



# KingfieldNews

## PORCHFEST: Let the music begin! Thursday, June 16, 6 to 9 PM

So, last year KFNA tried this little thing called “PorchFest.” It was a simple idea: All we had to do was encourage all the talented musicians in the neighborhood to sit on their front porches on the same evening and play music. It would be a good way, we thought, to hear types of music than you don’t normally listen to, to see other people hanging outside their houses and walking and biking the entire neighborhood, and for neighbors to discover each other’s secret talents. Boy, were we ever right! PorchFest was met with overwhelming support by neighbors, whose only complaint was that it didn’t happen every week!



So this year we are bringing Kingfield PorchFest back, bigger and bolder than before! Sites are spread out a bit more evenly over the neighborhood this year, and hosts—who are really excited for the event now that they have experienced it—are prepped to act as greeters and ambassadors to all the visitors and musicians. Visitors (and this is where YOU all come in) know that they should pack a pocket full of cash to tip their neighborhood minstrels, because this entire event operates completely free. Not a cent is exchanged to encourage these musicians to play, and so we encourage

you to say thank you with a \$5, a \$10, or whatever is in your wallet at each stop you visit that night!

Kingfield PorchFest 2016 will welcome back a number of groups who had so much fun they cannot wait to do it all again: Farewell Tenney, the St. Paul Mud Steppers, Whale in the Thames, U Can Jug or Nots, The Fireroast Mountain Boys, and Calamity and the Owl are just some of the groups returning this year. Local solo acts returning include Ben Glaros, Edie Rae Baumgart, and Kevin Kane. Besides these, more than three dozen other acts will take the stage, so there will surely be something for everyone!

A couple of days before the event, a map will be published listing all the musicians, their performance times, and the host sites. You can be hard core about it: Follow the links to the musicians’ websites and listen to their tunes, then map out a path through the neighborhood based on what you like. Or, you can leave it up to fate and simply bike around and see what strikes you as interesting!

Be sure to tag us on Instagram while you are out and about at #KingfieldPorchFest and #kingfield kfna, or post on our Facebook event page at Kingfield PorchFest 2016, so we can see the fun you are having! We are again looking forward to listening to some great local music with you all on June 16th!

## National Night Out is almost here!

Host a block party and receive a visit from your KFNA Board delivering free ice cream!

Be sure to register your event with the City by July 19th at [www.minneapolismn.gov/nno/nno\\_register](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/nno/nno_register)



National Night Out, **Tuesday, August 2nd**, is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make neighborhoods safer, better places to live. Plus, it a great chance for you to meet your neighbors!

**Wait. Did we mention ICE CREAM? I thought we did!**

Every NNO for the past decade or so, KFNA has partnered with Sebastian Joe’s, our neighborhood commissary, to create a unique Kingfield-centric ice cream flavor. This year we are expanding the partnership to include Five Watt Coffee and are already jointly masterminding a super special 2016 flavor. Prepare to be blown away by this icy-creation—like our 2009 flavor, “Nicollet Pothole,” which remains a Sebastian Joe’s best-seller, we expect this very “Kingfield” taste will be around for a long time!

Just remember, KFNA’s ritual on NNO is to bike the new flavor around to every registered block party (of which there are always more than 50!) and take the time to chat with neighbors on their home turf. We always end the night wiser, more connected, and a bit stickier; you end the night happier and fuller and hopefully with an idea of a new local project you want to get involved in. Here is the catch: You need to REGISTER your party, or we pass you by. So sign up today by going to the website listed above. See you on August 2nd!

## Butter Bakery Café

Perhaps once a week I get asked if I’d be willing to open another Butter in somebody else’s neighborhood. It is the easiest answer I ever have to give. Butter is here because this is my neighborhood. It wouldn’t be Butter anywhere else.

After many years of commuting to teaching jobs across Minneapolis, St. Paul, and even to St. Paul’s eastern suburbs, I decided that I needed to work where I live and live where I work. Having moved into

Kingfield in early 2005, I searched for a place to run a coffee shop within a mile of my house. And so I have been close to home for the past 10+ years, first on Grand and 36th, now on Nicollet and 37th.

Being rooted here allows me to focus my energy on getting to know my neighbors and provide for their needs. It has meant connecting with other local businesses and organizations to work together for

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## Come play “Space Monkeys” with your 4-year-old, or “Buffalo Hunter” with your 7-year-old!

