



# KingfieldNews



**OPEN STREETS  
MPLS 2014**  
NICOLLET OPEN STREETS  
COMING SEPTEMBER 14

## NICOLLET OPEN STREETS

### Kingfield's Main Street Goes Car-free for a Day

On Sunday, September 14th, from noon to 5 PM, the Kingfield and Lyndale neighborhoods will welcome thousands of people to our community as a part of the Nicollet Open Streets event. Open Streets events transform major city corridors into safe, car-free places, giving people the opportunity to enjoy the street on bicycle, foot, wheelchair, skateboard, or roller skates for the day. Other Open Streets events have drawn people from all over the metro area to see parts of Minneapolis

and St. Paul that they've never been to before. This is an exciting opportunity for us to show off the new Nicollet Avenue from Lake Street to 46th, and all the great things happening along our street.

Kingfield and Lyndale have worked with local businesses, nonprofits, and community volunteers for months to plan what we hope becomes our biggest annual festival. Fun things in the works for the day include bingo at the Aliveness Project, Ping-Pong at Pat's Tap, skill games at MLK Park, yoga at Four Gates, local authors reading at Odds & Ends, plus pony rides and llama petting at Nicollet Ace Hardware!

Your favorite restaurants are pulling out all the stops as well, with live music, great grab-and-go food, and beer and coffee from Blackbird, Butter, Five Watts, Driftwood, The Lowbrow, and Kyatchi, just to name a few! Sebastian Joe's will be out street side, scooping up both Nicollet Pothole (which now may be called "The flavor formerly known as Nicollet Pothole") and their new groovy, mixed-up "Open Streets Cycle-delic," created for Kingfield's 2014 National Night Out parties. Be sure to come to Nicollet hungry that day!

To make everything work smoothly, however, we will need your help; volunteers will be essential on the day of the event. We will need monitors at intersections where traffic is blocked off, people-counters to use a really cool formula to figure out how many folks attend the event, helpers at activity stations, and a crew of "pickers," people willing to help others determine if their waste is compostable, recyclable, or just plain trash. Over the next few weeks we'll be refining the jobs and the shifts to make sure volunteers have enough time to enjoy the Open Streets event, but we first need to know how many people can help out! If you're interested in volunteering, let Cheryl know at [Cheryl@kingfield.org](mailto:Cheryl@kingfield.org) or 612.823.5980.

## BIRDS OF A FEATHER FLOCK TOGETHER

A new bird is coming to town and roosting at 40th and Nicollet! The bird will be the first installation of the city's Art in Public Places project along Nicollet Avenue. The project, featuring the artwork of Ben Janssens and Marjorie Pitz, will be installed in early September. (Be sure to check out your newest neighbor at Nicollet Open Streets on September 14!) Bob Evans, owner of Ellwood Automotive, is helping to provide a home for this bird because, he says, "I like the idea of the project and think it's good for the neighborhood."

Part of an entire suite of artworks to be installed in 2015, this piece was designed by artist Ben Janssens, who is building it in his Sign Minds studio in Northeast Minneapolis. Ben's background is in graphic design, sign fabrication and sculpture. He sculpts with aluminum sheet metal and tube framing, using many of the same techniques that he uses to fabricate electric and architectural signs. You may have seen Ben in the neighborhood installing the 40th Street mural on the I35W sound wall, or the Quilted Mosaics at MLK Park, or the signage at Kyatchi Sushi, Five Watt Coffee, and Hola Arepa.

In the coming year we'll see more large aviary-inspired artworks on Nicollet designed by Ben and Marjorie. Working together with a local public art committee, their

plan is for these works to enhance a vibrant community and celebrate the similarities and uniqueness of the neighborhoods along Nicollet Avenue. Also look for community workshops to be announced, where small mosaics will be created to be included in the project.

