

CLOSE TO HOME



The Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group Newsletter

April-May 2011

Building a Sense of Community Through Block Clubs

by Jeri Elsner, N. Northrop Neighborhood Representative

So you are already a block or apartment club leader, or you are thinking of becoming one, or you are just someone interested in getting to know your neighbors—what are some good ideas to accomplish that?

One great idea that has already been incorporated by many block clubs is “Coffee Club”. The host provides coffee and whatever else they’d like, (juice, rolls, fruit) and invites the neighbors over on a Saturday or Sunday morning. Ideas get kicked around, information is exchanged, and neighbors get closer to each other.

Gardeners may like the idea of hosting a perennial plant exchange with other gardeners. This is also a great way to help out neighbors who are interested in starting to garden by providing them with plantings from your yard. New gardeners often appreciate and benefit from the guidance of a more experienced gardener.

A community gardening idea is to garden the boulevards on your block.

Plan a date to break ground on your plots and another date to plant your gardens. As neighbors are out watering and tending their boulevards, conversations and friendships will also bloom.

If you have an artistic flair, you could host a party to create or decorate yard art pieces (flower pots, stepping stones, bird baths) for your yards.

Other successful events include pet, bike and wagon parades for children, movie night, (either inside or outside), game night, book exchanges or book clubs, yoga, alley clean ups, garage sales, progressive dinners, pot-luck dinners, chili cook-offs, BBQ’s, campfires or simply letting the neighborhood kids run through the sprinkler while the adults sit and watch on a hot summer night. Utilize your front rather than your back yard, and you will be surprised how many neighbors you will meet!

The possibilities are limitless. Find an interest you share with a neighbor or two

continued on page 3

Let Your Voice be Heard at the FRNNG Annual Meeting

Join us and make a difference! The Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group (FRNNG) invites you to participate in the 2011 Annual Neighborhood Meeting on April 28 at 6:30 pm at McRae Park. The Annual Meeting is your opportunity to become a member of the FRNNG Board of Directors or to elect your neighbors to represent you on the Board. We will be electing new representatives to the following positions this year: President, Second Vice President, Treasurer, South Northrop Neighborhood Representative, Education Committee Chair and Community and Safety Committee Chair. For more information about Board positions and committees, please refer to the FRNNG bylaws

www.frnng.org/bylaws/frnng_bylaws_Sept_2008.html

Membership on the FRNNG Board is a rewarding and challenging experience that gives you a voice in decisions about community engagement, development and planning. You can also help make our neighborhood a more livable place by becoming a block club leader, joining a committee, donating to FRNNG, or participating in neighbor-

continued on page 3

Visit us online at www.frnng.org

FRNNG Meeting Information

Full Board

• 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church (LNPC), 17th Ave. and 46th St. The full board does not meet in Dec.

Business Committee

• 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, LNPC
Contact: Karen Young at klyoung99@hotmail.com

Community and Safety Committee:

• 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, McRae Park Rec Center
Contact: Kim McCoy at kmmccoy69@msn.com

Housing Committee

• 1st Monday of each month at 6 pm, Sisters Sludge, 46th St. and Bloomington Ave.
Contact: Shannon Guernsey at scguernsey@yahoo.com

Education Committee

• 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm, LNPC
Contact: Tom Arneson at tomarneson@msn.com

Parks Committee

• 1st Monday of each month at 7 pm, McRae Park Rec Center
Contact: Kirk Frauenheim at kirkfrauenheim@yahoo.com

Greening Committee

• 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at Turtle Bread Restaurant, 48th and Chicago
Contact: Ted Moe, thegreeningcommittee@gmail.com

Communications Committee

• 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6 pm, LNPC
Contact: Kirk Anderson at kirkanderson48@gmail.com

Meeting times may change due to weather, holidays or personal reasons. Please confirm with the contacts listed above.

8th Ward News

by Council Member
Elizabeth Glidden

Dear Friends and Neighbors:
Thank you for this opportunity to update you on city issues.

Green Our Neighborhoods – Order Trees!


As a neighborhood replenishing trees lost during the 2009 tornado winds, I encourage you to take advantage of a program from the non-profit Tree Trust offering inexpensive trees to Minneapolis residents. Trees, costing residents \$25 each, are from 6 to 10 feet tall. A variety of species are available on a first-come, first-served basis, and quantities are limited. To order a tree, or for questions, contact Karen Zumach of Tree Trust at **590-2536** or go to www.treetrust.org. Orders are taken starting March 14th.

