

## A Variety of Gardening Options for Neighbors This Year

Kingfield has a variety of options for those who want to get their hands dirty this summer! Gardeners who are confident and ready to get in the ground—and who want to work on building our network of gardeners and green activities in Kingfield—might want to apply for a Pleasant Garden Plot. These plots cost \$60 the first year, but returning gardeners can choose to maintain a spot at the garden the following year. This garden group works together to plan events and educational opportunities to share their

love of gardening, and to fundraise to expand gardening opportunities within our community. If interested, read the story in the left-hand column.

Are you interested in gardening but don't quite know how to start? You may want to consider signing up for the Vegetable Gardening Basics series offered by the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and the U of M Extension Master Gardener Program. This class is open

to all neighbors, but places will be held through March 26 for low income households. It is free for all participants, and the first year provides a free 10x10 growing plot at Sabathani. It is also open to folks outside of Kingfield, so residents from other neighborhoods have a better chance to obtain growing space through this option than the one above. We are looking forward to expanding our gardening network across 35W! To learn more about this option, read the story in the right-hand column.

### PLEASANT GARDENING IN 2012

The Pleasant Community Garden (located next to the Center for Performing Arts on 38th and Pleasant) has openings for up to 7 new gardeners this season. This established community garden welcomes back several of the original gardeners to ensure the garden maintains its beautiful balance of personal plots and public space. In addition to the personal 5x10 vegetable plots, the garden includes a peaceful circle of perennials, perfect for parents to relax in while their children participate in dance or music classes at the Center for Performing Arts, or for walkers to pause beside as they stroll through the neighborhood in the evening.

This year Gardeners are expanding on the idea of building community at the garden by planning and leading a number of green activities and classes including: Mushroom Farming, Yoga in the Garden, Color Theory and Flowers, Garden Dinners, and many more! Stay tuned via the Kingfield eNews (you can sign up at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org)) and in the summer edition of this newsletter for class times and details! First on the schedule is the Community Garden Plant & Bake Sale, on June 9th from 9 AM to 2 PM at the garden, 3754 Pleasant. Come pick up a few new plants for your own garden as well as a homemade treat, and support the mission of the Kingfield Community Garden Group to create a network of gardeners and gardens throughout the neighborhood!

KFNA is actively working to confirm additional community garden space in the neighborhood, so don't be dissuaded by the low number of plots available—if we receive permission to garden the additional land, we will be accepting more than seven new gardeners to our garden network this year.

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### VEGETABLE GARDENING CLASS SERIES BEGINNING APRIL 10

Do you want to grow your own food, but don't know how to start? In collaboration with the Minnesota State Horticultural Society and the University of MN Extension Master Gardener Program – Hennepin County, KFNA is offering a FREE 5-week class series on Vegetable Gardening Basics. The classes are comprised of presentations and hands-on demonstrations; there is space for 30 neighbors in this class series.

It's more than just book-knowledge: 14 registrants for this class who attend 4 of the 5 classes will also receive a free 10 ft. by 10 ft. garden plot for the 2012 growing season at the Sabathani Community Garden at 310 East 38th Street! And if you receive a plot this year, you are first in line for any open permanent plots (10 ft. by 20 ft.) in the Sabathani Community Garden next year.

Classes are on Tuesdays, 6-7:30 PM, beginning April 10 and running through May 8th at Dr. Martin Luther King Park, 4055 Nicollet Avenue South.

Topics to be covered (order subject to change):

- Planning a garden
- Growing vegetables (2 classes)
- Designing your garden
- Maintaining a garden

These classes are provided free as a resource for our community. Costs are covered by the sponsors, but we ask for total commitment in attendance from the

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Kingfield Empty Bowls Draws Over 200 People



A Washburn student and bowl artist enjoys the Empty Bowl event.

"Try the lentil soup. It's got a little kick," coaxed an exuberant "Chef Jeff" at the first annual KFNA sponsored Empty Bowls fundraising event.