The project is funded by the city of Minneapolis, with additional support from Metro Transit and the Kingfield and Lyndale Neighborhood associations and the Nicollet East Harriet Business Association. More information will be available on this process in the coming months via the Kingfield newsletter, so if you don't receive the weekly e-news yet, **sign up at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org) or email [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) and ask to have your address added.**

## The Mosaic Garden at MLK Park

The Urban Farming Program is a youth outreach program funded through the U of M Extension 4-H and master gardener programs. This summer at the Mosaic Garden in Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, youth worked with master gardeners two mornings each week to learn and develop urban gardening skills. They planted and maintained a raised bed mosaic garden, built and painted (with a professional artist) a self-watering wick-flower garden, assembled a worm composting bin, toured the local Nicollet Ace Hardware rooftop garden, had a hands-on demonstration of beekeeping by Bees Knees, and participated in cooking activities for KFNA's Cultural Café evenings.

As the program intern at the Mosaic Garden, I worked with and got to know the MLK Park youth this summer. Their positive energy and genuine curiosity about working in the garden made it a rewarding experience for the master gardener volunteers and me. I was surprised by the abundance of knowledge and experience the youth had had prior to this class on gardening, which I can attribute to the wonderful community Kingfield has created. The youth's hard work throughout the summer made the garden beautiful and I believe they are proud of their accomplishments.

— Benjamin Yoder-Henley



Youth planting in the Mosaic Garden under the supervision of the U of M master gardeners.

## ONCE S'MORE: The Annual Community Bon(ding)fire

For the past several years, on a cool fall evening, the Kingfield Neighborhood Association's Crime Prevention and Safety Committee has hosted a community bonfire in partnership with Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Park staff. This year, we would like to use this opportunity to thank the neighbors on our blocks who volunteer their time, energy, and passion to keep us organized and engaged – those wonderful block leaders! Please join us on Friday, October 24, as we celebrate the Kingfield block leaders and share success stories. The bonfire will start at 6:30 PM at MLK Park, with s'mores and apple cider for all. Not sure who your block leader is? We can make sure you get connected! All ages are welcome.



## NICOLLET VOTES: Increasing Voter Turnout in South Minneapolis

This fall, Kingfield Neighborhood Association is partnering with three other neighborhoods that also count Nicollet Avenue as their main street in a project called Nicollet Votes. The goal of the project is to get people excited to vote and to register unregistered voters.

In past nonpresidential elections like the one this fall, up to 7,000 voters in our neighborhoods haven't made it to the polls. So this election season, Kingfield, Whittier, Lyndale and Stevens Square are working together to change the turnout in a nonpresidential voting year.

If this is an issue that interests you, we would love to have you join us! A kick-off training event, including dinner, will be held on September 11 at MLK Park, 5:30 to 8:30 PM. To assure enough food, we need you to RSVP for this event at [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) or 612.823.5980.

This event and project are a great opportunity for us to get to know our neighbors and have important conversations about our democracy, our values, and the kind of place in which we want to live. We need you to help make it happen!

Following the kick-off event, we will be door knocking in each of the neighborhoods on four days each week—that's 32 door knocking events on more than 9,000 doors, that we hope will lead to more than 1,000 conversations! While door knocking, we plan to register voters and encourage registered voters to get out to the polls. Our goal is to increase the turnout in our neighborhoods from 57 to 65 percent. **Sign up for one or more of the canvassing dates at the kick-off event or by contacting us at [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) or 612.823.5980.**

Each canvassing date includes a short training and a debrief, leaving 1.5 hours for door knocking in pairs. We're canvassing Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays in each of the four neighborhoods for the 8 weeks leading up to the election. If you have a certain day of the week that you are free, just let us know and we can get you signed up to help on that evening—or we are happy to go through the schedule with you and let you know where each individual door knocking event is taking place on any evening you have free between September 11 and November 4.

This will be a powerful experience to get to know your neighborhood on a deeper level. We'll compile the results and decide together how to respond to them. We hope you will join us for Nicollet Votes!



