3RD Annual Kingfield Empty Bowls Event — AMAZING!

To all of you who attended Empty Bowls, donated, or volunteered: THANK YOU! This was the 3rd annual event, and in all, more than 500 people turned out on a cold evening in February to raise awareness and funds for Nickleott Square, a Kingfield home for formerly homeless youth. As a result of your generosity, we raised over $50,000 via on-site and online donations! In addition, we were able to advance our goals of community building, highlighting the talents of local artists, schools and restaurants, and raise awareness about homelessness and hunger in our community.

The concept of the Empty Bowls event is simple (but the choices are plentiful!). Each attendee selects a beautiful handmade bowl from among those donated by local ceramic artists, then enjoys a hearty meal of soup, bread, and dessert prepared by local restaurants. Diners then keep their bowls as a reminder that many of our neighbors are in need of food and housing.

Thank you to Anodyne Coffeehouse, Butter Bakery Café, Corner Table, Café Eta, and Kings Minneapolis for the warm and delicious soups. Both the bread and rice were a welcome complement — thank you Patisserie 46, Sun Street Breads, Grand Café, and Victor's 1959 Café! And the desserts from The Lowbrow, Curran's Restaurant, and Royal Grounds Coffee had diners overjoyed.

The artists in our community were generous as well. Local artisans donated nearly 900 bowls for the event, ranging from those made by ceramic artists — including 200 bowls made by Michael Huyck for our Paint-A-Bowl event — to bowls hand-formed or thrown by students from Armatage, Ramsey, St. Paul Academy, and Washburn. A big thank you — I know that kiln challenges made the efforts from a couple of the schools heroic.

This is truly a wonderful event — I am a proud volunteer. It's difficult to put into words the emotion that this event sparks. Many volunteers work from October to February to make this event a success. Then comes the date, and we get to see the faces of the community as they see the hundreds of bowls, their angst as they try to make a choice of the “perfect bowl,” the proud students as they search for the bowl they made, the grandparents as they search for the bowl described by their grandchild. Next follows a delicious meal with great conversation.

Here’s what others had to say about the event:

"Had a blast!! Kudos to the volunteers and all the wonderful restaurants/bakeries and their staff who contributed to this worthy cause! Great food, great community and a great cause! This was such a great event and Kingfield came out on a very cold night to give back to the community."

"Thank you, Kingfield! I chose my bowl because of a special message written on it that said 'giving is a grace'."

"Thanks for the amazing soup, thanks to the volunteers, and for the great fundraising for a very worthy cause...I love my neighborhood!"

"What a wonderful event! Two soups sampled — fabulous! A cute little bowl and encounters with old friends and new. Thanks to all who made it possible."

After such a successful third year, you can be sure that we will carry on this tradition by gathering the community together again next February. We hope to continue to raise awareness of and fight against hunger and homelessness in our neighborhood, and to bring together the kindhearted residents of Kingfield for another evening of community.

— By Lori Olson  Photos by B Johnson Photos

KINGFIELD’S PLEASANT COMMUNITY GARDEN 2014

Close your eyes and visualize that soon this snow will be gone, and our neighborhood will once again be green! Join us as we make the Kingfield Pleasant Community Garden spring to life. Now in its fifth year, the garden (located just north of the CPFA, Center for Performing Arts) is available for use by individual gardeners in our community. At least seven plots will be available to new gardeners this year! Plot rental for one season is $40. Each gardener must also agree to perform 1 hour per month minimum in service to the common areas. Applications and fees are due by March 21, 2014. You will be notified on or before March 28 if you will receive a garden plot. If more applicants are available than plots, a lottery will take place. We reserve 20% of the plots for CPFA tenants (either studio or hourly).

A meeting will be held on the evening of April 16th — attendance is mandatory for those who received plots. You can find the application form on the following link: kingfield.org/green/community-gardens/ or outside the KFNA office door at #101 in the Center for Performing Arts, 3754 Pleasant, Minneapolis, MN 55409. Applications and plot fees can be mailed to this address or slid under the door; fees must be included with the registration. Note: If your application is not selected to receive a plot this season, your fee will be returned.

Got Your Own Garden at Home? We Want YOU for the Annual Kingfield Garden Tour!

Do you know someone in our neighborhood who always has a magnificent garden? Are you particularly proud of your own garden? Organizers of the 6th Annual Kingfield Neighborhood Garden Tour are in the process of identifying homes for this year’s tour, expected to be held on the evening of July 10th. If you are interested in participating, please contact KFNA at info@kingfield.org or calling 612-823-5980.