Input Sought on 3rd Avenue Designation

The Ward 8 office and public works are seeking input from residents on whether 3rd Avenue should be reclassified from a “thru” street to a “local” street. If 3rd Avenue is changed to a local street, it would no longer be a snow emergency route. However, as a local street 3rd Avenue would gain some north-south stop signs (at 48th Street and 44th Street) and be eligible for traffic calming elements like speed humps. You can contact me directly with your input at **673-2208** or Elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us. We will coordinate any updates with FRNNG.

City Inspectors Focus on Problem Rental Properties

After years of planning, the City of Minneapolis will launch in April 2011 a tiered inspections program, putting the most attention on problem rental properties. Properties will be divided into three tiers. The third



tier is reserved for poorly managed properties that require excessive city services. These properties will be on a one-year-annual inspections cycle and will be closely scrutinized for code and licensing standard violations.

Properties are selected for each tier based on a set criteria, including past housing code violations, police calls, and other factors. The property's posted rental license will include the “tier” information, so that it is visible to tenants and others.

The goals of the tiered inspections program include focusing proactive inspections on substandard rental properties, improving quality of rental properties, and promoting better management and maintenance of rental properties.

In addition, Minneapolis has launched a website aimed at sending a message to rental property owners who don't follow rental licensing standards. The new site posts the names of property owners who have had their rental licenses revoked, properties condemned or demolished, and those who have been ruled ineligible to hold a rental license for five years.

Visit the website and get more information on how Minneapolis is holding landlords accountable for how they maintain their properties at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/inspections/accountable.asp.

I am always available to answer your questions at **673-2208** and would enjoy meeting with you during my Community Office Hours, 9-11 am every Monday morning at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th St., outside Rm 129. If you would like to receive the 8th Ward Monthly E-News, please send me an e-mail at Elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us.

Block Clubs... *from page 1*

and go with it. The main idea, remember, is to get out and TALK to your neighbors!

Block Leader Trainings

When: April 27th (Wed.), May 16th (Mon.), and June 16th (Thurs.), 6:30 to 8 pm

Where: Minneapolis Police Dept.
3rd Precinct, 3000 Minnehaha Ave.

Please RSVP if you are planning on attending one of these trainings. Call Crime Prevention Specialist Sue Roethele at **673-3482** or **673-2856**.

Additional 2011 dates will be announced later.

Join other leaders to develop skills for effectively working with your neighbors to prevent crime and build community!

Farewell Parkway Hardware

Chris Geiger, owner of Parkway Hardware, renovated homes and was a handyman prior to owning and operating Parkway Hardware. He will be returning to general home maintenance—plumbing, electrical, doors and windows, wall repair, and much more—when the hardware store sells out. For more info, contact Chris at: **419-7618** or <http://cgandy.com>.

Annual Meeting... *from page 1*

hood events. To nominate yourself or a neighbor for a position on the Board, contact Valerie Powers at **721-5424** or frnng@mtn.org. And mark your calendar now for the Annual Neighborhood Meeting. We look forward to hearing your ideas!

Thinking Of Improving Your Storefront?

It's not too late! The Great Streets Façade Improvement Matching Grant Program available to FRNNG commercial businesses has been extended to December 31, 2011. The Great Streets program aims to help revitalize and sustain neighborhood business districts. One component of the Great Streets program is façade improvement matching grants, designed to help create healthy neighborhood commercial areas by providing incentives to improve the appearance of building façades and stimulate private investments.

Implemented through the FRNNG offices, Great Streets offers matching grants of either 1:1 or 1:2 ratios (up to

\$5,000). Eligible exterior commercial improvements can include:

- Exterior painting, re-siding, or professional cleaning
- Masonry repairs and tuck point
- Repair or replacement of windows and doors
- Canopy or awning installation or repair
- Murals
- Exterior lighting
- More than one improvement project

Funds are running out so stop by or call the FRNNG office today at **721-5424** to receive program guidelines and an application.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Old-fashioned Treats at Enticing Candy Alley

by Sue Filbin, Northrop neighbor

If you think of April Fool's Day as being all about jokes and pranks, you can add the delightful feature of a local candy store opening on that day—and that is no joke!

Candy Alley opens its doors April 1st. The specialty sweets shop is located at 4813 Chicago Avenue, in the storefront between Minnehaha Animal Hospital and the parking lot—with access to the alley.

