



# NNI NEWS

[www.nni.org](http://www.nni.org)

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## NNI WANTS YOU!

### Enroll today in the 2011 EXCEL neighborhood leadership program

NNI's EXCEL Neighborhood Leadership Program will begin its fourth year in May 2011. There is still time for interested persons to complete an application.

The 6-month training program includes sessions on Leadership skills, State and Local Government, Community Infrastructure, Economic Development, Public Safety and much more. Past participants praise the program for the quality of its curriculum and the positive experience of working with fellow participants on realistic neighborhood issues. Persons interested in enrolling should contact Jim Rice at 816-454-2000 or [jim\\_rice@nni.org](mailto:jim_rice@nni.org). Cost to participants for the entire program (includes training, materials, meals) is \$100. Scholarships are available. Completed applications can be submitted by U.S. mail or e-mail.



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## Eighth annual Town Hall Meeting

slated for April 14

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. will host its eighth annual Town Hall Meeting April 14, 2010 at 6 p.m. at NNI, 3015 NE Vivion Road. After remarks by NNI chief executive officer Jim Rice and Northland City Council members, the evening will conclude with presentation of the

Neighborhood Champion Awards. These awards are given annually to neighborhood leaders, business people and government officials who have made extraordinary contributions to their neighborhoods and the overall community.

## Roberts Rules

encore set for April 7

Due to the popularity of the January 27 Roberts Rules workshop—40 persons attended—there will be an encore presentation on April 7 at 6 p.m. This session will focus on setting thoughtful agendas and keeping accurate meeting minutes. The presenter will be Mrs. Pat Lehman, RPR. NNI will provide copies of handout materials.

"There is clearly a demand for training in the fundamentals of neighborhood organization," says Trish Martin, Chair of NNI's Neighborhood Relations Committee. "Parliamentary procedure is one of those fundamental things we too often take for granted. I have a feeling Roberts Rules will become a regular program for NNI."

## Please Vote!

The General Election for the Kansas City Mayor and Council is March 22, 2011.

On April 5, Kansas City voters will vote to renew the Earnings Tax. The Northland Neighborhoods Board of Directors endorsed the renewal at its February 21 meeting. Failure to renew the earnings tax would have a devastating impact on neighborhood safety, maintenance and other crucial city services. Northland voter turnout was very low in the February 22 primary election for Mayor and Council. A strong Northland voice on important community issues will have a positive influence on those who make decisions on how to allocate limited city resources. So, please take time to study the candidates and issues; then take a few moments to cast your vote on March 22 and April 5.

## Directory of services Available at NNI

- Neighborhood organization, by-law and board development, neighborhood cleanups, including a tool library
- EXCEL neighborhood leadership program
- Space for neighborhood meetings
- Monthly senior citizen health, education and recreation workshops
- Crime prevention training programs, Cop Talk meetings, and Night Out Against Crime Kick-Off
- Comprehensive code enforcement (4 KCMO code officers are based at NNI)
- Neighborhood Computer Center
- Comprehensive home repair programs
- FOCUS Center: voter registration, pet licensing, code enforcement, animal control satellite, notary public, KCPD Office of Community Complaints, dangerous building officer
- CAN (Community Action Network) Center
- Monthly "Meet Your Councilpersons" meetings
- Monthly "Roundtable" and communications workshops
- Clearinghouse for economic development projects that impact neighborhoods
- Neighborhood newsletter printing

# Neighborhood Clips

Some brief-but important-announcements and information that might be helpful to neighborhoods in the Northland.

## **Personal safety, block watch featured at March senior workshop**

Vanessa Huskey, KCMO Neighborhood and Community Services, and Officer Markus Smith, Shoal Creek Patrol Division, were on hand March 9 with good information and solid advice on personal safety and the value of Block Watches for neighborhood security. The workshops are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m.

## **NNI seeks qualified low-income home repair contractors**

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. needs qualified low-income contractors to do home repair work including: 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; and General Contracting. Please contact Larry Washington at 816-454-2000 for more information.

