

CLOSE TO HOME

THE FIELD REGINA NORTHROP NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP NEWSLETTER

November/December 2016

Nextdoor.com Connecting FRN Residents

By Chris Schommer, Chair, Communications Committee

Community members are increasingly using the neighborhood social networking site Nextdoor.com which began with the idea that if you could verify where people lived, and require people to use their real names, the service could provide a way for neighbors to connect in a secure and public way about issues in the neighborhood. Users can log in to **Nextdoor.com** via a web browser or use the app on either Android or Apple devices. To create an account, you must verify your address using one of several verification tools.

There are now 2,160 members in the Field, Regina, and Northrop neighborhoods. Conversations often carry over to the surrounding areas, with posts ranging from break-ins in Tangletoen to free furniture in Diamond Lake. Like other tools, there have been many good things to come out of Nextdoor.com, but some people have experienced problems. Here are some tips to help you get the most out of this growing neighborhood communication tool.

President's Letter

Hello FRN:

There are so many things going on in the world around us right now. Even close to home, things are currently happening around us: the 46th Street paving and striping is taking place, the possibility of a new development on the 4700 block of

Continued on page 3

Control your sharing settings

There are many ways to control emails and alerts from Nextdoor. Due to the popularity of the platform, if you set up your account too broadly, you could be receiving hundreds of emails every day! Find your settings either under your top-of-the-page icon on a web browser or by tapping "More" on your mobile device. In "Settings," you will be able to customize

what kind of email and mobile alerts you receive. You can choose to get none, get a daily digest, be notified only of specific issues nearby, and many more combinations to suit your needs.

Geographic awareness

By default, when you submit a new post on Nextdoor, it shares your post with your local neighborhood and also "Nearby"

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Development Proposed at 4700 Cedar Avenue



Front Perspective

Provided image

By Chris Schommer, Chair, Communications Committee

On October 14, the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group (FRN-NG) received notice of a proposed development at 4700 Cedar Avenue. Currently this parcel just to the north of i.e. Italian Eatery is home to a vacant structure, Tom's Popcorn Shop, a vacant store front, and the abandoned Cedar Quick Stop gas station. This project would renovate the current building to house three businesses and includes an addition that would establish a mid-block drive-through accessible from Cedar Avenue.

The October 19 FRNNG board meeting featured discussion about this development. While the board was supportive of the redevelopment of 4700 Cedar, many members and one neighbor in attendance expressed concerns about the potential negative impacts a mid-block drive-through would have on traffic and pedestrian safety in the area. Of particular concern is the number of left-hand turns that would be required to both enter and exit the drive-through, and the lack of stacking space in the design leading to cars blocking the sidewalk.

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Volunteers Needed for Hale and Field Schools

By Terry Mazig, Chair, Education Committee

The education committee has been working closely with Hale and Field Community Schools, both of which are in need of volunteers.

Hale Community School

Volunteers are needed to help students in 4th-grade classrooms with math or reading. Math takes place from 9-10 a.m. and reading from 10:30-11:40 a.m.

Volunteers will be working one-to-one with 4th-grade students.

Field Community School

Volunteers are needed to help in the Field Media Center and in the classroom.

11 a.m.-1:15 p.m. Monday-Friday

AVID (advancement via individual determination—college-readiness system) classroom volunteers are needed periods 1-3 for morning classes with 6th, 7th, and 8th graders.

One-to-one help for students in the classroom is very helpful to the students. You would be surprised how the students

look forward to positive volunteers giving support and feedback to them. Our goal: “One-by-one, we meet student needs to achieve their God-given potential. Volunteers are ‘connecting coaches’ in our schools, helping our students connect with classroom teachers and with our schools. Children need support to understand they can succeed!”

Let us know if you are interested in volunteering by contacting the education committee at education@frnng.org. Thank you! ❖

Nextdoor.com, continued from page 1

neighborhoods. While this can be helpful for some topics, the difference can be sharing your message with 600 neighbors or 10,000+ people in a wide swath of south Minneapolis. When posting, select “Choose neighbors” to customise your post’s reach.

