

# Camden Community News

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April 2011

Next issue April 29, deadline April 19

www.camdenews.org

Vol. 32 No. 4

## Things are changing on 44th New library is out, new retail is coming in

By Sue Quist

414 Humboldt Avenue North has been the site of many transitions in the past decade. Remember G J's Supervalu Store? They provided groceries and employment to our community for many years, but deciding that their business was no longer viable, they sold and Kowalski's grocery store moved in. Three years later Kowalski's made the same decision and the property sold again to a construction company. In June of 2008 the property was foreclosed and Hennepin County purchased it in December of 2008 for \$986,500, using bond proceeds earmarked for library projects. Hennepin County also purchased the properties at 1413 and 1411 - 45th Avenue North with the intention of moving ahead with plans to build a new Webber Park Library, but was unable to acquire the fourth property they felt was needed to move ahead with the project. The buildings were then demolished, with the exception of the old grocery store. The properties were fenced in, giving them a secure, but abandoned appearance. They remain that way today, awaiting a fate which will include retail, and not a library.

In the spring of 2010 the Hennepin County Board declared the property at 4414 Humboldt Ave. N. "surplus property." On May 25, 2010 Hennepin County issued a Request for Proposals for the property; preferring a lease with option to buy. They took questions through June 2, 2010 and proposals through June 18, 2010. On November 16, 2010 the Hennepin County Board approved agreements with Abdo Markethouse for lease and purchase of the property at 4414 Humboldt Ave. N. Michael Noonan, Hennepin County manager of real estate, said they are "in the

final stages of negotiations with Larry Abdo," an agreement that should net Hennepin County \$1.2 million over five years between the leasing (approximately \$100,000 per year) and purchase (\$700,000) agreement. He said Hennepin County and Abdo, "are working together to get the site redeveloped and make it a productive part of the community." Although Abdo was not available for comment, Noonan reported that Larry Abdo is currently working out an agreement with Dollar General and is intending to add at least one other retail store to the site. He added, "Larry Abdo has a track record of quality development;" he is the owner of the Nicollet Island Inn and Hennepin County "reflected carefully on the track record, vision, and stability" of all applicants in the pursuit of a successful user for the site. Abdo is planning renovation of the existing structure on the property. (The retail that Abdo is negotiating with, Dollar General, was ranked 195 by Fortune 500 in 2010. Dollar General's chief executive, Rick Dreiling, credits the company's success to new store layouts, thriftiness among higher income consumers and Dollar General's transition "from cheap to inexpensive".)

When asked about the future of the new Webber Park Library plans, Noonan said that the County is still committed to the project, but there is no clear charge to purchase or seek other properties at this time. He said, "We are keeping our eyes open and would move on an opportunity." When asked about the Webber Park Library finances, Dave Lawless, director of budget and finance for Hennepin County, said that the properties were purchased with bond

4414 Humboldt continued on page 3

## Senior event offers a taste of the Irish



You didn't have to be Irish to get a taste of Irish cuisine at the Creekview Recreation Center on St. Patrick's Day. Seniors donned green as they ate corned beef and cabbage in celebration of St. Patrick's Day at their monthly 50+ Luncheon.

Following lunch, attendees played bingo and the card game 500. Creekview, as well as many other Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board centers, offers many activities and programs for seniors, including card game clubs and tournaments, antique shopping outings and trips to museums and cribbage nights.

For info on senior programming at the parks visit [www.minneapolis-parks.org](http://www.minneapolis-parks.org) or stop by a park recreation center in your neighborhood. For park addresses and phone numbers see page 12. Photo by Angela Schneider.



## Crime continues to drop in Camden much of the credit goes to local residents and businesses

By Crime Prevention Specialist Tim Hammett

As the snow recedes and temperatures climb, the promise of a new spring is upon us. With this change of season comes the opportunity to take stock of where we are and where we want to go. From a crime prevention perspective, there are some encouraging trends and opportunities.

Crime in our 4th Precinct is down. As of the second week in March, year to date reported Part One crimes were down nearly 15 percent from where they were a year ago, and down 26 percent from the same period two years ago. These reductions are across the board with every category of Part One crime showing a decrease. Violent crimes show the most dramatic reductions with decreases of 28 percent from this year and 29 percent from two years ago. Property crimes are also down with a decline of 8.5 percent from last year and 25 percent from two years ago.

There are many different factors contributing to this decline, some of them known, and frankly, some unknown. While the number of crimes is down, the number of arrests is actually up by about 7 percent from this time last year, which suggests that more effective policing strategies are paying off. The MPD's enhanced Crime Analysis division has made the department more effective in anticipating trends and geographic hotspots, allowing officers to be deployed where they can be most effective. Fourth Precinct officers consistently lead the city in proactive field contacts too. In addition, as the number of crimes goes down, officers have more time to investigate the calls that they do receive, leading to more arrests, and better overall policing.

Much of the credit for this encouraging trend also goes to the residents and businesses of

the 4th Precinct. Informed, aware citizenry is the backbone of safe, healthy communities. One statistic that bears this out is the relationship between reported burglaries and burglary arrests. Even though the number of reported burglaries is down by about 4 percent, the number of burglary arrests is up by 33 percent. As stated many times in this column, the number one way that burglars get caught is when a neighbor sees something suspicious and calls 911. The number of burglary arrests bears a direct relationship with the number of callers reporting suspicious activity. If the number of burglaries is down, but the number of arrests is up, this suggests that a greater proportion of residents are calling in suspicious activity.

With this in mind, the MPD is refocusing its efforts on community outreach and block club development. In 2011, the department has set the ambitious goal of a net increase of five new block clubs in each of the city's 83 neighborhoods. This comes to an increase of 35 new block clubs in Camden. On March 1 the 4th Precinct held the first of three planned block leader trainings. Upcoming trainings are scheduled for June 9 and September 21. The MPD strongly encourages anyone interested in making a difference in their neighborhood to come to one of these training sessions. You'll learn valuable information on organizing and maintaining your block club, working with the police department, and addressing community issues. Contact your neighborhood Crime Prevention Specialist to register.

Your 4th Precinct Crime Prevention Specialists are: Mary Etzioni - North of Dowling - (Webber-Camden, Victory, Lind-Bohannon and Shingle Creek), 673-3364, [mary.etzioni@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:mary.etzioni@ci.minneapolis.mn.us); Jennifer Waisanen - Folwell, Cleveland, Jordan - 673-5873, [jennifer.waisanen@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:jennifer.waisanen@ci.minneapolis.mn.us); Rowena Holmes - McKinley and Jordan - 673-2833, [rowena.holmes@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:rowena.holmes@ci.minneapolis.mn.us); and Tim Hammett - South of Broad - *Crime drops continued on page 2*

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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.

Spring is finally beginning and Buyers have lots of opportunity here in Camden! Check out homes at the next NOMI Home Buyer's Tour on Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 3 pm. A wide variety of home styles & prices will be available. Our homes offer great value & affordability. Get the latest real estate information on our web site at [www.bainhomes.com](http://www.bainhomes.com). We've done the research & are ready to help Buyers & Sellers!



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**Crime drops** *continued from page 1*

way - (Willard Hay, Near North, Harrison, Heritage Park, Bryn Mawr) — 673-2866, [timothy.hammett@ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:timothy.hammett@ci.minneapolis.mn.us).

The continuing downward trend in crime gives us all a great opportunity to make our communities even stronger and healthier. If you don't have a block club, start one. If you do have one, get active in it. Contact your MPD Crime Prevention Specialist for more information on what you can do. Let's not miss this opportunity to capitalize on these encouraging trends. Let's all work together to sustain this crime reduction and make our neighborhoods even better.

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Issue	Pub. Date	Deadline
May	Apr. 29	Apr. 19
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July	June 24	June 14
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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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**Camden Community News**



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Do you own a business in Camden? Did you know that the City offers a wide variety of financing programs for Minneapolis businesses ranging from \$1,000 to \$10 million, as well as staff assistance in selecting the appropriate programs? Besides City support other business loans and grants may be available; visit [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/business/startup.asp](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/business/startup.asp). And you can learn more from other business owners at the Northwest Minneapolis Business Association meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Shingle Creek Commons. Get info at [nwmpbsbusiness.com](http://nwmpbsbusiness.com). Let's grow Camden together!

**The Small Business Association** has a new initiative to help increase growth opportunities for Minneapolis' small businesses. The SBA e200 offers qualified small business owners powerful benefits including innovative strategies to grow, acquire financing, access new markets and leverage networking. The eight-month program offers 100 hours of training per participant and provides the opportunity for small business owners to work with experienced mentors and develop connections with their peers, city leaders and financial communi-

ties. Classes begin the week of April 18th at Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in downtown Minneapolis and will be held every other week through early November. Small businesses that generate revenues between \$400,000 and \$10 million, and have been in business for at least three years, are eligible to participate. Info: 612-370-2312, [cynthia.collett@sba.gov](mailto:cynthia.collett@sba.gov) or [www.sba.gov/e200](http://www.sba.gov/e200).

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The Hennepin County Board of Commissioners approved fiscal year 2012 federal funding requests of \$18 million for the **North Minneapolis Community Wellness Center**.

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**4414 Humboldt** *continued from page 1*

proceeds, and federal tax regulations required that they be put back into capital projects; in this case into the surplus property fund earmarked for other library projects that could include Webber Park Library. Lawless said, "At the end of the day, we need to spend the bonds in a timely fashion." They are library bonds for library projects. Excess money will get spent where needed — and will Webber get short changed? They will be accommodated at the time "that the project moves forward." Lawless added that at such a time, discussions will occur between the community and the County Commissioners, and the project will be adjusted as needed. In essence there is a place holder for the \$12 million new Webber Park Library capital budget. He is aware of no conversations regarding property acquisition at this time. (The capital budget for the new Webber Park Library, adjusted from \$15 million to \$12 million in 2010, reflects expenditures of \$1.7 million as of December 2009.) Kelli Koob, from the Hennepin County Library Capital Projects office, said that there are no new updates at this time, but will get back to me (i.e. the *Camden News*) regarding future site locations for the project. At the time of this printing there were no new updates.

In a related development the Minneapolis Park Board is moving ahead with plans to redesign or renovate aspects of the Webber pool and park. It is related, because the current Webber Park Library is integrated into the present site of the Webber Park pool. The Minneapolis Park Board has earmarked \$4 million, \$2.9 million in 2011 and \$1.1 million in 2012, for this project. Park Commissioner Jon Olson and MPS planner Andy Lesch confirmed that three firms have responded to a Requests for Proposals for project design and a decision regarding selection will be made in the next week or two. The pool will be closed this summer as plans for design and community input move forward, including possible demolition of the pool. Lesch stated that there will be a reasonable study completed to determine the condition and possible reuse of the current facilities.

Lesch and Olson said there will be multiple public meetings, at various times, in order to get input from residents regarding the community's needs and desires for this project. These public meetings could occur as soon as April and run into the summer months. Olson said that the "idea is to have a process that envisions what could be there." He is hoping the community and design firm can find a way to integrate picnicking and free swimming at Webber Park. "If the project is done right we can solve a lot of problems and do something really nice" for our community. Some ideas that may be looked at include highlighting the creek, addressing road and lighting concerns, and the integration of summer swimming and winter skating, possibly having a permanent structure that serves as both a changing room and warming house.

As to how this will affect the current and future Webber Park Library, Olson said that he has never been in opposition to rebuilding in the park, "We [the MPS park superintendent and board chair] have made it clear to both Mike [Opat] and Mark [Stenglein] that we will work with the county." Olson said the Park Board recognizes that the library is an asset to the park and the community, and confirmed that the pool will be closed this summer. "At sometime the library is going to have to go. I would love to do both at the same time, but if necessary we will do ground pre-work around the library . . . so that it can remain open as this project moves forward."

With retail moving back into 4414 Humboldt it is unlikely that we will see a library there in the near future. However, the county has continually said that they are committed to building a new Webber Park Library. With the commitment of \$12 million from Hennepin County for a new library and \$4 million from the Minneapolis Park Board for aquatic improvements at Webber Park, we should see good things coming the our neighborhood soon.

**Working together for Hmong community outreach**

By Jay Clark

Congratulations to the Patrick Henry High Asian Club (ACC) in collaboration with the Victory Neighborhood Association (ViNA) for their joint proposal to more fully involve the community at Patrick Henry and provide extensive outreach to the Hmong Community. On March 9 they were awarded a \$10,000 grant through the University of Minnesota Center for Urban and Regional Affairs with money generously provided by the McKnight Foundation.



*Henry High Asian Club leadership met with Victory Neighborhood Association staff Debbie Nelson to plan and write up a grant application.*

The partnership started when ViNA approached the ACC for help and guidance in identifying and engaging the Asian elders in the community. Many Victory residents had also expressed an interest in closer involvement with Patrick Henry High School and an interest in engaging their Asian neighbors in the life of the neighborhood and in their block clubs.

Henry Asian Club members said that to get Hmong elders involved in wider community activities, it was important for non-Hmong residents to come to Asian events. ViNA and ACC decided to work hard to invite the wider community to the Henry High May Show, and to have a May show that would introduce and educate residents to the cultures of their Asian neighbors. ViNA will promote the event in the wider neighborhood and encourage non-Asian residents to attend. The May show will include a meal of traditional Hmong foods, and Hmong and non-Hmong residents will break bread together and get to know each other. Henry Asian Club students will serve as translators when needed.

