

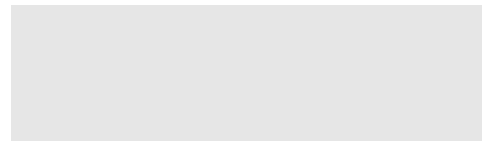


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**WE WILL LEAVE NO  
NEIGHBORHOOD BEHIND.**



*Dates to Remember*  
**AUGUST 2006**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>8/1</b>	<b>Holiday Hills Neighborhood Association</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8/3</b>	<b>PIAC Hearings</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8/8</b>	<b>Connections</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8/9</b>	<b>Seniors Workshop</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8/9</b>	<b>Charleston Harbor</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8/15</b>	<b>Greenhaven Neighborhood Meeting</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8/15</b>	<b>Winnwood/Sunnybrook Board Meeting</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8/16</b>	<b>Meeting with Steve Jeanetta</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8/17</b>	<b>Meeting with Steve Jeanetta</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8/21</b>	<b>NNI Board Meeting</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8/22</b>	<b>PIAC Hearings</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>

**There will not be a Meet Your Councilperson meeting in August.**

# NORTHLAND NEIGHBORHOODS NEWS

*Northland Neighborhoods, Inc.  
Tenth Anniversary  
1996-2006*

## **NNI Tenth Anniversary Breakfast set for October 20**

**N**orthland Neighborhoods, Inc. will celebrate its 10th anniversary at a community breakfast October 20, 2006, 7:30 a.m. at Finnigan's Hall, 505 East 18th Avenue in North Kansas City. Northland civic leader Anita Gorman will chair the event that will be highlighted by presentation of awards for neighborhood service, outstanding public service, lifetime achievement, and a special surprise award. Attendees will also experience the debut showing of the NNI video.

NNI Board President Mary Jo Burton hopes the breakfast will attract a wide cross section of the Northland. "This anniversary event is an opportunity for neighborhood, business and government people to join in celebrating NNI's service to the community over the past ten years. The food will be great, the program fast paced, and ticket prices very affordable," Burton says.

## **Senior Apartments: Ready and Waiting**



**Construction of the Chaumiere Place Senior Apartments is complete and residents have started moving in. There are still units available. For information, call Christy Harris at NNI (816) 454-2000.**

Tickets are priced at \$25 per person, \$200 for a table of 8. NNI is also looking for sponsors to help underwrite the costs of the event: Sponsorship at the "Community" level is \$2,500 and includes a table of 8, large banner behind speakers' platform, significant mention in program, reserved table sign, display area/table, and advance publicity in the media.

"Neighborhood" level is \$1,000 and includes a table of 8, company banner in the room, mention and logo in program, reserved table sign, and display area/table.

"Block" level is \$500 and includes a table of 8, company banner in the room, mention in program, reserved table sign, and display area/table.

"House" level is \$250 and includes a table of 8, mention in the program, reserved table sign and a display area/table.

To make your reservations for the breakfast or get more information about sponsorships, call NNI at (816) 454-2000.

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## Spotlight on Volunteerism

By Reta Jo Mitchell

### Echoes of the Past

“My forefathers didn’t come over on the Mayflower-- they met the boat.”

—Will Rogers,

Humorist, Philosopher, Cherokee Indian

**M**y interest in the first Americans comes from my upbringing in Northeastern Oklahoma, Indian family members, and a scholar’s passion for Indian words now part of America’s vocabulary.

A few years ago, I visited a little Northland treasure trove called the Line Creek Museum, on Waukomis Drive, where I saw ancient spear points and pottery shards and a striking recreation of the way Middle Woodland Indians known as Hopewells lived on that exact spot over 1500 years ago. The little museum is gone now, foul weather’s victim, but interest in that long-ago culture is much alive.

