



# Kingfield News

June 2005

www.kingfield.org

a quarterly publication

## Farmer's Market Opens at New Nicollet Avenue Site

Despite zoning struggles with the city, the Kingfield Farmer's Market will open the 2005 season in a new location at 4325 Nicollet Ave. S. The market will also benefit from a new logo, designed by students at the University of Minnesota.



The parking lot at Frame Ups frame shop, located at 4325 Nicollet Ave. S., is the site for the Kingfield Farmer's Market

Following the success of last year's market, organizers sought a larger space than the Time Warner parking lot at 4234 Nicollet Ave. S.

KFNA wanted to compliment the market's grass fed beef, Bison, family grown produce, maple syrup, coffee and knishes, artisan bread, hand crafted soap, jewelry, pottery, and note cards with new vendors that offered specialty cheeses, organic eggs, free range poultry, and greater varieties of fresh and organic produce.

Those expansion plans, however, were dashed by city zoning codes that limit farmer's markets to areas zoned as industrial or commercial. The preferred site, the parking lot of Mulroy's new Body Shop, 3900 Nicollet Ave. S., is zoned as residential.

Attempts to return the market to the

Timer Warner parking lot were nixed when the company refused to renew the use agreement with KFNA. That's when Tim Harwig, owner of the shop Frame Ups, offered to host the market. Located a block south of the former site, Frame Ups shares its parking lot with Youngs' Flowers and it provides room for more vendors and will be enhanced by popular restaurants and businesses located nearby. The market will be further enhanced by the addition of possibly two neighborhood murals this summer, one painted and one a tile mosaic, both created as part of the Kingfield Mural Project.

-Joanna Hallstrom

## Kingfield aims for big July 30 festival at King Park

Kingfield Festival organizers are thinking big to promote KFNA's premiere event of the year and surpass last year's turnout of 300 people. That means that each of you needs to attend! The festival will be held July 30 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Martin Luther King Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S. The festival will include craft tables for kids, an interactive bridge building contest for all ages sponsored by the King Bridge Partnership and Leonardo's Basement, the mounted patrol of the Minneapolis Police Department, information displays about KFNA projects, food vendors, and live music performances.

This year's event also includes a Kingfield Art Chair auction (see story on page 3). Several Kingfield artists will transform standard chairs into unique pieces that the community may bid on via auction. The chairs will be on display at Anodyne Coffeehouse, 4300 Nicollet Ave. S., beginning July 4 through the end of the month, with the final auction to occur at the festival. Proceeds will benefit KFNA art projects.

Volunteers are needed to make this year's event successful. People are needed to post promotional flyers at local businesses, sell food tickets, serve drinks, and oversee craft tables for kids. To volunteer for the event, contact Joanna Hallstrom at (612) 823-5980.

-Sean Wherley

## Share Flora with Neighbors June 12!

### Kingfield Farmer's Market & Annual Plant Exchange

Sunday, June 12 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Frame Ups' parking lot,  
4325 Nicollet Ave. S. (NEW LOCATION)

Get down and dirty and unearth a few of your proliferating perennials to share and exchange with neighbors at the June 12 Kingfield plant exchange. The event coincides with the season opening of the Kingfield Farmer's Market at 4325 Nicollet Ave. S.

Kingfield residents are encouraged to bring their hostas, lilies, ground cover, and ornamental grasses and any other plant you want to share. You can even bring those extra vegetable plants you started from seed. A bundle of Plantain Lily Hostas may fetch you a root bound mass of orange tiger lilies, or trade a sample of Raspberry Regal Coral Bell for a potted specimen of Sedum Autumn Joy. However, you may have to do some serious begging and bargaining to get your garden gloves on a flowing Helleborus x hybridus, the Perennial Plant Association's plant of the year.

Don't worry if you don't have any plants to exchange, there is always plenty to go around. Everyone will surely walk home with a special green organic life form to nurture and care for.

Kingfield Master Gardeners, Anita Saap and Melinda Ludwiczak, will also be on hand to chat about your garden and answer your most perplexing gardening questions.