So Long to Lonely Days at Home ... SoMakers Is Here!

SoMakers, a south Minneapolis co-working space, opened this fall in a once well-loved coffee shop at the corner of Bryant and 46th street. Long-time Kingfield residents David Hussman, a self-described software anthropologist, and Andie Thomas, an occupational therapist, bought the building — now named DevJam Studios — a little over a year ago, originally as a home to David’s software production and IT company, DevJam. Inspired by shared work spaces found in travel and weary of explaining his software endeavors such as DevJam’s monthly “jam” session for local software geeks and the First Lego League for local school children, SoMakers is here! A meeting will be held on the evening of April 16th — attendance is mandatory for those who received plots. You can find the application form on the following link: kingfield.org/green/community-gardens/ or outside the KFNA office door at #101 in the Center for Performing Arts, 3754 Pleasant, Minneapolis, MN 55409. Applications and plot fees can be mailed to this address or slid under the door; fees must be included with the registration. Note: If your application is not selected to receive a plot this season, your fee will be returned.

SoMakers offers free Wi-Fi, fresh water, and all the Peace Coffee one wants, housed in a coffee shop environment that seeks to support the creative “maker” in all guests — whether software developers, artists, authors or other. SoMakers guests range from small companies to home-based professionals and independent contractors. Guests may pull up a seat at a table or the bar for $15 a day, $60 a week, or $175 a month, Monday through Friday. 9:30-6. Amenities include free parking, printing and scanning, access to private meeting spaces, outdoor cafe seating as weather permits, and no barista glaring at working customers. Additional meeting spaces are available for rent, including a large industrial basement space with bar, couches, and café seating that is perfect for corporate events, birthday parties and other celebrations. Two conference-style rooms are also available on the second floor with whiteboards, projectors and conference phones.

In addition to SoMakers, DevJam Studios is a hive of creative and philanthropic endeavors such as DevJam’s monthly “jam” session for local software geeks and the First Lego League for local school children. SoMakers is a community kitchen, which will be open by the end of the month and available for rent as a shared kitchen space for local chefs and caterers. Go to http://devjamstudios.com for more information.

— By Andie Thomas  Photo by Amalie Thomas
From the KFNA President

We met together as a community in January for the annual rituals of potluck and board member elections. As with all good traditions, a few things were different and much remained the same. This year we held the Aliveness Project Annual Meeting in person instead of online. Our hope was to tap into the spirit of cabin fever which can bedevil many of us in deep winter. Also different – the location. The newly relocated Aliveness Project hosted the event on their spacious second floor, and offered tours of their cool building. Wonderful, isn’t it, when the new neighbors are nice? Remaining the same: Scott Mueller’s “Scott’s Schlopp,” and the chance to hear about our new neighbors: Jonathon Hinckley and now vice chair of the City Council. And of course, the marvell of breaking bread with friends new and old.

Our Board of Directors serve in staggered two-year terms, which meant we elected six people to serve for the next two years. Four of us are re-elected and returning members: myself, Scott Mueller, and Jenny Lock. And three are new: welcome to Robert Rodd, Roger Maldonado, and Kaitlyn Dennis. A warm welcome as well to Dean Laite, seated as an alternate.

We also said good-bye to a few board members: Jim Kumon finished his two-year term, and plans on continuing to serve as the chair of the Redevelopment Committee and as a board alternate. Chris Schleicher started as an alternate and took a position on the board when a seat became vacant. Knowing his dedication to nourishing food traditions and sharing this passion with his neighbors, I’m sure his good spirit will pop up behind the sauerkraut/kimchi rock at the Kingfield Farmers Market again, and in whatever other places we will find our board members.

I’m inspired by the energy and dedication of our long-term volunteer leaders. Included among these:

Michael Vanderfoard, who has now served on the Crime and Safety Committee for over 10 years; Dean Amundsen, whose dedication to our neighborhood’s interest in the MAC Airport FairSkies movement has required him to master the technical details behind the “highways in the sky” proposal; Suzie Lillyblad, the head pollinator of our community garden at the Center for Performing Arts; Martha Brennecche, who single-handedly combs through every story of every edition and makes sure our “i’s” are crossed and our “v’s” are dotted; Brenda Johnson, who lends her graphic design expertise for every art project the neighborhood is involved in; and the many, many active block club leaders.

