



Camden Community News

Serving the neighborhoods of northwest Minneapolis since 1975.



January 2011

Next issue January 29, deadline January 18

www.camdenews.org

Vol. 32 No. 1

Violent crime drops again

By Crime Prevention Specialist Tim Hammett

On December 20 Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, Police Chief Tim Dolan and City Council Member Don Samuels reported that violent crime in Minneapolis had fallen to its lowest level in 25 years.

In 2009 Minneapolis as a whole had the lowest level of Part I crimes (which include violent crime and property crime) in 36 years (1963), and 2010 is on course to end with approximately the same levels. The Camden Community is on pace to exceed that with a 5 percent reduction in Part I crime from 2009. Violent crime in Camden is also on pace to be about

1 to 2 percent lower in 2010 than it was in 2009. City-wide, violent crime is likely to be down about 5 percent compared to 2009.

“Our police department deserves an enormous amount of credit for being smart and strategic in their work to combat crime,” said Rybak. “This year started out with a few challenging months, but we didn’t panic. We worked harder and smarter. We analyzed our data, determined what was driving the increase in violence and adjusted our tactics. Beginning in July, the Minneapolis Police and many law enforcement partners began a new coordinated push to

Crime drops continued on page 2

The weather outside was delightful



Folks enjoyed roasting marshmallows over open fires.

It was a cold, snowy night - which made it even more apropos for an evening outside at Camden’s biggest celebration, Holiday on 44th, on December 3. This was the 13th year the event was held along 44th Avenue, and folks came from all over the metro area to celebrate winter with free music, entertainment, food and beverages and all-around fun for all ages.

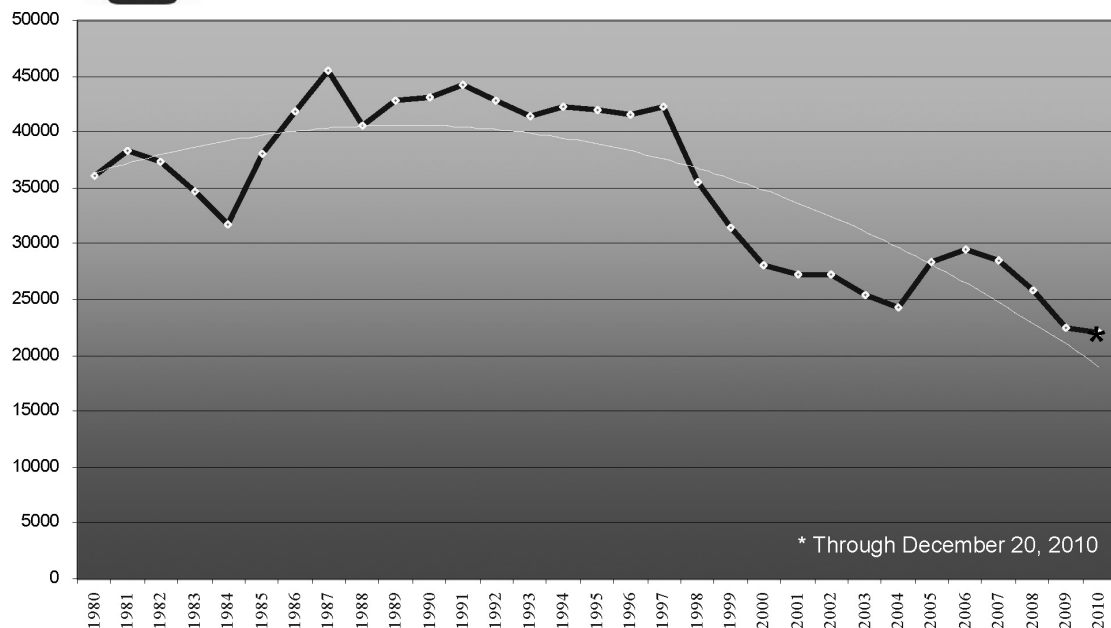
Outside people enjoyed the fire jugglers, horse-drawn hay rides, pony rides ice carvings, wood carvings and got warmed up by roasting marshmallows. Indoors at Patrick Henry were an arts and craft show, Mexican dancers, live music and make-and-take gingerbread fun. At Loring School kids got to see carolers and magic shows. And all the businesses along the avenue had entertainment and treats. For photo highlights see page 4. Photos by Duane Atter.

Holiday on 44th photos on page 4



Minneapolis Part I Crime

1980-December 20, 2010



City and NRP relations frozen after move to freeze funds

By Jeff Strand and Amy Luesebrink

Temperatures drop well below freezing in any Minnesota winter but nothing compares to the wintry blizzard and aftermath of December 13 at Minneapolis City Hall. Minneapolis neighborhood organizations had been diligently working with the City for the past three years and were poised to participate in the new Community Participation Program offered by the City’s new Neighborhood and Community Relations Department (NCR). This program would have complemented the existing action plans that all of our neighborhood organizations are using in the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP).

But our neighborhood organizations got a surprisingly different word on December 7 when they read about a major pending decision on the Minneapolis issues forum from StarTribune’s Steve Brandt. Brandt wrote there was a proposed amendment to the 2011 budget that would “freeze...NRP transactions pending the legislation and an attempt to equalize the impact among neighborhoods.” (www.startribune.com/local/111421489.html?page=2&c=y)

The amendment proposed by City Council President Barbara Johnson, Council Member Betsy Hodges and Mayor

Rybak was offered to “trim property taxes.” There was much debate during the week regarding the proposed amendment. On the following Monday, December 13, despite a blizzard that dumped two feet of snow, the city held its truth in taxation budget hearing. Public testimony was heard for over five hours by 70 residents, property owners and residents who testified about hardships from proposed rises in their 2011 property tax bills or cuts in neighborhood programs.

One item not addressed by the City Council was the proposed “Staff Directions,” from the Finance Staff and the Ways and Means Chair, which had no impact on the 2011 budget. With a vote of 10-3, Council President Barbara Johnson, Ways and Means Chair Betsy Hodges, Community Development Committee Chair Council Member Lisa Goodman, and Council Members Don Samuels, Elizabeth Glidden, Gary Schiff, John Quincy, Diane Hofstede and Sandy Colvin Roy voted to approve the Staff Directive attached to the proposed 2011 Budget and approved the proposed budget, with no amendments or reductions. The three opposing votes were Council Members Robert Lilligren, Cam Gordon and Meg Tuthill.

The Council adopted the Staff Directives after three attempted amendments from Council Vice President Robert Lilligren to adjust them were defeated. Rybak stated during the amendments discussion that he would veto any budget sent to him that did not include the proposed language. So besides approving a budget for 2011 with no property tax relief for 2011, the Staff Directions adopted on December 13 were to: Not renew the NRP Joint Powers Agreement when it expires December 31, 2011; to direct IGR staff to report in January 2011 “on an amendment to the City’s state legislative agenda which would incorporate a proposed strategy to seek legislation consolidating neighborhood programs and eliminating the need for the Joint Powers Board; to direct the Finance and NCR departments “to allow neighborhoods to contract up to 50 percent of the un-contracted balance of their Phase II allocation (excluding Phase II allocated but not Contracted Reserve funds), as of City Council adoption of the 2011 budget, but not to exceed a total contracted amount of 50 percent of their Phase II allocation.” The Council also directed the NCR to work with the NCEC and to report back to the Council on “mitigating eq-

NRP continued on page 2

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Dear Fellow Camden Resident:

I'm Tom Bain. My Realtor/wife, Jean, and I live in the Camden community and sell homes in this area as well as throughout the Metro.

Happy New Year! With record setting snowfall, the kids love sledding & snowboarding. As homeowners, the snow puts an extra burden on us. Be sure to keep your sidewalks shoveled. It should be all of our concern to shovel around the fire hydrants. This is for everyone's safety. Work with your neighbors to take care of this – don't leave it all to the poor guy on the corner – he has enough to do! If you have a neighboring property that's not being shoveled, contact the owner, the property manager or call 311 to report it. We want to keep our neighborhoods safe & looking good!

We know the neighborhoods of Camden, the amenities, the housing, the people. To learn about buying and/or selling in Camden or throughout the metro, call us or check out our website at www.bainhomes.com.

NRP *continued from page 1*

uity issues among neighborhoods related to the suspension of new contracts.”

In 2009 the NRP Policy Board received a legal opinion from attorney Michael Norton indicating that the new city NCR department lacked legal authority over the treatment of NRP funds. The NRP legal opinion said, “NRP Law mandates that there be an NRP Program with all the required indicia, that is, neighborhoods creating and implementing neighborhood action plans, a multi-jurisdictional NRP board addressing program issues and approving neighborhood action plans, and the City approving qualified expenditures.” NRP advocates believe the correct interpretation is that the city is the fiscal agent or trustee of the NRP funds but that it is not entitled to “freeze” the funds, and then subsequently use those funds for the city's own purposes.


NCR Director David Rubedor and NRP Director Robert Miller had spent months negotiating a proposed consolidation plan acceptable to their respective governing bodies and constituencies to avoid redundant administrative costs and to achieve service integration for neighborhoods. The NRP Policy Board had approved the “NRP and NCR: Collaboration, Cooperation and Consolidation Plan” on September 27. The plan sought a transition that would ensure four goals: Reduce or eliminate any duplication of administrative expenses; maximize funding for neighborhood organizations; provide a seamless transition for neighborhoods from NRP to the NCR Department; and maintain the integrity of both NRP and NCR programs.” In November the NRP LINK had reported continued progress toward NRP/NCR consolidation. The plan was awaiting action by the City.

But a week later on December 20 on another snow filled Monday afternoon with downtown traffic gridlocked, the NRP Policy Board rescinded approval of the consolidation plan, and also told Miller to “end all collaboration efforts with the NCR and NCEC, effective immediately upon adoption of this resolution.” The Policy Board also ordered the termination of all detailing of NRP staff to the NCR immediately upon adoption of the resolution, and prohibited the director from initiating any new staff detailing without the express consent of the Policy Board. And the Policy Board directed Miller to “pursue options for the benefit of NRP and provide a report to the Policy Board at its January 24, 2011 meeting.”