In 2001, an organization named the National Center for Indigenous American Cultures at Line Creek (NCIAC) was born. (“Indigenous” quiets the ambivalence about “American Indian” or “Native American.”) The purpose of NCIAC is to preserve special land, honor past traditions and “demonstrate the wisdom of indigenous cultures.” Explained board member Cindy Orcutt, of Choctaw extraction: “This is an opportunity to inform people of American Indian misinformation, and how untruths can be cleared up.”

NCIAC activities have included festivals and powwows, a traditional sweat lodge and environmental projects like a native plants garden. On September 23-24, Line Creek is scheduled to be the site of an American Indian Market and Heritage Festival. Tentatively planned are performances by the Haskell Institute Native Dancers, display and sale of Indian arts and crafts, authentic Indian foods, and workshops on Hopewell history, archaeology and genealogy (tracing one’s Indian roots).

Nearby Clay-Platte Montessori School has become a vital part of the Line Creek endeavor. It’s middle-school students clean the waters, including the Old Maid Stream. They search for artifacts and have even registered their school with the Missouri Archaeological Society as “Ten Acre Woods” site.

Most likely, we all know about Sacagawea, the sad displacement of the Five Civilized Tribes (Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, Creeks and Seminoles) and are aware that Missouri and Kansas are named for tribes. Hollywood has filled us in with films like “Dances with Wolves” and the inspiring saga of the Navajo Code Talkers.

But pre-history Indian cultures are often more shadow than substance. Yet thanks to Kansas City’s own premier archaeologist J. Mett Shippee, Missouri’s early Indian cultures are less obscure. Mr. Shippee unearthed and catalogued over 20,000 artifacts from sites like Missouri City’s nearby Nebo Hill (Archaic period of 7000-5-- B.C.) and from the Line Creek site. His invaluable collection can now be viewed at the St. Joseph Museum. Discoveries continue.

In 2003, relics of the Mississippian period (A.D. 500) were found on a new Liberty road site. A startling find was a jagged stone dart point for a spear, perhaps of the Archaic period.

Regarding more recent Indian history, there are things going on in our area. At the Kansas City Museum on Gladstone Boulevard, we can learn about the Osages, Missouri dwellers for 150 years. On display are arts and tools, clothing and wickiup, or grass hut. A vivid mural depicts the waters at Fort Osage where the tribe rowed their pirogues to barter with furs.

As an aside, I have to mention an incredible display of the lifestyles of Kansas City’s first aristocrats at this museum. Kids will enjoy the turn-of-the century soda fountain with real root beer floats, the planetarium and the stuffed bear and buffalo. (To see live buffalo, drive up to Shoal Creek.)

The North Kansas City School District honors Indian cultures with its yearly Rite-of-Passage breakfasts for students of Indian ancestry and classroom study units.

(continued from page 2)

The district's Living History Volunteer speakers supplement many of the units. I make talks about Indian cultural gifts including environmental practices, the thousands of place names from their languages, and the lesson of their gentle ways with children.

I like to mention one of Mr. Shippee's archaeological finds in these talks. In 1935, while digging where the North Kansas City Hospital now stands, he unearthed the remains of a child, with a bowl nearby. Not forgotten had been the need of that little Indian child for his tiny bowl in the place beyond.

Remember: Line Creek's Indian Festival. Watch for posters and news items.



Eastgate Middle School students examining  
Michell's handcrafted map of Indian Place Names

## New development on seminary land to serve as anchor along key Northland corridor

A 32-acre of long-revered Northland green space will soon become a shopping center. On July 20, the City Council approved plans for the center on the northeast corner of Vivion and North Oak, property formerly owned by the Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. The \$51 million "North Oak Village" will be developed by the R.H. Johnson Company and Hunt Midwest. It will contain approximately 211,000 square feet of commercial development, including retail, casual restaurants, a bank, coffee shop and office space.