## Become a "Friend of the Market"

Show your support of the Kingfield Farmer's Market by becoming a "Friend of the Market." By contributing various amounts, you are eligible for appreciation events, special promotional gifts, and will receive a chance to win a hand crafted cedar Adirondack chair.

Our market has become an important community-building tool for our neighborhood and your donation will water our bustling market and help it grow healthy and strong.

Sponsorship levels are as follows: \$100 or more - Peach; \$75 - Apple; \$50 - Plum; and \$25 - Cherry.

Checks may be made payable to KFNA and either dropped at KFNA's office, 3754 Pleasant Ave. S., Room 101, Minneapolis, MN 55409, or given to the Market Coordinator at any Sunday market.

Go to [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org) for the Farmer's Market marketing task force meeting schedule.

## Every Leaf Matters in Kingfield

Kingfield Neighborhood Association is kicking off a new program this summer to "green-up" the neighborhood.

Every Leaf Matters' (E.L.M.) primary focus is on replanting the trees that are missing from the boulevards (200 to date according to a recent inventory by the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board) to recreate the avenues of green. The program will plant an array of trees to avoid future bouts where a disease nearly wipes out a canopy largely composed of one species, as was the case with Dutch Elm disease.

KFNA is partnering with the Park Board and possibly the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to

implement this program. The park board will buy and plant 20 percent of the trees in 2005, KFNA will match their numbers. While the Park Board trees are being planted according to citizen requests made last fall, KFNA is interested in planting trees on blocks that can demonstrate a commitment to caring for the trees.

Neighbors wanting trees planted on their block are encouraged to apply for a KFNA Community Initiated Grant. Visit [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org) in order to view a map which shows where the Park Board has determined an additional tree can be placed. Application forms may be obtained at

Every Leaf on page 2

## I-35W construction in 2006

Plans to widen I-35W through Kingfield cleared their last hurdle in March when city and state officials resolved a dispute over transit options in the corridor.

Under the agreement, the state will commit to building a bus-rapid transit lane and a 46th Street station, install more sound barriers, construct new overpasses with wider sidewalks, and take fewer properties than previously planned. The agreement allows construction to begin in 2006. As designed, Crosstown Hwy. 62 will expand in some stretches from six to thirteen lanes, and I-35W would widen from eight to ten lanes through south Minneapolis.

Last year, the city council withheld

support of the \$240 million Crosstown Reconstruction project because of environmental concerns and the lack of state funding for bus-rapid transit. Although the state has not dedicated funds to build the 46th Street station, city officials are content to move ahead with construction.

Other problems associated with the project, however, remain unanswered. First, the project does not alleviate traffic congestion. Minnesota Department of Transportation officials said last year that the proposed project would reach capacity the day it opened.

Flooding problems in Kingfield are also not addressed. The major storm water

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**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](mailto:kfna@email.com)  
[www.kingfield.org](http://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 2005-2006 term:

- Thor Anderson.....821.1046
- Darrell Gerber.....824.7366
- Ben Kristensen.....822.2312
- Peter Hallstrom.....821.9405
- Mark Hinds.....870.9272
- Martha Ingram.....825.4984
- Ben Kristensen.....822.2312
- Erik Lindseth.....827.3890
- Mari O'Rourke .....825-5172
- Ryan Raleigh.....827.3740
- David Sadoris.....396.3472
- Diana Schleisman.....822.4690
- Niki Valens .....824-2286
- Sean Wherley.....825.4952
- JobyLyn White-Weidow..382.4268

**KFNA Staff**

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



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tunnel that runs under I-35W at 39th Street is at capacity during heavy rains and will worsen because the project will result in 58 acres of more pavement.

Finally, the project's impact has not been weighed with that of the 35W Access Project. The city said last year that the full reconstructed stretch, running from Richfield north to 26th Street, must be evaluated for its impact on air, water, and noise. The state now classifies the \$462 million projects as one, but to date no environmental impact of the full stretch has been conducted.

Road construction and traffic delays on I-35W and the Crosstown project are expected to last four years. To learn more about the project, call Sean Wherley at (612) 825-4952 or visit <http://projects.dot.state.mn.us/crosstown>.