So what does this mean for Camden residents and neighborhood organizations and where does it leave them in the new year? The NCR has announced the “Community Participation Program For Minneapolis Neighborhood Organizations” with funding of up to \$3 million for 2011

NRP continued on page 10

Camden Community News



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February	Jan. 28	Jan. 18
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May	Apr. 29	Apr. 19
June	May 27	May 17
July	June 24	June 14
August	July 29	July 19
September	Aug. 26	Aug. 16
October	Sept. 30	Sept. 20
November	Oct. 28	Oct. 18
December	Nov. 25	Nov. 15
January '12	Dec. 30	Dec. 20

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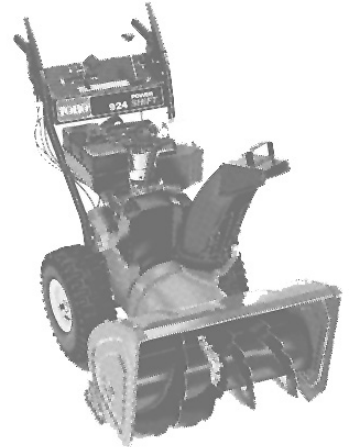
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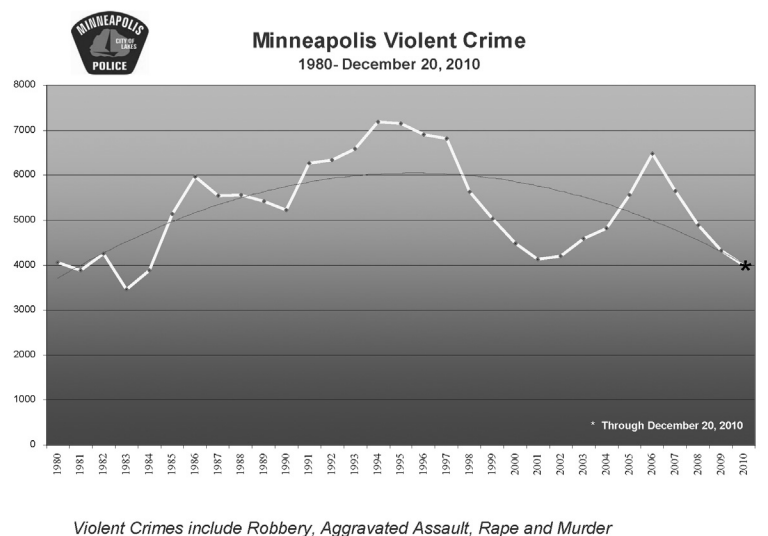
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Crime drops *continued from page 1*

target gun violence and get the most violent offenders off the street. Not only did we see a 23 percent decrease in gun violence within the four months after that, but we've now seen significant declines in overall crime in the last half of the year.”

That “coordinated push” involved a partnership between the MPD, the County and U.S. Attorney's offices, the ATF and other agencies to identify, prosecute and convict perpetrators of gun crimes. Dubbed “Project Minnesota Exile” by U.S. Attorney B. Todd Jones, the operation sought to charge more violent felons in Federal Court where penalties are stiffer, and there is no parole. In a July 22 press conference Jones said, “We are targeting the worst of the worst, the folks who don't care, and we're giving them fair warning: if you harm the community or an innocent person as a result of your selfishness, you will feel the full force of the law. We will seek the toughest possible penalties, whether those are in federal courts or state courts.”



“Our officers continue to work hard for the people of Minneapolis, and they should be proud of the results they've achieved,” said Chief Dolan. “This year, we took our strategic work to new levels, using evidence-based policing to drive strategy and stay ahead of crime patterns. We're getting better information, we're better trained, and we've got better tools than ever to make Minneapolis safer. We know there's more to do, and it's a mission we undertake seriously, with great partners in the community, law enforcement and government.”

Dolan also stressed the importance of community involvement and the hard work of front line patrol officers in realizing these reductions.

“The crime numbers for 2010 are very encouraging, and we know there is more work to be done,” said Council Member Don Samuels, who chairs the Council's Public Safety and Health Committee. “As City government, our number one job is to make sure people feel safe in their community. We're getting better at taking a holistic approach to creating safer neighborhoods and stabilizing housing, involving law enforcement, public health, block clubs, and residents in every part of our city.”

Camden Youth & Schools

Riverfront competition spurs teen park study

By Michelle LeGault

A group of Minneapolis teenagers will get the chance to present their ideas for an idyllic park along with top designers from around the world this winter.

In January, the top four teams in the Minneapolis Riverfront Design Competition (MRDC) will present their proposals at the Walker Art Center. And alongside these established architectural artists will be a group of 30 teenagers who have been studying specific parks and neighborhoods in North Minneapolis.

This neighborhood park study is the basis of an environmental literacy curriculum created by former University of Minnesota architecture professor, Mary deLaittre. deLaittre is also the project manager for the MRDC.



Members of the Green Team work on project to identify houses, business and public recreation spaces in a cross section of North Minneapolis.

The curriculum, SiteSeeing, was picked up by Minneapolis Park and Rec. Board (MRPB) this past fall because it compliments the MRDC. In the same way that designers will consider how to lure city residents to the riverfront, students in the SiteSeeing program are asked to make keen observations about what keeps people out of parks, and what draws them in again.

The curriculum is currently being taught to youth from The Green Team and Youthline, offshoots of Teen Teamworks, an MRPB employment program for Minneapolis youth. Youthline is studying the east side of the Mississippi River and The Green Team is studying the area around Farview Park and looking at how that area connects to the riverfront, said deLaittre. "It's very interesting because the conditions on either side of the river are very, very different," she added.

Both teams began their curriculums before Thanksgiving, but what was supposed to be a four-week program, has suffered lost time due to adverse weather conditions in December, said instructor Karen Wolner, a Neighborhood Naturalist for the MRPB. Many of the kids walk to the park and so the Green Team had to cancel two weeks in a row, said Wolner.

During the first week of SiteSeeing, students in the Green Team toured Farview Park and the surrounding neighborhood on foot, taking photographs of familiar things and surprising things. In week two, the students made collages of their pictures and talked about what they saw. "They noticed there weren't many people around and a lot of them said they saw trash," said Wolner.



Patrick Henry High school sophomore Connie Xiong (left) and other members of the Green Team trace landmarks on an aerial map of North Minneapolis.

Bringing more people to the parks might require a new marketing strategy, according to Green Team member Marcus Nyandi, 16. Colorful fliers in the mail just do not cut it anymore, he said. "You see ads on TV for football games, but you never see ads for community events. If there were commercials for community events, more people might come," Nyandi said. "Having this job changes your habits about what's being done and what needs to be done."

Step one for Connie Xiong is to plant a flower garden at home. Xiong, 15, already has the perfect place in mind, too: Near down spouts to prevent runoff water – something she learned about through the Green Team.

Not all of the students who engage in SiteSeeing will grow up to be designers, but that isn't the point, deLaittre said. Developing their observation skills will affect how they choose a community to live in and how they decide to interact with that community.

Parent volunteer opportunities at Patrick Henry

By Tom Murray

Are you interested in being more involved in your child's education? Patrick Henry High needs your time and talent! We have lots of ways for you to volunteer throughout the school year. Help make Patrick Henry a stronger school and community!

To become a parent volunteer, do the following: Read the volunteer position descriptions below and check those that interest you (and let us know if you have other ideas!).

Office assistant: Answer phones, make copies, assist with filing and mailings.

Parent leader: Help organize parent meetings, outreach to other parents, manage phone tree, order and pick up food, contact possible speakers.

Classroom assistant: Support teachers in the classroom, one-to-one tutoring, help with special projects.

Event assistant: Set up for open houses, conferences or other events, welcome families and community members, staff tables, make reminder phone calls.

Chaperone: Chaperone dances, field trips and other student activities.

Booster Club member: Participate in the parent leadership group, assist in planning family events at Patrick Henry.

If you are interested in any of the above send your name, phone (home, work, cell), email address, and emergency contact, along with when you're able to volunteer; preferred months (or all school year) preferred time of day (morning, afternoon, evening) and preferred days of the week.

Return the info to Tom Murray, Room 106, PHHS, 4300 Newton Ave. N. Mpls, MN 55412. Contact Tom Murray, Family Liaison, at 668-1932 if you have questions.

Bringing in the new year



Talented students took the stage for Noble Academy's annual New Year's Celebration on December 16 at Brooklyn Center High School. Traditional Hmong attire was worn by most of the performers as they entertained fellow students, families and school staff. After all of the performances everyone was invited to enjoy dinner in the school's cafeteria. Noble Academy, 40th and Thomas, is a nonprofit K-8 grade charter school serving mostly Hmong students. Photos by Randy Klauk.