This summer ViNA will be hiring two Henry Asian Club Hmong students to help identify and do outreach to Hmong families in the Victory neighborhood. They will be inviting Hmong families to ViNA's June Ice Cream Social, and will also help connect them to residents involved in their block club. Ultimately ViNA and their Henry Hmong summer organizers hope to get each Asian family to participate in the National Night Out activities on their block and to feel comfortable communicating with ViNA about their issues and priorities living in the neighborhood and the City of Minneapolis. The partnership will also be working hard to put out the welcome mat for Henry High's neighbors.

**New gardeners welcome!**

By Chris Kosowski

The North End Community Garden on Penn Avenue North, just south of Lowry (across from the Aldi parking lot) is gearing up for its second year! Enthusiasm is high already, even as our long, snowy winter has blanketed the garden, protecting the flowering plants put in last year, and providing a good start with deep moisture for the earth. Gardeners met recently for planning and seed ordering, and look forward to welcoming new gardeners for the 2011 season. There will be an opportunity to plant and tend individual plots again and/or to be part of communal plots, where the work and produce will be shared. There will be a lovely herb garden in the center, more flowers in the front, and a section planted for giving away to those in need.

Each gardener contributes a small fee for garden expenses, and no one is turned away because of financial need — all are welcome! For info contact us at northendcommunitygarden@gmail.com or call the Kosowski family at 612-529-8628. Give us your name, email and phone number, so we can be in touch with you about garden details, choosing a plot, spring work day, etc. Once again we express a hearty thank you to Darryl Weivoda (owner of North End Hardware Store) and Bashir Moghul for use of their properties for this amazing community garden.

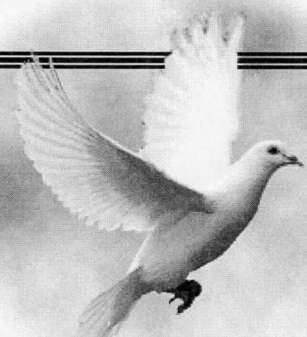


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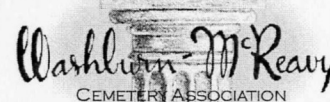
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## Camden Youth & Schools

### Teens can learn music and multimedia production with MVStudio

Teens can get hands-on experience using the latest technology in music and multimedia production at free programs presented mid-March through mid-May at Hennepin County libraries.

The programs are presented in partnership with the Institute of Production and Recording (IPR) and are funded with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, with additional funding from Best Buy's Children's Foundation.

"MVStudio' programs offer teens an opportunity to use and further develop their creative skills as they learn about music and multimedia production," said Hennepin County Library Director Lois Langer Thompson. "This program experience offers a way to capture their stories, poems and 'voices' as they collaborate with others and connect with their community."

Hennepin County Library's Teen Tech Squad, trained by IPR, will teach the six "MVStudio" workshops. Teen Tech Squad is a youth employment and youth leadership program designed to empower teens and foster creative expression, confidence and community connection at the libraries.

"The Teen Tech Squad is a diverse group of high school students from different parts of the city. We have seen all of them grow in their abilities and now they all have experience in public speaking, facilitating/teaching and planning workshops," said Teen Central librarian Aaron Lundholm. "They've also developed skills around computer programming, logic, collaborative problem solving and technology troubleshooting. All of these skills should serve them well as we move into this new territory of music production."

MVStudio: Music and Video Production workshops coming soon! For grade 7 and up. Get hands-on experience to create your own beats. Learn music mixing techniques using the latest technology in music and video production. Record and produce your own music or video in this exciting two-part workshop. Let your voice be heard. Classes at: North Regional Library on Tuesday, April 5, 5-7 p.m. and Saturday, April 9, 2-4 p.m., registration required, [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org) or 952-847-8450; and at Brookdale Library, Wednesday, April 27, 4-6 p.m. and Thursday, April 28, 4-6 p.m., registration required, [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org) or 952-847-5600.

### Job Fair helps teens

Does your teen need help connecting with potential employers? Expert advice on job applications, resumes, and job interviewing? Hennepin County Library will hold its 5th annual Teen Job Fair on Saturday, April 2, noon-3 p.m. at Hennepin County Library, 300 Nicollet Mall. Admission is free.

Hennepin County teens can meet employers from more than 30 businesses, find out about jobs, internships, and volunteer opportunities, and attend workshops on job hunting, job applications, and job interviewing. The Teen Job Fair is geared to teens in grade 8 and up, although most employment opportunities are for teens age 16 and up.

Last year, more than 1,000 youths attended the Teen Job Fair and more than 30 employers participated. So far this year, the Mall of America, Conservation Corps of Minnesota, Ben and Jerry's, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, and other businesses have signed up to participate. Hennepin County employers who would like to participate should contact librarian Aaron Lundholm at [aalundholm@hclib.org](mailto:aalundholm@hclib.org) or 952-847-8045.

In addition to connecting with potential employers, teens can receive job searching tips at a "Find a Job...Now!" workshop presented by the Minneapolis South Workforce Center at 12:30 and 2:30 p.m. Several employers in charge of hiring will present "Who We Hire," a panel discussion with inside tips on what they look for in job applications, interviews, and job applicants, at 1:30 p.m.

"Perhaps the biggest testament we have to the success of this event is the number of returning employers," said librarian Christy Mulligan. "Each year, local youth employment programs and large franchise establishments comment that this has been a one-of-a-kind event where they have connected with a diverse range of young people eager to get started building employment experience." For info go to [www.hclib.org](http://www.hclib.org) or call 952-847-8049.

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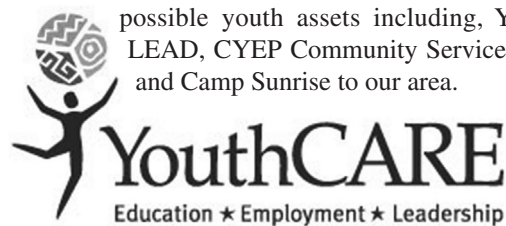
### Lind-Bohanon's Camden Youth Engagement Project has new phase and new partner

By Amy Luesebrink

Lind-Bohanon Neighborhood Association's (LBNA) Camden Youth Engagement Project (CYEP) has grown through various phases since its inception in 2006. In 2008, a report released by the City of Minneapolis Youth Coordinating Board, stated that of the 29,916 residents in Camden, 10,541 percent of them (35 percent) were youth under the age of 19. When comparing all 13 City Wards, Camden had the second worst ratio of numbers of opportunities to number of youth citywide — with only 19 when measuring parks with centers, libraries, schools and other youth programs. Whittier topped the youth opportunities offering 48 with only 6,566 youth, and Near North came in second offering 36 for 12,676 youth. Since becoming the lead organization of the CYEP in 2008, the LBNA, in partnership with the Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association, has been working to change these statistics.

Since 2008, the Camden Youth Engagement Project has raised over \$80,000 (McKnight Foundation, Otto Bremer Foundation, Hennepin County, Mall of America, Hype Council, Neighborhood Revitalization Program funds) to provide over 50 crew members and over 500 youth the opportunity to participate in a youth and adult led project who's mission is to "Promote and Produce Positive Youth Activities in Camden."

As we move forward this year, we are excited to announce the beginning of another new phase of the CYEP program. LBNA and the Camden Youth Engagement Project have been working with YouthCARE to attract and establish a broad new list of possible youth assets including, YouthLEAD, CYEP Community Service Stars and Camp Sunrise to our area.



YouthCARE (Youth for Cultural Appreciation & Racial Equality), with Executive Director Craig Luedemann, is a Twin Cities based nonprofit organization with a successful 35+ year history of providing positive multicultural youth development services

for Minneapolis and St. Paul youth, ages 7-18. YouthCARE's primary goal is to provide high quality out-of-school time programs and services that help urban youth develop self-sufficiency, leadership and employment skills while simultaneously building self-confidence, promoting intercultural dialogue, breaking down ethnic and racial stereotypes, and forming long-lasting multicultural friendships.

Shaina Abraham, Program Director for the YouthLEAD Program, began working at YouthCARE in the fall of 2006. She recently obtained her masters degree in Youth Development Leadership from the U of M and will be the primary youth leader on this partnership.

LBNA/CYEP and YouthCARE are inviting Camden youth, especially those living in the Lind-Bohanon and Shingle Creek neighborhoods, to participate in this exciting new phase of CYEP! The mission of CYEP will remain the same. With the new partnership of LBNA's CYEP program and YouthCARE's support, we will be able to provide even greater numbers of opportunities for youth to participate and to accomplish our common missions.

LBNA/CYEP and YouthCARE will be meeting three times a week after school at Jenny Lind School from 4:30-7 p.m. and offer free opportunities for youth ages 14-18 to learn leadership skills, volunteer with other teens to improve their community and bolster their college resumes.

A summer employment program will also be offered starting in June. Participants interested in applying for the 12 summer positions will be selected from the spring CYEP/YouthLEAD program.

For applications to participate in this new CYEP/YouthLEAD program contact James Pinkett or Shaina Abraham at the YouthCARE office, 612-338-1233. To get the upcoming youth calendar or to find out more about other programs contact LBNA at 612-588-7641, [lindbohanonna@aol.com](mailto:lindbohanonna@aol.com) or [www.lindbohanon.org](http://www.lindbohanon.org).

### Consultant selected to lead the new North High redesign – school will remain open

By Buzzy Bohn

Minneapolis School Superintendent Bernadeia Johnson announced on March 8 that the consultant for the redesign of North High would be the Institute for Student Achievement (ISA), a nonprofit school turnaround organization based out of New York. A team made up of both school district administration and elected Northside community members, including North High Coalition members, looked at the three finalist firms. On February 24 a public forum was held at North High where all three firms gave presentations and answered questions from the public. Everyone was then asked to fill out forms about the strengths and weaknesses of each firm. ISA was given a vote of confidence by the community members who were at this public meeting.

ISA has a strong track record of community engagement and intends to hire a community member as an advisor to the redesign process. They work with school districts and communities to turnaround underperforming high schools into schools that are academically rigorous and personalized. ISA has partnered with 80 schools serving 20,000 students in such places as Atlanta, Detroit and New York. An independent study found that ISA students have better attendance, test scores and graduation rates.

The North High Coalition has been working with the Minneapolis Public Schools to make sure that everyone knows that North High School is open and not closing, and that there will be strong academic support for the students at North while the design process is in motion. The school board changed the deadline for enrolling 125 freshmen for fall 2011 from March 31 to April 30. This will give the community and the district more time to recruit new students, and give ISA a chance for input regarding the advantages and disadvantages of accepting a small 9th grade in the fall of 2011.

After a rather contentious start, there has been more and more collaboration between the school district and the community, especially the North High Coalition about North High School. "I am incredibly proud of and deeply enthused by the partnership that has been cultivated between the community and the school district in our first steps to realizing a new North High School," said Superintendent Johnson. "Everything from selecting the interview questions for the consultants to organizing the community session with the consultants was done in collaboration. I am pleased that we are building trust and a stronger relationship with community members on the Northside. Now, more than ever, we need individuals to stay engaged in the process of designing the school."





# What's happening at Patrick Henry High School

By Tom Murray

Mr. Sylvestre, Robotics Coach announces Robotics Tournament Success. Patrick Henry's FIRST Robotics Team - Herobotics - earned 5th place out of 40 teams in March at the Duluth FIRST Robotics Regional Competition. In Duluth, our team also earned the "Gracious Professional" award - a highly regarded award in the FIRST robotics organization. We will be competing again in Minneapolis - March 31 through April 1 at the 10,000 Lakes Regional Competition. For info about FIRST Robotics Competition go to [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org).

Elite Step Team takes third place honors in tournament. Congratulations are in order for the Elite step team who placed 3rd in the Midwest High School Step Competition on March 5.



Shelby Gibson.

Athletic Director Wicker announces Shelby Gibson as the 2011 Athena Award Winner. Congratulations to Senior Shelby Gibson ('11) who was voted this year's Athena Award Winner! This award is given to Patrick Henry's outstanding female athlete and is based on excellence in individual sports or for participation and accomplishments in team sports. She will be presented this award at the Athena Award Luncheon on May 6 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Shelby's athletic accomplishments thus far: Soccer Letter winner 4 years and Captain 2 years, All Conference Award 1 year; and Softball Letter Winner 3 years and Captain 2 years, All Conference Award 2 years.

Shelby's top three sports achievements are: winning a section game for soccer, getting named All Conference for Softball as a sophomore and receiving the Athena Award. In addition to competing in sports, Shelby shows horses (barrel racing and rodeo events) and is currently riding a granddaughter of Triple Crown Winner Secretariat. Shelby is involved in Link Crew, Legacy and Team Up Student Leadership.

Patriot Wrestlers finish their best season in 50 Years. Congratulations to the six wrestlers earning Minneapolis All Conference Honors: ChueShee Vang (Fr.), Kelsey Bocek (So.), Na Xiong (Sr.), Phong Nguyen (Sr.), William Boyd (Sr.) and Demetrius Roberts (Sr.). The Patriot Coaching Staff also was voted as the top coaching staff in the City for the 2010-2011 wrestling season.

The coaching staff is very proud of the accomplishments earned by such a young team and while graduating only two seniors, the future looks very promising for our program. Congratulations to the following Patrick Henry Wrestlers who competed in the Regional Tournament in February: William Boyd (Sr.) 3rd Place; Demetrius Roberts (Fuller) (Sr.) 6th Place; Na Xiong (Sr.) 5th Place; Bobby Brown (Sr.) 5th Place; Kelsey Bocek (So.) 6th Place; Damarius Gilmer (Fr.) 6th Place; and Maximo Serrata Sawdey (Fr.) 5th Place.

