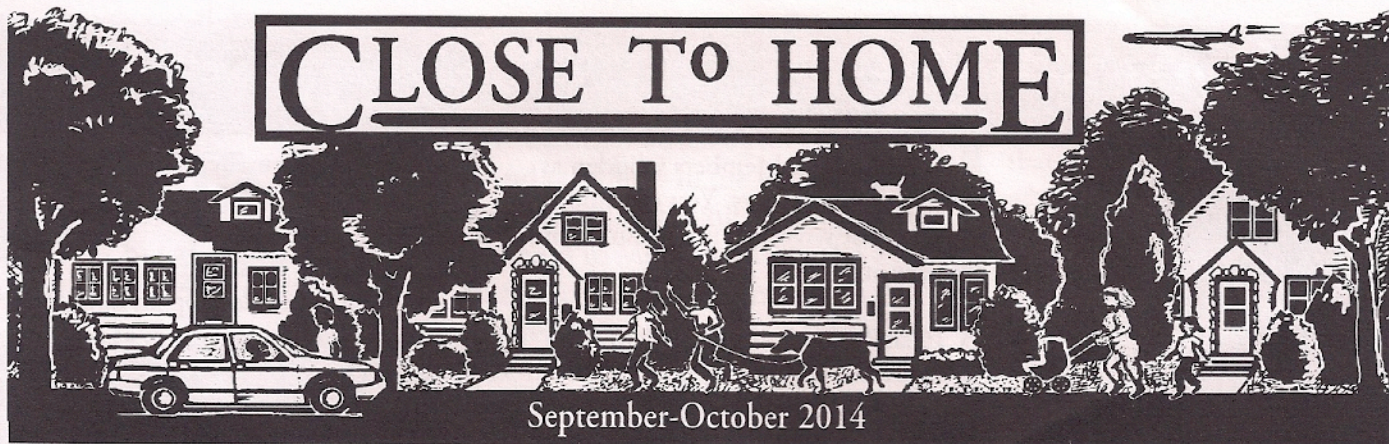


CLOSE T^o HOME



September-October 2014

The Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group Newsletter

"We Love Our Neighborhood" Lawn Signs

Ben Elliott - Community & Safety Chair

A year ago, I found myself at a meeting with a Regina neighbor, Melissa Rowley, discussing how to connect neighbors and provide an outward sign of our connectivity. Melissa suggested a sign to proclaim that she and her neighbors were united and cared about keeping their block a safe, vibrant place.

An idea took root: We should create a Field Regina Northrop lawn sign. Melissa's idea has been realized through the work of volunteers on FRNNG's Community & Safety committee.

You may have seen them cropping up on lawns around the neighborhood, and if you would like to acquire your own

sign, you can sign-up at: www.frnng.org/lawnsign and volunteers will deliver the sign to your home.

Display your sign in a flower bed, the middle of your lawn or even in your alley - just be sure to display the high quality, all-weather sign the whole year round. We live in a vibrant neighborhood; show that you are proud to call it home!

Thanks to Chris Schommer and Sue Filbin for their keen eye for design, as well as Rod Kyro, our resident printing expert - without their efforts this sign would have remained a mere idea.

President's Letter

Here we are with: the end of Summer, the State Fair wrapping up, Fall just around the corner, and kids going back to school. We all get to change our routines during this time.

Your FRNNG Board has been working over the summer, in each of our various committees: Park, Communication, Community, Greening and Safety, Business, Education or Housing Committees. The chairperson of each of these committees has been working hard this season. Yet we still need Volunteers for each of the various committees. Please consider volunteering for one of our neighborhood committees that interests you.

I would encourage you to be part of the planning for this year's "Night on 48th" event on November 8, 2014. You can contact the office at (612) 721-5424 about this and other committee opportunities.

