



What's up on and near the river?
Walks, talks, and bridge progress 7



Day of Dignity a national event
Brother Ali plays to a diverse crowd 7



Bike safety and new lanes, center power in North 12

Letters to the Editor.....2
Event Listings.....start on 8
News & Business Notes...10
Classified Ads.....11



Moon rises over jam scene

Artist Charles Caldwell's scene of night life rising from the mist, on the east wall of the 4th St. Saloon will likely be finished for the year by the time this newspaper hits the doorstep. The recent warm weather allowed quick progress; "it's been great painting at night, I just look over at the skyline and paint what I see." He said he hopes to get funding for an addition next year, a banner stating "Welcome to North Minneapolis."

(Photos by Margo Ashmore)

Arts, media, social justice, Summatech at North

by Margo Ashmore

The first students taking the newest North High School curriculum may focus their studies around arts and communications/media. And they could explore social justice issues as leaders in hands-on service. The second school focus, for the subsequent batch of students, will be on the once-popular Summatech or other STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) curriculum.

Dozens of people interested in education talked in groups and wrote down ideas Oct. 4 in the North High media center where the above recommendations were unveiled. They ranged from the most passionate of longtime Northside residents who fought to keep North High School open, to a couple who moved here from South Dakota, from politicians to current students and recent graduates.

The North High School advisory committee, assisted by consultants from ISA (Institute for

Student Achievement), called the shots. Gerry House, ISA lead, said that while Superintendent Bernadeta Johnson will make the final decision, it's likely the committee's choices will stand.

The North High School building could hold four small schools of about 400 students each, the consultants have said. Current enrollment exceeds goals by 12 percent at 225 students now. Some advocated to start Summatech now, as its graduates are more sure to get jobs. Those favoring the communications, arts, and social justice emphasis made the point that those areas give valuable skills that underpin other areas in becoming job ready.

In reporting out the results of small group discussions, the idea that there have to be local feeder schools for Summatech surfaced a couple of times. That staff should be required to be culturally competent and/or "look like" the students also was mentioned.

ISA also gathered comments on what to look for in the school leader. Principal Peter Christensen says

water heater accumulates inside, your family and pets can be endangered. CO is a poisonous gas that is colorless, odorless, tasteless, and non-irritating. It can, however, make you very sick or even kill you. CO exposure can make you feel as if you have the flu, with headaches, nausea, fatigue, confusion, and dizziness that disappear when you breathe fresh air.

CenterPoint Energy provides CO safety inspections and responds to any customer who has a concern regarding potential CO issues. The company does not charge fees for this service. To report a suspected CO safety issue, call 1-877-477-1664 and 911 to report the incident.

he's committed to staying on "until these freshmen graduate, but we also need a long term committed driver for the new programs," said one of the presenters.

Organizers also encouraged peo-

ple to sign up to be mentors for the students. For more information on that opportunity, contact Scott Redd at: scott.redd@mpls.k12.mn.us, 612-668-0641 or Peter Christensen at 612-668-1700.



Greetings from Afghanistan

John Hoff, aka blogger Johnny Northside, is in Paktia Province with the National Guard and sent us this photo inside his qat (a fortress of sun baked mud and straw) holding a familiar hometown paper sent to him by his friend Megan Goodmundson.

Thanks, John!

North News Oct 26, 2011