## From the KFNA Treasurer

One of my favorite Kingfield traditions is National Night Out. We on the Kingfield Neighborhood Association board look forward to this night every August, when we forego our monthly meeting to meet with the neighborhood block parties and distribute ice cream. Last year's National Night Out was an absolute blast, despite (or maybe because of?) the giant rainstorm that forced us all to improvise and, in some cases, move the party indoors. My wife Brigitte (eight months pregnant at the time) and I were on the KFNA ice cream delivery team with Sarah Linnes-Robinson, KFNA Executive Director,

when the downpour came. Fortunately, we made it to our last stop of the night, where the neighbors invited us inside to dry off and to eat some food and mingle. It was a wonderfully spontaneous event that underlined what a great neighborhood we live in.

Of course, making fast friends with our neighbors was aided by the aforementioned ice cream we delivered. This ice cream also is a great example of the types of partnerships KFNA makes with local businesses. Our friends at Sebastian Joe's create the delicious ice cream that we deliver every year. They work with us to develop a new flavor for our neighborhood and donate the first batch to us, then KFNA buys enough ice cream at cost to ensure that every Kingfield NNO block party gets a

sample. It's a win-win for everyone: We get to tell our neighbors how delicious and worthwhile Sebastian Joe's is, and neighbors get to eat ice cream. (And let's face it, ice cream is a win all around.)

KFNA is always looking to partner with local businesses, and upcoming events such as Open Streets Nicollet will surely provide more examples of how working with us is a mutually beneficial proposition. If you are a local business who is interested in partnering with us, please contact us! We know that local businesses play a big part in the success of our entire neighborhood.

— Mark Waller, KFNA Treasurer

## Homebased Professionals Meet for Happy Hour

Since January, the Kingfield Homebased Professionals have been gathering at Kingfield restaurants for a monthly happy hour. On a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday during the third full week of each month, neighbors are able to take a break from their isolation and come together for conversation, food and drinks. There's never a formal agenda at our happy hours—just fun social time! Fall dates will be announced soon via the Kingfield Neighborhood Association Facebook page and at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org).

In 2013, KFNA helped organize this social and networking group for professionals who work primarily out of their homes. This group is about 85 strong, and it's been a great means for people to come together, network and strengthen our community. Once or twice a year, we hold formal events and are currently planning our Fall/Winter gathering.

We have a LinkedIn group that is used to announce our gatherings and give all members an opportunity to tell their stories and network. Visit [www.linkedin.com/groups?mostRecent=&gid=4812315](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostRecent=&gid=4812315). KFNA also announces these happy hour events via its weekly e-news. If you're not getting weekly e-news from KFNA, sign up at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org).

I am part of the planning committee for the Kingfield Homebased Professionals (along with Bob Albrecht, Karla Hill-Donisch and Sabra Waldfogel), and we welcome new committee members to help us shape future events and campaigns. If interested, please reach out to me at [scott@kingfield.org](mailto:scott@kingfield.org).

— Scott Mueller  
KFNA Board Member

## Visit the KFNA Tent When Voting November 4

Before you know it, Election Day will be upon us. All of Kingfield votes at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park on Tuesday, November 4, from 7 AM until 8 PM. Once again, your Kingfield Neighborhood Association board and neighbors will be outside, just north of the building, with a warming fire, treats, and hot coffee and tea—all generously donated by your favorite Kingfield restaurants and cafés.

This will be KFNA's third year outside for a November election, and the response has always been phenomenal. Election Day at the KFNA tent is like National Night Out all over again (albeit with warmer layers on). My fondest memory of our Election Day presence was meeting a young woman who had been a Kingfield resident for all of two days. She knew nothing about KFNA, but after a visit to our tent, she learned about her neighborhood association, "liked" our Facebook page, and signed up for KFNA's weekly e-news.