Flag inappropriate content

Nextdoor relies on users flagging inappropriate content. Nextdoor does not have professional staff monitoring those complaints but rather relies on a few volunteers from the neighborhood to monitor those alerts called “Neighborhood Leads.” Leads are given general guidelines to evaluate flagged content, but ultimately are given discretion on how to respond to a complaint ranging from a personal message to removing the posting. If you have questions, you can view the Nextdoor.com guidelines at: help.nextdoor.com

Show others respect

If you have been on Nextdoor long enough, you have probably seen some “drama.” When neighbors post about problems, there is often a counterpoint or other opinion that can lead to some heated discussion. Sometimes these discussions are for the best, and sometimes they devolve into name calling or worse. Nextdoor.com has this simple advice: **“Everyone here is your neighbor. Please treat each other with respect.”** ❖

Community & Safety Committee

By Marty Koessel, Chair, Community & Safety Committee

Hello, all you neighborhood folks! I’m Marty Koessel, the new chair of the Community & Safety Committee. I own the North Loop Dunn Bros in downtown Minneapolis, and my family and I live on 18th Avenue, just south of 46th Street. Beyond the crime stuff, including problem properties, I’m concerned about anything that affects pedestrian, bicycle, or automobile safety. If there’s something that’s bugging you, please don’t hesitate to get in touch with me at: communityandsafety@frnng.org

You can also do your bugging at a somewhat higher level by going straight to your city council member. If you live in Regina and Field north of 50th Street, or the little bit of Northrop lying north of 43rd Street, your council member is Elizabeth Glidden (Elizabeth.Glidden@minneapolismn.gov). If you’re in the big southern hunk of Northrop or the little bit of Field south of 50th Street, your guy is John Quincy – (John.Quincy@minneapolismn.gov).

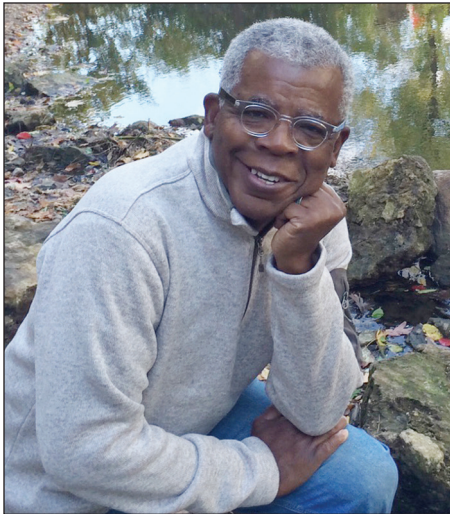
To introduce myself to the wild and woolly world of our neighborhood police,

I attended the 3rd Precinct Advisory Council meeting at the end of September. I believe that our cops do a pretty darn fine job at responding to emergencies, including crimes in progress. If you’re feeling threatened, they’ll make a beeline as soon as that 911 call goes through.

I also heard a lot about how our cops are pressed for resources, meaning we can best help them by preventing crimes in the first place. This is a bit of the same old, same old: most thefts are crimes of opportunity, and if you leave a door, garage, or easy-to-access window open when you’re not around, your valuables can disappear mighty quickly.

This goes for your car, too. Unless, you’ve got one of those automatic dealie-bobbers, don’t leave your car warming up with you not in it, no matter how toasty your kitchen feels. And never leave anything tempting inside your vehicle. Although the crook will be disappointed, even a bag with sweaty gym clothes in it might cost you a broken window.

May your beautiful fall be filled with only pleasant adventures. Peace out. ❖



Provided photo

Willie Bridges, President, Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group (FRNG)

Cedar Avenue (north of i.e. restaurant), and the Walgreen's on Chicago Avenue re-development is ongoing as well. By the time you get this issue of our *Close to Home* newsletter, the general election will have taken place and we will have elected a new president of our country. New businesses will be opening on 48th Street and on 47th and Chicago Avenue.

These days, I see all types of signs in our neighborhoods: "Black Lives Matter," "Nurses put the CARE in Healthcare," signs representing and supporting various schools in our community, and signs supporting our preferences for U.S. President. We have our own FRN community sign: "We Love our Neighborhood," too!