With school starting again soon, I would remind you to talk to your kids about being safe while going to and being at school. Remind them to look both ways when crossing the streets, not to talk with strangers, and to have a secret password that only you and your kids know, to be used to validate a real emergency. This is just in case a

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**We Love Our
Neighborhood**

Field · Regina · Northrop

www.frnng.org

8th Ward Update

Council Member Elizabeth Glidden



Dear neighbors:

Thank you for this opportunity to update you on City and neighborhood issues.

Modernizing Rules for Restaurants that serve Alcohol

Minneapolis is seeing a “restaurant revolution”, but our laws governing restaurants have not kept up.

Today, restaurants in certain areas of the city are required to maintain a ratio of food to alcohol sales. These rules were originally established to ensure restaurants, especially those near residential property, acted like restaurants – and did not become neighborhood nuisances. These rules, however, have always been difficult tools for regulators and don’t fit the business model of restaurants today, where craft beer and fine wine purchases will quickly put a restaurant out of compliance with old city rules.

Residents will vote on a ballot measure this year to remove these old rules that are in the city charter – specifically removing the 70/30 food alcohol ratios for certain restaurants.

If these old rules go away, what will replace them? How do we make sure that restaurants, especially those in neighborhoods near residents’ homes, are good neighbors? An alternative regulatory system has been proposed

with Council Members Glidden as one of the authors. You can find all details at www.minneapolismn.gov/licensing.

In short, these changes, supported by business licensing staff, create a better set of tools, improving the city’s ability to prevent and manage problems. The new tools include the ability to manage noise issues, required alcohol server training, and detailed management responsibilities for restaurants that will help establishments be good neighbors. There are also new regulatory tools that will allow the City to take licensing action against restaurants that cause problems. Please let me know if you have questions about any of these new regulations. The ordinances will likely come to the city council for a vote early in the fall.

We need you! Serve as an Election judge

Minneapolis is seeking more election judges. These are paid positions (yes, small pay) that will teach you much about civic process and making democracy work. Apply at: vote.minneapoliswmn.gov Minneapolis is also seeking judges with multiple language skills - specifically Spanish and Somali in Ward 8 precincts.

City approves open data policy

The Minneapolis City Council has approved the City’s first open data policy, setting in motion the creation of an open data portal so that new kinds of City data can be accessed on line. This policy will change the ease with which residents can access data that is already determined to be public under state law - making entire sets of data public available in accessible formats, whereas previously residents

have had to formally request any data from the city.

Council Vice President Glidden directed staff to develop an open data policy in December 2013, as part of the 2014 budget process. Council Member Andrew Johnson, of Ward 12, has spearheaded this initiative in 2014 as a champion of open data, working with city staff to develop this policy.

Minneapolis now joins 38 states and 46 cities and counties that have open data portals. With an Open Data portal, Minneapolis continues a trend of transparency and public accountability. The public can use open data portals in many creative ways, helping identify new solutions for government. Common uses of open data across the country include the development of web and smartphone applications that can show when busses arrive, where crime is happening, and results of city inspections. We look forward to creative culture change in Minneapolis!

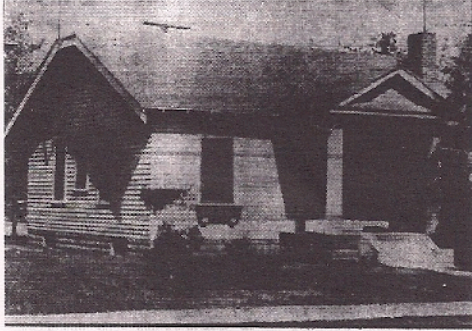
Contact Elizabeth!

As always, please feel free to contact me at the Ward 8 office, (612) 673-2208 or elizabeth.glidden@minneapolismn.gov. To sign up for the Ward 8 e-news or find information about my weekly office hours, please go to: www.minneapolismn.gov/ward8

Community Office Hours for Ward 8 residents are hosted every Monday morning, 9-11 am, at Sabathani Community Center, 310 E 38th Street, outside of Room 129. Please call the Ward 8 office, (612) 673-2208, for a time specific appointment or just stop by.

