

CLOSE T^o HOME



The Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group Newsletter

April-May 2012

FRNNG Community Listening Session

On February 18th, FRNNG held a "Town Hall" style meeting that was open to all residents of the Field, Regina and Northrop neighborhoods. The session was designed to engage residents in an active discussion about building community and moving forward together. To gather input, four questions were asked in order to solicit themes of resident thoughts and desires:

- What are things that you want to save/keep within the community?
- What are the things that you want to get rid of within the community?
- What activity would you like to be more involved with?
- Who's not represented at the meeting?

The general conclusions of the session were that residents are willing to get more involved. They see and know that there is value in the current landscape of the community but they also know that there are opportunities to do more...by working together. Working together and with more resident involvement will help our neighborhoods be the best they can be.

Current aspects of our neighborhoods that were cited as being desirable were livability and safety, relationships with neighbors, the growth of the economy,

the community as a destination for non-residents, community programs and access to transportation. Community blight, poor lighting, traffic issues and poor property upkeep were items that attendees would like to eliminate. The activities most residents wanted to get involved with were business collaboration, planning and economic development, community building, communications and building connections with city departments.

How can you get involved? Anyone desiring more information can contact the FRNNG office, **721-5424**. As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter we also have many openings on our board and also welcome committee involvement from residents. We would especially welcome members of the groups from which we feel we are underrepresented: our different minority groups (Latino, Somali, African American, etc.), schools, youth organizations, churches and businesses. Get involved and have your voices heard.

We plan on having another similar meeting in the near future. Keep an eye on our website, on our Facebook page and follow us on Twitter to find the date and time.

The FRNNG Annual Meeting and Elections are Fast Approaching!

Please plan to join us as we review FRNNG's many accomplishments for the past year, hear city dignitaries speak and honor departing Board members. Several Board positions will be elected at the meeting including: 1st Vice President, Secretary, Business Chair, Communications Chair, Community and Safety Chair, Greening Chair, Housing Chair, Parks Chair and Neighborhood Representatives for North Northrop, Regina and Field. Serving on the Board is a great way to meet your neighbors and become more involved in your community! Contact the FRNNG office today at **721-5424** if you're interested in this opportunity! Meeting date/time/location TBD. Stay tuned for more specifics!

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 July or Dec.

Business Committee

• 1st Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, LNPC
business@frnng.org

Community and Safety Committee:

• 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 pm, McRae Park Rec Center
communityandsafety@frnng.org

Housing Committee

• 1st Monday of each month at 6 pm, Sisters Sludge, 46th St. and Bloomington Ave.
housing@frnng.org

Education Committee

• 1st Thursday of each month beginning in October, at 6:30 pm, LNPC
education@frnng.org

Parks Committee

• 1st Monday of each month at 7 pm, McRae Park Rec Center
parks@frnng.org

Greening Committee

• 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm at Turtle Bread Restaurant, 48th and Chicago
greening@frnng.org

Communications Committee

• 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6 pm at Turtle Bread Restaurant, 48th and Chicago
communications@frnng.org

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.

City Redistricting

By the time you receive this newsletter, redistricting for City Wards and Park Board Districts should be completed. Every ten years, following the state redistricting process, the City must redraw Ward boundaries. While the first guiding principal is keeping Wards with approximately the same population numbers, other factors, such as respecting cultural communities and neighborhood interests, can play a role in how the lines are drawn. Field-Regina-Northrop will likely continue to be divided between Ward 8 and Ward 11, although with different ward boundaries. For details on redistricting, including maps, go to minneapolismn.gov/redistricting2012

Climate Action Plan

If you're concerned about climate change, you can participate in the City of Minneapolis' work to update its Climate Action Plan, a roadmap to help the City reduce greenhouse gas pollution. To respond to the challenges of climate change and energy security and as part of its commitment to being an eco-focused city, Minneapolis has adopted targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.



The Climate Action Plan will measure the impact of current City efforts and develop new initiatives that focus on transportation, buildings and waste.

For more information on the Climate Action Plan update and ways you can participate, go to: www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/climate

Thank you Community Leaders. In early 2012 we honored several neighborhood leaders and projects with Ward 8 community leader awards. Awards went to the Lee Family Commemorative Event planning committee, Doris Christopher of Regina neighborhood, and a neighborhood youth team that performed stenciling on stormwater drains in Field-Regina-Northrop to reduce pollution from getting into our rivers and lakes. Congratulations to all Ward 8 Community Leader and Youth Award winners!

