summit, our youth will be introduced to a range of community-based groups and projects, and will have an opportunity to sign up for those that interest them. Attendees will

also decide how and when the Youth Council will meet and how other kids can join in.

If you are interested in joining the Northside Youth Council, you can download and fill out an application from the Northside Planning Council website at <http://northsidemadison.org>.

On behalf of the Northside Youth Council, Alexis Cameron, Maia Butler and Robert Sanders interviewed dozens of youth at our neighborhood and community learning centers to get their thoughts about life on the Northside. Read what they had to say below.



**Q: What kind of volunteer work would you be interested in doing?**

I'd like to take care of the old people. 'Cause they can't take care of themselves anymore and they need help.



— Gwenn Looper

Help out kids when they need to read or something. Because sometimes I have too much free time and I need, basically, something to do. Reading is a subject I'm good at.



— Alvonte Bell

I would probably help out at the food pantry. It just feels good to give back to the community and help out.



— Kenny Nammabong

**Q: What kind of youth activities would you like to see on the Northside?**

I'd like to have festivals, some contests, and go to meetings with the mayor and stuff.



— Terriana Symone Brown

A buddy club where little kids can partner up with older kids and they can do stuff together.



— Santana Payne

I'd like a place where kids can go to hang out because when we go to parks and stuff, police always come to watch us. And that kind of bothers us.



— Lorin Steele

More sports like football or soccer, like get nets on those parks. Just more sporting.



— Eli Morocho

Activities that increase their leadership skills.



— Bami del Omebule

Poem writing. I like poems.



— Kentarrian Myles

Take them on college trips so they can get an idea about their colleges.



— Anthony Conard

**Q: What are some of the struggles people face on the Northside?**

These thugs. That's really it. It's just the thugs. They think they're better than everybody.



— Josh Roder

Seeing new faces and adapting to new people.



— Alex Dolomengi

Poverty. There's not much money for kids that live on the Northside and sometimes their parents have to work more than one job and sometimes parents don't have jobs, so it's hard and tougher for them.



— Jentaria Bey

Well, some of the houses on the Northside aren't that nice. And some of the places where the kids hang out aren't that nice looking. So we need new parks and stuff.



— Richard Ballard

**Q: What would make life better for youth on the Northside?**

There should be no violence around kids. People should learn to come outside because it would be safe around there.



— Jaitaja Graham

If kids could stop acting hard. Stop trying to be bad and stuff.



— Destinee Robinson



Photo by Jeanette Paulson

**In the kitchen with Sitara**

Sitara Ihlenfeld Paulson is 9 years old and will be a fourth-grader at Gompers Elementary School. She lives on the north side of Madison with her parents and sister. She has been cooking for the past year with Ellen Barnard and answered the following questions in anticipation of the opening of the FEED Kitchens.

**Q. Why are you looking forward to the FEED Kitchens opening this fall?**

**A.** I'm looking forward to cooking all kinds of different foods.

**Q. What do you hope will happen at FEED that you can be a part of?**

**A.** I hope to take cooking classes and I hope that Ellen will be one of the cooking instructors.

**Q. Why do you like to cook?**

**A.** I like adding ingredients and mixing them together. I like to use fractions, and cooking uses numbers and fractions in recipes. I like to eat the food once it's done cooking.

**Q. Who do you like to cook for?**

**A.** I like cooking for my family. One of my moms can't eat gluten and I have been learning to cook gluten-free foods.

**Q. What do you like to cook?**

**A.** My favorite thing to cook every weekend is pancakes and I can make them all by myself. Some of the other things I have cooked are carrot muffins, brownies with cranberries baked on top, lasagna with homemade gluten-free noodles, Caesar salad, gluten-free cheese crackers and baked cinnamon apples.

**Q. Why do you want to learn to cook?**

**A.** I'm interested in all different kinds of cooking. I love noodles so I want to make more pasta dishes. I'm looking forward to picking cucumbers and tomatoes with Ellen. We are going to make pickles and lots of tomato things. I love pickles.

**Q. What do you want other children to know about FEED Kitchens?**

**A.** I want kids to know that there will be fun cooking classes at the FEED Kitchens. Kids might get to cook with food and make things that they don't do at home. I love to cook and I think they will, too. When I grow up I want to be a scientist. I like mixing and adding ingredients and seeing how they react.

