

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

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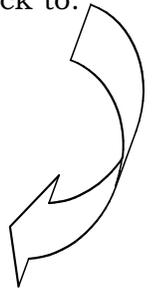


Join the NNI Bandwagon!

Your contribution to NNI is tax-deductible. Please return the form below with your check to:



Northland Neighborhoods
5312 NE Chouteau Tfwy.
Kansas City, MO 64119
www.nni.org



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I want to sign up for:

- Basic Bandwagon \$100
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Coming soon to the Northland: *Shoal Creek Police Station*



Groundbreaking for the new Shoal Creek Police Station is slated for May 10 at 11:00 a.m. The site of the new, 2-level, 22,000 square-foot facility is at Pleasant Valley Road and Shoal Creek Parkway. The station will house offices for the Shoal Creek Patrol Division, community meeting space, and a detention facility. The \$7.9 million project is scheduled for completion in spring of 2006.

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Neighborhood clips

Connections: Speakers set for May, June and July meetings

Kansas City Aviation Director Mark VanLoh will speak at the May 10 meeting. He will update the group on current plans and activities at the two Kansas City airports.

Missouri State Representative Trent Skaggs and Bill Skaggs, Kansas City Councilman and former State Rep, will offer the Connections group their perspectives on State government at the June 14 meeting.

Mike Herron, head of the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Department's North Region, will do an encore presentation at the July 12 meeting.

Connections meetings, held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at NNI, connect neighborhoods with people, information and resources that will strengthen and enhance the Northland community.

NNI Annual Meeting slated for June 27

Northland Neighborhoods' Annual Meeting will take place June 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Vivion Road and North Oak Trafficway.

At this meeting NNI member organizations elect new Board members. Persons interested

in running for the one open seat on the NNI Board of Directors must complete a Board member application form, available at the NNI offices.

Clay Assessor to address NNI seniors

Cathy Rinehart, Clay County Assessor, will discuss the Homestead Preservation Act and how senior citizens can receive tax credits on their home. Ms. Rinehart will explain how the program works and what information seniors will need to qualify for this important benefit.

Edy's to sweeten summer block parties

For four years, the Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance funded block party grants. For 2005, KCNA does not have funding to continue that program.

However, Edy's Slow Churned Ice Cream is dishing up a fun and sweetly old-fashioned way to "break the ice" with neighbors: ice cream block parties.

Edy's will award 1,500 neighborhoods a "Two Scoop Neighborhood Salute" this summer, to coincide with National Ice Cream month. Winners will receive a doorstep delivery of Edy's Slow Churned Light Ice Cream with all the fixings for an easy-to-organize party.

To nominate your block for a Two Scoop Neighborhood Salute ice cream social, enter online at www.Edys.com.

Sign up today for 21st Century leader series

The "Building 21st Century Leaders" program, sponsored by the Kansas City Neighborhood Alliance (KCNA), will begin a new series in August. The program is a personal leadership course for persons interested in increasing their effectiveness in their communities, on their blocks, at home, and at work.

There is no charge for the five month series (ten 2-hour classes). The course is conducted at the KCNA, 3101 Broadway, Suite 101. A light supper is provided at all classes, which are scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m.

The ten sessions include: Orientation, Knowing Others and Myself, Hope-Building Skills, Communication Skills, Team Building, and Facilitation Skills.

If you are interested in this important, no-cost educational opportunity, call Janet Shaffer at 454-2000. NNI will handle your registration and recognize you in the newsletter at time of graduation.

Neighborhood garage sales scheduled

Greenhaven Neighborhood
May 21 - 8 to Noon
Vivion and Chouteau Trfwy.

Sunset Hill Neighborhood
June 3 and 4 - 9 to 5 p.m.
N. Wayne, N Parvin and I-35
intersection.

FOCUS on FOCUS-KC

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. is a permanent **voter registration site** for Clay and Platte Counties. Janet Shaffer and Christy Harris have been deputized and can register you from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday at the NNI offices, 5312 NE Chouteau Trafficway. Please call 454-2000 before you come in to register.

