



Camden Community News

Serving the neighborhoods of northwest Minneapolis since 1975.



February 2012

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www.camdenews.org

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Webber Park – looks like plan will become a reality

By Sue Quist

Minneapolis Park Board Commissioner (MPRB) Jon Olson presented the proposed final design for the Webber Park Master plan at the January 10 community meeting at Webber Park. In some ways, the plan had gone full circle. Concepts that were presented as innovative new ideas for an urban aquatic venue back in September were fully embedded into the final design. The new aquatic facility will be a natural edged “pool” with a sand beach and zero depth entry. This does not resemble a traditional swimming pool. It will be similar to, but smaller than, the swimming pond at Elm Creek Park Reserve. It will also differ in that it will utilize a natural filtration system in lieu of a chlorinated system; a first in the United States, but a system that is used successfully in Europe. Jon Olson said he has had initial discussions with Governor Dayton, regarding the natural filtration system. The MPRB will request special dispensation as a pilot project from the Minnesota State Department of Health.

There were two final designs selected by the community in September. Both included a pool, but one also included a swimming pond, with sand beach and a natural filtration system. At the December community meeting the Minneapolis Parks planning team presented both design concepts, but in the plan D design, the pool had been removed due to space and financial constraints. By the end of the December meeting, it appeared that concept D was the more popular design, but not without changes to ensure that a full swimming experience would be available to the community. Community members recommended changes to the design, including adding depth to enable programming for swim lessons, lap swimming and ensuring a full swimming experience. The revamped design, presented at the January meeting included lap lanes, with turning walls and a depth of at least five feet. At the January meeting, Jon Olson responded to concerns about programming the usage of the pool by saying that there would be more patrols in the park, lap swimming and lessons would be programmed into the usage

of the swimming pond, there will be lifeguards on duty during open hours and a “code of conduct” will be enforced. The new facility will have a maximum capacity of up to 500 people, about double the old pool. Although the pond will be fenced in for safety, Commissioner Olson said open swimming will be free of charge, stating “Our community deserves a free place to swim.” When asked about winter skating, Commissioner Olson said the swimming pond would double as an ice rink, including a mite’s sized hockey rink. The new aquatic building would double as a warming house. The existing pond will remain, but would probably not be maintained as a skating rink in the winter.

The Webber Park Master Plan prioritizes the aquatic improvements in the first phase of upgrades. This includes the natural edge pool, a new aquatic building, additional parking at the northwest end of the park (up to 75 parking bays) and the demolition of the existing pool. MPRB staff members Cliff Swenson and Jennifer Ringold facilitated the discussion regarding prioritization of phase two improvements. They expect to have remaining funds of approximately \$350,000 and said they will search all options for funding partners to continue the phase two improvements for the master plan. The three priorities noted at the meeting were fixing the lining in the existing pond, improving and adding lights to the soccer field, and adding picnic shelters. Additional improvements could include two additional basketball courts, improvements to Shingle Creek, additional



lighting, a pavilion near the existing pool, an amphitheater and entrance features. When asked about the library, they said it will remain where it is until Hennepin County decides to move forward with the new Webber Park Library. They reiterated that they are willing to work with Hennepin County regarding the future library project.

The community will have one more opportunity to address the Webber Park Master Plan at a public hearing at the park headquarters on February 1, at 6:30 p.m., 2117 West River Road, Minneapolis. Jennifer Ringold encourages community members to attend the meeting to express their opinions regarding the plan. If the plan is approved by MPRB commissioners, construction is expected to begin this summer and the new swimming pond should be open for the 2013 swimming season. For info contact Jennifer Ringold at 612-230-6464 or jringold@minneapolis-parks.org.

Of Sadness and Hope: Images from the Northside Tornado Youth photography showcased

By Jeffrey Strand

A large and enthusiastic audience attended the January 12 University Research and Outreach-Engagement Gallery open house to showcase photographs of the May 22 tornado by talented youth from Nellie Stone Johnson and Jefferson Community Schools—aptly titled “Of Sadness and Hope: Images from the Northside Tornado.”

The youth were inspired through their visits to tornado-impacted neighborhoods and conversations with “determined and resilient” local residents and business people to produce photographs to document the impacts of the tornado.

Students commented on their thoughts and inspiration: Keyanna said, “When doing this project I felt sad because some people don’t have financial help so they can rebuild their homes. But I also learned that one good thing that the tornado brought is the Northside coming together. If I could be granted just one wish it would be that the whole world would come together as one.” Hector said, “It was hard to see how many families lost their homes.” Brian noted the devastation was “Like a bomb went off to kill all the trees.”

The students chose to name the gallery of images “Of

Sadness and Hope” following conversations with Northside residents impacted by the storm.

The exhibit features youth-produced photography from the GeneroCITY after-school program, a collaboration of Minneapolis Public Schools; Bolder Options, an innovative program focused on healthy youth development; and the nonprofit EDIT the World, whose mission “empowers youth and communities to expand their awareness of diversity issues, embrace a journey toward greater understanding and acceptance, and become committed to social action in order to create a more inclusive society.” The project received assistance from local photographer Wing Young Huie working through the GeneroCITY after-school program, Tree Trust, Urban Homeworks and others.

All the students’ images are available for purchase, with proceeds from sales and donations from the exhibit going to the Tree Trust to help replant trees, to Urban Homeworks to help rebuild houses, and to EDIT



to fund the youth project. Info: www.uroc.umn.edu or 612-626-8762.

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Scoops

Think global and shop local! Do you own a business in Camden? Learn more from other business owners at the Northwest Minneapolis Business Association (NWMBBA) meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at Shingle Creek Commons. The NWMBBA has been serving the Northside community for 80 years! Get info at nwmpplsbusiness.com, info@nwmpplsbusiness.com or president @nwmpplsbusiness.com. Let's grow Camden together!

Thanks to outgoing president and vice-president. Congratulations to new! The North West Minneapolis Business Association (NWMBBA) thanks Brock Hanson, of Framatix, Inc., for his volunteer service as NWMBBA President for the past two years. His leadership helped grow the organization by 33 percent, to a membership of 51 members, through a strong innovative advertising and media campaign. Carol Hultquist, of Natural Organizing, also provided great leadership on the NWMBBA 80th

celebration committee, in her term as vice-president in 2011. Now congratulations to NWMBBA's new President Jody Lee of Acorn Mini Storage/ Mary Kay, and Vice-President Margarette Nevalianen, Mary Kay, as they look to bring their marketing expertise, leadership and fresh ideas to the organization. Watch for many new/great things coming from NWMBBA in the near future!

The neighborhood is full of business owners who have come to this part of town to offer great services and products. 2001 Neighborhood Development Center (NDC) entrepreneur graduate, and business owner Vivienne Williamson, of Mighty Stitch by Vivienne, LLC, recalls what it was like when she was trying to get her business up and running and out of her home. "It was difficult and chaotic, to say the least! NDC gave me a solid plan to move forward with and some financial tools, and here I am 11 years later with my very own shop at the corner of a busy intersection at 44th and Penn Ave. N. I remember what it was like getting

started and now I just want to pay-it-forward by helping another entrepreneur, Michael Rance, of Personal Touch Unlimited, get his start in the Camden area," says Williamson.

Personal Touch Unlimited is owned by entrepreneur Michael Rance. He has teamed up with Mighty Stitch to offer a line of men and women's apparel. Personal Touch Unlimited offers a wide variety of men's suits size 36S-60L, 22 colors of dress shirts, sizes ranging from 14.5 to 22, slacks, ties, usher suits, specialized ordering and layaway. Questions? Contact Rance at 612-859-4378. Mighty Stitch, 2144 44th Ave. N., is open Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; 612-529-8744.

Looking for help preparing your taxes? Susan Rawlings has opened her business, Rawlings Tax Services, after graduating with honors and a Bachelor's in Accounting from the Minnesota School of Business. Her business offers the highest quality tax services to all types of potential clients. Whether individual, self-employed or corporate, contact Rawlings Tax Services today to schedule your appointment! Contact 651-646-0417 or info@rawlingstaxservices.com, or check out www.rawlingstaxservices.com.

VitaLifeRx Pharmacy has moved from 42nd and Fremont to 42nd and Thomas. Vitalife is a full service independent phar-

Minneapolis, MN 55412. Billing address is P.O. Box 11492, Minneapolis, MN 55411. Voice mail, 521-3060.

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Camden Community News



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A new convenience/grocery store is coming to Camden! Keep your eyes open for the new **Camden Mart** to open its doors at the former Camden Pharmacy and Vitalife building at the corner of 42nd and Fremont Ave. N! The store is undergoing major reconstruction both inside and out to get ready for the community.

The **Robbins Urban Wellness Center** is opening at 3900 Thomas Ave. on Wednesday, February 1, and is primed to be a haven for health and wellness. Owned by Dr. Juneau Robbins and Anika Robbins, the center is an expansion of the Cultural Chiropractic clinic. "We are very excited by the opportunity to showcase products, services and a diverse range of wellness expertise with the community," says Anika. She hopes the social atmosphere will encourage more engagement and action around

health issues impacting the community. Anika owns **ANIKA International Cosmetics** and a boutique agency, **ANIKA & Friends**, which consults on projects within the health and beauty, corporate and nonprofit sectors. With unique products and gifts from around the world, including organic teas, spices, bath and body products the center hopes to be a haven for cultural exchange and enterprise. The center will also function as a small business incubator for emerging businesses. Rooms are available for private consultations, group and community gatherings, allowing entrepreneurs to design their usage, a la carte,-style, based on their budget and need. There,s a soft launch February 1, 3-7 p.m. with an open house every Wednesday, 3-7 p.m. The center is open Monday- Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Professional services available by appointment. Info 612-522-9536 or 612-670-6355.

Know of a new business, or one that's offering new products or services? The Camden News loves to support the community by promoting local businesses. Send the "scoop" to editor@camdennews.org.

2012 Camden Community News Deadlines

Issue	Pub. Date	Deadline
March	Feb. 24	Feb. 14
April	Mar. 30	Mar. 20
May	Apr. 27	Apr. 17
June	May 25	May 15
July	June 29	June 19
August	July 27	July 17
September	Aug. 31	Aug. 21
October	Sept. 28	Sept. 18
November	Oct. 26	Oct. 16
December	Nov. 30	Nov. 20
January '13	Dec. 28	Dec. 18

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Letters to the Editor



Time to get something done on Webber Library

Thank you to Sue Quist for staying on top of the ongoing saga of the new Webber Park Library and keeping the community well informed in the *Camden News*. I'm extremely disappointed in the Hennepin County Board's vote to remove funding for the library from the 2012 and 2013 budgets. What used to be a \$15 million new library that was to begin construction in 2009 is now a \$12 million pipe dream with no start date in site. The money allotted will be worth much less in construction dollars after the five to 10 years that Commissioner Opat is willing to wait for the Holler property according to his quote in the *Star Tribune*. All we citizens can do during this standoff is hope that economic issues don't again force the county to cut funding.

The North Minneapolis that Commissioner Opat was born and raised in, which he uses to rationalize his stance, is not the North Minneapolis I live in now. When I go down my block I see board-ups, tear-downs and tarped roofs. The one thing I don't see is boulevard trees. I never imagined that I would need to call 911 so frequently in my life. I echo the thoughts of other Camden residents I have spoken to when I say we are simply looking for a sign of hope, a reason to stay, and will gladly take what Opat describes as a "second best" library if it means construction

will begin. I think the North Regional Library on Lowry is a perfect model of what could be done on 44th Ave.