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**BUSINESS**



**Iker Rodriguez Tapia**  
Age 12

**Brat und Brau opens its doors again in Madison**

On July 1, 2013, the Brat und Brau restaurant opened at the Northside TownCenter. I had the opportunity to interview the owner, Mr. Patrick Hiebing. Mr. Hiebing has been in the restaurant business for 15 years in addition to working in the printing industry for 17 years.



Brat und Brau owner Patrick Hiebing with Iker Rodriguez Tapia.

The first Brat und Brau was founded in 1969 by Mr. Hiebing's father and a few other partners. At one time there were five Brat und Brau restaurants here in Madison. The Brat und Brau was very popular here in Madison as long as 44 years ago, and the last Brat und Brau restaurant closed in 2001.

Mr. Hiebing had been looking for a new Brat und Brau location since last November, and it took him six months to find the new location. Mr. Hiebing chose the Northside TownCenter because it is the perfect area for a Brat und Brau. It already had all the kitchen features he wanted, like a hood that hangs over the grill and the fryers. Mr. Hiebing mentioned that he received a nice lease from the landlords, too.

Some tips Mr. Hiebing gave me in order to be a good restaurant owner are that employees have to be trained well and always make sure the customer leaves satisfied. Mr. Hiebing is a good example of a great restaurant owner. He greets his customers at the door and lets them know they're not forgotten. During the interview, Mr. Hiebing stopped and took care of a customer's order right away, a clear sign that Brat und Brau provides excellent customer service.

I invite you to visit Brat und Brau, located at 2933 N. Sherman Ave., and taste the exquisite and succulent food from their menu, in particular their famous brats at an affordable price. Also come and see their beautiful decor. For more information, please call Brat und Brau at 257-2186.

Like us on Facebook!  
[northsidemadison.org](http://northsidemadison.org)

**Smart Dental says thank you with an open house**



Will winning the hula hoop contest at Smart Dental's open house.

**Visiting the dentist**

By Will, Age 7

When I was, I think, 3 years old, I started going to the dentist. I remember they would let me pick a pencil or a sticker out of the box. Now I am 7 years old and I really like going to the dentist because I get to see all of my favorite dentists.

It is actually not very scary, and for taking out a tooth, I think they have a machine for doing that now. When you go

Smart Dental, the office of Dr. Tammim Sifri, hosted an open house Friday, June 21. Entertainment, food and door prizes were provided as a fun way to thank patients, friends and other local businesses in the area for their support of Smart Dental. Guests enjoyed a relaxing cookout on the front lawn of the office with live musical entertainment. Prizes and fun games were appreciated by all ages.

Smart Dental is proud to have served Madison's Northside for six years. Dr. Sifri takes great care in educating patients on the prevention

of dental disease and creating healthy smiles. Dr. Sifri and his staff provide a caring and comfortable environment for children, adults and special needs patients. Dr. Sifri recommends children have their first dental visit by their first birthday.

Smart Dental is a community-focused family dental office on Madison's Northside. Dr. Sifri started Smart Dental in 2007 with the mission of helping Madison become smarter about dental health. At Smart Dental, education is the key to a healthy smile.

to the dentist, they give you this special bib so that if they spill anything it won't stain your shirt.

When I go to the dentist, first they take a small mirror with a long pole and they can see the back of my teeth. Then they use the mirror and this short pole with a scratcher-thing and do a little scratching on my teeth. It doesn't hurt. It just makes a funny noise. Then they ask you if you want them to put on this special gel for your teeth, the fluoride. There are many

different flavors, like grape, orange, strawberry, and I think there's mint. After they do that, they take this water sprayer and this air sprayer and they spray both into your mouth. It makes a funny noise. It feels like something tickling your teeth.

Afterwards, if you're young, you still get to pick a pencil or a sticker from the treasure box. It's full of pencils and stickers, I'll tell you that. And that's what happens at the dentist.

**Independent Living to choose architect and construction manager for Tennyson Lane retirement community**

By Sue Berg,  
Independent Living, Inc.

At press time in July, Independent Living, Inc. of Madison was in the final stages of interviewing firms to design and construct Northside Prairie Senior Living Community. The retirement community will be built on an eight-acre parcel on Tennyson Lane.

"The goal is to construct 200 to 300 independent apartments, assisted living units and memory care units in phases during the next five years," said Rita Giovannoni, CEO of Independent Living. "The level of interest in our project resulted in numerous proposals and an intensive review process," Giovannoni said. "The final candidates and our ultimate choice will likely be a combination of competitive proposals as well as experience and understanding of our mission."