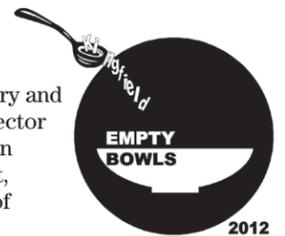
In all, more than 200 people turned out on a cold evening in February to raise awareness and funds to help hungry and homeless youth in our community. The Kingfield Empty Bowls event was the brainchild of KFNA Executive Director Sarah Linnes-Robinson. She was inspired by the success of our neighbors in Powderhorn, who started holding an Empty Bowls event five years ago; an event she attends annually because her children beg each fall to go. In fact, one of the founders of Powderhorn Empty Bowls, Michael Ziomko, was an invaluable resource in the planning of our first Kingfield event, as well as contributor of 64 beautiful handmade bowls!

The event concept is simple: Attendees selected beautiful handmade bowls donated by local ceramic artists, enjoyed a hearty meal of soup prepared by volunteers and residents of Nicollet Square, and then kept their bowls as a reminder that many of our neighbors are in need of food and housing. Local restaurants got in on the action too, providing bread, rice, coffee, and sweets to round out the meal. The event netted more than \$3,500 to support current and future programs of Nicollet Square.

But Kingfield Empty Bowls was about more than raising money, and the event advanced progress toward a number of our community goals:

**Community Building.** Empty Bowls was a great way for Kingfield neighbors to come together in the middle of winter and share a meal for

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## NEW MURAL

Coming Spring 2012: Put Your Brush To It!

Thanks to a graffiti prevention grant from the City of Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling, the Kingfield Neighborhood will be seeing a new mural begin on the sound wall of 40th Street and Stevens Avenue. The mural will be painted and then installed on the section just north of the pedestrian bridge and will serve as a gateway into the neighborhood. Kingfield is excited to welcome lead artists Greta McLain and Silvia Ibañez to our community!

A series of painting workshops will be held inside Dr. Martin Luther King Park Rec Center this spring, with some teen-focused dates and other dates open to the larger community. Teen painting workshops will be held on Fridays, April 27 and May 11, from 6-8PM. Community painting workshops will be on Saturdays, April 28 and May 12, from 1-3PM. You do not need to RSVP—just plan to attend!

Meet the artists and review the mural design at the Kingfield Annual Meeting on Monday April 16 at 6:30PM, AND at the Earth Day Clean-up on Saturday April 21, 11AM-Noon. Come get inspired to create art! An unveiling party will be scheduled for early June—stay tuned to the Kingfield eNews for details! If you aren't on the eNews mailing list, sign up at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org)



## Kingfield Neighborhood Association Annual Election & Smorgasbord

**Monday, April 16, 2012 • MLK Park (41st and Nicollet Ave S)**  
**6:30PM: Smorgasbord** (Bring a dish or treat to share)  
**7PM: Meeting and Elections**

Stroll on down to MLK Park (a warm pan of brownies or taco hot dish in hand if you want!) and enjoy a sampling of tidbits and tasty treats made with care by your neighbors. Fill your plate, catch up with neighbors not seen since the ice went out, and join in the 7 PM annual KFNA membership meeting. Tables with fascinating projects by both KFNA and community partners will be available for perusing. Highlights of the meeting will include meeting the two artists leading the 40th Street Soundwall Mural this spring and getting a first glance at the design, as well as Kingfield's 1st Annual Unsung Hero Award, for community service above and beyond expectations. Nominate your Kingfield Hero by April 1st by emailing [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) or by leaving a voicemail at 612.823.5980. Please include the person's name, address, both phone and email if possible, as well as a brief description (not to exceed 50 words) of their outstanding service in Kingfield.

Six officers will be elected to the board for two-year terms. Childcare will be provided from 7-9 PM for youth six years or older by Leonardo's Basement. To reserve childcare, or if you have questions regarding KFNA, contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson, KFNA Executive Director, [sarah@kingfield.org](mailto:sarah@kingfield.org) or 612.823.5980.

# From the KFNA President



Hello, neighbors. Many of you do everyday things to make Kingfield a great neighborhood. Maybe you plant a garden. Maybe you participate in your block club and look out for your neighbors; maybe you shovel more than your own walk. Perhaps you run a local business, or commit to shopping at one. Perhaps you play your guitar on the stoop in the evenings for all who happen by. Thank you!

### A great park makes a neighborhood stronger:

I'd like to thank the people who are serving on the Reverend Dr.

Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Advisory Council. Stemming from work to honor Dr. King and Civil Rights History at King Park, they are building new relationships and planning for park improvements, including a new playground. Please read the article related to the playground project also on this page and thank you Legacy Advisory Council!