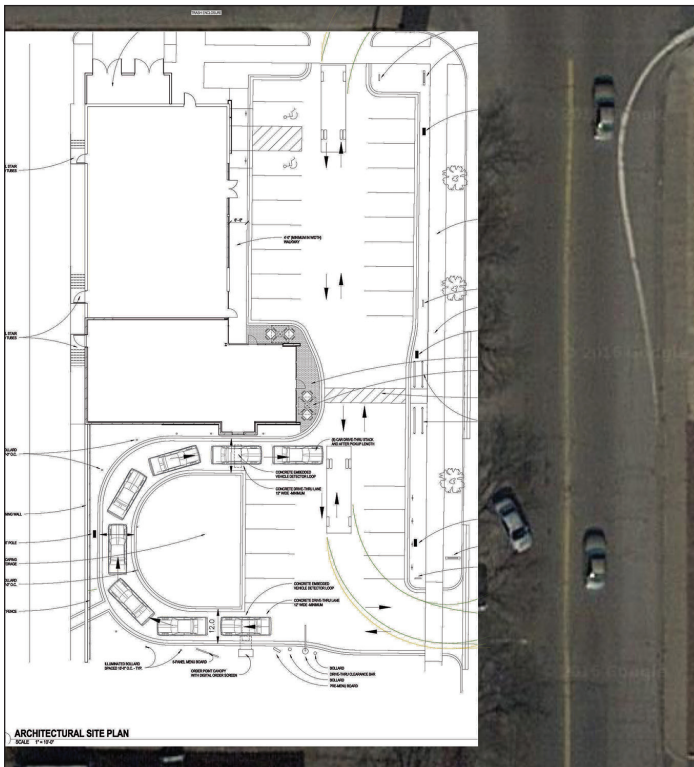
Through all of this, I would hope as a community we respect people who are different than us, and those that have a different opinion than our own. We are a welcoming community, and celebrate our diversity and each other's values.

Thank you for participating in and supporting a Night on 48th!

So, FRN: Be safe, be aware of your surroundings, look out for our kids – and please don't speed through our neighborhoods. ❖

Development at 4700 Cedar Avenue, continued from page 1

In response to these concerns, FRNNG formally requested that the Minneapolis department of public works to perform a traffic analysis as part of the site-plan review for the development of this property in order to gain a better understanding of how this project might impact the area. There will be a public hearing for this development sometime in November. Visit the City of Minneapolis' planning commission's webpage for more information on this hearing: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/PlanningCommission ❖



Provided image

46th Street Project Update



Photo: Sue Filbin

By Chris Schommer, Chair, Communications Committee

The 46th Street project is complete for this year and Hennepin County offered a surprise for the neighborhood when they installed a concrete median at the Oakland Avenue pedestrian crossing.

The original design for this intersection called for thin plastic bollards to be installed to create the pedestrian refuge due to a lack of budget for concrete work. However, in the final weeks before the project was set to commence, the project planner decided to upgrade the design to include the concrete median. This change came about due to Hennepin County's new internal concrete fabrication ability that reduces the cost of these types of projects considerably compared to contracted work.

The new configuration of 46th Street will continue to be studied for a year, and there will be an opportunity to provide feedback in the spring of 2017. ❖

Seeking neighborhood artists

Inviting Work to Wrap Utility Boxes

By Tim Price and Lindsey Feiner, Co-chairs, Greening Committee

The greening committee continues to work to wrap utility boxes in the neighborhood and is currently curating original artwork created by artists living in Field, Regina, or Northrop. We started out by wrapping three utility boxes with pre-approved designs, and are following that by wrapping six boxes with original artwork created by neighborhood artists. We want these boxes to reflect FRN's values and strengths. The first focus is on nature and events that represent why we enjoy living here.

The FRN artists are currently working on formatting their pieces to fit the specifications. The six boxes will be wrapped in the early spring of 2017 when temperatures are above 55 degrees.

