



## EXCEL offers path to success for neighborhood leaders

Whether you are an old hand or a newcomer to the realm of neighborhood work, Northland EXCEL could give you refreshing new perspectives on one of the toughest jobs in the world.

Created by Northland Neighborhoods, Inc., the Northland EXCEL Steering Committee, and the University of Missouri Extension, EXCEL (Experience in Community Enterprise and Leadership) is a 7-month course that builds “leaders, trust and

community.” The first class gets underway September 7 with a welcome reception and ends March 6, 2008 with graduation.

Along the way, EXCEL participants will learn about demographics and community analysis, social services, understanding poverty, community infrastructure, state government, local government, economic development, and more. According to NNI’s manager of community development Jennifer Presberry, desired out-

comes of EXCEL include:

- Participants will gain knowledge, experience, power, confidence and networking skills.
- Communities will work to develop a common vision and mission.
- Foster strong leadership in Northland neighborhoods and other communities.

Presberry says the EXCEL curriculum includes 30 hours of presentations and workshops that are eligible for Continuing Education Units through the University of Missouri. Tuition is \$100 per person, but partial scholarships are available. For more information on EXCEL, call Jennifer Presberry at 454-2000.

**“Communities that view their citizens as their greatest asset and invest in the development of the full potential of all their people are those that will have the capacity to effectively compete in the global political, social, and economic arena.”**

**Donald W. Littrell**

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### 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.

## Stellar lineup to be honored at NNI Annual Breakfast

Four Northland superstars will be honored Friday, October 19, 2007, at NNI's second annual breakfast fundraiser. The 2007 Larry McManus Good Neighbor Award recipients are Bruce and Reta Jo Mitchell; the Outstanding Public Service Awardee is Kevin Green, the Extreme Makeover/Home Edition builder; and the Jay Dillingham Lifetime Achievement honoree is North Kansas City Schools Superintendent Tom Cummings. The breakfast buffet begins at 7:30 a.m. at Finni-

gan's Hall, 505 East 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue in North Kansas City, and the entire program will end promptly at 9 a.m.

Tickets and table sponsorships are now available. Tickets are priced affordably, at \$25 per person, \$250 per table of 10. Sponsorships are available at \$2,500, \$1,000, \$500 and \$300 levels. All sponsorships include a table of 10 and special program recognition.

All contributions are tax-deductible.

## Antioch Mall: State again denies TIF

In the concourse of the Antioch Mall, the chatter of shoppers and sales clerks has been replaced by the echoes of occasional walkers greeting one another in the empty food court. Outside, faded paint and stucco continue to crumble with the turn of the seasons. The Antioch Shopping Center, once a Northland icon with more than 100 shops, now counts only 7 surviving tenants.

Antioch has languished for nearly 4 years while developers and a few elected officials sought a State-Assisted TIF (Tax Increment Financing). The City of Kansas City approved local tax increment financing more than 2 years ago, but the project could not go forward until the question of supplemental State financing was resolved. That resolution finally came on

July 12 when Sallie Hemenway, director of operations for the Missouri Department of Economic Development, issued the rejection letter, marking the second time she had denied the project.

"The State has made its position abundantly clear," said NNI executive director Jim Rice. "Now we have to regroup and find a way to move forward at the local level. Further delays will only allow the mall's blight to spread into the surrounding neighborhood." An amended redevelopment plan now must work its way through City Hall and the KC TIF Commission.



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## Neighborhood Clips

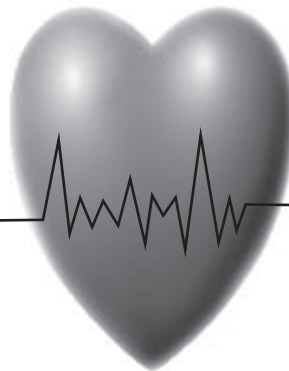
### Meet your Northland code inspectors

The Northland has a relatively new lineup of Neighborhood Preservation Code Inspectors. Milo Daub and Christina Carroll are based at NNI. Sherice Anderson is based at the Gracemor CAN Center. **Milo**, employed by the Neighborhood and Community Services Department for more than two years, was assigned to the Northland in June 2006. His inspection area covers the northern portions of Clay and Platte Counties. He can be reached at 719-0644. **Christina**, a more recent arrival at the NNI codes office,

covers the area between the Missouri River and Barry Road, generally west of Antioch Road. When not working, she enjoys spending time with her family and performing in area orchestras. Reach Christina at 335-5685. **Sherice**, a City of KCMO employee since 2006, covers the Chaumiere, Maple Park, Old Maple Park, Holiday Hills, Winwood-Sunnybrook and Gracemor neighborhoods, among others. Sherice loves meeting people and is doing a lot of that in her code inspection role. She can be

### reached at 335-5697. August 8 senior workshop features CPR training

Brenda Ellis, long-time leader in the Golden Oaks neighborhood, will give seniors a working knowledge of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). Come see and participate in a demonstration of CPR and how it can make a difference in the life of a victim of heart attack or other heart-stopping events. The workshop, aided by mannequins and a video, will show participants how to rec-



### Don't miss August 15 Cop Talk

Cop Talk now occurs on the third Wednesday of every month from 6 to 7 p.m. "Cop Talk" is an open forum where residents can meet with staff from both Northland police stations to discuss crime and other disorder issues.



ognize when CPR is needed. Workshop attendees will have the opportunity to take a practice run at CPR, but Ellis emphasizes that this single class does not meet requirements for American Red Cross certification.

#### *NNI Staff*

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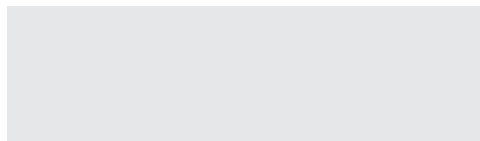
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**WE WILL LEAVE NO  
NEIGHBORHOOD BEHIND.**



**August 2007**

**Public Meetings**

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8/8</b>	<b>Senior Workshop</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8/9</b>	<b>PIAC Hearing</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8/15</b>	<b>Cop Talk</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8/20</b>	<b>NNI Board Meeting</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8/21</b>	<b>Greenhaven Neighborhood</b>	<b>7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8/22</b>	<b>PIAC Hearing</b>	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>8/27</b>	<b>Meet Your Councilpersons</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>