



Kingfield News

March 2005

www.kingfield.org

a quarterly publication

Kingfield Seeks New Board Members

Are you always talking about how Kingfield could be improved as a neighborhood? If yes, you now have a forum to do just that: serve on the Kingfield Neighborhood Association Board.

KFNA will fill six board vacancies at the Kingfield Annual Meeting, April 18 at 7 p.m. at Martin Luther King Park. Any Kingfield resident or representative of a Kingfield business may run for the board. The position is volunteer-based but the time commitment is as much

as one can commit to building a better neighborhood.

In addition to electing board members, the community will approve changes to KFNA's Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Phase I plan, and complete a survey for NRP Phase II planning. Community members may also sign-up to volunteer at various activities, including youth soccer, the annual garage sale, the Kingfield festival, the farmer's market, or the organization's several committees.

The meeting is preceded by a potluck from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., and people are asked to bring a dish to share. Free child care for those under five is available from 5:30 p.m. until the meeting's conclusion, approximately 9 p.m. Kids five and older will have the opportunity to create inventions and artwork with Leonardo's Basement. To sign up for child care or learn more about the annual meeting, contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson at (612) 823-5980.

-Sean Wherley

NRP plan changes need approval

Kingfield residents will vote April 18 to modify its Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Phase I plan. Changes will allow KFNA to operate at its current staffing levels for at least two more years while implementing new programs, including a stormwater collection project and a tree planting project. To learn more, contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson of KFNA at (612) 823-5980.

Proposed Changes

1. Modify language of HBI 2.3.2.2 (Nicollet Avenue Streetscape Strategy) to state "Establish and implement a Streetscape Improvement Programs for homes along Nicollet Avenue."

2. Move remaining \$74,000 from HBI 2.3.2.2 (now the Streetscape Strategy) into Livability 1.2.1.2 (Administration). These dollars will be part of the left over in this strategy after we contract the funds for the Nicollet Pedestrian Lighting Project from 36th to 40th. The remaining \$20,000 will be left for such initiatives as the Art Bus Shelter Project.

3. Livability 1.1.1.5 Modify the strategy language as follows: Install plantings and/or planters at selected intersections sites.

4. Move \$30,000 from HBI 2.3.1.3 (Redevelopment) into Livability 1.1.1.5 for Tree Planting and Stormwater Collection Projects.

5. Move \$50,000 from HBI 2.3.1.3 (Redevelopment) to Livability 1.2.1.2 (Administration).

KFNA thanks 2004 donors

Kingfield residents responded enthusiastically and generously to KFNA's fall appeal. In fact, 98 donors contributed \$4,335 following the November letter, which was mailed to every neighborhood address.

In light of the fact Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) funding to Kingfield and all city neighborhoods will end in 2009, KFNA must find its own funding to ensure a professional and successful organization. That is why it is crucial that neighbors take ownership of KFNA and invest in it to protect it from imminent funding cuts.

We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and businesses that made 2004 gifts to KFNA to strengthen community-building programs. Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of our records. If this list contains errors or omissions, contact the KFNA office at (612) 823-5980 so that we may extend our apologies and correct our records.

\$500+
Raubarber Photography

\$200 - \$499
Dennis Curran
Rich and Martha Ingram

\$100 - \$199
Douglas Benting
Mark and Kathy Boesch
Rosemary Dolata
Beverly and Don Forsman
Sarah Farley and Elizabeth Tisel
Jack Fitchette
Karen Robinson and Steve Jevning
Charles and Laura Miller
David and Ellen Muschenheim

\$50 - \$99
Kristi Anderson
Mary Baker
Paul and Martha Brennecke
Randall and Jonel Brown