The beauty of this project is that the term "artist" is broad; one does not need to be a painter. Woodworking, graphic design, quilting, needlepoint, ceramics, photography, metalwork, and more are all welcome! The artwork for future submissions just needs to be something that can be scaled and reproduced as the utility-box



Four new designs already approved for new utility-box wraps.

format. For instance, a photograph of a sculpture may be used as a wrap. Submissions can be of an existing piece or something created just for this project,

Greening

Any local artist who is interested in learning more about our utility-wrap project can apply by emailing greening@frnng.org. We are no longer accepting nature-

themed artwork and are focusing on the diversity of our neighborhood. Please tell us about your artwork and how the neighborhood's values and strengths are displayed in it.

Artists will be compensated with a small stipend and a description of their artwork along with artist info on the FRNNG website. ❖

Fun at McRae Park

Santa Brunch December 17

10 a.m.-12 p.m. – \$4 youth; \$6 adults

HO! HO! HO! It is time once again for our Santa Brunch! For a very small fee you can enjoy a home-cooked meal of pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice! You will be completely entertained by some holiday music and there will be a fabulous art project to create and take home. You also can have your picture taken with Santa while you whisper your wish list into his ear!

Coming in January

Archery classes: Youth class and a family class: \$20 for the whole 4-week session.

Parents Night Out: The second Friday of the month, \$7 per time. The \$7 covers dinner at McRae, an activity and a

movie. Parents sign up on ACTIVE Net ahead of time. Call the McRae Park office at 612-370-4909 for more info. ❖

A real estate advertisement for Nate Lansing. On the left is a black and white portrait of Nate Lansing, a smiling man with a shaved head, wearing a suit and tie. To the right of the portrait is a dark grey box containing the 'selling with kids' logo (three stylized figures under a house icon), the text 'selling with kids Kid Friendly Real Estate', and contact information: 'Nate Lansing, REALTOR', '612-499-2769', 'nate@sellingwithkids.com', and 'www.sellingwithkids.com'. At the bottom right of the box is the 'RES Realty' logo.

Stormwater Pond Planted

By Paul Chellsen, Minneapolis Department of Public Works

Where will you find beautiful flowers blooming next spring, summer, and fall in our neighborhood? The answer: The southeast corner of the stormwater pond at 43rd Street and Park Avenue.

On September 24, an enthusiastic group of FRNNG neighbors, young children, Boy Scouts, and friends from other neighborhoods in the city, joined together to plant 2,000 perennial plants at a pollinator-friendly planting event. The event was sponsored and organized by Paul Chellsen, supervising stormwater technician II for the Minneapolis department of public works; Vanessa Strong, environmental inspector for the Minneapolis department of public works; and Jan Merth of Wetland Habitat Restoration.

The goal of the Minneapolis department of public works for stormwater ponds is to enhance sites for aesthetics, habitat, and public education. So, on this day there were stations for learning about major watersheds in the U.S., about our local stormwater ponds and drainage to Minnehaha Creek, adopting a stormwater drain, and the value of pollinator plants. FRNNG thanks our city officials for their vision and thanks our neighbors for their help implementing it.

Next year, as you stroll around the ponds, enjoy the new flowers and consider digging up a corner of your own yard to plant pollinator plants. Then sit back and enjoy not only pretty flowers but bees, butterflies, and birds as they visit your garden and thank you for their new habitat. ❖



Provided photo

Close to Home

Close to Home is the official publication of the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group (FRNNG) and is published six times per year by the FRNNG Communications Committee.

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Smiling Dog Design

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Articles, photos, and announcements are welcome. Please email:

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or call 612-721-5424

frnng.org

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Reduce waste during the holidays

Kellie Kish, Minneapolis Recycling Coordinator

This holiday season, remember that Americans generate an extra five million tons of household waste, including three times as much food waste as at other times of the year, as reported by the World Watch Institute. In fact, even without extra holiday waste, 40% of the food produced in the United States is never eaten according to the National Resource Defense Council.

Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling staff encourages residents to be realistic this holiday season about the amount of food you prepare. Get an accurate head count of guests that you will be cooking for and make a list of the amount of food you need before going to the grocery store. Remember to store leftovers safely and think of creative ways to use uneaten food. Visit www.SaveTheFood.com for helpful food-storage tips. If you do have food scraps to dispose of, you can compost them through the Minneapolis organics recycling program.