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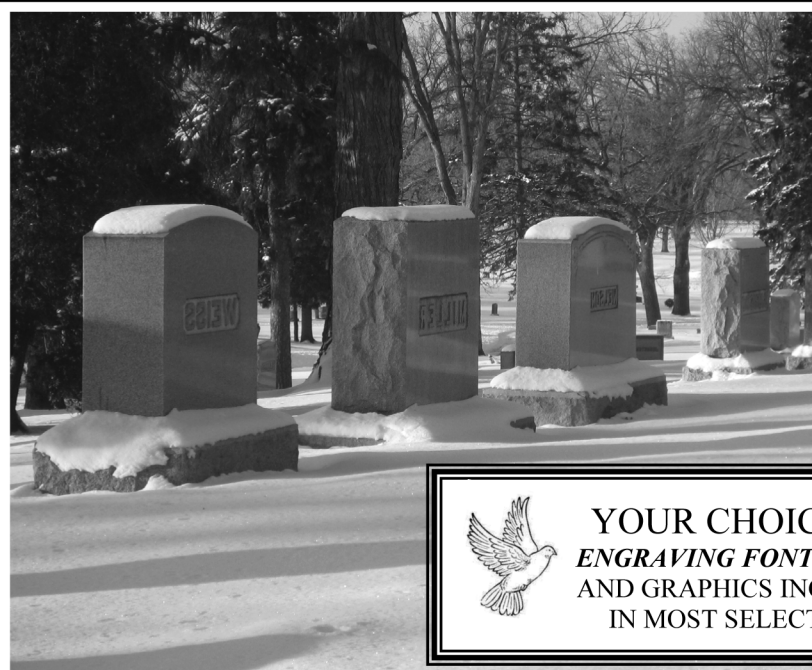
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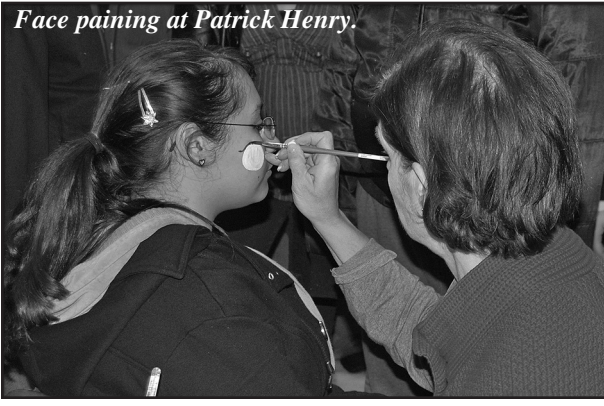
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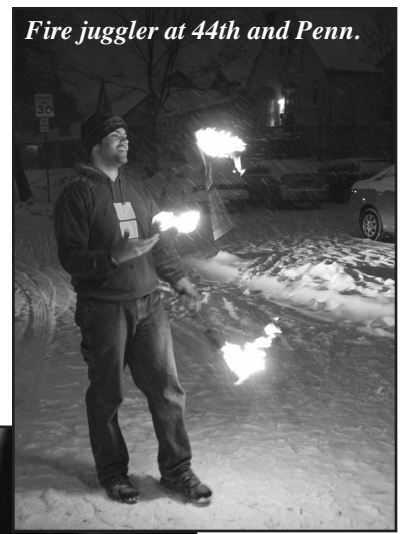


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HOLIDAY ON FORTY FOURTH



Face painting at Patrick Henry.



Fire juggler at 44th and Penn.



Camden Music School carolers at Loring Elementary.

Creating ginger bread houses at Patrick Henry.



Horse-drawn hayrides were even more fun in the snow.



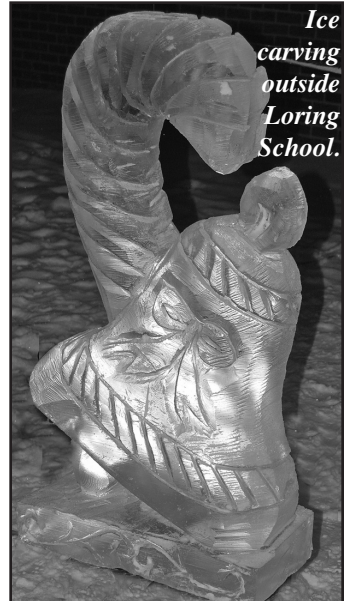
Hula hooping on 44th and Penn.



Mexican dancers at Patrick Henry.



Ice carving outside Loring School.



HOLIDAY ON FORTY FOURTH

It was magic!

Thanks to the community who came out in spite of the weather.

And a special thanks to our sponsors and volunteers.

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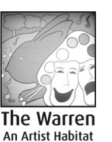
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Loring Staff and Engineers

SPECIAL THANKS TO:
Patrick Henry High School
Principal LaTanya Daniels, Paul Compton and Students, Dave Wicker, Athletic Director, Sandy Wodtke and the Engineering Staff, Elizabeth Roth-Kotek and the PHHS Band.

Minneapolis Park and Recreation
Emily Wolfe, Webber Park Director, and Staff

The Steering Committee includes:
Duane Atter, Buzzy Bohn, Monica Colberg, Scott George, Ann Kaari, Debbie Nelson, Tim Nelson, Lois Prichard, Tammy Rose, Cheryl Sanderson, Theresa Stang, Becki Smith, Sue Tennesen



Scoops

Shop locally and everyone in our community reaps the benefits! If you own a local business, you will reap the local benefits by joining the Northwest Minneapolis Business Association (NWMBA) — there are a lot of perks — check it out at the annual get-together on Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30 p.m. at 42nd Avenue Station, (42nd and Lyndale). Attention business owners: NWMBA is having a membership drive for paid 2010 members! If you bring two new

member businesses to the annual meeting on January 18, you'll receive a **free 2011 membership!** The business who brings in the **most** new, paid members before the January 18 meeting will get **\$100!** (A minimum of four new businesses is necessary to qualify for the \$100.) For more info go to www.nwmpbsbusiness.com.

If you know of a new business in the community or one that has new products or services send the "scoop" to editor@camden-news.org.

Thirty-one years of volunteering

By Jamie Neldner

Bob Riley has volunteered for the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board coaching youth basketball for 31 years. He has primarily worked with girls' teams at Folwell Park, but has had his share of experience with co-ed teams as well. He has volunteered in various other communities in Minneapolis (Creekview and Webber Parks) in addition to youth serving agencies outside of our park system (Cooper High School in Robbinsdale and Birch Grove Elementary School in Brooklyn Park).

Bob's dedication to youth, and in particular the growth of girls' athletics, is exemplary. He incorporates life lessons into his coaching style, and has had a hand in the physical and social development of innumerable young athletes. His volunteerism is beyond admirable and the hours he and his family have shared with our park system are countless.

Bob was recently selected to receive a Breaking Barriers Award for his positive impact and contributions towards providing athletic opportunities for girls and women of all races, all ages and all levels of abilities. These awards are presented annually at the Minnesota Girls and Women in Sports Day Celebration, which is held at the State Capitol Rotunda. This year, the event is Tuesday, February 1 at noon. National Girls and Women in Sports Day is a time to celebrate the accomplishments in girls and women's sports, to recognize our state's leaders and athletes, and to look to the future. More than 200 people from across the state are anticipated to attend this hour-long rally.

Bob's coaching career in the metro area has come to an end, as he has retired to the St. Louis area. Although we are happy to share his talents with the youth of his new community, his presence will certainly be missed in ours. His dedication and services over the years have been truly priceless.

100 year birthday celebration at Webber Library

On Saturday, January 15 our community will be celebrating 100 years of service at Webber Park Library, 4310 Webber Parkway. The Friends of Webber Park Library invite you to join them from noon to 2 p.m. to honor and acknowledge the rich contribution the Camden Community receives through the programs and resources of Webber Park Library. There will be opportunities for sharing memories and birthday cake for all. The Friends of Webber Park Library will present Webber Park Library with a gift from their fall book sale and will be kicking off their 100 member membership drive. The Friends hope to see you there!



Fourth Ward Report

Council Member Barbara A. Johnson
Phone: 673-2204 Fax: 673-3940

Web page: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward4

Contact Form: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/contact/email-form-johnson.asp>

STEP-UP Program seeks Minneapolis youth for 2011 Summer Jobs

It is not too early for teens to start planning for a summer job. The City of Minneapolis STEP-UP Program is now accepting applications from youth ages 14-21. STEP-UP trains and places Minneapolis youth in paid internships during the summer at local businesses. Youth earn a minimum of \$7.25 to upwards of \$10 an hour. Most interns work part-time for up to nine weeks during the summer. Youth selected to participate in the STEP-UP program must attend the mandatory work readiness training in April to be considered for a summer position. 2011 summer job applications will be accepted through February 4. For more information about the Minneapolis STEP-UP program visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/stepup.asp> or contact Tammy Dickinson at 612-673-5041 or tammy.dickinson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Frequently Asked Question

Q. I'm a disabled senior citizen who needs help with snow removal. What resources are available?

A. Free snow removal resources are very limited, but two different agencies may have no to low-cost snow removal programs if you qualify, and if they have enough workers/volunteers. Please be advised that these programs may have waiting lists. If you have an elderly or disabled neigh-

bor, please consider helping them with snow removal. If you are a senior who lives north of 44th Avenue North, please call the CEAP Handyworks Program at 763-566-9600 ext. 25.

If you are a senior who lives south of 44th Avenue North, please call the Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP) HandyWorks at 612-374-3322.

If you are interested in working for, or volunteering with, one of these agencies to help with snow removal for seniors, please contact the agencies directly for information, qualifications or an application.

Free sand for Minneapolis residents

The City offers several sites where residents can pick-up free sand for their residential sidewalks. Locations are open 24-hours-a-day. Please bring your own pail and shovel: 6036 Harriet Ave. S.; 1809 Washington St. NE; E. 27th Street, just east of Longfellow Avenue near the Public Works gate. Call 612-673-5720 for more information.

4th Ward E-Newsletter

Sign up for the 4th Ward E-mail newsletter at: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/contact/email-form-johnson.asp> In "questions/comments" type "newsletter" and you will be added to the list.

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- Human Resources Board
- Library Board
- Three Rivers Park District
- Workforce Investment Board

Application deadline: Jan. 7, 2011
 For more information and to apply online:
www.hennepin.us/volunteering.





Community School

2600 44th Avenue North
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High Five to 5th grade ☆ All Day Kindergarten

Our Mission

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Camden Arts

Chris Johnson – He gets paid by the “rest!”

By Mick LaBriola

If you mix a little New Orleans R&B, blues standards, country favorites and jazz classics you will find an intriguing whistling tunesmith by the name of Chris Johnson. Chris has reawakened the ancient art of whistling, bringing it to a new level of soothing, comforting original melodies, accompanied by calming vocals and guitar. However, Chris is best known as a first-call jobber, mainly performing on bass guitar and vocals, for dozens of professional acts both locally and nationally.

Chris was transplanted to the Twin Cities from Detroit, Michigan at the tender age of one year. He grew up in Blaine where he was inundated with music by his talented grandparents John G and Francis Johnson, who only lived a mile away from his home. Grandma played guitar and auto-harp and sang; Chris remembers singing at age six in a nursing home with her. By the age of eight Chris was playing guitar and whistling with his grandma. John G, Chris's grandfather, played trumpet and bass guitar and used to perform at Schuller's Tavern in Golden Valley. John G also produced a 10" 33-1/3 LP called *Johnny Jay and the Elites*, with two cuts on each side of the disc.