Interested in being a volunteer neighbor ambassador at our tent? Even if it's just for an hour or two, we'd love your help engaging with neighbors and thanking them for voting. Email [scott@kingfield.org](mailto:scott@kingfield.org) for more information. Interested in working alongside KFNA to assure that your neighbors get out to vote this year? We are seeking volunteers to help with our Nicollet Votes campaign—see the article on page 1 for more information, or email [sarah@kingfield.org](mailto:sarah@kingfield.org)!

**New to Kingfield and need help registering to vote? Visit [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org) or call 612.823.5980. Remember to vote on November 4, and be sure to stop by the KFNA tent before and/or after voting. (We love seeing people with red "I VOTED" stickers!) You'll find us north of the park building along Nicollet. Just look for the happy, smiling neighbors giving out free coffee, tea and treats!**



### Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA)

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

#### KFNA Office Location:

The Center for Performing Arts • Room 101  
3754 Pleasant Ave. S. • Minneapolis, MN 55409

Facebook: Kingfield Neighborhood Association

Twitter: @Kingfield\_KFNA

Phone ..... 612.823.5980

E-mail..... [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org)

Website..... [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org)

The KFNA Board meets the 2nd Wed. of the month at 7 pm at Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.

#### 2014 KFNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Hetal Dalal, *President*..... [hetal@kingfield.org](mailto:hetal@kingfield.org)

David Fenley, *Vice President*..... [david@kingfield.org](mailto:david@kingfield.org)

Mark Waller, *Treasurer*..... [mark@kingfield.org](mailto:mark@kingfield.org)

Lisa Skzeczkoski-Bzdusek, *Secretary*..... [lisa@kingfield.org](mailto:lisa@kingfield.org)

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Robert Roedl..... [robert@kingfield.org](mailto:robert@kingfield.org)

Kaitlyn Dennis..... [kaitlyn@kingfield.org](mailto:kaitlyn@kingfield.org)

Dean Laite..... [dean@kingfield.org](mailto:dean@kingfield.org)

#### KFNA STAFF:

Sarah Linnes-Robinson, *Executive Director*

Cheryl DeGroff, *Project Organizer*

#### KINGFIELD NEWS

If you are interested in writing, editing, designing, or taking photographs for the *Kingfield News*, call or email KFNA.

## JUST A WALK IN THE PARK

On Sunday, May 25th, Kingfield neighbor Libby Vogel stopped by the Kingfield Neighborhood Association table at the Kingfield Farmers Market. She wanted to know if the city could modify the curbs along the south side of MLK Park. In particular, coming from 1st Ave South and crossing 42nd Street was a problem for strollers, bicycles or wheelchairs, as there was no break in the curb to get on the sidewalk and enter the park without having to jump up the curb or walk all the way to Nicollet.

KFNA staff put her in touch with Ward 8 council member Elizabeth Glidden, who soon learned that a Public Works project this year is pedestrian ramp reconstruction around the city, making sidewalk ramp improvements to meet the American Disabilities Act. Public Works agreed that this park entrance was an appropriate addition to the program.

We've seen ramp reconstruction in multiple locations in Kingfield this summer, and we are happy to report that after making the recommendation to have a crosswalk and curb cut from 1st Avenue into MLK Park, it was done this summer! Kudos to Ms. Vogel for bringing the idea forward, and to Ms. Glidden for her follow-up with the appropriate city resources!



## Wellness and Physical Activity Study

If you are 70 years of age or older, you may be eligible to take part in a wellness study sponsored by the University of Minnesota. As part of the study called Ready-Steady, you would meet weekly in a small group (4 to 6 people) to learn about and practice activities to build and maintain leg strength and balance. A nurse will work with you to monitor your response to the activities, and to develop strategies for including the activities in your daily routines. Participants will receive compensation and have the option of keeping a personal activity monitor after the study is complete.