The development will be supported by two levels of tax increment financing (TIF) and a community improvement district (CID). The TIF/CID will produce \$42,200,000 over the 23-year life of the TIF. Those funds will go for infrastruc-

ture, neighborhood improvements, and new revenues for Kansas City, Clay County, the North Kansas City School District and other taxing districts. The CID is a self-imposed tax on the shopping center.

Approval for the project came amid strong opposition from some nearby residents and a series of articles and editorials in the Kansas City Star bemoaning use of TIF in what it called a "thriving" area of the Northland. Jim Rice, speaking as co-chair of the North Oak Corridor Steering Committee, rather than as Executive Director of NNI, took issue with the Star's analysis. "It is heartbreaking to lose green space in an urban area," Rice says, "but development was inevitable the moment the Seminary decided to sell the property. And, it's a stretch to call the

area thriving. The City doesn't do corridor plans for thriving commercial corridors. North Oak is clearly in decline, as evidenced by the flight of viable businesses and their replacement by used car lots and payday loan companies." Rice also pointed to the nearby Antioch Shopping Center, which he described as a "nearly empty 50-year old center at the end of its economic life."

North Oak Village and future developments along North Oak will be guided by a citizens committee appointed by the TIF Commission. "The committee's task," Rice says, "will be to ensure the highest quality development, preservation of the campus atmosphere, and strategic allocation of TIF funds for the neighborhood and infrastructure improvements."

## *Focus on neighborhoods of the Northland:*

### **Holiday Hills North**

By Doc Gould

**H**oliday Hills, north and east of the intersection of Parvin and North Brighton, is preparing to celebrate its first half-century in 2006. As I am finishing the final touches of editing a history of our beloved neighborhood's first fifty years, I was asked to provide this article to be placed in a series of articles for the *Northland Neighborhoods News*. But I feared they would all sound too similar.

I grabbed the 2006 edition of *Moving to KC, New Residents Guide* that a dear friend and fellow Westminster College and fraternity alumni, Mr. Leigh Elmore, edits. Leigh wrote an Editors Note about how he and his wife moved to Kansas City and about their migration around our metro area as they established and reared a family. He writes that Kansas City's draw is simple. "We like it here. People are friendly. Neighborhoods actually seem like neighborhoods." He goes on to say that KC and our attached burgs are "small enough and laid back enough to seem like a collection of small towns, where neighbors exchange the latest news and strangers aren't strangers for long."

Sounds just like my neighborhood. Sure we have great amenities. In surveys of our residents—and including people who moved here in the very beginning fifty years ago—people identify the obvious things like affordable homes, mature trees and beautiful landscap-

ing, peace and privacy, a great neighborhood association with excellent leadership, and quality, well-built homes. They also cite another asset: proximity to all kinds of attractions and shopping, including the center that shares our name, Holiday Hills Shopping Center. It boasts 100% occupancy and includes five eating establishments, including one owned by our fellow residents, BAMA's, which stands for Brenda's and Mark's Abyss. People also identify as neighborhood assets the essential things like accessibility, great schools, a close good hospital, and active churches.

Resident and neighbor in Holiday Hills North since 1959, Jean Wisdom, relates that they loved that "We had very nice neighbors and lots of playmates for the kids." Resident and neighbor Nona Young, who arrived in 1958, states that they can't bear to leave the home and "the memory of the day your child planted that little stick of a tree he or she brought home from school on Arbor Day that is now twice as tall as the house."

Finally, I find Holiday Hills North to be a quintessential American neighborhood, one where the residents ostensibly enjoy their American freedoms and choices. Neighbors of all types and colors and combinations and traditional and not-so-whatever-really-is-traditional families live alongside each other in peace and harmony as they pursue their lives, liberties and their happiness.



# A browser's quick guide to Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. (NNI)

## What is NNI ?

NNI is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) Community Development Corporation established in 1996. NNI is governed by a 15-member Board of Directors representing all parts of the Northland and all walks of life. The Board is elected by the 81 neighborhood organizations that make up NNI's membership. The Board does most of its work through five committees: executive, administration and finance, neighborhood relations, planning and development, resource development.