I'm not sure where Commissioners Opat and Stengleins' staunch unwillingness to compromise has come from. They were more than willing to compromise the North Minneapolis citizens' right to a vote when it came time for ballpark funding. Expanded library hours cannot be dangled like a consolatory carrot when they were supposed to be one of the benefits to us from the sales tax increase.

I noticed the phrase "world-class" sprinkled throughout Opat's responses about the library. This is an attractive but distractive phrase with the real definition "of the highest caliber in the world." If this new library is really to be this worldly, there should be no issues with compromising the rights of two more citizens and moving forward with the eminent domain process. Mr. Opat, you once said, "The people of North Minneapolis don't ask for much and they don't get it either." I'm asking you and Commissioner Stenglein to listen to your constituency and lead. Compromise if you have to; just get the new library done now.

Joseph Mauch
Webber-Camden



Rethink "settling" on library

Every time the subject of Webber Park Library comes up, I am more and more frustrated. Hennepin County Commissioners Opat and Stenglein truly counted their chickens before they were hatched. They created a plan for this library without neighborhood input. When the plan was presented to us, they had already decided where they wanted it and how they wanted it built. They assumed they could get all the properties they wanted and the agreement of the community. Now they want to vilify the Hollers for wanting to keep their home on the parkway, live in it and work nearby, insisting that the Hollers had removed their home from the market at the last moment, which is untrue.

Commissioners Opat and Stenglein will appear to listen to ideas for alternatives from the local community, but not consider them because it is "settling." What is waiting five to 10 years for them to get their way? It sure isn't public service, unless only Opat and Stenglein are counted. I checked into the process for this type of project and was even more disappointed. There are many projects going on at the county level and it takes many years to move these projects through. Waiting five to 10 years for this type of project to move forward is not unusual. They can do it; they can make us "settle" for waiting. The only real representation we have here is through our city council member because the county cannot act without the city's cooperation. I am very disappointed in how this process was handled and would be very happy to consider other candidates for county commissioner, ones that are truly receptive to the people they are supposed to represent.

Anne Peiffer,
Victory

The Camden News is your forum

We welcome your opinions. Please keep your letters to the editor short, less than 500 words, and too the point.

All letters will be edited for length and clarity. Send your letters with name, address and phone number to

3526-A Humboldt Ave. N., Mpls., MN 55412 or editor@camdennews.org. Anonymous submissions cannot be printed.

Opinions expressed are those of the writers, not necessarily the Camden News.

Crime at lowest levels in decades

Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak, City Council President Barbara Johnson and Police Chief Tim Dolan recently released statistics showing that violent crime in Minneapolis fell 6.3 percent in 2011, for a 28-year low. In addition, Part I crime (violent and property crime together) remains at low levels not seen since the 1960s.

"For several years now, we have made critical investments in our police—and for the fifth year in a row, violent crime in Minneapolis has fallen significantly compared to the year before," Rybak said. "Committed officers, strong leadership, smart policing and engaged community members—not to mention the taxpayers who have invested in all of them—deserve our thanks for these encouraging results and for bringing crime down to levels not seen in decades."

Highlights of the 2011 year-end crime statistics include: Violent crime in 2011 fell 6.3 percent compared to 2010 and fell 10.3 percent compared to 2009. Overall, violent crime has fallen 42 percent since 2005. The number of violent crimes committed in 2011 was lower than any year since 1983, for a 28-year low. The number of homicides

committed in 2011 (32) fell compared to 2010. Overall, homicide has fallen 44 percent since 2006 and is lower than any year since 1985, with the exception of 2009. The number of robberies committed in 2011 rose 2.7 percent compared to 2010 but is flat compared to 2009. Overall, robbery has fallen 50 percent since 2005 and is at levels not seen since before the 1980s. Part I crime in 2011 (violent and property crime together) rose 4.3 percent compared to 2010 but is still at levels not seen since the 1960s.

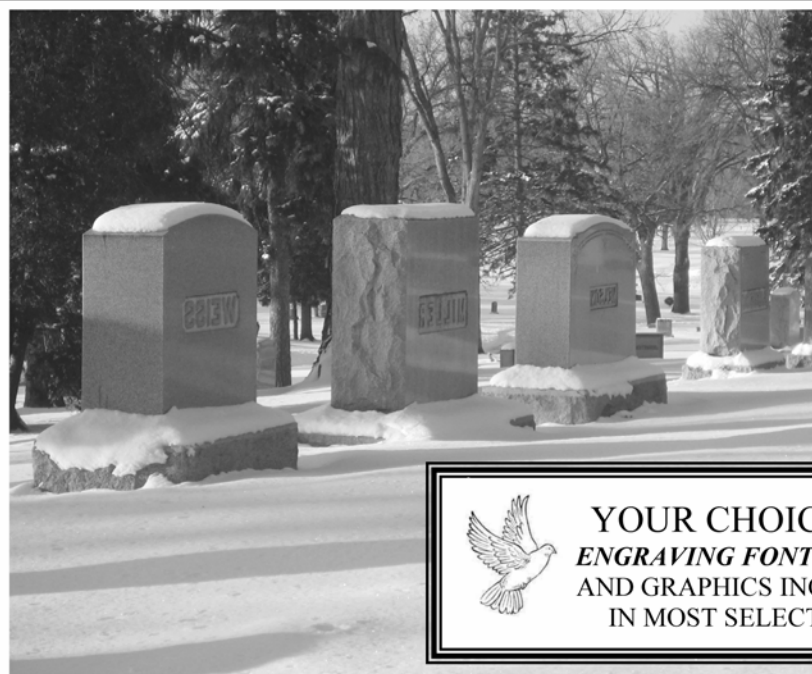
"The strong partnership of police, prosecutors and community has produced these very good results for our neighborhoods," said Council President Johnson. "The recent, tragic death of three-year-old Terrell Mayes, however, reminds us how important it is to keep at this work and keep driving crime down. Even one violent crime is too many."

Even as Minneapolis experienced several tragic, high-profile shooting deaths of youths in 2011, violent crime among youth continues to drop. From 2006–10 (the last year that full statistics are available), the number of youth suspects involved in violent crime dropped 60 percent.

Mayor Rybak credited the City's Youth Violence Prevention initiative and the Blueprint for Action for this notable decline.

"We mourn the young people we have lost; they should have lived much, much longer," Mayor Rybak continued. "But the solid framework that helps us learn from those losses is firmly in place. We commit to keep learning and to keep working every day to ensure a safe future for our children."

Chief Dolan said, "Overall, I am pleased that the city is maintaining crime reductions achieved across the city in the last several years. The employees of the department are performing well and have led the way on several successful efforts. Their relations with our communities and professional partners have received high grades. We do have rising concerns, especially with youth-related violent crime and burglaries, but we'll keep working together to solve those issues."



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Outdoors

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Bring color to your indoor landscape

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

In January 2007 I wrote, “Winters like this one, with its above average temperatures and below average snowfall, seem to becoming the norm rather than the exception...” The problem with the new norm is that the brown, dismal landscape outside only makes our interior post-holiday landscapes appear even drearier. Fortunately we don’t need a home makeover to remedy that, just a few interesting and colorful houseplants.

Cyclamen, with its large back-swept petals interesting white and green foliage, is a nice plant to brighten the winter days. The flowers can be various shades of red, pink, lavender or white, and the heart shaped foliage is splotched with white, randomly or in some cases in regular horseshoe shaped patterns. Cyclamens prefer cool temperatures, but most of us do not keep our houses as cool as they would like, 40° to 50° F at night and no more than 65° during the day. However the plant does like bright light, so if it is placed close to a window you may be able to come close to their ideal temperatures during the winter months. Cyclamen grows from a tuber which will rot if it sits in too much moisture. Water when the soil is dry and from the bottom; if you must water from the top avoid watering the crown. To maximize the blooming time purchase a plant that has many buds but only a few blooms. With cool temperatures, bright light and proper watering the cyclamen should bloom for one to two months. After it has finished blooming trim the dead flowers, cut the plant back 4 to 5

inches, keep it in the bright light, fertilize and wait for some more blooms!

With its 6”-10” trumpet flowers and 1’ to 2’ stalks, another plant fun to grow is an amaryllis. The large flowers can be white, pink, red, salmon, rose or even bicolor, with single or double blooms. If you choose an amaryllis bulb buy the biggest you can find, the larger the bulb the larger the blooms. Place your potted bulb in the warm sunlight until the leaves and stem emerge and the first blossom shows. Then move the plant to cooler, but not cold, location. Amaryllis are sensitive to cold but the blossoms will last longer in the cooler temperatures and a low light location. Once a blossom has faded cut it off so it does not produce seeds. Do not cut off the stem and leaves — they are manufacturing food and storing it in the bulb for next year. It is very important that they receive ample sunlight during the spring and summer months in order to produce a blossom again. Water the bulb only when the soil is dry; soggy soil can lead to bulb rot. Once the leaves are brown you can cut them off. Amaryllis require no resting period to bloom again. If you keep them in the sunlight and keep them watered they will send up a new stalk and buds. If you want to control when they bloom you can provide them with a resting period. Place them in a cool dry space such as the basement or a closet for 8-12 weeks. Do not water or fertilize.



When you are ready to start the blooming process, bring it out into the sunlight and water.

Some plants that many of us never consider growing at home are orchids. Orchids are thought of as tropical plants that require a steamy green house environment and lots of extraordinary care, but that is not the case for all of them. Orchids are a diverse group of plants of which seven genera tolerate cool temperatures and require less care than other more common house plants. Two of these genera are Cymbidium and Paphiopedilum. Cymbidiums come in standard and miniature sizes. Long narrow leaved foliage and large sprays of flowers require a lot of room, so the miniatures may be a better choice for a houseplant. Paphiopedilum, or lady slipper orchids, with their distinctive pouches, grow naturally on the tropical forest floor and require less light than other genera. Those with green leaves require cooler temperatures than those with variegated leaves. There are a couple opportunities to view some wonderful orchid specimens: The Winter Carnival Orchid Show is January 28-29 at the Marjorie McNeely Conservatory in Como Park, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day with a \$5 admission; The Great Hall of Orchids exhibit is open at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum February 12-March 14 during Arboretum hours; free with regular arboretum admission.

Transform a vacant lot

into a source for healthy food, a beautiful neighborhood and a strong community

With seed catalogues arriving in the mail and flower and garden shows around the corner, now is a good time to look into establishing a community garden. The City of Minneapolis has 10 vacant lots available for qualifying groups to lease for community gardens. These City-owned lots were selected because they are not appropriate for development. This means that they will remain available for years of gardening even as the economy changes and redevelopment picks up.

The Community Garden Program began in 2010 to help make Minneapolis more beautiful, provide healthy food and build community. Seven of the lots are already leased to community groups. The City supports community gardens in its commitment to promoting access to good nutrition, improving the ecological footprint of the city, encouraging active and healthy living, and providing spaces for human interaction, food production and beauty in our daily lives. In addition to these lots, Minneapolis has 100 community gardens throughout the city.