Over the following years Chris performed mostly in churches and nursing homes, which evolved into a part-time job. It was not until around 1991 that Chris joined his first successful group, Tribute to Patsy Cline with Janie Miller, bandleader and vocalist. By 1992 Chris and his wife Erika were wed and moved into their present Northside home. There



Chris Johnson.

they raised their two children, Jeoff and Sarah, with Chris being a full-time stay-at-home Dad.

Chris's career flourished accompanying popular bands such as Lamont Cranston, the Butanes, the Del Counts, Fabulous Minnesota Barking Ducks, Dave Ray, Cornbread Harris, Dan Lund, Lonnie Knight, Reverend Raven, Joel Johnson, Tom Hunter, Renee Austin, Big Walter Smith, Blackburn and Beech Band, etc. Chris was also bandleader of Hydraulic Jack and the Lifters.

Chris continued to strive to further his musical development through studies with Laura Fleming, Jeff Wilkonn, Terry Burns and Paul Lagos. Chris also performed with Paul Lagos (legendary jazz drummer) in the Blackburn Beech Band where Chris exclaims, "Paul taught me how to write music and understand the rudiments of jazz."

An exciting new project for Chris's music, particularly his whistling music, is implemented

in a new film from L.A. written by Rachel Tucker and directed by Nick Lawrence called *Time Expired*, to be released in 2011. It's a comedy about Randall, a terminally ill meter reader, who wants nothing more than to live out his final days in peace.

Chris is currently performing at two local venues weekly: The first three Tuesdays of each month Chris performs solo (and occasionally with friends) at 42nd Avenue Station Coffee House located at 4171 Lyndale Ave. N; Chris also performs every Friday and Saturday with Exotik-a-GoGo at Psycho Suzi's (1900 Marshall St. NE). Visit Chris's website (in progress) at <http://chrisjohnsontunes.com/>.

Chris currently attends Minneapolis Community and Technical College pursuing an Associates of Arts Degree, and volunteers for the Minneapolis School District in the Adult Basic Education program helping adult students with math, civics, reading and resumes, etc. When he acquires 60 credit hours, he can then apply for a paid staff position with the school district.

Chris says, "A bass player is more important about the groove and feel of the music, not how many notes are played. When you don't really notice the bass it is doing its job. Some players are more scholarly, others have more feel. And it is important to bring both of these elements together. It feels good and is intellectually fun." Finally he says, "Musicians must practice their rests." (The place where you breathe and or pause in music.) "I get paid by the rest!"

Workhouse Theatre sets its sights on 2011

Following a successful run of *Proof* at The Warren-An Artist Habitat, and snowy but well-received performances of Timon of Athens in November and at Holiday on 44 in December, Workhouse Theatre Company (WTC) is looking forward to an exciting new year.

"We're so excited for the new year, and to bring exciting new productions to our audiences in the Camden neighborhoods," said WTC Artistic Director Christopher Tibbetts. "We have a variety of exceptional things coming up. We hope that our loyal followers will join us, and we hope to attract new friends as well."

First up for WTC is the Shakespeare on Sunday readings series, the second season in a partnership with Minnesota Shakespeare Project (MSP). Victory resident Diane Mountford, MSP Artistic Director, will direct two upcoming readings. On February 20 look for Shakespeare's well-known, controversial comedy *The Merchant of Venice*, featuring Sigrid Sutter and Ryan Henderson from WTC's recent hit *Proof*, as well as Twin Cities favorite Mark Rosenwinkel as Shylock. On April 10 the Shakespeare on Sunday series closes for the season with the beloved *All's Well That Ends Well*, featuring Northsider Elizaeth Gjertson (who appeared as Claire in Workhouse's *Proof*).

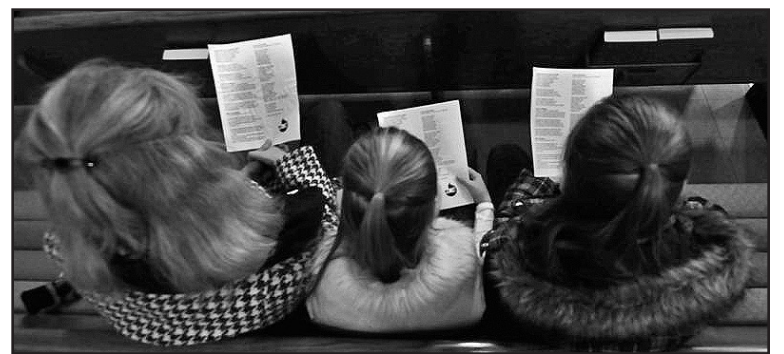
In May, look for Workhouse's new production of the well-loved comedy *Sylvia*, by A. R. Gurney, Jr., directed by Tibbetts. This story of empty nesters Greg and Kate adjusting to the changes in mid-life with the help of a stray dog will feature David Denninger, Erin Duffy, Julie Ann Nevill and Jonathan Peterson. *Sylvia* runs May 6-22 at The Warren-An Artist Habitat.

Workhouse has just announced an additional production to close out its 2010-11 season. On June 17-July 3 the company will present the popular, Tony Award-winning comedy *Torch Song Trilogy*. "It's a thrill to be extending our season, thanks to the enthusiastic responses of our audience," Tibbetts said. "*Torch Song Trilogy* is a play I've loved for a long time, and it will be an honor to share it with our audience." Tibbetts said the addition of *Torch Song Trilogy* marks a new initiative by him and WTC Managing Director Mark Webb to add GLBT-themed programming to WTC's repertoire. "The theatre has always been a place of welcome, a safe place where everyone can be themselves, and be understood and accepted. We hope to continue to reach out to everyone in the neighborhoods and the larger community."

Tibbetts said WTC's 2011-12 season will be announced in January. For more info visit www.workhousetheatre.org.



Singing along



It was small but enthusiastic crowd that enjoyed a wintry mix of music at the Camden Music School's 6th annual Sing-Along on December 12. They sang everything from traditional Christmas songs to more modern numbers like Blue Christmas. The sing-along was rescheduled from Saturday to Sunday because of the big snowstorm. The audience seemed to find new meaning in the song Let It Snow! Photo by Randy Klauk.




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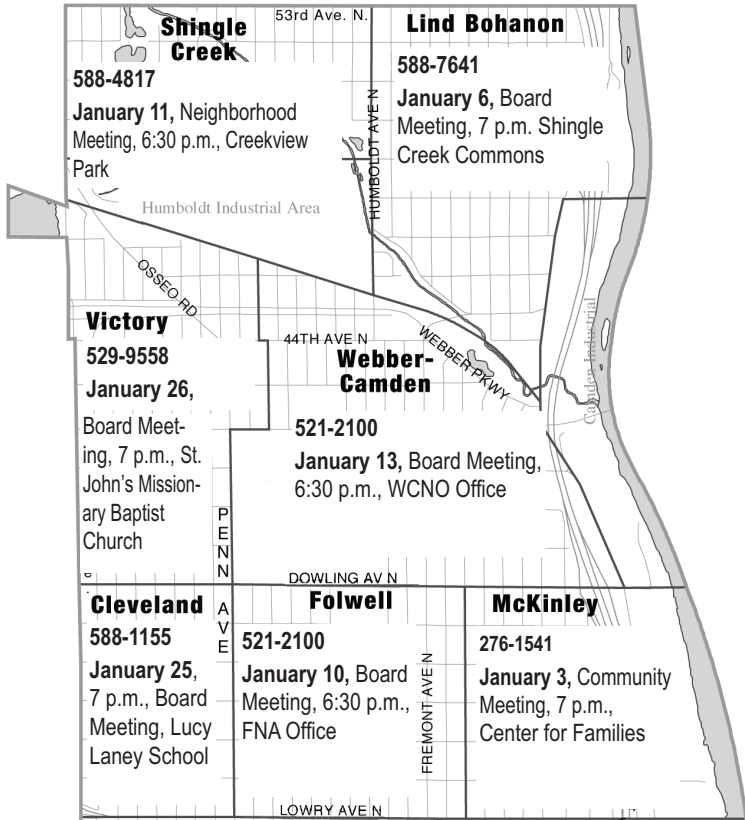
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All the News from Victory Neighborhood



Dinner and a Movie in the Victory Neighborhood!

The Victory Neighborhood Association Environment Committee never rests! During the winter months they will present a series of movies on the third Saturday of January, February and March. The documentaries will be shown at the Warren, 4400 Osseo Road and will be preceded by a dinner special in partnership with one of our local restaurants and after each there will be a facilitated discussion of the movie. The movies will be free of charge but seating is limited to 50 people, so reservations will be required.

DIRT! will be shown on January 15 at 6 p.m. at The Warren. The movie is a look at humankind's relationship with dirt. Dirt gives us food, shelter, fuel, medicine, flowers and color; everything needed for our survival. For most of the last 10,000 years humans understood our close bond with dirt and all of nature. Pizza by the slice from Papa's Restaurant & Deli will be available for purchase at the Warren and beverages and popcorn will be provided. **Reserve your seat** for this showing of **DIRT!** by contacting the Victory Neighborhood Association at 612-529-8060 or info@victoryneighborhood.org. Please indicate how many seats you

want to reserve (limit of four per person) and if you will be purchasing pizza. The showing is open to everyone.

The remainder of the series includes **Food Inc** showing on February 19 and **Fresh** showing on March 19. Watch the Victory website for more information on these, www.victoryneighborhood.org.

Block Leaders Meeting – January 15

The Victory Neighborhood Association will host a gathering for all current, official, unofficial, want-to-be or thinking about being block organizers on January 15 at 9:30 a.m. in the ViNA office. The purpose of the meeting is to connect residents who act in some capacity (or would like to act) as organizers or communicators with the neighbors on their block. Ideas of how to “organize” your neighbors and/or set up a communication network for your block will be shared by “veterans.” Any Victory resident who is interested is welcome to attend.

Happy New Year from the Victory Neighborhood Association

Folwell Neighborhood – NRP in Action!

New Folwell residents let us know you're here! Call 612-521-2100; email: info@folwell.org; website: folwell.org. Office location: 1206 37th Ave. N., M-Th, 9 a.m.– 5 p.m. Al Saless-Chair, Folwell Neighborhood Association.