Brubaker Landscape Design of the Twin Cities Inc.
Rebecca and Eric Carlson
Colonial Cleaners
Tara Durney
Patricia Evans
Thomas Farmer
Sara Graffunder
Nancy Hansen and John Revolinski
Thomas and Bonnie Johnson
Karla Larsen and Kenneth Bearman
Erik Lindseth
Jason Maxwell-Wiggins and Daniel Davenport
Joan and Dick Niemiec
Karen Pieper
Katherine Semersky
Spectrum Travel
Marian Turner and Marion Druschel
Eric Ulmsted
James Wellman
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\$26 - \$49
Margo Dean
MarthaGoetsch
Rolf and Betty Johnson
Evelyn Turgeon

up to \$25
Carol Barnett
Anita and Conrad Anderson
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Benjamin Kristensen and Jennifer Smith Kristensen
PatrickKulisheck
Charles Legros and Karen Heegaard
Thad Ludwiczak
Margaret Lyons
Anne and Dale Mackereth
Timothy or Logan Mather
Shelley McDonald
Midwest Cycle Supply
Minnesota Citizens Concerned for Life
Julie Mueller
Brian and Anita Newhouse
Gabe Ormsby
Jane and Eleftherios Papageorgiou
Ryan Paulson
Marc Perlman
Amanda Saunders
Richard Sewall
Walton Stanley and Leslie Rapp
John Stapp
Harry and Susan Summitt
Jennifer Thompson
Phala Tracy
Katherine Tyler
R.A. Ungerman Construction Co., Inc.
Jill Walser
Christopher White
Susan Youngdahl

2004 In-kind Gifts
Amoco
Anodyne Coffeeshouse
Best Foods
Bruegger's Bagels
Curran's Family Restaurant
Grand Bakery
N.E. Thyme
Nicollet Hardware
Pump 'N Munch
Sebastian Joe's
Super America
Scaffold Services
Time Warner
Valspar Paints
Victor's 1959 Cuban Café

Meet the "Pres"

Are you interested in serving on the Kingfield Neighborhood Association board? If you want to learn more about this great way to help and serve the community, visit one of the "Meet the Board" coffees this spring.

The sessions allow neighbors to chat with KFNA President David Motzenbecker about board member responsibilities, time commitments, and any other issues about the position. At Kingfield's Annual Meeting April 18, six board positions will be filled.

Coffee times will be held March 20, April 3, and April 17 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Anodyne Coffeeshouse, 4300 Nicollet Ave. S.

A Note from the President

Theisen Vending Building looks to the Future

Anchoring the southwest corner of the intersection of 38th Street and Nicollet Avenue, sits the former Theisen Vending building. It has been empty since August of 2004, but activity surrounding the building has been anything but quiet.

KFNA's Redevelopment

Committee has been working diligently to make sure something unique will come of the building. Last summer, committee members encouraged former owner Tom Theisen to partner with Lander Group, a Minneapolis developer, to help translate the neighborhood's vision for the site into a positive

icon for Kingfield and South Minneapolis.

Running in parallel to development planning was the Corridor Housing Initiative (CHI), which focused on identifying locations for affordable housing paired with mixed-use buildings along Nicollet Avenue. Many neighborhood residents participated in this process.

During the course of the CHI process, Richard Milgrom, Assistant Director of the Metropolitan Design Center at the University of Minnesota, approached KFNA about making the site the focus of a graduate-level sustainable design architecture studio. KFNA agreed and the process began last fall, culminating in a Jan. 26

public presentation at Martin Luther King Park of 10 students' vision for the Theisen building.



This final event was an instructive and inspiring neighborhood affair! More than 50 people were in attendance including Mayor R.T. Rybak, City Councilmembers Robert Lilligren and Dan Niziolek, Tom Fisher – Dean of the College of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at the U of Minnesota, Ann Forsyth – Director of the Metropolitan Design Center, and several Eighth Ward City Council candidates.



Plans are in the works for the development of the former Theisen Vending Building

Chris Kennelly of Lander Group and a representative from the firm's architect, Ellness Swenson Graham Architects, also attended. Both were impressed and thought that some of the design possibilities presented could be explored as the process moves forward.