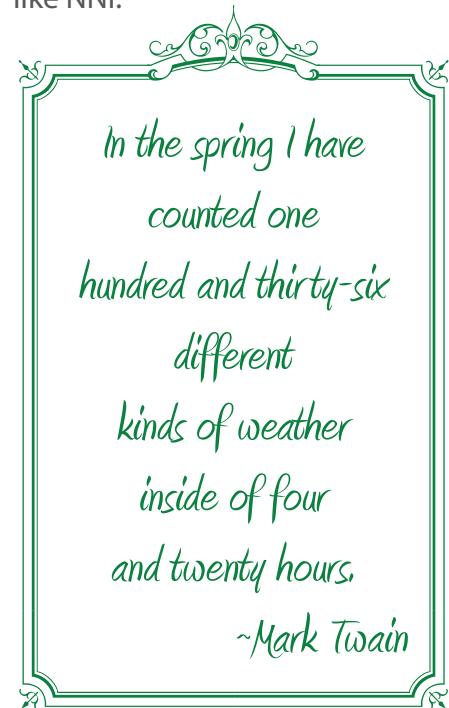
## **NNI can help you wipe out home-based allergens**

The Kansas City Safe & Healthy Home Partnership will review your child's health, and the health of your home. The home environmental assessment includes checking indoor air quality and ventilation, dust and allergen levels, moisture and mold, a household chemical survey, a home maintenance survey, and a home safety check-up. You can enroll today by calling 816-235-6331 or contact Larry Washington at NNI, 454-2000 to see if you qualify.

Other home repair programs available from NNI include the ENCORE program for qualified residents in the North Oak Corridor, the Custom Solutions program for qualified residents in the Kansas City, Missouri portions of Clay and Platte Counties, and the Clay County Senior Services small home repair program. Contact Larry Washington or Cheryl Ray at 454-2000 for more information.

## **Roundtable to focus on KCMO housing and neighborhood programs**

Don't miss the March 22 Neighborhood Roundtable. The program begins at 6 p.m. and will feature John Wood, new Assistant City Manager for housing and neighborhoods, and Beth Murano, Assistant City Attorney. John and Beth will give their perspectives on how the City is trying to focus more attention on neighborhoods, the status of the housing receivership, and the City's relationship with organizations like NNI.



## Volunteer Recognition Dan Fowler

Dan Fowler is an attorney. An attorney's time equals income. Volunteering requires time, lots of it. And that equals sacrifice. This is one of many reasons Dan Fowler deserves special recognition as a consummate volunteer.

Born in Clay Center, Kansas, Dan grew up 60 miles away in Salina. Never one to toot his own horn, Dan chose the clarinet (a woodwind) for his stint in the high school marching band. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Kansas State University in 1976. Thirty-five years later, Dan is still a passionate K-State fan. The walls of his law office are adorned with pastels of campus landmarks and other memorabilia and a K-State flag flies from his Coves North condo. From Manhattan Dan traveled to Washington, D.C. where he graduated from the prestigious Georgetown University Law School in 1979. Dan has lived in the Northland since 1986.

Dan's list of civic and non-profit activities include the Port Authority of Kansas City



(Commissioner); Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. Board of Directors (Vice President); Deb Hermann for Kansas City (Treasurer); Northland Healthcare Access Board of Directors (President 2007 to 2010); Forward Kansas City Board of Directors (Treasurer); MetroCare, Inc. (Board Chair); St. Patrick School Board and Finance Committee (1990-1995).

Dan's NNI Board activities extend to service on key committees and some ad hoc neighborhood problem-solving when his legal background is needed. He also happily volunteers for programs which complement two of his personal passions: cycling and Halloween. Dan and his racing bike are constant

companions on a daily basis and he participates in several local and regional events such as Bike MS (formerly the MS 150) and the Tour de Cure (benefiting the American Diabetes Association).

Halloween is clearly the high point of Dan's year. He dutifully volunteers, in full costume, at NNI's annual Safe Trick or Treat event and wangles invitations to every Halloween party within the metropolitan area. To top off this autumnal ritual, Dan hosts his own event where each room of his home is transformed into a den of trickery and comic horror. Guests approach his cob-webbed entry way tingling with suspense over what ghastly form their host will take this year. Dan is



legendary for the range and intensity of his Halloween disguises, some of which take more preparation than the makeup procedures endured by silent film star Lon Chaney, the man of 1,000 faces. Examples include an Indian warrior replete with hatchet buried in his back, an Egyptian prince with Sphinx head gear, a Roman soldier with a dagger blade thrust through his torso, and Tyrone Horneigh, the "nasty old man" character from the Laugh-In show.

Despite his self-effacing, and sometimes, gloom and doom persona, friends know Dan gets involved in non-profit and volunteer activities because he truly likes helping others. "It's a way I can use the skills I have to make a difference. And, the people I interact with along the way are uniformly interesting and caring," says Dan Fowler. Sounds like a win-win for all.

