

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc.
5312 NE Chouteau Trafficway
Kansas City, MO 64119

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
KANSAS CITY, MO
PERMIT NO. 1848

The monthly **"Meet Your Councilperson"** event is Monday, December 27, 6 - 7 pm at NNI.

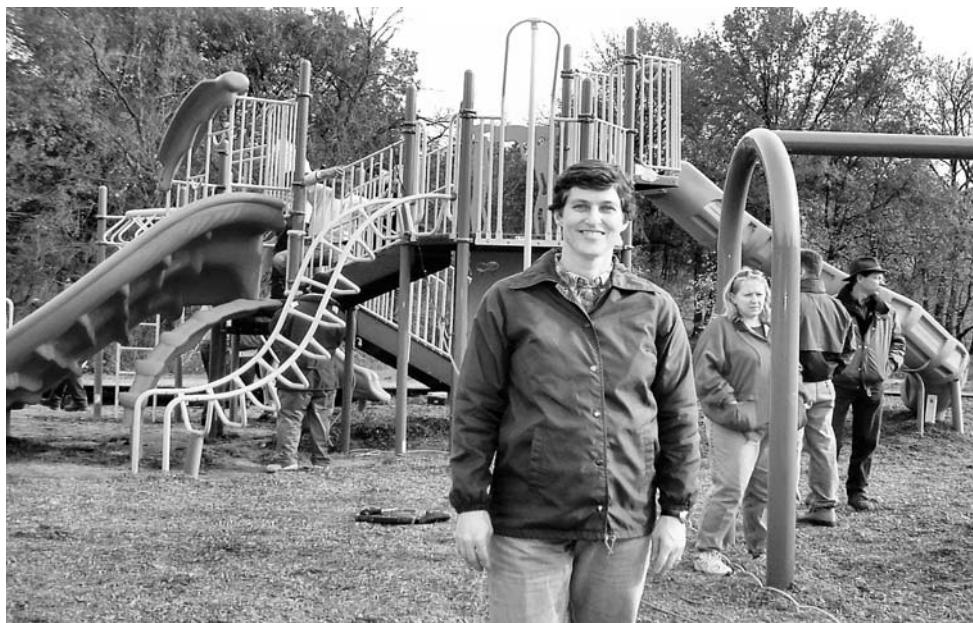
The new **Connections** meeting will be held January 11, 6:30 pm with guest speaker Troy Schulte, Director of the Office of Management and Budget for the City of Kansas City, Missouri. "Connections" replaces the "Leaders" meeting.

The NNI Board of Directors will not meet in December.

NNI Meetings in December

Tues., December 7	Holiday Hills Neighborhood Meeting	7 pm
Wed., December 8	Senior Citizen Workshop and Christmas Party	9 am
Thurs., December 9	Greenhaven Neighborhood Association	6:30 pm
Mon., December 13	Winnwood Neighborhood Meeting	6 pm
Mon., December 20	NNI Board Meeting CANCELLED	6:30 pm
Fri., December 24	Office Closed Christmas Holiday	
Mon., December 27	Meet Your Councilperson	6-8 pm
Fri., December 31	Office Closed New Year Holiday	

Persistence, hard work pay off as new playground emerges in Golden Oaks Park



A tired but happy Brenda Ellis takes a photo break after the day-long assembly of the new Golden Oaks Playground.

Brenda Ellis doesn't give up easily. Ellis, president of the Golden Oaks Neighborhood Association, has campaigned tirelessly for improvements to Golden Oaks Park for several

years. On Saturday, November 13, her efforts paid off as dozens of neighborhood volunteers, Parks and Recreation workers, and police officers came together to assemble the

massive, brightly colored components of a new playground.

The morning began with small pockets of volunteers pondering instruction booklets and wondering how the mind-bending piles of playground parts would ever come together. But, by day's end, an impressive new playground had taken shape and was ready for a whimsical trial run by the young and the young at heart.

The playground is phase one of several improvements yet to come, including a walking trail. The playground equipment was funded by \$35,000 in Kansas City's sales tax for public improvements program (PIAC). NNI worked with Ellis and Councilwoman Deb Hermann to secure the PIAC grant.

2. **NNI Newsclips, NNI seniors, neighborhood contest to benefit Harvesters**
3. **Northland continues to support armed forces, leaf and brush schedule**
4. **Calendar**

NNI Newsclips

Connections Meeting:

NNI will roll out its new **Connections** meeting January 11, 2005, 6:30 p.m. at the NNI offices. Guest speaker will be Troy Schulte, Director of the Office of Management and Budget for the City of Kansas City, Missouri. Future meetings will be held monthly on the second Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at NNI.

