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Mission Statement

To improve the quality of life in the Northland by collaborating with residents, businesses and institutions to empower neighborhoods to build and maintain their own healthy communities. We join with them in absolute dedication to finding solutions and, in that collective spirit, we will leave no neighborhood behind.



Andrea Pope and Angelo Cilia wowed a Northland crowd at *NNI Goes Hollywood!* May 10. More than 300 persons enjoyed social time, dinner and the music of the movies. The event netted \$18,000 and will help NNI through a difficult upcoming budget year (See “Perspectives” on page 7.)

Member organizations to vote on NNI bylaws and Board slate at June 23 Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of Northland Neighborhoods will be held at the NNI offices at 3015 NE Vivion Road on June 23 at 6:30 p.m. The agenda includes a round-up of the past year, approval of bylaws changes, and election of Board members. Each NNI Member neighborhood association in good standing has one vote.

(See page 6 for current Member list.)

The slate of Board member

candidates, ratified by the NNI Board at its May 19 meeting:

Open Seat: Elizabeth Clayton

Clayton is running for a first term expiring June 2011. Active in the Greenhaven Neighborhood Association, Elizabeth was a participant in NNI’s first EXCEL Neighborhood Leadership program.

Second Term: Park Lightfoot

Lightfoot served on the NNI Board in its early years and re-

turned to another full term expiring June 2008. Park serves on NNI’s Neighborhood Relations and Resource Development Committees. Running for his second full term, expiring June 2011, Park lives in the Holiday Hills Neighborhood.

First Full Term: Charles Chamberlin

Chamberlin was appointed to serve out the term of Board member Gene Hankins, expir-

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Member organizations to vote

continued from page 1
ing June 2008. He serves on NNI's Governmental Affairs Committee. Charles is running for a first full term, expiring June 2011. He is a Software Developer for DST Systems, Inc. and is currently Vice President of the Crestview Homes Association.

First Full Term: Martin Schuettpelz

Schuettpelz was appointed to fill out the term of Matt Guilfoil, expiring June 2008. Marty is running for his first full term, expiring June 2011. He serves on the Administration and Finance, Planning and Development and Neighborhood Relations Committees, is a longtime NNI volunteer, and is currently president of the Sherwood Estates Homes Association.

First Full Term: Juan M. Rangel

Rangel was appointed to fill out the term of William J. Sanders, expiring June 2008. Juan lives in the Foxwoods Neighborhood and is employed by Metropolitan Community Colleges. His community life emphasizes human relations, youth development and multicultural training. He was recently appointed to the ATA Board.

Volunteer of the month

Marty Schuettpelz

Martin (Marty) Schuettpelz grew up on a dairy farm near Suring, Wisconsin, about 50 miles northwest of Green Bay. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1971 with a degree in Forestry. He met his future wife, Kitty, while working for the U.S. Forest Service in Montana. They were married there in 1977 and moved to Kansas City in 1978.

Marty worked 26 years for the Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District, before retiring in November 2005. As an environmental planner, Marty assessed the environmental impact and other effects of proposed projects including Truman Reservoir, the 1993 flood repairs, the Blue River Channel, and the Missouri River levee at Riverside. "I had a rewarding career at the Corps, working with a lot of smart, dedicated, and caring people, learning a great deal about how projects are planned and built."

Marty lists his current occupation as "retired/volunteer." He looked for a few volunteer opportunities after retiring, with emphasis on the environment and neighborhoods. They were not hard to find. After offering time at one job or location, others seemed to come knocking. Marty now di-

vides his volunteering among NNI, Shepherds Center of the Northland, and the Sherwood Estates Homes Association. He also helps at Martha Lafite Thompson Nature Sanctuary in Liberty, Channel 19 (KCPT-TV), Missouri Prairie Foundation, Bridging the Gap, and at North Cross United Methodist Church.