Here are a few other specific tips about how to properly dispose of holiday discards:

- Gourds, like pumpkin and squash, can be placed in organics recycling ONLY if they are not painted or contain glitter.
- Holiday trees, wreaths and garlands cannot be placed in organics recycling. Holiday trees should be placed alongside your garbage cart on your garbage day. If the tree is six feet or taller, you must cut it in half.
- Disposable food-service items can only be placed in organics recycling carts if they are a completely unlined paper product or if they are certified compostable. Lined items must have the BPI or Cedar Grove logo on them to be accepted. For a complete list of certified compostable serving ware, visit: www.bpiworld.org/products
- Holiday lights cannot be placed in your blue recycling cart, but several retail locations have drop-off containers for

holiday-light recycling. For a list of locations visit:

www.RecycleYourHolidays.org

- Wrapping paper can be recycled in your blue recycling cart ONLY if it does not contain glitter, foil, velvet or have reflective areas on it.
- Gift boxes should be broken down and placed in your blue recycling cart.
- Cartons, like those from eggnog, wine, broth and milk can be recycled in your blue recycling cart but cannot be composted.
- Extra recycling can be placed next to

your blue recycling cart in cardboard boxes or paper bags.

- Finally, remember that collection services will be delayed one day after Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day. If your pickup day is on, or follows, a holiday when we are closed, your garbage, recycling and organics recycling carts will be emptied one day late.

For more information about how to properly dispose of an item in Minneapolis, or for other solid-waste and recycling questions, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste or call (612) 673-2917. ❖

About Organics Recycling

As of October 2016, 40 percent, or more than 44,700 Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling customers, had signed up for the organics recycling program.

How organics recycling for composting works

1. Residents sign up for a green collection cart. Cost is already included in the Solid Waste & Recycling customers' base fee.
2. Residents collect food scraps, non-recyclable paper and other compostable items into a compostable bag and deposit them in their organics cart.
3. Carts are emptied once a week, on the same day as garbage pickup. Organics are brought to a commercial composting facility in Rosemount, MN, where they are turned into compost instead of being incinerated at the Hennepin County Energy Recovery Facility.

A 2013 study by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency found that up to 40% of the material an average Minnesotan throws away is items that could be put to a better use through composting. Specialized Environmental Technologies, the facility that turns Minneapolis organics into compost, has commented that the material received from Minneapolis contains very few contaminants in comparison to other material it receives.

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Holiday Pet Safety

By Dr. Nikko Grossopoulos, DVM,
Minnehaha Animal Hospital and Pet
Doctors Animal Clinic

While the holidays are a fun time for celebrating with friends and family, it is also the time of year that many pets become ill due to the increased temptations that surround them. To keep your little ones safe, please follow these safety tips.



Ho, Ho, Hold Off Feeding the Leftovers: Table scraps and many holiday foods that are healthy for people are toxic to pets. During the holidays, when our own diets tend toward extra-rich foods, table scraps can be especially fattening and hard for animals to digest, which can cause pancreatitis and severe intestinal upset. Chocolate is highly toxic to dogs, causing heart arrhythmias, intestinal upset and life-threatening blood pressure increases, and raisins/grapes in many dishes (fruitcakes, cookies, etc.) can cause acute kidney failure. Additionally, unbaked bread dough/yeast, when ingested, can rise substantially in a pet's stomach, producing carbon dioxide and alcohol, which can lead to alcohol poisoning and bloat.

A Rap About Wrap: Tinsel and ribbon and tree trimmings alike, when ingested, are likely to cause a severe hunger strike. This hunger strike is caused by intestinal blockage that will require surgical removal at great out-of-pocket expense. When decorating the tree, don't allow

low-hanging lights since electrical shock is severe when pets bite light cords or lights. It's also a wise idea to keep ornaments high out of reach.