## Help kids with reading and math

One out of every four Minnesota 3rd graders does not read at grade level, and more than 40 percent of the state's 8th graders do not meet math proficiency standards. In response, Minnesota Reading Corps wants to recruit more than 800 tutors for the 2011-2012 school year. Minnesota Math Corps, now in its third year, is set to double in size, from 50 to 100.

Minnesota Reading Corps, a statewide initiative to help every Minnesota child become a successful reader by the end of 3rd grade, places AmeriCorps tutors in preschool and elementary schools to implement researched-based early-literacy instruction efforts to help struggling readers. Minnesota Math Corps recruits and trains AmeriCorps tutors to provide extra support to students in 4th through 8th grade who are struggling with math. Tutors receive extensive training and are equipped with effective research-based math instruction methods.

Full-time and part-time positions will be available in elementary schools, Head Start programs, community preschools, and ECFE classrooms. Minnesota Reading Corps and Minnesota Math Corps tutors commit to 11 months of service that begin in August. In addition to receiving valuable hands-on experience, tutors earn an education award of up to \$5,550 to pay for college or to pay back federal student loans, a modest living allowance and other benefits, including the option to transfer the award to a child or grandchild if the tutor is 55 or older. Applications for both programs are now being accepted; go to [www.MinnesotaReadingCorps.org](http://www.MinnesotaReadingCorps.org) and [www.MinnesotaMathCorps.org](http://www.MinnesotaMathCorps.org).



## Fourth Ward Report

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

Web page: [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward4](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward4)  
Contact Form: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/contact/email-form-johnson.asp>

### Trees available for \$25

The City of Minneapolis is offering 1,500 trees this spring for only \$25 each. The trees are approximately six feet tall with one-inch trunks. Starting March 14, any Minneapolis property owner - whether resident, business or nonprofit - can order a tree to plant on private Minneapolis property this spring. Varieties of trees available are honeycrisp apple, blue beech, Kentucky coffee tree, "welchii" juniper, sienna glen maple, regal prince oak, redbud (Minnesota strain) and autumn brilliance serviceberry. Trees are available on a first come, first served basis. Orders for trees can be placed at [www.treetrust.org](http://www.treetrust.org) or 651-644-5800. In previous years the trees have sold quickly. Property owners who order early will get the best selection.

### Pet of the Week

The City of Minneapolis is starting a "Pet of the Week" promotion to remind pet lovers that there are many dogs and cats that are available for adoption at the animal shelter. Each year more than 500 animals are adopted from Minneapolis Animal Care & Control, which is committed to working with residents to create safe and healthy communities for people and animals. Every Monday, Minneapolis Animal Care & Control will post on the City's Facebook page a picture and description of an animal that is available for adoption. Those interested in adopting the featured pet should contact Minneapolis

Animal Care & Control by visiting the shelter. Shelter hours are 2-7 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. on Saturdays. The shelter is closed on Sundays. Minneapolis Animal Care & Control encourages everyone thinking about adopting an animal to be a responsible pet owner: before you look for a pet, think about what type of pet will fit your lifestyle. This will ensure a happy home for you and your new companion. For more information, visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/animal-control/>

### North Regional Library

North Regional Library is in the process of forming a Friends of North Regional Library group. Friends groups help support your local library by planning and volunteering at book sales, programs, and special events. Contact Senior Librarian, Barbara J. Elg at 952-847-8453 for more information.

Webber Park Library also has an active Friends group. For more information visit <http://www.supportthclib.org/webber-park/>.

### 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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## Volunteers needed to study flora and fauna

Have you ever experienced the living wonder of a wetland? Have you wanted to wade in, get your hands wet, and discover the plants and animals that live there? If so, Hennepin County has a unique volunteer opportunity - the Wetland Health Evaluation Program.

Adult volunteers - who do not need a science background or previous experience - work under the direction of a team leader and receive training on wetland monitoring protocols, including both plant and insect identification. They wade through wetlands to collect and identify dragonflies, snails, cattails and more. The total time commitment is 20 to 40 hours throughout the months of May, June and July. All equipment is provided. Participating cities use the collected data to help determine the health of water resources and assist with natural resource management. For info call Mary Karius at 612-596-9129 or visit [www.mnwhep.org](http://www.mnwhep.org).



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 6 pm Soup Supper  
 7 pm Holden Evening Prayer  
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**April 17 Palm Sunday**  
 Regular Schedule  
**10:30 am Worship/Communion**

**April 21 Maundy Thursday**  
 6 pm Seder Meal/Communion

**April 22 Good Friday**  
 7 pm Worship

**April 24 Easter**  
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 10:30 Worship/Communion  
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## Camden Arts

### “Little Diamonds” Luke Leblanc does the chic a boom, chic a boom

By Mick LaBriola

It is rare to find an artist with stellar amounts of enthusiasm, solid confidence, a calm disposition and real talent who is still a freshman in high school. This 15-year-old, 6' 1½" tall young man is Luke Leblanc, otherwise know as Little Diamonds: a singer/songwriter playing guitar and harmonica, and singing with a Minnesota homespun Bob Dylan-esque quality and charisma that is simply uncanny. In 2009, at the age of 13, Luke won the annual Hibbing, MN Bob Dylan competition at Zimmys Bar with an original song entitled *Song for Bob*.

He has spent nearly all of his young life on the Northside cultivating a talent that is about to be unleashed on the entertainment industry in our cyberspace contemporary world. Luke has received more than 35,000 hits on one of his YouTube videos already. Check out Luke's website on YouTube <http://www.youtube.com/lster123>.



Luke's dad, Duke Sopiwnik, who has raised Luke from about age two, is a powerhouse of pride and motivation in Luke's life; Duke alone has propelled Luke into the national music arena acquainting themselves with music legends like John McEuen (Nitty Gritty Dirt Band- with whom Luke has established a special relationship), Felix Cavaliere (Young Rascals) and Joey Molland (Badfinger). Luke and Duke are a dynamic duo of perseverance, inspiration and true grit!

### Greta Oglesby goes solo at the Capri

In last year's Legends series at the Capri Theater, Greta Oglesby brought the audience to its feet halfway through the concert with her performance of *Lot's Wife*. Oglesby returns in a rare solo concert that will be half gospel, half Broadway, at 7 p.m. Saturday, April 9 and 3 p.m. Sunday, April 10 at the Capri. "I love a little bit of pressure," says Oglesby.

The first half of Oglesby's concert will focus on gospel songs, including *On Holy Ground*, with an arrangement recorded by Barbra Streisand, and *Deep River*, a classic gospel number that was included in the 1929 film version of *Showboat*.

In the second half of the program, featuring Broadway show tunes, Oglesby will reprise *Lot's Wife*, from *Caroline, or Change*. Oglesby played the title role at the Guthrie Theater in 2009, and *City Pages* called her performance a "brilliant confluence of thought, feeling and performance." Oglesby says the piece is challenging "musically, physically and emotionally. I say a little prayer every time I perform it."

Performing in the Legends series is just one facet of Oglesby's commitment to the Capri Theater. "It's such a gem—not just in the North Minneapolis community, but in our whole city," she says. "It's this wonderful jewel emerging on the Northside—a beautiful, intimate space where artists can feel at home."

Oglesby is also involved with Plymouth Christian Youth Center (PCYC) as a teaching artist. "The Capri is a great training ground for emerging artists," Oglesby says. "They not only can do concerts and theater productions, they can also get behind the scenes, learning sound and lighting design."

By serving both established and emerging artists, Oglesby says, the Capri is well on its way to becoming "our Apollo."

Tickets are \$25; order at [thecapritheater.org](http://thecapritheater.org). The Capri Theater is owned and operated by PCYC, a non-profit human services organization that serves North Minneapolis children and families through education, community programs and community development. Visit [www.pcy-mpls.org](http://www.pcy-mpls.org).

Luke recalls, at about age five or six, hanging out with his dad in the back yard of their Northside home listening to Tennessee Ernie Ford, Hank Snow and Johnny Cash emanating from the tape deck of his dad's car parked in the garage. Duke said he named Luke from listening to *The Weight* by the Band.

When Luke was 11 and his grandpa died, Luke inherited his grandpa's beat-up guitar. Luke then became self-taught saying, "It was easy learning the 'chic a boom, chic a boom' from Johnny Cash's music." And Luke gently expressed about his harmonica playing (which he also taught himself), "When you put on the thing around your neck it's easy to play." However, Luke has damaged a few harmonicas due to his gum chewing!

By age 12 Luke first performed for an open mic session at Famous Dave's in Uptown. Luke wore his signature hat and vest and Duke announced "Let's saddle up here kid and go Honky Tonkin'." Luke played *The Weight* and the crowd of 300 was very receptive. Luke said, "I liked the feeling of playing and being on stage."

His next gig found him at the Hippy Fest at the State Theater: a national tour with 3 Dog Night, the Young Rascals, the Turtles, Denny Lane, Joey Molland, etc. Additional performances include warm-ups for the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band (Fargo, Lacrosse, and Minneapolis) and the Ozark Mountain Daredevils (Green Bay).

Luke recorded his first CD *First Rail* with 11 all-original songs at Starvu Studios engineered by Doctor Fink (formerly of Prince). Luke has planned to release another CD in March.

Luke has also appeared twice on film: Luke and Duke landed a non-musical part together in *A Serious Man* by the Coen Bros. in 2008. (Look for them throwing a football on a 1950's beach scene shot in Buffalo, Minnesota.) Luke also was filmed at the Cedar Cultural Center, Artist Quarter, Famous Daves, Southern Theater, Wilebskis and Mickey's Diner among others for a PBS show by Elizebeth Hollenhorst.

During the end of our interview Luke was playing and singing in the background, very comforting. It's obvious that Luke has a brilliant future ahead of him. And his humility is awe-inspiring. Luke articulated, "I liked listening to music and it bothered me that I couldn't play it myself, so I figured out how to play ... A kid picking up a guitar and figured out how to play a song."

### Workhouse welcomes spring with the comedy *Sylvia*

Workhouse Theatre Company (WTC) continues its 2010-11 season with the beloved comedy *Sylvia* by A.R. Gurney, Jr., opening May 6, and performing through May 22.

"I'm so pleased to be bringing one of America's most popular comedies of the last decade to Workhouse audiences for the first time," said Artistic Director Christopher Tibbetts, who is directing *Sylvia*. "In addition to giving our audiences a new production of a comedy that has delighted millions all over the world, we're bringing four actors who have delighted Twin Cities audiences for years to our stage for the first time."



Performing in the Workhouse Theatre Company's production of *Sylvia* are (l-r) Julie Ann Nevill, David Denninger and Erin Duffy. Photo by Duane Atter.

*Sylvia* tells the story of Greg and Kate, a middle-aged couple adjusting to their "empty nest," and what happens when Greg brings home a stray dog. The urbane comedy brings Twin Cities' favorites David Denninger, Erin Duffy, Julie Ann Nevill and Jonathan Peterson to the Workhouse stage for the first time. According to Tibbetts, "The stars aligned to bring this cast and me together to work on this show at this time. I've had the pleasure of working with all of them at other theatres, and I'm so proud that we can do such a tender, moving script for Workhouse. We've wanted to bring each of these actors to our company for a long time. Finally, we found just the right script at just the right time for all five of us."

The *New York Daily News* called *Sylvia* "one of the most involving, beautiful, funny, touching, and profound plays I have ever seen." The *New York Times* described it as "delicious and dizzy."

*Sylvia* plays May 6, 7, 9, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m., and May 22 at 2 p.m. at The Warren-An Artist Habitat, 4400 Osseo Road. On Thursday performances, all Camden residents can get two tickets for \$15. For info call 612-216-1583 or visit [www.workhousetheatre.org](http://www.workhousetheatre.org).

### Check out the *Anatomy of a Town*

*The Chief of Police investigates the murder of a woman, discovering all the town's dirty secrets including one about himself; the victim might be his half-sister, which complicates his investigation because he slept with her.*

Sound intriguing? That's the synopsis of the screenplay for *Anatomy of a Town*, written by Northsider Patricia Fox, which was aired on radio station KCBX on March 7. And you can listen to it now - it's archived at [www.kcbx.org/](http://www.kcbx.org/). The screenplay, set in Minnesota, was produced for radio after it won the Divebomber Radio Screenplay Contest. It was also a finalist/quarterfinalist in the Champion Screenwriting Contest, the Santa Fe Writers Place Contest, Page International and the Austin Film Festival.

Patricia Fox studied creative writing, screenwriting, film history and film criticism at the U of M. She has been a finalist three times for the IFP-MN Screenwriting Fellowship; a Selected Artist for Screenwriting at the Telluride Independent Film Festival with her first feature length screenplay, *Dinah*; and a finalist for *Anatomy of a Town* and winner for *Date of Death*, at the Minnesota Screenwriters Workshop Leave 'Em Hooked Showcase Competition. She also directed her own staged reading of her screenplay *The Lamar Bigsby Story*.

### Ian McFeron live at 42nd Ave. Station

Ian McFeron celebrates the release of his sixth album, *Summer Nights*, with performances across the country this spring, including one on Sunday, April 10 at 42nd Ave. Station (4171 Lyndale) from 7-8:30 p.m. McFeron takes the stage with fiddler, cellist and harmony vocalist Alisa Milner. His new album chronicles a restless world of fevered dreams, ghostly visions and late-night wanderings through the side streets of Cape Town, Barcelona and Seattle. Initially an attempt to invoke the spirits of people and places lost to the past, the album's message is one of acceptance and moving forward.