### Good schools make a neighborhood stronger:

Kingfield neighbors continue to make our neighborhood better with the simple act of walking to Kingfield's community school—Lyndale Community School. Recently, the Lyndale Walking Bus was recognized in a campaign featuring grassroots efforts to make our community better through physical activity. You can visit the Making It Better website to see these healthy Kingfield parents and students in action.



<http://makingitbettermn.org/making-it-better/charter-stories/the-school-bus-that-runs-on-sneakers-and-snow-boots/>. Thanks Lyndale Walking Bus! You really are making it better.

### From walking buses to bike trains:

In part because Kingfield residents demonstrated their commitment to a community school, Kingfield will now have a community middle school much closer to home. This fall, Ramsey Middle School at 1 West 49th Street becomes the middle school for the Lyndale and Burroughs school communities. Lyndale and Burroughs parents hosted an energizing open house on February 4th where the community heard from the newly selected principal, Paul Marietta. The dreams for this new school are big, and expectations high. What an opportunity for our neighborhood to work with teachers and staff to build a great community school pathway—Lyndale Elementary, Ramsey Middle and Washburn High. Thank you to all who have been involved!

Active neighbors are the heart of a strong, relevant neighborhood association. The Kingfield Neighborhood Association needs you! Please plan on attending this year's annual neighborhood association meeting Monday, April 16, at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center (You can read more on page 1). Come to meet your neighbors. Come to get involved. Come to participate in our democracy—casting your vote or even putting your name in the hat for election to the KFNA Board. Hope to see you there.

— Scott Bordon, KFNA President

## KINGFIELD EMPTY BOWLS

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a good cause. Families and singles gathered together around communal dining tables. Soup options ranged from vegan to omnivore and from spicy to creamy. Crayons were available for table decorating. And there was a constant bubbling of conversation and shifting of chairs as people moved about the room chatting with neighbors, meeting artists, and refilling their beautiful bowls with another taste of soup. It was also an opportunity for many neighbors to enjoy Nicollet Square's spacious community room, and to meet some of the residents and staff. Many thanks to the residents of Nicollet Square for welcoming us into their home!

**Teaching Healthful Cooking and Eating.** A number of residents of Nicollet Square had the opportunity to spend the day preparing soup for the event with Jeff Riley (aka "Chef Jeff"). Jeff runs a catering business out of the kitchen of Plymouth Church, and he grew up just across

the highway in Bryant neighborhood. He currently employs one Nicollet Square resident, and he felt that working with more youth was a great chance to show them the opportunities available to them in the food service industry. The young residents also learned how to combine healthful ingredients to make delicious soup. Chef Jeff donated his entire staff's time to the event that day, as a way to demonstrate the importance of "giving back," once you are in a position to share what you have. A new Kingfield-based nonprofit, Culinary Communities, also supported the cooking and is looking for additional ways to spread the message and share the tools of healthful cooking to the youth of our community.

### Highlighting the talents of artists in our community.

Local artisans donated nearly 300 pottery bowls for the event—a stunning array, ranging from those made by professional pottery artists to bowls hand-formed by students from Washburn High School Art Club. St. Paul Academy also delivered—art teacher Bob Jewett organized his classes to make 40 bowls, while serving up a beautiful handmade soup tureen himself.

### Sharing the talents of our many local restaurants who all care deeply, on a daily basis, about feeding people well.

Overflowing bread baskets showed off the talents of Sun Street Breads, Grand Café, Butter Bakery, and King's Wine Bar. The soup was supported with flavorful warm rice donated by Victor's 1959 Café. Patisserie 46, Anodyne Coffeehouse, and The Lowbrow sated everyone's sweet tooth after the meal, and diners sipped coffee provided by Blackbird Cafe.

Chef Jeff may have summed up the event best when he said, "There's a magic in bringing people together to share a meal. I will definitely be back next year!" We're counting on it.

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped make the evening a success! A meeting will be held on at King Park on March 7 at 7 PM to start planning for next year's event. All are welcome.