To manage costs and keep this housing center affordable for seniors, Independent Living, Inc. is seeking grants and private donations. Independent Living, Inc. is a local nonprofit organization celebrating its 40th anniversary of senior services this year. People interested in

more information about the project are invited to call Independent Living at 274-7900 and ask to speak with Sue Berg, marketing director, or Nicole Schultz,

fund development director, or email [sberg@independentlivinginc.org](mailto:sberg@independentlivinginc.org). People may also join a list for periodic updates by email or regular mail.



# Brat und Brau Restaurant

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## BUSINESS



Iker  
Rodriguez  
Tapia  
Age 12

## La pasión por cocinar

## A passion for cooking

Los empresarios tienen un denominador en común: son muy apasionados por su trabajo. Y para muestra, el Sr. José Alejandro García, propietario del restaurante Habaneros Mexican Grill, el cual está próximo a inaugurarse en una nueva localidad del Northside en Sherman Plaza ubicado en 2895 North Sherman Avenue en Madison, WI.

El Sr. García ha estado en el negocio de restaurantes desde hace 14 años y su historia de éxito es inspiradora para otros emprendedores.

Él es un apasionado por la cocina. Le encanta la repostería. Hace algunos años trabajó en una panadería. “La elaboración del pan y cocinar es básicamente lo mismo”, dijo el entrevistado.

El Sr. García comenzó a concentrarse en la comida más que en la elaboración del pan, y poco después empezó a trabajar en el restaurante de un amigo.

Posteriormente, inició su propio negocio en Chicago y después se mudó a Madison, Wisconsin.

En un principio, vendía comida mexicana en una lonchera, “en ese tiempo era muy tímido para darle a conocer a la gente que vendía tacos, tortas y otra variedad de comida mexicana”, recuerda.

Después, empezó a darse a conocer y cada vez más tuvo más clientes.

¿Y cuál ha sido la clave de su éxito? “Si usted tiene pasión por algo, debe esforzarse para mejorar cada día más”, afirmó el Sr. García.

Al vender comida deliciosa le ayudó a obtener el reconocimiento de sus clientes. El Señor García ha aprovechado cada oportunidad que se le ha presentado para obtener éxito en su negocio.

Al principio, el Señor García tuvo que buscar diferentes lugares para vender su comida. Por ejemplo: en los partidos de fútbol y otros eventos. Eventualmente obtuvo más clientela al llegar al punto de que ya eran muchos cli-

entes y ya no tuvo suficiente espacio. Así que tomó la decisión de comprar un restaurante.

El primer Restaurante Habaneros Mexican Grill abrió sus puertas hace 5 años y se encuentra ubicado en 2229 S Stoughton Rd, Madison, WI. El Señor García nos platicó que tuvo la fortuna de conocer al Señor Lupe García, actual Gerente General de Habaneros Mexican Grill, con quien ha logrado formar un buen equipo de trabajo.

En junio del presente año, el Sr. García y el Sr. Díaz obtuvieron una gran oportunidad por parte del dueño de Sherman Plaza, el Señor Don Bruns, quien les ofreció una nueva ubicación para su restaurante. “Aceptamos con mucho gusto la propuesta del Señor Bruns; él nos ha ayudado mucho pues sabe que el Señor García ofrece muy buena calidad en su comida”, dijo Lupe García.

El Sr. Díaz expresó: - “¡Habaneros Mexican Grill es como un Subway Mexicano! porque el cliente puede ver lo que se le está sirviendo y tiene la opción de elegir lo que desee en su platillo”. Por ejemplo; si gusta un taco, se le preguntará: ¿Qué tipo de carne? ¿Al pastor, bistek, pollo o barbacoa? por mencionar algunos. Y también puede acompañar sus tacos con cilantro, limón, lechuga, guacamole, maíz, pico de gallo, y mucho más....

En el futuro, el Sr. García planea abrir un nuevo restaurante Habaneros en el lado oeste de la ciudad de Madison, ya que muchos clientes de esa zona vienen a comer a Habaneros en su actual ubicación.

“Hay que pensar en grande para ser grande”, afirmó el empresario.

La nueva ubicación de Habaneros aún no está abierta pero muchas personas se preguntan cuándo se va a inaugurar. Por el momento, lo único que podemos compartir es que ¡Habaneros abrirá muy pronto!