-Sean Wherley



**Five newcomers join Kingfield board**

The Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA) elected seven residents at the April 18 annual meeting to serve on the organization's volunteer board.

Fifty-five people attended the meeting and voted to fill the open board positions. Newcomers elected to the board include Darrell Gerber, Pete Hallstrom, Mark Hinds, Ryan Raleigh, and Diana Schleisman, while Martha Ingram, Thor Anderson and Erik Lindseth were re-elected. Gerber and Raleigh will serve for one year while all other newly elected board members will serve until 2007. JobyLyn White-Weidow was elected as an alternate.

Earlier in the meeting, board members updated attendees on KFNA programs and activities such as the farmer's market, mural project, neighborhood garage sale, household hazardous waste collection, Kingfield festival, art chair auction, and youth soccer program. In addition, fundraising and block club organizing efforts were discussed.

Attendees approved changes to the KFNA's Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) plan to allow current staffing levels to continue for at least the next two years; KFNA now employs two, part-time employees.

**NRP Phase II planning begins Sept. 27**

Kingfield has changed a lot since the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) planning began almost ten years ago. Crime rates are down and housing values are up. But one thing remains constant: Kingfield neighbors are committed to creating a community where they feel at home and part of the larger city.

KFNA invites you to an important community discussion Sept. 27 at 7 p.m. at Martin Luther King Park to begin planning for the second phase of NRP. People attending will receive neighborhood demographic information and a summary of NRP Phase I funding, give ideas concerning the future of NRP spending in Kingfield, and meet neighbors concerned about the future of our community.

Kingfield expects to receive approximately \$770,000 from the second phase of NRP. It is mandated that 70 percent of the funds be spent on housing.

Please note that community input will help guide whether the funds will be

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**Every Leaf** from page 1

[www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org) under the "grants" section, at the KFNA office, 3754 Pleasant Ave. S., Room 101, or by calling (612) 823-5980.

A Community Initiated Grant allows neighbors to do a project that improves their block. By requesting trees through this grant program, KFNA will cover the tree purchase and planting costs.

Other E.L.M. program goals include teaching neighbors to look out for signs of Dutch Elm disease and to continue

Other plan changes approved included moving funds from various accounts to pay for the storm water collection project and the tree replacement project. The changes were approved by voice vote.

Several elected officials who represent Kingfield made presentations during the meeting, including State Sen. Scott Dibble, State Rep. Frank Hornstein, and City Council Members Robert Lilligren and Scott Benson. Dibble and Hornstein outlined legislative initiatives they are pursuing and Lilligren and Benson discussed the reconstruction of I-35W and budget issues.

The KFNA board meets the second Wednesday of each month, and meetings are open to the public. Residents may share concerns or comments at the beginning of each meeting. The board's next meeting is June 8 at Martin Luther King Park at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson at (612) 823-5980.

-Sean Wherley



New and re-elected board members are Thor Anderson, Peter Hallstrom, Martha Ingram, Darrell Gerber, Diana Schleisman, Mark Hinds, JobyLyn White-Weidow and Erik Lindseth

**New Board Members Profiled**

The following community members were elected at the April 18 annual meeting to serve on the KFNA board.

Darrell Gerber has lived in Kingfield since 2001. He is currently a full-time student at the Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, studying science, technology and environmental policy. He considers local venues such as Victor's 1959 Café and Anodyne Coffeehouse to be neighborhood treasures. Gerber plans to join KFNA's Redevelopment Committee to assist in the long-term planning of responsible, sustainable development that will keep Kingfield a wonderful place to live.

Mark Hinds has lived in Kingfield for nearly three years, and has been active on the Redevelopment Committee almost as long. He leads the King Bridge Partnership, a project to reconnect south Minneapolis neighborhoods through the construction of a new pedestrian bridge over I-35W at 40th Street. Hinds is a consultant who helps non-profit organizations and foundations with planning, organizational development, programming, and project evaluation.