— Sarah Milligan-Toffler, Kingfield Neighborhood Representative to the Nicollet Square Advisory Committee



## About the 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

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 Martin Luther King Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave S

### 2011-12 KFNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Scott Bordon, *President* ..... scott@kingfield.org  
JobyLynn Sasily James, *Treasurer* ..... jobyLynn@kingfield.org  
Brook Lemm-Tabor, *Secretary* ..... brook@kingfield.org  
Arthur Knowles ..... a.knowles@comcast.net  
Bryan Thornton ..... bryan@kingfield.org  
Chris Sur ..... chris.sur@maslon.com  
John Barber ..... john@kingfield.org  
Mark Brandow ..... mark@kingfield.org  
Marshall Onsrud ..... marshall@kingfield.org  
Rachel Bond ..... rachel@kingfield.org  
Randy Niemiec ..... randy@kingfield.org  
Tamera Eirten ..... tamera@kingfield.org  
Victoria Pena ..... victoria@kingfield.org

### KFNA STAFF:

Executive Director:  
Sarah Linnes-Robinson ..... 612.823.5980

### KINGFIELD NEWS

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

## TIME TO PLAY!

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board has approved rebuilding the playground at Martin Luther King Jr. Park in 2013, five years before its scheduled reconstruction. The advanced date was requested by the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Council.

In partnership with the Kingfield Neighborhood Association, the Legacy Council is beginning the fundraising process, in which we are required to come up with a \$55,000 match to the \$230,000 the Park Board has committed to the playground. We will also be seeking neighborhood input in designing the new playground. The council is exploring ideas such as a themed playground that reflects the ideals of Martin Luther King Jr., or one that is modeled after inventions by African Americans. Imagine a traffic-light swing set, a smoke-stack jungle gym, or "the real McCoy" merry-go-round, all with information about the inventors and their inventions.

We invite you to get involved! This year the Legacy Council will hold a number of events to gather input from the community. We are especially interested in gathering ideas from youth in our community. Late this year, or in early 2013, the actual design process with a Park Board Planner will begin. Construction will follow in the summer of 2013.

If you would like to help with the playground project, please contact info@kingfield.org, or call the KFNA office at 612.823.5980. KFNA staff will let you know about the meeting schedule, as no dates are set as of the printing of this newsletter. Also, the Legacy Council and KFNA will be raising funds for the MLK Playground through the People for Parks nonprofit organization, at peopleforparks.net, or People for Parks, PO Box 24901, Minneapolis, MN 55424. If you choose to donate to the project, be sure to designate your donation to "MLK Park."

— Tamara Eirten, KFNA Board Member and Representative to the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Legacy Council



## Ramsey Middle School



With Minneapolis Public Schools developing a new middle school at the Ramsey building, we have been given an exciting opportunity to create an innovative urban learning experience for students who live in the Lyndale Community School and Burroughs Community School attendance areas. The new middle school will start with approximately 170-220 sixth graders in 2012-2013, and add subsequent grades each year. Students at Hale/Field Community School and Green Central Community School also have the option to request the new middle school based on space availability. Paul Marietta, principal of Bancroft Elementary since 2009, has been appointed principal of the new Ramsey Middle School.

The Board of Education has approved a start-up budget, in addition to the standard per student allocation, which will allow the new middle school to provide a full complement of coursework—including languages, electives, English Language Learner and autism programs, and after-school activities. A family network has been established to allow families to participate in the new school development. To be involved, call 612.668.0455 or email Cindy Reuther at reutherck@gmail.com.

**To Apply for a Garden Plot**

Pick up an application outside the door at the KFNA office: 3754 Pleasant Avenue South (Center for Performing Arts building) or get one online at <http://kingfield.org/green/community-gardens/>. Submit your completed, signed Agreement and the entire \$60 fee before Monday March 26, 2012, to: KFNA, 3754 Pleasant Avenue South, #101, Minneapolis, MN 55409.

- The cost for a personal plot (approx. 5x10) for gardeners new to the Pleasant Garden this season is \$60; A \$10 rebate of each personal plot fee will be provided at the end of the season, after the Garden Coordinator verifies the final cleanup of your plot;
- Scholarships are available for low-income residents for 50% of the fee; Year-end rebates for these plots is also \$10;
- Plots will be assigned by lottery for any new garden applicants from all applications received before March 26;
- Applicants will be notified by March 30, 2012, if they will receive a plot. Those not selected will have their application fee returned.
- Gardeners selected will be required to attend (or send a representative to) an organizing meeting in early April at a date to be determined. Non-attendance at this initial organizing meeting could result in plot forfeiture.
- In exchange for their personal plot, every gardener is required to perform monthly service as determined by the Pleasant Garden Group at the initial organizing meeting, as well as participate in pre- and post- season cleanup commitments.
- 20% of the Pleasant personal plots are reserved for tenant applications received by the due date; the remaining personal plots are open to any Kingfield resident. Persons not in these preferred categories may apply for personal plots but will be placed in a second round lottery, if one is necessary.
- Pleasant Gardeners have the option to retain a plot from year to year.