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 sign up at the Ward 8 website:

minneapolismn.gov/ward8

Elizabeth Glidden
Eighth Ward Councilmember

The Community Participation Program

Neighborhood Priority Plan Submission

April 16, 2012

HealthPartners to Open New Clinic in 48th and Chicago Neighborhood

Looking for more convenient care? HealthPartners is opening a new clinic only minutes away that will offer daytime, evening and weekend care. It will even feature telephone appointments and e-visits for several conditions, allowing patients to be treated from the convenience of their home or office.

The clinic will be located on Chicago Ave. between 47th and 48th St. in existing retail space. Remodeling of the space will begin shortly and the clinic is expected to open this fall. It will feature a full range of services, including family practice, ob-gyn, chiropractic and lab and imaging services. It will also provide urgent care on evenings and weekends.

"We're looking forward to partnering with the Field, Regina, Northrop community," says Mary Brainerd, HealthPartners president and CEO. "Your involvement, engagement and support is vital throughout the planning and design process. We want the clinic to reflect the character of your neighborhood."

The clinic also plans to offer healthy living classes and resources, and is looking for community feedback as to the types of resources they would like at the clinic. HealthPartners envisions having a community room in the clinic to hold classes, as well as possibly serve as a meeting space for other community events.

HealthPartners would like to hold community forums to seek input as to the types of services offered at the clinic. Residents interested in attending a community forum, or who have questions or feedback, are encouraged to contact HealthPartners at 952-883-6087 or send an email to clinics@healthpartners.com.

Don't have HealthPartners insurance? No problem. Patients do not need to have HealthPartners insurance to use the clinic—it will accept most insurance.

Greening of the Crosstown and 35W Sound Barrier Walls

The Crosstown Commons Project enters its next phase of planning. The Department of Transportation (DOT), while working with neighborhoods groups, has finished the Phase I design for the "Greening" of the new sound barrier walls and plots of land adjacent to the walls. There are four phases of planning over the next three years (2011-2014). The plan includes land that runs adjacent to or near the sound barrier walls traveling south from 42nd St. and traveling north from 62nd St. This will primarily affect Stevens and 2nd Ave. in Minneapolis.

Planning efforts were led by Todd Carroll, DOT Landscape Architect, during the past year working with neighborhood groups including Field Regina Northrop, Kingfield, Tangletown and the city of Richfield. Design plans were shared with the groups where feedback was both welcomed and considered by DOT representatives. Councilwoman Elizabeth Glidden and officers of the three neighborhood groups have

monitored the planning efforts and also provided feedback to DOT and the Field Regina Northrup Neighborhood's Greening Committee, a group that has worked closely with DOT.

Todd Carroll has shared the following information relating to the "letting process" for Phase I. "The project is being 'let' on February 24th. In sum: bids will be submitted to MNDOT on that day and will be made public. It usually takes about 4-6 weeks to award the contract to the low bidder. The contractor will be planting this spring, and they should be completed with that portion by June 2012."

Phase II planning will start soon and focus on the "Greening" of the gateways (meaning bridges and land on and near 60th, Diamond Lake, 50th, 46th and 42nd Streets). Neighborhood groups will continue to work together to coordinate planning efforts. Please contact your neighborhood association if you are interested in providing input and feedback into the planning processes.

Tidbits... Random Thoughts and Notices

Remember that a major key to a great neighborhood is a thriving business district—we have several within our neighborhoods, so don't forget to frequent them... ☺ With the obvious drought that we're in, remember to water your boulevard trees this spring; they're no doubt thirsty... ☺ We are always looking for articles or suggestions for articles for *Close to Home*; contact the Communications Committee at communications@frnng.org or the FRNNG office if you have an idea for the next issue (mails at the end of May)... ☺ Know of a neighborhood blog that may be useful to your neighbors? Send an

email to the Communications Committee with a link to the blog... ☺ Have a good neighborhood picture you'd like to submit for our website? Send a copy to the Communications Committee for review... ☺ Many of you have asked but currently we don't have a solution for residents to opt-out of receiving a paper copy of *Close to Home*—we are researching options, though, and would welcome suggestions... ☺ Save the date—the Annual Neighborhood Celebration will be on June 2nd. Keep checking our website, www.frnng.org for more information. Bring on spring!