Ryan Raleigh is a newcomer to Kingfield, but is excited to become involved in the community. Raleigh is a public sector housing and community development professional, and plans to serve on the Redevelopment Committee. He, his wife Kathy, and their one-year-old son look forward to getting outside and meeting their new neighbors as summer arrives.

Peter Hallstrom moved to Kingfield with his wife, Joanna, in May 2002. He joined the Redevelopment Committee last year and subsequently became involved with the King Bridge Partnership. Hallstrom values the opportunity to strengthen his local community, and enjoys biking and running. He is currently employed as a physical therapist.

Diana Schleisman is an office manager at the Franklin Street Bakery. She moved into her grandmother's Kingfield house in 2003, and helped secure a community initiated grant to build speed bumps in the alley on her block. Schleisman recently applied to the Carlson School of Management and hopes to major in Non-Profit Management. She looks forward to serving in ways that help make the neighborhood a better place to live.

-Martha Ingram

**Programs for Seniors at King Park**

The following programs will take place at Martin Luther King Park and are sponsored by the Kingfield Neighborhood Association, Martin Luther King Park, and the Southwest Senior Center. Call Mary Ann Schoenberger at Southwest Senior Center at (612) 822-3194.

**July 7; 1 p.m.**  
**Use it or lose it - the importance of brain fitness**

Learn about the latest in brain research and practice easy "brain exercises" that can be done at home.

**Aug. 4; 1 p.m.**  
**How to choose the prescription drug program that is right for you**

Linda Walker, the Southwest Senior Center's Social Worker, will help you evaluate different options in Medicare prescription drug coverage.

the Elm Watch Project, which concentrates on the testing of specific chemicals in trees diagnosed with Dutch Elm. Trees selected by this program must be approved by a certified arborist and qualify as good candidates. To prevent spreading the disease, it is critical that infected trees be treated or removed. If you suspect that a neighborhood tree has Dutch Elm disease, call Elm Watch Volunteer Kally Goschke at (612) 823-6488. She will come survey the tree and determine if an arborist must be called to inspect it and determine a treatment or schedule its removal.

-Sarah Linnes-Robinson

## Building Community One Block at a Time

While several Kingfield blocks built strong neighbor-to-neighbor networks and remain organized, many Kingfield blocks would benefit from similar structures. KFNA would like to support those blocks that are organized and help others regain their connection.

On Monday, June 27, KFNA will host a block contact training "party" (we promise it will be fun!) at 7 p.m. at Victor's 1959 Cafe at 38th & Grand Ave. to assist blocks with building community. Participants will learn how to become a block contact and receive valuable information about Community Initiated Grants, crime prevention, community building strategies, and much more. Current block leaders will also have an opportunity to offer their own block building strategies and talk about important issues and concerns facing residents.

Organized blocks are encouraged to

call KFNA at (612) 823-5980 and share the name of their block contact and the great things their blocks are doing. If your block doesn't have a contact person, come to the training party and learn how to organize your block. To sign up for the meeting, contact Joanna Hallstrom at (612) 823-5980 x3 or kfna@qwest.net.

-Joanna Hallstrom

### Get to know your neighbors, build a sense of community . . . become a Neighborhood Block Contact!

**Attend one "training" party per year**  
Training is June 27 at Victor's 1959 Cafe

**Maintain the block contact list**  
Collect e-mail addresses and phone numbers to enhance block communication and ensure that everyone receives important KFNA announcements.

**Host one block party a year**  
Host a block party for neighbors to learn about Community Initiated Grants and other neighborhood initiatives, to build community, and have fun together.

**Distribute flyers**  
Pass out flyers a few times each year for important meeting announcements and to invite neighbors to the Kingfield annual meeting and summer festival.

**Distribute welcome packets**  
Welcome new neighbors with packets supplied by KFNA. It's a great way to meet the new residents on your block.

**Participate in National Night Out**  
Aug. 2

## Kingfield Seeks Youth Artists

KFNA is again looking for youth artists, ages 13-17, who are interested in working side-by-side with a professional artist for one week learning painting skills, design considerations, and visibly improving a part of their neighborhood. Youth as young as 11 may be considered for this opportunity if they can demonstrate they are mature enough to participate.