For more information, please refer to the Garden Rules, located at <http://kingfield.org/green/community-gardens/>, or pick-up a copy from the KFNA office. Questions on the Kingfield Community Garden Project should be directed to Sarah Linnes-Robinson, Executive Director, Kingfield Neighborhood Association, at [sarah@kingfield.org](mailto:sarah@kingfield.org) or 612.823.5980.

participants. Classes are taught in English only; if you feel you need translation assistance to attend these classes, please contact Sarah at 612.823.5980 or [sarah@kingfield.org](mailto:sarah@kingfield.org).

Registration preference for the class and for a garden plot will be given to low-income households. However, if open spots remain after March 26, all residents, regardless of income, are eligible to receive a free plot for 2012. You still need to register for the class series and attend 4 of the 5 classes, however. Registrations for the class will be taken on a first come, first served basis from low-income households but after March 26 a lottery will be held for both the class and any remaining garden plots. A waiting list of class attendees will be maintained in case some people do not meet the obligation of attending 4 of the 5 Master Gardener led-classes.

Application forms for the Vegetable Gardening Basics Class can be found outside the door at the KFNA office: 3754 Pleasant Avenue South (Center for Performing Arts building) or get one online at <http://kingfield.org/green/community-gardens/>. For the best chance of being permitted to attend the class series, submit your completed registration form before Monday March 26, 2012 to: KFNA, 3754 Pleasant Avenue South, #101, Minneapolis, MN 55409. Registrations will be accepted until the class is full. Anyone who lives in the geographic area of Lake to Highway 62 and Lyndale to Hiawatha is eligible to attend this class.

**Nicollet Square: Serving Youth in Our Community**

There's a place in Kingfield that's transforming the lives of 42 young people who might otherwise have no home. Nicollet Square, which opened in January, 2011, is permanent, affordable housing for young people between 16 and 21 years old who have experienced homelessness or are exiting the foster care system. Developed by Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation (PCNF), with partners Plymouth Congregational Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Nicollet Square offers secure housing plus supportive services provided by YouthLink and HIRED staff.

"[Residents] are making a transition from instability to stability, and the ways they may have learned to survive in unstable conditions don't always work in their new surroundings," said Katie Miller, YouthLink program supervisor. The property is professionally managed by CommonBond Communities. This mix of high quality, professionally managed housing plus supportive onsite staff helps residents to build self-esteem, become productive, and create a community that makes Nicollet Square a home. Many of Nicollet Square's residents are exceeding PCNF's original goals for them: 88 percent are employed at subsidized or market rate jobs. Of the latter, 86 percent have kept their jobs for at least six months. Also, 99 percent of those who entered without a high

school diploma or GED since have earned their diplomas or certification, or are working toward that goal.

Kingfield Neighborhood Association has long supported Nicollet Square as a strategy to increase density along the Nicollet Avenue transportation corridor, and as a way to increase affordable housing options within our neighborhood. A recent fundraiser for Nicollet Square, Kingfield Empty Bowls, was organized by KFNA's Event Committee and held at Nicollet Square on February 9 (see article, page 1). The proceeds from Empty Bowls will help fund the services designed to ensure tenants can have a job, go to school, and be able to have positive and healthy choices in their lives.

Neighbors who want to volunteer at Nicollet Square may contact Stan Rivkin, [srivkin@plymouthfoundation.org](mailto:srivkin@plymouthfoundation.org). Questions about the facilities or maintenance may be directed to property manager Mike Schmid, 612-823-0122 or [michael.schmid@commonbond.org](mailto:michael.schmid@commonbond.org). Readers interested in more information about Nicollet Square and Plymouth Church Neighborhood Foundation can visit [www.plymouthfoundation.org](http://www.plymouthfoundation.org).