Holly Lundgren and her husband, Matt, selected the name for their shop to reflect an urban location with character and an old-fashioned feel. Their search for space led them to shops in suburban strip malls as well as other neighborhoods in south Minneapolis. They settled on the distinctive feel and noticeable activity at the intersection of 48th and Chicago Ave. Their positive opinion was boosted by the

support and encouragement of nearby business owners.

Candy Alley will remind you of a simpler time and place with their bountiful array of nostalgic candy, taffy, jelly beans, popcorn, hard candies, gum, soda pop, fudge, chocolates and sugar-free selections. Although candy will not be made in the shop, Holly has chosen her diverse suppliers for their selection and high standards. Her goal is to stock tempting treats, backed by her attention to quality and service, all at affordable prices. Holly anticipates neighborhood children will stop by to spend part of their allowance, and that their parents will engage her to assemble custom party favors for birthdays, showers and weddings, and to create candy baskets for special occasions.

With Easter and Mother's Day coming up, stop by Candy Alley soon. Hours are from 10 to 8 Mon-Sat, and from noon to 6 pm on Sunday. Their website is: www.candyalley.com. Holly and Matt look forward to meeting you and sharing some of their treats with you—and your family and friends—at Candy Alley, "where sweet memories are made."

Candlelight Vigil Planned in Memory of Arthur and Edith Lee Family

by Joe Minjares, owner Pepito's

On Saturday, July 16th at 6 pm Minneapolis Council Members Elizabeth Glidden and John Quincy, along with several of your neighbors, are asking you and your loved ones to join us for a candlelight vigil of remembrance and the dedication of a permanent memorial dedicated to the memory of the Arthur and Edith Lee family and to the events that took place at their home at 4600 Columbus Ave. in 1931, 80 years ago.

In July of 1931, the neighborhood in which we live was a different place. This was a neighborhood whose rules were simple and unbending. If you were not white or if you were a Jew, you were not wanted here, not in this part of South Minneapolis, not at 46th and Columbus nor any part of the Shenandoah neighborhood.

One black family dared defy that rule. As a result, on July 15th, 16th and 17th, a thin blue line of police struggled to hold back a sea of humanity who gathered in protest, and flooded the

streets, sidewalks and yards in all directions leading away from the intersection of 46th and Columbus.

From Park on the west, angry throngs stretched east past Columbus to Chicago where arriving street cars spilled out even more bodies into the mass that grew in numbers from dozens to hundreds to eventually four thousand.

Inside their home at 4600 Columbus, Arthur Lee and his wife Edith, who for weeks had been the center of the building turmoil, now endured three agonizing days and nights of dehumanizing terror as prisoners in their own home.

As the event reached its crescendo, crawling from window to window in their darkened living room, they could hear boisterous taunts and racial slurs as showers of rocks, hurled from indignant neighbors and countless onlookers, rained down upon their home.

But, for all its degradation and heartless venom the event failed to remove the small, heroic, black family who

endured and would continue to endure the wrath of racial intolerance. Even when it was deemed "too dangerous" to send their daughter Mary to Field school only three blocks away, and she was escorted by Police to another school a few miles away, Arthur and Edith stayed.

This was our neighborhood, 80 years ago. This really happened. Now, as the taunts, rage and fear have faded into decades of time, there are those of us who choose to remember the Lees, the crowd and those horrific July nights of 1931 at 46th and Columbus; events that have become frail memories from our neighborhood's almost forgotten past.

To that end, on Saturday, July 16th at 6 pm we will commence a "remembrance" with a gathering at Eugene Field School featuring guest speakers (to help us remember the events of 1931). It will be followed by a walk to the Lee home for a candlelight vigil and monument dedication. More details will be available as the date approaches. For more immediate information please contact event coordinator, Jim Bush at jamesbush@comcast.net.

FRNNG Welcomes New Program Director

by Sue Filbin, Northrop neighbor

If one could imagine some ideal qualities for our new neighborhood program manager to possess, Valerie Powers has many to offer. She loves to write and she loves history. Valerie has spent her entire adult life in Minneapolis, a city she describes as "a great place to live, work and raise a family." She describes herself as someone who's "not afraid of a challenge" and who's willing to "plunge right in."

Valerie has been doing a lot of plunging right in since becoming the program manager in mid January. Some of her responsibilities in the part-time position include coordinating volunteers, fostering community engagement and providing support for the all-volunteer board of directors, helping them to work

toward the neighborhood's "consistent achievement of its mission and financial objectives."