Come to King Park’s Little Kids’ Soccer Program on **Saturdays, 10 to 11:15 AM, June 18th through August 13th** (we’ll skip July 2nd), and play little-kid games with us and a soccer ball. Come when you’re in town. Don’t fret if you’re not. We don’t form teams for the season. We group the kids by age (4, 5-6, 7-8, and 9-10) each week and just play.

Sign up on the Minneapolis Park Board website ([apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolisarks/Activity\\_Search](http://apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolisarks/Activity_Search)) under Summer Recreation, Youth. Search under activity #61426; or sign up any Saturday morning at the field starting June 18th. We’ll have our registration and kids’ “name tape table” set up each Saturday along 42nd Street at the baseball field #1, in the outfield.

You generally can’t miss all of the yellow T-shirts! Cost is \$20, including a T-shirt.

For information: Call Michael Vanderford at 612/ 296-96467.

## LITTLE KIDS’ SOCCER REBOUNDS WITH GRASS ROOTS SUPPORT

“Sad news,” I said in my note to MLK Park Director Peter Jaeger back on March 21st. “We can’t find enough committed parent-coaches to make a go of the Little Kids’ Soccer Program this summer. We have to cancel for the first time in 15 years.”

Every Saturday morning since summer 2002, 50 to 60 kids had come to the lush green center field grass of baseball field #1 to chase balls, pretend to be alligators, play “Boss of the Ball,” dance the “Hokey-Pokey,” and run the valley while outwitting the buffalo hunters.

Every year, we’ve needed a dozen parent coaches to commit to four or five Saturdays over the summer to assure we have enough game leaders each Saturday. It seemed we couldn’t get that commitment this year. Jerri and Mark Wagner, parents of 7-year-old Zoe, a veteran player, and 3-year-old Simon, an energetic rookie-to-be, had beaten the bushes in the neighborhood and found six committed volunteers, but it wasn’t enough.

That’s when parent Michelle Steffen tried to register her child for this summer’s program at King Park. When she was told that we had canceled for this summer due to lack of parent volunteers, she didn’t give up. She asked what she might do to help make it go.



I was in the yard working in the garden when Michelle came up one early evening, and asked if I was the fellow who worked on the little kids’ soccer program. After a brief discussion and an exchange of e-mail addresses, Michelle assured me that she would be in contact with Jerri with the second half of the 2016 parent coaches we

needed. Within a week, I was back on the phone with Park Director Peter Jaeger asking if we could get playing space on Saturday mornings this summer.

Michelle told me, “I had this happy fantasy for a couple years of my 4-year-old running around kicking a soccer ball with the other kids at MLK Little Kickers Program. When he was finally ready, I was sad to see it canceled and decided to poke around a bit. In 2 days, with the power of social media (and convincing my husband to volunteer too), enough volunteers were secured.”

When there is chance to keep alive and kicking the opportunity for little kids in your neighborhood to run, laugh, and play silly games with joy, you have to go for it! When my own boys (now in their mid-30s with families and little ones of their own far away) were four and six, the Blaisdell YMCA had a kids’ program at Farmstead Park playing silly games with soccer balls. Peter and Paul had a blast playing their games. It wasn’t a program aimed at making them great soccer players. It was a program aimed at having the kids run, laugh, and enjoy being out on the field together.

After later coaching and managing my boys’ soccer teams through their organized leagues for years, they both played well through their time at South High School. And the boys still enjoy playing as adults. But they never had as much fun as playing in that scruffy dirt of the YMCA little kids’ soccer program at Farmstead in the 1980s.

And so, Kingfielders, we are back on for the 15th summer, on the lush grass of M.L. King Park! Jerri adds, “Game on! Kingfield Summer Soccer—here we come. And here’s to an enlivened future for many summers after this!”

— Michael Vanderford







## From The KFNA President



I may be new to Kingfield and to South Minneapolis, but the 40th Street Greenway and pedestrian bridge are not. Over the last two decades, community members worked hard to create a bike lane from the lakes to the river. They were successful over the years in making the bike lane a reality, but the 40th Street bridge over 35W was another story.