There are seven lots available on the Northside: 1912 36th, 2510 Penn, 2516 Humboldt, 3246 Emer-

son, 3308 6th, 4169 Washington and 918 26th. Lots are available first-come, first-served to qualifying groups. Experienced community garden groups may be eligible for three- to five-year leases, while groups gardening for the first time will start with one-year leases. A qualifying group will be a not-for-profit or a group with a not-for-profit sponsor. The garden will need to have liability insurance. During the application, applicants and City staff will discuss the layout of the community garden, how it will be managed and how it will engage and benefit the community.

The Community Garden Program is part of Homegrown Minneapolis. Homegrown Minneapolis is a citywide initiative started in December of 2008 by the City of Minneapolis to expand the community’s ability to grow, process, distribute, eat and compost more healthy, sustainable, locally grown foods within the city and the surrounding region. Development of a community gardens program is one of the Homegrown Minneapolis recommendations adopted by the City Council. For info visit www.minneapolisismn.gov/health/homegrown/dhfs_gardeners or call 612-673-5051.

Who’s in my backyard?

By Carol McElroy, Interpretive Naturalist, Kroening Interpretive Center

What animals visit your neighborhood? Have you ever wondered? You may see squirrels and rabbits, but are there secret visitors you may not see? Winter is a great time to find out. Animals that have not migrated south or cuddled up in hibernation are out and about, searching for food. That food is not abundant in the winter, so animals congregate in feeding areas or venture far in search of their next meal. The sparse landscape offers fewer hiding places, too.

It seems that wildlife has rediscovered the city. As people build further into wild places, many animals travel along river corridors back into the city, where competition for food is not so intense. Coyotes and foxes discover an abundance of mice, squirrels and rabbits in city backyards. Owls find plenty of cover in boulevard trees to search for rodents. Cooper’s hawks quickly learn that a bird feeding area can offer an easy meal. Red-tailed hawks perch on highway lampposts and scan mowed grassy areas for scampering mice. Raccoons patrol backyards at night, checking for easy meals from garbage cans or bird feeders. Flying squirrels glide through tree canopies and will visit feeders mounted on tree trunks.

How can you find out who has been visiting you? Check out the snow (you don’t need much) to see who has left tracks. Small birds hop and will leave tiny paired tracks evenly spaced in the snow. A bigger bird—like a crow or turkey—walks, and their tracks will be alternately placed, just like human footprints.

Raccoons—and skunks—have round, chubby bodies. They waddle from side to side as they walk. Their foot placement leaves a track from a front paw right beside a track from a back paw. Raccoons have flat feet, so their whole track is visible in snow. Check it out. Their feet and “hands” almost look human! Sometimes tracks are connected by a long line, made by a tail.

Squirrels and rabbits jump, so their tracks show all four paws together with spaces in between. But closer inspection shows rear paws in front of the front paws. Think about how animals jump. They land on their front paws and put the rear paws down just ahead to push off for the next jump. Squirrel tracks tend to form a square. Rabbit tracks are longer because the front paws land in a staggered pattern.

Look for other evidence that animals have been there. Scat, the scientific reference to mammal droppings, can indicate what animals visit an area. Foxes have hair in their scat; raccoons tend to have plant material or seeds. Rabbit and deer scat are similar in size, but rabbit scat is round, whereas deer scat is shaped like a raisin. These animals both feed on twigs in the winter.

Owls cough up pellets. Although these oblong balls may look like scat at a glance, they are actually bones with fur or feathers, enveloped in mucus. Owls are unable to process fur and bones like other raptors and must cough them up before the food can enter their digestive system. Owls tend to roost in the same area to digest their meal, and pellets on the ground can indicate that an owl is in the tree. So be sure to look up after you look down!

If you come across old bones or deer antlers, look for ends that have been gnawed off. Mice chew on these, keeping their teeth filed down and acquiring extra calcium in the process.

So enjoy your winter investigations. Challenge yourself to figure out which animals left signs that you have discovered. Keep in mind that some animals hibernate. You won’t see tracks for woodchucks or ground squirrels in snow. But many hardy animals stay active in Minnesota winters. Remember that you do not need to see an animal to know it has been visiting. Check the snow and the trees. You could discover a new neighbor.

Stop by North Mississippi Regional Park to practice your animal tracking skills. Otters, mink and bald eagles are active all winter and can be seen near the river. Visit Kroening Interpretive Center and keep warm in the building while watching birds and squirrels at the feeders.

Reserve a space at the Teddy Bear Tea, Feb. 4, 1-3 p.m. Age 3 and up. Party away at the Turtle Fiesta, Feb. 11, 1-3 p.m. All ages, cost \$5. Call for reservations, 763-559-6700. Join us for Free Family Fundays each Sunday anytime 1-3 p.m. February topics are skulls, animal valentines, reptiles and rabbits. Call 763-694-7693 for info.

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Prepared and paid for by Diane Hofstede for City Council, 610 Ramsey St. NE, Mpls. MN 55413

Chew on this – February is Pet Dental Month

By Kelly Benning, DVM

“You want me to actually brush my pet’s teeth?” is a common response from my clients. Yes, yes I do. And daily, too. Trust me when I say it is not as tortuous to them (or you) as you may think!

Seventy-80 percent of dogs and cats have some form of dental disease. The majority of them do not complain at the first sign of pain like we do. Remember that time when you complained of your tooth hurting? I bet just looking at your tooth you could not tell there was a problem. That is the same with our pets. Most of the reasons for getting a dental prophylaxis (teeth cleaning and polishing procedure) are due to tartar build-up, gum erosion or loose teeth that we can actually see. Occasionally not eating is the first sign owners see at home. Once the veterinary team actually gets in there, does some gum line probing and radiographs, we can truly see what kind of underlying complications there are.

The most common form of dental disease is bad breath (halitosis). During an oral exam, your veterinarian may notice tartar on the teeth or gum line. Tartar is basically plaque, which is a build-up of bacteria on the teeth. This plaque can at the least cause local gum inflammation, pain, erosion of teeth and even effect the liver, kidneys and heart. Good dental care can prolong a pet’s life.

Tartar is difficult if not impossible to remove with dental products sold over the counter. I have yet to be impressed by any product that markets “complete removal of all tartar.” Especially the products marketed for occasional use. Let’s face it. If you only brushed your teeth four times a year, you would have a gross mouth, too. And unlike your pet you don’t eat _____ (use your imagination here)!

Dental prophylaxis for pets is very similar to human dentistry. The oral cavity is inspected, teeth are counted, the gum line is probed and measured for pockets, any tartar is scaled and removed, the teeth are polished, then fluoride and a sealant are applied to protect the teeth. In some cases, radiographs of concerning areas and/or as a general screen are performed. Any extractions, root canals or other advanced procedures are also available as needed. All this is done under general anesthesia, mainly because cats and dogs will not sit still for such procedures. An average routine cleaning with no complications takes about one hour.

So what keeps most people from getting their pet’s teeth cleaned? Usually it is cost and fear of general anesthesia. Sure, dental cleaning is a little more expensive than spay or neuter surgery. But think of it as a maintenance care plan for your pet’s health. The best way to alleviate any fears is to schedule a dental exam with your veterinarian and discuss any specific concerns you may have.

Park winter-spring activities guide

Check out the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board’s (MPRB) new Winter-Spring Guide, now available at www.minneapolisparcs.org and at recreation centers and libraries citywide. The guide highlights the popular recreational opportunities available at parks, lakes and recreation centers throughout Minneapolis.

As temperatures drop, recreation center activities are on the rise. The guide features activities, amenities, events and sports for youth, teens and adults at recreation centers across Minneapolis.

Once winter weather conditions allow, the park system’s award-winning outdoor recreation facilities become available, including ice skating, skiing, snowboarding and tubing. The guide lists hours for ice rink warming houses, ski chalets, tubing and snowboarding areas and recreation centers, including extended hours during Minneapolis school release days.

For info or a guide visit www.minneapolisparcs.org. For updates on your favorite winter activities, sign up for paperless, electronic emails specific to your choice of topics.



Fourth Ward Report

Council Member Barbara A. Johnson

Phone: 673-2204 Fax: 673-3940

Web page: www.minneapolismn.gov/council/ward4

Contact Form: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/contact/email-form-johnson.asp>

Pet licences fees reduced

It will now cost less for you to license your cat or dog. The City of Minneapolis is reducing pet license fees in an effort to get more people to license their pets. Beginning January 2012, the annual license fee for a spayed/neutered pet drops from \$30 to \$25. A \$15 discount was also created for those individuals with limited incomes or those receiving public assistance. This new license type mirrors the existing discount for seniors age 65 or older. Pet licensing is a major component of Minneapolis Animal Care & Control’s mission to create safe and healthy communities for people and pets, and it’s also the law. If a licensed stray pet is picked up by Minneapolis Animal Care & Control or brought to the Animal Shelter, the animal gets a free ride home. Stray cats and dogs that come to the shelter without a visible license tag only have a 50 percent chance of going home. Licensing your pet also helps other pets. Pet license fees pay for:

- Basic veterinary and emergency care for all stray animals
- Bite, animal cruelty and dangerous animal investigations and enforcement
- Efforts to find homes for stray and abandoned animals
- Enforcement of laws to ensure safe communities for people and pets

Licensing your pet is quick and easy. You can apply through the City by going online, calling 311, or visiting Minneapolis Animal Care & Control or the Minneapolis Development Review. You have to have a pet license to use the Minneapolis dog parks. For more information visit the Minneapolis Animal Care & Control website: www.minneapolismn.gov/animal-control.

New Crime Prevention Specialist

I am very pleased to welcome Crime Prevention Specialist (CPS) Tim Hammett who is replacing Mary Etzioni in Sector 3. Mary retired at the end of the year. Tim has served as a CPS for many years and has extensive experience in North Minneapolis. Tim’s area includes the Shingle Creek, Lind-Bohanon, Victory and Webber-Camden neighborhoods. Tim can be reached at 612-673-2866.

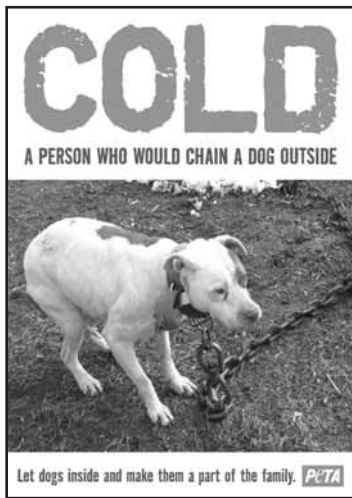
CPS Jennifer Waisanen will continue to serve the Cleveland, Folwell, Hawthorne, Jordan and McKinley neighborhoods. Jennifer can be reached at 612-673-5873.

Crime Prevention Specialists:

- Recruit and train block leaders to get block clubs started
- Maintain block clubs
- Present safety and neighborhood livability information to the public
- Publish and distribute crime alerts
- Promote National Night Out
- Resolve complaints about problem properties
- Respond to crime trends

4th Ward E-Newsletter

Sign up for the 4th Ward E-mail newsletter at: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/contact/email-form-johnson.asp>. In “questions/comments” type “newsletter” and you will be added to the list.



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



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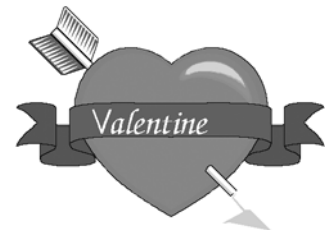
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- **Increased employment opportunities and safety will be immediately addressed.**
- **Works with business owners and others to improve District 58 and our State** Troy was appointed Chair of the Minneapolis Branch and The MN, ND and SD NAACP Economic Development Committees because he is committed to improving the economic conditions for all of our residents and business owners.