Marty has been an NNI Board Member since 2005. Along with the Board and its committee work, he has "worked" at all the Night Out Against Crime Kickoffs, the yearly A.B.O.P.T. household waste cleanups at Antioch Center, the Safe Trick or Treat events and many others. "My service at NNI has been eye-opening, giving me a deeper understanding of the issues facing our neighborhoods and a growing appreciation of the power that people can have when working together."

At Shepherd's Center Marty often volunteers twice a week. He enjoys helping at SCN and hopes such organizations and volunteers will be available if he ever needs them.

Marty and Kitty have lived in Sherwood Estates since early 1993. "After I asked several questions at the homes asso-



Marty Schuettpelz is a committed volunteer for NNI. This photo was snapped as he worked a station at an NNI-sponsored A.B.O.P.T. dropoff.

ciation annual meeting in 2005, I suddenly found myself nominated for a spot on SEHA's Board. My first thoughts were 'not me', but the main reason I attended the meeting was to become more involved in the neighborhood, so I accepted. Our Board works hard to maintain and improve our neighborhood. We want Sherwood Estates to continue to be a place people want to live." Marty was re-elected to the Board last fall and elected President in January.

Marty has strong feelings about public transportation. He rode the bus to and from work almost every day for 26 years. He continues to use the bus system, especially the Metroflex small bus service, and is a source of information if you have any questions about using the Metro.

Neighborhood Clips

“Laughing Man” returns for June senior workshop

Join Steve “Laughing Man” Smith, Liberty Hospital Chaplain, for the June 11 Senior Workshop. Steve will speak on the benefits of humor in your life. Join Steve and rediscover “Humor, an Essential Part of Life.” The chuckles begin at 9 a.m.

A.B.O.P.T. arrives again June 7

A.B.O.P.T. stands for antifreeze, batteries, oil, paint, and tires, that really hard-to-get-rid-of stuff. Once again, thanks to cooperation from area municipalities, Northland Neighborhoods will sponsor a household hazardous waste collection site from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, June 7 in the east parking lot (Chouteau Trafficway side) of Antioch Shopping Center. ABOPT is a first come-first serve opportunity to dispose of environmentally sensitive materials in a safe, responsible way.

The service is free to residents of all Missouri metro area communities EXCEPT GRANDVIEW AND RAYTOWN. In addition to accepting the items mentioned above, there will be a dumpster for recycling metal items. Proceeds from the sale of the metal items will benefit NNI. While the service is free, donations will be gratefully accepted. There is a 300-car limit, so arrive early! Also new this year, a paper shredder for document shredding and recycling.

The following items will be accepted: antifreeze, car and household batteries, oil (automotive oil, cooking, heating, etc.), paints and paint related chemicals such as strippers, thinners, varnishes, and spray paints. There will be a tire drop off (with or without rims) open to all residents. There will be leaf and brush dumpsters available for **KANSAS CITY RESIDENTS ONLY**. Leaves must be in paper bags, not plastic. Items that will be collected: steel, iron and aluminum items, old metal bikes and toys, structural beams, electric motors, radiators, stainless steel and rebar. For more information, contact Janet Shaffer at 454-2000.

Coming soon: Night Out Against Crime “Kick-off”

Make plans now to attend NNI’s annual Night Out Against Crime Kick-Off on Saturday, August 2 from 5-8:30 p.m. at Oak Grove Park in Gladstone. There will be food, games entertainment and a “Prize Cube” where people can win door prizes. It’s great fun for the whole family ... and you will learn tips on keeping your neighborhood and your family safe.

PIAC hearings scheduled

The Public Improvements Advisory Committee (PIAC) has scheduled hearings for 1st and 2nd District neighborhoods. This is an opportunity to advocate for your priority neighborhood projects. PIAC projects are funded by a 1-cent sales tax that was recently renewed. PIAC representatives for District 1 are Ruthanne Harper and Rob Kinder. City Council members are Deb Hermann and Bill Skaggs. PIAC representatives for District 2 are Nelsie Sweeney and Meghan Badwey Conger. City Council members are Ed Ford and Russ Johnson.