Meetings will take place at Southwest Senior Center, Volunteers of America-MN, 3612 Bryant Avenue South, beginning in September. **For more information, please call (800) 358-2481, or email [readysteadyprogram@gmail.com](mailto:readysteadyprogram@gmail.com). Please mention if you have transportation concerns.**



## Garage Mural Walking Tour

Please join Kingfield artist Rachel Breen on Sunday, September 21, at 2 PM, for a walking tour of "The Heirloom Project," a series of experimental murals of heirloom plants on garages in the Kingfield neighborhood. The tour will be begin and end at MLK Park, lasting roughly one hour. Rachel will lead the tour, discussing the meaning and importance of heirloom plants and demonstrating the practice of saving seeds from plants that grow in our neighborhood. The tour will include a dance in response to the murals, choreographed by Erin Thompson and performed by dancers of Young Dance. Lemonade, cookies and free seeds will be provided at the end of the tour. For more information, contact Rachel at [rbbreen@yahoo.com](mailto:rbbreen@yahoo.com).

If you are unable to make the tour, self-guided walking maps will be available at MLK Park and neighborhood businesses. "Like" The Heirloom Project on Facebook for more information.

## Things Are Revving at the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park



We are ready for the change of seasons at Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. Registration for fall classes opened August 4, and brochures are available at the park or online at [www.minneapolisparcs.org](http://www.minneapolisparcs.org). Football teams have started practicing, but it's not too late to sign up, and we are always looking for volunteers to help build the athletic programs here at the park. Just stop in and ask for the park director; I will be happy to talk with you about coaching or other volunteer opportunities that fit your interest. Registration for basketball and wrestling ages 6 to 14 will open November 1st—both programs are very popular, so sign up early. Youth open gym and archery classes also continue into the fall.

I'm excited to report the addition of a full-time Youthline Mentor, Heather Susag, who specializes in working with youth ages 11 to 17. We also have opened up a "teen center" in the old warming room and outfitted it with gaming systems, bumper pool and board games. Heather will hold weekly cooking and craft classes, and school's-out trips. She wants to make the teen center a comfortable place for kids to hang out and call their own. Stop by and see what she has to offer your kids at the park.

For adults, I would like to highlight a series of preservation classes offered by area experts. Not sure what to do with your bountiful backyard harvest? Classes in dehydrating, freezing, pickling and making sauerkraut are just what you need to enjoy your crops all year long. We also continue to offer senior exercise and ceramic classes. I am looking for a few parents to help start up a playtime class for families this winter—a chance for kids under 5 years to use the facility and run off some steam during the colder months with their friends. If you're connected with young families in the neighborhood and are interested in helping to organize a weekly playgroup, please email me at [pejaeger@minneapolisparcs.org](mailto:pejaeger@minneapolisparcs.org).

I look forward to seeing everyone at the park.

Sincerely,  
Peter Jaeger, Your Park Director

## Playground Concept Plan and Equipment Design Approved



After a public hearing earlier this summer, which heard testimonies from members of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legacy Council and park board staff, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board approved the new playground concept plan and play equipment design at MLK Park.

This culminates almost two years of community engagement for the playground. Late in 2012, parents came to the Legacy Council concerned about the deteriorating condition of play equipment in the pre-school playground area. After advocacy by the Legacy Council, the Park Board agreed

to move the date for replacement from 2018 to 2015. In partnership with the Kingfield Neighborhood Association, the Legacy Council and People for Parks, the Park Board then began its community engagement process, in which they sought neighbors' ideas about how the playground should be designed. Many neighbors offered their ideas.

**This design and the whole project were unique for the Park Board. In their own words:**

*Celebrating and honoring Dr. King and African American history is a guiding theme for the park. To bring this theme to life within the playground design, the MPRB intends to include an artist on the design team that will work with the community. This will be a new approach to playground design for the MPRB. The artist will work collaboratively with the community, project consultant and MPRB staff to throughout the playground design process. Elements of a playground may include customized play equipment, or stand-alone artworks that double as play equipment and meet current safety and accessibility standards. This enhanced design process is anticipated to produce a one of a kind play experience that challenges children and helps tell a story of our collective history.*

The design approved on July 16 fulfilled this plan, and we are now involved in raising the funds to build this "one-of-a-kind" playground. The Park Board has allocated \$225,000 for the project. Thus far Kingfield Neighborhood Association, other neighbors, and area businesses like Nicollet Ace Hardware (38th and Nicollet) have contributed another \$8,000. Larger donations have come from Bobby and Steve's Auto World (\$35,000), People for Parks (\$10,000), and Park District #2 through Commissioner Olson (\$25,000). We cannot thank all of you enough!