This eyesore of a bridge is narrow and encircled in fencing much like a cage. But it won't be for long. It was brought to the attention of the city of Minneapolis and Kingfield that the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDot) planned to include this pedestrian bridge in their 35W reconstruction over the next four years. This reconstruction puts in a bus rapid-transit line, adds a southbound Lake Street exit, and re-decks many of the bridges in South Minneapolis.

The city and surrounding neighborhoods jumped at the chance to turn this bridge into something great. Community members who had worked so hard to create the bike greenway decades before came forth to offer their perspective and expertise. The original grand plan was to have the bridge be an architectural icon like that of the Armajani or Sabo bridges. Unfortunately, that was not going to be possible based on MnDot's timeline and the City's budget. So we pushed for the next best thing.

In April, local artist and cultural icon Seitu Jones was selected by the community to design the railing for the new 40th street pedestrian bridge. The new bridge will be twice as wide as the current one, and Seitu's rail design will incorporate community perspectives from either side of the freeway, a freeway that divided our community more than 30 years ago.

Seitu lived and played in this very community when the freeway as built, and he has expressed his dismay in being literally separated from his friends and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park he grew up with. A portion of the park, as well as many homes, were destroyed for a freeway that predominantly displaced the African American community, and put up a barrier to an expanding and thriving African American community.

At the May KFNA board meeting, Seitu stated that he sees this project as a means to bring the neighborhoods on each side of the freeway closer together. He likened this bridge to a "giant hand shake," or a long needed embrace. The KFNA board is very supportive of his vision and expressed how we would like Seitu go as big as possible with this project. We want everyone to know this bridge—those who go across it or under it. It will be symbolic to the division that occurred as well as to the desire to rejoin communities.

— David Fenley, KFNA President

### Walk or bike across the 40th Street bridge to join artist Seitu Jones at a community meeting.

**Monday, June 6, 6:30 PM**  
St. Peter's AME Church, 401 East 41st Street

Artist Seitu Jones will design the railing for the new 40th Street Pedestrian Bridge, which will span I-35W at 40th Street. The railing project was selected for Art in Public Places—the City's percent for art program—by the Public Art Advisory Panel from the City's Capital Improvement Program. The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is the lead agency on this project and the City is working in partnership with them on the bridge.



#### 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  
Website.....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.

#### 2016 KFNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

David Fenley, President .....david@kingfield.org  
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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.

#### Butter Bakery Cafe - Continued from page 1



improvements to our neighborhood and our city. It has allowed me to watch young people grow up, high school students go off to college, young adults to find love and build relationships, and new babies become part of growing families. It has also meant seeing people leave for new adventures, or grow old with me, and pass on. Being an owner of a neighborhood café connects me to all of life!

I am proud of how my early "pioneering" spirit has found wider acceptance. I was an early adopter of organics composting, local farming, Community Supported Agriculture, efforts to support fair wages, and bringing Eat Street south of Lake (following another set of pioneering restaurant friends at Blackbird).



Settling into Kingfield has allowed me to get more connected to the efforts of KFNA. This is why I choose to be a KFNA Business Sponsor. I partner with Beacon and Nicollet Square Housing, provide support for Empty Bowls, celebrate with Open Streets, and honor our local musicians as a free Friday and Saturday night music venue and through the amazing PorchFest!

I have rooted myself even more deeply these past couple of years with investments in a Little Free Library, the 37th Street Community Garden, a public bicycle repair station, and the dearest little set of birdies I could ever imagine that hang out on my sidewalk! And coming soon, another butterfly to behold! Butter is what Kingfield is all about!

— Dan Swenson-Klatt

## Stroll our Blooming Boulevards during this year's Garden Tour

Over the past seven years, we have been honored to receive sneak peeks into Kingfielders' backyard gardens. This year, we are going to stroll down the boulevards and learn how people grow such beautiful gardens in such little strips of land.

Meet the gardeners and learn their secrets on **Thursday, July 14th**. Be sure to check the KFNA website for

starting time and location, and directions for purchasing your tickets!

Have you seen a boulevard that makes passersby stop and stare? Let us know so we can contact the owners and add them to the tour! Nominations (both from gardeners and gawkers) can be sent to Cheryl@Kingfield.org.