Mayor Rybak offered tangible comments to the students about how their ideas might be applied to the 'real world' issues affecting design and affordable, sustainable housing in the City at present. Councilmembers Lilligren and Niziolek also offered focused commentary to the students to help advance their thinking.

The evening ended with a short Q&A session and an overwhelming round of applause for the students and the ideas they have helped bring to Kingfield.

-David Motzenbecker



A U of M graduate student presents ideas to the group gathered at MLK Park

KFNA President is appointed to City Planning Commission

January 26th, 2005 - At the conclusion of Theisen Vending Sustainable Design Studio presentation, Mayor R. T. Rybak announced to those assembled

that he had appointed David Motzenbecker, KFNA President, to a seat on the Minneapolis City Planning Commission.

Survey shows support for affordable housing

According to a neighborhood survey conducted last summer, Kingfield residents support redevelopment that protects the environment, provides a variety of housing options, and is pedestrian oriented.

environmentally friendly, and provides lifecycle and affordable housing. Other priorities include developing affordable housing and condominiums, and increasing single-family home ownership.

The KFNA Redevelopment Committee conducted the survey to better understand community views and to aid committee planning. People who live, work, or spend a significant amount of time in Kingfield were eligible to participate; 157 people returned surveys.

Survey participants also want the neighborhood to pursue businesses that provide services to residents, whether groceries or health care. They also prefer projects that aid pedestrians and bus riders and have reduced environmental impact. Complete survey results are available on our website at www.kingfield.org.

Respondents favored redevelopment that is

-Mark Hinds

About the Kingfield Neighborhood Association

The Kingfield neighborhood runs from 36th to 46th Streets, between Lyndale Avenue and 35W.

The Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA) office is located in The Center for Performing Arts building, room 101:

KFNA Office
3754 Pleasant Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55409
Phone 612-823-5980
E-mail kfna@email.com
www.kingfield.org

The KFNA board meets the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at ML King Park, 4055 Nicollet Avenue So. The following residents are serving on the KFNA Board of Directors for the 2004-2005 term:

- Thor Anderson.....821.1046
- Rosemary Dolata827.4936
- Arthur Knowles823.0808
- Ben Kristensen.....822.2312
- Martha Ingram.....825.4984
- Rolf Johnson823.1066
- Erik Lindseth.....827.3890
- David Motzenbecker....822.5571
- David Muschenheim....825.5959
- Mari O'Rourke.....825.5172
- Dave Saddoris.....396.3472
- Niki Valens824.2286
- Sean Wherley.....825.4952

KFNA Staff

Executive Director:
Sarah Linnes-Robinson 823.5980
NRP Project Organizer:
Joanna S. Hallstrom.....823.5980x3

Kingfield News

If you are interested in writing, editing, designing, or taking photographs for the *Kingfield News*, call the KFNA office at 823-5980.



State unveils bus lane plan for I-35W

State transportation officials unveiled in January a bus plan for I-35W that allows multi-passenger vehicles to share a bus lane running between Lakeville and downtown Minneapolis.

The new lane would run along the median, free of any concrete barrier separating the lane from general-purpose lanes. The Minnesota Department of Transportation claims that such a configuration will allow buses to travel at the posted speed, and increase daily bus riders to 43,000 by 2030. Current daily ridership is 15,000.

Capital costs for the service are

estimated at \$66 million, which covers the acquisition of 126 buses and construction of median stations and park-and-ride lots. The proposed design calls for stations in the median at 46th Street and Lake Street. Passengers would reach local buses running on freeway overpasses via elevators or stairs.

To date, the state has not committed any funds for bus-rapid transit in the corridor. That led the Minneapolis City Council last September to reject state plans to reconfigure Crosstown Hwy. 62 unless funding is provided for bus-rapid transit on I-35W. Under current

designs, Crosstown Hwy. 62 would expand in some stretches from six lanes to as many as 13. A mediation panel is trying to address the city's concerns.