— Kris Berggren, PCNF Communications Specialist

**A Kingfield Night Out**

Kingfield's Empty Bowls event on February 9th made for a wonderfully full evening. Excited to participate and hoping to inspire others to join me, I decided to "sweeten" the deal by offering dessert at my home afterwards. (I live only two short blocks from Nicollet Square.) Five friends agreed to join me for dinner and dessert. We arrived at Nicollet Square shortly after 7 PM, and found the place buzzing. Recent Minnesota House candidate Nathan Blumenshine welcomed us at the door.

We were directed to the facility's workout room, temporarily converted to a gallery of handmade bowls. I was amazed by the abundance of options still available. Beautiful bowls professionally formed, and brightly colored creations constructed by small hands. Studying the selections before us, my six year-old buddy, Keshav, explained to me how the coil bowls had been made. I fell in love repeatedly before selecting my perfect bowl.

Volunteers rinsed our new bowls and we headed to the donations table where I was greeted by my neighbors Sarah and Jacob, a mother-son pair. From there we made our way to the soup line. The food exceeded my expectations. The soups and breads were absolutely delicious! (Desserts were also available, but I tried to save some room for the treats waiting on my own dining table.) During dinner I was able to reconnect with old friends Pete and Joanna who, I was delighted to learn, have returned to the Kingfield neighborhood. Dinner was followed by a short walk home and more sweet treats with my guests. A perfect evening in Kingfield!

— Rosemary Dolata

**Looking Forward to a Smoother Nicollet Avenue**

The plans for the Nicollet Avenue Reconstruction Project are currently out for contractor bidding. It is anticipated that a contractor will be selected in April and that construction will begin in early May. The Lake St to 36th St section of the project is anticipated to be constructed in 2012, with construction lasting into November and traffic detoured from Nicollet Ave to Blaisdell Ave and 1st Ave S. The first segment to undergo construction will be from Lake St to 32nd Street.

This means the construction will not be IN Kingfield this year, but we all know how people avoid construction at all costs, so the road project is still likely to affect Kingfield businesses this year. On that assumption, we ask that you make a special effort to walk to Nicollet this year to buy your coffee, tortillas, or duct tape, or to enjoy an evening out in our neighborhood. It will take all of us supporting our local businesses to keep them thriving through this two-year construction project.

The contractor that is selected will need to develop a detailed staging and access plan for the project. Public Works is planning to hold community meetings in April 2012, when more information about construction staging is available to be shared, so watch your mail for a newsletter announcing the dates and times for those meetings. Once construction has started, watch the project website for weekly updates. [http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cip/all/cip\\_nicollet31-40\\_index](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/cip/all/cip_nicollet31-40_index)

**It's All about Getting Connected**

This year the Kingfield's Crime Prevention and Safety Committee (CPaS) hopes to connect neighbors with neighbors. It not only makes for a safer community, but also brings richness to life, with a sense of well-being and fun along the way.

Yes, with the success of last year's CPaS Traveling Block Parties, we're takin' it to the streets again this year! We'll forego indoor meetings to set up our tent on a street and enjoy the summer night. Neighbors gather, eating popsicles with kids making sidewalk art. Attendance last year was great, with lively discussions. Often Lt. Jack Kelly, Attorney Chris Dixon, and Crime Specialist Amy Lavender—all from the 5th Precinct—were there, providing crime updates, tips, and to answer any questions or concerns.

The Traveling Block Parties will happen on the 3rd Tuesday of each month from May through September, each time in a different section of the neighborhood. Look for the blue tent on 3rd Tuesdays, or check the website at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org) to find out where we'll be each month. You can even join the weekly e-mail list from our website, then we'll drop into your inbox each month and tell you the Traveling Block Party location!

Our goal this year is for each block to have a list of names with phone numbers, so if someone accidentally leaves a garage door open or a bike unlocked, a neighbor will contact them. The list can also be used for emergencies or suspicious activities. It works on my

block: Neighbors know each other, party together, and this year a book club was created. It's all about makin' it happen, creating lives. Fun is good!

Recently CPaS researched gaps throughout Kingfield - blocks without block leaders. This summer we'll focus on Traveling Block Parties at some of these locations:

**Blocks Needing Block Leaders:**

- Pleasant Avenue between 43rd and 44th
- Stevens Avenue between 36th and 46th
- Pillsbury Avenue 43rd to 45th

Anyone interested in becoming a Block Leader can contact Amy Lavender at the 5th Precinct, 612-673-5407 or [Amy.Lavender@minneapolismn.gov](mailto:Amy.Lavender@minneapolismn.gov). If you want a Traveling Block Party on your street, let us know at [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) or 612-823-5980!