## What is NNI's mission?

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.

## Who staffs NNI?

Executive Director – Jim Rice (overall direction of the organization)

Director of Administration – Christy Harris (office management, accounting, assists executive director)

Director of Planning and Development – James Cianciaruso (grants management, manages Custom Solutions program and oversees other home repair programs, oversees community development programs)

Manager, Community Development – Jennifer Presberry (community development programs: neighborhood organizing, leadership development, liaison for state community development programs)

Community Development Coordinator – Janet Shaffer (member services, special events, seniors programs, neighborhood organizing)

Accountant – Joy Loesch (budget, grants accounting, general accounting)

Neighborhood Solutions Specialist – Mark Morales (support for neighborhood organizing and special events, special projects)

Home Repair Consultant – Yvonne Herrick (targeted home repair program contract management)

Lola McCloud – Administrative Support (reception, filing, copying, assists with special events)

Jenny Ellis – Administrative Support (reception, filing, copying, assists with special events)

## What does NNI do?

- Promotes smart public and private development in the Northland
- Builds new “infill” owner-occupied homes
- Administers home repair grants to low and moderate income homeowners in targeted Northland neighborhoods
- Creates sustainability and reduces dependency with the Neighborhood Solutions and Custom Solutions programs
- Manages innovative community policing to fight disorder in neighborhoods
- Promotes proactive code enforcement
- Offers regular educational and social programs for seniors
- Collaborates with other public and private organizations to build a stronger Northland community and a stronger metropolitan region
- Plays a leadership role in major urban planning projects such as the North Oak Corridor Plan and the Antioch Center TIF Redevelopment Plan
- Serves as a Kansas City FOCUS Center that includes community policing, voter registration, pet licensing, police office of community complaints satellite, neighborhood preservation code enforcement

NNI relies on the support of businesses, institutions, foundations and individuals who understand that investing in making neighborhoods stronger is a business decision that promotes a better economy, a better society and a better life for all.

## What are some volunteer opportunities at NNI?

- Providing technical or professional help with the Custom Solutions program to solve home repair problems for deserving Northland citizens
- Helping with neighborhood cleanup and fix-up projects
- Providing educational, recreational or wellness assistance to seniors
- Providing pro bono legal counsel on minor civil issues
- Neighborhood advocacy with local, state and federal governments

# NEIGHBORHOOD CLIPS

## **Connections: Speakers set for August and September meetings.**

**Michael Schumacher**, head of Kansas City's Animal Health and Safety Division, is the Connections guest for August 8. This is a chance to hear about this important City service.

**Dennis Murphey** from the City's Environmental Management Office, will speak at the September 12 Connections meeting. Dennis will address issues ranging from trash collection to preservation of natural resources to global warming.

Connections meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at NNI. The meetings update neighborhood leaders on important issues and programs affecting neighborhoods, the city and the region.

## **August senior seminar will answer questions about long-term care**

Nursing homes, long-term care. It's something most families will have to face. What is long-term care, anyway? Must it take your life savings? How would you handle the cost? Would it be wise to buy long-term care now? Janice Prezwodek with County Insurance Financial Services will discuss Tax Qualified long-term care at the August 2 senior seminar. Presentation begins at 9 a.m. Come by to share in the presentation, refreshments and conversation. And, bring a friend.

## **EXCEL program set for August launch**

NNI's fundamental role is to help neighborhood organizations become strong and successful. Building strong neighborhood leadership is the most essential ingredient for success. That's why NNI is exploring a partnership with the University of Missouri Extension Services to launch the EXCEL (Experience in Community Enterprise and Leadership Development) program.

EXCEL helps citizens increase their leadership abilities to address community issues and shape their future.

The EXCEL Steering Committee is in the process of

being solidified and will meet August 14th. The committee will direct the development and facilitation of course content, recruit applicants, work on program promotion, and line up speakers for the course sessions. Please stay tuned for more information.