A RIGHT TO ESTABLISH A HOME

August 23, 2014 ~ January 4, 2015



The Arthur and Edith Lee House was listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the National Park Service on July 11, 2014. As part of this historic moment, the University of Minnesota College of Design and the Goldstein Museum of Design are proud to present “A Right to Establish a Home” on display from August 23d through January 4th.

A Right to Establish a Home examines the history behind a series of menacing protests that enveloped 4600 Columbus Avenue South, Minneapolis following its purchase in August 1931 by Arthur and Edith Lee. The young couple was African-American, and they chose to buy a house in what many then considered a “white neighborhood” of South Minneapolis. On one night, as many as 4,000 protestors gathered in the street outside the Lee house, hurling insults, garbage, and even human waste at the property in an effort to intimidate the family into leaving the neighborhood. Confident in their right to establish a home, the Lees ultimately stayed in the house for more than two years, though the

neighborhood never fully accepted the family’s presence.

The exhibition interprets the protests and responses in the broader context of race and housing in Minneapolis, racism in Minnesota, and the individuals and organizations that defended the Lees, including the NAACP and the distinguished attorney Lena Olive Smith. Additionally, through a series of oral history interview with current Field-Regina-Northrop neighborhood residents, the exhibition connects the events of 1931 with the longer, broader, continuum of events, people, and actions that reflect the history of a neighborhood striving for public safety, inclusiveness, cooperation, mutual respect, and social justice.

The exhibition encourages the audience to consider questions such as: what it means to have the right to establish a home, what it means to be part of a neighborhood, and the ways that racism in Minnesota has changed since 1931.

A Right to Establish a Home is the culmination of a multi-year partnership between members of the Field-Regina-Northrop Neighborhood Group, the family of Arthur and Edith Lee, and the Heritage Conservation and Preservation Program at the University of Minnesota School of Architecture.

*Goldstein Museum of Design
The HGA Gallery, Raspon Hall, 89
Church Stree SE, Minneapolis*

goldstein.design.umn.edu/exhibitions

President’s Letter... *from page 1*

stranger says to your child something like: “one of your parents is sick” and that they “want to give them a ride to where you are”, for example.... A secret code/password that only you and your children share, can help your kid(s) discern if a stranger is telling the truth.

It’s also important that you talk to your kids about bullying at school. What is considered bullying? Bullying is aggressive behavior that is intentional, and involves an imbalance of power or strength. Typically, it is repeated over time. Bullying can take many forms such as: hitting, teasing or name-calling, intimidation through gestures, social exclusion, etc. Today one can experience cyber-bullying as well, involving: insulting messages sent by e-mail, text and via social media sites such as FaceBook and Twitter. You should let you kids know that they can talk to you if any of these things happen to them. It’s important that you let your school know that these things are going on, and ask them how will they deal with the problem.

If you know of a high school junior or senior student, who’s interested and willing to write an article for our Newsletter about what’s happening in their school, please contact Chris Schommer who is the Chair of our neighborhood Communications Committee.

You/We ALL make our Field-Regina-Northrop neighborhoods what they are today; let’s keep up the good work!

I will see you around the Neighborhoods.

Willie Bridges
President of FRNNG

Seward Co-op Expansion Update

Last summer, Seward Co-op announced its intention to expand. Just one year later, on July 12, 2014, the Co-op broke ground at the site of its "Friendship Store" near the corner of 38th Street and 3rd Avenue.

Plans submitted to the City Planning Commission on June 9, 2014 indicate that it will be a two-story structure designed by LHB Architects. The first floor will house a full-service, 15,000 square foot grocery store, coffee shop and deli. The second story will provide another 5900 square feet of administrative offices and a community classroom. Seward plans to seek LEED Certification and to commission a mural to reflect the neighborhood's history.

The Friendship Store will be easily accessible with 70 parking spaces for cars, 30 spaces for bikes, and proximity to several bus lines, including Route 5 via Chicago Avenue. The Friendship store will significantly reduce such travel for FRRNG residents who currently shop at Linden Hills, Seward, or the Wedge.

