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Mission Statement

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.

Good food. Good cause. Great entertainment. Don't miss NNI Goes Hollywood!

The Trolley Song, As Time Goes By, Singin' in the Rain, Moon River, Over the Rainbow, Time After Time, Miss Celie's Blues. That's just a sample of the songs, gleaned from 80 years of movies, you can hear on Saturday, May 10 at the Intrigue Park Place Hotel, 1601 N. Universal Avenue. The evening begins at 6:30 with social time and a fine dinner, followed by music of the movies sung by Andrea Pope and Angelo Cilia (back by popular demand after last year's "NNI Goes Broadway"). It's a grand, tune-filled evening that will help NNI build strong neighborhoods. Table of 10 sponsorships are available at the following levels:

ANDREA pope ANGELO cilia



- "Presenting" at \$5,000
- "Star" at \$2,500
- "Producer" at \$1,500
- "Director" at \$750



Non-sponsor seating is \$60 per ticket or \$600 per table. Contributions are tax-deductible. Make checks payable to Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. Call Jim Rice at 454-2000 if you have any questions.

NNI Goes Green:

Home repair will have energy conservation component

Beginning in March, Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. (NNI) will begin bundling energy conservation with its existing home repair programs. The program could mean substantial energy savings for home repair grant recipients.

The basic component of the "green" initiative is an energy audit prior to beginning the home repair. According to NNI executive director Jim Rice, the energy audit will accomplish two important objectives. "First, the audit could direct a portion of the

home repair to essential energy-conserving actions such as insulation and weather stripping. Second, the audit will give us a baseline for accurately measuring the energy saving impact of the repairs. We will actually be

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NNI Goes Green

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able to tell home repair recipients and funders how much utility bills have been reduced because of the repairs," Rice says.

Rice noted that many of the home repairs NNI already performs have positive energy conservation features, including windows, roofs, siding, and new heating and air conditioning systems. "Monthly utility bill savings can mean a great deal to low and fixed-income residents, especially senior citizens," Rice says. "It means an increase in disposable income for other essential items such as food and prescription drugs. About one-half of all NNI home repair grant recipients are senior citizens.

For the immediate future, NNI will absorb the cost of the energy audits from existing home repair funds. But Rice says NNI has only a modest amount of existing funding for home repair. "We have recently applied for a \$500,000 federal grant to pay for energy-conserving repairs, the cost of the energy audits, and the public education program NNI believes is a must if energy conservation is to become a widespread habit in the broader community."

Food drive yields 1,883 items for Northland pantry



NNI's Neighborhood Relations Committee celebrated a successful food drive (left to right) Marty Schuettpelz, Keith Nelson; Officer Aaron Benson, Sgt. Danny Graves, Mario Mayorga, Kay Fugate, Bill Sanders, Park Lightfoot

Generous Northland individuals and neighborhoods donated a record-breaking 1,883 items to the annual NNI food drive for the St. Benedict's Pantry. Seven neighborhoods and 6 individuals participated. The winning neighborhood was Chaumiere with 458 items; the winning indi-

vidual was Sgt. Danny Graves (representing Shoal Creek Patrol Division's TOPS unit) with 1,001 items. Other neighborhoods participating in this year's food drive contest were Gray Oaks, Greenhaven, Highland Gardens, Holiday Hills, Willow Brooke and Winchester/Randolph Corners.

CHAMP gets \$150,000 windfall

NNI was informed January 31 by the Kansas City Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Commission that an additional \$150,000 is available for the Chouteau Housing and Maintenance (CHAMP) home repair program in the Winnwood-Sunnybrook and Chaumiere neighborhoods. The additional funding

comes from one of the two bond issues associated with the Chouteau Crossings Shopping Center TIF. Although the \$800,000 bond issue was originally intended for Winn Road improvements, the neighborhood opted instead for park improvements. Following the suggestion of KCMO Councilwoman Deb Hermann, the

new agreement called for any remaining funds to go for continuation of CHAMP. The \$150,000 will be divided equally between Winnwood-Sunnybrook and Chaumiere. NNI expects to do at least 30 home repairs from the windfall. That will bring the total number of CHAMP home repairs in the two neighborhoods to 270 since 2003.