**Our goal this year is for each block to have a list of names with phone numbers, so if someone accidentally leaves a garage door open or a bike unlocked, a neighbor will contact them.**

KFNA's Crime Preventions and Safety Committee (CPAS) is also focusing on safety this year. Let us know what you want to learn about from First Aid to Personal Safety to Internet Safety. Your input can be sent to the Kingfield Neighborhood Association at 612-823-5980 or [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) or you can fill out the online survey at [www.kingfield.org](http://www.kingfield.org)!

Your input can be sent to the Kingfield Neighborhood Association at 612-823-5980 or [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org)

# "DIRTY WORK"

## The Story of Elsie's Farm

A film by artist and filmmaker Deb Wallwork

Many Kingfield residents have to think hard to remember the time when there was no Kingfield Farmers' Market in the neighborhood—before the bustling market filled their weekly need for both fresh produce and spontaneous community connections. But before it all began, there were Don Roberts and Joni Cash, longtime 1st Ave S Kingfield residents, and a pair with a dream of selling fresh vegetables in their own community. In 2000, Don approached the Kingfield Neighborhood Association, explained his vision, and KFNA asked how we could help make it a reality. Don and Joni's tables outside Anodyne—with the support of owner Teresa Lien—were the roots of what we now know as the Kingfield Farmers' Market!

Don and his partner Joni moved out of Kingfield to invest in their dream. They purchased Elsie's Farm in Ridgeland, Wisconsin, and began operating it along a fairly revolutionary business model at the time, a concept called Community Supported Agriculture. Deb Wallwork's film *Dirty Work*, follows the life of Elsie's Farm for a year, and includes shots of our fledging market in the Time Warner parking lot on the 4200 block of Nicollet Ave S. Not just about growing vegetables, this film is also about growing a community. The roots of Elsie's Farm are in Kingfield and in our weekly market, growing and nurturing our community on a weekly basis.

We invite you to come see the film, reconnect with or meet the stars of the film, Don Roberts and Joni Cash, and also meet the filmmaker, Deb Wallwork.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 19**  
Solomon's Porch, 100 West 46th Street  
**Community Reception at 6:30 PM**  
**Film starts at 7:15 PM**  
**Entrance is a suggested donation of \$5/person or \$15/family**

Questions? Email [info@kingfield.org](mailto:info@kingfield.org) or call 612.823.5980

All profits from this event will be donated to the Aliveness Project, a Kingfield nonprofit that runs both a daily meal program and a food shelf for people living with HIV/AIDS. No one will be turned away from attending the film, but we ask that you give as you are able to help provide additional dollars to be used for fresh food for this needy population.

*This event is made possible through the partnership of Solomon's Porch.*

## Community Singing: A Long Tradition in Minneapolis Parks, Including Our Own

From 1919 to 1956, for more than 50 nights each summer, thousands of Minneapolitans walked, biked, and drove to their closest park to sing together.

Community singing became popular during World War I and continued after the war. People sang at meetings, parties, conventions, community celebrations, and reunions. Singing was a way to connect—and it still is.

Some of the very first park community sings were held in our own Martin Luther King Park—then Nicollet Field—in the summer of 1919. Lucille Holliday, one of our city's busiest musicians, led the singing and planted the seeds for a decades-long tradition.

Now Minnesota Community Sings, co-founded by Kingfield resident Betty Tisel along with Mary Preus and Bret Hesla, is bringing a taste of that splendid singing history back to our parks. Minnesota Community Sings, a.k.a. MNSings, is leading a series of park community sings with the support of the MN State Arts Board and the Minnesota Legacy Amendment.

The next scheduled sing will be Saturday, April 21, at King Park at noon. Song sheets provided. No auditions! Everyone welcome—all ages, all voices. Please join the fun, and become part of this long tradition.

For more information, go to MNSings' web site at [mnsings.com](http://mnsings.com)

— Betty Tisel

## Kingfield Babysitting Co-op

Going back over twenty years, the Kingfield Babysitting Co-op was an integral childcare, friendship-making, community building system in our neighborhood. Based primarily on a coupon system with small annual dues, the 20-some families watched out for each other's children and felt parents connect. The co-op fell into disuse about three years ago and that final line-up of families has always felt a little sad about its demise.

