

Timebank celebrates milestone

Photos by Abhia Thakkar



Northside Timebank coordinator Terrie Anderson cuts the six-month anniversary cake

By Marlene Hardick
The Northside News

On April 20, Timebank members gathered to celebrate a 6-month anniversary of activity on the Northside.

The goal of recruiting 100 members had been reached and far surpassed with over 300 members enrolled. More members joined at the party. Music was provided by Clare Norelle and Book of Embraces. Dee Saunders set up a small portrait studio and offered photos to everyone in attendance to be used for their online Timebank profile. A Kitchen Cabinet was elected which will act as a decision making board for the Northside Timebank.

The Chicago Reader, a weekly simi-

lar to the Isthmus, sent a reporter who attended the event and stayed in Madison for two days to shadow Timebank exchanges. Read the story at www.chicagoreader.com/features/



Timebank members come in all shapes and sizes

Want to become a member of the Timebank?

Check the website at www.danecountytimebank.org or call Stephanie Rearick at 443-8229.

Or attend the Picnic & Potluck for members and potential members on Sunday, July 9 from 6:00-8:00 pm at Northland Manor park.

stories/thesearts/timebank/

Kitchen Cabinet Members elected include: Terrie Anderson, Diane Brown, Veronica Lazo, Clare Norelle, Kate Reich, Lisa Wiese, Christin Gibbons, Chris Bodoh, Karen Jaeger, and organizational members Joining Forces for Families and the Northside Planning Council.

Help and fun offered by Timebank members

By Marlene Hardick
The Northside News

The Dane County Timebank now has over 300 members, including three horses!

Since the Timebank began last October, 1000 hours have been exchanged. Members earn one time dollar for every hour of service they provide. Then they spend that dollar to receive an hour of service from another member.

"Our effort to sign up Northside members has gone well, said Coordinator Stephanie Rearick. "The kitchen cabinet has been elected. Now our focus is on bringing in organizations like non-profits, PTOs, and schools. Countywide, about 20 organizations have signed up.

The Darbo-Worthington area has become very active and the community of Sun Prairie is beginning to sign up members. Some outreach strategies have been developed. One goal is to reach the Spanish speaking community. Veronica Lazo has translated our web site into Spanish and has agreed to conduct interviews in Spanish."

A number of unique opportunities are offered to members, including weekly yoga, meditation and martial arts classes. John Peck offered a farm tour recently, giving members a chance to tour farms involved with Family Farm Defenders. The tour included farms raising hogs, sheep, and dairy cattle as well as Cedar Grove Cheese Factory in Plain, WI.

Nelson Eisman will officiate at weddings for time dollars. Dennis Harrison-Noonan will help build a backyard chicken coop. Razzle and Cody, two horses, offer the chance to learn more about horses, including riding and driving. With the arrival of spring, there has been busy activity in trading yard and garden work.

Mandy Bodoh, a Shabazz High School student, has earned time dollars by doing childcare, helping at welcome events, and tutoring another high school student in math. She has spent time dollars for tutoring in French and Spanish. "I have earned more than I have spent," she says. "I know a fami-

ly who could really use some extra help and I am going to donate some of my hours to them."

Carol Hart had surgery and used time dollars for some help at home. "When I could not wash my own clothes or make my bed, I really appreciated having someone help me with that," she says.

Hart, president of Northside Community Coop, which runs the Northside Farmers Market, said "we used time dollars to get accounting help and to help us pinpoint our priorities. We have hired some musicians who agreed to be paid in time dollars. The Coop is seeking donations of time dollars and we have received some too."

Pat Steele, Northport Community Center program coordinator, is hoping to use time dollars to provide enrichment activities for elementary students in Day Camp. In outlining her hopes, she said, "Steve Roffler has agreed to come to teach a photography class. I would really like to find other members who could come to teach things like quilting, music, art, woodworking, and pottery."

The future looks even brighter as the Madison Community Foundation recently awarded the Timebank a \$30,000 grant over two years.

North and East Side businesses support our Timebank

Many businesses generously supported the Timebank's 6-Month Anniversary Event.

Pizzas and a cake were donated to feed all the attendees and many door prizes were awarded.

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