Road construction and traffic delays on I-35W will last as long as eight years, with the Crosstown project set to begin in 2006 and finish in 2010. The 35W Access Project, which runs immediately north of the Crosstown project, is scheduled to begin construction no earlier than 2009 and will also last four years. The combined cost of the two projects is \$460 million.

-Sean Wherley

KFNA Needs Tech Help!

Do you have a basic know-how of pc software and hardware? Are you comfortable monkeying around on computers without a fear that you will permanently lose information inside its depths? Are you patient and willing to volunteer a few hours of your time to work with KFNA Staff in your neighborhood? If so, KFNA could use 5-10 hours of your time this spring.

We need someone who can evaluate our current operational systems and make hardware and software recommendations, and help us install them. Additionally we need someone to advise us on our web site and internet service providers.

If you are interested in volunteering to help your neighborhood association organize our tools so that we can serve you all better, please call Joanna at 823.5980 x3.

New span hopes to bridge Kingfield

When was the last time you crossed I-35W? Was it by foot, bike, or car? If you are like most south Minneapolis residents the freeway is more of a barrier than a connection between residents. Ironic, isn't it, that a road meant to connect Minneapolis with the rest of the nation has done so much to separate its neighbors from one another.

To help reconnect neighbors from both sides of the freeway, KFNA and the Bryant Neighborhood Organization have formed the King Bridge Partnership. The purpose of the partnership is to reconnect south Minneapolis neighborhoods through a new pedestrian bridge over I-35W at 40th Street, one that will serve as the capstone to the RiverLake Greenway and a gateway to Minneapolis.

The new bridge will replace a substandard and aesthetically unappealing bridge built to pacify neighborhoods divided by the freeway's construction, which consumed several blocks of houses and part of Martin Luther King Park in the 1950s.

For people living east of I-35W, the bridge at 40th Street provides the only non-motorized access to Martin Luther King Park. The new bridge will provide a safe, attractive way for the community to use the park and the RiverLake Greenway, which runs from the Mississippi River to Lake Harriet.

To gather community input about the new bridge, the King Bridge Partnership will hold two public meetings: March 19 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Martin

Luther King Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S; and March 21 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th St. Free child care and refreshments will be provided at both meetings.

People willing to share a story about the bridge or who are interested in getting involved with the King Bridge Partnership should contact Mark Hinds at (612) 870-9272 or mjhinds@earthlink.net.

-Mark Hinds



The King Bridge Partnership is working to replace the current substandard pedestrian bridge at 40th Street



Your GREAT IDEA can become REALITY!

Community Initiated Grants let you turn a cool idea into a hot project!

Is there a problem on your block?

Cars speeding through the alley?

Too much litter?

Not enough garden art?

Community Initiated Grants provide funding to neighbors to solve almost any neighborhood issue. To learn more, call (612) 823-5980 or visit www.kingfield.org.

Volunteers wanted: Build Kingfield

If you are looking for a chance to volunteer for the neighborhood but worried about long-term commitments, consider volunteering for an event. Events are a great way to test the volunteering waters, because people are given specific tasks with deadlines. Event-related volunteering generally involves informal interaction with other volunteers and staff. Best of all, events are the "glue" that help neighbors get acquainted, form a bond with the community, and are satisfying.

Four upcoming events will require person-power and offer ideal opportunities to support KFNA. To volunteer, contact KFNA at (612) 823-5980 x3.

KFNA Garage Sale, May 21

This event has grown bigger every year, with more than 90 households participating in 2004. **Garage Sale Greeters** are needed to deliver garage sale signs, information, maps, and tee-shirts to participants the day before the sale, and to deliver coffee and treats to group sale participants the morning of the sale. Sign-up to volunteer three hours the evening of May 20 or the morning of May 21. (see form below to hold a sale).

Farmer's Market, June – October

Join the **Marketing Task Force** for the 2005 Kingfield Farmer's Market. The Kingfield Farmer's Market is on the verge of becoming a neighborhood shopping destination. If you have marketing ideas for bringing neighbors to the weekly summer harvest, consider joining this task force. Meetings will be held once a month through the market season. The first meeting is 7 p.m. on Monday, April 11 at Caffe Tempo at 4161 Grand Ave.