Thinking about the year to come, I’m looking forward to the stream of events and actions which knit us together as an engaged community. If you haven’t woven your passion into our shared endeavors at KFNA, get in touch. We’d love to weave you in!

With kind regards,
Hetal Dalal, KFNA President

BE PROACTIVE

It can be scary to read about increasing crime in Minneapolis. Fortunately, there are ways to help protect your home and our neighborhood from crime. Did you know that studies have shown that an active neighborhood watch program (similar to our Block Leader Program) is effective in helping to reduce crime?

HERE’S WHAT YOU CAN DO:

• Attend KFNA Crime Prevention and Safety meetings to receive current problem-solving ideas from the police department. Notices about dates, times, and locations are always posted on www.Kingfield.org.

• Get to know your Block Leader. Don’t know who your Block Leader is, or don’t have a Block Leader? Contact our designated MIPD Crime Prevention Specialist, Jennifer Waisanen (Jennifer.Waisanen@minneapolismn.org).

• Participate in safety presentations and demonstrations for everything from fire safety to child safety. Information is distributed every Tuesday via the Kingfield e-newsletter.

• Attend neighborhood events that promote community gatherings and opportunities to get to know each other. Be sure to “Like” the Kingfield Neighborhood Association’s Facebook page so that you can receive updated event information.

• Call 911 – anytime you see or hear something suspicious!

• Did you know that sitting on your lawn with your neighbors enjoying a cold beer or soda pop can actually help to reduce crime? Good excuse for a block party! Keep your block and alley neighbors connected so that everyone is watching out for each other!

• Each month, the KFNA Crime Prevention and Safety Committee plans meetings or events for our neighborhood. Here are some of the activities we are considering for 2014:
  • Child Safety
  • Community Emergency Response Training (CERT)
  • Block Watch Training
  • Police Services and Resources
  • Block Leader Training/Reintraining
  • Traveling Crime Prevention and Safety Meetings
  • Community Fall Bonfire

Have other ideas or suggestions? Want to be involved in planning safety presentations and demonstrations or neighborhood events? Please contact Cheryl at Cheryl@Kingfield.org.

– By Cheryl DeGroff, KFNA Project Organizer


A NEW MARKET SEASON!

May 18th through October 26

The Kingfield Farmers Market is looking forward to a 2014 season with some exciting new vendors including new produce vendors, as well as lots of familiar faces providing locally-grown veggies, eggs, meats, cheeses, eggs, breakfast, lunch, and treats on Sundays from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Planning is underway for an event line-up packed with puppets, music, art activities, and opportunities to sample the seasonal produce available. We’re pleased to continue accepting EBT and credit cards, and are going into our third year as a zero-waste market. Stay tuned for details on getting your market fix on weekdays once a month during June, July and August! See you at the market!

MUSIC (and more) FOR NEIGHBORS

Being a local, simple performing venue has been a long-standing goal of Butter Bakery Café. When we moved to 3700 Nicollet, the creation of a space for a small stage was at the top of my list. I see this performing space from both sides—for local musicians and performers who might be looking for a comfortable, affordable place to share their talents, and for my neighbors to have a comfortable, no cost experience to live music and other performances in many forms. Butter’s music venue is designed to be a place where original music takes the stage for all ages, where even the youngest students can get a taste of public performance, and where short walk can connect my neighbors to talented veterans for a shared experience of community building through the arts. If you are interested in possibly playing music at Butter, contact us at info@butterbakerycafe.com.

And now, starting in March, the first Saturday evenings of each month will be dedicated to poetry and storytelling thanks to the local performers of Word Sprout (https://www.wordsprout.org). There will be opportunities through the year for anyone to step up to the mic and share a poem or story during these events.

– By Dan Svensson-Klatt, owner, Butter Bakery Café

KINGFIELD Neighborhood Association (KNA)

The Kingfield neighborhood runs from 36th to 46th Streets, and Nicollet Avenue to Lyndale Ave S.