KFNA's Mural Project is planning five new artworks for the neighborhood, including four paintings (with paint donated by the Valspar Foundation) and one tile mosaic. To view work of the selected artists, visit [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org).

All interested youth must submit an application form and two letters of recommendation. Youth will be

selected based upon their interest, demonstration of responsibility, and availability. Application forms may be obtained by calling (612) 823-5980, visiting [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org) or the KFNA office, 3754 Pleasant Ave. S., Room 101.

Participating youth will volunteer their time but are provided with food and drink in appreciation of their community service. Adults are also welcome to volunteer.

Look for the artwork going up this summer and stop at any site to express your support of the project and the artists. This project couldn't happen without them. Donations of donuts and cold soda are always welcome!

-Sarah Linnes-Robinson

## Home assistance programs available to residents

As warmer weather sets in, many homeowners' thoughts turn to outdoor home improvements like house painting. But for some Kingfield residents, income and physical limitations may make such tasks difficult or impossible. To help, three Twin Cities-based organizations have created programs for those in need.

Metro Paint-A-Thon is a program of the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, and brings together teams of volunteers to paint the homes of low-income seniors and people with disabilities. On the first weekend of August, Paint-A-Thon teams paint homes throughout the metro area. Paint-A-Thon screens interested applicants based on income, age,

disability, and single-family home criteria. Although the application deadline for 2005 has passed, Kingfield residents who may qualify should contact Metro Paint-A-Thon at (612) 721-8687 ext. 321, [jkinkaid@gmcc.org](mailto:jkinkaid@gmcc.org), or [www.gmcc.org/paint-a-thon](http://www.gmcc.org/paint-a-thon).

Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity sponsors a program called A Brush with Kindness, which helps low-income homeowners perform minor exterior home repairs, landscaping, and painting. A Brush with Kindness concentrates its efforts in the Phillips and Midtown neighborhoods but qualifying Kingfield residents are encouraged to apply. To learn more, call (612) 788-8169 or visit [www.tchabitat.org/abwk.asp](http://www.tchabitat.org/abwk.asp).

## Hazardous waste collection June 25

Open a cupboard in your kitchen, basement, or garage and read the labels on some of the products or materials. If the containers include the words caution, warning, danger, or poison, the products may pose problems for the environment if not used up or disposed of properly.

Rather than risk having people throw such products in the garbage, down the drain, or on the ground, KFNA is sponsoring a June 25 household hazardous waste collection with Hennepin County, the City of Minneapolis and four neighborhood groups: East Calhoun Community Organization, East Harriet Farmstead, CARAG, and Lyndale Neighborhood Association.

The collection will accept many household hazardous wastes, including mercury items (fluorescent and HID lamps, thermostats and thermometers); pesticides; automotive wastes (fuel additives, starter fluid, waxes); aerosol cans, paint, lead-based

paint chips, solvents and thinners; pool, photographic and hobby chemicals; and household batteries. Business-generated waste will not be accepted at the event.

For more information about acceptable materials, call (612) 348-3777 or visit [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org).

### Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off Day

June 25, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Operation Center  
3800 Bryant Ave. S.

Directions: Enter from the southernmost driveway on Dupont Ave. S./Kings Hwy, between 38th St. W. and 40th St. Follow the signs to the entrance. To avoid a long wait, arrive after 10 a.m. People are also asked to bring their driver's license or Minnesota identification.

-Diane Maltby,  
Hennepin County  
Environmental Services

## Art Chairs to Benefit KFNA

**Question: What has four legs and will walk down Nicollet Avenue on July 30?**

**Answer: The Kingfield Art Chairs!**

Some neighborhoods have their parade of homes, but Kingfield is having a parade of chairs this summer. Ten neighborhood artists and one visiting Wisconsin artist are creating works of art from chairs donated by Odds and Ends antique shop, 4241 Nicollet Ave. S. Artists are volunteering their time and work and the sale of the chairs will benefit KFNA neighborhood art projects.