## Crime, Safety, and Kingfield

The Kingfield Neighborhood Association wants to thank all of the members of the Crime Prevention and Safety Committee for their many years of dedication in attending monthly meetings and supporting safety events during the existence of this group. However, as crime has diminished, so has attendance at the meetings. We are fortunate in our neighborhood that we have active block groups that watch out for each other, we have neighbors that post suspicious information on Nextdoor Kingfield and Facebook, and we have a crime rate that is the envy of many other neighborhoods in Minneapolis.

Starting Wednesday, July 13th, MPD Crime Prevention Specialist Jennifer Waisanen will make quarterly presentations at the beginning of the KFNA Board meetings. The KFNA staff will continue to monitor our social media for comments about crime, and will frequently post crime prevention information and alerts to help keep us safe. In the meantime, if you are experiencing any issues or concerns regarding crime, please also directly contact Cheryl@Kingfield.org.

## NICOLLET OPEN STREETS is back on Sunday, Sept 18!

Nicollet Open Streets returns on **Sunday, September 18th: From Lake Street to 46th street, from 11 AM to 5 PM**, Nicollet Avenue will be closed to motorized transportation. It's a celebration for our street, with activities, music, food, and more! Now our biggest annual festival, Nicollet Open Streets brought out over 100 businesses and more than 10,000 people in 2014, and increased that by over 10% in 2015. Contact KFNA for information on sponsorship levels and vending opportunities.

More than 120 volunteers will be needed to help with all aspects of the event—crews to set up, intersection monitors, info booth sitters, neighborhood representatives, photographers, roving ambassadors (and cleaners), and volunteer leaders. It's not too early to raise your hand to help out! If you're interested in volunteering, contact Aryca at the Lyndale Neighborhood Association, who is coordinating volunteers for the day of the event. E-mail or call at aryca@lyndale.org / 612-824-9402 x 14.





# Meet Your KFNA Board Members

What is the best thing about your house in Kingfield?



**Whitney Emanuel:** I love the character of my house: It was built in 1910 like many other older homes in Kingfield. It also has a beautiful front porch and upstairs back patio—perfect for PorchFest!

**Anit Bhatia:** I have lived in Kingfield since 2001 and have loved every minute. I love that the character of my house directly correlates with the neighborhood: charming, cozy, and full of rich history.



How do you like to make friends in your neighborhood?

**Whitney:** Going to neighborhood events is the best way to make friends. Things like running club, Empty Bowls, Open Streets, and the garage sale are great opportunities. Being on the board also helps meet new people.  
**Anit:** Those that know me know that I will talk to anyone. This outgoing trait has been very fruitful, as I have made close friendships with my neighbors and neighborhood brethren.

What is something you would like to see happen in the neighborhood?

**Whitney:** I would like to see people use the bread oven. It is a beautifully crafted oven and a wonderful resource to cook with no energy! I would also love more music at MLK park!!!  
**Anit:** I would love to see unity and community participation of all the residents. Kingfield has such a diverse populace, and being able to hear every voice would be phenomenal.

## BUILDING BREAD OVENS AND COMMUNITY: BRICK BY BRICK

When you make bread, one of the most important elements is time. The dough needs to sit and be warm before the magic of the yeast can happen and make it rise. Possibly this is also true about the making of a bread oven!

Our Kingfield Community Outdoor Oven was wrapped up tight in November and there it hibernated until late April, when the overnight temps held steady enough that the mortar wouldn’t freeze after the bricks were laid. Now that the days are warmer and longer, construction has started again with the hope of a roof-raising in June. Be sure to read the weekly Kingfield eNews (sign up at kingfield.org if you are not already on the list, and like our Facebook page, too!) so you can come wield a hammer or partake in a summer pizza or bread event!

Interest in the oven has reached far, with this oven being one of nine mentored by our visionary Mike Faust. This winter a Bread Oven Workshop was held with all nine oven communities represented, and besides baking together, we shared strategies for how each of our ovens could be used to build community both locally and across the cities that we each live in. We talked of a day where we all bake for a selected charity, or bike between our sites to meet the different communities, or share a progressive oven meal.

I represented Kingfield on a trial radio show this spring as well, the brainchild of Dan Chouinard, and hosted as part of Theatre Latté Da’s NEXT festival. The focus of the shows was Urban Agriculture, and it brought together people leading the way in our Twin Cities in small ways including raising bees, baking bread, and choosing a bike over a car. While KFNA was honored to be included, the audience really responded to the idea that these small gestures are what is going to help correct the wrongs in our society, both environmentally but also socially.