¡No se pueden perder en deleitarse a comer uno de los platillos más populares “un Burrito” de Habaneros en su nueva ubicación en cuanto habrá sus puertas al público!

I have great news to share with Northside residents. Habanero’s Mexican Grill is opening a new location at the Northside TownCenter, located at 2895 N. Sherman Ave. I got the opportunity to interview the owner of Habanero’s Mexican Grill, Mr. Jose Alejandro Garcia, and his general manager, Mr. Lupe Díaz.

Mr. Garcia has been in the restaurant business for 14 years. He has a unique and successful history before becoming a restaurant owner. Mr. Garcia has a passion for cooking. He worked at a bakery for a few years because he loves to make cakes and bread. He mentioned that baking bread and cooking food are basically the same. One day Mr. Garcia started focusing on food more than bread. He started working at a friend’s restaurant and eventually had a restaurant in Chicago for three years.

A few years ago, Mr. Garcia moved to Madison and started selling Mexican food in a catering van. At that time, he was afraid to tell people he was selling tacos, tortas and other Mexican food, but when he started to tell people, he started getting more and more customers. Mr. Garcia said, “If you have a passion for something, you try hard to improve every day.”

Serving good food helped him get recognized by his customers. Mr. Garcia took advantage of every single opportunity he got to be successful in this business. At first Mr. Garcia had to drive to different places. For example, he started out selling food at soccer games and other events. Eventually, Mr. Garcia’s customer base started to expand, and it grew so much that he could no longer efficiently serve customers out of his catering van. He had to expand his business and thus decided

to open a restaurant. The first Habanero’s restaurant opened five years ago and is located at 2229 S. Stoughton Rd.

One day, Mr. Garcia met Mr. Díaz and he saw how much restaurant experience Mr. Díaz had. Mr. Garcia offered Mr. Díaz the opportunity to work at Habanero’s Mexican Grill. Mr. Díaz worked his way up to be the general manager at the Stoughton Road location and has been working at Habanero’s for two years.

In June both Mr. Garcia and Mr. Díaz got a very good offer from the owner of Northside TownCenter, Mr. Don Bruns. He offered them a great opportunity to rent some space for a restaurant. Mr. Garcia and Mr. Diaz accepted the opportunity to rent the new location because Mr. Bruns is helping out a lot because he knows Mr. Garcia has the best quality food. It’s fresh and it’s always good.

Mr. Díaz said, “Habanero’s Mexican Grill is like a Mexican Subway because you are able to see all the food you can choose from.” For example, if you want a taco, the staff will ask you what kind of meat you want. Then you choose from a variety of toppings and sides, like cilantro, lemon, lettuce, guacamole, corn, pico de gallo and much more. Mr. Garcia’s future plan is to expand his business and open a new Habanero’s on the west side. There are a lot of people from the west side who come to get food from the Habanero’s Stoughton Road location. Mr. Díaz said, “You have to think big to become big.”

The Northside Habanero’s location is not open yet, but it will be very soon. Come visit the new Habanero’s Mexican Grill as soon as it opens and try one of the most popular items on the menu — a burrito.



## New Ernie’s Frozen Yogurt celebrates Northside TownCenter legacy

By Northside News Staff

Ernie’s Frozen Yogurt, our very own brand of Northside yogurt, is joining the menu lineup at the Coffee Gallerie, located in the Northside TownCenter.

Ernie’s Frozen Yogurt celebrates the Bruns’ family legacy. “The Coffee Gallerie sits on the original Ernest Bruns family farm and each genera-

tion since the 1800s has kept the Ernest namesake,” said co-owner Jon Bruns. “Naming a frozen yogurt for Ernest seemed very appropriate.”

Part of the appeal of frozen yogurt at the Coffee Gallerie will be the ability to personalize one’s dessert with a choice of toppings and paying by the ounce.

### Why frozen yogurt?

- Naturally contains little or no fat, less sugar and fewer calories compared to ice cream or custard;
- Boosts the immune system;
- Is a good source of nutrients such as protein, potassium, thiamine, riboflavin, B6 and B12;
- Contains live, active cultures that

replenish and maintain good bacteria, which support the body’s digestive system;

- Is packed with calcium that maintains healthy bones and teeth and helps in the prevention of osteoporosis;
- Encourages beneficial metabolic effects;
- Aids in managing lactose intolerance.

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