If being part of the excitement is your thing, consider becoming a **Farmer's Market Assistant**. Four volunteers are needed to assist the Farmer's Market Coordinator with set-up and operations. This is a great opportunity to learn how the market works, meet vendors, and interact with neighbors. This commitment is one Sunday per month from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., through October.

Hazardous Waste Drop-off Day, June 25

KFNA will partner with four neighborhoods to host a hazardous waste drop-off on June 25. Area residents may dispose of hazardous waste at no charge. Be

a **"Green" Volunteer** and sign up for a two-hour shift to help direct traffic, distribute information about allowable drop-off items, and unload materials. Information about allowable hazardous waste items can be found on www.kingfield.org.

Kingfield Festival, July 30

If you love to organize events and plan parties consider this opportunity. Volunteer **Festival Event Planners** are needed to assist staff in planning the Kingfield Festival. The first meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29 at Caffe Tempo at 4161 Grand Ave. The Festival Event Planners will continue to meet once a month through July.

Festival Volunteers will be needed on the day of the festival to scoop ice cream, hand out information, and set up and take down equipment. Sign up for a one-, two-, or four-hour shift.

Other NEW volunteer task force opportunities:

Mural Task Force (see page 7)

Water Quality Task Force (see page 6)

King Bridge Partnership (see page 3)

-Martha Ingram



The expanding Kingfield Farmer's Market is one of many volunteer opportunities in the coming year

Garages to open for neighborhood-wide sale

Spring is just around the corner and that means it is time to sign up for Kingfield's annual neighborhood-wide garage sale on May 21.

Get to know your neighbors, make a little money and support your neighborhood all at the same time. There is a \$50 group-rate when five or more neighbors from the same block organize a sale together. And don't forget KFNA staff and volunteers will deliver coffee and treats to each group sale the day of the event. Individual sales can also register for \$15 each.

sales, an official KFNA garage sale sign, and an all new 2005 Kingfield Neighborhood Association t-shirt. To guarantee foot traffic, KFNA will advertise the neighborhood sale in the Star Tribune newspaper. Sales must be open Saturday May 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To register, fill out the form below, enclose appropriate payment (checks only), and submit it by noon on May 18 to KFNA, 3754 Pleasant Ave. S. Room #101, Minneapolis, MN 55409. For more information call (612) 823-5980 x3.

-Joanna S. Hallstrom

Kingfield Neighborhood Association Annual Garage Sale Registration

Sale Date: **Saturday, May 21st from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

Payment Due by noon; Tuesday, May 17th

_____ \$15 individual sale _____ \$50 group sale*

*A group sale must represent at least 5 households on a block and registration information must be provided for all participants in the group block sale

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

(circle one) Kingfield t-shirt no t-shirt

Size: XL L M S no shirt

Make your tax-deductible donation payment to:

KFNA
3754 Pleasant Avenue South
Room #101
Minneapolis, MN 55409

Payment (check only) must be received by noon, May 18.

Registration information must be provided for all neighbors participating in a group block sale.

Call the KFNA office at (612) 823-5980 with questions.

Items for sale (check all that apply)

household
furniture
sporting equipment
books/videos
baby items
children's toys/clothing
mens' clothing
women's clothing
knick-knacks
antiques/collectibles
tools
other

King Park Celebrates Namesake's Birthday

When Martin Luther King died in April 1968, the park at 4055 Nicollet Ave. S. was named Nicollet Field. After his death, however, Nicollet Field officially became Martin Luther King Park. And nearly 37 years later, the park hosted one of the largest celebrations of its namesake's birthday.

More than 250 people gathered Jan. 17 to honor King and further his life's mission. The Shilo Temple International Ministry Choir of north Minneapolis and Sha' Cage, a local poet and performer, headlined the event. Other highlights included the recitation of King's biography by 10-year-old Cherysh Wylie, and the presentation of a life-time achievement award to Gary Wilson, a 50-year volunteer and coach with the Minneapolis Park

and Recreation Board.