Such a grand vision for a pile of bricks! The plans are ambitious for how KFNA, and each of the other eight brick oven communities, can connect to a broader community through the simple use of fire, and flour, and yeast...but for now we are laying brick! One at a time, methodically and patiently, awaiting the day until the fire is ready to be lit. When that day comes, we hope you will join us at the oven!

—Sarah Linnes-Robinson

# You can tell a lot about a person by going through their trash ... or so they say.

It’s funny that trash is one of the things that unites a neighborhood, or more correctly stated, “organic recycling” is. As the citywide rollout of organics pickup began this spring, Kingfield had 47% of households participating. That’s the 6th highest of any neighborhood in the city!

KFNA has long been begging the City to be allowed to be part of the Minneapolis compost program, and finally our wish has come true. The month of May was like Christmas in the neighborhood: Neighbor after neighbor posted on Facebook and Instagram that their green cart had arrived, while other neighbors gave them a virtual high-five or sadly commented that the delivery truck had turned the corner so they would have to wait another day to receive theirs.

If you haven’t signed up, it’s still not too late, and there is no additional fee to participate in the program. To sign up online, email your name and address to SWRcustomer@minneapolismn.gov – or call Solid Waste & Recycling at 612-673-2917.

Why recycle organics? In the metro area, almost 50 percent of all waste is now recycled, yet the state wants the metro to increase recycling to 75 percent by 2030. It’s a tall order, but the answer may be in organic composting. Studies conducted by Ramsey and Washington counties in 2014 showed that household trash is made up mostly of food waste. A current study in Hennepin County is pointing toward the same conclusion.

After the initial excitement of the green cart deliveries in Kingfield, the questions started rolling in. Does this go in recycling or compost? Which product should I buy to reduce packing waste? Where do I buy compostable bags?

Based upon conversations with Solid Waste and Recycling, KFNA has started an Open Facebook Group administrated by a couple of veteran organic recyclers who work together to scrutinize the photos and handle the questions that neighbors post. If this seems like something you could use, please find the group on Facebook under the name MPLS GREEN Organic Recycling. We are happy to help you figure out how to save the world!

- Organics recycling includes:**
- All food scraps—including things you wouldn’t put in a backyard compost bin, like meat, bones, and dairy products
  - Non-recyclable and food-soiled paper—including paper towels, facial tissues, egg cartons, and pizza boxes
  - Other compostable items such as coffee grounds, tea bags, compostable plastics, cotton balls, and even animal and human hair and nail clippings.
- Organics Recycling does not include:**
- Yard waste
  - Pet waste, litter, or bedding
  - Diapers and sanitary products
  - Dryer lint or dryer sheets
  - Products labeled biodegradable, made from plants, earth friendly, etc.
  - Non-certified compostable plastic-lined paper items

Residents who live in buildings that are not serviced by Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling can bring organics to the organics recycling drop-off at MLK Park. If you have questions about what is accepted in the Organics Recycling program, visit [www.minneapolismn.gov/organics](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/organics) and check the very detailed yes/no acceptability list, send Solid Waste & Recycling an email, or join the MPLS GREEN Organic Recycling Facebook page. You can also ask questions directly at the KFNA table at the Kingfield Farmers Market on June 5th.

## KINGFIELD’S FIRST FIX-IT CLINIC REPORT

About 80 people brought in 110 items, of which 88 were fixed or are on their way to being fixed, for an 80% fix rate. That’s 783 pounds of stuff kept out of the waste stream.

### Neighbors Commented:

- “I would recommend this to ANYONE and EVERYONE!”
- “I liked that Don talked through the repair so I learned things.”
- “Great resource, especially in a throw-away culture.”



## Aliveness Project Donation Garden

A new vegetable garden is growing in the northwest corner of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. Volunteers have been meeting with Hennepin County Master Gardeners one evening a month to learn about growing vegetables and tend the garden. Cool-weather loving beets, carrots, Swiss chard, and kale were planted during the first meeting in April, while more tender tomatoes and other veggies were planted in May. When ready to harvest, all the produce will go to The Aliveness Project, for their food shelf and community meals.