DISTRICT ONE

Thursday, June 5, 2008
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Old Northeast
6612 Independence Avenue

Thursday, June 12, 2008
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Northland Neighborhoods
3015 NE Vivion Road

DISTRICT TWO

Tuesday, July 8, 2008
6:30 - 8:30 p. m.
Park Hill Community Education Center
7703 NW Barry Road

Thursday, July 10, 2008
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Northland Cathedral
101 NW 99th Street

June Garage Sales

Highland Gardens Neighborhood Association

Beginning at the intersection of Highland and Vivion Road

Friday, June 6, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Saturday, June 7, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Chaumiere

Saturday, June 14

www.neighborhoodlink.com/kc/chaumiere

for more information

Gracemor

Saturday, June 21, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Spotlight on Volunteerism

By Reta Jo Mitchell

Keeping a Treasured Memory Alive

Twelve years ago I began researching a story for the “Sun-Chronicle” about the long-lost water playground called Winnwood Beach. What an incredible journey down memory land it has been as dozens of Northlanders pitched in with their photographs and keepsakes of that treasured place they knew as “The Atlantic City of the West!”

The “Kansas City Star” recounted disasters like fires, the 1935 boardwalk collapse, the bankruptcy. But what was the real story? From Northland artist Barbara Smith, I gleaned the essence of Winnwood through her local newspaper files and invaluable Norris Cresswell aerial photographs (1916-29), her remembrances, and her own delightful watercolors. I learned that Winnwood Beach had three spring fed lakes: Winnwood (originally Winnetonka), Lake of the Woods and Lake Janet, named for developer Frank Winn’s wife.

The Mid-Continent Antioch Library helped me mount an

exhibit of Barbara Smith’s painting that proved providential. Through the library doors came oldtimers eager to share Winnwood Beach memories. Barbara Shippee Larson provided snapshots of her family’s picnics there and of her father, archeologist Mett Shippee, lounging on a diving board in his bathing suit.

Rental bathing suits were validated by Cheryl Barrios’ photos showing old-style swimsuits with “Winnwood Beach” lettered on the front. A visitor passing through from Iowa told how he earned a penny apiece for washing those old suits that were “made of wool and smelling like wet dogs.”

Many described how kids worked at the Beach under the helpful care of Lewis “Boots” Waller, a black man who was head groundskeeper. Others recited Northlander Virginia Blackmore Moody’s lyric poem about sneaking into the water without a ticket.

Picture postcards are a sure sign of popularity. Della Mae Lakey and Virginia Marchio let me copy their 1932 Hallmark cards. Virginia also substantiated dance marathon stories with a 1935 program featuring the winsome Miss Viola Thompson who danced for 53 days, wearing out three partners and winning the \$100 prize.

Others told of Frank Winn’s gift of barbecuing facilities and free ice water, of 10-cent rollercoaster rides, water-slides, beauty contests and scenic boat tours. There were also claims of car-racing monkeys and a pet elephant named Babe. Surely enough, a 1930 flyer detailed the monkey races, and a 1931 newspaper story described the frantic rescue of Babe as she was sinking into Lake Janet. Later, 93-year-old Maxine Piburn contributed a photograph of herself riding on Babe.

I then went looking for Frank Winn’s family. With Liberty resident Martha Roberts’ help, I traced the Winn’s only child Mary Jane to