When asked what she most enjoys about the position of program manager, Valerie's quick response was that she enjoys meeting new people and renewing old acquaintances, some of whom she knows from her experience as a program manager with two other neighborhoods.

To contact Valerie if you'd like to become a volunteer, make a suggestion, get information or welcome her to the neighborhood, call the Field Regina Northrop office at **721-5424** from 2 to 6 pm most weekdays.

New Dentist Joins Family Dental Clinic

Dr. Andrea Newton and the staff at Family Dental Clinic are pleased to welcome Julie Clouse, D.D.S., to the practice. Dr. Clouse graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2004, completed a residency program at the Minneapolis Veterans' Administration Medical Center, and then served as a dentist and director of a dental clinic in Prior Lake. Dr. Clouse is being honored in April with the Minnesota Dental Association's Outstanding Leadership Award.

Family Dental Clinic provides a wide range of dental services for all family members such as early dental care, preventive care, root canals, implants, and the treatment of gum disease. Family Dental Clinic welcomes new patients at 4454 Chicago Ave. The phone number is **823-6262**, and the web site is www.familydentalclinic-mpls.com.

FRNNG Volunteer Honored at Award Event

by Valerie Powers, FRNNG Program Mgr

On Friday, January 28, 2011, Council Member Elizabeth Glidden presented an 8th Ward Community Leader Award to Sandra L. Smith, FRNNG 2nd Vice President and activist extraordinaire.

Smith was recognized for her work with the FRNNG board, the Field Middle School PTA and the Watershed High School board. She volunteers with the Girl Scouts, Common Bond Communities and Risen Christ Parochial School. She is also involved with the Lee Family Memorial project.



Sandra L. Smith and Council Member Elizabeth Glidden

Glidden said of Smith, "As a volunteer, Sandra is steady and doesn't trumpet herself, but she is always there, never demanding attention, but certainly deserving of it."

Sandra Smith worked as a nurse until retiring in 2000. She credits her father and mother, who raised a family of 15 children, for her community spirit, insisting modestly, "I feel privileged to have the skills to do all these things in my community."

On the plaque presented to Smith by Glidden are the words, *Sandra L. Smith: In recognition of exceptional service to the community and neighborhoods of South Minneapolis. Your commitment to improving the lives of your neighbors through advocating and activism has made a lasting impact and touched many souls. We thank you for your dedication and years of service to advancing our community.*

In addition to presenting a Community Leader Award to FRNNG's Smith, Glidden also honored La Victoria, an Urban Ventures program offering fellowship and support to Latino youth along with outreach to their families, and to Paradise Garden, a grassroots community garden project located on Chicago Avenue involving multiple partners in growing local foods and plants that creates a beautiful space for neighborhood use.

All hats are off to Sandra Smith and the many volunteers upon whom our community relies!

One-by-One (1x1)— A Project and a Pun

by Sue Filbin, Northrop neighbor

You, your neighbors, block club leaders, businesses, churches, and others living, working, and worshipping within the boundaries of our neighborhood are invited to dig up a patch of earth that measures one square foot, and plant flower seeds. If one person plants some seeds, and then another person plants some seeds, one-by-one we will meet each other, converse, look out for each other, and create a friendly, safe, attractive neighborhood.

The Community and Safety Committee, led by Kim McCoy, is initiating and coordinating the 1x1 project. At the monthly committee meeting held on Tuesday, April 26, seeds for colorful annual flowers will be packed into envelopes, along with planting and care instructions. Neighbors will gather on their block on Saturday, April 30, to receive their envelope of free seeds and determine a date for planting the seeds.

If you would like to help assemble the seeds, envelopes, and instructions, or if your block would like to participate in 1x1, please contact Valerie, program manager, in the FRNNG office by 4 pm Friday, April 15, 721-5424, www.frnng.org. A stand of brightly blooming flowers could demonstrate care and commitment by people for the location where the flowers are growing—and for the neighborhood at large. Please join in the fun!

The Importance of Shopping Locally

by Sue Filbin, Northrop neighbor

How often have you accomplished errands in our neighborhood, or walked or biked to a neighborhood business for refreshment, entertainment, or essentials? If you've shopped "close to home," you're saving time and gas. Perhaps more importantly, you're contributing to the viability of our neighborhood businesses.