- **Activities in Community School(s)** Troy is Member of Minneapolis Public Schools District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC). He is Co-Chair of Area A Advisory Council, a member of Patrick Henry Site Council and he is also a Member of MPS Title I Parent Advisory Council.

- **Political Knowledge** As a former Director of Minneapolis Democratic Party, Troy informed, included and advocated for residents that have been traditionally disregarded, marginalized or left out of the process. He has engaged and educated many community members.

Join your neighbors, community members and others by supporting Troy Parker, the candidate with the knowledge, ability and commitment to lead our District to a better future.

Attend your precinct caucus on February 7 at 7 p.m.

Prepared and paid for by Troy Parker for State Senate, ArLynn Parker, Treasurer.

Have your say at your precinct caucus

Wanna have a say in local and national politics? Go to your precinct caucus! Precinct caucuses are literally the grassroots way for neighbors to make decisions on candidates for office and major political decisions. Have your say on the national and state elections. The major party caucuses are on February 7 at 7 p.m. Caucus sites in the Camden area are listed below, with ward-precinct, locations and addresses. For specific info contact your party of choice.

DFL precinct caucuses: W3-P7, Cityview School 3350 North 4th St.; W4-P1, Creekview Park Rec. Center, 5001 Humboldt; W4-P2, Creekview Park Rec. Center 5001 Humboldt; W4-P3, Shingle Creek Commons, 4600 Humboldt; W4-P4, Loring School 2600 44th; W4-P5, Folwell Park Rec. Center, 1615 Dowling; W4-P6, North United Methodist Church, 4350 Fremont; W4-P7, Folwell Park Rec. Center, 1615 Dowling; W4-P8, Lucy Craft Laney School, 3333 Penn; W4-P9, Folwell Park Rec. Center, 1615

Dowling; W4-P10, Lucy Craft Laney School, 3333 Penn; W3- P8, Fairview Park 621 - 29th Ave.; W3-P9, North Regional Library, 1315 Lowry.

Republican Precinct Caucuses: W3-Precincts 7, 8 and 9, 621 29th Ave. N; W4, Precincts 1, 2 and 3, Hope Lutheran Church, 5200 Emerson; Ward 4, Precincts 4, 5 and 6 Webber Park, 4400 Dupont; Ward 4, Precincts 7, 8 and 10, Parkway United Church, 3120 Washburn; Ward 4, Precinct 9 Folwell Park, 1615 Dowling.

The *Camden News* did not receive other party caucus info, so check out their websites: Constitution Party, www.cpmn.org; Green Party, www.mn-greens.org; the Grassroots Party is not holding caucus this year.

For help finding your precinct call Hennepin County Elections 612-348-5151 or State of Minnesota at 651-215-1440, or check their websites.

Meals on Wheels bowl-a-thon

By Denise Harris

North Minneapolis Meals on Wheels is having their annual bowl-a-thon fundraiser on Saturday, May 20, noon-3 p.m., at Elsie's Bowling on Plymouth and Marshall NE. We are glad to invite members of your staff and the community to attend our "Let's Bowl Again" bowl-a-thon. This recurring fun event is open to our supporters of all ages. Help support the cause by pulling a team together to participate. If you belong to any business/organization, bring your team and may the best team win! The cost to participate is only \$6 per person and includes game and shoes. We also have a silent auction to aid in the fundraising area. So grab some friends, make up some t-shirts and come ready to support a worthy cause. If you are on Facebook there is an event created via our group closer to the date. Questions: Denise Harris at nmmow@hotmail.com, 522-7335 and www.nmmow.org, or stop by 2901 Emerson Ave. N.

North Minneapolis Meals on Wheels is dedicated to their mission of delivering nourishing meals to homebound North Minneapolis residents who are at risk nutritionally and unable to prepare their own meals. With your support North Minneapolis Meals on Wheels can continue to address the serious hunger needs of homebound friends in our community. In 2011 we delivered over 43,000 meals. The daily meals and dedicated caring volunteers, help reduce medical costs to our friends in need. The bowl-a-thon is one of our community events that successfully helps meet our mission. Info: 612-522-7335.

Library has free ebooks

Just in time for those who received a smartphone over the holidays, two new features have been added to Hennepin County Library's free mobile app: There's a dedicated category for downloading eBooks and eAudiobooks. Patrons can search for and download titles directly onto their mobile device, as well as access their digital account. And patrons can scan ISBN barcodes on books with their smartphone's camera to check to see if the titles are in Hennepin County Library's catalog and place requests immediately.

If you already have Hennepin County Library's mobile app installed on your smartphone, you need the updated version. Go to hclib.org through your smartphone and select "Download our app." Or fol-

low the link at the bottom of Hennepin County Library's home page at www.hclib.org.

Hennepin County Library's mobile app is compatible with most smartphones, including Android, Blackberry, J2ME, Palm OS, Symbian 260, Windows Mobile, and iPhone.

With the Library's app, you can access other online services including: fast catalog searches with minimal keystrokes; access library "My Account" functions such as renewing and reserving items; find hours and library locations; check the events and classes calendar; see new title lists; ask questions via phone, chat or email connect to Hennepin County Library on social networks sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Info: www.hclib.org/pub/info/mobileapp.cfm.

Camden Cooking White Chocolate Almond Amaretto Truffles

By Marie Porter

Single, dating, or married...as Valentine's day looms before us, our thoughts are turned to one thing - chocolate, of course!

Make this the year to break away from the regular old store bought chocolates, and try making them yourself! Not only do homemade truffles taste better than most store-bought Valentine's Day offerings, it's just plain cool to be able to say that you made them yourself.

These require no fancy ingredients or equipment, and take very little time to make. While chocolate chips are an unusual medium for truffle making, they are easy to find, and lack the sticker shock that comes with the more traditional chocolate options. Anyone can make these truffles at home, with common ingredients, for only about \$5/30 truffles!



White Chocolate Almond Amaretto Truffles

10 oz. white chips
1/4 cup cream
3 tbsp. Amaretto
2 tbsp. butter
Finely chopped almonds

Place white chocolate chips into a glass mixing bowl, and put aside.

On stove top, bring heavy whipping cream, and butter to a boil. Stir well, remove from heat, and stir in Amaretto.

Pour hot cream mixture into bowl of chocolate chips. Let sit for 3-5 minutes. Starting in the middle of the bowl, slowly start stirring the chocolate and cream until all of the chocolate is melted, and has disappeared into it - it should be smooth.

Cover with plastic wrap - preferably resting right on top of the surface - this prevents a skin from forming while it cools. Chill in the fridge for at least an hour or two, until it's pretty solid. Once solid, scoop out small balls (a teaspoon or so) and roll them into balls. Try to handle the chocolate as quickly as possible, or it will melt. Then, roll them in the chopped almonds.

Enjoy!

Marie Porter is an award winning baker, and the author of two cookbooks. She has resided in Camden since early 2011, along with her husband and four cats. Check out additional recipes on her food/lifestyle blog at www.celebrationgeneration.com.

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Camden Youth & Schools

Skiing – without snow!

By Ingrid Remak

“Skiers take your marks.... Tweet!” the whistle blew and the kids were off—however they weren’t skiing—they were scooting. Without any snow—the youth at Bryn Mawr Elementary school have gotten creative for cross-country skiing practice—and that day they were pretending to be Paralympic cross-country skiing athletes.

The Nordic Ski Foundation runs cross-country ski programs in six North Minneapolis elementary schools; Bryn Mawr, Pillsbury, Nellie Stone Johnson, Loring, Hmong International and Urban League Elementary. In a

But that day the kids were in for a treat. Drawing parallels to the upcoming Paralympic Nordic Ski competition coming to Wirth in a few weeks, the class launched into imagining what it would be like to ski with some form of physical disability. “What would it be like to ski without your arms? legs? eyes?” Margaret asked the class. The kids hemmed and hawed. “Impossible?” Silence. “Well, let’s give it a try...”

The kids partnered off and, using scooters, tried to maneuver between cones on the gym floor alternatively losing ability in their



Students practice their snow dancing—without snow.

typical winter, the Nordic Ski Foundation, working collaboratively with the physical education instructors, facilitate eight weeks of cross-country skiing instruction with fourth and fifth grade students. The Foundation provides skis, poles and boots for the schools, and the kids wrap up the season by participating in the Minne-Loppet, a children’s ski race that is part of the City of Lakes Cross-Country Ski Festival. The program also includes a nutrition component where the students learn how to healthily fuel active skiing bodies.

“Are you doing your snow dances?” asked program Director Margaret Adelsman of the Bryn Mawr 4th graders as they assembled in the gymnasium. The kids nodded shyly. With winter sprouting more sticks than snow Margaret, a former college skiing star and longtime coach, has had to formulate new skiing instruction made for “dryland.” “We skied on the grass the other week,” she said, but even that gets old after a while.

arms and legs. Lastly, the students blindfolded one another and were challenged to guide their partner through a ski course involving hills and turns—and ultimately help their partner eat at a feed station at the end of the course.

“What was hard about that?” asked assistant coach Ingrid Remak after each pass. “Your muscles get so tired!” remarked Kue Thao in exasperation. “It was so noisy—it was hard to hear my guide,” said Jennfier Dakota who skied with the program last year. “I panicked. I kind of lost my senses,” said Daveron Granberry. “I was pretty nervous that if I was skiing I might smash into things.” He then went on to compliment his guide for doing such a good job at leading.

Nearing the sound of the bell, there was only one item left on the agenda—a snow dance. In the last ten seconds, the class flailed, bounced and twisted for winter—a dancing storm convincingly strong enough to bring in a blizzard...

The News at Patrick Henry

By Tom Murray

Beth Vang (class of 2013) is a writer for Patrick Henry’s online journal, *The Legacy*. *The Minnesota Women’s Press’* Changing the Universe Through Women’s Stories chose to publish one of her articles in their January publication. They have given us permission to publish it here. Last summer Beth also won the Breakthrough Award while at the Best Prep Camp Program at St. John’s University.

My summer at camp

Stepping onto the bus last summer became a life-changing experience. I rode for four hours with other Scientists Eagerly Acquiring Knowledge (SEAK) students from Minneapolis and Duluth, anticipating the three weeks that awaited us in Finland, Minnesota, at the Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center (WRELC). What was ahead was a whole lot of working, walking, living in nature and staying in dorms with people from all over the world.

During the first week we did experiments about finding chemical or physical answers to environment questions. We caught and studied fish in the streams, we freed birds from our hands, we worked on trail development. Later, we spent time in camp playing games, singing campfire songs, telling ghost stories, eating delicious food and always meeting new people.

For four days we canoed and camped in Voyageurs National Park. We even swam with the fish and the turtles in the wide lake. At this point, it felt like anything was



Beth Va Vang participates in a learning experience for campers about beaver characteristics.

possible, even walking on water.

When we returned from our four-day camping trip, we were seen as students who were capable of anything, of being naturalists, of being biologists. We felt the earth move, we saw the fog shift through the mountains, we saw the sun rise and set along the horizon, we felt the breeze of the wind lift its fingers through our hair. Working on our papers, dancing along to folk songs, meeting students from Russia, hearing the pre-school students sing our songs from heart, everything, made us happy and sad.