Happy New Year from the Board and Staff of FNA.

January FNA Board Meeting: Rescheduled to Monday, January 10, 6:30 p.m., FNA office -1206 37th Ave. N.

“Snow Emergency” Information: Call 348-SNOW (7669), go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us, watch local TV news or listen to the radio, watch City cable TV channels 14 and 79, sign up for an email alert, cell phone call or text message.

Winter Parking Restrictions: No parking on the even side of non-Snow Emergency routes until April 1, unless City officials lift the ban earlier. Drivers who don't follow the ban, could be ticketed and/or towed.

Snow Shoveling-Seniors and People with Disabilities: Contact Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP) to register for snow shoveling and learn about their chore service. (612-374-3125).

Snow Shoveling Rules (excerpts from the City of Minneapolis website www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us). Keeping our sidewalks free of ice and snow is the law. Minneapolis Ordinance requires that property owners clear sidewalks after the end of a snowfall within 24 hours for homes and duplexes and four daytime hours for apartment and commercial buildings. *It's against the law to shovel snow into streets*

and alleys. Remember, you are responsible for clearing ice on your sidewalk as well as snow. Arrange for someone to shovel while you are on vacation. Shovel around your garbage cans and recycling bins; if you don't, the City will do it for you and charge a fee.

Upcoming event: Frosty Fun – Friday, January 21, 4-7:30 p.m. at Webber Pond, Webber Park building, with a chili dinner and s'mores from 5-7:30 p.m. at North United Methodist Church (44th and Fremont). There will be music outdoors during the entire event. Free rides through the park on a horse-drawn hay wagon with stops at the park building and across the street from NUMC. Skating on the pond is from 4-7:30 p.m. (free use of skates during the event) with skating lessons from 4-5 p.m.. Learn to snowshoe from 5-6 (free use of snowshoes). Warm up and get your skates at the “warming house” or roast marshmallows at the big bonfire. The park building holds the indoor fun. Have your photos taken with “Shivers” the penguin, plus, there is face painting with popcorn and hot chocolate treats. Don't forget the chili dinner at NUMC. Information: 612-521-2100.

Bob Riley - Volunteer Extraordinaire
A big thank you goes out to Bob Riley who has been a volunteer coach at Folwell, Webber and Creekview Parks for 31 years. Residents, anyone whose child has been in sports at the parks – all of us, can't say thank you enough. Enjoy your retirement!

The Lind Bohanon Neighborhood Association



Message Line: 612-588-7641 • email: LindBohanonNA@aol.com • www.lindbohanon.org

LBNA Meetings: Free and open to the public. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Meetings held at Shingle Creek Commons Bldg, 4600 Humboldt Ave N, unless otherwise specified

Any requests for special accommodations are welcome. Contact LBNA staff seven days prior to date of meeting. For more details on any of these items check the LBNA newsletter and website.

Thursday, January 6, LBNA Board Meeting 7 p.m.

LBNA receives Research Assistant Grant from University of Minnesota

The University of Minnesota's Neighborhood Partnerships for Community Research (NPCR) committee recently announced LBNA was granted support for their community research project. The project will be focusing on determining how neighborhood groups are using social media and will look to assess these tools effectiveness. FFI: www.lindbohanon.org.

Toys for Tots and Gingerbread House volunteers — Thank you!

The LBNA Toys for Tots distribution was another successful year despite a blizzard, school closings, toy shortages, and cramming volunteer efforts from two days to one. LBNA wishes to thank the following for all of their help to make over 350 children's holiday very merry!

*Acorn Mini Storage for the use of their moving truck to go to Eagan to pick up over 800 toys.

*All the volunteers and staff at Jenny Lind School and Community Ed, including Ernie and Rodger who were totally awesome snowbunnies and helpers for us!

*To those that picked the toys, we've never seen such a

hard-working and capable bunch of volunteers! Can we have your help at all of our events? Alyson, Carolyn, Andrew, Pam, Sandy, Gary, Choua, Nicole, Linda, David B, David B, Jenifer, Sharon, Joel, Janell, Patt, Tammy+2 elves, Steve Alexander, Ruth, Betsy, one kindergarten teacher, and whomever else may have helped that didn't sign in.

*To the Holiday on 44th Committee, local businesses, and residents for their toy collections! *Many thanks to all of our volunteers at the Holiday on 44th Gingerbread House making station too! Michael Nintemann, Teresa, Shirley, lone, PHS Vols, and all of Michael's friends who helped make this happen!

2nd Camden Winterfest is coming February 5!

Chili Cook-off entry deadline is January 31
Dust off your crockpots, darn your aprons! The great Camden Winterfest and Chili cook-off for the prized golden ladle will be Saturday, February 5 from 11a.m.-2 p.m. at Bohanon Park Warming House! Deadline to enter the Chili Cook-off is January 31! The first 10 entries will receive a prize and there will be prizes for the winner and runner up! Go to www.lindbohanon.org for chili entry form! Music, snowball launchers, snow shoeing, bonfires, food and so much more family fun! Cost is just \$5 per person 16 and older!



McKinley Community Office
Center for Families,
3333 North 4th Street, room 1
Phone: 612-276-1541
Email:
mckinleycommunity@yahoo.com
Website:
www.mckinleycommunity.com

Know a Senior Who Needs Help with Shoveling or other Chores?

Chore Program — low-cost home maintenance services such as routine housecleaning, seasonal jobs, lawn care, snow removal and minor repairs. aimed at helping seniors living in their homes (individuals 60 and over). Call 612-374-3322.

Want to Buy a House To Live In? The McKinley Home Ownership Forgivable Loan Program is Available

Call Chris at 612-276-1541 for more details. Other restrictions apply, so call today.

Does Your Home Need Work? Check Out a McKinley Home Improvement Loan

The McKinley Community has a great

home improvement loan that is managed by Center for Energy and the Environment and carries an interest rate of only 3%! The application process is easy and loan amounts can be between \$2000 and \$15,000. Call 612-276-1541 for details.

McKinley Calendar of Events

Important Neighborhood Meeting-Vote for the Phase II Action Plan McKinley Community Meeting
Monday, January 3, 7 p.m., Center for Families, 3333 N. 4th Street

McKinley Board of Directors Meeting Monday, January 17, 6:30 p.m., Center for Families, 3333 N. 4th Street

Crime/Safety Meeting Monday, January 24, 6:30 p.m., Center for Families, 3333 N. 4th St.

McKinley Community Meeting Monday, February 7, 7 p.m., Center for Families, 3333 North 4th Street



CNA Cleveland Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 11635 • Minneapolis, MN 55411

CNA Office is located at Lucy Craft Laney at Cleveland Park School

Phone: 612-588-1155 Fax: 612-588-1151

cna@clevelandneighborhood.org • website: <http://www.clevelandneighborhood.org>

Free Home Energy Audit to First 100 Cleveland Residents

Community Energy Services is a comprehensive one-stop residential energy program coming to the Cleveland Neighborhood in 2011! Through this program, Cleveland residents will have access to a **free workshop** on energy efficiency and conservation, a home visit by two qualified professionals including a blower door test and up to \$400 worth of materials and services, as well as information about rebates, innovative financing and incentives. The workshop will be held on **Tuesday, March 1 at 6:30 p.m.** in the multipurpose room of Lucy Craft Laney School. You must attend the workshop in order to sign up for a home energy audit. The home visit, which usually costs \$30, will be **free** to the first 100 Cleveland residents who sign up for the workshop.

You can sign up for the workshop by contacting Kyle Boehm at the Center for Energy and the Environment (CEE) at kboehm@mncee.org or 612-219-7334. Community Energy Services is administered by the Center for Energy and

Environment and is a partnership between Centertpoint Energy, the City of Minneapolis, the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) and Xcel Energy.

Snow Safety

December was one of the snowiest on record! Do your part to keep the neighborhood safe and walkable. Please clear the snow off of your sidewalks. The City of Minneapolis requires that sidewalks be clear of snow and ice 24 hours after a snowfall for residential properties and after four hours for commercial properties. Failure to clear your sidewalk may result in a fine from the City of Minneapolis as well as an assessment if the City clears the walk for you. Also, the City is asking residents to **adopt a fire hydrant** near their home and remove snow and ice around it. This will make it accessible in the event of a fire on your block. The home you save may be your own. To report unsafe, snow-covered sidewalks or snowed-in fire hydrants, please dial 311.

Outdoors

The Lind Community Garden and the Lind-Bohanon Neighborhood Association, are proud to grow our community by sponsoring the Potting Shed and Outdoor articles in the *Camden News*. For more information go to: www.lindbohanon.org or visit the garden at the intersection of 51st and Dupont Ave N.



Keep your indoors green over the winter

By Debbie Nelson, Master Gardener
University of Minnesota Extension Service Hennepin County

It is quiet time in the garden. The record snow that fell in December put our gardens to bed whether we were ready or not and now they are nestled beneath, resting until spring. To appease our green thumbs and our urges to play in the dirt and to add some color to our otherwise dull post-holiday décor, let's turn our attention to houseplants.

Most houseplants have their origins in tropical rainforests or other high humidity areas, so to successfully grow houseplants we must try to replicate those growing conditions. However, our Zone 4 growing conditions affect even houseplants.

The most limiting factor in the growing healthy, vigorous plants in the indoor environment is light, especially in the northern climate. Sunlight in our climate fluctuates widely both in duration and intensity from season to season. We obviously have fewer hours of sunlight during the winter months but also because of the angle of the sun the light is less intense. Without sufficient sunlight, plants will grow but the growth will be weak and spindly and the plant will be more vulnerable to other pests and diseases.

You probably also notice that even those houseplants that are healthy and grow vigorously during the spring, summer and fall, will suddenly experience the loss of leaves, which turn brown and drop off. There is not necessarily anything wrong with the plant; it is simply shedding leaves that it can no longer support because of the reduced duration and intensity of sunlight.