The expansion is expected to cost approximately \$10 million. But the

Co-op appears to be going strong, with over 11,000 member-owners and sales over \$30.5 million last year. The Co-Op aims to raise \$2.5 million through member loans, stock sales, and the sale of T-shirts designed by a local artist. The Co-op is no stranger to growth. Recall, in 1998, the Co-op opened a 9,000 square foot store at 2111 E. Franklin, doubling its sales and membership by mid-1999. The Co-op quickly outgrew its space and prompting construction of its current location in 2009, a 25,000 square foot building located at 2823 Franklin.

The area has been called a "food desert" by the USDA, and it is hoped that the presence of a full-service grocery store will provide healthy, affordable alternatives to corner stores and fast food options that predominate retail spaces on 38th Street. The Co-op is an important local employer, with approximately 230 employees, 70 percent of whom work at the coop full time and 99% of which earn a "living wage" by local standards.

Additional details about the expansion, including architectural drawings of the building, can be viewed at: www.seward.coop.



Seward
COMMUNITY CO-OP

Great Streets' Façade Improvement Matching Grant Program

FRNNG continues to have funding available for businesses interested in improving the exterior of their storefronts. To be eligible for a grant, your storefront business must meet the following requirements:

- The property is located in one of the Great Streets eligible business nodes.
- The property is up-to-date and remains up-to-date on all property taxes
- Be responsible for all construction management

- Have funds available to pay improvement costs since this is a cost reimbursement program - all work must be completed prior to receiving any of the programs funds. (One-third of your project costs can be reimbursed with \$5,000 maximum per storefront).

The Façade program can pay for many exterior improvements that are visible from the public street such as exterior painting (including murals!), re-siding, repair and much more!

Apply for a new boulevard tree

Our neighborhood is fortunate to be flush in trees. It stays that way through the wear and tear of Minnesota's seasons because the Minneapolis Forestry Department actively maintains a healthy tree population throughout the city. What you may not realize is that you may request that a new tree be planted in the boulevard space between a sidewalk and street adjacent to your home. It's a great (and free) way to spruce up your yard and keep our city green.

Applying for a new boulevard tree is easy and free for residents. Simply call (612) 313-7710 prior to November 1st to request a tree for the following spring. While the Forestry Department reserves the right to make final decisions, it does attempt to honor community requests whenever possible. Residents are welcome to request a type of tree to be planted as well. Best of all, a newly planted tree comes with a how-to kit that makes proper care straightforward.

Curious? Have more questions? Email forestry@minneapolisparke.org for more information.

Interested? Contact the FRNNG office at (612) 721-5424 for Information, guidelines and application materials or email business@frnng.org. Leave your name and contact information so the appropriate person can get back to you.

Tips for Backyard Chickens in the City

Megan Schommer had dreamed about raising chickens in her south Minneapolis backyard. It wasn't a stretch - as a veterinarian, caring for animals is second nature. But backyard chickens aren't just fresh eggs -- it's a big commitment, and there is a lot of research, planning and work involved. Together with husband Chris, they decided they were ready for the challenge.

Now, over a year into their backyard chickens adventure, they have some perspective to share on their experience and the process. Here's how to get started.

Learn as much as you can

The Schommers took a class at EggPlant Urban Farm Supply in St. Paul called "Backyard Chicken Basics" which they found extremely helpful. They also participated in EggPlant's annual Coop Tour, which allowed them to see urban coops and talk to people who care for chickens.