People with HIV and AIDS have unique nutritional challenges, including maintaining a healthy weight and reducing the side effects of treatments. Some are managing a second chronic condition, like diabetes or high cholesterol. Many also face food insecurity. To address these concerns, The Aliveness Project offers individual nutrition counseling, group wellness seminars, a food shelf, a hot meal program – and now the community donation garden.

This is the first year of The Aliveness Project vegetable garden, and it was a natural outgrowth of the center’s larger nutrition program.

For anyone, and especially for those with HIV/AIDS, trying to make lifestyle changes such as making smarter eating choices, being more physically active, and connecting with their community is usually easier said than done. Our hope is that this garden will make healthier choices *easier* choices for our Aliveness members. Not only will members be able to select freshly grown produce at the food shelf or at mealtime, they will learn valuable skills in the process, including how to grow their own food.

Many of the volunteer gardeners are Aliveness staff and volunteers, but we welcome participation from the larger community. Anyone is welcome at any time to join the free monthly classes and help tend the garden.

To sign up for the monthly class and group volunteer shift, visit [https://apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolisparcs/activity\\_search/60846](https://apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolisparcs/activity_search/60846).

To sign up for an individual volunteer shift at the garden, please visit [www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0448afa82ea0f85-sign/](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0448afa82ea0f85-sign/).

For more information about the garden project or about food and nutrition services at The Aliveness Project, contact Arissa at 612-822-7946, ext. 217 or [arissa@aliveness.org](mailto:arissa@aliveness.org).

—Arissa Anderson, MPH, RD, LD., Registered Dietitian, The Aliveness Project



## MLK PARK SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

Summer is upon us at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, and there are plenty of activities for everyone to enjoy. The best way to view all the activities offered is by visiting our website at [www.minneapolisparks.org](http://www.minneapolisparks.org). Scroll to the bottom and click on Recreation Centers. Each center has an Activities section where you can browse and register for programs or download a PDF of the seasonal brochure. Hard copies of the brochure are also available at the front desk of the recreation center.

**We are bringing back the free summer lunch program, available Monday through Friday, for youth 18 years and under.** Friday Nite Owlz is for teens (8 to 11 PM every Friday all summer) with a variety of activities to keep our older kids engaged while school is out. There are also several half- and full-day summer camps available for kids of all ages; we partner with outside organizations to bring week-long camps like Minecraft, Battlebots, Inspyre Creation Camp, Volleyball, Lacrosse, Fishing, and Tennis. We also offer weekly classes in Archery, Urban Farming, Ceramics, Basketball, T-ball and Art in the Park.

—Peter Jaeger, MLK Park Director

## Everything’s Coming Up Roses (...well, not really, as roses don’t work in a rain garden!)

We are pleased to announce that the Kingfield Neighborhood Association, in partnership with Locus Architecture, was awarded a mini grant by the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization for the design and construction of a rain garden. The rain garden will reside on the Locus Architecture property at the northeast corner of 45th Street and Nicollet Avenue. Locus will be designing, constructing, hosting, and maintaining the rain garden under the auspices of KFNA.

Rain gardens are a desirable and attractive way to treat storm water in a sustainable way. The basic premise of a rain garden is that a shallow pond collects storm water, which is then filtered through engineered soils before being released to ground water. Silt, salt, particulates, and chemicals are filtered out of the storm water and captured in soil layers allowing cleaner water to flow down to the Mississippi Watershed—one of two critical watersheds in the metro area along with the Minnehaha Watershed. While the functionality of a rain garden is of vital importance, what makes a rain garden distinct from a utilitarian retention pond is the presence of plantings that have been carefully selected not only for their tolerance for inundation, but their beauty and capability as habitat for beneficial fauna.

The construction of the rain garden at Locus will begin in early June, with a July completion target. Locus Architecture looks forward to meeting more of our Kingfield neighbors when the rain garden will be presented as the ultimate stop on the Kingfield Neighborhood Association Garden Tour scheduled for July 14th.

—Justin Merkovich, Locus Architecture

## 46th Street Re-Striping News

This fall, 46th Street (a street maintained by Hennepin County) between Cedar Avenue and Lyndale Avenue will receive a “mill and overlay” resurfacing treatment. This is similar to the treatment that was done on 38th street recently, where the existing surface is ground down and a new coat of asphalt is added on top. Not as extensive as a full street construction (a la Nicollet Avenue in 2014), this project will be completed along the length of the 2-mile corridor in a few short weeks, and traffic operations will continue throughout its duration.