## **Quick Clips...**

AUGUST 16, AUGUST 17, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. AT NNI  
University of Missouri-Columbia State Extension Specialist Stephen Jeanetta speaks on the qualifications and organization of nonprofit neighborhood associations, and how to sustain them for the long-term.  
August 16: discussion of covenants, deeds, and restrictions, bylaws, nonprofit status, and auditing the organization's status. August 17: insurance and liability issues, fundraising, staying legal with the state, board development, and collaboration with local resources. If there are any questions you would like to send to Stephen before the meeting, contact Jennifer Presberry at (816) 454-2000. **Due to limited seating, contact NNI to reserve your seat.**

SEPTEMBER 7, 6:00-8:00 P.M. AT NNI  
Gladstone Emergency Management Director Chuck Duddy holds a *Planning for Emergencies: Three Steps to be Prepared, A Family Safety Guide* workshop. Discussion on how to create an emergency plan for families, how to prepare emergency kits, and how to listen for information. Since seating is limited, please contact Northland Neighborhoods at (816) 454-2000 if you plan to attend the workshop.

**\*\*Please note, this program is different than the CERT training offered by Director Duddy since it is only one evening and CERT is a ten-week workshop series.**

THIS FALL - CHUCK DUDDY  
Gladstone Emergency Manager Chuck Duddy will hold a 10-week program for people interested in the Certified Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. The program trains individuals to respond to disaster. Teams are trained to extinguish small fires, detect natural gas, first aid and CPR, assess structural damage, and more. Contact Jennifer Presberry at NNI, (816) 454-2000 for more information.

## Antioch Center still waiting on State funding

While local tax increment financing was approved for redevelopment of the Antioch Shopping Center in March, the Missouri Department of Economic Development is still studying a report on projected new State taxes the project will generate. The stakes are high. If the department gives its blessing for a State Supplemental TIF, neighborhoods near the 50-year old center could receive as much as \$6 million in improvements.

State Representative Jerry Nolte has made Antioch a top priority. Nolte's efforts have produced a united front of Northland representatives and senators. He also secured approval of the project in the State budget. Antioch and the proposed Eastgate Village in downtown Kansas City were the only 2 projects approved in the entire state of Missouri.

### NNI Board of Directors

#### Officers

Mary Jo Burton  
*President*

Bill Sanders  
*Vice President*

Misty Dawn Casey  
*Secretary*

Tom Schweitzer  
*Treasurer*

#### Board Members

Virjean Burton  
Stan Cunningham  
Mike Duffy  
Dan Fowler  
Gene Hankins  
Mike Lewis  
Park Lightfoot  
John McNerney  
Kevin Masters  
Mario Mayorga  
Marty Schuettpelz

## NNI's Custom Solutions program offers a safety net for families in dire need



Through the Custom Solutions Program, NNI answers the call of its mission statement “to leave no neighborhood behind.” Created in 2004 with a grant from the Hall Family Foundation, the program provides home repairs for senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and families in need. A unique feature of the program is the requirement that grant recipients—or someone on their behalf—pledges to make a cash or in-kind contribution to the Custom Solutions bank. This enables the program to partially pay for itself. According to the program's director, James Cianciaruso, “the impetus is to connect and build relationships between people, neighborhoods, communities, and organizations that lay a foundation for sustainability.”

Using the Hall grant as seed money, Cianciaruso has leveraged more than \$100,000 from Clay County, Argosy Casino and Kansas City's Municipal Court Fund. Since the program's inception 64 families or individuals have received home repairs averaging about \$2,500. Total cost of the repairs: \$161,000

To be a potential candidate for the Custom Solutions program, there should be multiple problems (codes issues, home repair, health issues), the family or individual must own their home and be low to very low income.

For more information on the Custom Solutions program, call James Cianciaruso at (816) 454-2000.