For the best success, assess the amount of sunlight that comes into your home and choose plants that best fit the available light. Of course this will vary from long hours of intense sunlight in the summer to short days of less intensity in the winter, so you may have to move your plants around with the seasons. In the winter months you should move your plants to east or south facing windows, avoid filtering the sunlight with sheer curtains, and keep the plants from touching the cold windowpanes. And clean your plant leaves. Dust accumulated on the leaves also filters the sunlight available to the plant. Clean large leaves with a soft cloth dipped into lukewarm water with a few drops of a gentle dishwashing detergent. For small leaved plants simply turn the pot upside down and swish it in a sink full of lukewarm water. Avoid plant shine products, as they tend to leave the leaves sticky which actually attracts more dust and dirt and pests as well.

The amount of watering needed varies not only from plant to plant but also from season to season and depends on the heat, humidity and temperature. Water plants when they need it – not on a rigid schedule. Most plants will need to be watered when the top 1/2 inch of soil is dry. Plants that are too dry will exhibit brown leaf tips. Over watering can lead to root rot. Place a saucer beneath the plant pot and water until the water comes out of the drain holes. Pour off all of the excess water so that it doesn't wick back up into the soil.

Most plants like daytime temperatures between 65-75 degrees during the day and about 10 degrees cooler at night. Keep your plants out of drafts (both hot and cold) away from drafty doors and windows and heat registers as well, which can dry out your plants. And since most houseplants originate in high humidity areas it is important to maintain the humidity that will discourage mites and insects infecting your plants. The best way to maintain the humidity is with the use of a home humidifier (this is good for you too) but if that is not an option you can group your plants close together so they can take advantage of the moisture that they lose through transpiration.

Plants make their own food through photosynthesis so fertilizer is really just a supplement (like a vitamin). Plants really only need fertilizing when they are actively growing, which is not during the winter months when the sunlight is reduced. You can start fertilizing again in mid to late February. Using 1/2 strength solution of liquid fertilizer.

In our house we have a spider plant that is over 30 years old, Swedish ivy that is more than 25 years old and a pothos that is 16. And each has produced dozens of new plants through cuttings or rootings. With a little attention to a few details of light, temperature, humidity and fertilizing you can enjoy your houseplants for many years. Enjoy!

Be mindful of winter parking restrictions and shoveling your sidewalks

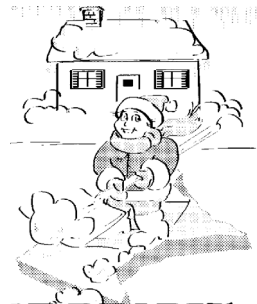
As the *Camden News* goes to print, more than 34 inches of snow have fallen in Minneapolis — and consider that the average snowfall for an entire winter is 48 inches. More than 17 inches of that came down in the December blizzard — the fifth largest in the city's history. And as of December 25 six snow emergencies had been declared in the city — the most ever declared by Christmas. This means snow, even when it's plowed, has encroached on residential streets. The result is that many streets throughout Minneapolis have narrowed significantly, which makes it difficult for fire engines, ambulances and other emergency vehicles to navigate the roadways.

Winter parking restrictions were put into effect on December 17 to ensure reliable access for emergency vehicles. Parking is banned on the even side of non-snow-emergency-routes until April 1, unless conditions allow the City to lift the ban earlier. Parking is allowed on both sides of snow emergency routes and parkways, and the odd side of non-snow-emergency-routes, unless otherwise posted and provided a snow emergency has not been declared. Follow these winter parking restrictions, or you could be ticketed and towed. Visit www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/snow or call 612-348-SNOW for info.

Streets get a lot of attention in the news when it snows, but sidewalks are also a critical part of our city's transportation system. For people walking to and from their cars or to the bus, clear sidewalks make the difference between a comfortable, safe route and a potentially hazardous one — especially for handicapped folks. That's why it's important for homeowners and businesses to keep their sidewalks shoveled.

Minneapolis ordinance requires that property owners clear sidewalks after a snowfall within 24 hours for houses and duplexes and four daytime hours for apartment and commercial buildings.

When you shovel snow and clear ice, shovel the sidewalks on all sides of your property, the full width of the sidewalk down to the bare pavement. Corners need special attention; make sure a wheelchair can get through on your block. When possible, remove all ice from sidewalks. Ice can be more dangerous and intimidating than snow. After the sidewalk is clear, sprinkling a little sand can help prevent slipping on frosty sidewalks. Free sand is available



to Minneapolis residents at 1809 Washington St. NE (18th and Jefferson) and at East 27th Street, just east of Longfellow Ave. S. near the Public Works gate. And remember to clear out the area near fire hydrants

and your garbage and recycling bins! If you need help shoveling, you can contact City of Minneapolis senior services at 612-673-3567 to find out what resources may be available in your neighborhood.

File an online complaint or call 311 to report a sidewalk that is not shoveled. Last year, Minneapolis received more than 6,000 reports of unshoveled sidewalks. If the City of Minneapolis gets a report or discovers that a sidewalk is not properly cleared, Public Works will send a warning letter and give the property owners a chance to clear it. If the sidewalk does not get cleared, the property owner may be issued a citation with a fine. Crews will then remove the snow and ice from the sidewalk. The property owner will be billed for this service, and unpaid bills will be added to the owner's property tax.



Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association

P.O.Box 15656, Minneapolis, MN 55415;

Web Site: www.scna-mpls.org

Email: scna@stribmail.com; Amy Luesebriink, staff, 763-561-1616

SCNA Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at Creekview Park, 5001 Humboldt Ave. N., unless stated otherwise. *All meetings open to the public. *All residents are encouraged to attend. Any requests for special accommodations are welcome. Contact SCNA staff seven days prior to meeting.

Shingle Creek Sliding Hill Extravaganza!

Saturday January 15 noon-2 p.m.

Hey community members! Who says Powderhorn has anything on us? Let's flash mob on January 15 from noon-2 p.m. at 50th and Logan Ave. N! Bring sleds of all kinds for a community sliding hill event at the sliding hill in Creekview park. For more information go to www.scna-mpls.org.

2nd Camden Winterfest is coming February 5!

Chili Cook-off entry deadline is January 31

Dust off your crockpots, put on your aprons! The great Camden Winterfest and Chili cook-off for the prized golden ladle will be Saturday, February 5 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at Bohanon Park Warming House! Deadline to enter the Chili Cook-off is January 31! The first 10 entries will receive a prize and prizes for the winner and runner up! Go to www.scna-mpls.org for chili entry form! Music, snowball launchers, snow shoeing, bonfires, hot dogs, snow cones and so much more family fun! Cost is just \$5 per person 16 and older!

2011 Who Can for this Community!

Free events are far from free! Can you help us support the ongoing work of the Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association? We're trying to reach 2011 people who can give just \$11 to help us host or sponsor 11 community events like Shingle Creek Sliding Hill, Camden Winterfest and many more that help make our neighborhood a great place to live! Donate online and receive a small token of our appreciation! Thank you for your support! www.scna-mpls.org

Thinking energy efficiency?

Think SCNA Home Improvement Loans!

Need a new furnace, windows, bathroom, roof? Consider using the SCNA Home Improvement Loan Program! SCNA homeowners are eligible for low or no interest rates for home improvement loans. Every repaid loan helps us to be able to do more to improve our community! The minimum loan is \$1,000! Contact Jim Hasnik at 612-335-5885 Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) for more details on what projects qualify! Or go to our website at www.scna-mpls.org to check out an application and more details!

WEBBER-CAMDEN NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

612-521-2100 • 1206 37th Ave. N. • Minneapolis, MN 55412

Email: info@webbercamden.org or the website: www.webbercamden.org

New Webber-Camden residents let us know you're here!

website: www.webbercamden.org. M-Th, 0 a.m. - 5 p.m., Linda Koelman, President, WCNO

The WCNO Board of Directors and staff wish everyone a happy and safe new year.

January WCNO Board of Directors Meeting rescheduled to Thursday, January 13, 6:30 p.m., WCNO office.

Frosty Fun – Friday, January 21, 4-7:30 p.m., Webber Pond, Webber Park Building and North United Methodist Church (44th and Fremont) Outdoors there will be music and free rides through the park on a horse-drawn hay wagon. Skating on the pond is from 4-7:30 p.m. (free use of skates during the event) with skating lessons from 4-5 p.m. If skating's not your thing, how about learning to snowshoe from 5-6 p.m. with free snowshoes available? Enjoy roasting marshmallows at the big bonfire by the pond. When you're ready for indoor fun, hop on the hay wagon and stop at the park building to have a photo taken with "Shivers" the penguin with a photo button as a memento; plus face painting, popcorn and hot chocolate are available. Begin or end your Frosty Fun activities with a free chili dinner inside at North United Methodist Church and s'mores outside on the parking lot. Information: 612-521-2100.

Snow Shoveling Rules (excerpts from the City of Minneapolis website www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us). Keeping our sidewalks free of ice and snow is the neighborly thing to do, and it's the law. Minneapolis Ordinance requires that property owners clear sidewalks after the end of a snowfall within 24 hours for homes and duplexes and

four daytime hours for apartment and commercial buildings. It's against the law to shovel snow into streets and alleys. Remember, you are responsible for clearing ice on your sidewalk as well as snow. Arrange for someone to shovel while you are on vacation. Shovel around your garbage cans and recycling bins. If you don't, the City will do it for you and charge a fee.

Winter Parking Restrictions: No parking on the even side of non-Snow Emergency routes until April 1, unless City officials lift the ban earlier. Drivers who don't follow the ban could be ticketed and/or towed.

"Snow Emergency" Information

Call 348-SNOW (7669), go to www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us, watch local TV news or listen to the radio. If you have cable, tune in to City channels 14 and 79. Many Minneapolis residents already receive an automatic snow emergency voice message on their phones. If you don't receive the message, you may want to sign up for an email alert, cell phone call or text message. Sign up at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Snow Shoveling: Seniors and People with Disabilities Contact Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP) to learn about their chore service and to register for snow shoveling at 612-374-3125.

Thank you to Bob Riley: Bob Riley has been a volunteer coach at Folwell, Webber and Creekview Parks for 31 years! We wish him well in his retirement and thank him for his many years of service to all of us.