Some artists are doing the project for fun. "I am a picture maker - I paint pieces from the imagination," said **Linnea Maas**. "Most of my work involves daydreaming in other worlds. I am interested in the art chair project because it is fun and different."

Some artists are volunteering their time and energy for the sake of art. **Anne Birch** states that she believes that art is essential to life and once you are tuned into it, art is everywhere.

A few artists, like graphic designer **Catherine Vennewitz**, see the project as a challenge. "I relish the opportunity to incorporate tactile and functional qualities to create a three-dimensional piece in 'real' materials,"



This "art chair" was on display at the Kingfield Annual Meeting at MLK Park

Vennewitz said.

Others are doing it to build connections to Kingfield and to other artists. **Heidi Hafermann**, a mixed-media sculptor, sees it as a way to support her neighborhood while **Rene Exposito Vera**, a Cuban born artist who lives and works in Kingfield, is eager to share Cuban culture with his neighbors.

Designers **Michael Scanlan** and **Monique Sletta** recently moved to Kingfield and like to do hands-on construction. Sletta says she is participating to become involved in community activities and meet new people. Scanlan states that his focus is on creating an environment where something old can be seen anew. He claims he "just moved to this place [and the project] seemed like a good fit. The Kingfield neighborhood, a chair, and I."

The Kingfield art chairs will be on display at Anodyne Coffeehouse, 4301 Nicollet Ave. S. from July 6-30, where neighbors may place silent bids on individual chairs. On July 30, the chairs will be transported to Martin Luther King Park for the Kingfield Festival, where the final bids will be gathered and each chair sold to the highest bidder.

For more information, contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson at (612) 823-5980 or [kfna@email.com](mailto:kfna@email.com), or KFNA Board Member and Chair Artist, **Mari O'Rourke** at (612) 825-5172 or [mariorourke@prevaro.com](mailto:mariorourke@prevaro.com).

-Sarah Linnes-Robinson

-Martha Ingram

# Swank Interiors and Cy Winship Designs

The newest addition to the bustling business node at the intersection of 38th Street and Grand Avenue is the trendy shop Swank Interiors. The first thing visitors notice upon approaching the store is that there are two tandem entrances and two distinct hemispheres in the space.

If you walk into the larger partition, on the right hand side, you will find yourself surrounded by vintage items from the mid-20th century. Here one can find everything from orange tinted glasses and plates, starting at only a few dollars, to stylish vintage sofas, costing upwards of \$1,000.

Should you choose to walk into the partition on the left side of the store, you will encounter a wall display of new Delos rugs, shelves brimming with colorfully upholstered pillows and a large bank of fabric swatches. While the sensibility of the space is equally mid-20th century its function is less retail than it is studio space for interior design consultant Cy Winship, who is a contributing designer on the HGTV show "Decorating Cents."

Cy Winship Design and Swank Interiors, both run by proprietor Annette Hager, are two distinct businesses which co-exist to share ideas, expertise, and their mutual passion for all things mid-20th century. If a customer wants one of Hager's pieces of furniture but would like it re-upholstered, Winship is close at hand. If Winship needs just the right accessory to complete an interior design project, Hager is just around the corner.

Hager describes the range of

handpicked vintage ware as "kitschy to classy." On the kitschy end of the spectrum is a selection of "tiki" style ceramic coffee mugs. One of the classier products she carries is an extensive collection of Heals of London screen print curtains.

Winship collects design ideas and fabric from all over the world. His focus is to bring color, texture, and design into people's lives at little cost. In fact, the whole premise of the "Decorating Cents" show is that the design team must makeover a space for less than \$500.

-Thor Anderson



Swank Interiors proprietor Annette Hager with designer Cy Winship

## Community Improvement Grants Available

Did you know that there is funding available to help meet your neighbors and improve your block? In an effort to strengthen and build a sense of community, KFNA has dedicated funds to empower residents to improve the physical community.

Residents develop their own project ideas that make the community friendlier, safer, and more livable. By tapping funds for small community-initiated projects, neighbors can work with each other and the neighborhood association to determine fast solutions to block problems. If you have questions about a proposed project or funding, contact KFNA at (612) 823-5980 or [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org).

