



The Victory View

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Summer 2008

- Unless you do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow.— *Ronald E Osborn*
- Open your arms to change, but don't let go of your values - *Dali Lama*
- There is no such thing as a self-made man. We are made up of thousands of others. Everyone who has ever done a kind deed for us, or spoken a word of encouragement to us has entered into the makeup of our character and our thoughts, as well as our success.—*George Adams*

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Hot Time—Summer in the City!

By Kris Brogan

We are half way through summer! Where does the time go? Residents of Victory and Camden are busy with gardening, traveling, dining at fine local restaurants with charming outdoor patios, terrific local theater, park programs for everyone, library events and music, music, music!!!

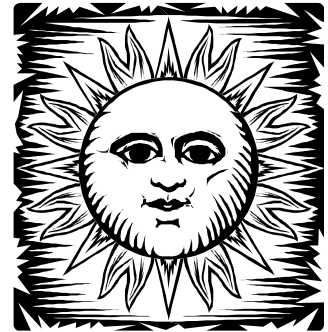
We have been treated to an assortment of venues like no other in the cities. The Cleveland neighborhood has a fine program of concerts on the Drive at 34th Ave. N., on the second Thursday of the month. The recent concert, on a perfect evening on the Drive, by Dennis Spears and the Wolverines Jazz Trio was awesome! Check out the next concert on August 14th at 6 pm with the New Primitives. This diverse group of talented musicians is dedicated to bringing people together through their high-energy Rhythm & Blues, Ska, Reggae, Calypso and World Dance music.

Victory Neighborhood Association has its own mix of musical talent that is headlining at the Memorial Drive flag pole throughout the summer. Beginning with the Me-

morial Day Concert and running through the summer, the concerts bring together neighbors from the Camden Community, Robbinsdale and beyond.

Camden Music School continues its tradition of Second Saturday Concerts. Janet Zahn has an eclectic mix of musicians and vocalists who bring quality musical experiences to Northside residents. Mark your calendars for 3:00 on the second Saturday of each month and check-out the CMS web site for more information: www.camdenmusicschool.com

Again this year Camden Music School will be providing a stellar list of performers for the *Music In The Heart of Victory* Concert series located in The Heart of Victory, 42nd and Thomas Avenues N. The musical range is fantastic, running the gamut from West African Drumming to Country blues, jazz standards, easy listenin' vocals, Broadway hits, Celtic, bluegrass and more. The series will run through the month of August on Friday evenings, 5:00 through 8:00. Each evening there will be three 45 minute sets.



There's lots of summer fun—right in your own neighborhood.

Bring a chair or blanket, friends and family, and have a memorable evening. For more information check out www.camdenmusicschool.com or www.papaspizzaandpasta.com

On August 22, "E.T." lands in Victory Neighborhood! Join us at the flagpole for an outdoor community viewing of this popular family film. Bring your own chair or blanket for this outdoor screening and ViNA will provide the popcorn! The movie will begin at dusk. The flagpole is located near 45th and Xerxes Ave No.

So get out and enjoy the beautiful community. See the theater, enjoy good food in charming settings, see a movie in the park, and listen to some great music.

Petition for Ryan Lake Trail Construction

By Diane Spector

ViNA has been working with various partners for several years to implement a long-term plan to upgrade the shoreline of Ryan Lake and connect it by a trail to the future Victory Prairie site on Osseo Road. Phase I of the shoreline restoration was completed a few years ago, but the project has stalled over the construction of the trail linking the lake with the prairie. ViNA helped the City obtain a \$43,000 grant from the DNR to help fund construction of the trail, and dedicated \$10,000 in NRP funds



Why no Ryan Lake Trail ?

to help with the match.

Last year the City assembled matching funds to make a total of \$86,000 available to construct all or part of the trail, but the Public Works Department is reluctant to construct a partial project and does not believe the \$86,000 is sufficient to construct the entire project. Some of the City and Park Board matching funds are now no longer available. The DNR has twice graciously extended the grant sunset date, but unless a construction agreement is obtained in the very near fu-

ture, it is not likely that the project can be designed and constructed by the grant sunset date. Without a commitment from Public Works to construct as much of the project as possible and identification of new matching funds, the grant from the DNR will expire.

The ViNA Board has prepared a petition requesting the City to identify matching funds and to design and construct the project before the grant funds expire. Please consider signing the petition at an upcoming neighborhood event, or contact the ViNA office to ask that your name be added to the petition.

Thank You to Victory Volunteers

By Ann Kaari

The success of many organizations depends on the strength of its volunteers. The Victory Neighborhood is fortunate to have many residents who give of their time and talents to better our community.