However, we still have a ways to go. Please look for fundraising events at the Nicollet Open Streets, September 14, and for other opportunities to make contributions to the playground in the future.

## 3-1-1 WORKS

Graffiti has a negative effect on communities. Along with lowering neighborhood appeal, decreasing property values, and driving away prospective homebuyers, it also attracts criminal activity. Worst of all, gang members use graffiti to promote themselves. Covering up gang graffiti takes away this tool from gangs and improves the overall look of neighborhoods.

The city of Minneapolis receives 500 to 1,000 reports of graffiti monthly, and works diligently to close each case

within 20 days. In 2013, of the 8,180 citywide reports, we had 202 incidents of graffiti reported and removed in the Kingfield neighborhood. Fortunately, only 12 of those were gang related. Even better, many times the graffiti had been removed within a week, even on state-owned property along 35W.

To report graffiti, call 311 or go online at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn/us/311/](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn/us/311/). If it is in progress, please call 911. One of the easiest ways to report graffiti is

with the 311 app available for Apple and Android smart phones. (It's not just for reporting graffiti—you also can report potholes, street light trouble, and abandoned vehicles. And registering your bike takes just a few minutes with the 311 app!)

Graffiti hurts everyone – the next time you see it, take a few minutes to report it and help keep Kingfield the beautiful neighborhood we all love.

## RE-OPENING NICOLLET UPDATE

Over the past months, city staff has been working towards site control of the two properties which are usually called the "Kmart site" at the intersection of Lake Street and Nicollet Avenue, to advance the city's long-held goal of reopening Nicollet Avenue. The two properties are the grocery store parcel and the Kmart parcel, and each of the parcels is leased to a retailer – Jerry's Foods and Kmart. We have had meetings and exchanged ideas about how redevelopment could accomplish as many public and private objectives as possible.

We have an appraisal in hand for the grocery store land, and we are negotiating an agreement with the Kmart land owner and Sears/Kmart to do an appraisal of that property as well. At the same time, we are talking to developers to gauge the market's interest in development at this location.

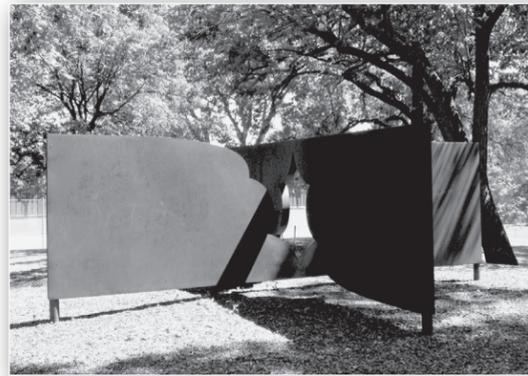
City staff and City Council members are discussing when to begin a more robust community engagement process, and what form this would take. Staff will bring recommendations to the city working group in August. We know everyone is eager to work on this project, and we're hoping to keep making progress.

— David R. Frank, City of Minneapolis  
612.673.5238 [david.frank@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:david.frank@minneapolismn.gov)

## New Beloved Community Space Unveiled

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park "unveiled" a newly landscaped and renovated space at its Beloved Community Event on August 23. This is the area surrounding the sculpture *Freedom Form II*, the soul of the park, aligned along Nicollet Avenue just south of the park building.