-Joanna S. Hallstrom

## Better Than Ever

In case you missed it, Lucky Girl Grocery is no more. While the old neon sign hangs over the door, the new occupant at 3800 Grand Ave. S. is clothing consignment store Better Than Ever. Owner Geri Powell describes Better Than Ever as a clothing store with an eye toward quality casual clothes and low prices.

The store previously operated for six years at 11 E. 58th St. The new site provides ample room for numerous racks of clothing, two dressing rooms, and a children's play area.

Powell emphasizes the kid-friendly aspect of her store. In fact she entered the consignment business after her daughter was born in the 1990s and she began hunting for pre-owned clothes and eventually began holding extended garage sales at her home.

Perhaps not coincidentally, now that her daughter is a teenager, Powell is working to expand the offering of teen clothes.

Powell describes her style preference as funky, with an eye toward natural fabrics. She makes no effort to cater to the "business look," nor does she mark up prices despite the boutique atmosphere of her store. She stands by her selection of clothes and welcomes exchanges if an item doesn't work for a customer.

Twice during the last five years, City Pages named Better Than Ever as the Twin Cities' "Best Used Clothing Store." The store is open Thursdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

-Thor Anderson

## NRP from page 2

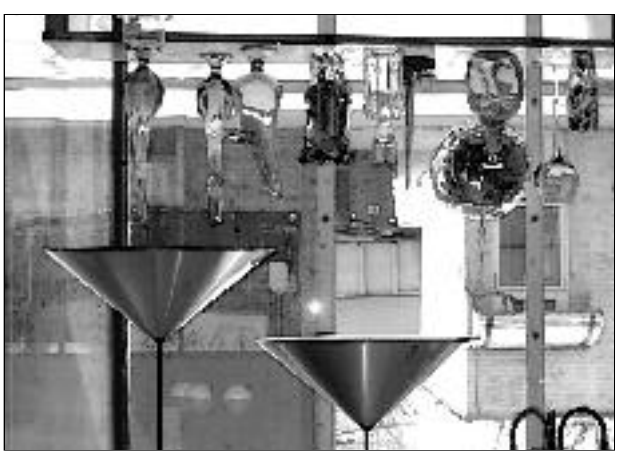
devoted to home maintenance for low-income residents, developing more affordable housing, or for exterior improvement programs available to all homeowners.

Task Forces will be formed following the Sept. 27 meeting to focus on specific areas of the plan and develop project ideas. Volunteers are needed from October through March to serve on these groups and shape these decisions. To learn more about the Sept. 27 meeting or NRP, contact KFNA Executive Director Sarah Linnes-Robinson at (612) 823-5980.

-Sarah Linnes-Robinson

Date	Event	Time	Location
June 12	Kingfield Farmer's Market/Annual Plant Exchange	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	Frame Ups parking lot, 4325 Nicollet Ave. S.
June 25	Hazardous Waste Drop-off Day	9 a.m. - 1 p.m.	2800 Bryant Ave. S.
June 27	Block Contact Training "Party"	7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Victor's 1959 Cafe 3756 Grand Ave.
July 12	Public Hearing on Nicollet Ave. Lighting Project (36th - 40th Street)		Mpls Transportation & Public Works Committee for more info, contact B. Warmke at 612.673.3762
July 14	Art Chair Reception	7 p.m.	Andyne Coffeehouse, 4301 Nicollet Ave. S.
July 28	Community Meeting on Nicollet Ave. Lighting Project (36th - 40th Street)	7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	MILK Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave.
July 30	Kingfield Festival	4 p.m. - 9 p.m.	MILK Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
Aug. 2	National Night Out		Neighborhood-wide

Visit [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org) for updates and details



Do you recognize this "swank" spot in Kingfield? See page 4 for details...

NON PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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MINNEAPOLIS, MN  
PERMIT NO. 3362

Kingfield Neighborhood Association  
3754 Pleasant Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409  
612-823-5980  
kfn@aol.com  
[www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org)