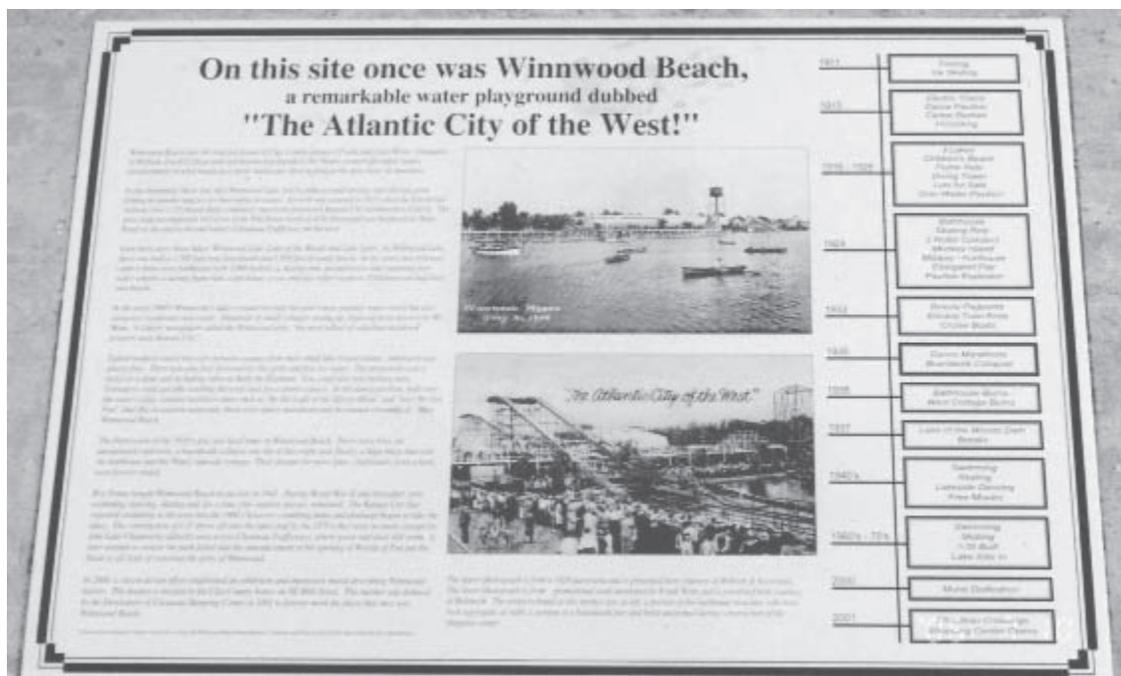
*Then, when the summer breeze was still
We stole away with practiced skill,
And gathering our youthful friends
Would walk to where the lake road ends.
We knew a perfect spot to take
A cooling dip in Winnwood Lake.*

—Virginia Blakemore Moody,
the Northland’s Poet Laureate

Hawaii, then to Sparks, Nevada. A kindly telephone operator located the three Winn grandchildren for me. Winn granddaughter Jan Killam sent me precious family photos, including Frank Winn's 1896 William Jewell College graduation picture.

It was Kansas City's 150th birthday celebration that gave Winnwood Beach permanent life. Carolyn Vellar of NNI and artist Bess Dutton helped secure a KC Legacy Grant of \$10,000 for a mural. Bess chose its artist, and she and Barbara Smith helped with its design. Clay County officials removed a wall in the Clay County Annex on NE 48th Street, where the 6 X 10 foot mural hangs today.

Winnetonka High School students donated an impressive display case where visitors can view the Cresswell photographs, Hallmark



Winnwood Beach marker before rain and kids' shoes marred it.

cards, period bathing suits and Gary Jenkins' gift of the Winns' original state charter. Those 1913 photographs of Winnwood swimmers and that formidable lifeguard were the gift of Gus Leimkuhler.

Interest in Winnwood Beach continues. KSHB-TV did

their last "Kansas City Crossroads" about it, and Northlander Dottie Green donated a copy of the Winns' legal abstract. Park University students Juli Houser-Ruiz and Tom Sweere wrote impressive research papers on this episode from the past.

Vital to Winnwood were the trains that daily brought in 5,000 visitors. Train historian David Short has located one of the actual train cars, embedded in a house, and dreams of restoring it. Winnwood was also significant in Kansas City's music history as one of the first local ballrooms to engage black musicians—like Mary Lou Williams, Benny Moten and Count Basie.