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## Pancakes all around

Folks got a belly-full of food when the Leo Lions (the Henry High youth branch of the Camden Lions) held their pancake breakfast fundraiser on February 26 at Webber Park. Leo advisor Johanna Grefsrud says, "The Leos have served over 100 breakfast-goers at their pancake fundraisers. Thirty-four Leos put in anywhere from three to eight hours into set-up, operation and take-down of the pancake breakfast events. Many more are involved in planning and advertising efforts before the events. Throughout their service they gain valuable knowledge and life skills in event planning, publicity, developing community partnerships, volunteer coordination and fundraising."

At their last meeting, the Leos talked about needs among Henry students, the school community, and the neighborhoods they live in. Grefsrud says, "After identifying the most pressing needs, we have decided to donate the money we've earned throughout the year to organizations or projects that benefit transportation for youth on the Northside [i.e., bus tokens for Henry staff to give to students who need them, Youth Are Here bus], to the organizers of community or school events that increase communication and trust among neighbors [i.e., Holiday on 44th and Community Involvement Day at Henry], and to efforts to improve the health of the community and the environment [i.e., a community garden]. We will also give a portion of our profits to the Salvation Army's North Minneapolis food shelf for their March food campaign."



For info on the Henry Leos contact Johana Grefsrud at 612-668-2002. Pictured (from left) are Victory residents Teresa, Mark, Mikayla and Christina who enjoyed the pancakes, sausages and juice at the fundraiser (their other daughter is a Leo). Photo by Randy Klauk.

## Community History

Commercial Roofing and Sheetmetal is proud to sponsor the Camden Community News. [www.commercialrfg.com](http://www.commercialrfg.com)



### Behind the Victory Flagpole – the pioneer's son

By Barbara Meyer Bistodeau

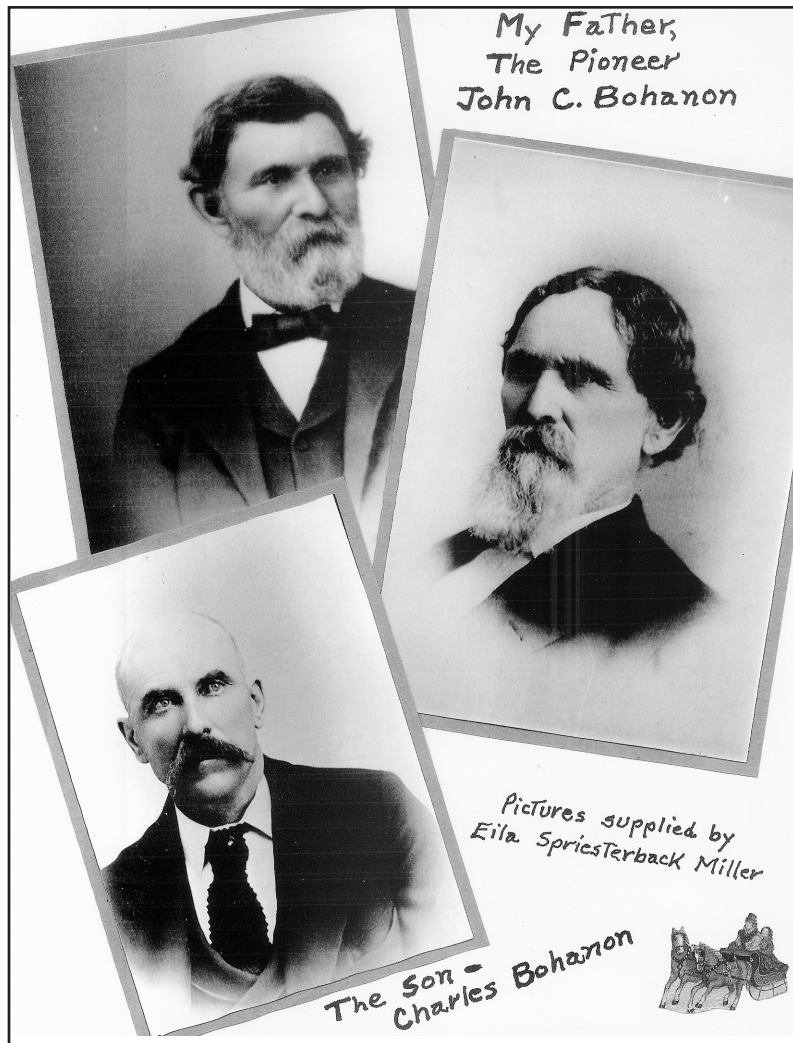
Greetings! My name is Charles Bohanon. I am the second son of John C. and Lucretia Bohanon, early pioneers of St. Anthony and Camden Place. I am writing to tell you about some of my experiences coming to this area as a young lad, along with my two brothers, Lee and Willard.

In 1853 I moved to the farm where I am living now. It would be at about 43rd and Dupont. My father had taken up a claim in 1851 down at 5th and Hennepin, where the West Hotel used to be. But while father was in the woods doing logging, a man called "Old Man Stimson" squatted on that, so father instead took a claim at Camden Place. He built a small house there on a piece of land consisting of 160 acres, from the Mississippi River to Humboldt and 40th to 44th. The land was covered with brush and "oak openins." Every one of those trees had to be grubbed out.

One of my earliest recollections is the Red River carts that used to go squawking by the side of the river. We called them the "Red River Band." It was one of the loudest bands ever brought together, as their music, that of wood rubbing against wood, could be heard for three miles.

While my father was off logging, the Indians used to come and sleep in the dooryard. Sometimes it would be full of painted Sioux. They never stole anything or begged, but would gratefully take anything offered them. They were very friendly and kind and full of curiosity, as their looking in the windows at all times attested to that.

My father had brought a fine pair of horses from Galena. One day when he was mowing wild hay on a meadow, he left them unhitched and was told excitedly by a neighbor that they had got in the river. He ran and saw one swimming near the other shore, but the other one had turned over with his feet in the air. The weight of the horse plus wagon was too much and he sank. We recovered only



the wagon when it came upon a sandbar. To a pioneer farmer, the loss of this team was hard to conceive.

The land was full of wildlife. The number of pigeons migrating here could never be estimated. They were seen in countless numbers on the "slab trees," that is, old dead trees. One could kill hundreds in a day, and if thousands were killed, it made no impression. They flew very low and in dense masses. Ducks and geese were also exceedingly plentiful and good for eating. Also on our farm was a thicket of plums. There were blue, red and yellow ones. Some were sour, some bitter, others tasteless and others sweet. There were also raspberries, blackberries and wild strawberries in quantities. If we wanted blueberries we would go up to Anoka and spend a week camping and picking them.

Our first crop to sell was corn. At that time, the only one buying corn in the area was Alexander Moore in St. Anthony. To him, two bushel baskets made a bushel. This sold for 15 cents. Moore had much larger baskets than those ordinarily in use and measured the corn in these. When one objected, he said, "If you don't like my measure, take your corn home." He was brave because he knew there was no one else to take it.

I remember the Lieutenant Governor at that time, who was new to the Red River country, was married and on his wedding trip. He sent word ahead to the lodging that he wanted a private room. When he arrived he was shown the only room there was—full of half-breed sleepers. He hastened to the proprietor and said, "I ordered a private room." The answer was, "There are only six beds in there, what more could you want?"

Some of my small recollections were that thread came in hanks, not spools. Beds were boards crossed with rope or popple poles, topped with ticks stuffed with hay or corn leaves. Mr. Tapper had a ferry across the river and a Sioux woman also had a ferry—hers was just a canoe. The first State Fairgrounds was at Harmon near Loring Park. My first job was at Wales Book Store, keeping the fire going to keep the ink from freezing. One other thing that sticks out in my mind was the quantity of mosquitoes in the area. They came in great clouds and were everywhere and could make time spent outdoors quite miserable! That sums up some of my early memories. Charles Bohanon.

Note: Excerpts taken from *Old Rail Fence Corners, Frontier Tales* told by Minnesota Pioneers.

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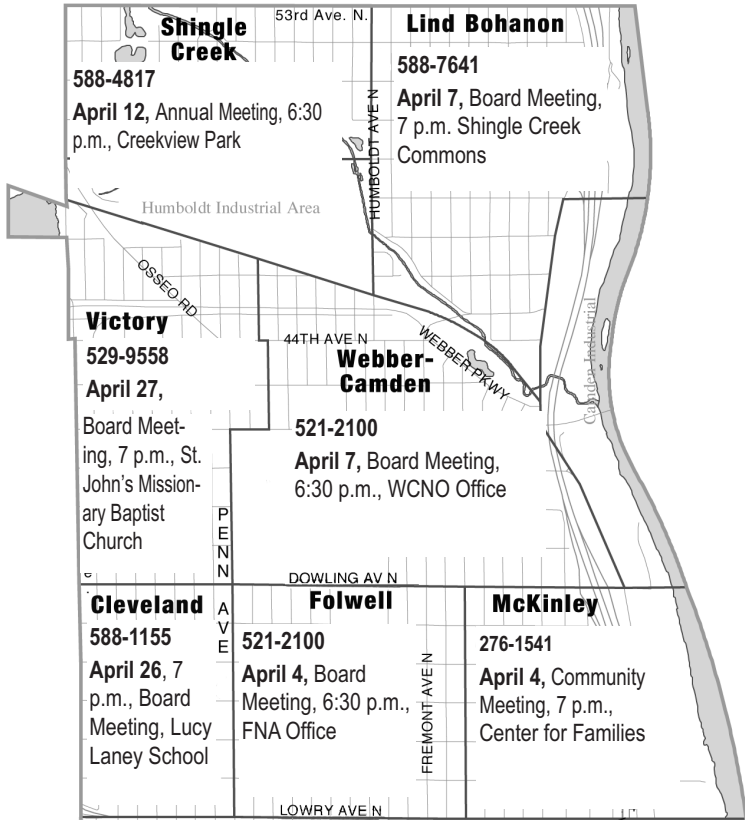
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# Camden Neighborhoods




**McKinley Community Office**  
Center for Families,  
3333 North 4th Street, room 1  
Phone: 612-276-1541  
Email: [mckinleycommunity@yahoo.com](mailto:mckinleycommunity@yahoo.com)  
Website: [www.mckinleycommunity.com](http://www.mckinleycommunity.com)

**We Need You! Run for the McKinley Community Board of Directors**

We really do! If you live, work or own a business in the McKinley neighborhood you are eligible to be on the neighborhood Board of Directors. *No experience is necessary, but passion for improving the neighborhood, long-term vision and a willingness to collaborate with the whole community is essential.* Residents will vote for **five** open seats on the Board of Directors at the April 4 Community Meeting in the Center for Families building, 3333 North 4th Street. Applications are available, so call 612-276-1541 or email [mckinleycommunity@yahoo.com](mailto:mckinleycommunity@yahoo.com) if you would like an application or have questions about being a Board member. Applications are also available for download online at [www.mckinleycommunity.com](http://www.mckinleycommunity.com).

**Know a Senior Who Needs Help with Raking, Shovel-ing 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**

**McKinley Community Meeting** Monday, April 4, 7 pm, Center for Families, 3333 N. 4th Street  
\*\*\*This meeting is an open forum for residents to discuss any and all general topics, please come down and participate.\*\*\*

**McKinley Board of Directors Meeting** Monday, April 18, 6:30 pm, Center for Families, 3333 N. 4th Street

**Crime/Safety Meeting** Monday, April 25, 6:30 pm, Center for Families, 3333 N. 4th Street  
\*\*\*This meeting is focused on Crime, Safety and Livability issues in the neighborhood, please come out and participate.\*\*\*

**McKinley Community Meeting** Monday, May 2, 7 pm, Center for Families, 3333 North 4th Street



**Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association**  
P.O.Box 15656, Minneapolis, MN 55415;  
Web Site: [www.scna-mpls.org](http://www.scna-mpls.org)  
Email: [scna@stribmail.com](mailto:scna@stribmail.com); Amy Luesebrink, 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.

**The SCNA 16th Annual Shingle Creek Clean-up coming Saturday, April 16! 9 a.m.-noon**

Mark your calendars for this family fun-filled day! We'll spend a couple hours in the morning picking up trash from the banks of Shingle Creek, eating some food, and this year we'll have the University of MN Raptor Center again swooping in to lend a hand!

Come help out and then stick around to see the live raptor show!  
Our annual Shingle Creek Clean-up is from 9-11 a.m.  
The celebration party with food and refreshments and educational activities is from 11 a.m.-noon.  
For more information go to [www.scna-mpls.org](http://www.scna-mpls.org).



**SCNA Annual Meeting and Elections April 12, 6:30 p.m.**

SCNA, is a 501c3 organization whose mission is to educate residents and promote the local area. The work we do as volunteers in the neighborhood is important! We host the Shingle Creek Clean-up, Tour De Camden, and Common Ground Community Garden, and so much more! We currently have openings on the board and are seeking volunteers who can commit two hours a month to attend one meeting a month to lend input and ideas about things happening in the area. Thanks for considering getting involved! Check us out at [scna@stribmail.com](mailto:scna@stribmail.com) or our staff at 763-561-1616.

**Shingle Creek Common Ground Garden seeks gardeners!**

Applications are now being taken for gardeners interested in gardening at the Shingle Creek Common Ground Garden at 52nd and Newton Aves. N! It is a demonstration raingarden and natural wooded garden with 12 raised-bed garden plots for flowers or vegetables! Plots are \$15 to help cover the cost of water and supplies.  
Hurry! With spring upon us they won't last long!  
Contact Linda Eriksson today at 763-566-6618!