The Shilo Temple Choir's driving and beautiful gospel music was perfect for the setting. Cage's poem, a set of numbered lessons in rhythm and rhyme, was filled with power, dismay, and hope. Her explosive expressions of "shot," "shot," "shot," "shot," described the incident in New York in which police shot an unarmed black man 41 times, and formed an immediate connection between her and the audience.

KFNA thanks Marshall Wylie, King Park's Youthline Director, and Brian Cornell, King Park's Director, for organizing the commemoration.

-Michael Vanderford



Local performer, Sha' Cage, headlined the Martin Luther King Celebration



The Shilo Temple International Ministry Choir

Summer Soccer at MLK Park

Last fall King Park took on the administration of the three-year-old, KFNA-pilot effort to re-establish youth soccer program, which would regularly draw Kingfield families to King Park. Currently the program is serving kids between 4-8 years old. Starting this spring, however, we will be adding a program for 9 and 10-year olds, with hopes of having under-10 and under-12 soccer teams playing in the fall Minneapolis Park Board league.

The program administration change from KFNA to King Park has been relatively smooth. There was a good outdoor program last fall, and this winter the gym continues to be full of little kids and parents playing with yellow, orange, and silver soccer balls for an hour or more on Wednesday evenings. There is generally a good mix of Latino, white, black, and first nation kids on any given night.

The biggest mystery of the program is why many of the

parents and kids coming to the program are from northeast Minneapolis and the suburbs. But we are continuing to try and build a good youth soccer program that is attractive to parents from our own neighborhood.

Soccer open gym continues March - April on Wednesdays from 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. at MLK Park.

Outdoor soccer for kids between 4-10 years old begins June 11th and will be held on Saturday mornings from 10:00 - 11:15 a.m and Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. at MLK Park. There is a \$15 registration fee for Minneapolis residents. Register on line at www.minneapolisparcs.org or at MLK Park located at 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.

For questions or to volunteer call: Michael Vanderford, Program Coordinator at 612/ 827-3014.

Family Flashlight Egg Hunt at MLK Park

Spring is right around the corner! Be sure to stop by for the 2nd Annual Flashlight Egg Hunt. A special appearance by "Hippity Hop", craft activities, light snacks, face painting, and a few other surprises.

Time: 06:30pm-08:00pm
Date: Tuesday, March 15
Ages: Ages 0-99
Free Event
To Register call: 612 370-4908

To learn about other child, teen, adult and senior activities at MLK Park contact king@minneapolisparcs.org or call 612 370-4908



Outdoor soccer for kids between 4-10 years old begins June 11



A tagged Dutch elm tree awaits removal

Every Leaf Matters in Kingfield

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board crews are overwhelmed as they fight to remove trees infected with Dutch elm disease. Last year, the city ordered the removal of almost 10,000 elms, including 63 in Kingfield. The scourge is expected to continue this year as the city redirects all their funding for tree planting to tree removal.

KFNA is trying to help the

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board keep Kingfield forested. A new KFNA project, Every Leaf Matters (ELM), will involve a number of strategies to preserve or restore Kingfield's canopy.

To learn more about the programs or how you can replace trees removed by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, contact KFNA at (612) 823-5980 or kfna@email.com.

Group to lead rain garden workshops

The Minneapolis Blooms Program (formerly Blooming Boulevards) will lead a series of free workshops this spring about using native perennial plants in rain gardens. Attendees at both sessions will be reimbursed for \$50 off their purchase of native plants.

The first workshop will discuss garden design, native plant information, and the role gardening plays in protecting rivers and lakes from polluted rainwater runoff and snowmelt. The second workshop will include hands-on design help from

landscape architect interns and Master Gardeners, including how to divert water runoff from gardens, and the appropriate types of native plants to use.