In 1968, after the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Minneapolis NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), led by Samuel Richardson, petitioned the Minneapolis Park Board to rename Nicollet Field Park as Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Park. With support from the NAACP in this effort, Park Commissioner Hall, the first African American on the board, led the effort on a board level for the name change. On October 9, 1968, the park board approved Commissioner Hall's motion for the name change. The renamed park underwent significant renovation and was rededicated in a celebration held on June 21, 1970. The Honorable Dr. Ralph J. Bunche, Undersecretary- General of the United Nations and first African American winner of the Nobel Peace Prize (in 1950), was the honored guest speaker. *Freedom Form II* was donated by world-renowned African American artist Daniel LaRue Johnson and presented to the park at the rededication celebration.



We, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Legacy Council, envision this as a place where people can learn, reflect on and contemplate Dr. King's thoughts and ideas, as well as the values and lessons learned in the continuing struggle for freedom. The area includes a new spiral walkway from Nicollet Avenue to the sculpture, on which three granite benches with steel backing have been installed. On each bench's backing is a laser-

cut quote from Dr. King and a community member's reaction to these statements. We hope that visitors will read the words of Dr. King and the reactions of our neighbors, and that they take a moment to reflect on their personal connection to these ideas.

The project was a collaboration between the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Legacy Council, Chicago Fire Arts Center, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, informed by community dialogue. It was partially funded through a grant from the Metropolitan Regional Arts Commission.

## WE'RE WALKING, AND BIKING...

... and pushing strollers... and bringing the dog, while we help make Kingfield a safer neighborhood. Join the new Kingfield Block Walkers for exercise, camaraderie, and to be additional eyes and ears on our blocks. The Crime Prevention and Safety Committee will be hosting an orientation on Tuesday, September 16th at 7pm at MLK Park (4055 Nicollet Avenue South). Representatives of the Minneapolis Police Department will be there to talk about current crime patterns and to train volunteers on how to be a safe and effective block patrol. Many Minneapolis neighborhoods have had walking patrols for years, and people that volunteer love the opportunity to meet their neighbors and feel like they are making a difference in their community. Interested, but can't make it on 9/16? Please send an e-mail to [Cheryl@Kingfield.org](mailto:Cheryl@Kingfield.org) to make sure you don't miss your chance to get involved!



# Does Your Block Have a Facebook Group? KFNA Wants to Know

If you're on Facebook, chances are you've joined a Facebook group. Facebook groups are a great way for people of similar interests to connect. Many of you are probably aware of a Facebook group for the Kingfield neighborhood: [www.facebook.com/groups/KingfieldNeighborhood](http://www.facebook.com/groups/KingfieldNeighborhood). That group currently has over 500 members.

Some Facebook groups are organized around localized blocks in Kingfield. If you currently are part of a Facebook group for your block(s), please email [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) with the URL of your group. KFNA is going to compile a private list of block Facebook groups and share upon request.

If your block doesn't have a Facebook group, it's really easy to set one up. Last year, I created a Facebook group for my block of 36XX Pleasant and neighboring 36XX Grand—all of whom gather for our National Night Out block party. I am currently the sole administrator, but I could have other administrators if I choose, or could pass admin privileges onto another if I needed to opt out. As administrator, I approve requests to join. A quick private

message to the requestor vets the neighbor's residency, and I approve the request to join.

The best thing about a Facebook group is that it allows you to connect with neighbors—and it doesn't require you to become "Facebook friends" with any of them. You'll only see content that neighbors choose to share in the group—so you likely won't be bombarded with baby pictures, memes and cat videos. Facebook groups have three privacy settings: open, closed or secret. As you're creating a group for your block, you can explore the differences in these privacy settings and determine which works best for your group (ours is "closed").

When I created our group, I was already Facebook friends with a dozen or so neighbors, so it was easy to invite them to the group. After that, it was pretty easy to get others to join. I printed flyers with information on the group (including the URL) and spent an hour canvassing, inviting Pleasant and Grand neighbors to join. The stated mission of the group was to better connect neighbors and share good news and bad—social gatherings, crime reports, parking restrictions, etc. The flyer stressed that

neighbors didn't have to accept any Facebook friend requests to join the group. Today our group has 47 members, and I've since given the group a custom-named URL that reflects our location. At our National Night Out party, we'll be encouraging more neighbors to join.