**VICTORY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**  
2200 44th Avenue North • 612-529-9558  
[info@victoryneighborhood.org](mailto:info@victoryneighborhood.org) •  
[www.victoryneighborhood.org](http://www.victoryneighborhood.org)  
All the News from Victory Neighborhood

**April 9 – Victory Gardening Workshop**

Do you want to grow vegetables but don't know where to begin? Or do you grow vegetables, but you'd like to produce more? Do you want to know more about raingardens and how to maintain them? Join us for Victory's Spring Gardening Workshop to learn how you can have a beautiful and bountiful garden this season. The workshop will be on Saturday, April 9 at The Warren, 4400 Osseo Road from 10 a.m. to noon.

We'll also have booths staffed with knowledgeable people that can help you find resources and answer questions on composting, raising chickens in the city, container gardening and rain barrels. You can also "Ask a Master Gardener" and learn about the Victory Garden Club and Garden Resource Hubs.

Coffee will be provided and the Victory Garden Club will be hosting a bake sale to support neighborhood beautification projects.

**Join the Rain Garden Party!**


Since 2009 ViNA has assisted 24 residents to install rain gardens and in 2011 ViNA hopes to install an additional nine residential rain gardens.

Participants in the Rain Garden Party (Part III) will receive a home consultation from a landscape architect, a rain garden design and stormwater management plan, and have their garden dug for them by the Minnesota Conservation Corps. Participants must attend a Metro Blooms workshop, provide the plants, compost and mulch, and plant and maintain the garden. If you are interested in having a raingarden, contact ViNA at 612-529-9558 or [info@victoryneighborhood.org](mailto:info@victoryneighborhood.org).

**Victory Garage Sale – June 4 – Coordinator needed**

The 17th annual Victory Neighborhood Garage Sale is scheduled for Saturday, June 4 and ViNA is looking for a volunteer or volunteers to coordinate the Garage Sale. The volunteer or volunteers would be responsible for readying the signs and banner, preparing and arranging for the printing of the map and directory, advertising and marketing the sale and distribution of the signs and maps. For more information or if you can help with one or more responsibilities of the sale please contact ViNA.

**The Lind Bohanon Neighborhood Association**



Message Line: 612-588-7641 • email: [LindBohanonNA@aol.com](mailto:LindBohanonNA@aol.com) • [www.lindbohanon.org](http://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, April 7, LBNA Board Meeting 7p.m.**

**Lind Community Garden application deadline April 15**

The Lind Community Garden has 60 garden plots and we can't wait for spring! If you've been looking for a place to plant a garden locally and would be interested in using a community garden plot in the Lind-Bohanon area—we want to hear from you!

Cost of a 6'x12' plot is \$20 and includes the background check that is required since the garden is on school property. For more information about the garden check out our website at [www.lindbohanon.org](http://www.lindbohanon.org). For an application contact LBNA at 612-588-7641 or email [lindbohanonna@aol.com](mailto:lindbohanonna@aol.com) or you can get an application from our website.

**LBNA receives U of M NPI \$10,000 grant for Mobile Pilot Project**

The Lind-Bohanon Neighborhood Association (LBNA) is excited to announce their project "A Unique Partnership to Organize and Empower the Invisible Populations of Lind-Bohanon Neighborhood's Disabled" has been selected by the University of Minnesota. LBNA will be working with local partners Shingle Creek Commons, Kingsley Commons, Creekview Park, Community Education, Three Rivers Park District, Camden Care Center, and others to identify top issues for local disabled and senior residents with disabilities. If you are interested in participating in this project contact, LBNA staff at 612-588-7641.

**Mereen Johnson site potential buyer attending LBNA Board meeting April 7**

Scott Tankenoff, from Hillcrest Development will be attending the LBNA April 7 board meeting to discuss possible plans for the current Mereen Johnson site. Council Member Barb Johnson will also be attending. LBNA invites the public to join us in hearing what is being proposed for the site and to give comments about the proposal. Hillcrest Development is a 60-year-old business. For more information about them and their work across the city check out their website at [www.hillcrestdevelopment.com](http://www.hillcrestdevelopment.com).

**Folwell Neighborhood – NRP in Action!**

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

FNA Board Meeting: Monday, April 4, 6:30 p.m., FNA office -1206 37th Ave. N.

**Earth Day with Bunnies in the Park, Saturday April 16:** Celebrate Earth Day with the Bunny at Folwell Park from 9:30 a.m. until noon. Photo buttons with the Bunny will be a "take away" when you share in the many "green" and family friendly events. Call FNA at 612-521-2100 for information or to volunteer.

**Flood Area 5 – 37th Avenue Greenway Informational Meeting – Tuesday, April 19, 6:30 p.m. until 8 p.m., Folwell Park Community Room.** The City of Minneapolis Public Works, Sewer & Water Department, along with Barr Engineering, will present the details of the Flood Area 5 Project that will begin in early May 2011. Flood Area 5 is a storm water diversion project that, when complete, will provide a pedestrian and bike greenway on the avenue and will eliminate auto traffic on 37th Avenue North from Penn to Knox. The goal of this project is to reduce the amount of storm water entering the sanitary sewer system and protect homes in the area from localized street flooding. For more information about Flood Area 5, visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/cip/flood5>. Come to the meeting to learn and ask questions!

**Attention 4th Ward seniors!** 4th Ward Senior Luncheon and Resource Fair, Tuesday, April 26, noon-2:30 p.m., Folwell Park, 1615 Dowling Avenue North. Enjoy lunch plus resources and support for 4th Ward seniors and homeowners with disabilities, with free screenings for blood pressure, glaucoma and glucose. Space is limited. Call 612-521-2100 for reservations for this free event.

**The Metro Paint-A-Thon** applications are available in our office; otherwise, contact: Deidre Pope, Director at [dpope@gmcc.org](mailto:dpope@gmcc.org) or 612-721-8687 x321.


**Rebuilding Together Twin Cities:** On April 30, there are plans to make repairs for 15 homeowners in Folwell neighborhood. Please consider volunteering with Rebuilding Together for this Folwell focused day. Contact Rebuilding Together Twin Cities at 651-776-4273, fax: 612-767-8578, email to Volunteer Services: [volunteerservices@rebuildingtogether-twincities.org](mailto:volunteerservices@rebuildingtogether-twincities.org).

**Tax Preparation for Seniors and Low Income People** (no one turned away) North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Avenue North, 952-847-8450. This service is through April 16 on Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. No appointments.

**5K Northside Street Race and SOC Open House – Saturday, May 21.** The 5K begins at 8 a.m., followed by the SWAT Trot (kids 12 and under 1/2 mile fun run) at 9 a.m. Concurrent with the 5K is the "Y'all Run" for "peace officers only" in honor of the late MPD Captain Otto Wagenfeil, who was commander of the SOC. Race participants and volunteers receive a free, long sleeve race t-shirt. Immediately following the races is the open house with lots of family friendly activities. Kids' sports activities provided by the Police Activities League (PAL). Bike Fest 2011! Bike mechanics will be on hand to make minor repairs and adjustments. Four new kids' bikes will be given away, plus there is a safety course for kids ages 6-12. For information or to volunteer: 612-521-2100. To register for the race, visit [www.active.com](http://www.active.com).

**Neighborhood Health Source (Fremont Clinic) Annual Gala:** Thursday, April 7, 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., Nicollet Island Pavilion. For more details, visit: [www.neighborhood-healthsource.org/gala](http://www.neighborhood-healthsource.org/gala).

**Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour:** Saturday, April 30, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, May 1, 1 p.m.-5 p.m. Information-612-673-5103.





## Pothole crews out day and night, more permanent repairs start soon

As the daytime temperatures continue to climb above freezing, city crews continue to patch potholes every day to keep streets in Minneapolis as drivable as possible. Because daytime thaws and overnight re-freezing lead to the formation of potholes, Minneapolis crews continue to monitor street conditions and patch potholes day and night.

Crews have been temporarily patching potholes all winter, with the bulk of it occurring since February. Temporary patches are made during the winter months to try to keep our streets as drivable as possible until permanent repairs can be performed once the weather improves. Because hot mix asphalt and other materials are typically not available during winter months, crews use a "cold mix," which provides a temporary patch that has a fairly short lifespan, but that still makes streets more drivable. Public Works anticipates that permanent street repair work should begin by April 5.

The extraordinary weather and near-record snowfall we have experienced this winter led to significant pothole problems all around the metro area, and cities across the state are doing street maintenance with fewer resources because of State budget cuts. Since potholes are popping up or reappearing on streets all over Minneapolis, it's not possible for crews to address all potholes at once. City pothole patch crews prioritize which potholes to patch, weighing in factors such as the amount of traffic a street carries, the severity of a particular pothole problem and whether the street is slated for more extensive repairs sometime during the year.

To report a pothole for repair call 311, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Reports can also be made at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/311). Public Works uses reports that come in from the public, as well as their observations in the field, to prioritize work and address street issues as efficiently and effectively as possible with the given resources.

## Use your experience and help shape key City decisions

Board and commission members in the City of Minneapolis provide valuable insights, help shape key policy decisions and provide community-based input into administration of services. Applications are now being accepted for openings on a number of open boards and commissions positions that the City Council and Mayor will appoint this spring. The City is seeking applicants with a diversity of backgrounds and experiences to strengthen the work of the City.

There are 112 open positions on the following 14 City boards/commissions: Advisory Committee on People with Disabilities; Advisory Group for Minneapolis Redistricting 2011-2012 of the Minneapolis Charter Commission; Animal Care & Control Advisory Board; Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee; Charter Commission; Latino Advisory Committee; Minneapolis Workforce Council; Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission; Pedestrian Advisory Committee; Planning Commission; Public Health Advisory Committee; Senior Citizens Advisory Committee; Thinc.GreenMSP Steering Committee; and Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Applications will be reviewed beginning April 4. However, the positions are open until filled. For a full list of appointment opportunities, position descriptions and info visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/index.asp>.

## Talk money before the wedding bells ring

By Nilvia Brinkley

Unless you and your spouse-to-be have spent a significant amount of time discussing how you plan to handle finances after the honeymoon, you may be setting yourselves up for a rough go — at least in the beginning and maybe for your entire time together. Studies have shown that money is a frequent topic of arguments in many marriages. One of the reasons may be that couples don't spend enough time talking about money before the "big day."

Marriage is a many-splendored thing, but when you begin to peel away the layers, one important thing you find is a business arrangement — that's just one reason why it's called a marriage "contract." And as with any business arrangement, in a marriage you have money flowing in and money flowing out. As long as the inflow exceeds the outflow, the arrangement usually works. But a marriage isn't a typical business — there's an emotional aspect to everything, including the couple's finances. To help get the discussion started, here are some issues you should address together before you tie the knot.

**Budgeting.** Some say that the key to financial success is to spend what you have after saving, rather than saving what's left after spending. Once you sit down and estimate your monthly income and expenses as a couple, it then becomes a matter of budgeting to control expenses and setting money aside to help achieve your goals.

**Combining accounts.** As engaged individuals, you probably already have your own savings, checking and brokerage accounts. But as a couple, do you want to combine everything into joint accounts or keep them separate? Having separate accounts lets each of you feel independent, knowing that you can tap your finances whenever the need arises. On the other hand, joining accounts can help unite your goals and create a more effective investment program.

**Housing.** If each of you already own real estate, you will need to face issues with housing, including: Will you live in one spouse's home, or sell both homes and purchase a new one together? What will be the likely tax consequences of selling — especially if the sale will result in substantial capital gains or losses?

**Financial goals.** In today's economy it's important to set aside money for emergency expenses in case of sickness or job loss — experts recommend saving

three to six months' living expenses. That's why it's important to establish financial goals and determine your priorities as a couple. Do you want to dine out often, or eat in and save? How much do you want to spend on traveling and entertainment? How about for buying and decorating a home, leasing a car, etc.?

**Debt.** Some people are raised to never borrow money unless it's absolutely necessary. Others are taught that it is acceptable to take out a loan — even for a luxury item. Differing attitudes toward debt accumulation is just one reason it's important to know before the wedding what, if any, debts each of you is bringing to the marriage. If there is debt, decide whether to combine it or to keep separate credit histories and records. Many experts recommend that each individual retain his or her own credit cards and credit history. Doing so helps ensure financial independence and provides greater flexibility if either of you finds yourself alone at some point in the future. Also, if one of you has a poor credit history, it may be advisable not to commingle debt in order to retain the other's better credit rating.

**Estate planning.** Addressing estate planning is vital, regardless of your age. When two people commit to legal responsibility for each other, it's appropriate to talk about how they want to provide for an orderly transfer of assets. Included in the discussion should be considerations of the financial implications of life insurance and what would happen if a wage earner or work-at-home spouse were lost. Pay particular attention to beneficiary designations on life insurance policies, IRAs and 401(k) plans. These designations will supersede instructions for distributing assets included in a will or trust. Each provider — insurance company, financial institution or plan administrator — needs to be contacted to update the beneficiary designations on these valuable assets. (This step is particularly important in the case of a second marriage.)

When appropriate, include your financial advisor, tax advisor and attorney in financial discussions before you say, "I do." Open and honest communication before your wedding day may help you avoid money arguments and financial problems in your marriage.

*Note: Nilvia Brinkley is a Financial Advisor with Wells Fargo Advisors and Camden resident.*

### Thanks for supporting the Camden Community News

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*New Webber-Camden residents let us know you're here!*  
website: [www.webbercamden.org](http://www.webbercamden.org). M-Th, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.,  
Linda Koelman, President, WCNO

**WCNO Board Meeting, Thursday, April 7, 6:30 p.m., WCNO office – 1206 37th Avenue North**

**Attention 4th Ward seniors!** WCNO and FNA's "Come Home to Camden" hosts the 4th Ward Senior Luncheon and Resource Fair. Tuesday, April 26, noon-2:30 p.m., Folwell Park, 1615 Dowling Avenue North. Enjoy lunch plus resources and support for 4th Ward seniors and homeowners with disabilities with free screenings for blood pressure, glaucoma and glucose. Space is limited. Call 612-521-2100 for reservations for this free event.