Volunteers of the month

February

Paula and Roger Brooks

Paula and Roger Brooks generously donate their time to Northland Neighborhoods because they want to make a difference in their community. Paula grew up in Kearney, Missouri and Roger in Greenwood, South Carolina. They met when Paula vacationed in Myrtle Beach and married shortly after. Paula, Roger and their three children lived in Liberty, Missouri before moving back to Roger's home town in 1996. Roger was a police officer there. Paula, as Director of the Uptown Greenwood Development Corporation, enjoyed helping people, developing programs and organizing events along with their three children. Paula and Roger taught Sunday School, were Youth Leaders, co-directed Vacation Bible School, coached a range of sports, and helped mentor new coaches.

Now back in Kansas City, Roger works for MTS Contracting in North Kansas City and Paula is Marketing Manager/Operations Supervisor for liNKCity, North Kansas City's new fiber-optic Internet service. Roger has coached baseball and he and Paula have volunteered for NNI and Lakewood PTA events.



Paula is currently a member of North Kansas City Kiwanis Club and NNI's EXCEL class. Together they are interested in being more involved in their local community through their neighborhood association. They realize the importance of keeping a neighborhood healthy and realize that it takes commitment to achieve that. NNI applauds them for their many volunteer hours and for making a difference in other's lives and in the community.



March Dave Dunlop



Quiet, sacrificial service. Servant leadership. That's Dave Dunlop's style of volunteering. Over the last several years, NNI has come to rely on Dave's willingness to be just a phone call away. Whether it's reviewing home repair projects, helping a 95 year-old citizen remediate code violations, or volunteering at the National Night Out Against Crime Kick-Off, Dave's willingness to serve NNI has been invaluable.

But Dave's service to the community goes beyond NNI. He served his country on active duty in the Navy from 1954-1957 and later as a reservist for 17 years. Dave volunteered with the Red Cross as a Disaster Action Team Coordinator for Clay and Platte Counties and is currently the Volunteer Logistics Coordinator for the Greater Kansas City Chapter. He has responded to disasters in five states and has worked on 30 homes over the past 7 years for Northland Habitat for Humanity. He is a true asset to the community.



Spotlight on Volunteerism

By Reta Jo Mitchell

The New Generation of Samaritans Loves Helping Others

“After the verb TO LOVE, TO HELP is the most beautiful verb in the world.” Bertha V. a hundred years ago certainly apply to children of today.

As in my earlier columns about good kids, examples of helping still abound. None more inspiring than the girls of Linden West Elementary School who cut off their pig-tails to be used in wigs for cancer patients. In all, 402 inches of blonde and brown and black hair were donated by teachers and the girls. And by one boy who laughingly told me that he had “scalped” his mom.

Helping hands at Crestview Elementary reach out everywhere: picking up trash on Earth Day, writing caring letters to an Army medic in Iraq to share with his Level Three patients—the most critically wounded. One 5th grade girl donated her long tresses to make wigs.

Harvester's food drive barrels are a schoolhouse fixture, including at Oakwood Manor. To shine a spotlight on our neighbors in need, the Northland's Teens Against Hunger held a walkathon and a starvation party, going

without food for 24 hours. The kids, many from Park Hill South High School, also collected 736 pounds of food for Harvester's.

Winnwood Elementary's 5th graders did chores to raise 800 dollars. With the money, a wish list and shopping research data, they then walked to the Target Store and bought Christmas gifts for their adopted family. Besides collecting 6,000 cans of soup for the Northland Christmas Store, Fox Hill Elementary's students held a disc golf tournament for United Way funding, gathered mittens and gloves for a children's shelter, and gave stuffed animals to a nearby nursing home. Meadowbrook Elementary's little kindergartners of teacher Kathy Johnston were again at work, collecting pennies for Children's Mercy Hospital.

Eastgate Middle School held a drive for books for the BackSnack program. St. Pius X High School juniors Daniel and David Bailey amassed 2,000 books for Children's Mercy Hospital. West Englewood Elementary collected food for the

Lutheran Ministries and funds for United Way, supported a battered women's shelter and rang bells for the Salvation Army.