In 2003, Chouteau Crossings

Shopping Center developer Jeff Peterson donated a beautiful site marker where Winnwood Beach actually stood. Unfortunately, the marker's etched story and pictures were ruined by rain. In 2006, the Shopping Center's new owners paid for a recasting, only to see it again ruined by rain—and the shoes of climbing kids.

Last month, Winn granddaughter Jan Killam wrote me that she and her brothers "are so happy to hear that Winnwood Beach lives on in memory." Hopefully, a new and more substantial site marker can be created to help keep that memory complete.



Wanted: Section 3 Contractors

NNI seeks qualified contractors to work for our Home Repair Programs dedicated to low and moderate income Northlanders. We are requesting qualification proposals from Section 3-eligible contractors to conduct home repair services in the following categories:

- Heating and Cooling (HVAC) Systems
- Roofing
- Windows and Doors
- Gutters
- Plumbing and Water Heaters
- Code Violation Remediation
- Siding
- Removing Barriers to Access
- Weatherization Activities
- Lead Testing and Abatement
- Flatwork/Concrete
- General Contracting

Please contact Christy Harris at (816) 454-2000 if you are or know a contractor interested in earning money while helping improve the quality of life for individuals and the community.

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. Member Associations as of May 19, 2008

40-46 North Neighborhood and Crime Watch
Auburn Hills Homes Association
Barrington Ridge Homes Association
Barry Harbor Hunters Ridge Homes Association
Barry Height Homes Association
Bolling Heights Community Link
Briarcliff West Homes Association
Bridge Pointe Homeowners Association
Brittany Oaks Homeowners Association
Brook Ridge Homes Association
Brookhill Homes Association
Carriage Commons Townhomes Association
Carriage Hills Estates Homeowners Association
Carriage Hills Plats 7, 8, 9
Cedar Ridge Homes Association
Chapel Wood Homes Association
Charleston Harbor Homes Association
Chaumiere Neighborhood Association
Chouteau Estates Neighborhood Association
Claybrook Homes Association
Claymont North Homeowners Association
Colonial Square Homes Association
Cooley Highland Neighborhood Association
Country Club Neighborhood Association
Country Downs Home's Association
Coventry Homes Association
Coves North Homeowners Association
Crestview Homes Assn #1 - Renewal
Embassy Park Homeowners Association
Essex Court Townhomes/
Essex Place Homeowners Association
Evanston Place Neighborhood Group
Foxwoods Neighborhood Association
Gracemor-Randolph Neighborhood Association
Green Meadows Neighborhood Association
Greenhaven Neighborhood Association
Grey Oaks Homes Association
Hidden Lakes Homes Association
Highland Acres Lakeside Heights Homes Association
Highland Gardens Neighborhood Association
Hills of Montclair Homeowners Association
Hills of Rock Creek Neighborhood Association
Hills of Walden Homes Association
Holiday Hills Neighborhood Association
Little Village Neighborhood Association
Maple Woods Estates Homeowners Association
Meadow Lane Homes Association
Misty Woods Neighborhood Association
New Mark First Pool Homes Association
North Bennington Neighborhood Association
Oak Park Manor Neighborhood Association
Old Maple Park Neighborhood Association
Patterson Highlands Neighborhood Association
Pinecrest Neighborhood Association
Prather Hills Neighborhood Association
Ravenwood-Summerset Neighborhood Association
River Forest Neighborhood Association
Rosemont Homes Association
Searcy Creek Neighborhood Association
Sherwood Estates Homes Association
South Oakwood Homes Association
Staley Farms New Homes
Stone Ridge Townhomes
Strathbury Woods Homes Association
Sunset Dixon Neighborhood Association
Sunset Hill Neighborhood Association
Valley Brook Neighborhood Association
Vrooman Acres Neighborhood Association
Walnut Ridge Estates Homes Association
Willow Brooke Homes Association
Winnwood Sunnybrook Neighborhood Association