If you are not already registered, you must have proof of identification such as a driver's license or another photo ID. If you have a name change or have moved, you also need to register.

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. is **pet registration** site for the City of Kansas City, Missouri. Licenses are available to you from 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday at the NNI offices, 5312 NE Chouteau Trafficway. The cost is \$9.

Please call 454-2000 if you have any questions.

Youth join together with NNI for Youth Service Day

On Saturday, April 16, 2005, several local teenagers spent their day picking up litter, repairing homes, cleaning senior citizens' yards and working with neighborhood organizations in the Northland for Serve Day.

Serve Day is an event strategically aimed at connecting youth from local churches with agencies doing important work in the community. By providing volunteer opportunities for teenagers, members of the community can show young people that giving their time and resources is vital to the growth of the community.

This was YouthFront's sixth annual day of service for students throughout the Kansas City area and the first year they worked with Northland Neighborhoods, Inc.

NNI/Habitat house in final stretch; community support needed to furnish the new home



Irene Jacobs

A fund has been established to purchase furniture, appliances and house wares for the new home being built for the Jacobs family by Northland Habitat. To date, about \$3,500 has been contributed toward the \$10,000 goal. Tax-deductible contributions should be made payable to the Northland Neighborhoods, Inc./Jacobs Fund/, 5312 NE Chouteau Trafficway, KCMO 64119.

None of the family's old furniture is suitable for the new house, so the need is very real.

All contributions will be deeply appreciated by NNI and the Jacobs family.

Waiting list for Chaumiere Place senior apartments forming now

Chaumiere Place senior apartments will begin construction in late June or early July 2005. The \$5.5 million project, a partnership of NNI Development, LLC and Cohen-Esrey Development, will convert the former Eastwood School and its 4-acre site at 4140 N. Walrond into a 35-unit apartment village.

The school building will contain 23 units (most units are

2-bedroom) and a 2,300 square-foot community center in the former gymnasium. Twelve new, 2-bedroom patio homes with attached garages will be constructed on the remainder of the site. All units will be affordably priced for qualified tenants.

Call NNI at 454-2000 if you or someone you know has an interest in getting on the waiting list.

New KC North fire station moves to design stage

The Kansas City, Missouri Fire Department will have a new addition to their Fire Station sites. Fire Station 14 will be located north of the river at Hwy 152 and N Brighton. This station will increase the north-east corridor coverage area. The projected completion date is summer of 2006.

The project is estimated to cost around \$5.5 million dollars completely funded by the fire sales tax passed in August of 2001. The station will be designed by Gossen-Livingston Architects and built by Titan Construction. This is the first of four design/build fire projects to take place under the Capital Improvements Management Office (CIMO) umbrella.

Station 14 will be the first Battalion Chief Headquarters design to be built north of the river. This design will be a one-stop-shop where fire companies can obtain fuel, refill air and oxygen and also be used as a training facility for KCFD fire companies north of the river.

The new station will be designed to house one pumper company, one aerial ladder company and a Battalion Chief.

2005 Kansas City Beautiful Awards await caring property owners

Once again it is time for the Kansas City Beautiful Awards. The Kansas City Beautiful "George" Awards are presented to Kansas City, Missouri residences, businesses and institutions that have demonstrated best efforts to beautify their properties.

The Kansas City Beautiful Awards are jointly sponsored by The Kessler Society, the City of Kansas City and the Kansas City, Missouri Board of Parks and Recreation Commissioners. The purpose of the awards is to encourage Kansas City property owners to aesthetically enhance and landscape their properties for the betterment of the community.

In 2005, there will be four Kansas City, Missouri properties recognized from each of the six City Council Districts. Only properties located in the City of Kansas City, Missouri will be eligible for an award. A total of twenty-five awards will be presented. One property will be selected to receive the Mayor's Choice Award.

Awards can be given to single family residences, multi-family homes, apartments, businesses, institutions and/or churches. Selection of award recipients will be based on the overall appearance of the property; best use of plants and landscape materials; and overall aesthetic contribution to the surrounding community.