The workshops will run from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Linden Hills Park Community Center, 3100 W. 43rd St. The first workshop will be held March 31 or May 5. The second workshop will be held April 14 or May 26. To register or learn more, contact Laura Wieland of the Minneapolis Blooms Program at (612) 673-3014 or laura@stepbystepbkg.com.

Kingfield forms water quality task force

Beginning this month, the City of Minneapolis will charge residences separate fees for sewer and storm water. The sewer fee is based on the amount of water a household uses, and the storm water fee is based on the amount of impervious surface area (house, garage, driveway) compared to a lot's size. Most homes will be charged one unit per month, or \$8.72.

To lower residence fees and reduce the amount of water sent into the system, the city is creating two credits which are available to every property. To qualify for the credit of 50% of the fee you must create a rain garden, or other best management practice (BMP), to hold water on your property so it can be filtered and cleaned before it enters the storm water system. The remaining portion of the fee

may be reduced if the quantity of water entering the system from your property can also be reduced.

KFNA is forming a task force to help Kingfield residents take advantage of this discount by examining the city regulation of storm water management and developing demonstration sites that utilize best management practices (BMP's) for stormwater. These demonstration sites will also show residents how this type of landscape improvement can enhance not only the environment but the neighborhood as a whole. To learn more, contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson at (612) 823-5980 or kfna@email.com.

*-by Sarah Linnes-Robinson
written in consultation with John McClain, Project Manager of the Stormwater Rate Model Project*

Construction has begun!

23 West 38th Street will soon be the site of an affordable and accessible Minneapolis Public Housing duplex. Last year KFNA gave input on the design, and supported MPHA in applying for NRP Affordable Housing Reserve Fund dollars.

The project received the highest score and the \$10,000 of NRP funds that they had requested. These special NRP Affordable Housing Reserve funds were reserved off the top of NRP before the neighborhood allocations were made and are for any city-wide affordable housing projects.

The project at 23 West 38th was stalled briefly this fall when poor soil conditions were discovered.

KFNA choose to support the project even more strongly with a \$10,000 commitment from Kingfield's NRP Plan. The Minneapolis department of Community and Economic Development (CPED, formerly MCDA) contributed the remaining shortfall, close to \$55,000.



Poor soil conditions have been corrected and construction is moving forward



Splashing murals across Kingfield

Spectrum Travel's makes you want to spread your arms and run down Nicollet Avenue. Fairy Godmother's makes you want to kick up your feet and stare at the clouds. Curran's Restaurant's makes you want to prepare a feast and share its bounty. The former Lucky Girl Grocery's makes you simply feel inspired. What do all these businesses have in common? They were recipients of Kingfield's 2004 Mural Project, a program many neighborhood residents say they love.

In response to overwhelming community support, KFNA will create three or four murals on local business exteriors this summer. Last year's project targeted graffiti-laden walls and paired talented local artists with neighborhood teenagers. The artists and business owners decided on the design. This year KFNA will structure the program the same.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the 2005 Mural Task Force, which reviews artist applications and assigns them to interested businesses.

- **Business applications are due April 1**
- **Artist applications are due April 11**
- **Volunteer youth artist applications are due May 31**

Materials may be sent to KFNA at 3754 Pleasant Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55409, and must be received by midnight of the due date.

To volunteer or apply, contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson at (612) 823-5980 or kfna@email.com.
-Sarah Linnes-Robinson

(right)
Detail of Karlee Mariel's mural on the West facade of Curran's Restaurant

(below)
Detail of Malichansouk Kovanchao's wallscape on the North facade of Spectrum Travel



"Kingfield Art Chair"... Not Your Same Old Uptown Art Fair

Grab the Kingfield News and pull up a chair, that utilitarian object we don't usually think too much about. Until now, that is. Several Kingfield artists and people with artistic souls have united to raise Kingfield's awareness (a-chair-ness?) of chairs.