Former President Sara Strzok is willing to meet with neighbors of the next wave of Kingfield children and share the "system" of how the co-op functioned and pass on the legacy of the co-op. If you are looking for a way to make friends for your young children and secure flexible childcare—contact [Sara.sarastrzok@yahoo.com](mailto:Sara.sarastrzok@yahoo.com). A brief meeting for interested parents will be held at Butter at 6-7 PM on Wednesday March 21.

## CONTEMP8 T-SHIRTS

Printing t-shirts since 2001 through his home-based Minneapolis business, CONTEMP8 T-SHIRTS owner Christopher Loch has opened a retail location in Kingfield at 4302 Nicollet Avenue South—next door to Roadrunner Records, and across the street from Anodyne Coffeehouse. CONTEMP8 T-SHIRTS will print your own designs onto t-shirts, hoodies, baby onesies and more.

While specializing in bamboo shirts, organic cotton shirts, and recycled shirts as well as fair trade items, Loch and his staff will work with you to find the least expensive, still eco-friendly option as well. CONTEMP8 T-SHIRTS only uses water-based ink for all of their printing. "Water-based ink costs more and it is harder to work with," Loch says. But, he adds, "it is worth it," and he doesn't charge extra for it. In addition to being more eco-friendly, Loch says that water-based ink provides better colors, quality and longevity.

Visit the store at 4302 Nicollet Ave S (612-870-7000) and online at [CONTEMP8.NET](http://CONTEMP8.NET).



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

**KFNA COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**  
• **Event Committee:** 1st Wednesday @ 7 PM  
• **Board Meeting:** 2nd Wednesday @ 7 PM  
• **Dr. ML King Legacy Council:** 2nd Thursday @ 6:30 PM  
• **Crime Prevention & Safety Committee:** 3rd Tuesday @ 7 PM  
• **Youth & Schools Committee:** 4th Monday @ 6:30 PM  
• **Redevelopment Committee:** 4th Wednesday @ 7 PM

Regular Meetings are all held monthly at Dr. Martin Luther King Park (located at 4055 Nicollet Ave S)

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### Calendar of Events

- **Mar. 9-Mar. 26:** Applications accepted for new gardeners at the Pleasant Community Garden (See page 1)
- **Sun. Mar. 11 and May 20:** Leonardo's Basement Open House • 1-3pm  
4301 Nicollet Ave S • Free! No Registration necessary
- **Wed. Mar. 21:** Babysitting Co-op Meeting • 6-7pm • Butter Cafe • 3544 Grand Ave S
- **Sat. Apr. 7:** 3rd Annual CSA10 Spring Fling hosted at ML King Park • 10am-Noon  
Fetting zoo, egg scramble, cookie decorating, a craft, entertainer (Mr. Fun Show), and light refreshments
- **Mon. Apr. 16:** KFNA Annual Meeting • MLK Park  
6:30pm: Pre-Meeting Potluck Social; 7pm: Meeting & Board Election
- **Thurs. Apr. 19:** Community Reception for film stars and former Kingfield neighbors Don Roberts and Joni Cash; 7pm: Film "Dirty Work" Solomon's Porch, 100 W. 46th Street (See page 4)
- **Sat. Apr. 21:** Earth Day Clean-up • 9:30am-Noon • MLK Park (outdoors)
- **Sat. Apr. 21:** MN Community Sing • Noon • MLK Park (indoors)
- **Thurs. Apr. 26:** Dining Out for Life 2012 • Dine at many great Kingfield restaurants! Visit [www.aliveness.org](http://www.aliveness.org) for more information about the participating restaurants.
- **Fri. Apr. 27 and May 1:** Mural Painting: Teen Workshops • 6-8pm • MLK Park
- **Sat. Apr. 28 and May 12:** Mural Painting: Community Workshops • 1-3pm • MLK Park
- **Thurs. May 10 and Fri. May 11:** Lake Country Montessori Plant Sale • 8am-6pm  
3755 Pleasant Ave S
- **Sun. May 20:** Opening Day for Kingfield Farmers' Market • 8:30am-1pm  
4310 Nicollet Ave S
- **Sat. June 9:** Kingfield Community Garden Plant & Bake Sale  
Pleasant Community Garden • 3754 Pleasant