A big thank you to: Joe and Elissa Madsen who coordinate our Youth Corps program, working with both youth and seniors in our neighborhood ; the 22 residents who came out on Spring Cleaning Day to clean up 44th Avenue, the park and parkway and many residential streets ; the 30 people who sort and deliver our newsletter three times a year saving us postage costs each time; Starla and Robin Krause and Amy

Chapman, Steve Modrow, Kris Pierre and John Christensen who tend to the Loring School Garden and all other gardeners in our neighborhood who beautify their homes and yards ; everyone who serves on our Events, Business, Livability, Environmental, Housing or Sustainability committee, or is a member of their Block Club; the 30 people who helped make the annual Ice Cream Social such a success (we served about 600 sundaes); those who coordinated

our 14th annual Garage Sale and first Poker Game; our Holiday Lights contest judges; the 36 registered Victory block club leaders who are organizing National Night out parties and many others we may have forgotten to mention.

If you would like to volunteer, please call the office and we

will find an opportunity that will work for you. If each of us could give a little of ourselves and our time, we can make our neighborhood an even better place to live, work and play.

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Victory Neighborhood House Featured on HGTV

For Victory resident Justin Windschitl, the summer of 2007 meant extensive time and money invested in a complete exterior remodel of his home at 4218 Xerxes Ave No. The original 1932 tile roof, which was in terrible disrepair was replaced with natural slate, windows were replaced, parts of the home were re-stuccoed, and the house changed colors. New exterior light fixtures and stone paver sidewalks and steps completed the landscaping makeover.

As result of Justin's summer of renovation his home will be featured on an upcoming episode of HGTV's Curb Appeal. To enjoy an in-depth view of the transformation of this Victory home tune in to HGTV on Monday, August 4 at 7:30 pm CDT - and then drive by 4218 Xerxes for a first-hand look.

Business Corner

Steamworks—Transitions and Thank You's

Matt Massman

In February 1998, Aaron and Barbara Hardley spotted a community need and opportunity when they founded *Steamworks Coffee and Tea Company* at 44th and Penn. The Hardley's were instrumental in chasing off negative influences and restoring the business property. Now, after over 10 years of providing a comfortable, welcoming community meeting space and serving great coffee and tasty breakfast items, Aaron and Barbara will enjoy more time with family and friends in semi-retirement. Our community will surely miss their familiar faces. We are grateful too that their commitment extended to much patience and care in finding new owners who are equally committed to the neighborhood.

On July 1, Jeff and Christina Jenkins offi-

cially took over ownership of *Steamworks*. Jeff is a contractor and handy-man dedicated to helping Northside residents maintain and improve their homes at reasonable rates and Christina will transfer her skills from Caribou Coffee to full time operation of *Steamworks*. No immediate changes are planned in the look and operation of the place but on weekends Jeff will be putting down his construction tools



Barbara and Aaron Hardley will enjoy semi-retirement after turning over the keys to Jeff and Christina Jenkins

and picking up his kitchen tools to whip up fresh-baked breakfast goodies with the goal of all baking/cooking occurring on-site over time; expect the homemade blueberry muffins to be popping out real soon. So, a big THANK YOU to

Aaron and Barbara Hardley—who will remain co-owners of the building and Aaron who will return as Father Christmas for the annual Holiday on 44th—and WELCOME to Jeff and Christina Jenkins.

P.S. ViNA recently hired Wenck Associates to complete a Pedestrian Needs Analysis at Penn-44th Avenues with moneys awarded through the City's *Great Streets* grant program. The goal is to make the intersection safer and more attractive for pedestrians and patrons. Preliminary analysis and recommendations for improvements at the intersection are expected soon and fresh input from residents and businesses is also welcome. No experience necessary. The business committee meets regularly on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 6:30PM, at the ViNA office, as well as at special times as needed to facilitate oversight of the 44th/Penn pedestrian study.

National Night Out—August 5

It is not too late to plan a National Night Out block party for your block if one is not already planned. Last year Minneapolis was again #1 in the nation for the number of National



Night Out parties and participants.

NNO is great opportunity to get together with your neighbors, meet new ones, and strengthen community

and safety on your block. If you would like some help in planning a NNO party, want copies of flyers, notices or other materials made, or want a welcome packet for a new neighbor, contact the ViNA office at 612-529-9558 or vina@mninter.net

VICTORY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

2200 44th Ave. No.
Minneapolis, MN 55412

Phone: 612-529-9558
e-mail : vina@mninter.net
www.victoryneighborhood.org



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