Commercial success is connected to residential well being in terms of achieving pleasant, safe commercial nodes, maintaining property tax values, and attaining fully occupied commercial spaces. Our local businesses and residents depend on each other.

Perhaps the best description of this interdependence is The 3/50 Project—www.the350project.net/home.html whose tagline is: "Pick 3. Spend 50. Save your local economy." The 3/50 Project asks, "What three independently owned businesses would you miss if they disappeared? Stop in. Say hello. Pick up something that brings you a smile. Your purchases are what keep those businesses around."

"If half the employed population spent \$50 each month in locally owned independent businesses, their purchases would generate more than \$42.6 billion in revenue" (according to a 2009 Labor Department report).

"For every \$100 spent in locally owned independent stores, \$68 returns to the community through taxes, payroll, and other expenditures. If you spend that amount in a national chain, only \$43 stays in our community."

I look forward to encountering you in one of our independent local shops or offices as we do our errands, patronize their diverse services, and have some fun while supporting our commercial neighbors.

On the Corner Car Show

by Mike Kmiecik, owner Bikes and Pieces

Hopefully the next two weeks will bring what they brought last year and by the "Ides of March" we'll be thinking t-shirts and shorts again. Well, at least we might get out of the heavy jackets and into just the fleece and spring jackets. It's not looking good but we can hope and look forward to warmer weather.

Speaking of things to look forward to, the local business group South Chicago Avenue Business Alliance, SCABA, has planned our 2nd Car Show. On Sunday June 5th, from 10 am to 4 pm, SCABA and the Minnesota T'z will host a car show on 48th Street. Like last year, the show will take place on 48th Street between Columbus and Elliot Avenues. The streets will be blocked off so families will be able to mingle up and down the street taking in all the cars and hotrods.

"The "Minnesota T'z" is a non-profit car club that is devoted to keeping the tradition of the T-Bucket car alive." Model T (Bucket) Street Rods are defined as modified 1909-1927 Model T Fords, or replicas thereof. The T-Bucket has long been recognized as a uniquely styled Street Rod (Pre 1949).

The T-Bucket, based on the Model T roadster pickup continues to be a classic, universal icon for the American Hot Rod movement, as well as being one of the easiest and most cost-effective for your first Street Rod project."

The Car Show is open to all classifications of automobiles and we are expecting between 50 and 70 entrants. It is free to the public.

Once again, the Car Show entrants will be vying for 3 trophies for this event, "Best of Show," "Spectator Judge Best of Show," and "Participant Best of Show." You can help by coming down and voting for your favorite auto. Original and unique trophies will be built and supplied by the Bikes and Pieces bike shop and art gallery.

The Car Show is Sunday the day after the FRNNG Parade and Annual Neighborhood Celebration and PARADE! So, make it a weekend and enjoy your neighborhood. See the parade and enjoy the festivities at the park on Saturday, and then stop by 48th and Chicago on Sunday for the "48th and Chicago Car Show."

Mark Your Calendar- Nature Valley Bicycle Festival

The Nature Valley Bicycle Festival comes to town June 10-19 and festival organizers need volunteer host families who will share their homes with professional cyclists competing in the prestigious Nature Valley Grand Prix from June 15-19. As with most volunteer opportunities, the rewards far outweigh any inconveniences for the host families. They are able to learn a lot about bike racing by observing their guest athletes' eating habits and training programs. They also enjoy cheering on the teams competing in the Nature Valley Grand Prix.

The healthy eating and incredible workouts make cyclists an extremely fit group. They can serve as great role models for the entire household, and become friends for life. For more information on serving as a host family (or volunteering during the race) visit www.naturevalleybicyclegfestival.com and follow the host housing link or contact housing coordinator Mike O'Day at 309-7192 or host@naturevalleybicyclegfestival.com.

Nokomis Healthy Seniors' Spring Clean-a-Thon Is Just Around the Corner

Although winter has loosened its icy grip on the state, it's not too early to start thinking about warmer days ahead – and, in particular, Nokomis Healthy Seniors' 2011 Clean-A-Thon! This year's Clean-A-Thon, the program's 9th, will be held on Saturday, April 30. The annual Clean-A-Thon is one of Nokomis Healthy Seniors' main fundraising events. Each spring "clean teams" made up of three to five volunteers spend a Saturday morning cleaning the home of a senior in the community who has requested cleaning assistance. Team members raise money for NHS by collecting pledges from sponsors.