Upon completion, the fresh smooth surface will be striped in a new traffic pattern to help resolve safety concerns at high traffic volume intersections and pedestrian crossing points along the entire corridor. From Cedar to just west of Nicollet, this new configuration—commonly referred to as a “4 to 3 lane conversion”—will help resolve unclear turning motions by introducing a dedicated left turn lane. From Nicollet Avenue to Lyndale Avenue, 46th Street will continue to have just two lanes of traffic, one going each direction.

Bicycle lanes are being introduced on each side of the street in many places along the corridor. This will also slightly narrow the effective crossing width of the street, which improves the safety of people trying to walk across the street at intersections without stoplights. On the Kingfield (north) side of 46th Street, all parking spaces will be maintained. There will be some removal of parking on the south side of the street only, and only on residential facing blocks where parking is little used, to open up room for the bicycle lanes. There will be no change to the parking configuration at the Grand Avenue business node, from Harriet Avenue to Pleasant Avenue.

Safely walking across 46th Street was a top concern mentioned during the public open houses and neighborhood technical committee meetings. Because 46th Street is the only place for bicyclists or pedestrians to cross the freeway from 42nd to 50th streets, any incremental improvements in safety that can be made in the approaches to the busy intersections at Nicollet and 35W interchange are a step in the right direction. While there was not enough room in the street’s right of way to accommodate all of the ideas and tactics to make the street safer for all users (motorists, pedestrians, bus riders, bicyclists, adjacent business owners, and residents), the proposed combination of many techniques stands to increase visibility, shorten crossing distances, and clarify car turning movements.

At the May KFNA meeting, the County pledged to stay involved in the project beyond completion to monitor how the lane changes affect traffic movement of all types, as well as to do a parking study this summer focused on the Nicollet and Grand nodes. Based upon this pledge, the Kingfield Board voted to support this project as presented, including the removal of a few parking spaces, since the results will continue to be studied and changed if needed. Additional information can be obtained on Hennepin County’s website at: [www.hennepin.us/46street](http://www.hennepin.us/46street) or by contacting Bob Byers (612) 596-0354 / [robert.byers@hennepin.us](mailto:robert.byers@hennepin.us) or Allan Klugman (612) 673-2743 / [allan.klugman@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:allan.klugman@minneapolismn.gov).

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### Calendar of Events

Thurs., June 2	Kingfield Adult Drop-In Softball begins Every Thurs., June 2 through August 25. MLK Park. Free
Sun., June 12	Celebrate Aviary Art on Nicollet 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM More details coming soon at <a href="http://www.kingfield.org">www.kingfield.org</a>
Wed., June 15	Donation Vegetable Gardening To Benefit The Aliveness Project 6:30 to 8 PM Register through Minneapolis Parks & Rec to participate. MLK Park. (See page 1)
Thurs., June 16	PorchFest 6 to 9 PM At Kingfield porches near you. (See page 1)
Sat., June 18	Little Kids Soccer (Ages 4 to 10) begins! 10 to 11:15 AM Meets weekly (except July 2) through August 13. MLK Park. (See page 1)
Thurs., July 14	16th Annual Ice Cream Social 6:30 to 8:30 PM A host of family activities, food, games, and Sebastian Joe’s ice cream! MLK Park.
Thurs., July 14	Blooming Boulevards Garden Tour (See page 1)
Tues., July 19	Registration due for your National Night Out block party! <a href="http://www.minneapolismn.gov/mno/mno_register">www.minneapolismn.gov/mno/mno_register</a>
Tues., Aug. 2	National Night Out (See page 1)
Wed., Aug. 3	Movie in the park: “Inside Out” Dusk MLK Park
Sat., Aug. 20	Our Beloved Community Celebration 1 to 4 PM Face painting, crafts, rides, games, ice cream and food trucks. “Beloved Community” is a phrase that Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King used to describe a global vision of peace and equality. MLK Park.
Sun., Sept. 18	Nicollet Open Streets 11 AM to 5 PM

# Kingfield News

A Quarterly Publication

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