Community Calendar

The *Camden Community News* accepts free calendar items with priority placement going to free events for families in the Camden Community. Keep your items short — send the event basics (who, what, when, where, why, etc.), highlight and contact info to editor@camdenews.org. Send your item in the style listed below: day, date, event, location, etc. We never guarantee your calendar item will be printed — if you want to guarantee your event gets in the *Camden News* you may place an inexpensive paid ad to support the non-profit *Camden News* — see info on pages 2 and 11. And businesses can help the *Camden News* promote local events by sponsoring the Community Calendar, and get your business name out there — it's only \$50 per month. Call 521-3060.



January

Arts

Ongoing

Discover the music within. Register for winter term at **Camden Music School**, Jan. 10-Mar.19. Choose from Musikgarten early childhood classes, vocal and instrumental lessons, and ensembles for all ages including these exciting, new offerings: "Goin' Glee" (grades 2-6); "Recreational Music Making" – Adult Group Piano; "Inspiring the Songwriter in You"; New family rates for parents and/or grandparents who take lessons with children. Family discounts and scholarships available. Scholarship application deadline: 5 p.m. Jan. 4. Contact 612-618-0219, info@camdenmusicschool.com or Facebook. Classes at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 3751 Sheridan Ave. N., and Grace Center for Community Life, 1500 6th St. NE.

Church Events

Ongoing

Clothes Closet at North United Methodist Church, 44th and Fremont, from 9 a.m.-noon the first Saturday of each month and the first Monday each month from 6-8 p.m. Donations accepted when open or see if there is some clothing you may need. If unable to get to NUMC during open times, call the church at 612-522-4497.

Ongoing third Sundays Breakfast and a Bag. The Joint Ministries of Evangelist Temple, Brooklyn Center Hispanic Seventh Day Adventist and Gethsemane Lutheran host a free community breakfast from 8-10 a.m. at Gethsemane Lutheran Church on 47th and Colfax. When you are finished with breakfast and coffee you are welcome to take a bag of groceries home with you.

Friday, 1/21

Frosty Fun, 4-7:30 p.m. at Webber Pond, Webber Park with a chili dinner and s'mores from 5-7:30 p.m. at North United Methodist Church (44th and Fremont). Music outdoors during the entire event. Free rides through the park on a horse-drawn hay wagon with stops at the park building and across the street from NUMC. Skating on the pond from 4-7:30 p.m. (free use of skates during the event) with skating lessons from 4-5 p.m. Learn to snowshoe from 5-6 (free use of snowshoes). Warm up and get your skates at the "warming house" or roast marshmallows at

the big bonfire. Park building has indoor fun. Photos taken with "Shivers" the penguin, face painting, popcorn and hot chocolate. Info: 612-521-2100.

Classes and Workshops

Third Tuesdays

Seniors with diabetes support group, 10-11:30 a.m., Webber Park Community Center, 4141 Webber Pkwy. Call Dot Hase, 521-1182, or American Diabetes Assn., 593-5333. Free.

Ongoing Wednesdays

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) 7 p.m., Webber Park.

Ongoing

Patchwork Quilt Kids' Club 3700 Bryant Ave N. Free after-school club for students in grades 1-6. M-F, 2-6 p.m. Reading-technology-leadership/culture, field trips and lots of time for fun, healthy, hearty after-school meal, nurturing. Contact Diane at 612-270-0923, Winnie at 612-723-4737, or visit www.patchworkquilt.org.

Community Events

Ongoing

Camden Lions General Meeting, second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., Webber Park Bldg, 4400 and Dupont Ave. N. Social meeting, fourth Wednesday at a local restaurant. Join in making this a better community for all! For info and social location call Jim Cain, 612-521-1903. Visit www.camdenlions.org.

Ongoing Tuesdays

4PAC Meetings keep you connected. 4th Precinct Advisory Council Meetings, 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday each month, 1925 Plymouth Ave. N. Topics vary. Meetings offer opportunities to meet officers and for Northside neighbors to share concerns. For an agenda email vivian@4pac.org. For general info visit www.4pac.org.

Ongoing

Hennepin County offers **low-cost vaccination clinics** for people of all ages who lack health insurance or whose health insurance does not cover vaccines. Brooklyn Center Clinic: Hennepin County's Brookdale Service Center, 6125 Shingle Creek Parkway, 9 to 11 a.m., on Jan 25. Hennepin Health Services Building, 525 Portland Ave. S., 8:30 to 11 a.m. on Jan. 7.

Thursday, 1/6

Final public open house on the **Crystal Lake Regional Trail**, 4-7 p.m., Robbinsdale City Hall, 4100 Lakeview Ave. N. Crystal Lake Regional Trail will travel nine miles through Robbinsdale,

Crystal, Brooklyn Park, Osseo and Maple Grove. When completed, the trail will link the Minneapolis Grand Rounds trail system at Victory Memorial Parkway. Info: CrystalLakeTrail@threeiversparkdistrict.org.

Saturday, 1/15

Victory Neighborhood Association environmental movie series. The first is *Dirt!* at 6 p.m. at the Warren, 4400 Osseo Road. Admission limited, call 612-529-9558 to reserve a seat. Pizza available for purchase. *Dirt!* looks at humankind's relationship with dirt. Dirt gives us food, shelter, fuel, medicine, flowers and color; everything needed for survival. For most of the last 10,000 years humans understood our close bond with dirt and all of nature. Other movies in the series are *Food, Inc.* and *Fresh* in February and March.

Saturday, 1/15

Shingle Creek Sliding Hill Extravaganza! Hey community members! Let's flash mob from noon-2 p.m. at 50th and Logan Ave. N! Bring sleds of all kinds for a community sliding hill event at Creekview park. For info go to www.scna-mpls.org.

Saturday, 1/8

Math Triathlon. Girls Scouts of Wirth Oaks, Mathnasium of Brooklyn Park and RAMSA. 15+ math games and cookie rally stations for K-12 girls. Treats, prizes and giveaways. Display your vest, pin, shirt, etc. and sample cookies for product promotion. Scouts can earn 'Math Whiz' fun patch! 3-5 p.m., Richard Allen Math & Science Academy, 3-5 p.m., 5140 Fremont. \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door for kids 6-18. Adults free, register by Jan.3. Info: morKarlie.Hammes@girlscoutsrv.org or 763-535-4602

Thursday, 1/20

City of Minneapolis public comment meeting on the **Urban Agriculture Policy Plan** draft aimed at creating land use and zoning guidelines to support local food-related activities. 2-3:30 p.m. at North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Ave. N. The plan supports the City's Homegrown initiative that unites efforts to get more healthy, local food grown, processed, distributed. Plan is available for public review and comment at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cped/urban_ag_plan.asp until Jan. 31. Send comments to Amanda.arnold@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. Public hearing tentatively scheduled for Feb. 22 in City Hall, 350 South Fifth St., Rm. 317 during the regularly scheduled City Planning Commission meeting.

Libraries

Ongoing at Webber Park Library, 4310 Webber Pkwy., 952-847-2750. For a complete list of programs at Webber Library go to <http://www.hclib.org/pub/events/>

Job Search Assistance. Thursdays, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, 1-3 p.m. Are you seeking new employment or re-entering the workforce? Do you need help looking for a job, filling out applications or writing your résumé? Stop in for free one-to-one assistance with a job search representative.

Ongoing at North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Ave. N., 952-847-8450. For a complete list of programs a North Regional go to <http://www.hclib.org/pub/events/>

World of Work Orientation for Ex-Offenders. Tuesdays, Jan. 11, Jan. 25, Feb. 8, Feb. 22, 4-6 p.m. This drop-in service is for men and women with a criminal background who need assistance with job applications, résumés, interview skills and support in overcoming that barrier to land their "dream job."

Parks

Sunday, 1/9

Free Family Funday: Bluejay, Bullfrog or Beaver, 1-3 p.m., ongoing, Kroening Interpretive Center in North Mississippi Regional Park, Minneapolis. Go on a scavenger hunt to find out why a bird is a bird and not a beaver. Free. Ages: All.

Saturday, 1/8

The Art and Sport of Falconry, 1-3 p.m., ongoing, Kroening Interpretive Center in North Mississippi Regional Park. Join a licensed falconer to meet trained birds of prey and watch an outdoor flight demonstration. Learn about traditional and modern techniques used in the sport of falconry. \$5. Ages 6+. Reservations required; 763-559-6700.

NRP continued from page 2

that was approved by the NCEC and adopted by the City Council on December 10. Streamlined application forms are due to the NCR by January 14.

Impacts of the City Council action are still being evaluated by Camden neighborhood organizations; the McKinley Community Phase II plan was approved by the NRP Policy Board with an allocation of \$580,500, but under the City Council Staff Direction the neighborhood may only contract up to 50 percent. McKinley Community Executive Director Chris Morris said at the Policy Board meeting, "We're going to be figuring out what our next steps are."

It's tentative whether the dispute between the City and NRP will land in the lap of the State Legislature during the 2011 Session, find its way into the courts or be resolved through some other means. What is clear is that the relations between the City and the NRP have been temporarily frozen like the Minnesota winter. Camden News readers should watch the NRP and NCR websites for updates on neighborhood programs. The U of M CURA staff has produced NRP data/maps showing potential impacts on neighborhood NRP funding under current city property tax budget proposals: visit www.mcno.umn.edu/InformationandResourcesAboutProposedChangesToNRP.html.

City officials, NRP staff, elected officials and other stakeholders will continue to debate the nature of Minneapolis neighborhood and community engagement programming that impacts the lives of residents across the city and in Camden. For info contact your neighborhood organization; see pages 8 and 9.

Editor's note: Jeff Strand is a City Council appointee to the Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission and served 2005-2010 as the elected Protection Neighborhood Representative on the NRP Policy Board, but he does not represent either the NCEC or the NRP Policy Board in this article for the Camden News.

Churches changing with time

By John Bispala

I've been reading in the *Star Tribune* about the Catholic Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis deciding to close a number of churches over the next year or so. I'd like you to know I feel their pain. I was once a pastor in Dayton, Ohio, faced with the shepherding task of a congregation, Grace Lutheran, deciding to disband. Many of their reasons and feelings were similar to those expressed by our local Catholic friends in the Twin Cities.