**Earth Day with Bunnies in the Park April 16:** Celebrate Earth Day with the Bunny at Webber Park from, 9:30 a.m. until noon. Photo buttons with the Bunny will be a "take away" when you share in the many "green" and family friendly events. Call WCNO at 612-521-2100 for information or to volunteer.

**Tax Preparation for Seniors and Low Income People (no one turned away)** North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Avenue North, 952-847-8450. This service is through April 16 on Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. No appointments.

**Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour:** Homes on the free, self-guided 2011 tour will be open Saturday, April 30, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, May 1, 1 p.m.

until 5 p.m. Information: 612-673-5103.

**The Metro Paint-A-Thon** applications are available in our office; otherwise, download the application from the Metro Paint-A-Thon website at [paintathon.gmcc.org](http://paintathon.gmcc.org). May 6 is the application deadline. Contact: Deidre Pope, Director at [dpope@gmcc.org](mailto:dpope@gmcc.org) or 612-721-8687 x321 for details.

**5K Northside Street Race and SOC Open House – Saturday, May 21.** This event is sponsored by WCNO in partnership with the Minneapolis Police Department. The 5K begins at 8 a.m. Concurrent with the 5K is the "y'all run" for peace officers only, in honor of the late Captain Otto Wagenpheil. At 9 a.m. is the SWAT Trot (kids 12 and under), 1/2 mile fun run. All race participants and volunteers receive a free long sleeve race t-shirt. The SOC Open House is immediately after the SWAT Trot until 2 p.m. Open house activities include free food, music, tour of facilities, public safety equipment, police dogs, and robotics. The Police Activities League (PAL) will be there to provide fun sports activities for the kids. Bike Fest 2011! Bike mechanics will be on hand to make minor repairs and adjustments, plus learn to repair a flat tire. Four new kids' bikes will be given away, and there is a safety course for kids ages 6-12. For information or to volunteer: 612-521-2100. To register for the race, visit .



### 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](mailto:cna@clevelandneighborhood.org) • website: <http://www.clevelandneighborhood.org>

#### CNA to hire Community Organizer

The Cleveland Neighborhood Association currently seeks a part time community organizer who will assist the organization in implementing their community engagement plans. The Community Organizer will engage residents and other stakeholders to determine their issues and priorities for the improvement of the neighborhood, encourage participation in the organization and facilitate the dialogue between the residents, stakeholders and the neighborhood organization. The Community Organizer will serve under the direction of the Board of Directors and the CNA Coordinator. The position would be approximately 10 hours per week and some evening and weekends will be required. For a complete job description and/or application, please visit [www.clevelandneighborhood.org](http://www.clevelandneighborhood.org) or contact the CNA office at 612-588-1155.

#### Landscape Grants for 2011

Spring has finally arrived and with it the CNA Landscape Grant Program. A new element to the program in 2011 is that residents who plan early and complete their project by May 31, will be eligible for a \$200 reimbursement of the

purchase of native plants for their boulevards or rain gardens. Projects completed after May 31 will only be eligible for a \$100 reimbursement. Residents must submit an application for a Landscape Grant along with 'before' photos and their plans for either a boulevard or rain garden that will use drought tolerant and native perennial plants that require limited water and/or manage stormwater runoff. After purchasing plants and installing the garden, applicants must submit 'after' photos and copies of receipts to CNA in order to receive reimbursement. Complete guidelines and applications are available on the CNA website.

#### CNA Flea Market

Plan now and reserve your spot at the first CNA Flea Market to be held on June 4 in conjunction with the annual Victory Neighborhood Garage Sale. The Flea Market is planned for the back parking lot of Lucy Craft Laney School, 3333 Penn and will be indicated on the Garage Sale map. There is no charge to reserve a spot to sell your wares but participants must bring their own tables. To reserve your 10' x 6' space contact CNA at [Fleamarket@clevelandneighborhood.org](mailto:Fleamarket@clevelandneighborhood.org).



# 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](mailto: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.

## March

### Ongoing

**March food drive.** Victory neighborhood and Community Food Shelf at NorthPoint Health and Wellness and Minnesota Food Share's March campaign to raise dollars and collect food donations. Donations of cash and food will be collected during March at local businesses including Steamworks Coffee & Tea, Papa's Restaurant & Deli, The Warren, the Housing Resource Center and the ViNA office. Mail checks to NorthPoint Inc, 1315 Penn Ave N, Mpls, MN 55411. 100 percent of cash donations are used to purchase food at cooperative prices from local food banks.

### Saturday, 3/26

**Tax help.** The IRS office at 250 Marquette Ave. is open 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. to help taxpayers who may not be able to visit an IRS office during weekday business hours. The IRS will provide free assistance to taxpayers who need help getting info required to file their tax returns as well as help with account questions. In addition, help preparing tax forms will be available for people with incomes of \$49,000 or less and on a first-come, first-served basis. Bring: Valid driver's license or photo identification (self and spouse, if applicable); Social Security cards and dates of birth for all persons listed on the return; all income statements, Forms W-2, 1099, Social Security, unemployment or other benefits statements, self-employment records and any documents showing taxes withheld; dependent child care information: payee's name, address and SSN or TIN; proof of account at financial institution for direct debit or deposit (e.g. cancelled/voided check or bank statement); prior year tax return (if available); and any other pertinent documents or papers. Info: [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).

### Sunday, 3/27

**Free Family Fun Days: Owls of MN.** 1-3 p.m., ongoing. Kroening Interpretive Center in North Mississippi Regional Park. Investigate the owls of Minnesota and find out whoo lives in our neighborhoods. Free. Ages: All.

### Thursday, 3/31

The MPRB is replacing the **wading pool at Farview Park** this year and will gather community ideas/suggestions at 6:30 p.m. at Farview Recreation Center, 609 29th Ave. Help determine the site of the new pool, what features will be included, and options for rest rooms and other site amenities. New water-saving engineering features will eliminate the plumbing and water seepage issues which closed the 1950s-era pool last summer. Construction begins late summer or early fall with a new wading pool being operational in 2012. The current wading pool will remain closed for the 2011 summer season. Info: Lonnie Nichols at 612-230-6471 or [lnichols@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:lnichols@minneapolisparcs.org).

## April

### Arts

#### Ongoing Mondays

**Northside Arts Collective** meets at 6:30 p.m. at 42nd Street Station, 4171 Lyndale Ave. N. Info at [www.nacarts.org](http://www.nacarts.org).

#### Ongoing

**Beginning stained glass class,** April 26 thru May 17, through Henry High School Community Ed. Glass Fusing workshops are also great for folks not interested in learning to cut glass or operate a kiln. Check out [goddessofglas.com](http://goddessofglas.com). The Goddess of Glass and Friends has unique gifts, fine arts and custom framing. 2205 Lowry Ave N. Open Thurs.- Sat., 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; 612-521-0399, [www.goddessofglass.com](http://www.goddessofglass.com).

### Ongoing

**Camden Music School** classes begin April 4. Do you have an ear for music, a hungry mind and a playful heart? CMS offers music education for all ages and abilities, and we still have openings for our spring term (April 4-June 11). Choose from: Vocal and instrumental lessons; Music theory and appreciation classes; Ensembles — rock 'n roll, hand drums, choir, strings and more, for youth and adults. Musikgarten early childhood classes for newborns to age 8. Classes at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 3751 Sheridan Ave. N., and Grace Center for Community Life, 1500 6th St. NE. Info/registration: 612-618-0219 or [www.camdenmusicschool.com](http://www.camdenmusicschool.com).

### Friday, 4/1

**Betcha By Golly Wow.** Tickets are on sale now! Camden Music School presents...a FUNdraiser for Scholarships at the Capri Theater, 2027 West Broadway. Starring you, the audience, on vocals, with host Dan Chouinard, guest song leaders Debbie Duncan, T Mychael Rambo, Dennis Spears and Regina Marie Williams. All singing styles and abilities and "just listeners" welcome. Song lyrics will be projected. Plus...a speed live auction, refreshments, '60s vintage fashions and more! Tickets are \$20 in advance (highly recommended); \$25 at the door; [www.camdenmusicschool.com](http://www.camdenmusicschool.com) or call 612-618-0219.

### Saturday, 4/2

**Community Spring Thing.** Northside Arts Collective's spring party at The Warren, 4400 Osseo Road, starting at 6 p.m. for a potluck, door prizes, membership drive, live music and beverages. \$10 at the door or \$5 with a dish to share.

## 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.

### Saturday, 4/2

**St. Olaf Retirement Communities Auxiliary Bazaar.** Crafts, bars, books and grandma's attic. 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Lunch from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., in St. Olaf Residence Building, 2912 Fremont, parking lot entrance on Emerson Ave. Funds raised by the St. Olaf Retirement Communities Auxiliary are used to purchase equipment used by the residents.

### Sunday, 4/10

Jeff and Cindy Nehrbass present **The Spirit Moves**, a fundraising event featuring Salsa and other dancing to benefit the Camden Promise Food Shelf and Gethsemane Church outreach programs. 5:30 p.m. reception, 6 p.m. dancing, auctions, special performances, cash bar. At the On Your Toes School of Dance, 5810 West 36th St., St. Louis Park. Info: 612-326-5326 or [thecamdenpromise.org](http://thecamdenpromise.org).

### Saturday, 4/30

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church's Annual Spring Salad Luncheon,** noon, 4656 Colfax. All kinds of deli-

cious salads and entertainment by Lyndon Peterson, The One Man Band, and door prizes to follow. Tickets: Adults \$10; ages 10 and under \$5.

## 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](http://www.patchworkquilt.org).

### Thursday, 4/7

**Neighborhood HealthSource Gala.** Celebrate affordable community health at the 6th Annual Neighborhood HealthSource Gala 5:30-9:30 p.m. at the Nicollet Island Pavillion. Enjoy excellent food and cocktails, live entertainment, silent and live auctions and more! Tickets are \$60; contact Sandra at 612-287-2425 or [gala@neighborhoodhealthsource.org](mailto:gala@neighborhoodhealthsource.org). This year's Gala includes a performance by comedian Matt Fugate. Matt got his start in 3rd grade, reciting Bill Cosby routines at recess. He now performs at comedy clubs around the nation. The Gala has live music, dinner and drinks, a wine wall, raffles, live and silent auctions and more. More info/tickets at <http://www.neighborhoodhealthsource.org/gala.html>.

### Saturday, 4/9

**6th Annual Sustainable Communities Conference** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Help create greener, more resilient community. Workshops on home energy, waste reduction, local food, transit, and more. Central Lutheran Church, next to the Minneapolis Convention Center. Free. Pre-register at [www.afors.org/2011ConferenceRegistration](http://www.afors.org/2011ConferenceRegistration) or contact Sean at [www.aforgs.org](http://www.aforgs.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](http://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](mailto:vivian@4pac.org). For general info visit [www.4pac.org](http://www.4pac.org).

### Ongoing

**Free tax preparation for seniors and low income persons** at North Regional Library and Oak Park Center. Trained and certified AARP Tax-Aide volunteers help with personal income tax, rent credit, property tax refunds and other tax issues. IRS authorized E-file locations. Bring a photo ID, Social Security cards for yourself and your family, and tax documents from employers, pensions, banks, etc. If you rent bring your 2010 CRP certificate from your landlord. If you are a homeowner bring your property tax statement payable in 2011. Bring last year's tax return and anything else important. Free tax

preparation at North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry Ave. N., Wed., 10:30-1:30 p.m., through April 13 and on Sat, 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. through April 16. First come-first served basis. Oak Park Center, 1701 Oak Park Ave. N., every Mon. thru April 18, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 612-377-7000 for appointment. Appointments get preference but walk ins are accepted if tax-aid counselors are available.

### Ongoing, third Saturdays

**Camden Garden Club** meets 3rd Sat. at North Miss. Reg. Park Interpretive Center, 9:30 am. Join us to build and maintain beautiful gardens in Camden. Learn about plants and community action. Free. Contact us at [schnappl@q.com](mailto:schnappl@q.com).

### Tuesday, 4/19

**Flood Area 5 - 37th Avenue Greenway Informational Meeting** -6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., Folwell Park Community Room. The City of Minneapolis Public Works, Sewer & Water Department and Barr Engineering, will present the details of the Flood Area 5 Project that will begin in early May. Flood Area 5 is a storm water diversion project that, when complete, will provide a pedestrian and bike greenway on the avenue and eliminate auto traffic on 37th Ave. from Penn to Knox. The project goal is to reduce the amount of storm water entering the sanitary sewer system and protect homes in the area from localized street flooding. Info: <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/public-works/cip/flood5>. Come to the meeting to learn and ask questions!

### Tuesday, 4/19

**Love chili?** Head on down to 42nd Avenue Station (42nd and Lyndale) to taste the Camden Winterfest's Chili Cook-off Golden Ladle Winner Kim Caprini's "Color Me Chili" with Jalapeno sour cream and cornbread croutons!

**Saturday, Sunday, 4/30 and 5/1 Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour:** Homes on the free, self-guided 2011 tour open Saturday, April 30, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, May 1, 1-5 p.m. Info: 612-673-5103. Visit [mshometour.com](http://mshometour.com) for list of homes on the tour.