Perspectives

By Jim Rice

Disfunction at City Hall affects us all

Contrary to what some may believe, I do **not** enjoy bashing City Hall. My professional roots are there, having served in the Budget and Finance areas there during the Davis, Wheeler and Berkley administrations. In 1970, I became the first Council Assistant and later served as chief of staff to Mayor Richard Berkley. I continue to respect and admire the many excellent City employees who today work in a very difficult management culture. Many of the current City Council members I look to with equal respect and admiration. Today, however, political and management dysfunction at City Hall has a negative impact on citizens and organizations like Northland Neighborhoods that provide municipal functions. I offer three cases that, for me, symbolize this dysfunction:

The retaining wall

Nearly a year ago, a water main break forced the destruction of a masonry retaining wall at the north edge of the Antioch Annex. The Water Department reconstructed the wall in a slipshod manner that was neither aesthetically pleasing nor structurally sound. Curry Investment Company's Ray Brock, owner of the im-

pacted property, suggested to the Water Department that the landscaping firm that had originally designed and constructed the wall be employed to competently restore it. NNI chimed in with Brock. Ignoring us, the Water Department bid the job out for a second try. The new crew performed as badly as the first and Brock was even more frustrated. Then, after the better part of a year, and determined intervention from Councilwoman Deb Hermann, the Water Department devised a brilliant plan: hire the outfit suggested by Ray Brock in the first place. The wall was quickly restored to its original glory, but only after paying three times for the same job and delaying the project six times longer than it should have taken.

The North Oak orphan

The City Council adopted the North Oak Corridor Plan in August 2006, nearly two years ago. The Plan contained a blue print for how that key Northland corridor could better serve transportation, economic development and neighborhood needs well into the future. At a May 20 meeting at NNI, we discovered that, even with City Hall's budget crisis, resources are at hand to

make several serious capital improvements to North Oak and the corridor it dissects: planned and funded work by MODOT at key intersections and complementary work along Vivion Road, major water line installations (partly underway) by the Water Department, PIAC projects on Briaclyff Parkway/42nd Street, a 4-year old federal grant looking for a place to land, and the North Oak TIF that is just starting to generate TIF funds. We also discovered that no one at City Hall has been designated as point person to coordinate the series of projects that, if pieced together in a professional way, could result in major improvements to North Oak. Uncoordinated, we could face bone-chilling delays and bureaucratic missteps, resulting in missed opportunities and a long line of metal plates.

The housing mess

In June 2004, City Manager Wayne Cauthen dismantled the City Housing Department and sent its lending/technical assistance arm (HEDFC) into receivership. In June 2008, the housing organization is still dismantled and HEDFC and its estimated \$18 million in assets are still in the hands of

a Court-appointed receiver. One of the city's top community development corporations (CDCs), Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance, is defunct, several other CDCs are hanging by their fingernails, and most of the others (including NNI) are struggling to make ends meet. The rare communications between the CDCs and the City housing staff are draconian mandates and endless recitation of HUD rules. This behavior is born out of the City's paranoia that HUD will cut off Community Block Grant funds if they show the slightest deviation from HUD rules or exhibit any evidence of creative problem-solving.

Well, as Hardy said to Laurel, "Well Stanley, this is another fine mess you've gotten me into."





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**WE WILL LEAVE NO
NEIGHBORHOOD BEHIND.**

Public Meetings at NNI June 2008

Saturday	6/7	ABOPT at Antioch Center	8:00 a.m.
Monday	6/9	Northland Trails	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday	6/11	Senior Workshop	9:00 a.m.
Thursday	6/12	PIAC Hearing	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	6/17	1st District Roads Update	8:30 a.m.
Wednesday	6/18	Cop Talk at Shoal Creek	6:00 p.m.
Monday	6/23	Annual Meeting (at NNI)	6:30 p.m.
Monday	6/23	NNI Board Meeting	7:30 p.m.
Monday	6/30	Meet Your Councilpersons	6:00 p.m.