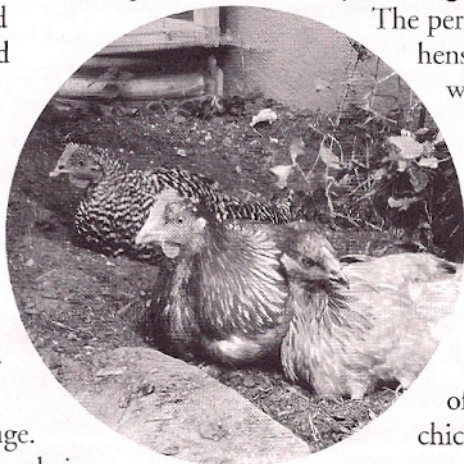
Request a permit

Call Minneapolis Animal Care and Control at 311 and ask for a Small Animal Permit. The application for the permit will ask you question about how many chickens you plan to keep, and

how you plan to store feed and manage bedding and manure.

Get your neighbors on board

The permit for keeping backyard hens requires that you have written consent from 80% of your neighbors within 100 feet of your home. For the Schommers, this wasn't a problem. "Our neighbors love it," Megan shared. "They have been really supportive, and often come to visit the chickens."



Design and plan your coop

You must have at least four square feet of space per bird, and the run must allow for 10 square feet of space per bird. Remember that the coop needs to stay above 32 degrees in winter, so plan for supplemental heating or insulation, or both. Hens need between 12-14 hours of light per day for egg laying, so many people also include a light source.

Submit your site plan to the city's Zoning Department for approval

You will need to submit a blueprint and site plan with your permit application, and the structure may be inspected annually (or as needed). The coop needs to be at least 100 feet from your dwelling and any adjacent neighbor homes.

Submit your application to Minneapolis Animal Control

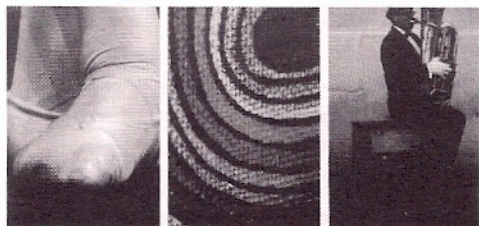
This will include a signature page that needs to be notarized, application, blueprints of the coop, and site plan.

For Megan the process of securing a permit and paperwork with the city was smooth. The actual experience of keeping chickens has been rewarding, if a little surprising. "I am so surprised at how much personality they have," Megan said. "Each one is an individual. But, chickens are so different than pets. You need to consider challenging things when you have livestock - like, what you will do when they stop laying eggs, for example."

And the eggs - which average around 5 eggs a week per hen - have been great. But even more rewarding has been watching a sort of chicken community form. "They are so fun to watch - they are social and have fun interactions with each other."

Her biggest piece of advice for those interested in raising chickens in the city is to learn as much as you can, and talk to people. "Visit someone who has chickens before you get them yourself," she said, "so you have a better understanding of day-to-day care and understand the space involved. It's more work and chores than most people recognize, so it's best to know as much as you can up front."

Meet the Parkway Artists Coalition



Are you an artist, a crafter, a performer, a person who appreciates all things creative? Meet members of the Parkway Artists Coalition at Lake Nokomis

Presbyterian Church on Thursday, September 4 at 7:00 p.m. Never heard of the Parkway Artists Coalition? That's okay! We're neighbors in the Field, Regina and Northop neighborhoods that draw, quilt, paint, sculpt, mix media, jewel, knit, photograph, make prints, sew, dance, write...well, we do a lot! We're a creative group that wants to get to know our fellow neighborhood

artists and show the rest of Minneapolis that we're proud to call FRN home.

If we don't see you on September 4, our next event will be on November 6. See the first Thursday theme? You can find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ParkwayArtists, and look for our website coming soon. We'll keep you posted as new events take place.

Letters from the Board: Regina Representatives Nate and Kori Stephens

My husband Nate and I moved into the Regina neighborhood in 2012, and are excited to be serving as Regina's newest neighborhood representatives! We love the sense of community that is at the heart of Regina and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know our neighbors. Over the next year we hope to learn even more and to become a voice for those who have ideas and thoughts of what they'd like the neighborhood to look like in years to come. We plan on being involved in various activities and discussions and find it important to keep our neighbors informed of decisions made on both the neighborhood and city level.

