

Northland Neighborhoods News



The *monthly* edition of Northland Neighborhoods News is distributed on the NNI Website (www.nni.org). The *Quarterly* edition is published and distributed in print in addition to being available online. Please call (816) 454-2000 if you wish to have your name or e-mail address added to or removed from NNI's database.

BIDS & BREWS BENEFIT SLATED FOR MAY 8

NI is gearing up for its Bids and Brews Benefit, an auction and beer tasting. It all comes together May 8, 2010, from 6 to 9 p.m. at Embassy Suites – KCI. Sponsorships and tickets will be available in a few weeks. Count on plentiful auction bargains and a sudsy array of unusual and tasty beers. NNI Board

member ElizaBeth Clayton encores in her role as Auction Chair. Board members Dan Fowler and Dave Mecklenburg will co-chair the beer tasting. The event will also include a sumptuous hors d'oeuvre buffet. Watch upcoming editions of the NNI News and special e-mails for more details.



VIVION ROAD PLAN TAKES CENTER STAGE

Vivion Road occupies a special place among Northland assets. Technically Missouri State Highway 69, it showcases the Northland Fountain, Anita Gorman Park, the new North Oak Village shopping center, and the regionally popular Penguin Park. Former stars in the Vivion Road galaxy, such as Antioch Mall, have faded but show promise of brightening when long-awaited redevelopment finally gets underway.

At their January 19 First District Problem-Solving meeting, KCMO City Councilpersons Deb Hermann and Bill Skaggs hosted an overview of past and current plans for Vivion

Road. Most recent was the Briarcliff-Winnwood Area Plan which clearly pinpoints Vivion Road as one of the Northland's most significant east-west corridors. Attendees at the meeting also were briefed on an upcoming PIEA (Planned Industrial Expansion Authority) plan that will focus on commercial development opportunities on Vivion, from Antioch Road to Hardesty. That plan will deal with development possibilities for some of Vivion Road's older commercial enclaves. The plan, sponsored by NNI, will be done by Development Initiatives of Kansas City. Watch upcoming editions of the NNI News for updates on the plan and other Vivion Road developments.

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.

NNI Service Reaches Widely	2
2010 Census Begins	2
Neighborhood Clips	3
Meetings And Events	4

NNI OFFERS WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES

During NNI's annual strategic planning process, the Resource Development Committee recommended that a comprehensive listing of NNI services be regularly included in the NNI Newsletter. Most NNI services are available to Clay County or Platte County residents without charge or applications.

- Assistance with neighborhood organization, by-law and board development, organizing neighborhood cleanups (including a tool library)
- Space for neighborhood meetings
- Monthly senior citizen health, education and recreation workshops
- Crime prevention training programs and Night Out Against Crime Kick-Off event
- Comprehensive code enforcement (4 KCMO code officers are based at NNI)
- Neighborhood Information Technology Center
- Comprehensive home repair programs
- FOCUS Center: pet licensing, code enforcement, animal control, notary public, KCPD Office of Community Complaints, police-community interaction, voter registration
- Monthly "Meet Your Councilperson" meetings
- Monthly "Roundtable" and communications workshops for neighborhood leaders
- Clearing house on economic development projects that impact neighborhoods

THE 2010 CENSUS IS BEGINNING

The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is underway as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data. How do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? The Better Business Bureau offers the following advice:

Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information.

If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, he or she will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice.

Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if

they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.

The Census Bureau might ask for very basic financial information, such as a salary range.

The Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers, nor will employees solicit donations. Any one asking for that information is NOT with the Census Bureau.

Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will not contact you by e-mail, so be on the lookout for e-mail scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an e-mail that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

The bottom line is that we all need to stand up and be counted. A complete and accurate census count is important for the Northland. Many believe the Northland has significantly gained population over the last decade. Accurate population counts provide better data for planning agencies, schools, and businesses. Kansas City and

the Northland could benefit through increased federal funding that is often tied to population. So, watch for the census information when it comes in your mailbox. It

is a simple, 10-question form that will only take a few minutes to complete and mail back to the Census Bureau. The Census: it's in our hands.