The Poignant Poisonous Popular Poinsettia and Potpourris:

Popular plants including poinsettia, mistletoe and holly can cause vomiting and diarrhea. Many holiday bouquets also include lilies. Cats are very sensitive to the ingestion of lilies (especially Easter lilies, among others). As little as two leaves can cause intestinal upset and may lead to life-threatening kidney failure. Liquid potpourris pose risks because they contain essential oils and cationic detergents that can severely damage your pet's mouth, eyes and skin. Solid potpourris also can cause problems if ingested. Unsupervised lit candles can lead to severe burns of the skin or eyes, and even lead to home fires.

Ain't No Party Like a Pet Safe Party: Party commotion may be too much for many pets. Allow a guest-free space as your pet's retreat. Many pets do best confined to a crate or room while the festivities go down. Keep an eye on doorways and be proactive in warning party goers that pets are within the home. In the unfortunate occurrence a pet does escape, make sure your pet has proper identification. It is important that this identification have current contact information – particularly microchips with up-to-date, registered information. That way,



Provided photo

if your pet does sneak out, they're more likely to be returned to you. If your pet has not already been microchipped, talk to your veterinarian about the benefits of this simple procedure.

Your pets are part of the family. Include them in your celebrations, but keep these pet-safe tips in mind so that your yearly holiday traditions do not include a trip to the veterinary emergency room. ❖

*Outside of a dog, a book
is a man's best friend.
Inside of a dog
it's too dark to read.*

Groucho Marx,
American comedian, film, & TV star
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11th-Ward Update

Council Member John Quincy



Council Member John Quincy

Dear Neighbors:

Whether or not we are ready for it, the warm weather has come to an end after a wonderful summer season. Children are well into their school year, our neighborhood parks are busy with fall sports, and the long awaited McRae Park field-renovation project is well underway! As road construction season comes to a close, we all celebrate the much-improved and community-inspired resurfacing project for 46th Street. Meanwhile at City Hall, we are focusing on the 2017 City Budget – as well as the consideration of what how to continue the work we began this year on closing economic disparities for workers.

2017 City Budget

I am privileged to serve as the Chair of the Ways & Means/Budget Committee. The City Council is in the process of debating the proposed 2017 City budget with the Public Comment on the Levy and Budget scheduled for Wednesday, November 30, 6:05 p.m. at City Hall. An additional Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 7 at 6:05 p.m., also at City Hall, followed by final Budget Adoption.

Highlights of the proposed budget

- The proposed \$1.3 billion operating and capital budget for 2017 includes a 5.5 percent increase in the City's portion of the 2017 property tax levy, compared to 2016. Of the City's total \$1.4 Billion

budget, only about 20 percent is funded through property taxes.

- The Mayor and City Council already anticipated a property-tax levy increase of 4.9 percent in 2017 when we passed the landmark, 20-year agreement to fund the infrastructure and operations of neighborhood parks and City streets earlier this year.
- The Mayor's budget proposed a 5.5 percent increase in the levy for 2017. Most, if not all, of the difference between the anticipated 4.9 percent increase and the proposed 5.5 percent increase could be made up by an additional \$1.7 million in Local Government Aid that was anticipated but did not materialize when the State's tax bill was not enacted into law earlier this year.

The 0.6 increase in the property-tax levy over the anticipated 4.9 percent pays for...

- The Mayor's new investments including improving Public safety with nearly \$1 million for downstream, community-based strategies, including: an often-requested mental-health co-responder pilot program with three new police officers working with mental-health professionals; and resources for the community to develop collaborative strategies in two locations with high levels of youth violence.
- Building trust between community members and police officers by adding 12 new officers for community policing, a pillar of 21st-century policing.
- 5 additional full-time sworn firefighters, raising the authorized strength of firefighters for the first time in many years.
- \$14.5 million for affordable-housing development to help everyone afford to live in Minneapolis.

- Support for outreach and education about our new Earned Sick and Safe Time Ordinance.

Paid sick & safe time ordinance

The paid sick and safe time ordinance passed and minimum wage is being considered. The City has been active seeking solutions to address the disparity gaps in our city where low-income and hourly workers – many of whom are people of color – aren't sharing equally in our growth and prosperity.