## Libraries

### Ongoing Mondays

**The Friends of Webber Park Library** invite you to join them at upcoming meetings - April 4, May 2 and June 6 at 6:30 p.m. Info: 952-847-8109 or [webberpark@supportclub.org](mailto:webberpark@supportclub.org).

**Events at Webber Park Library: 4310 Webber Plwy, 952-847-2753**

**Hmong Storytime.** Sat. March 26, p.m. For kids 2 years of age and up. Join us for songs and stories in Hmong.

**Preschool Storytime** Saturdays in April at 11 a.m. For children ages 3 to 6.

**Everyone Loves Balloons!** Sat., April 23, 1-3 p.m. For grade K\* to adult. Join a balloon expert for some balloon creating, some laughs, some fun, and a whole lot of balloon popping! Experiment with twisting balloon animals or make your own creations. \*Younger kids will need adult help.

**Adult Job Assistance,** second Thurs. of each month, 1-3 p.m. Do you need help looking for a job, with applications, or writing a resume? Stop in for free one-to-one assistance with a job counselor. No reservation needed.

**Events at North Regional Library, 952-847-2750; for a complete list of events visit [hclib.org](http://hclib.org)**

**International Teen Club. Tuesdays,** 5-7 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Explore your personality, improve leadership skills and increase community involvement. Learn something new and build friendships. "Hmonglish" is spoken during meetings!

**World of Work Orientation for Ex-Offenders,** April 12 and 26, 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."

**Teen Job Assistance.** Grade 8 and up. Get the help you need to land your next job! Minneapolis WorkForce Center staff will present tips and information on job search, then provide one-on-one assistance with your job search, applications, résumés and interview preparation. April 14: Interview Skills, May 12: Resume Tips, 4-5 p.m.

**Discovery Days.** Wednesdays and Thursdays, 3-5 p.m. Preschool-grade 5. Check out the Discovery Room where you'll have minds-on, hands-on fun, with new themed activities each week.

**Game On! Gaming Fridays.** 3-5 p.m. Grade 6 and up. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!

**Preschool Storytime.** Fridays, 10:30 a.m. For children ages 4 to 6. Help your preschooler get ready to read. Enjoy stories together and build language skills.

**Computer Basics Workshop.** Fri., April 15 and 29, 1-3 p.m. Learn and bring questions about basic mouse and keyboarding skills, creating an email account, using the Internet and scanning.

**What You Need to Know About Home Foreclosure.** Tues., April 12, 6:30-8 p.m. What happens during foreclosure and what do homeowners need to know? What rights do homeowners have? What options are there? Get your questions answered by local nonprofit foreclosure counselors. Free, confidential advice provided.

**Guthrie Theater: Once Upon a Time Storytelling.** Sat., April 9, 3 p.m. Grades 3-5. Your child will discover new and exciting ways to create and tell a story through hands-on activities.

**Small Business Consultation** with Northside Economic Opportunity Network. Wed., April 20, 4-6 p.m. How do you turn your business ideas into business realities? Do you have questions about running your business? Stop in for a free consultation with Northside Residents Redevelopment Council and learn about resources, loans and training to help you be an effective business owner.

## Parks

### Ongoing Tuesdays

**Girl's group - Girls are not for Sale.** A program focusing on prevention and raising awareness about the sexual exploitation of children and young women. At the conclusion of the program, they will host a screening/fundraiser of *Very Young Girls* a powerful documentary about young girls forced into prostitution. Free! Ages 12-19. Creekview Rec Center, 7-8 p.m.

### Ongoing

**Spring Kitchen.** Discover how much fun cooking can be! At the park you'll learn basic cooking skills and prepare fun and healthy snacks and meals. Now you will be able to prepare that same weeks meal at home for your family and show off your new cooking skills! We will meet every week and chef it up in the kitchen! Free! Ages 11-18. Mondays, March 28 - May 23, 5-6:30 p.m. Folwell Recreation Center; Tuesdays, March 29 - May 24, 5-6:30 p.m., Creekview Recreation Center.

### Ongoing Wednesdays

**Field Trip - Tour Our City** Join us as we take a trip and "tour our city." We will venture to places around our city that you normally might not go, like...the Science Museum, a Wild Hockey game, local parks and ice are-



**Calendar**

*continued from page 10*

nas, a U of M Gopher hockey game, and much more! Trips will be every other week. Most trips will be free, but sometimes there may be a small fee. Ages 11- 18. March 30 - May 25, 4-8 p.m. Folwell Rec Center.

**Ongoing**

**Date Night.** Drop off your child(ren) at Webber Park Rec Center and then hit the town with your loved ones for a quiet dinner alone, a movie, or a trip to the grocery store. Park and recreation staff will be on site with games and crafts to keep the kids busy while you enjoy an evening alone! Ages 6-12. Pre-registration required. April 1, 15, May 6, 20, 6-8:30 p.m.; \$5/day.

**Ongoing**

**Spring Swim Lessons** at Creekevew Recreation Center, 5001 Humboldt, 612-370-4965. Visit [www.activenet.active.com/minneapolisparcs](http://www.activenet.active.com/minneapolisparcs) for info. Lessons run March 29 thru May 26. Classes on Wednesday evenings; cost \$30 for the entire 8 lessons beginning March 30: Level 1 - 6:15-6:45 p.m. limit 10; Level 2 & 3 - 6:45-7:15 p.m. limit 6 per level; Level 4 - 7:15-7:45 p.m. limit 8; Level 5 - 7:45-8:30 p.m. limit 8. Parent Tot and Water Babies-Tuesdays, 6:15-7 p.m. 8 weeks beginning March 29 \$40 (includes Family Open Swim), ages 1-5 years (1 parent must be in the water per child and all children must wear swim diapers if not potty trained). Family Open Swim - Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. \$2 per participant beginning March 29 for 8 weeks. Teen Open Swimming- Thursdays from 6:30-8 p.m. - be prepared to show or receive a Park ID; for ages 11-17- Free.

**Saturday, 4/2**

It's spring and the **great blue herons are back!** Join their homecoming and see a slide show of their travels from 1-3 p.m., at Kroening Interpretive

Center. Take a stroll to the heron rookery to view these amazing long-legged birds as they rebuild their nests and settle in for the summer. Try walking on stilts and see how your wingspan compares to theirs. Create and take home a commemorative craft. Cost \$5; reservations required, call 763-559-6700.

**Sunday, 4/3**

**Free Family Fun Days: Nature's Games.** 1-3 p.m., Kroening Interpretive Center in North Mississippi Regional Park. Challenge your family and friends to whistle an acorn cap and play rock-and-stick-tac-toe, and other fun games about nature. Free. Ages: All.

**Saturday 4/9**

**Winnie the Pooh Walk.** 1-3 p.m., Kroening Interpretive Center. Walk through the 100-acre woods looking for Pooh and his friends. Learn about the animals that share the forest in the park, make a Pooh craft, and have a snack with our favorite characters. \$5. Ages: 4+.

**Saturday, 4/16**

**Earth Day with Bunnies in the Park.** Celebrate Earth Day with the Bunny at Webber and Folwell Parks from 9:30 a.m. until noon. Photo buttons with the Bunny will be a "take away" when you share in the many "green" and family friendly events. Call 612-521-2100 for info or to volunteer.

**Saturday, 4/16**

**SCNA 16th Annual Shingle Creek Clean-up.** Mark your calendars for this family fun-filled day! Spend a couple hours in the morning picking up trash from the banks of Shingle Creek and eating some food, and the University of MN Raptor Center is swooping in to lend a hand. Come help out and then stick around to see the live raptor show! The clean-up is from 9-11 a.m.; the celebration party with food, refreshments and educational activities is 11 a.m.-noon. Info:

[www.scna-mpls.org](http://www.scna-mpls.org).

**Saturday, 4/16**

**Earth Day clean ups at Camden parks,** 9:30 a.m.-noon for the annual Minneapolis Earth Day Clean Up. It's easy to get involved; no pre-registration is required. Stop by Folwell (1615 Dowling), Creekevew (5100 Humboldt), Webber (4400 Dupont) and North Mississippi (5114 North Mississippi Dr.) to help beautify your park. Go to [minneapolisparcs.org](http://minneapolisparcs.org) for all the park activities.

**Tuesday, 4/26**

Attention 4th Ward seniors! WCNO and FNA's Come Home to Camden hosts the **4th Ward Senior Luncheon and Resource Fair** from noon-2:30 p.m. at Folwell Park, 1615 Dowling. Enjoy lunch plus resources; and support for 4th Ward seniors and homeowners with disabilities with free screenings for blood pressure, glaucoma and glucose. Call 612-521-2100 for reservations for this free event.

**Resources**

**Ongoing**

Drugs and drug addiction are problems our community struggles with. Get help at **Narcotics Anonymous.** No fees or dues. Meet Thursday, 5 p.m. 42nd Ave. Station, 4171 Lyndale Ave. N.; or Sundays at 7 p.m. at St. Bridget's Rectory (side door), 3811 Emerson. Info at [naminnesota.org/](http://naminnesota.org/) or call the helpline at 952-939-3939.

**Upcoming**

Mark your calendars — Camden Movies in the Park: June 18 at Bohanon Park; June 24 at Folwell; July 15 at Bohanon Park; August 27 at Victory Park. All movies begin at dusk. There will one more movie along Victory Memorial Drive but the date is yet to be determined.

**Classified Advertisements**

**Camden News classified ads are an effective and inexpensive way to reach residents. Your ad is placed on our website at no extra charge. To place an ad, contact [ads@camdenews.org](mailto:ads@camdenews.org), or leave a message at our voice mailbox at 521-3060. Classified ads are 70 cents per word, \$7 minimum. If you want to box your ad, it's an additional \$10. Ads must be paid prior to publication. Send check to Camden News, P.O. Box 11492, Mpls. 55411 or pay with credit card via PayPal at [www.camdenews.org](http://www.camdenews.org).**

**Services**

**Yardworks Professional Lawn Service:** Total yard and lawn care Licensed and Insured/On Angies List 20 plus years of serving the community. Free Estimates. Call 763-561-0711.

**Why wait to lose weight?** Call today for a free wellness evaluation and product samples. S.A. Peery Herbalife Wellness Coach, 612-807-6127, or online at [www.loseweightnow.com/sapeery](http://www.loseweightnow.com/sapeery).

**Handyman Services.** Dependable quality work at a reasonable rate. Friendly service. Call Ray at 612-702-0999.

**House painting,** interior/exterior, wall paper removal, stain/varnish, and skim coating. Jim, 651-698-0840.

**Haul. Move. Clean-up.** Small or medium jobs only. 952-545-6140.

**Garden Patio Landscape** Installation Maintenance & Lawn mowing 612 616 1398, Crooker-Gardens@aim.com.

**Computer Repair and Maintenance.** Virus removal, new computer and peripheral setup, home or small office. 651-278-5905 | [www.kalecomputers.com](http://www.kalecomputers.com).

Bereatha Jasper. DBA: **Jasper Business Solutions**, Minneapolis, MN 55412.

**Real Estate Sales or Service**

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

**Worship in Camden**

**St. Austin Catholic Church**



41st & Thomas Ave. N.  
Masses  
T, W, Th, F - 8 a.m.  
Sat. - 4:30 p.m.  
Sun. - 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.  
Reconciliation  
Sat. 3:30-4 p.m. in the Reconciliation Room or by appointment  
Fr. George Kallumkalkudy

529-9561  
<http://StAustinCC.org>

**Luther Memorial Lutheran**

3751 Sheridan Ave. N. (corner of Sheridan and Dowling)  
Phone: 522-3639  
Choir Rehearsal 9 a.m.  
Service of Communion 9:30 a.m.  
Fellowship Hour/ Education 11:15 a.m.  
Growing Tree for Elementary Age Children Saturdays, 1:30-4 p.m.  
"From many cultures, together in one faith."  
All are welcome  
Nengyia Her, Senior Pastor  
Carol Stumme, Asst. Pastor  
Bee Vang, Pasotral Asst.

**St. Olaf Lutheran Church**

Emerson at 29th Ave. N.  
612-529-7726

Sunday School/Adult Bible Class 9 a.m.  
Worship 11 a.m.  
Thursday Youth Group 6:30 p.m.

Pastor Dale Hulme  
[www.stolaf Lutheran.org](http://www.stolaf Lutheran.org)

We welcome all, including gay and lesbian people.

Coming together to serve with the St. Olaf Residence  
North Minneapolis Meals on Wheels  
New Directions Youth Ministry

**Gethsemane Lutheran Church**



4656 Colfax Ave. N.  
612-521-3575

Adult Education 9 a.m. with Nursery  
Sunday Worship 10 a.m.  
Sunday School and Youth/Teens, 11 a.m.  
Van service available  
Pastor Jeff Nehrbass  
ELCA

[GethsemaneLutheranChurch@msn.com](mailto:GethsemaneLutheranChurch@msn.com)  
[www.glc-mpls.org](http://www.glc-mpls.org)

**St. Bridget's Catholic Church**

Masses  
Mon-Fri. 8 a.m. • Sat. 8 a.m.  
Sat. Vigil 4:30 p.m.  
Sun. 9:30 a.m.  
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament—Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
You are Welcome to Come and Join Us

Fr. Anthony M. Criscitelli T.O.R.  
Dowling & Emerson Ave. N.  
529-7779

**FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH**

*Building a community of faith through God's faithfulness in our worship, fellowship, discipleship, service and evangelism*

4350 Russell Ave. N.  
44th Ave. N. & Russell Ave. N.  
612-529-0686

[www.faithbaptistmpls.com](http://www.faithbaptistmpls.com)  
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.  
Worship 10:30 a.m.