CHAMP Update:

The Chouteau Housing and Maintenance Program (CHAMP) began in September 2003 and will conclude by January 2005. As of November, repairs averaging more than \$4,000 per home have been completed on 189 homes. Inspired by their CHAMP neighbors, other homeowners in Chaumiere and Winnwood-Sunnybrook neighborhoods have invested nearly \$400,000 of their own funds to make additional repairs. The new roofs, siding, windows and driveways have created curb appeal and energy efficiency in the two targeted neighborhoods.

SBC grant:

Southwestern Bell has notified NNI that it will receive an \$8,000 Excelerator Grant for technology training. The grant is a follow-up to last year's \$20,000 award to develop NNI's Neighborhood Information Center. The new grant will provide computer training to staff, volunteers and neighborhood leaders.

Habitat House:



NNI, the City of Kansas City and Northland Habitat are building a new house for a deserving Northland family on NE 60th Street. The family will need all new furnishings for the house. Donations large and small are needed to accomplish the \$10,000 goal. Contributions may be sent to the Jacobs Fund at NNI, 5312 NE Chouteau Trafficway, KCMO 64119. In-kind donations of good quality furniture or housewares will also be accepted.

For more information call Janet Shaffer at 454-2000.

NNI Seniors Christmas party slated for December 8

Join NNI Seniors on Wednesday, December 8, 9 am, to celebrate the holiday season. The festivities will include a white elephant gift exchange, bingo and lunch. Join NNI in showing our appreciation for our Northland senior citizens.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Janet Shaffer at 454-2000.

Neighborhoods to compete in contest to benefit Harvesters

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. will sponsor a food drive contest among Northland neighborhoods and individuals. The food will be presented to Harvesters, which supplies food to local food pantries. Prizes will be given to the neighborhood and individual who donate the most items. The neighborhood who donates the most items will receive \$150 and the top individual will receive \$50.

Collection of non-perishable food items (canned and boxed goods) will begin December 1 and will continue through January 7.

The winners will be recognized and prizes awarded at the new **Connections** meeting on January 11, 6:30 pm.

For more information contact Janet Shaffer at 454-2000.

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. Board of Directors - Officers

Mike Lewis	President
Doniele Kane	Vice-President
Mary Jo Burton	Secretary
Tom Schweitzer	Treasurer

Jim Rice - Executive Director
Janet Shaffer - Newsletter Editor
Christy Harris - Director of Operations

www.nni.org

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816-454-1747 - Fax

Northlanders continue to support armed forces

Northlanders continue their support of our armed forces in Iraq and Afghanistan. The drop-off box at the NNI office is frequently overflowing with personal care items and treats for Care Package mailings.

The Clay-Platte chapter of "Operation Support Our Troops" (OSOT) recently shipped 83 large Christmas boxes to the troops. Donations had also come from four churches, clubs, Antioch library patrons and the entire student body of Winnetonka High School.

OSOT's next care package shipment will be in early January, with postage costs a special need. Explained OSOT member Reta Jo Mitchell: "Each 20 pound box costs \$30 to mail."

Mitchell also shared a letter received last summer from a soldier in Iraq: "You sure brought a smile on me, when I saw that package by my sleeping area. It felt like I was a kid again and Santa had dropped his presents. The soldiers really appreciate what you are doing for us."

For more information contact: Reta Jo Mitchell at 452-5898.

Fall 2004 leaves and brush recycling program outlined

Leaves and brush must be placed on the curb by 7 am. The schedule for curbside leaf and brush pick-up is as follows:

If your trash day is:

Wednesday - pick up is Dec. 6
Thursday - pick up is Dec. 6
Friday - pick up is Dec. 13

The requirements are: use only paper lawn debris bags sealed only with masking tape. Do not seal with any plastic or duct tape. Do not include trash or grass clippings. Maximum weight is 40 pounds.

Bundle your brush with string only in lengths less than or equal to 4 feet, 2 feet in diameter, and 40 pounds or less. Exclude brush that is greater than 3 inches in diameter. Do not use wire or plastic tape to tie brush in bundles. Use twine or jute rope only. Place no more than 15 bags and/or bundles per household at the curb. Place bundles and

paper leaf bags at the curb by 7am on Monday of your scheduled week.

Weather permitting, leaves and brush will be picked up from the curbside within six days of the date noted. Cover bags and bundles with clear tarps to protect items from the weather. Dry bags are less likely to tear and leave yard waste behind.

The City processes the material collected in the Leaves and Brush Recycling Program into mulch and compost to be used by the City and its residents.

Free mulch and compost are available at the leaves and brush drop-off sites.

For more information contact Environmental Management at 513-3490.



The staff at NNI wish you and yours a very happy holiday season.

