

This Week at NNI



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Deb's Desk (a weekly update from CEO Deb Hermann)

Please vote! It really does matter.

Tuesday, April 3, is Election Day. There are elections happening that will impact virtually every neighborhood in the Northland. Elections that will determine what kind of municipal officials will serve you, what kind of schools your kids will attend, the quality of programs such as trash service, fire and ambulance protection, and libraries.

If you are involved in your neighborhood, I'm probably preaching to the choir when I ask you to vote. Civic involvement at the neighborhood level usually transfers to the duty and privilege of voting. But what about your friends and neighbors who, for whatever reason, sit on the sidelines on Election Day? Here's another slant on why it's important to get out the vote: As a former elected official, I can tell you that strong voter turnout is a sure sign that citizens are watching what elected officials are doing. And they should watch. Ballot issues matter. They deal with taxes, public improvements, health, public safety, and the quality of public education. Strong voter turnout can also mean the difference between excellence or mediocrity in the quality of those elected to serve in public office.

If you aren't registered to vote, it is too late to register in time for the April election, but not too late for the August election where again there will be important issues for the votes to decide.

Registration is easy. It requires completing a small form and takes only a few minutes. If you are a Clay County resident, you can register at NNI (or a number of other convenient places). We will even mail it to the election board for you. So, please take the time on April 3 to get to your polling place and spend a few minutes doing what millions of people in other parts of our world can only dream about.

News Bites

Garage Sales: NNI will help member neighborhood groups advertise their neighborhood garage sales. Send the pertinent information about your sale (date/time/place) to deb_hermann@nni.org by Mondays at 5 p.m. A Constant Contact will do out on Wednesday of each week during the garage sale season. If your neighborhood is not a member neighborhood, it is free and easy to become a member organization. Contact Jim Rice at jim_rice@nni.org or at 816-454-2000.

Contractors wanted: NNI needs qualified low-income contractors to do home repair. Contact Larry Washington at 816-454-2000 for more information.

NNI Calendar for March 19 – March 27

3/19/12	6:00 p.m.	NNI Board Meeting
3/20/12	7:00 p.m.	Greenhaven Neighborhood
3/21/12	6:30 p.m.	Cop Talk
3/26/12	6:00 p.m.	Meet Your Councilpersons
3/27/12	6:00 p.m.	Neighborhood Roundtable
4/10/12	8:30 a.m.	1 st District Problem Solving Meeting
4/11/12	9:00 a.m.	Senior Workshop
4/12/12	6:00 p.m.	Town Hall Meeting