Kerry L. Bender  
Senior Pastor  
AWANA, 6:45 p.m.

**Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church**

4150 Dupont Ave. N.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55412  
612-521-3644

Sunday School:  
Breakfast, 8:30 a.m.; Class 9 a.m.  
9 a.m. Adult Forum  
10 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship  
10:30 a.m. worship  
Communion: 1st & 3rd Sundays  
Intergenerational Event Each Month  
We are handicap accessible.

Interim Pastor Judy Burgett-Winzig  
email: [salemevlc@visi.com](mailto:salemevlc@visi.com)  
Facebook: Salem Lutheran Church/North Minneapolis

**NORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

44th & Fremont Ave.  
A Hate-Free Shalom Zone  
Worship Time 10:30 a.m.  
Check our Facebook page: North United Methodist (UMC) - Minneapolis!  
Disability friendly and accessible.  
Worship is ASL interpreted.

Rev. Linda Koelman  
Ch. 522-4497

**Christ English Lutheran Church**

Oliver and Lowry  
521-3493  
Pre-school SS 9:30 a.m.  
Worship 9:30 a.m.  
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays  
All are welcome!  
Free produce for neighborhood residents 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 8:30 a.m.  
Free Community Dinner 4th Monday, 6:30 p.m.  
Pastor Melissa Pohlman

**Think twice about garbage disposals**

By John Bispala

I'd like to give a little testimony to Geno, the sewer and drain gator. I've called Geno over to my house a few times already over not too many years. I usually look in the *Camden News* to find his phone number, since Geno is one of our longtime regular advertisers (763-792-2999).

Near the end of January our kitchen sink was all stopped up. The dishwasher almost made the sink overflow, unless we carried water from it to dump into the bathroom's ivory throne. I thought I had the problem all analyzed as a sewer vent stoppage; so with no small effort, I found the drain vent on our roof, which had gotten completely covered by snow, and I scraped it free with a snow rake. But Geno said, "That's got nothing to do with it!" "Well, Geno," I replied, "you know drains better than I do, but please come over and get my kitchen sink working again."

We set an appointment, and I cleaned the stuff from under the sink, etc. Geno came out with his power snake, worked hard and fast. He was successful and I'm happy.

One among other questions I asked him was, "Would it be helpful if I got a garbage disposal onto my sink drain?" "Not at all," replied the pro. "Adding a disposal to your sink would do to the drain something like spreading nails does on your driveway!" It seems to me, recycling is a better practice than a garbage disposal unit—and safer for the fingers!

**Community mourns loss of Northside activist**

Community activist, Dottie Titus, passed away unexpectedly in March. Dottie was a resident of the Jordan neighborhood where she worked tirelessly to rid the community of crime and to generally make it a better place for everyone to live. She was a big part of the Fourth Precinct Advisory Council (4PAC) and set up the 4PAC website. Dottie was a strong advocate for social justice and a real asset to the Northside. She will be greatly missed by the community and the lives she touched.



For Camden News ad rates, call 612-521-3060 or email: [ads@camdenews.org](mailto:ads@camdenews.org)



## Outdoors

### Gear up for spring in the parks

By Emily Wolfe

**Spring programs:** Spring is nearing and Camden area parks are gearing up for baseball, softball, swimming and much more! Registration began on March 7. Check out some of the activities in your neighborhood. To view and/or register for park programs in Camden go to <http://activenet.active.com/minneapolis/parks>. Or stop by your neighborhood park rec center: Creekview Rec Center, 5001 Humboldt, 612-370-4965, M-F 2-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sun. closed; Folwell Rec Center, 1615 Dowling, 612-370-4917, M-Thurs. 2-9 p.m., Fri. 2-11 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Sun. closed; and Webber Rec Center, 4400 Dupont, 612-370-4916, M-Thurs. 2-9 p.m., Fri. 2-6 p.m., Sat. and Sun. closed. Other parks in Camden (without rec centers) include Bohanon Park, 900 - 49th Ave.; Cleveland Park, 3232 Queen; Perkins Hill Park 300 - 34th Ave.; Shingle Creek Park, 2010 - 50th Ave.; Victory Park, 4414 Upton; and Victory Prairie Off-Leash Dog Area, 4701 Russell.

**Volunteers needed:** Camden Parks are currently recruiting coaches for our spring baseball and softball teams. In order for youth sports program to succeed, the MPRB relies on the willingness of dedicated parents and individuals to volunteer their time to coach or assist a team. Background screening is required for all coaches. The purpose of the position is to provide instruction to children, with an emphasis on teamwork, sportsmanship and fair play. Coaching experience is not necessary – just a willingness to learn and desire to provide a fun, recreational opportunity for children. If you are interested in coaching a team, stop by your neighborhood recre-

ation center to pick up a volunteer application today!

**Earth Day cleanup:** Head down to Cleveland, Folwell or Webber Park and volunteer your time beautifying the park on Saturday, April 16, 9:30 a.m.-noon. Join your friends and neighbors for a day of service and continuing a lifetime commitment to our environment. Help keep Camden a beautiful place to live, work and play!

**Summer RecPlus enrollment:** Registration began March 15 at Webber Rec Center. Full Time rates are \$165 per week which includes two field trips per week, swimming lessons, two snacks/day and activity fees. Part time: \$36/day + trip fees. June 13 to August 19, 7 a.m.-6 p.m. For information email [webber@minneapolis/parks.org](mailto:webber@minneapolis/parks.org).

**Special talent:** Do you have a special skill you would like to teach others in the community? Instructor and class proposals are being accepted. Contact your local rec center with your questions and ideas for community activities.

**Facility rental:** Have one of the Camden Rec Centers host your upcoming business meeting, seminar, conference or party. The Camden Recreation Centers provide a local gathering place for the community and all of their event and recreation needs. For further info contact your neighborhood rec center (listed above).

**Email update Service:** We are looking to get in contact with you! Email us at [webber@minneapolis/parks.org](mailto:webber@minneapolis/parks.org) to sign up for our email service. You will receive updates about upcoming events, programs, seasonal brochures and more!

### Shingle Creek Park field gets improvements

Providing recreation that inspires growth, healthy lifestyles and a sense of community is part of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's vision. Keeping athletic fields up-to-date is vital in providing inviting and safe places for game play. Through a \$45,000 grant from the Minnesota Twins Community Fund the Shingle Creek Park athletic field at 2010 50th Ave will receive a facelift in 2011.

Formerly called Shingle Creek Field, the Shingle Creek Park-Frank Quilici baseball field was renamed in 2009 to honor Frank Quilici, who devoted countless volunteer hours to promoting youth sports in Minneapolis. The grant will provide funding for the completion of the field, including a scoreboard, field signage, batting cages, bull pen mounds, maintenance building and a plaza. It will also provide additional netting as requested by adjoining neighbors. Work is expected to begin this spring.

**HOURS:**  
Mon-Fri,  
7am-6pm  
Sat.  
8am-noon



#### Is your Dog on the Pill?

Heartworm testing and preventive medication is essential to your dog's health during mosquito season.

Dr. Cynthia Fetzer and Associates

**Camden Pet Hospital**

612-522-4374

1405 44th Ave. N.

(44th & Girard)

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](http://www.lindbohanon.org) or visit the garden at the intersection of 51st and Dupont Ave N.



### Going and growing organic

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

We hear a lot these days about eating healthy, eating locally grown fruits and vegetables, or even growing our own. Many recommend buying organically grown foods, but what does it mean that something is organic?

First we should understand what organic is not. It is not a product claim – it does not mean it is “free” of something – nor is it a claim about food safety or quality. Organic farming or gardening is a production process; it is all about how something is grown and how it is handled. Another myth about organic farming is that is going back to the way that our ancestors grew their food — actually it is about going forward with new methods using new knowledge.

When most of us think of organic foods we are thinking of the definition in law. “Certified organic” means an item is grown according to strict uniform practices that are verified by state or independent organizations. These practices include using no toxic synthetic pesticides or artificial fertilizers. The National Organic Production rule also prohibits the use of genetic engineering, irradiation and sewage sludge. But growing organically is about more than what you can't do, it's about what you should do. Organic farming or gardening relies on developing biological diversity to disrupt habitat for pest organisms, and the purposeful maintenance and replenishment of the soil.

It all starts with the soil. Organic gardeners build and keep healthy soils by maintaining the level of organic matter in it. This is accomplished by adding matter such as grass clippings, leaves, composted rotted manure, straw or even sawdust to the root zone. Organic matter in the soil aids growth and production in a number of ways. It increases pore space which increases water infiltration in clay soil and water-holding capacity in sandy soil. Organic matter contains and releases nutrients to plants, improves the soil structure, improves the ease of cultivation and reduces compaction. Healthy soils yield healthy plants that are better able to resist insect pests and diseases.

The vast majority of insects are either harmless or beneficial. The activity of beneficial insects contributes over \$57 billion to the U.S. economy. Eighty percent of all flowering plants, including

fruits and vegetables, are pollinated by insects like bees, flies, butterflies, moths or beetles. Beneficial insects also serve as biological controls by feeding on other insects, keeping populations in check. Even harmless insects can become pests without natural enemies. When pest populations get out of balance, organic growers can implement a variety of strategies such as the use of insect predators, mating disruption, traps and barriers. Weeds can be managed by tillage and hand weeding, or crop rotation which disrupts the habitat for weeds, and disease organisms.

Growing organically is good for gardeners, farmers, the community and the environment. Research conducted by the USDA, the California Department of Health, and Consumers Union have shown that organic products have very low or no pesticide residue. And research has shown that exposure to chemical pesticides is associated with the risk of prostate cancer, and twice as many children of Iowa farmers developed childhood lymphoma with exposure to chemical pesticides. The President's 2010 Cancer Panel Report urges consumers to choose foods grown without pesticides, chemical fertilizers, antibiotics, or growth hormones to decrease their risk of contracting cancer.

Organic growing practices benefit the environment by reducing pollution, conserving water and improving soil quality. Organic growing is sustainable because it improves and maintains the soil condition — conventional and industrial agriculture encourages the depletion of the topsoil because the soil is plowed and replanted every year. Topsoil is the outer and uppermost layer of the soil which contains the most organic material and microorganisms, and where most of the biological activity occurs. In the last few years of industrial agriculture the U.S. has lost 1/2 inch of topsoil containing 80 percent of the organic matter. It takes 500 years to replace one inch of topsoil naturally. Industrial agriculture is leaving our soil dead. On the other hand, organic growing brings the soil back to life. It improves aeration, improves water holding capacity, holds nutrients, acts a slow release fertilizer and supports life!

### Spring into nature with Nature Nuts

Take advantage of spring by exploring the great outdoors with the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board's (MPRB) nature programs for preschool-aged children and youth ages 6-12.

Preschoolers can have fun and learn about the environment in Nature Nuts programs. Children get a closer work at tiny insects in Nature Nuts: Incredible Insects, or discover nature's reaction to the change in season with Nature Nuts: Spring Surprises. A Nature Nuts Play Group lets you and your favorite young person play and learn at the same time.

Youth ages 6-12 are invited to participate in Nature in the Neighborhood programs. Learn about the power and importance of water in the Nature in Neighborhood: The Blue Planet, or discover the relationship between people and the world around them in Nature in the Neighborhood: Humans & Nature. Or, just have fun in the Naturalist “Round Up” classes which include youth who haven't signed up for classes, but still want to participate.

**Nature Nuts: Incredible Insects** (four one-hour sessions, four consecutive weeks). Creekview Park, 612-370-4965; Mondays, April 11 – May 2; 10-11 a.m.; \$12. Discover the amazing world of insects and other creepy-crawlies! Learn about what makes insects unique and why they are so incredible. Create your own imaginary insects and meet some real six-legged friends that will amaze you. Go on an insect hunt and discover who is out and about as the snow melts and spring arrives. Don't hide in your cocoon; come out and enjoy the fun! Participants should be prepared to spend part of the time

outdoors, so dress appropriately. Ages 4 to 6.

**Nature Nuts: Spring Surprises** (four one-hour sessions, four consecutive weeks). Creekview, 612-370-4965; Mondays, May 9 – June 6; 10-11 a.m.; \$12. In this exciting spring class, kids will learn about the changes that are taking place for animals, plants, constellations and water as the seasons change. Learn about what it's like for bears to come out of hibernation, birds migrating and the grass showing through the melting snow. Participants should be prepared to spend part of the time outdoors, so dress appropriately. Ages 4 to 6.

**Nature in the Neighborhood: The Blue Planet** (four one-hour sessions, four consecutive weeks). Webber, 612-370-4916; Fridays, April 29 – May 20; 4-5 p.m.; \$10. Water is a natural superpower! It can wash away the side of a mountain and move buildings with its strength. It can freeze solid and turn into a vapor. It is needed to support all life of the Blue Planet. This class will explore the powerful nature of water through fun games, hands-on experiments and crafts. Be prepared to go outside. Ages 6 to 12.

**Naturalist “Round Up”** (one-hour sessions up to eight weeks in a row). Creekview, 612-370-4965; Tuesdays, April 5-May 17; 6-7 p.m.; Free. Farview, 612-370-4922; Wednesdays, May 4-May 25; 4:30-5:30 p.m.; Free. Folwell, 612-370-4917; Thursdays, April 14-May 5; 5-6 p.m.; Free. This program is meant for parks where kids hang out but don't sign-up for classes. Naturalists “round up” available kids for fun, hands-on activities and games. Topics vary based on the kids' interests and ages.