I did some research and found only three Catholic churches within the Camden Community: St. Bridget's on Dowling and Emerson, St. Austin's on Thomas and 41st, and Our Lady of Victory on Fremont and 51st. Then I drove around to take a look at each. All have impressive and inviting buildings for worship. Each had once supported a school; now operated under different arrangements and names—another sign of the struggle to keep Catholic educational ministries alive.

I also read that the policy recommended by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis affects two of these congregations, St. Bridget's and St. Austin's—that is, a recommendation that these two merge. Further reading indicates that St. Austin's is joining in an appeal process and favors a "cluster" situation over merger.

I also know from my own experience that it's not absolutely "the end" when a congregation merges, clusters or disbands. Missions have been started be-

fore, only to disappear under changing conditions. The "laos," the people of God, reappear in other congregations.

As for me and Grace Lutheran Church in Dayton, there were 96 member families at that fateful time in the late 1960s. We transferred most to other Lutheran Churches in and around Dayton, except three families. One of those transferred to a Presbyterian congregation; and another to a Methodist church. However, there was one family left about whom none of us knew where they went—the proverbial "lost sheep!" In the Gospel, the Great Shepherd went out after the lost, found it and brought it back to the fold with the other 99 sheep. The deepest pain results from the sheep who is permanently lost.

This experience made it impossible for me to receive a call as a minister to a congregation in the Twin Cities, when my wife, Kaija, received and accepted an offer to become a psychiatric nurse at St. Mary's Hospital, formerly a Catholic facility, in Minneapolis. She has now worked at the same institution for over 30 years, while this hospital has merged more than once, to become the U. of M. Medical Center-Fairview.

Such dissolutions and closures have implications and developments into the future. Let me suggest you keep your faith and hope in the Good Shepherd of the Church.

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Properties wanted for purchase: Camden area houses and duplexes. 612-522-0453.

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Thanks to Camden News regular faithful advertisers

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Pastor Dale Hulme
www.stolaf Lutheran.org

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Pastor Jeff Nehrbass
ELCA

GethsemaneLutheranChurch@msn.com
www.glc-mpls.org

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

4150 Dupont Ave. N.
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55412
612-521-3644
Interim Pastor
Judy Burgett-Winzig
Summer Schedule
9:30 a.m. worship
Fall Schedule: 10:30 a.m. worship
Communion: 1st & 3rd Sundays

email: salemevlc@visi.com
Facebook: Salem Lutheran Church/North Minneapolis

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Worship 9:30 a.m.
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Free Community Dinner
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Pastor Melissa Pohlman

Can't make it to the library? Download eBooks

You can download books from Hennepin County Library — 700 titles are available at www.hclib.org. Titles include adult, teen and children's bestsellers, new releases and classics. The collection includes nine of the top 10 titles on the New York Times hardcover fiction bestseller list. To download an eBook from www.hclib.org you need your library card barcode; then click on "Downloads" on the left side of the webpage and click on "eBooks" and follow the instructions. You can download up to 15 items from the Overdrive digital catalog. This includes any combination of 15 eBooks, audiobooks, video and music items. Hennepin County Library also offers downloadable audiobooks, music and video content from OverDrive. Info: 952-847-5669 or www.hclib.org.



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Community History

Behind the Victory Flagpole – Reminiscence

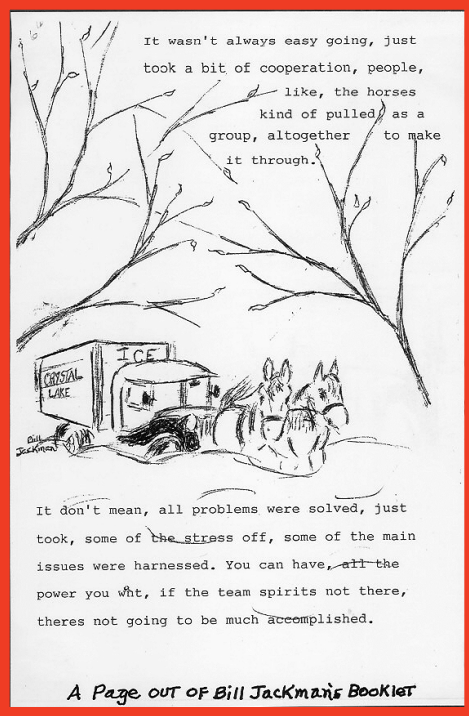
By Barbara Meyer Bistodeau

It was a rainy day so I thought I would sit and re-read the little booklet Bill Jackman wrote about his memories of growing up in Camden. I have written about him before and how he lived in a house on 41st and Queen that used to be a “back cabin” for Crystal Lake. He was actually born in that house, and of all days to be born on — the 4th of July! He said he came in to the world with a “boom” and had to come out and see what the racket was all about. Dr. Strunk delivered him and he had Bill’s 14-year-old sister help out. He had her put newspapers on the dresser as a sterile place to lay him. Fine idea, but so much for that!

Bill goes on to tell about his parents (who were born in 1899) and had no car at that time. The vehicles back then were called Buckboards and were in reality a buggy with wheels drawn by a horse. Buckboards at that time sold for \$25.25. They came with no brakes, but if you were rich enough to buy one, it was \$5 extra.

So why would you need a brake on a buckboard? His grandma found out the answer to that. They didn’t have a brake on theirs and Grandma was making the journey from the country to the city. Bass Lake Road was the choice to the hub area. She made it fine to the city but it was on the way back to the country all the ruckus happened. It all happened so fast, control was out of hand. It could have been the scream of a cougar or the sting of a bee. It happened on curvy, windy Hennessey Hill that the horse went out of control. He didn’t hear “whoa” and with no brake Grandma, horse and buggy and all ended up down in the swamp, stuck there off the side of the road. The lesson learned then was that if it has wheels, it must also have brakes!

When Bill was growing up he said Sunday was always set aside for thanking God for our bless-



ings, but Saturday was a special day, too, because it was bath day. It so happened the water heater only held two gallons of water, but Mom would have the tub first, next was Dad. You never drained the water until everyone was done with their bath. A tea kettle of hot water was added to each bath. “After dad was done, another tea kettle of hot water was added and my sister got her bath. For some reason I always had the last soak in the tub, of course with a fresh tea kettle of hot water. I guess they figured I might be a little dirtier than the rest of them; for the life of me I can’t even imagine why. Hey, my clothes were always clean. They were rinsed every day with soap, under the Camden Bridge where I fished. Maybe it was the angle worms, beets and celery in the same pocket which created a special aroma about me. But it sure did catch a lot of fish.”

More of his reminiscences of early days were about delivery men. “There was the Bambi man who brought caramel rolls and other pastries to our house. Then there was the Fuller Brush man who went door to door, and many other peddlers, such as the Raleigh man who brought liquid

vanilla in a bottle for cooking purposes. These peddlers were just trying to make a living in hard times. The milk man, of course, delivered daily milk, butter, cottage cheese and cream so you didn’t have to go to the store. Milk came in quarts, long necked glass bottles, and only whole milk was used in those days. The top couple two inches was pure cream. On hot summers the milk man always had extra chunks of coarse ice for us kids to chew on. We got our milk from Franklin Creamery but there were several others, too, like Ewald, Cloverleaf and Northland. The glass bottles came in several sizes — the quarts and pints for home and half-pints to take with your school lunch.”

“In today’s world we take a lot for granted. There were no refrigerators, only ice boxes. Blocks of ice were cut out of lakes with old-fashioned hand saws. These were about five feet long, a handle on one end for one hand and another handle sticking straight up for your other hand. You chiseled a hole in the ice big enough to get the saw to move and started cutting blocks of ice. The ice men had log buildings where they kept the ice stored in many rows, block upon block, and layered with sawdust between the blocks to help keep them cold.”

“Of course it was teams of horses pulling a wagon that got the ice delivered in early days before trucks. Back in those days blizzards were common and without any plows, streets and alleys weren’t cleaned and milk or ice deliveries couldn’t get through. It took the team spirit of horses and there were many a good team around. It was hard to beat good strong horse power. The only fuel necessary was a good bale of hay and a waterin’ tank.”

Note: Bill Jackman currently lives in Outing, Minnesota in a cozy house by a lake, and we will hear more of his memories later on.

Please support your community newspaper

Thanks to all of you who’ve donated to the *Camden News* in the past – we appreciate your support. You know that newspapers around the country are failing due to decreased advertising revenue.

So what’s the big deal? It’s very likely that someday the *Camden News* will be an on-line only newspaper. We had the foresight to set up our website 13 years ago, before most U.S. businesses and residents even had Internet access. But the Camden Community has a disproportionate amount of seniors and low income residents who don’t have a computer or Internet access. As long-time Camden resident Dorothy Hase wrote us, “I enjoy the paper...I hope you never stop publishing. I and many of my friends do not have a computer, so where would we get our news?”

The *Camden Community News* wants to continue printing and delivering free to residents until the need no longer exists. But if we don’t get donations from you and ad money from businesses we won’t be able to publish and mail a hard copy newspaper.

Here are the facts: We have a very lean budget for a small non-profit organization. It costs about \$5000 a month to publish the *Camden News* — that includes printing, labeling, postage, business delivery, typesetting, bookkeeping, editing, taxes, insurance and all the other basic costs of running a small business. Our ad revenues have fallen dramatically and our monthly expenses currently exceed our revenues by about \$600 each month. We come to you twice a year to help supplement ad revenue losses, but we typically only get enough in donations for the total year to pay for one issue of the *Camden News*.

The *Camden News* is a nonprofit, volunteer-run, volunteer-written newspaper delivered free to all Camden homes. Our mission has been the same since 1975: To build bridges, connect neighborhoods, encourage citizen participation, promote local events, people and businesses, and provide a forum for folks who care about the quality of life here in Camden. So please send in a generous tax-deductible contribution to *Camden News* PO Box 11492, Minneapolis, MN 55411. You can save the footwork and stamp and donate online at camdenews.org; click on the Paypal button (you don’t need a Paypal account). And please send us your comments and suggestions.

Thanks for your support,
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