Submitting a property for a "George" award is easy. Just

complete a nomination form, attach a photo of the property being submitted and send to: K.C. Beautiful Awards, 1047 West 9th Street, Suite 30, Kansas City, MO 64105. Nomination forms are available through The Kessler Society at 816-842-2299 and at Northland Neighborhoods.

Please note that no award recipient can have any existing property code violations. Kansas City, Missouri residents may submit their own property or a neighbor's property for an award.

All award nominations must be submitted to The Kessler Society no later than August 1, 2005. All awards will be announced and distributed on September 8, 2005 at an awards ceremony to be held at the Liberty Memorial's South lawn, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Deadline for NNI member certifications

The deadline for NNI member certifications is May 31, 2005.

You must be a certified member to vote at the June 27 Annual Meeting.

To become certified or for more information call Janet at 454-2000

Spotlight on Volunteerism:

The New Generation of Samaritans: Part Two



by **Reta Jo Mitchell**

With pleasure, I again report on our children's efforts on behalf of others. And attest to the fact that beneath their startling choices in music and fashions, there truly lies an abundance of heart.

In virtually every school, you find donation barrels for the Northland Christmas Store or Harvesters. Tiny Girl Scouts from Troop 132 even volunteered to sort out cracked eggs for Harvesters' Food Bank. Students collect for the Clay County Clothes Closet, like Clardy Elementary's socks and mittens drive. St. Pius X High School used proceeds from their annual Winter Sweetheart Dance to buy personal care items and stuffed toys to fill "Love Bags" for foster children.

Cries of far away tsunami victims were met with fund drives at Antioch Middle School, and Winnwood, Chouteau, Lakewood, Shoal Creek and Chapel Hill elementaries, among others. As Shoal Creek 5th grader Brooklyne Maize explained in the Northland Star, "At times like these the world needs to pull together."

The kids are deeply concerned for our armed forces in war zones. During recent cookie sales, Girl Scouts of Liberty's

Troop 83 found donors for boxes of Peanut Butter Patties and Caramel Delights which were sent to soldiers in Iraq as a "sweet message from home."

Winnetonka High's Griffins collected a van load of personal care and recreational items, then experienced the hands-on gratification of filling Care Packages for the local Operation Support Our Troops unit. Gracemor SAGE students conducted "Operation Bubble Gum Buddies" with collected treats going to soldiers directly. Or, into boxes of supplies delivered to Iraq's schools through Operation Iraqi Children (OIC).



Gracemor SAGE kids with (left to right) VFW's Mike Meyer, People-to-People's Mary Eisenhower, actor Gary Sinise, all with Operation Iraqi Children; teachers Robert Ellis and Kathy Payne.

New Mark Middle School reaches out to the New Mark Care Center nursing home with holiday greeting cards and decorated Jack-O-Lanterns at Halloween. Briarcliff's "Pay It Forward" project found little kids out in their neighborhoods helping the elderly and infirm by raking their leaves, bathing their dogs, and baking them treats. Wrote one recipient: "Those chocolate brownies

warmed my heart." Students from North Kansas City, Oak Park and Winnetonka high schools again abandoned the salsa and hip-hop to learn Big Band era steps for their 10th annual Tea Dance with senior citizens.

These philanthropic deeds also involve teachers, group leaders, often parents. At Holy Cross Lutheran Church and School, the annual dinner theater finds grown-ups emoting on stage while kids help prepare and serve the dinner. This year's proceeds benefited the Israeli orphanage in Haiti.

At the Ronald McDonald House, Eastgate Middle School students with teacher Mark Riggs and some mothers cook goulash and taco suppers for families of very sick children. Everyone is involved in Oak Park's annual Theater for a Cause, with this year's performance a benefit for one of their own extended family through the Dream Factory.

Students' reactions to their benevolence is as telling as the results. At Eastgate, whatever the cause, the team that does best gets to display the coveted Spirit Stick. A teenager who was sacking my groceries at Thriftway told me quite proudly that his class made the largest collection for Winnetonka's Care Package drive.

To paraphrase philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson: "The true test of our civilization is the kind of people we turn out." With these wonderful young people in mind, how are we doing?