Raingarden Workshops for Clean Water

Get ready for spring by planning a garden that beautifies your yard and helps keep our water clean. Register now for a two-part workshop series, taught by landscape design specialists from the nonprofit group Metro Blooms. The \$10 workshops will be offered from early April to mid June. See schedule below.



Whether you are an experienced gardener or have never tried gardening before, these eco-friendly gardening workshops will help you learn how to:

- Use native plants in your garden landscape
- Limit fertilizers and pesticides without compromising a beautiful yard
- Capture rainwater on site with rain gardens
- Redirect your downspouts
- Plan your garden. Location! Location! Location!

• Plan your own garden with one-on-one assistance from landscape designers and Hennepin Master Gardeners.

Participants are also eligible for a low-cost onsite consultation and rain-garden design drawing.

“Metro Blooms has been partnering with Twin Cities Metro communities to provide low-cost raingarden workshops since 2005,” said Metro Blooms Executive Director Becky Rice. “Over 5,000 residents have attended our workshops and over 2,000 raingardens have been installed.”

To register, visit:

www.metroblooms.org or call 651-698-1390. Fee: \$10 per workshop. Sponsored by the City of Minneapolis.

Metro Blooms, a non-profit organization, works to strengthen communities by promoting eco-friendly gardening that beautifies neighborhoods and protects our environment.

Community Garden Spring Resource Fair: Nourishing Neighborhoods, Connecting Communities

When: Saturday March 31st, 2012
9 am to 4:30 pm

Where: Neighborhood House,
179 Robie St., St. Paul 55107

Complete agenda at
www.gardeningmatters.org

Come hear Karen Washington, President of the New York City Community Gardening Coalition talk about her work advocating for New York City community gardens, and the importance of working in unity. The keynote will be followed by a panel highlighting how local garden projects have helped create solidarity in communities.

The days' events also feature spoken word, Aztec dance, 12 different workshops on gardening and urban farming topics, 40+ exhibit tables, and more!

The emphasis of the day is on bringing together community gardeners from across the Twin Cities metro area to encourage shared learning and increased connection, which contributes to community garden sustainability.

Presented by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, and sponsored by Mississippi Market Natural Foods Coop, City of Minneapolis Department of Health and Family Support, and other grassroots community partners.

Join us for a day of learning, connection, and fun with gardeners from across the Twin Cities metro!

Location	Part A-The Basics of Raingardens	Part B-Plan Your Own Garden
Waite Park Recreation Center 1810 34th Ave. NE, Minneapolis	Tues., April 17 6:30-8:30 PM	Tues., April 24 6:30-8:30 PM
Powderhorn Recreation Center 3400 15th Ave S, Minneapolis	Thurs., April 19 6:30-8:30 PM	Thurs., April 26 6:30-8:30 PM
Lynnhurst Recreation Center 1345 Minnehaha Pkwy. W., Mpls.	Wed., April 25 6:30-8:30 PM	Wed., May 9 6:30-8:30 PM
North Regional Library 1315 Lowry Ave N.	Sat., April 28 1:00-2:30 PM	Sat., April 28 2:30-4:00 PM
Longfellow Recreation Center 3435 36th Ave. S., Mpls	Sat., May 12 10:00-12:00 Noon	Sat., May 19 10:00-12:00 Noon
Nokomis Lutheran Church 5011 31st Avenue South, Mpls.	Thurs., June 7 6:30-8:30 PM	Thurs., June 21 6:30-8:30 PM

Think  Spring!

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 at 721-5424. **We also encourage residents to support our local businesses so that they can continue to be a strong and vital sector of our community.**

Gardening Tips— Organic Fertilizers for Lawns and Gardens

By Jennifer Rensenbrink

Gardens

Compost is one of the best supplements you can add to your garden beds, whether you are growing vegetables or flowers. It adds organic matter to the soil, enriching it and improving microbial soil activity. It also breaks down over time into the essential nutrients that all plants need: nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium (also known as N-P-K, listed on every bag of commercial fertilizer), as well as other minerals, like calcium, that are essential to soil health.