Having to leave behind everything that we had just achieved broke our hearts, but opened our minds.

FFI: The SEAK (“Scientists Eagerly Acquiring Knowledge”) program is a partnership between Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, the Boys & Girls Clubs, and several schools. The program gives urban students from socio-economically diverse backgrounds an opportunity to explore careers in science and natural history; www.wolf-ridge.org.

Our City, Our Schools

Want to strengthen our public schools but don’t know how to get involved? AchieveMpls, the non-profit partner of the Minneapolis Public Schools, is holding its new monthly public education engagement series called Our City, Our Schools, designed to help the local community learn about hot topics in public education and ways to get engaged as volunteers, community partners, and advocates. Open to the public, the monthly series will be held in a variety of Minneapolis locations and delve into issues such as the achievement gap, education reform, education policy, and other current topics.

“It takes an entire community to make sure that all of our students achieve academically and are ready for college and careers after graduation,” said Marika Pfefferkorn, Director of Community Engagement at AchieveMpls. “Many community members want to get involved in our public schools but just don’t know how to connect their skills and talents with students’ needs. This new series will provide participants with critical information on specific education topics and ways they can engage in our schools.”

Our City, Our Schools kicked off its first session with a program on Community Engagement and the Achievement Gap on January 26 at the Walker Art Center. For upcoming sessions contact Shoshana Daniels at 612-455-1535 or sdaniels@achievempls.org.

As the strategic nonprofit partner of the Minneapolis Public Schools, AchieveMpls mobilizes a wide web of community support and resources to ensure academic achievement, equitable opportunities, and career and college readiness for all students. Preparing our young people to succeed in school, work, and life is the best investment we can make in our city’s health and vitality. For info visit www.achievempls.org or call 612-455-1564.

Sign up for summer camps

There’s a little snow outside, but it is not too early to plan for summer! Registration for summer camps in Three Rivers Park District began January 13. Send your children on a fun-filled adventure this summer in Three Rivers Park District, where they will gain an appreciation for nature while participating in hands-on recreational, nature and cultural heritage programs.

Can’t afford to send your child to an expensive, faraway overnight camp this year? No problem. Three Rivers offers affordable day camps for children ages 4-15 that are conveniently located just minutes from your home. Camp topics include nature exploration, outdoor recreation, golfing, fishing, farming, and Minnesota history. Camps are offered at our nature and visitor centers, golf facilities, The Landing-Minnesota River Heritage Park and Gale Woods Farm.

Children must be in the age group indicated for each camp. Camp dates, times and fees vary. Reservations, pre-payment and health waiver are due at least two weeks in advance of camp starting date; early reservations are recommended.

Three Rivers Park District is committed to serving people with disabilities; indicate any special needs at the time of reservation. Scholarships are available for qualified individuals. For info visit www.threeriversparks.org/events/Groups/summer-camps.aspx or call 763-559-6700 to register.

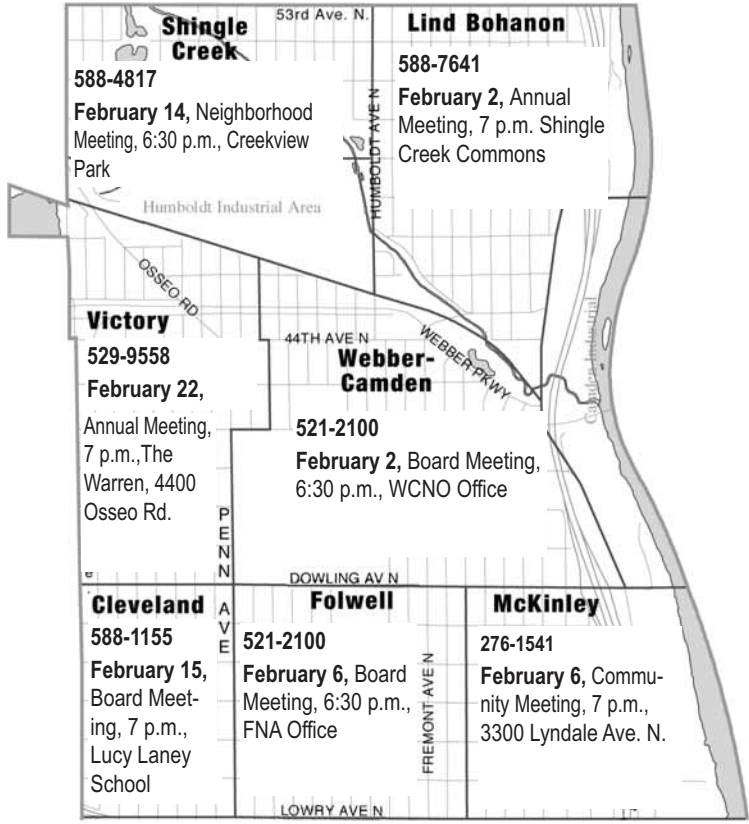
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WCNO February Board of Directors Meeting, Thursday, February 2, 6:30 p.m., WCNO office.

Webber Park Master Plan: The Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) is initiating a master planning process for Webber Park that will provide an opportunity to create a new aquatic facility, boost opportunities for recreation, improve trail connections, enhance natural resources, and address long-term tornado recovery. Information: www.minneapolisparcs.org or call Jennifer Ringold, Manager of Public Engagement and Citywide Planning, 612-230-6464.

Clothing Closet: North United Methodist Church, 4350 Fremont Avenue North on the first, second, third Saturday of each month, 9 a.m. to noon and the first Monday of each month, 6-8 p.m. On the first Monday-Mobile Loaves and Fishes Free Meal, 6:30 p.m. Information: 612-522-4497. Kids' clothes and winter coats are the greatest needs right now! No charge - donations accepted.

City offers low-cost radon test kits: Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and more than 21,000 deaths are attributed to radon each year. Radon is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas that occurs naturally in Minnesota soils and can enter homes primarily through cracks and openings in basement or foundation floors and walls. Radon detection kits are available for purchase for \$9 each at the City of Minneapolis Development Review, 250 S. Fourth St., Room 300. Information: Minnesota Department of Health website or call the Minnesota Department of Health Indoor Air Unit at 651-201-4601 or 1-800-798-9050. Anyone interested in mitigating radon at his or her home should consult MDH's list of certified radon mitigation contractors.

Office Services in 2011: Using our "Walk In" pages as a guide, it was noted that approximately 330 people used the following services available at our office: fax, copies, notary. These are free services for North Minneapolis residents.

Snow Shoveling: Seniors and Homeowners with Disabilities: Register now: Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP). 612-374-3325.

Senior Linkage Line: Your link to senior services and health insurance counseling. 1-800-333-2433 or www.minnesotahelp.info.

Watch for more information about the events listed.
 Saturday, February 25 — Pancake Breakfast (Leos in Action),
 Saturday, March 17 — Pancake Breakfast (Camden Lions), Folwell Park
 Saturday, April 21 — Earth Day Cleanup, various sites
 Tuesday, April 24 — Senior Luncheon and Resource Fair, Folwell Park

We Watch We Call signs are back: *We Watch We Call* is a public safety initiative of 4th Precinct CARE Task Force. The signs are free; limit five per request. Information: 612-521-2100.

Shingle Creek Neighborhood Association
 P.O.Box 15656, Minneapolis, MN 55415;
 Web Site: www.scna-mpls.org
 Email: scna@gmail.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.

SCNA Neighborhood Meeting is February 14 at 6:30 p.m.

3rd Camden Winterfest is coming February 4!
 The Camden Winterfest and Chili cook-off for the prized golden ladle will be Saturday, February 4 from noon-3 p.m. at Bohanon Park Warming House at 49th and Bryant Ave. N! We need your help to come and judge the best chili in Camden! Snow or no snow it'll be a go! Music, snowball launchers, bonfires, hot dogs, and so much more family fun! Cost is just \$5 per person 16 and older!

Check out what's happening in Creekview Park!
Snowy Nature Stories. Ages 4 - 6 Dates: Mondays, February 27-March 19
 Slide into winter with this fun-filled class for preschoolers! We will explore the snowy world outside through winter stories, outdoor play, silly songs, animal games and more. If the weather is right we will head out for some sledding, snow-shoeing or a winter hike. This is an indoor/outdoor class where kids will go outside for a short time each day. Warm clothing is required. **Time:** 10-11 a.m. **Fee:** \$12 **Location:** Creekview Recreation Center.

Family Open Swim. Bring the whole family down to the park for a night of swimming. No one under 16 allowed without a parent/guardian. Swim test must be passed to access the deep end of the pool. Thursdays, thru March 8, 7-8:30 p.m. \$2/person.

Thinking about needing more room? Think SCNA Home Improvement Loans!
 Consider using the SCNA Home Improvement Loan Program!
 SCNA homeowners are eligible for low or no interest rates for home improvement loans. Every repaid loan helps us to be able to do more to improve our community! The minimum loan is \$1,000! Contact Brenda Yaritz at 612-335-5 Center for Energy and Environment (CEE) for more details on what projects qualify! Or go to our website at www.scna-mpls.org to check out an application and more details!

VICTORY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
 2200 44th Avenue North • 612-529-9558
info@victoryneighborhood.org •
www.victoryneighborhood.org
All the News from Victory Neighborhood

Water – A right or a commodity? Dinner and a Movie 2012

Water is the very essence of life, sustaining every being on the planet, but there is growing evidence that this crucial resource is dwindling. Explore this disturbing suggestion with the Victory Environment Committee at their 2012 Dinner and Movie series on the third Saturday of the months of February, and March.

Water, once a basic human right, has also just become another commodity to be owned and sold by corporations. On February 18, we will be screening *Tapped*, which examines the role of the bottled water industry and its effects on our health, climate change, pollution, and our reliance on oil. Our dinner this evening will be Mediterranean specialties from the Athens Café in Robbinsdale.

Dinner will begin at 6 p.m. and the movie will start at 6:30 p.m. at The Warren, 4400 Osseo Road. You are welcome to attend the movie only but if you wish to join us for dinner, we ask that you reserve a seat by Tuesday, February 14. You can make your reservations by calling 612-529-9558 or sending an email.

If you call and leave a message please leave a phone number where you can be reached for confirmation. There is a suggested donation of \$5 for the dinner.

ViNA reorganizes committees –Volunteers needed
 The ViNA Board of Directors has reorganized two of their standing committees. Board Members Kristopher Ehler and David Dexheimer have agreed to co-chair the Livability and Housing Committee. The former Sustainability Committee has been replaced with a Volunteer and Fundraising Committee, which will be responsible for recruiting and managing volunteers for ViNA's events, activities, programs and committees, as well as identifying, developing and implementing fundraising activities. We are recruiting new members for both of these committees as well as for the Events Committee which is also looking for a co-chair.

Consider contributing to the vitality of your neighborhood by participating on one of these committees. Call or email the ViNA office at 612-529-9558 or info@victoryneighborhood.org.

The Lind Bohanon Neighborhood Association

Message Line: 612-588-7641 • email: LindBohanonNA@aol.com • www.lindbohanon.org
 LBNA Meetings: Free and open to the public. Residents are encouraged to attend.
Meetings held at Shingle Creek Commons Bldg, 4600 Humboldt Ave N, unless otherwise specified
 Any requests for special accommodations are welcome. Contact LBNA staff seven days prior to date of meeting.
 For more details on any of these items check the LBNA newsletter and website.