Seniors benefit by receiving a thorough cleaning of hard-to-reach places in their homes. Some seniors have team members do yardwork or other household chores that would be difficult for them to do.

Since its inception in 2003 when two teams, the "Dust Bunnies" and "Clean Sweep," cleaned the first two homes, the Clean-A-Thon has grown every year, both in the number of volunteers on the clean teams and in the number of seniors assisted. In 2010, 14 teams cleaned 19 houses and raised more than \$2,500 for Nokomis Healthy Seniors programs. Each year, teams engage in a friendly competition for the prestigious

trophies: the Bronze Broom, the Silver Dustpan, and the coveted Golden Plunger, an ordinary toilet bowl plunger that has been transformed with the help of gold spray paint into a trophy worthy of the Oscars! In addition to breakfast treats before the event and pizza afterwards, team members enjoy the camaraderie of working together, the satisfaction of helping others, and the privilege of getting to know some of our neighborhood's seniors, many of whom share stories (or even delicious home-baked goodies!) with the teams.

The Clean-A-Thon is truly a community event. Teams have been made up of NHS board members, staff, and volunteers, their friends and family members, members of church youth groups, and even local political figures.

continued on next page

The Annual Hale-Field Plant Sale is Back!

It is the annual community plant sale that benefits Hale and Field Schools. If you have never shopped at the Hale-Field plant sale, this is the year to do it.

We get all of our plants and flowers from Pahl's Nursery, one Minnesota's premier family-owned nurseries. The plants, flowers, vegetables, grasses and



perennials are always of the highest quality. And this year you can **order online** too! Simply go to www.HaleFieldPTA.com. On the web site, you will find descriptions and photographs of all the plants so you can

actually see the difference between the varieties of plants and their colors. Look for mixed container planting suggestions and other gardening ideas and accessories.

Pre-orders are being taken from March 16-April 6. Paper order forms are also available at the Hale and Field school offices and at several local merchants. All orders will be available for pick up on Saturday, May 7 - just in time for Mother's Day - at Hale School. We will also have a separate Garden Store open that day for last minute items.

Please help us support our great neighborhood schools as you beautify your gardens. If you have questions about the plant sale, please contact Trischa West at trischawest@hotmail.com or 721-4846.

Gardening Tips—Fruits and Vegetables for Part-shade

by Jennifer Rensenbrink

Want to get in on the grow-your-own movement? Here in the city, most of us have shady yards, but there are some edibles that do just fine with only 4-6 hours of sunlight. For deep shade, you may have to be a little more creative about your definition of "edible" (e.g. mushrooms). Fruits (all perennials) are as follows: Alpine strawberries, Blueberries, *Cranberries, *Currants, Gooseberries, Serviceberries (also called Juneberries).

**require acidic soil, not recommended unless you're hardcore about soil amendments*

Notes about fruits

Alpine strawberry plants can be hard to find. One reliable source: the Friends School Plant Sale, Mother's Day weekend at the State Fairgrounds. Also note that bushes such as currants and goose-

berries will not reach the size listed on the plant tag if you plant them in part-shade (a happy problem for our small urban yards). Vegetables are as follows:

Beets, Carrots, Cauliflower, Cucumbers, Kale, Lettuce, Onions, Peas, Potatoes, Radishes, Sorrel (a perennial green), Spinach, Swiss Chard, Winter squash, Turnips

Notes about vegetables

The root vegetables and squashes really need closer to 6 or more hours, but most greens fall comfortably in the 4-6 hour range.

My cilantro, parsley, and dill, while technically not perennials, have all been re-seeding themselves and coming back, all over the yard, in several different lighting situations.

Jennifer Rensenbrink is a Hennepin County Master Gardener and writes an urban homesteading blog at <http://newhomeeconomics.wordpress.com>



FRNNG Marks Earth Week Celebration With Educational Workshops!

Mark your calendars! FRNNG residents have an opportunity to participate in two environmentally educational work-

shops during April's Earth Week, thanks to an education grant from the Minnehaha



MINNEHAHA CREEK
WATERSHED DISTRICT

Creek Watershed District. These workshops aim to increase awareness of how to eliminate harmful chemicals in our homes and yards.

On Tuesday, April 12, Julia Earl from Preventing Harm Minnesota will demonstrate how to make an organic household cleaning product that uses safe, inexpensive ingredients. After the workshop, you will be able to take home a spray bottle of non-toxic cleaner that you've mixed yourself.