No cause is too remote to touch our children's hearts. St. Charles School raised over a million pennies to help Guatemalan families who lost homes in a mudslide, with support from Meadowbrook and Northview Elementary Schools and Oak

Park High. Children from North Cross United Methodist Church recycled paper for funds to build wells in impoverished Mozambique.

Kids are very mindful of health needs. Students from NKC, Oak Park, Winnetonka and Oak Park South High Schools walked all night to raise over 85,000 dollars for cancer research. Maple Park



Linden West's Jacob Hilworth donated his mother's hair to Pantene's Beautiful Lengths hair for wigs drive.

Von Suttner's words of over

Middle School raised funds for the American Heart Association through an exercise marathon called "Hoops for Health."

Several schools support our military. NKC High School's automotive technology students raised funds to equip combat vehicles with better lighting to detect roadside bombs. Northgate Middle School students Katie Kirtley and Anna Boyle founded a support group that sends Care Packages to troops and also raised 445 dollars to help meet needs of military families.

Topping Elementary collected peanut butter, crackers and cookies to send to the soldiers in Iraq along with letters of encouragement and appreciation. Among the thank-you communications received was a film showing shepherds and camels in the Iraqi countryside.

A true expression of caring is that of Clay County's 4-H Teens Taking Action Club. They collect medical equipment for the uninsured, sew blankets for kids in foster

care, and support children of deployed troops through Operation: Military Kids.

Boy Scout Troop 357 continues to assist with the YMCA's swimming program for the handicapped, serve as Salvation Army Bell Ringers, and faithfully volunteer at the Northland's Recycling Center.

In their humanitarian endeavors, children are guided



Donating their hair to make wigs for cancer patients were (left to right) front row: students Leona Toney, Victoria Barriga, Erica Pham, Hannah Wooley, Bailey Brewer, Paige Ferguson; back row: teachers Denee Noble, Emily Bryant, Lori Riddle; students Harrison Hayworth, Kylie Folsom.

by the adults in their lives, and by the simple wish "to feel good about themselves," Winnwood 4th grader Nicholas Kern explained.

And then, added Samantha Stapleton-Barrett, another Winnwood 4th grader: "People will think we are nice."

Movies in the parks can bring neighbors together

This summer, Kansas City Parks and Recreation will introduce "See A Movie, See Kansas City". With the Frontyard Features Company, Parks and Recreation will present movies in neighborhood parks from April to October 2008.

According to Parks Director Mark McHenry, the movies will help bring neighbors together and build stronger communities. "Many neighborhoods will use the movies to create new traditions and showcase community services," McHenry says. The commitment is minimal: choosing and paying for movie rights (\$125-\$250) and spreading the word in the neighborhood. Neighborhood associ-

ations can sell concessions and sponsorships to help cover expenses.

To encourage participation, the Parks Department will waive park permit fees for "See A Movie, See Kansas City" in KC parks. Frontyard Features will help recruit sponsors and advertising, secure movie rights, market the event, provide staff and state-of-the-art equipment, including a 20' X 18' outdoor screen.

To take advantage of this opportunity contact Martin Casas, Frontyard Features (314)664-4330, martin@fyfstl.com or Heidi Downer with the Parks and Recreation, 513-7527, heidi_downer@kcmo.org.

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Check out NNI at Northland Business Fair

For the second year, NNI will participate in the Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce Business Fair March 19, 2008 at the KCI Expo Center, 11730 N. Ambassador Drive. Drop in from 1 to 5 p.m. and catch NNI's booth along with the hundreds of other interesting and informative offerings of Northland businesses and institutions.

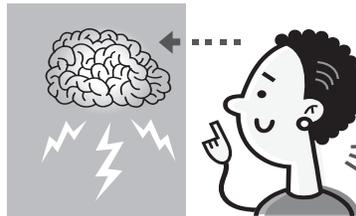


Ravenwood schedules spring and fall garage sales

Looking for that old chair that can be brought back to glory with a little elbow grease? Or that piece of kitchenware or garden tool you just have to have? Ravenwood's Neighborhood garage sales can satisfy your shopping itch. The spring sale is April 26 and 27, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., followed by the fall sale September 13 and 14, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The shopping quest begins at 59th Terrace and North Brighton.