As the Council considered the Paid Sick & Safe Time Ordinance that was passed this year, we needed to strike a balance between supporting our business community in being successful, with the needs of workers to having access to benefits that help them plan for everyday realities. These are not only good business practices; they help all our communities thrive now and lay the foundation for Minneapolis' economic success in the future.

The Council recently received the research findings on the impacts of a minimum wage increase in Minneapolis. This is a critical first step we have taken to examine the implications, benefits and concerns of raising the minimum wage, as well as establish a robust engagement plan for working with stakeholders across the city over the next several months. I invite you to contact me with your comments on this topic, as well as stay in touch with our work at a special web page located at: www.minneapolismn.gov/minimum-wage where you can view key findings, presentations, and stakeholder engagement process.

I am always available to answer your questions at 673-2211. If you would like to receive the bi-weekly email Ward 11 Community Connections Newsletter, please contact me: John.Quincy@MinneapolisMN.gov or visit the website: www.MinneapolisMN.gov/ward11 ❖

New Gift Shop to Open on Chicago Avenue

By Carrie Shidla, Communications Committee
Community members will have a new gift shop to visit during their holiday shopping this year. Resident Julie Stamps will open 14 HILL in mid-November in the southern half of the space formerly occupied by Shop in the City near 48th and Chicago.

Merchandise will include handpicked cards, stationery, toys, bath and body, and gifts that are stylish and affordably priced. With over 20 years of retail experience, Stamps is excited to share her expertise. "I love the creativity behind the product and, more importantly, I love connecting with the customers, helping them find exactly what they are looking for," says Stamps.

Getting the new business up and running is a family affair as her husband Chad, who owns Core Design | Build, has been helping with the planning and build out, getting the space ready to welcome customers. The exterior will be getting a face lift, and the interior is being remodeled to create a fun and beautiful place to shop.

Stamps is excited to open 14 HILL in the neighborhood that she has called home for 17 years. "There is a strong sense of connectedness to this neighborhood that I am excited to be a part of, and so much fun activity and energy going on with all the great businesses on 48th and Chicago," she says. "The concept is a neighborhood gift shop that will cater to the style and needs of the surrounding community. It is quite amazing that the space opened up and became available as I was in transition, looking for my next business opportunity. It is perfect!"

The current goal is to open doors in mid-November and host an official grand opening on November 26, which appropriately falls on Small Business Saturday. Keep your eyes open for more information in November as there will be opportunities for residents to get an early peek in the weeks leading up to that date. ❖



Photo: Sue Filbin

14 HILL will be located at 4737 Chicago Avenue South, and can be reached at 612-824-7774. Keep an eye open for the website, which is currently under construction, at www.14hill.com ❖

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Sassy Knitwear creates sustainable, craveable fashion in the neighborhood

Colorful, Creative, Comfy Clothing

By Carrie Shidla, Communications Committee
Sassy Knitwear recently marked its fourth year in the 48th and Chicago business district, where it has cultivated a loyal following with its unique clothing for women, babies and kids.

Business partners Molly O'Brien Black and Sarah Grudem have been growing their business together at a steady pace for 10 years. The childhood friends grew up in south Minneapolis and both returned to their roots after college. The concept was initially born of Black's desire to reduce waste by upcycling and reusing the cloth from existing clothing into new designs. Grudem, who had always been a creative person with an interest in style, soon joined Black in the business venture.

Their products were originally featured at local farmers' markets such as the Mill City Market, and on Etsy. As the interest in their clothing grew, so did the need for a studio and retail space. You can now find them five days a week at the shop at 4802 Chicago Avenue, where they design, dye, cut and sew their garments using only natural fabric. "We find much of the fabric at thrift stores, where we are looking for cotton, wool and cashmere," said Black, who noted they also use new organic fabric as well, which they dye onsite.

Because of the nature of how they find and use the upcycled fabric, styles and prints change a lot – so there is always something new. Prices range from about \$14-\$80, and they even do special orders for customers. The most popular products tend to be roll-around pants, dresses, and hats for babies and toddlers. "People stop by all the time on their way to baby showers for gifts!" Black laughed, "though women's tunics and dresses are also very popular." ❖

4802 Chicago Avenue
sassyknitwear.com/
(612) 834-0020



Photos: Sue Filbin



Julie Johnson

*24th Annual
Women's Art Festival*

Saturday, December 10th, 2016
9:30 am - 4:30 pm
Colin Powell Center
2924 4th Ave S, Minneapolis

Kari Erickson



130+ Artists, Food, Drink, Live Music
Free ramp parking • womensartfestival.com

Donate to 5th-Grade Ballroom Dancing Classrooms!