Golden Oaks to dedicate long awaited playground

Golden Oaks Neighborhood will dedicate its new playground on Tuesday, May 17th at 6:30 p.m., and would like to invite the many people who were involved in funding or installing the playground equipment.

Please stop by and see what great accomplishments can be made by a neighborhood and members of the community working together.



Installation day at Golden Oaks

A short reprieve! Paseo Bridge closing pushed back to May 17



A \$17.1 million rehab of the 50-year-old Paseo Bridge will close the structure for up to seven months, beginning May 17. Clarkson Construction Company, contractor for the project, will earn incentives if it completes the job ahead of schedule. The rehab project includes new paint (the color is blue), new barrier rails, light poles, hand ropes and bearings, and a new driving surface. The construction contract requires that the bridge reopen by November 10, 2005.

The 95,000 vehicles crossing the bridge daily will use other

area bridges. Through traffic will be diverted to the I-435 loop around downtown Kansas City. Motorists can plan their alternative route by going to the project web site, www.kcrivercrossings.org.

MoDOT is also working with the Mid-America Regional Council and the ATA to encourage carpooling and bus transit during the closure. Additional buses will be placed on North Oak, Burlington, the Heart of America Bridge, and I-29.

The NNI Board of Directors will meet May 16 at 6:30 p.m.

NNI Meetings in May

Tues., May 10	“Connections” - Mark VanLoh - Kansas City Aviation Director	6:30 p.m.
Wed., May 11	Senior Citizen Workshop	9:00 a.m.
Thurs., May 12	Greenhaven Neighborhood Association	7:00 p.m.
Mon., May 16	NNI Board Meeting and Board Candidate Forum	6:30 p.m.
Mon., May 16	NNI Board Candidate Forum	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., May 19	Auburn Hills Neighborhood Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Mon., May 30	Memorial Day - NNI offices closed	

Meet your Neighbor: Kathy Monson



Kathy Monson

*Crestview Elementary
Caring Communities Site
Coordinator/21st Century
Community Learning
Center Project Director*

Kathy lives in Carriage Hill Estates with her husband and son. Her daughter, Katie, is a freshman at Truman State University and her son, Ryan, is a sophomore in the International Baccalaureate program at North Kansas City High School. Kathy's husband is employed by a publishing company as their corporate credit manager.

She has multiple roles at Crestview Elementary. As site coordinator for Caring Communities, Kathy works with a family resource specialist to help families help their children to do better in school. The family resource specialist assists families with basic needs and connects them to community resources while Kathy plans and implements family involvement activities, and handles budgeting and site administration. They work with staff, community members, and parents on the Caring Communities Council in neighborhood decision-making. "Staff also have taught parenting classes and try to bring in programs and services that our parents ask for," Kathy says.

As project director for the 21st Century Community Learning Center, Kathy works with teachers to develop and staff before and after-school tutoring classes for children and family involvement activities. Crestview received a five year grant from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to fund the Learning Center tutoring sessions and events. The grant money drops by 20 percent this next year, and an additional 20 percent the following year. At the conclusion of year five, the grant runs out. Classes and activities offered through 21st Century have proven very popular with students and their families and the staff is working to find funding to keep this important program in place.

In her spare time, Kathy likes to scrapbook and enjoys time with her family. She very much enjoys her dog and cat and loves to play with them in the evening when she comes home from work.

Kathy's hopes for Crestview include revitalization of the aging area around the school. "I am very hopeful that SMART (an NNI home repair program) and the North Oak Corridor Plan will bring private and public improvements to the houses and infrastructure." she says. She also hopes to see services put in place to help families raise their children and adjust to a new country or other changed circumstances in their lives. She feels fortunate to be able to work with Crestview community members. Kathy sincerely believes that they possess the power to achieve their dreams for their families and their neighborhood.

("Meet Your Neighbor" is a quarterly column that features a person who makes a difference in the life of our neighborhoods.)

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. Board of Directors - Officers

Mike Lewis	President
Mary Jo Burton	Vice President
Tom Schweitzer	Treasurer
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Jim Rice - Executive Director
Janet Shaffer - Newsletter Editor
Christy Harris - Director of Operations

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