Our group has successfully reunited a lost garage door opener with its rightful owner, delivered updates on crime, organized impromptu potlucks, and most recently, helped keep everyone up-to-date on CenterPoint Energy construction. It's been a great way for neighbors to connect and share.

Again, KFNA would like to compile a list of all blocks' Facebook groups. If you start one, please be sure to email [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) with the URL and boundaries (i.e. 38XX Blaisdell). If you're wondering if a Facebook group exists for your block, send KFNA an email and we'll help connect you to your group, or help you start one. Happy connections, everyone!

— Scott Mueller, Master Advertising Specialist

## KINGFIELD HOMEBASED PROFESSIONALS SEPTEMBER CELEBRATION

Homebasers, plan to join us Monday evening, September 22 at Solomon's Porch, 100 West 46th Street, to mingle, market, and celebrate the success of one of our own, as well as to crack a champagne bottle against the side of the church for inaugural launching of a new Kingfield co-work space! Kingfield neighbor Jason Montgomery attended the first Kingfield Home-based event in January 2013, and he received such resounding support for his idea to build a pizza oven truck that he felt both inspired and supported in following his dream. According to Jason, "I've wanted to do a pizza place since running my uncle's shop during college ... the truck idea started after considering a restaurant in the Kingfield neighborhood, but the startup was just too high for me to feel comfortable with it. The food truck option seemed like less risk, and way less start-up cost."



By July 2014, Tru Pizza was launched! Come share a slice or two at this special Kingfield Homebased Event; cost for Kingfield folks is \$10 per person and \$15 for folks from adjoining neighborhoods. You can also tour the Work Lounge, Solomon's latest business venture to create a community work space to support local homebased professionals. More details will be available via the LinkedIn group (see details for group on page 2) and the KFNA website closer to the event date; also make sure you are signed up for the free weekly Kingfield e-news by signing in at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org).

**Tru Pizza Truck • 612-499-8091 • [trupizzatruck.com](http://trupizzatruck.com)**

### Solomon's Porch Opens Work Lounge This Fall

**WORK LOUNGE:**  
the creative, casual, community work space.

A creative shared work space environment for individual and teams. Offering dozens of work spaces with a variety of styles — tables, couches, large and small group areas. Also offering private meeting rooms for individuals and groups. Onsite child care available for up to 3 hours per day.

Daily \$15 passes, weekly \$60, Monthly \$175 and dedicated spaces available.

[www.facebook.com/workloungeempls](http://www.facebook.com/workloungeempls)

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[www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org)

Watch for Kingfield's newly wrapped Utility Boxes coming later this fall, and stay tuned to the eNews for info on "The Kingfield Box Tour!"



Open Now	Registration for Fall Sports and Activities MLK Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
Thurs. Sept. 11	Nicollet Votes Kick-off Training Event MLK Park (See story, page 1.)
Sun. Sept. 14	Open Streets on Nicollet Avenue (See story, page 1.)
Tues. Sept. 16	Kingfield Block Walkers Orientation MLK Park (See story, page 3.)
Sun. Sept. 21	Garage Mural Walking Tour—The Heirloom Project MLK Park (See story, page 2.)
Mon. Sept. 22	Homebased Professionals September Celebration (See story, page 4.)
Wed. Oct. 8	KFNA Board Meeting MLK Park
Fri. Oct. 24	Block Leader Bonfire MLK Park (See story, page 1.)
Sun. Oct. 26	Final Farmers Market of the Season 4310 Nicollet Ave. S.
Tues. Nov. 4	Election Day Kingfield neighborhood votes at MLK Park
Wed. Nov. 12	KFNA Board Meeting MLK Park
Wed. Dec. 10	KFNA Board Meeting MLK Park