On Monday, April 18, Bob Dahm from Organic Bob will discuss organic, non-toxic lawn and garden care products and answer questions about this subject. Increase your knowledge of how to keep your children and pets safe from harmful chemicals at this informative event.

Both workshops will be held at Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church and begin at 6:30 pm. Call FRNNG Program Manager Valerie Powers if you have questions at 721-5424.

NHS Clean-A-Thon... from page 6

Local businesses support the event through monetary sponsorships and by donating cleaning supplies and food for hungry team members.

If you are a senior who would like assistance with a cleaning project this spring, or a volunteer for the event, please contact the Nokomis Healthy Seniors office at 729-5499 or visit our website at www.nokomishealthy seniors.org.

Thanks to our Supporters!

Close to Home would like to thank the following individuals, local businesses and organizations in our community for their generous financial contributions to the production and mailing of this newsletter. Now we are asking you to support not only this publication, but also all of our other activities. Anything that you can give will be very much appreciated and put to good use. Also, since we are a "501(c)3" organization, any donations are deductible to the full extent of the law. If you would like more information on how your organization or business can become a supporter, please call the FRNNG office. **We also encourage residents to support our local businesses so that they can continue to be a strong and vital sector of our community.**

Under \$100

Southside Chiropractic, P.A.
55th and Chicago, 827-0657

Pathfinder Care Management
48th and Chicago, 729-9096

Partner Level- \$100-\$199

Minnehaha Animal Hospital
48th and Chicago, 825-4427

T.A.'s Automotive, Inc.
42nd and Bloomington, 823-7100

Neighborhood CleanSweep

Now is time to think about Spring and plan for your **2011 Neighborhood CleanSweep!** We are encouraging all neighborhoods, block clubs, and community groups in the City to get involved! CleanSweeps can be a one-time or annual event to gather neighbors, friends, and community partners to clean up your community at little or no cost to you! We also have several Clean City programs that support residents, businesses and neighborhood groups in keeping their communities clean year-round.

The Minneapolis CleanSweep program is a partnership effort between Solid Waste and Recycling and your community to help you clean up your neighborhood. The entire community can clean out garages, sheds, attics, basements, yards, alleyways and boule-

wards leaving your area sparkling. As an organizer of your CleanSweep you can decide what type of items will be the focus of your clean-up (i.e. Tires, Construction Waste, Appliances, Electronics, Furniture, Litter, etc.).

When you provide the volunteers, we will provide the garbage trucks and disposal. Solid Waste and Recycling truck(s) and driver(s) will be provided to you for a flat fee of \$96 per truck per hour, all-inclusive. That means that there will be no additional fee for disposal for any of the materials collected.

Available CleanSweep dates begin on April 23rd and run through October 15th. See the link below for more detailed information and the application form:

www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/police/first/docs/2011csp.pdf

Neighborhood Directory Development Continues

Thanks to business owners who have provided contact information for the online neighborhood directory that will be available this summer on the Field Regina Northrop website www.frnng.org.

The information that will be listed in the directory includes: business category, name of business, street address, website, phone number, and email address. The type of information listed will be determined by the business, knowing that some may not wish to list a street address or email address; others may not have a website, etc. In addition to storefront businesses, home-based businesses are most welcome to be listed in the directory.

Businesses wishing to be listed in the directory, and that are located within the geographic boundaries of our neighborhood, are encouraged to contact Valerie Powers, neighborhood program manager—by May 16—at the FRNNG office, 721-5424, or by email: frnng@mtn.org.



McRae Park
906 East 47th Street


The complete spring schedule is available at McRae Park or online at the address below. You can register for programs at the address listed. Contact the park for more information.

www.minneapolisparcs.org
370-4909 (voice)
824-4170 (fax)

Anne Kegley, Director
akegley@minneapolisparcs.org



Get Us Online!



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CLOSE TO HOME

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Articles, photos, and announcements of interest to the FRN Community are welcome.

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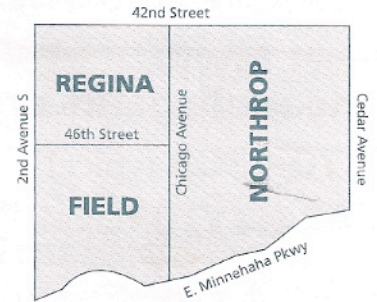
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