**Start warming up now!**

## NNI's Northland Hot Trot 5-K to debut in July

NNI will add a 5-K neighborhood run to the July 30, 2011 Night Out Against Crime Kick-Off. The Kick-Off will again be held in Gladstone's Oak Grove Park, from 5 to 8:30 p.m. The run will begin at 7 p.m. and conclude there about an hour later. In tribute to the blast furnace weather late July can bring, the run will be called the Northland Hot Trot.

Registration fees are \$25 until July 18, \$30 after July 18 until the day of the event. The race will be professionally timed and the route, although not finally determined, will embrace both Gladstone and Kansas City neighborhoods.

Neighborhood associations will be invited to participate with runners,

water stations and sponsorships. Local businesses will also be invited to sponsor the event. Packet pick-up will be July 28-30 at NNI (3015 NE Vivion Road), Wheel Cyclery (6403 N. Prospect), and Oak Grove Park (76<sup>th</sup> and N. Troost). Volunteers are needed for packet preparation, packet pick-up tables, route-monitoring and water stations.

For more information, call NNI at 454-2000 or The Wheel Cyclery at 455-2453. You may also e-mail The Wheel Cyclery at [info@thewheelcyclery.com](mailto:info@thewheelcyclery.com).

## Keep Kansas City Beautiful Litter Index

in the Northland March 19

The Litter Index is an opportunity for Kansas City residents to view their community through new lenses as they help Bridging the Gap show the impact litter has on Kansas City. Following a training session, volunteers work in car-based teams using neighborhood maps to observe the level of litter in a neighborhood. The volunteer teams give each area a score based on the amount of litter present. These scores are used to produce an annual report of litter trends. On Saturday, March 19, the 11th

Annual Litter Index will happen in the Northland beginning with breakfast and training at 10 a.m. and concluding by 2 p.m. Meet at NNI, 3015 NE Vivion Road. Contact Kate Becker at 816.561.1061, ext 113 or [kate.becker@bridgingthegap.org](mailto:kate.becker@bridgingthegap.org) to join in on this important event or to schedule your own Litter Index Survey date. Keep Kansas City Beautiful is an affiliate of Bridging The Gap, a Kansas City-based environmental education and action organization.

**Events in March-April 2011: Dates and times are subject to change. Please check our website for latest information\***

**Tuesday, 3/15**  
1st District Problem-Solving  
**8:30 a.m.**

**Tuesday, 3/15**  
Greenhaven Neighborhood  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, 3/16**  
Cop Talk  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Monday, 3/21**  
NNI Board Meeting  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, 3/22**  
Neighborhood Roundtable  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Monday, 3/28**  
Meet Your Councilpersons  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Thursday, 4/7**  
Roberts Rules Workshop  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, 4/13**  
Senior Workshop  
**9:00 a.m.**

**Thursday, 4/14**  
NNI Town Hall Meeting  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Monday, 4/18**  
NNI Board Meeting  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, 4/19**  
1st District Problem-Solving  
**8:30 a.m.**

**Tuesday, 4/19**  
Greenhaven Neighborhood  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday, 4/20**  
Cop Talk  
**6:30 p.m.**

**Monday, 4/25**  
Meet Your Councilpersons  
**6:00 p.m.**

\*NNI provides meeting space for any organization that provides a legitimate civic or public purpose. An organization's use of NNI meeting space does not imply any approval or endorsement of that organization's positions on any public issues.

## Help your house and neighborhood go green

# A.B.O.P.T. set for May 21 at new location

A.B.O.P.T., NNI's annual collection of antifreeze, batteries, oil, paint, tires, and other pesky stuff will happen on Saturday, May 21, from 8 a.m. until noon at the Metro North Shopping Center (Highway 169 and Barry Road). Last year's event drew more than 600 area residents who disposed of that hard-to-get-rid-of stuff in a safe, responsible way. That resulted in the biggest household hazardous waste clean-up in the history of Kansas City.

The NNI staff is planning and coordinating the massive collection along with environmental specialists from the City of Kansas City, Missouri. They will be assisted by Kansas City Police officers and volunteers. Please call Janet Shaffer at 454-2000 if you would like to volunteer.

### Last year's haul:

- \* **Two tons of household documents shredded**
- \* **3,920 pounds of metal collected for recycling**
- \* **440 tires collected (360 auto tires, 52 auto tires on wheels, 13 motorcycle tires, 10 truck tires, 5 mower tires with rims)**
- \* **More than 23 tons of household hazardous waste (antifreeze, oil, paint and paint related products)**