A little bit about us: Nate works at Cargill as a Financial Analyst for the Trade and Structured Finance (TSF) group and has a passion for volunteering and community involvement. I've been working in the child rights and human rights field since 2009 and am currently Project Director for the Midwest Regional Children's Advocacy Center at Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota. I also have the joy of serving on the Leadership Council of the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery that recently moved back in to our neighborhood. We look forward to meeting many new faces in the neighborhood and welcome any questions and conversations!

Operation Clean Sweep Pilot Program

The Minneapolis CleanSweep program is a partnership between Solid Waste & Recycling and our community to help us clean up our neighborhoods. Neighbors can clean out garages, sheds, attics, basements, yards, alleyways and boulevards, leaving our neighborhoods sparkling!

FRNNG is launching a test pilot effort for 10 designated alleyways in each neighborhood of Field, Regina and Northrop in order to determine how to proceed with a full CleanSweep neighborhood program.

The deadline to apply is **Friday September 5th** and at least 25% of residents on each side of an alley must be committed in order to qualify for consideration. Each alley must have two residents that will assist the volunteers in loading the trucks. No hazardous waste will be accepted.

Apply today at:
www.frnng.org/cleansweep

St. Joan of Arc Church Fall Workshops

Financial Exploitation: What it is; Who is Vulnerable; How to Avoid Becoming a Victim. This workshop will be held on Wednesday, September 17 from 1:30-3:30 at St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church, 4537 3rd Ave. S. Financial exploitation is being called the Crime of the 21st Century. Learn how to protect yourself.

Honoring Choices: An Advance Care Planning Workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 28 from 1:30-3:00

pm at St. Joan of Arc Church, 4537 3rd Ave. S. The speaker is a registered nurse who will present information about the documents and how to initiate and continue this important family conversation.

There is no charge for either workshop but a donation is suggested to help cover expense. Please call the Parish Center to register: (612) 823-8205.

46th Street Update

In the last issue of Close to Home, the Ward 11 update announced that 46th Street was due for pavement milling and re-painting this season, between Nicollet Ave and Cedar Ave. However the 46th Street resurfacing project has been postponed to 2015 so that Hennepin County may work with the neighborhood on the striping that will occur with the work.

Council persons Elizabeth Glidden and John Quincy are working with the County on this issue. "Friends of 46th Street" is a citizen group that has been formed to advocate traffic calming measures on 46th Street. They can be found on Facebook at: [facebook.com/friendsof46thstreet](https://www.facebook.com/friendsof46thstreet)

Home Energy Squad Update

Home Energy Squad Enhanced visits are a huge hit with Field Regina Northrop residents! Already this year 38 FRN households have participated in the program, up from 24 last year. Act now to get in on the great deal – only 100 visits are being offered at a discounted price of \$30 (usually \$70). Join your neighbors who've already taken advantage of the program and are enjoying saving money on their energy bills all year long! Don't miss out on this great savings opportunity. To schedule your visit, call Beth at (612) 335-5874.



CLOSE T^o HOME

Editors: *Carrie Shidla & Chris Schommer*
Layout: *Chris Schommer*
Contributors: *Ben Elliott, Willie Bridges, Goldstein Museum of Design, Kori Stephens, Carrie Shidla, Chris Schommer, Adam Webster, Sheryl Schwyhart, Karen Young and more*

Close To Home exists because of community contributions. If you have something in the neighborhood you would like to write about, contact the Communications Committee at: **communications@frnng.org**
 Or call the office at 612-721-5424

The deadline for contributions of articles for the November/December issue is October 1st.



Are you interested in getting updates on neighborhood news and events more frequently? Then join the conversation on Facebook at **facebook.com/FRNNG** and on Twitter at **twitter.com/FRNNG** – for live updates, event reminders and community discussion. Volunteers are now adding new updates regularly!



1620 East 46th Street
 Minneapolis, MN 55407



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