KFNA Office Location:
The Center for Performing Arts • Room 101 3754 Pleasant Ave S • Minneapolis, MN 55409 Facebook: Kingfield Neighborhood Association Twitter: @KFNAKingfield KFNA Office Location:
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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, 4053 Nicollet Ave S

2014 KFNA BOARD of DIRECTORS:

Hend Dalal, President.................. jenny@kingfield.org
Mark Wolfe, Treasurer.................. mark@kingfield.org
Lisa Mierzinksi-Buhlinik, Secretary........ lisa@kingfield.org
Scott Mueller.......................... scott@kingfield.org
Nancy Weiss.......................... nancy@kingfield.org
David Funky................................ david@kingfield.org
Dan Svensson-Klatt................. dsk@kingfield.org
Jason Mavrogianis..................... jason@kingfield.org
Jenny Lock................................ jenny@kingfield.org
Nancy Weise.......................... nancy@kingfield.org
Kaitlyn Dennis....................... kaitlyn@kingfield.org

KFNA STAFF

Sandi Limo-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.
Frozen Doesn’t Always Mean Solid!  
This frigid winter has frozen over the local lakes, but that doesn’t mean that all ice is — or will stay — safe. Almost every winter, somewhere in Minnesota, someone falls through the ice and drowns. The Minneapolis Fire Department provided information on ice dangers at their recent ice rescue demonstration at the Lyndale Farmstand Park ice rink.

More than 30 people gathered as the firefighters explained lifesaving techniques, and demonstrated the equipment they use in case of an ice-related emergency.

In addition to the presentation, Ice Safety brochures were provided that outline what you can do if you or someone else falls through. The brochure is available on the KFNA website: kingfield.org/ice-safety/. This event was hosted jointly by KFNA and the East Harriet Farmstand Neighborhood Association.

DINING OUT FOR LIFE CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The Aliveness Project, a community center for people living with HIV/AIDS located in Kingfield at 3080 Nicollet, is hosting the 20th Dining Out For Life, Thursday, April 24, 2014. This fundraiser is a fun, easy way to get involved with The Aliveness Project. Restaurants pledge 20% to 100% of the sales on that day to the work we do providing hot meals, food shelf, integrative therapies, case management, educational seminars and so much more.

We are fortunate to have numerous restaurants in the Kingfield Neighborhood which participate for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Kingfield restaurants are Anodyne, Coffeehouse, Blackbird, Butter Bakery Café, Corner Table, Curran's Restaurant, El Paraiso Mexican Restaurant, Grand Café, Kyatchi, The Lowbrow, Rincon 38, and Victor's 1959 Café. For a complete list of restaurants or to see which meal(s) your neighborhood restaurants are including, check out diningoutforlife.com.

In addition to the restaurants’ involvement, we will also need more than 400 volunteers, called ambassadors, on that day. An ambassador acts as the host at a restaurant inviting their friends, families, faith communities and co-workers to dine at their restaurant for that meal(s). They go around to tables welcoming all and encouraging individual donations among the patrons. It’s a fun way to get involved with a one-time volunteer experience. To volunteer, you can register at alliwines.org/ambassador or call 612-822-7946, ext. 106.

Join us Thursday, April 24 at one of your neighboring restaurants and help raise much needed funds for The Aliveness Project!

Thanks for a Job Well Done!

On January 10, KFNA said thank you to Amy Lavender, who had served as Kingfield’s Crime Prevention Specialist at the 5th Precinct for the past five and a half years. Many of you met her at our Crime Prevention and Safety meetings, and even more have spoken to her on the phone about the various Crime Alerts that MPD distributes. Amy was not only personable and professional, but she was an amazing wealth of information in parts due to her many years as a police dispatcher.

Her humor and grace-under-fire will be truly missed, but everyone is very excited that she received a promotion to Intelligence Analyst and has transferred to MPD’s Strategic Information Center (where she will still be keeping an eye on our neighborhood!). Many thanks to Amy for all that she gave to our neighborhood.

And with that good-bye and best wishes to Amy, we now welcome our new Crime Prevention Specialist: Jennifer Waisanan. Jennifer has been with MPD since 1996 and, like Amy, worked several years as a 911 operator. She has been a Crime Prevention Specialist for the past 15 years, and even worked in the 5th precinct many years ago. She is excited to be back, and we look forward to working with her.

Please feel free to call or e-mail Jennifer with any questions or concerns you have regarding criminal activity or crime prevention. (612.673.5407 • jennifer.waisanan@minneapolis.gov)

Meet the KFNA Board

Our three new board members were asked three questions:

1) Where do you live? 2) Why were you compelled to run for the board? 3) What is something unexpected about you? Here are their answers.

ROBERT ROEHL

1) I live at 39th and Pillsbury, a block so riddled with bright and talented and just plain fascinating characters that I couldn’t be happier for any opportunity to meet and converse with my neighbors.

2) I moved to Kingfield 15 years ago and have seen many changes that greatly improved the quality of life here. I decided to join the KFNA Board to be a part of these great changes and to, hopefully, make a meaningful contribution to the continued improvement of the neighborhood in which I live.