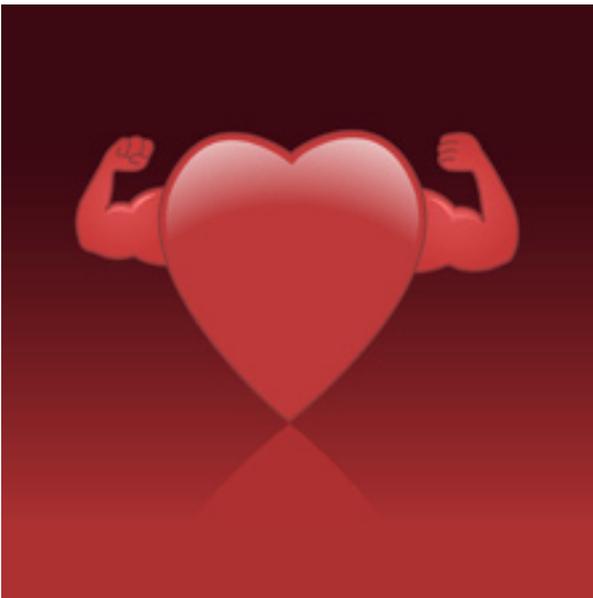
NEIGHBORHOOD CLIPS

Attention newsletter editors: Resource Exchange is February 23

On February 23, 6-7 p.m., NNI will launch a new bimonthly conference for neighborhood newsletter editors. The "Editors' Resource Exchange" is an opportunity for newsletter writers and editors to brainstorm newsletter topics and exchange ideas on how to spruce up their publications. Editors' Resource Exchange will be held on the 4th Tuesday of even numbered months from 6 to 7 p.m. at NNI. The program will alternate with the Neighborhood Roundtable which is held on the 4th Tuesday of the odd numbered months. Guest speakers will be at some of the exchanges to stimulate ideas and share journalistic tips.

February senior workshop: a valentine for heart health

Tune in to heart health as a Valentine gift to yourself and your loved ones. You will have that chance on February 10 at NNI's Senior Workshop, 9:00 a.m. Kristi K. Shaumeyer, M.D., will have tips on how to keep your heart healthy.



NNI seeks qualified low-income home repair contractors

Northland Neighborhoods, Inc. needs qualified low-income contractors to do home repair work including: Heating and Cooling (HVAC) Systems; Roofing; Windows and Doors; Gutters; Plumbing and Water Heaters; Code Violation Remediation; Siding; Removing Barriers to Access; Weatherization Activities; Lead Testing and Abatement; Flatwork/Concrete; and General Contracting. Please contact Larry Washington at 816-454-2000 for more information.



Stay ahead of the civic curve at NNI's Neighborhood Roundtable series

The Neighborhood Roundtable, held at NNI every other month on the fourth Tuesday at 6 p.m., features topical speakers, questions and answers, followed by a roundtable discussion of happenings in the neighborhoods. Here is the upcoming schedule:

March 23: Nathan Pare, KCMO Neighborhood Preservation Code Enforcement

May 25: David Warm, Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Executive Director

July 27: Pat Klein and the Kansas City PIAC Process.

FREE health checks for your child and your home now available

The Kansas City Safe & Healthy Home Partnership will review your child's health, and the health of your home. The home environmental assessment includes checking indoor air quality and ventilation, dust and allergen levels, moisture and mold, a household chemical survey, a home maintenance survey, and a home safety check up. You can enroll today by calling 816-235-6331 or contact Yvonne Herrick at NNI, 454-2000 to see if you qualify.

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NNI Public Meetings and Events February 2010

Wednesday, 2/10	Senior Workshop	9:00 a.m.
Monday, 2/15	NNI office closed for Presidents Day	
Monday, 2/15	NNI Board Meeting	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 2/16	1st District Problem-Solving	8:30 a.m.
Tuesday, 2/16	Greenhaven Neighborhood	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, 2/17	Cop Talk	6:30 p.m.
Monday, 2/22	Meet Your Councilpersons	6:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 2/23	Editors' Resource Exchange	6:00 p.m.
Thursday, 2/25	Budget Hearing 2nd District	6-8 p.m.

2nd District Meeting at Plaza Middle School, 6501 NW 72nd Street

Saturday, 2/27	Budget Hearing, 1st District	10 a.m. – Noon
1st District Meeting at Shoal Creek Police Academy, 6885 NE Peasant Valley Road		