Thursday, February 2, LBNA Board Meeting 7 p.m.

3rd Camden Winterfest is coming February 4, noon-3 p.m.!
 Dust off your crockpots, darn your aprons! The great Camden Winterfest and Chili cook-off for the prized golden ladle will be Saturday, February 4 from noon-3 p.m. at Bohanon Park Warming House! Music, snowball launchers, snow shoeing, bonfires, food and so much more family fun! Cost is just \$5 per person 16 and older!

What's up at Carl Kroening Interpretive Center?
 Turtle Fiesta, Saturday, Feb 11, 1-3 p.m.
 Party with the turtles. See live turtles up close, and watch them swim and eat. Make turtle tambourines and enjoy a turtle treat. Share turtle stories and learn about turtle care. Res. Req. \$5. Ages: All. Registration: 763-559-6700 or 763-694-7693. www.three-riversparkdistrict.org.

Wish list: Do you have some extra things lying around the house?
 Dried corn cobs for squirrels, film canisters, animal puppets, cool whip containers, birdseed and old ap-

ples, bird feeders, 16 oz. cottage cheese containers, plush animal fabric, storage bins? Contact the Carl Kroening Interpretive Center 763-694-7693 or stop by and drop them off at 4900 Mississippi Court N, Mpls.

Taco Fiesta, Saturday, February 11, 4-6 p.m.
 Shingle Creek Residents Council invites the public to warm up your winter at their zesty Taco Fiesta! One large taco and a beverage for \$2.50. Beverage or chips \$.75 each. Taco \$1.
 Mexican Combo 3 large tacos, chips and beverage for \$6. Proceeds raised will help with ongoing needs of the Shingle Creek Residents Council. For more info call Tim at 612-521-9477.

LBNA Home Improvement Loan Program Helps
 The Lind-Bohanon Neighborhood Association through the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funding provides several different loans for residents to take advantage of to help improve their properties. This program offers residents attractive home loans at below market rates!
 For more information contact Brenda Yaritz, Center for Energy and Environment 612-335-5891.

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

FNA February Board Meeting: Monday, February 6, 6:30 p.m., FNA Office.

Snow Shoveling: Seniors and Homeowners with Disabilities: Call Neighborhood Involvement Program (NIP) 612-374-3322 to register.

Senior Linkage Line: 1-800-333-2433 or www.minnesotahelp.info.

We Watch We Call signs are back: *We Watch We Call* is a public safety initiative of 4th Precinct CARE Task Force. The signs are free; limit five per request. Information: 612-521-2100.

Office Services in 2011: Last year, approximately 330 people used the services at the FNA/WCNO office to fax, make copies, and have documents notarized. These are free services to Northside residents.

City offers low-cost radon test kits: Radon is an odorless, colorless, tasteless gas that occurs naturally in Minnesota soils and can enter homes primarily through cracks and openings in basement or foundation floors and walls. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States and more than 21,000 deaths are attributed to radon each year. Radon detection kits are available for purchase for \$9 each at the City of Minneapolis Development Review, 250 S. Fourth St., Room 300. Hours of operation are: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Information: Minnesota Department of Health website or call the Minnesota Department of Health Indoor Air Unit at 651-201-4601 or 1-800-798-9050. Anyone interested in mitigating radon at his or her home should consult MDH's list of certified radon mitigation contractors.

Hennepin County Immunization Services to December 2012: Walk-in clinics for people who are un- or under-insured in Minneapolis, Brooklyn Center or Bloomington. You are asked to bring your immunization records with you. Donations requested but not required. Information: 612-348-2884 or www.hennepin.us/vaccines. Immunization info: 612-348-2741.

Watch for more information about the upcoming events listed below:
 Saturday, Feb. 25 — Pancake Breakfast (Leos in Action)
 Saturday, March 17 — Pancake Breakfast, (Camden Lions), Folwell Park
 Saturday, April 21 — Earth Day Cleanup, various sites
 Tuesday, April 24 — Senior Luncheon and Resource Fair, Folwell Park

Clothing Closet: North United Methodist Church, 4350 Fremont Ave N. 1, 2, 3 Saturday of each month, 9:00 a.m. to noon. First Monday of each month, 6-8 p.m. Information: 612-522-4497. Winter coats and kids' clothes needed.

Camden Arts

David Cunningham, traditional painter

By Mick LaBriola

Engagement, articulation, emotion and tranquility are a few of the predominant characteristics emanating from the austere studio of David Cunningham. With a very confident and sensitive disposition, David is a serious oil painter aspiring to continually evolve his art work. (View his work at <http://davidcunninghamart.com>.)

David was raised in Camden with three brothers, four sisters and his very ambitious parents. David recalls at the young age of 6 watching his brother Jeremy draw, and his cousin Joshua paint. Both artists apprenticed with fresco painter Mark Balma of Excelsior. David remembers asking Jeremy at age 12 what school he should attend for art studies, but nothing came to mind. Then at age 16, while attending high school, David began attending classes part-time at the Atelier Studio Program of Fine Art. And the relationship he developed with the Atelier Program would have an enduring and substantial impact on David's entire artistic career.

After high school David enrolled in the Atelier for four years, completing his studies in 2006. The Atelier Program melds formal 19th Century academic training with influences of the French Impressionists. Since its inception in 1970, the Atelier has had a tremendous impact on the French Impressionist, Renaissance and Realist schools, stressing draftsmanship and the historical "sight size" method. David emulated the work of John Singer Sargent, Anders Zorn and Joaquin Sorolla. The Atelier offers no degree in art, but rather implements a foundation for learning mind, eye and hand coordination skills.

For his post-academic work, David ventured to Argentina, taking up watercolor landscape creations, living out of his backpack, and residing for six months in the Andes Mountains of Patagonia in the town of El Bolson. This is an area that is a four-to-18 mile hike to get to: no cars or roads; middle of the mountains; only horses allowed. On his return to the Twin Cities, David brought back watercolor work that he exhibited in local art crawls and coffee houses.

David then dropped watercolors and continued doing landscapes in oils for the next two years in and around Minnesota and Wisconsin, living out of his car. As he re-emerged back home in 2009, he acquired a modest apartment and a studio space at the Casket Arts Building in Northeast Minneapolis.

"Painting is a release valve, letting off all pressure," David expresses. "Since I got out of school, I want to find my own thing. I have plenty of connections in Minneapolis, I know a lot of people; I can find cheap rent and extra work if I need it. And my work is moderately priced from around \$1,000 to \$4,000 per piece. I want to evolve my work to where I want to be; I have a lot of freedom and maybe I can find one exclusive gallery and perhaps put out 50 pieces per year, getting my working method down and learning more skills. For the past year I was doing indoor bar and cafe subjects; now I'm working on an outdoor perspective."



Go-go, an oil painting by David Cunningham.

David says, "I started out at Atelier with the bare essentials, did charcoal for three years, drawing plaster casts. Got my discipline or technical abilities and it gave me the nuts and bolts. When I am done learning, I will be dead! My best work gets across emotion, in the simplest terms: just simplicity! My goal is to get across an emotion — all sensual, not intellectual — just emotions!"

David enlightened me about his process, "I see painting being into music! Andy Warhol said, the reason he paints is to listen to music! I listen to music dancing around, it helps me process, amusing my models. Music is very important! I start out with a broad idea or photograph; I may take one item and create something in a half hour. I may leave the idea and let it sit, problem solving, sleeping on them. I keep a template, and expand other ideas or whatever I feel at that moment the painting becomes."

Currently, David says, "I am doing street photography. I find a street composition, catching the moment (an impressionist quote), and shoot a lot. It is an inspiration. A little template, stages empty streets. This is the best time of the year for me, a doable time, calculating angles. Forty-five minutes shooting photos will lead to a larger piece incorporating models and other things. The viewpoint is so important and the "eye level," how you see it from your body, from where you are standing, perspective points from eye level."

David says, "I am very rooted here and have a huge extended family. I can sell east to west, move somewhere, and move back. Drawing is a meditation; the amount of focus is incredible. My focus is on satisfying myself, and I'm getting there. But never be too satisfied, you only get better and better. To be able to paint is not easy, you must learn how to do it." David's favorite painters are Rembrandt and George Inness.

News from the Northside Arts Collective

By Jeanne Fish

Northside Arts Collective (NAC) members will exhibit their work in a juried show entitled "Impressions—Northside" at the University of Minnesota's Urban Outreach/Engagement Center (UROC) during the month of March. UROC maintains an incredible gallery space in their main lobby area. Look for news about the opening reception on our Facebook page, facebook.com/NorthsideArts.

Northside Arts Collective members published! Naima Richmond has been published. *Beautiful Brown Snowlady* is available for \$14.95 via ancestorsvoicespress@gmail.com or 612-522-0776. It's also available at The Goddess of Glass & Friends on Penn and Lowry.

NAC member Christine Stark is currently exhibiting at Blue Ox Coffee Co. (3740 Chicago Ave. S.). Entitled "Flight" this is a showing of Christine's visual art (she is a published author as well). The opening reception is slated for Friday, February 3 from 7-10 p.m. This show runs thru February 19 so get down there and check it out! Christine also is celebrating the publication of her novel *Nickels: A Tale of Dissociation*, which is widely available.

For more info the Northside Arts Collective and local artists visit www.nacARTS.org.


Warm up with Minneapolis Community Education

Minneapolis Community Education Adult Enrichment is expanding on the Northside! In addition to ongoing, quality evening classes at Henry High, they will now offer classes at North High and Lucy Craft Laney. Also available are weekly classes at numerous daytime locations in the community for participants 55+. This winter you will find a variety of classes offered Monday-Thursdays on the Northside; Henry will be open Monday and Wednesday, North on Tuesday and Lucy Craft Laney on Thursday.

A sampling of classes include: Salsa, Watercolor, a Writer's Workshop and more at North; Resume Writing at Laney; Acting, Zumba, Yoga, Window Repair and more at Henry; Adult 55+ offerings at North Mississippi Regional Park, Bremer Way, Shingle Creek Commons and more.

There's also a community computer open lab at North High. Walk-in computer use at North High for 12 Tuesdays beginning January 31. Come in to check your email or set up a free email account, surf the web, check out job sites, read online newspapers, compose documents, use Excel and more. Call Beth at 612-668-1730 for more info.

So energize your mind, activate your body, spark your spirit and build community. For a full class listing visit www.mplscommunityed.com or call 612-668-3939.



McKinley Community Office
3300 Lyndale Ave. N.
Phone: 612-276-1541
Email: mckinleycommunity@yahoo.com
Website: www.mckinleycommunity.com

Community discussion regarding 3559 Lyndale Ave. N.
Come to the Community Meeting on February 6 at 7 p.m. at the McKinley Office, 3300 Lyndale Ave. N., and join fellow residents in hearing from CM Hofstede and City staff about the proposed business license for the new "store" going in at 3559 Lyndale Avenue North. At this meeting we will hear what types of license can be allowed by City ordinance for this location, how that process works and what can be done to have a community benefiting standard be included in any license that may be approved by City Council (plus many more questions many of our residents have). Come on down and have your voice be heard so bring all of your questions and concerns to this meeting.