Neighborhood Clips

March senior workshop lets you "ask a nurse about your noggin!"



The February senior workshop was all about the heart. The March meeting is about the noggin... uh, the head. Or, more precisely, the brain. The March 12, 9 a.m. session will be led by a geriatric psych RN. Presented by Tri-County Older Adult Mental Health Services, the workshop will feature Penny Shaffer, who has 30 years of nursing experience and specializes in geriatric mental health. A national speaker and a frequent contributing author in "50 and Better" and "Best Times" publications, Penny has developed several hospital based and outpatient services for seniors with dementia and has served as a mental health consultant to nursing homes and assisted living facilities across western Missouri and east central Kansas for many years. She has taught dementia care for the Alzheimer's Association and sits on numerous panels for elder mental health, abuse and neglect issues.

Beginning this month: Home Ownership Made Easier

Is home ownership something you **dream** about, but the process sounds like a **nightmare**? Do the words "equity", "escrow," and "variable rates" sound confusing? Then you need to sign up for the three-part **homeownership class** offered by Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. and University of Missouri Extension. No matter where you live or where you *want* to live, this class will prepare you to own a home. Dates for the next series of classes are March 12th, 19th and 26th from 6-9 p.m. (A light dinner will be provided at 5:30 p.m.) Cost for the series is \$25. For more information, call Jennifer Presberry at 816-454-2000.

Neighborhood Roundtable to feature KC capital improvements

On Tuesday, March 25th, NNI will host Pat Klein, manager of the Capital Improvements Office, for the Neighborhood Roundtable. Pat will be discussing PIAC and taking questions concerning the process. Please RSVP to Jennifer Presberry at jennifer_presberry@nni.org or by calling 454-2000.

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It's election season: register to vote at NNI

With important local initiatives looming and a national election just around the corner, it's time to register to vote. You can do that quickly and conveniently at NNI, 3015 NE Vivion Road (next to Tires Plus). Bring proof of identity and address. Don't miss your opportunity to participate in the great gift of American democracy.

Register now for *HomeWorks* series

Your home is one of the biggest investments you will ever make. Maintaining and enhancing its value should be a high priority. Once you have purchased your home and moved in, too often you are confronted with the dilemma of how much you need to know to be a capable homeowner. With that in mind, NNI will partner with the University of Missouri Extension to present the *HomeWorks: Maintaining Your Housing Investment* workshop series. This workshop is designed to focus

on home maintenance and planning for repairs. The *HomeWorks* program will be taught by two specialists from the University of Missouri Extension—Marsha Alexander and Carole Bozworth. The series will be taught at NNI's offices on March 4, March 11, and March 18 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. One folder per household will be distributed at the first session for \$7.00. Pre-registration is required and space is limited, so please RSVP early to Jennifer Presberry at 816-454-2000.



Neighborhood residents overflowed NNI's meeting room at a February 19 meeting sponsored by KC Councilpersons Deb Hermann and Bill Skaggs. The public meeting, second in a series, was devoted to the obviously hot topic of Kansas City road projects in the 1st Council District. A third meeting is scheduled for March 18, 8:30 a.m. at NNI.



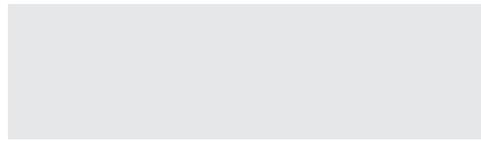
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**WE WILL LEAVE NO
NEIGHBORHOOD BEHIND.**



Public Meetings at NNI March 2008

Tuesday	3/4	HomeWorks	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	3/11	HomeWorks	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	3/12	Senior Workshop	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday	3/12	Homebuyer Education	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	3/13	Greenhaven Neighborhood	7:00 p.m.
Monday	3/17	NNI Board Meeting	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday	3/18	Northland Roads Meeting	8:30 a.m.
Tuesday	3/18	HomeWorks	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday	3/19	Cop Talk at North Patrol -1101 NW Barry Road	6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	3/19	Homebuyer Education	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday	3/25	Neighborhood Roundtable	6:00 p.m.
Monday	3/31	Meet Your Councilpersons	6:00 p.m.