The great thing about compost is that you really can't over-do it. There's no danger of burning your plants by applying it too thickly, as there is with chemical fertilizers. It also can be obtained cheaply, or even free if you have your own compost pile. Composting your food and yard waste is a win-win for you and the environment.

Another way to increase the fertility of your soil is to sow a green manure cover crop -- nitrogen fixers such as legumes (peas and beans), annual ryegrass, clover, oats, or buckwheat. Sow the seed thickly and till the plants under before they go to seed.

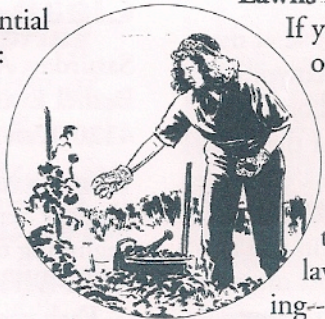
Many other organic fertilizers such as bone meal, blood meal, and manure can also be purchased, but you must be very careful with them and follow package instructions. Like chemical fertilizers, they are high-potency and over-application can damage or even possibly kill your plants.

Lawns

If you need to seed a new area of your lawn, consider mixing in 6% white clover seeds with your grass seed. Clover fixes nitrogen in the soil, which feeds the turf grass plants, creating a lawn that is more self-sustaining-- it will require fewer inputs of chemical fertilizers to stay healthy.

When our neighborhood was first built up in the earlier part of this century, most commercial grass seed mixes had a bit of clover in them. Only during the last 30 years have chemical fertilizer companies successfully convinced many of us that clover is a weed.

If your existing lawn needs a bit of help, corn gluten meal, a byproduct of the corn milling process, can be effective as a fertilizer and weed suppressant, replacing most weed and feed products. As with other any purchased fertilizer, be sure to carefully follow instructions to avoid damaging your lawn.



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

Education Committee Notes

The Education committee is moving its April 6 meeting to March 29. We meet at 620 E. Minnehaha Pkwy., the corner of Oakland Ave. and Minnehaha Pkwy. on the north side of the creek. Meeting time is 6:30 pm.

There are many things that a person can do to help a school. Tutors are always needed. Commit to one hour a week for 10 weeks. Training provided. Contact one of our committee co-chairs for more information.

Save bottle caps and labels for education. These are worth 5 cents and every school can use every little bit, even a nickel.

Consider becoming a mentor to a child. The Kinship Program pairs mentors with children whose parent has asked for a mentor. There are many children in our neighborhoods waiting-- some for over a year. For information call 722-1621 or www.kinship.org.

A Party... a Party!!

2011 was the 40th Anniversary of the pairing of Hale and Field Schools. We are a year late but we are celebrating on Sunday, May 6, from 1:30 until 4:00 pm at Pearl Park. If you helped with the pairing or if you were a student at either school in the early 1970's (or just want to be a part of the celebration and to learn the hows and whys), please join us. RSVP to Gerry Sell at 823-3248 or jdde@umn.edu.

Field, Regina and Northrop 2011/2010 Comparisons

Part 1 Crimes

2011/2010 MPD Precinct 3 Sector 3 Neighborhoods		Total Part 1 Crimes	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Agg. Assault	Burglary	Larceny (Theft)	Auto Theft	Arson
Field	2011	79		1	1	4	41	27	5	
	2010	111		2	7	2	30	60	10	
Regina	2011	94			2	4	48	30	8	2
	2010	85		3	3	4	44	23	7	1
Northrop	2011	146		1	8	5	52	73	7	
	2010	153		1	9	6	71	52	14	

E-mail Alerts From Minneapolis Police Dept.

Subscribe to e-mail alerts and updates for your neighborhood from Minneapolis Police 3rd Precinct by visiting the MPD website at the following address: www.minneapolis.gov/police/crimealert_police_crimealert_signup. Click on *your neighborhood* and complete the requested information.

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1x1 Continues With Free Zinnia Seeds

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 zinnia 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 is initiating and coordinating the 1x1 project. Seeds for zinnias—tall, colorful annual flowers—are packed into envelopes and are accompanied by planting and care instructions.



Zinnia seeds will be available at the FRNNG Annual Meeting that will be held on a weeknight in April or May. (Check www.frnng.org for the date.)