A new home
We closed on our purchase of Jerry's Flower Shop, 3300 Lyndale Ave. N. on December 16. We are excited to take over the building for our neighborhood office, future meeting space and the hub for our urban farm project, the McKinley Community CSA. We will begin moving in as we get things cleaned up in the store and packed up in the old office space, so stay tuned for our new phone number. Email and web content will remain the same.

We would like to thank the Center for Families for their great partnership over the last several years as we have called that building home. We still may have the occasional meeting there if we need a larger space to use. We would also like to thank the McKnight Foundation and the Pohlad Family Foundation for their generosity in helping us with the purchase of the building. We secured \$75,000 combined from these great organizations — Thank You! Lastly, a huge thanks goes out to Jim Walston of Lindquist & Vennum law firm and

Paul Donovan from NorthMarq for the countless hours of pro-bono work they have done on our behalf in securing this purchase.

Know a senior who needs help with raking, shoveling or other chores?
Chore Program - low-cost home maintenance services such as routine housecleaning, seasonal jobs, lawn care, **snow removal** and minor repairs. Aimed at helping seniors living in their homes (individuals 60 and over). Call 612-374-3322.

Want to buy a house to live in? The McKinley Home Ownership Forgivable Loan Program is available. Call Chris at 612-276-1541 for more details. Other restrictions apply, so call today.

Does your home need work? Check out a McKinley Home Improvement Loan
The McKinley Community has a great home improvement loan that is managed by Center for Energy and the Environment and carries an interest rate of only 3%! The application process is easy and loan amounts can be between \$2000 and \$15,000. **Call 612-276-1541 for details.**


McKinley Calendar of Events

McKinley Community Meeting Monday, February 6, 7 p.m., 3300 Lyndale Ave. N. ****New location****

McKinley Board of Directors Meeting Monday, February 13, 6:30 p.m., 3300 Lyndale Ave. N.

Crime/Safety Meeting Monday, February 27, 6:30 p.m., 3300 Lyndale Ave. N.

McKinley Community Meeting Monday, March 5, 7 p.m., 3300 Lyndale Ave. N.



CNA Cleveland Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 11635 • Minneapolis, MN 55411
CNA Office is located at Lucy Craft Laney at Cleveland Park School
Phone: 612-588-1155 Fax: 612-588-1151
cna@clevelandneighborhood.org • website: <http://www.clevelandneighborhood.org>

Cleveland February Follies – February 12
Enjoy a fun afternoon of winter activities on Sunday, February 12, from 1-4 p.m. on Victory Memorial Drive between 34th and 36th Avenues. Activities may include: snow sculptures, "people-sled" races, tug of war, an obstacle course, blowing frozen bubbles...and other fun games and activities. We're hoping for snow, but if there isn't any, there will still be fun activities and some refreshments as well!

For those interested in creating snow sculptures, we ask that you pre-register by Thursday, February 9, so that the planning committee can assign locations to participants. You may either register online by following the link on the CNA web site or you can call the CNA office to give your registration information. The first five sculptors to register will receive free refreshments brought to you while you create on the day of the event. You will be allowed to start working on your sculpture the day before the event; just be aware that there will be no provisions for guarding your sculpture overnight. Sculptures may be decorated with food coloring and biodegradable items (sticks, dried flow-

ers, bird seed, corn and other veges, etc). Please have your sculptures completed by 2 p.m. on Sunday so participating residents can see them during the event.

Petition opposing a convenience store on Lowry Avenue
There is proposal to reopen a gas station/convenience store at 2618 Lowry Avenue, the former Super America site. When operating as a Super America, the activities that were occurring on the property had an adverse impact on the safety and livability of the neighborhood. Because the CNA also feels that there are sufficient gas stations and convenience stores nearby to serve the needs of the Cleveland and adjacent neighborhoods, they are circulating a petition opposing a convenience store opening at 2618 Lowry Avenue North. Tooties on Lowry, who experienced all of the negative activities occurring at the Super America, is deeply concerned about a convenience store opening next to them and has petitions available for residents to sign. The petition is also available from the CNA office. Call 612-588-1155 or email cna@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. 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.

Arts

Ongoing Mondays - The Northside Arts Collective board of directors meets on the first Monday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. Email info@nacarts.org for location.

Ongoing Mondays - Artist Roundtable meets monthly on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. Email info@nacarts.org or visit www.nacarts.org for location.

Ongoing - Register now and mark your calendars for a Brilliant CMS Scholarship FUNdraiser Find the music in your heart this winter at **Camden Music School!** Registrations accepted until Mar. 17. Tuition prorated. CMS offers Musikgarten early childhood classes, vocal and instrumental lessons, music theory, songwriting and ensembles for all ages. Family rates/discounts available. Classes at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 3751 Sheridan Ave. N. and Grace Center for Community Life, 1500 6th St. NE. Mark your calendars for the CMS scholarship FUNdraiser: Leader of the Pack: The Brill Building Sing-Along-1960s hits from New York's legendary pop song factory. Songs by Bacharach & David, Leiber & Stoller, Carole King, Neil Sedaka, Gene Pitney, Coasters, Platters, Drifters, Shirelles and more. With host Dan Chouinard and song leaders Prudence Johnson, Gary Rue and Cynthia Johnson. Fri. Apr. 20, 7 p.m. at the Capri Theater. Info: www.camdenmusicschool.com or 612-618-0219.

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.

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 Saturday - French Immersion School gives your child a great education for a successful future. Pierre Bottineau

opens in fall for grades K-3 at Jordan Park School. Open houses Feb. 4, 10-11 a.m.; Feb. 11, 3-4:30 p.m., Feb. 18, 10-11:30 a.m., Feb. 25, 3-4:30 p.m. Sample immersion lesson for children; building tours; Q&A with school leaders and parents. Committed to the academic success of all students; offering an enriched, strong curriculum to engage, support and challenge; partnering with families for outstanding results. Info: frenchimmersion.mpls.k12.mn.us, frenchimmersion@mpls.k12.mn.us or 612-668-2252.

Community Events

Ongoing - Hennepin County low-cost immunizations. Brookdale Service Center, 6125 Shingle Creek Road, and Hennepin Health Services Building, 525 Portland Ave. S. Info: 612-348-2884 or www.hennepin.us/vaccines. Donations requested but not required.

Ongoing - Free tax preparation for seniors and lower 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. These are 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 are a renter, bring the 2011 CRP certificate from your landlord. If you are a homeowner bring your property tax statement payable in 2012. Bring last year's tax return and anything else you think may be important.

Saturday, 2/4 - 3rd Camden Winterfest! The Camden Winterfest and Chili cook-off for the prized golden ladle, from noon-3 p.m. at Bohanon Park Warming House at 49th and Bryant Ave. N. Come and judge the best chili in Camden! Snow or no show it'll be a go! Music, snowball launchers, bonfires, hot dogs, and so much more family fun! Cost is just \$5 per person 16 and older!

Thursday, 2/9 - Roy Kim left his home in North Korea at the age of 13 and had no contact with his five younger sisters for 40 years. During recent years he visited them and was there when the regime changed. Hear his reflections. NW Neighbors for Peace, 7 p.m.; free and open to the public, 7600 Harold Ave. NWN4P@yahoo.com.

Saturday, 2/11 - City of Minneapolis' Neighborhood and Community Relations department **Communities Connections Conference** at St. Mary's University, 2540 Park Ave. S. For neighborhood organizations, cultural communities, nonprofit organizations, City departments and residents to share best practices of neighborhood engagement. Introduces people to new and innovative ideas for working within communities and neighborhoods. Info: Neighborhood and Community Relations or 612-673-2243.

Saturday, 2/12 - Fun afternoon of winter activities from 1-4 p.m. on Victory Memorial Drive between 34th and 36th Aves. Activities include snow sculptures, "people-sled" races, tug of war, obstacle course, blowing frozen bubbles, fun games and activities.

Saturday, 2/11 - Taco Fiesta, 4-6 p.m. Warm up your winter at Shingle Creek Commons zesty Taco Fiesta! One large taco and a beverage for \$2.50. Beverage or chips \$.75 each. Taco \$1. Mexican Combo 3 large tacos, chips and beverage for \$6. Proceeds help with ongoing needs of the Shingle Creek Residents Council, 4600 Humboldt.

Saturday, 2/25 - Camden Lions/Henry Leos in Action Annual Pancake fundraiser, 8-11 a.m., Folwell Park Building. To benefit the Patrick Henry Leos in Action, a student organization dedicated to community service and volunteerism. \$6 per person or \$25 for 5 tickets, price includes pancakes, sausage, coffee and juice. Info/tickets: contact Rosa Costain at 612-668-1970 or rosa.costain@mpls.k12.mn.us.

Libraries

North Regional Library Programs - 1315 Lowry Ave. N., 612-543-8450. Free programs for children, teens, and adults, including storytimes, author and literary programs, book clubs, technology classes, career and small business workshops, and multicultural programs; www.hclib.org.

Discovery Days - Weds, Feb. 1-29, 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.

Toddler Storytime - Weds, Feb. 1-29, 10:30-11 a.m. For children ages 2 and 3. Interact with your toddler to nurture a love of books. Learn letters, sounds, and new words. Be active with music and movement.

Discovery Days - Thur., Feb. 2-23, 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 Thursdays - Feb. 2-23, 5-7 p.m. Grades 6-12. Play PS2 or Wii games at the library! Grab a friend, bring your favorite board or card game, or play ours!

Preschool Storytime Activities - Fri., Feb. 3-24, 11 a.m. Preschool. After storytime (10:30-11 a.m.), do a craft, learn a new poem or enjoy other activities and get tips on how to encourage and support reading and literacy at home.

Preschool Storytime - Fri., Feb. 3-24, 10:30-11 a.m. For children ages 4 to 6. Help your preschooler get ready to read. Enjoy stories together and build language skills.

Chess Club - Sat., Feb. 4-25, noon-2 p.m. K-grade 6. Chess it out! Have fun learning the basics

of chess, improving your game, mastering strategies and meeting other chess fans. Walk-ins welcome.

International Teen Club - Tues., Feb. 7-28, 5-7 p.m. Grades 6-12. Explore your personality, improve leadership skills and increase community involvement. Learn something new and build friendships. "Hmonglish" is spoken during meetings!

Discovery Days - Tues., Feb. 7-28, 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.

One Minneapolis One Read: Interviews Premiere, Sun., Feb. 12, 1:30 p.m. Grades 6-12. Attend the premiere of videos on race relations by a group of teens that teamed up with MVStudio last fall to interview family members or someone in their community.

World of Work Orientation for Ex-Offenders, Tues., Feb. 14, Feb. 28, 4-6 p.m. 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."

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 4-6 p.m. **Small Business Consultation** with Northside Economic Opportunity Network. 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.

Job Search Assistance, Thur., Feb. 16, 1 p.m. Webber Library, 4310 Webber Pkwy., 612-543-6750. Are you seeking new employment or re-entering the workforce? Do you need help looking for a job, filling out applications or writing your résumé? Stop in for free one-to-one assistance with a job search representative.

Parks

Ongoing - Register for Camden Parks winter and spring 2012 activities. Get a seasonal brochure at any Camden Recreation Center or minneapolisparcs.org. And don't forget - all Camden area ice rinks are open.

