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## NOKOMIS FARMERS' MARKET IS BACK!

The Nokomis Farmers' Market is back and runs Wednesdays from 4-8 p.m. through September 27. Check out all the produce and products while supporting these awesome local vendors.

Learn more about the market, volunteer to help or check out how to use SNAP/ EBT benefits, which you can triple through the Market Bucks program, at [www.neighborhoodrootsmn.org](http://www.neighborhoodrootsmn.org).



## MARATHON CHEER SQUAD

Looking for a fun way to celebrate runners in the TC Marathon on October 1? Join the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group Cheer Squad! We'll gather outside Holy Cross Lutheran Church (1720 E. Minnehaha Pkwy.) with noisemakers, music, supplies to make signs, and treats to cheer on runners.

**CLOSE TO HOME**  
THE FIELD REGINA NORTHROP NEWSLETTER

Close to Home is published four times a year by the Field Regina Neighborhood Group, 906 E. 47th St., Minneapolis, MN 55407-3564. Stories and photos are welcome. Please send to [frnng@frnng.org](mailto:frnng@frnng.org)  
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FIELD  
REGINA  
NORTHROP  
Neighborhood Group



# CLOSE TO HOME

THE FIELD REGINA NORTHROP NEWSLETTER | SUMMER 2023



## FOCUS ON FRNNG

By Nate Lansing | Board President

Hello neighbors! I hope everyone is enjoying summer. Things have been very busy for your neighborhood group and Board.

In May, FRNNG held the 3rd Annual FRNNG Minnehaha Creek Duck Race. Hundreds of residents from around the city gathered at Minnehaha Parkway and 12th Ave. S. to root 2,000 ducks down Minnehaha Creek. At the finish line, residents enjoyed food trucks, a raffle and numerous exhibits from local environmental groups. Overall, nearly \$2,000 was raised to help support FRNNG and its outreach in our community.

FRNNG also held our Annual Meeting during which a new Board was elected and changes to our Bylaws were approved. Please welcome Tod Foley, Bill Kinney, Steve Gallo, Theresa Taylor, Michael Tomatz, Rosalinda Miguel, and Jen Kaladis-Meslow to the FRNNG board.

The new Board is fired up to get working for our neighborhood and will be looking for new projects our organization can be involved in. Please reach out with any ideas.

Our organization finalized the hiring of our new Community Coordinator, Lauren Anderson. Lauren has been involved in neighborhood work for over 10 years and brings an immense amount of knowledge about City processes and a ton of new ideas (sign up for our new e-newsletter)!

As always, this is your neighborhood and your organization, please reach out to me or any Board member with questions or ideas for projects you'd like to see in our community.

Happy Summer!

Nate

## CELEBRATE MCGRAE'S NEW PLAYGROUND

Kids and families have already been play-testing the new equipment and features of the renovated playground at McRae Park. Now it's time to officially celebrate this great new addition to Field Regina Northrop.

Mark your calendars for Thursday, August 24 at 6 p.m. (rain date: Friday, August 25, same time). There will be treats, music and special guests. Watch for more details on [www.frnng.org](http://www.frnng.org) or in our new e-newsletter *Closer to Home*.



## MEET LAUREN: FRNNG'S NEW STAFF MEMBER

FRNNG is excited to welcome our new Community Coordinator, Lauren Anderson, who started in June! Lauren brings a wealth of experience running neighborhood organizations to FRNNG. Most recently, she was the coordinator for the Armatage and Kenny Neighborhood Associations.



Lauren is a resident of the Field where she lives with her husband. She loves walking along the creek, visiting our local businesses and is so excited to be a part of FRNNG. You can reach her at [frnng@frnng.org](mailto:frnng@frnng.org).



# 2023 ANNUAL MEETING:

## ELECTIONS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, LOOKING AHEAD

Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group held its 2023 Annual Meeting and Election at McRae Park on May 13.

Nate Lansing, FRNNG Board President, opened the meeting with an overview of accomplishments since the election of an interim board last September. Topping the list were:

- Strengthening the board's partnership with McRae Park
- Hosting events such as Earth Day and the Duck Race
- Making essential revisions to align programs and activities with our current finances
- Announcing the hiring of a new Community Coordinator
- Conducting a neighborhood survey
- Making changes to the organization's bylaws

Changes to the bylaws were put together under the supervision of a legal group selected by Minneapolis' Neighborhood and Community Relations department. The biggest change is that starting in 2024, officer roles (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer) will be appointed by the board from its members the month after elections are held. Field, Regina and North and South Northrop representatives will still be elected by community members.

You can find the new bylaws and take the neighborhood survey on our website at [www.frnng.org](http://www.frnng.org).

# PERFECT DAY FOR A DUCK (RACE)!

The weather for the 3rd Annual Minnehaha Creek Duck Race on May 6, sponsored by Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group, was perfect—cloudy, drizzly and chilly. And the 2,000 ducks and hundreds of spectators loved it!

There were food trucks, face painting, educational exhibits, music, special guest speakers and lots of excitement as the ducks "paddled" their way to the finish line. Volunteers braved the creek's icy waters to make sure that no ducks were left behind. Prizes were awarded for the speediest ducks to wrap up a great community get together.

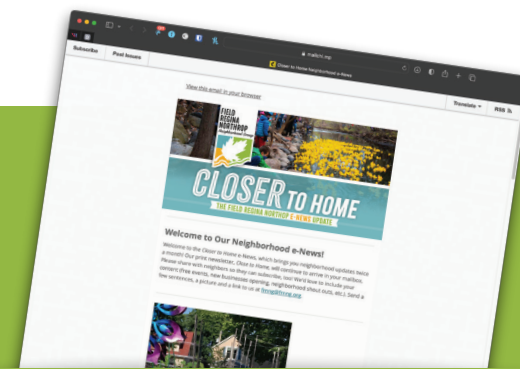
The ducks are taking a well-deserved break, but their training will start next April for the 2024 race. Don't miss it!



# ELECTING NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP

Neighbors in attendance were able to vote for board members using the QR code provided at the meeting, while the rest of the neighborhood could vote using a link on the neighborhood website.

You can read more about the FRNNG board on our website: [www.frnng.org](http://www.frnng.org)



# BRING FRNNG NEWS TO YOUR EMAIL INBOX

Introducing a new way to get your Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group news: it's *Closer to Home*, an e-newsletter that will arrive in your email box two times a month. Not only will you find updates on upcoming events, but you'll also receive great-to-know news about what's happening in our parks and around the city. Scan the QR code or visit [www.frnng.org](http://www.frnng.org) to sign up to receive *Closer to Home!*

# PROJECT AIMS TO BANISH BUCKTHORN ALONG THE CREEK

Join Field Regina Northrop neighbors this summer to remove invasive buckthorn along Minnehaha Creek and preserve our shared green spaces.

In early 2023 FRNNG began a Park Stewardship Agreement with the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Board (MPRB) to address rapid erosion and ecological damage along the watershed.

The wooded area between 12th Ave. and Bloomington Ave. along the creek is struggling from an overgrowth of buckthorn that crowds out native plants and trees and is detrimental to wildlife.

Two buckthorn-removal dates remain: August 12 and 27 from 9 to 11 a.m. Training and hand tools are provided for the removal. We use the high-cut method, so no power tools or chemicals are involved. Volunteers meet at the 14th Ave. S bridge over the creek.

To sign up and learn more about the project, go to [www.frnng.org/creek-restoration](http://www.frnng.org/creek-restoration) or scan the QR code. This is a great volunteer opportunity for teens and everyone who appreciates the priceless resource that runs along Field Regina Northrop's border.