If you would like to pick up some zinnia seeds, or distribute envelopes that contain free zinnia seeds to neighbors on your block, please contact Jenny, program manager, in the Field Regina Northrop office by 5 pm Friday, May 18, 721-5424. 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!

Nokomis Healthy Seniors' 10th Annual Clean-A-Thon

Saturday, April 21, 8 am–1 pm
Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church
4120 17th Ave. So., Mpls.

Winter's winding down, and Nokomis Healthy Seniors' staff and volunteers are beginning to plan for the 10th annual Clean-A-Thon.

Each spring teams of volunteers spend a Saturday morning cleaning the homes of seniors in the Nokomis community. Team members raise money for NHS by collecting pledges from sponsors.

Join us for a morning of working for our community's seniors. Volunteers work until noon then return to the NHS offices for a pizza lunch and awarding of prizes.

If you are a senior who would like assistance with a cleaning project this spring, or if you'd like to volunteer for the event, please contact the Nokomis Healthy Seniors office at 729-5499.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Community Energy Services: Your Neighborhood's Energy Saving Partner

Though we've had a mild winter, homeowners can still save on utility bills by participating in Community Energy Services, Minneapolis' premier residential energy efficiency program.

Attending a FREE Community Energy Services presentation qualifies homeowners for a home energy visit from a team of energy pros that install energy savings materials and identify additional opportunities to save money in your home. To sign up for the \$30 visit you must attend a presentation prior to March 31, 2012. After this date the price increases to \$40. Don't miss

out – join the 4,300 homeowners in Minneapolis who have already participated!

"Since I participated in Community Energy Services I am saving \$260 a year!"

**Rene,
Mpls homeowner**

CES has helped homeowners fight ice dam problems, make home energy improvements, and save energy and money in their homes while staying comfortable. Community Energy Services also provides help with the next steps including finding qualified contractors, applying for utility rebates and accessing low interest financing.

For a complete listing of upcoming presentations and to register online visit www.mnces.org or call 335-5869.

**Check Out the Redesigned FRNNG Website!
Find Us on Facebook...**



and Follow Us on Twitter

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

Support the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group

Help keep FRNNG working for you by sending in a donation of \$15 or more. Combined with the business and church donations, your gift supports *Close to Home* and other activities of the organization. Please keep them coming! FRNNG is a 501.3c organization and all gifts are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

FRNNG

VOLUNTARY DONATION

\$15 \$25 \$50 Other

Name _____

Address _____

Minneapolis, MN Zip _____

Make your check payable to FRNNG, Inc. and mail this form and your check to:

FRNNG, Inc. 1620 E. 46th St. Mpls, MN 55407

CLOSE T^o HOME

Close To Home is the official publication of the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group, Inc., and is published six times per year by the FRNNG Communications Committee.

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

Call 721-5424 or Fax 721-4539

E-mail: frnng@frnng.org

Copy deadline for the next issue is April 30

1620 E. 46th St. Mpls, MN 55407 721-5424

The Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group, Inc. Established in 1965

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2011-2012 FRNNG Board

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*1st V.P.: Wade Warner

*2nd V.P.: Willie Bridges

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*Secretary: Shelley Nystrom

*Field Neighborhood Rep: *Open*

*Regina Neighborhood Rep: *Open*

*Northrop No. Neighborhood Rep: Jeri Elsner

*Northrop So. Neighborhood Rep: Pete Berlute

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Greening: Ted Moe

Housing: *Open*

Parks: Kirk Frauenheim

Programs: Keely Wheaton

Useful Phone Numbers

8th Ward Council Elizabeth Glidden 673-2208

11th Ward Council John Quincy 673-2211

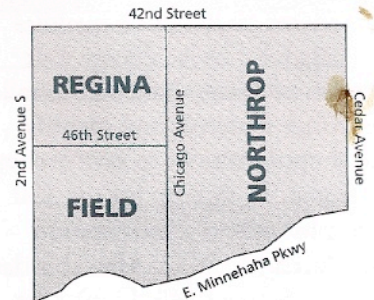
Sue Roethele CCP/SAFE 673-2839

Housing Inspector 673-5858

Senior HelpLine 729-5499

McRae Park 370-4909

Airport Noise Complaints 726-9411



FIELD REGINA NORTHROP NEIGHBOR
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