3) Something unexpected about me? I guess I’d have to say that, for a carpenter, I am unusually well versed in neurobiology.

KAITLYN DENNIS

1) I live on the 4000 block of Pillsbury.

2) Throughout the last year of so living in Kingfield, I’ve really enjoyed getting to know my neighborhood and neighbors, and I’m excited about the opportunity to engage more directly with people and events.

3) I’m a flutist/pianist, and have performed in orchestras, marching bands, chamber groups, and most recently, with the UMN T.O.R.T. (Theatre of the Relatively Talented) Pit Ensemble for the annual law school musical.

ROGER MALDONADO

1) I recently just moved in and I wanted to get involved in where I live. Essentially, I wanted to give back, invest in Kingfield, and also get to know my neighbors.

2) I love Disney World! If I had the money and time, I would go to Disney World every 3 months.

SHOW YOUR STUFF Kingfield Neighborhood-wide Garage Sales!

Before we know it, spring will be here (right?) and we all will be thinking about spring cleaning...and what better way to get rid of those gently-used items than to have a garage sale.

Last year’s neighborhood-wide garage sale was such a success that we are considering holding the event again this year. KFNA is in search for a volunteer Garage Sale Coordinator and a support team of neighbors interested in helping to make this year’s sale a bigger hit than last year’s!

If helping with this event sounds like fun to you, please contact Cheryl at Cheryl@Kingfield.org.

Dining basics classes offered in English & Spanish

Gardening classes in English are available on five Tuesdays (skipping over April 15) beginning April 1, 6-7:30 PM at MLK Park. Contact KFNA to see if there is a space for you or call 612-823-5980, or emailing info@kingfield.org.

Application forms can be found at: kingfield.org/extension or outside the KFNA office door at 101 in the Center for Performing Arts, 3754 Pleasant, Minneapolis, MN 55409.

Classes also are offered on Saturdays for native Spanish speakers; read more about this below.

Aprenda a Cultivar Vegetales/Verduraz

Aprenda a cultivar vegetales/verduras en una clase al Jardín Comunitario de Sabathani, 310 East 38th Street. Las clases se llevarán acabo de las 9 a las 11 am, cada segundo sábado del mes por seis meses, serán en Español y son gratuitas. Las fechas son el 12 de abril, el 10 de mayo, el 14 de junio, el 12 de julio, el 9 de agosto, y el 13 de septiembre.

Usted recibirá una pequeña parcela y le daremos algunas semillas y plantulas para sembrar. En cada clase vamos a mirar su parcela y le ayudaremos a plantar, deshierbar, regar, separar las plantas, cosechar, y resolver problemas tales como insectos y enfermedades. Vamos a hablar de cómo cultivar en una estación de siembra tan corta, como en Minnesota.

Muchas personas de culturas diferentes cultivan en el jardín de Sabathani. Algunos jardineros con experiencia nos mostrarán sus parcelas y nos explicarán cómo han sembrado/cultivado. Si usted asiste a cuatro de las seis clases podrá estar participando de los primeros de la lista de espera para obtener una parcela permanente en el Jardín Comunitario de Sabathani en el 2015.

Las clases serán enseñadas por la Universidad de Minnesota Extension of Jardineros Maestros en el condado de Hennepin e interpretadas por Mariana Padilla, una residente del barrio Kingfield. Por favor llame al 612-547-6910 para registrarse.

Translation into English: This spring and summer, take a vegetable gardening class taught in Spanish at Sabathani Community Garden. The six-part class will be led by University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardeners in Hennepin County and translated into Spanish by Kingfield neighbor Mariana Padilla. Call 612-547-6910 to register for “In the Garden.”

The class will be held from 9 to 11 AM on the second Saturday of the month for six months: April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, and September 13.
For more recycling information, visit www.minneapolismn.gov/solid-waste or contact the material recovery facility (MRF), and the resulting glass cullet is run through a series of magnets (and reverse Rinse the container, place the lid back on the bottle or jar, and place it in your recycling cart. All glass is crushed at for disposal. So please make sure to put the caps back on containers if they are 3 inches or less in size!

What about metal caps on glass salsa, pasta sauce, salad dressing and other containers? Rinse the container, place the lid back on the bottle or jar, and place it in your recycling cart. All glass is crushed at for disposal. So please make sure to put the caps back on containers if they are 3 inches or less in size!

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