Using regular chairs as their canvas, these neighborhood artists are transforming them into art chairs. A silent auction for the art chairs will begin at Anodyne Coffeehouse, 4300 Nicollet Ave. S on July 5th, where the art chairs will be exhibited through the month of July. On the final day of the silent auction, July 30th, the art chairs will be collected at the festival. All proceeds will benefit KFNA and be used for art activities in the neighborhood.

If you are interested in creating a chair or learning more about the project, contact "chairperson" Mari O'Rourke at (612) 825-5172 or mariorourke@prevaro.com.



New Businesses in Kingfield

Kingfield's "Sometimes Performance Space"

During the past year many visitors to 38th Street and Grand Avenue have curiously stared into the windows of the art gallery between Bakery on Grand and the former Lucky Girl Grocery.

The small space is filled with paintings, sculptures, photographs, and assorted vintage curios. For a while there was what appeared to be an Inca mummy in the front window. On occasion observers have been treated to "performers," who pose suggestively in the windows while wearing provocative costumes.

The truth is that the mummy was not real and the space is not an art gallery. It has no public hours, only the promising sign in the window: "Opening March, 2006 at 3:30 in the afternoon."

Garth Galbraith is the man behind what he affectionately calls the Sometimes Performance Space. A 10-year resident of Kingfield, Galbraith has been dealing in fine antiques for more than 25 years. Before occupying the space on Grand last year, he operated a shop in the Hamm Building in St. Paul. He buys through estate sales and works with prospective buyers by appointment only.

Galbraith thoroughly enjoys his enigmatic presence among the shops at 38th and Grand. Weather permitting, he will place a chair outside the front door of his space and chat with

passers-by. He is a fixture at the Bakery on Grand and kept some of his collection in the vacant Lucky Girl site while the building owner was seeking a new renter.

Neighbors who were initially disturbed at the sight of a mummy sitting in the window of Galbraith's shop were relieved to learn that it was a recreation from a movie set. It was, however, so realistic that the Minnesota Historical Society was asked to verify its authenticity.

While Galbraith makes no promises of what people might expect to see in his front windows this year, he relishes the prospect of amplifying his own political and social perspectives through the objects and messages in his windows. He hints at more head-turning performance art as well.

-Thor Anderson

New variety store opens in Kingfield

The B Squad opened Jan. 5 on the corner of Nicollet Avenue and 38th Street. The B Squad, which occupies the storefront formerly used as a neighborhood church, is open Wednesday through



Betsy O'Connor, owner of B Squad

Saturday from 12 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The B Squad sells vintage clothing, records, furniture, and miscellaneous accessories. Enjoy browsing the aisles for music, shoes, jewelry, retro kitchen items, home décor, dinettes, posters, old books, watches, clocks, light fixtures, old telephones, cameras, or radios. Meet the B Squad's owner, Betsy, and step into the past as you look around at her vintage wares.

-Mary Vandorford



Garth Galbraith in front of his Sometimes Performance Space

Calendar of Events

| | | |
|----------|-------------------------|--|
| March 19 | 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. | King Bridge Partnership Community Meeting MLK Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S. |
| March 21 | 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. | King Bridge Partnership Community Meeting Sabathani Community Center, 310 E. 38th St. |
| March 20 | 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Coffee Time With KFNA President Andyne Coffeehouse, 4300 Nicollet Ave. S. |
| April 3 | 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Coffee Time With KFNA President Andyne Coffeehouse, 4300 Nicollet Ave. S. |
| April 17 | 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Coffee Time With KFNA President Andyne Coffeehouse, 4300 Nicollet Ave. S. |
| April 18 | 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. | Kingfield Annual Meeting & Community Potluck Community Potluck MLK Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S. |
| May 21 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Kingfield Neighborhood Garage Sale Kingfield |
| June 12 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Kingfield Farmer's Market - Opening Day Location to be announced |
| June 25 | 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Hazardous Waste Drop-off Day Location to be announced |
| July 30 | | Kingfield Festival MLK Park, 4055 Nicollet Avenue S. |

Visit www.kingfield.org for event updates and details

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Want more murals in Kingfield?
see page 7...