Ongoing Mondays - Creekview Park - Snowy Nature Stories. Feb. 27-Mar. 19. Slide into winter with this fun-filled class for preschoolers! Explore the snowy world outside through winter stories, outdoor play, silly songs, animal games and more. Head out for some sledding, snow-shoeing or a winter hike. Indoor/outdoor class where kids go outside for a short time each day. Warm clothing required. 10-11 a.m., ages 4-6, \$12.

Ongoing Thursdays - Creekview Park - Family Open Swim. Bring the whole family for a night

of swimming. No one under 16 allowed without a parent/guardian. Swim test must be passed to access the deep end of the pool. Thru Mar. 8; 7-8:30 p.m., \$2/person.

Saturday, 2/4 - Teddy Bear Tea, 1-3 p.m., Kroening Interpretive Center, North Mississippi Regional Park. Bring your favorite stuffed animal and enter the magic bear cave for afternoon tea with Mama Bear! Learn about real bears, sing bear songs, play with tea sets and lots of stuffed bears. Betty the Bear-Maker demonstrates how stuffed bears are made and gives every participant's stuffed animal a special gift. Refreshments provided. \$5, reservations required, call 763-559-6700; for ages 3+.

Sunday, 2/5 - Free Family Funday, Skulls of Minnesota, 1-3 p.m., at Kroening Interpretive Center in North Mississippi Regional Park. Explore a large skull collection and see if you can match skulls to the animals they came from! This program is free and open to all ages.

Thursday, 2/9 - Women of the Mississippi River shaped the history and culture of the river. Embark on a naturalist-led snowshoe or hike along the Mississippi from 10 a.m.-noon in North Mississippi Regional Park. Hear stories of the first women to live along the river bank—from two women who ventured down the entire length of the river with a small kitten as a sidekick to the first female licensed steamboat master. Snowshoes provided or bring your own. Enjoy a hot beverage afterwards. Cost \$5; reservations required by Feb. 2; call 763-559-6700. www.threeriversparcs.org/eventsM/maidens-of-the-mississippi.aspx.

Saturday, 2/11 - Turtle Fiesta, 1-3 p.m. Party with the turtles. See live turtles up close, and watch them swim and eat. Make turtle tambourines and enjoy a turtle treat. Share turtle stories and learn about turtle care. Res. Req. \$5; 763-559-6700 or 763-694-7693. www.threeriversparkdistrict.org.

Ongoing 2/15-16 - Luther College ninth annual **Midwest Black History Conference**. "Modern Blackness and the New Jim Crow(s)" commemorates the legacy of Malcom X. Keynote speaker Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*. Registration fee \$25. Visit www.luther.edu/blackhistoryconf/registration/.

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. or Sundays at 7 p.m. at Salem Lutheran Church. Info at naminnesota.org/ or call 952-939-3939.

Community History

Commercial Roofing and Sheetmetal is proud to sponsor the
Camden Community News. www.commercialrfg.com



Behind the Victory Flagpole – A child's view of Camden

By guest writer Louise Bohanon Strand

My memories of growing up in the Camden area are all happy ones. The whole area felt welcoming and safe.

My mother would send me to the grocery store on 42nd and Fremont at a very early age—perhaps 5 or 6. I crossed the street at 43rd, walked down the alley and crossed 42nd and Fremont. No one worried about possible dangers in that long alley, and there was very little traffic on the roads. I remember one time my mother gave me 12 cents for a large loaf of Holsum white bread. I gave the clerk my order and a dime and two pennies. She took the dime, handed me a loaf and gave me back the two pennies. My mother sent me right back with the bread and the two cents. I was to be given the large loaf—1 and 1/2 lbs. for 12 cents, not the small one pound loaf for 10 cents. Surely I could see the one pound loaf was a very poor buy!

I was only sent to the store for last minute necessities. My mother would phone in her weekly orders (to the same grocer). She would describe the vegetables she wanted—a large firm head of lettuce, e.g. She would leave the door unlocked for the delivery boy. He would put the groceries on the kitchen table (where there was a quarter tip for him) and put whatever needed to be chilled in the refrigerator. Pretty easy, painless grocery shopping, and no impulse buying!

In all the time I attended Minneapolis Public Schools, (kindergarten through 12th grade), the schools never closed. I remember walking down the middle of Fremont Ave. to Hamilton School as a kindergartener with snow piled way above my head on either side of the road, bundled in snow-suit, mittens, hat and two scarves (one over my mouth and nose). My dad had walked that route alone to Hamilton grade school, and there was very little traffic, so no one worried about me, and I felt confident and capable and trusted to be able to take care of myself.

Note: Our guest writer was mentioned in the Aug. 2011 issue of the *Camden News* in the article titled, "The Bohanon Houses." This is where she grew up, at 43rd and Emerson Ave. N., along with her brother, John Campbell, and her parents Lloyd and Isobel Bohanon. After graduating from Hamilton and Patrick Henry Schools, she attended Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado and earned a degree in teaching. She then went back to Minneapolis and taught at the John Hay School near 6th Ave. N. This was in the early 1950s and John Hay School was like today's middle schools and attended by advanced students. A few years later she married Albert Strand and they moved to Novato in Marin County, California. This was north of San Francisco and there she taught at Lincoln School, which was in Petaluma County, about eight miles from where she lived. It was a very old school and celebrated its 100th birthday while she was there. This job of teaching was quite challenging because it was done in a one-room schoolhouse, and she had to teach grades 1 through 6. The next family move was to the Denver area where Louise taught part-time at Adam County School, Dist. 1. She taught there for 18 years, and the reason for her part-time employment was that she did not speak fluent Spanish, which was a state requirement for full-time teachers. At present her family lives in a Denver suburb, where they have lived for 38 years, but have been lucky enough to come back to Minnesota yearly to visit their relatives in Camden. Information supplied by Eila Spriesterbach Miller for Barbara Meyer Bistodeau.



Baby Louise Bohanon and Cousin, Eila Spriesterbach 1932

Louise grew up here

Louise Bohanon and husband, Albert Strand 2011
Bohanon House - 43rd and Emerson Ave. N.

Got a business?
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Fill this spot and reach 12,700 homes and businesses.
Go to editor@camdenews.org

Worship in Camden



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
Carol Stumme, Senior Pastor
Bee Vang, Asst. Pastor

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

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

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, 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.

Services

Carpet and upholstery cleaning. Two rooms starting at \$59. Owner/operator, 45 years experience. Dave, 612-721-5105 or cell 612-636-3073.

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

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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.

Painting, wall paper removal, small wall repair. Three rooms \$250. Jim 612-698-0840.

Professional snow removal services (snow blowers and shovels) at an affordable price. Call us at 612-267-4646 or email us at services@fjpestandlawn.com.

Does your small **dog need to walk M-F?** Call 612-521-1843.

Real Estate Sales or Service

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

For Rent or Sale

Senior Rental, owner occupied building, studio apt. Background check. \$540 per mo. 612-521-7829.

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
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Worship 10:30 a.m.

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

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>

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
www.glc-mpls.org

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

Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Schedule

8:30 a.m. Sunday School Breakfast
9 a.m. Sunday School & Adult Forum
Intergenerational Event 2nd Sunday

10:30 Worship

Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
We are handicap accessible.

Interim Pastor Judy Burgett-Winzig
email: office@salem-elca.org;
Facebook: Salem Lutheran Church/
North Minneapolis
Website: salem-elca.org

NORTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

44th & Fremont Ave.
A Hate-Free Shalom Zone
Education 9 a.m.
Worship 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

Notable Neighbors

This winter is an especially hard one at the Common Ground Community Garden (52nd and Newton). Last month one of the founding gardeners, **Mary Jane Halligan**, died. Mary Jane gardened at the Common Ground



Mary Jane Halligan.

Community garden since it's inception in 1995. In recent years her son Jim began to lend his talents, contributing to the Common Ground sign and new plants. Mary Jane was the envy of every gardener. Her dirty gloves and sweet spirit grew community and plants, naturally. She always came to the garden with a rake, a smile and some new gardening tip for the novice green thumbs.

The 81 neighborhoods of the Neighborhood Revitalization Project (NRP)—including all seven Camden neighborhoods—owe a debt of gratitude to NRP and NRP Director Bob Miller.

With his leadership, residents in our neighborhood organizations leveraged millions of dollars, engaged thousands of volunteers, increased the City's housing stock, developed schools, parks and libraries, and engaged communities city-wide. Miller and his staff have made the Camden Community and all our neighborhoods a better place to live.

The Cleveland Neighborhood Association was awarded a \$500 grant from the Center for Energy and the Environment, and the McKnight Foundation on behalf of **Debbie Nelson**, who was recognized for her outstanding contributions to both the Cleveland and Victory neighborhoods during the Community Energy Services Program. Nelson has lived in Camden all her life and has been a staunch advocate for the entire Camden Community and the environment. She's been involved in too many organizations and causes than we could even list here – including the *Camden News*. She is retiring from her Cleveland staff position soon—Thanks Deb.

Donna Seline won the Minneapolis Parks' photo contest for her Picture in a Park photo. Se-



line's *Victory Memorial Run* photo (pictured above) was selected as Second Place in the Events in the Parks category. Prizes were awarded to the first, second and third place photos in each category as well as "Gold, Silver and Bronze for overall Best of Show." Donna's been an avid photographer for many years, contributing to many publications, including the *Camden News*. View all the winning photos at www.minneapolisparcs.org.

Congratulations to Camden area students: **Youa Vang** graduated from the Art Institutes International Minnesota, BS, Media Arts and Animation. **Justin Barnes** made the dean's list at Dunwoody. Making the St. Cloud State University dean's list are **Livja Burke** and **Cassandra Marie Nordstrom**. **Mary Stinson** made the dean's list at UW-Madison.

Know a notable neighbor? Give them recognition – send the info to editor@camdennews.org.

An award for sportsmanship

By Jay Clark

Minneapolis Parks' soccer director Peter Jaeger says, "There is one sportsmanship award handed out for the entire 2011 soccer season in the MPRB to the team that demonstrates the most sportsmanship. From the way they play, win, lose and act before and after the games; from the coaches to the players and fans, this team has exemplified the attributes we need to recognize as an organization. It is our chance to thank them for participating and setting a good example for all the teams that participate in the MPRB Soccer Program."

On January 18 the Minneapolis Park Board presented the Farview 13u Gold soccer team with the Good Sportsmanship Award. Of the 115 soccer teams that competed in the Minneapolis Parks soccer league, the Farview 13u Gold team was selected for the award. All the team players are Hmong, and most came to the U.S. from Thailand's Wat Tham Krabok refugee camp in 2004 and 2005.



The winning Farview soccer players and coaches (l-r): Foua Thao, coach Ger Vue, Pichai Thao, Tong Yang, Kongcheng Her, Leng Chang, Chimeng Yang, Kenny Vang, Houa Chang, Huey Lee, Pheng Vue, Andrew Thao, Xai Thao.

Lowry Bridge



In case you haven't seen the construction lately, here's a view of the new Lowry Bridge (from the eastside looking northwest) taken by Randy Klauk on January 6.



PAVING THE WAY TO HEALTHIER LIVES, ONE STEP AT A TIME.



Walking to school can be safe and fun. At Lyndale Community School in Minneapolis, where parent volunteers started a "walking school bus," it's the kids who drive each other. And when kids encourage other kids to get moving, they're taking healthy steps together. Read more and get inspired at makingitbettermn.org.

Made possible with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Thanks for supporting the *Camden Community News* – your community newspaper

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