



Northside United

Issue #3: Fall 2015

Northside United Receives Rotary Support for Newsletter!



Rotary grant recipients receive awards

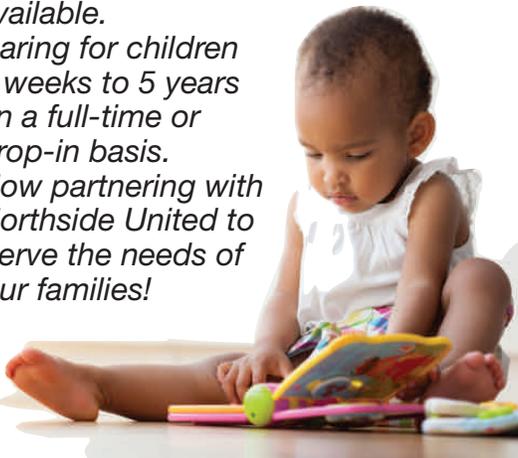
Northside United steering committee members Irene Dixon, Phoebe Brown and Karen Friedeborn attended the Ithaca Rotary luncheon to receive a \$500 grant award to help pay for printing of this newsletter. Thanks Ithaca Rotary!

Having trouble finding affordable daycare?

Call Downtown Ithaca Children's Center! Scholarships available.

Caring for children 6 weeks to 5 years on a full-time or drop-in basis.

Now partnering with Northside United to serve the needs of our families!



(607) 272-7117 or email info@dicc.org.

News from the Hood

Thanks to Tsokyi Tenzin who made an interesting and enlightening presentation on Tibetan culture at our last Northside Neighborhood meeting in October. There is a small but vital Tibetan community here in Ithaca which began in 1992 when the United States began welcoming Tibetans with green cards and admission to the citizenship process. The highlight of the evening was a dance performance by three Tibetan-American girls, Dolma, Palzom and Rinchen. It was charming as they gracefully moved to Tibetan music in a traditional dance of the seasons. Everyone enjoyed it.

Thanks also to all of the good cooks who provide delicious food every month for our free dinner. All are welcome to come and break bread with us. Dinner is served at 5:30. There is also a table of give-away items which last month included children's sized winter coats in very good condition (like new) and new, donated, handmade quilts.

Northside United has been working hard in the past six months. When the women of the Burmese community first started attending our dinners, they said they had a problem getting to their English as a Second Language classes because they didn't have child care. NU approached the Ithaca Downtown Children's Center which has granted a scholarship to Moe Lay for her oldest child. Thanks to the Center, Denise Gomber, Sally Wessels and Karen Friedeborn who made this happen.

Some of you may have noticed that there is now a trash disposal can at Conway Park. This was an early request from the community. This can has a small opening so that people can dispose of food wastes and paper but no large items can be put in it.

Next Spring there will be a big surprise when lots of daffodils start blooming at Conway Park. The Learning Web and the Northside Beautification Committee planted hundreds of bulbs this past month. What a pleasure it will be to have this early sign of Spring after our long Ithaca winter.

NU met with Ithaca Neighborhood Housing Service in September and asked a lot of questions about the 210 Hancock Street construction. The key items that may be of interest to everyone in Northside are as follows:

The building project will take just a little over a year for completion. The very latest it will be finished is early 2018.

The method of pile driving has been changed to a vibratory method. It will last for just one month and should be quieter. Pile driving will be limited to between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. A building condition survey will be done prior to the construction and any damages resulting from the pile driving will be covered by insurance.

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Another successful Northside United project!

Look for daffodils in Conway Park next Spring! Thanks to Leaning Web, CCE Community Beautification and City of Ithaca for the help!



Winter is coming...

Did you know that you can get a free energy audit regardless of whether you rent or own your home? TCActions's weatherization Assistance Program provides insulation and air-sealing, heating system repair and replacement, window and door installation and more. This is a free program for income-qualified homeowners, renters and landlords. Call (607) 273-8816 ext. 128, visit www.tcaction.org, or come to the Dec. 7th Northside United meeting to find out more!

Tompkins Community Action

EARLY CHILDHOOD - ENERGY SERVICES - FAMILY RESOURCES - HOUSING

Want to hear about neighborhood news? Sign up for the Northside United mailing list! email northsideunited14850@gmail.com Also like Ithaca Northside United on Facebook!

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The project will be 80% lower income, Section 8 eligible and 20% middle/moderate income.

Five of the twelve 3 bedroom townhouses are now rentals, and not for sale. Cayuga Green, the neighboring housing community will have 3 and 4 bedroom houses.

NU is concerned about implementing traffic calming measures around the project. And NU plans to set up an advocacy program to help people navigate the INHS rental process which is complicated.

Linda Holzbaur has been your neighbor in Northside for the past eleven years. She moved here after a fire destroyed her family's home on South Hill.



Under the stress of this situation, Linda feels lucky that she and her family were able to find a home in Northside. She enjoys the walkability of the area: it is close to downtown and has easy access to all of the activities available in Ithaca. She also appreciates the economic, cultural and racial diversity of the neighborhood and she would like to see that mix remain a part of the neighborhood character.

Linda is a widow with four grown children and several grandchildren. She works at the Cornell Daily Sun doing computer layouts. An interesting fact that she told this reporter is that the Sun

is an independent, student run organization and is not an official part of Cornell so does not require the official Cornell stamp of approval for its news coverage. As Linda is an independent person herself, this is a good fit.

Linda was drawn to Northside United for two reasons. First and foremost, she wanted to get to know more of her neighbors. She has been happy to get to know people in the Burmese and Tibetan communities who come to the Northside dinners. Linda feels that organizations like NU build community, creating a place where people can enjoy each others' company and where they can bring issues that they would like to see addressed. Underlying that is the second reason that Linda participates in NU. She sees all of us getting overwhelmed by the enormity of the problems which we face in our society. But if we work together on a local level, this

is where real change can take place. NU can talk with the representatives on Common Council and NU can request a meeting with INHS.

For the future, Linda would like to see more people come to our suppers on the first Monday of each month at the Friends Meeting House. Supper starts at 5:30 and as Linda says, "It's free and always delicious. Different community groups bring their specialties and no one goes away hungry. And we often have some nice entertainment." Although NU has accomplished some good changes (See News from the Hood), Linda feels it is important to have fun. She would like to see some old fashioned events—dish to pass dinners, more parties, maybe some movie nights and other events. "We need to have good times together: that builds community and helps us care for each other."