By VaNita Miller, Field Middle School Principal
Field Middle School on 4th Avenue and 46th Street is excited to partner with Heart of Dance, a Minnesota nonprofit, to bring the nationally acclaimed and internationally lauded Dancing Classrooms model program to our fifth-grade students during the fall semester of 2016.

This innovative and comprehensive program provides dance lessons and related curriculum integrated within a wide range of standard educational subjects to fifth-grade students. The results are enhanced academic achievement and improved physical fitness while enriching young lives through social-emotional learning (SEL) and inspiring personal growth.

Among student participants, Dancing Classrooms has documented success in building self esteem, confidence, and discipline; increasing respect and awareness; improving conflict-resolution skills; providing team-building experiences; and offering an understanding and practical application of social etiquette standards.

Please help us fund this class through the “YouCaring” donation platform by visiting www.youcaring.com and search for “Field Ballroom Dancers” to donate. Every little bit helps. Thank you!

More information about this organization can be found at www.HeartOfDanceMN.org ❖



Housing Market Update

By Nate Lansing
When summer winds down and school begins, the real estate market in south Minneapolis traditionally begins its seasonal slowing. In the Nokomis area of south Minneapolis (including Field, Regina, and Northrop neighborhoods), median sales prices reached an all-time high in 2016, surpassing the pre-crisis peak of 2008. Many sellers are getting full- or above-listing price offers and housing inventory remains at historically low levels.

While activity has slowed as we move into fall, there are a lot of buyers continuing to look for available homes. They are motivated by job and wage growth, rising cost of rent, and low interest rates. Interest rates are expected to remain low through the end of the year. ❖

FIELD REGINA NORTHROP



FRNNG Meeting Information

Full Board

3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church (LNPC) 17th Avenue and East 46th St. The full board does not meet in July or December.

Business Committee | business@frnng.org

1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Sovereign Grounds, 48th and Chicago

Communications Committee | communications@frnng.org

2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Sovereign Grounds, 48th and Chicago.

Community and Safety Committee | communityandsafety@frnng.org

4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., McRae Park Rec. Center

Education Committee | education@frnng.org

1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Lake Nokomis P. Church

Greening Committee | greening@frnng.org

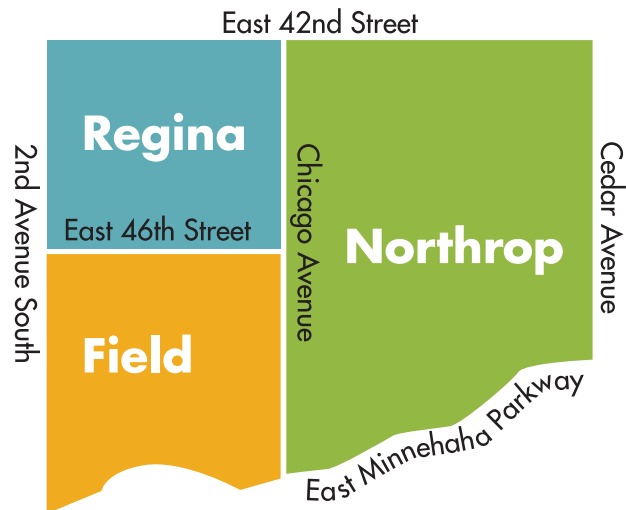
2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Turtle Bread Company, 48th and Chicago

Housing Committee | housing@frnng.org

1st Monday of each month at 7 p.m., Town Hall Tap, 48th & Chicago

Parks Committee | parks@frnng.org

1st Monday of each month at 7 p.m., McRae Park Rec. Center



We thank our partner in producing this newsletter – Greenhaven Printing, (651) 639-9822, greenhavenprinting.com

