



Kingfield News

RAISING DOUGH



Have you heard that KFNA is building an outdoor community oven? We hope you have! After a couple of years of talking about it, we finally got the details settled to break ground in August on land rented to us by the Center for Performing Arts. The oven will be used for community events organized by KFNA that will range over the course of many consecutive days: wood-fired pizza gatherings, bread baking classes, community potlucks, and more.

Kingfield's outdoor oven design was prepared for us by Mike Faust, who has built numerous other ovens in the Twin Cities in partnerships with nonprofits. He is now working on developing a consortium of outdoor oven users to share ideas and further grow community connections around hearths throughout the metro area. He has been a cheerful and supportive resource to our volunteer effort.

Our oven was constructed over a period of 11 community building days, utilizing 60 volunteers who together labored over 150 hours. This massive effort was supervised and

guided by our lead onsite builder, Michael Hyuck, a volunteer on the project himself. Just in case people are thinking they want to undertake a similar project on their own, Michael's hours have easily equaled those of the other volunteers combined, meaning an oven of this size takes easily over 300 hours to build. Everyone who has worked on the oven has come away saying that it takes a village to build a pizza oven, and is relieved they did not tackle this venture in their own backyard on their own!

Financial donors have also supported the oven construction. A "dough-raiser" this spring brought in \$500 from individual donors to get the effort started. A recent GoFundMe campaign raised another \$2,000—half from individuals, and another \$1,000 from Nicollet Ace Hardware. Julene Lind, the hardware's owner, is so excited about the bread oven that she also dedicated fundraising in the store for the month of December to the Kingfield Community Oven. We thank Julene, and all our donors, for their generous support. We look forward to breaking bread (and pizza) with you soon!

Due to the temperate weather this fall, Michael was still laying brick in mid-December, fortifying our walls to withstand the force of a typical Minnesota snowfall. In the new year, volunteers will begin testing the oven at bread temperatures with the expectation of being able to contribute bread to our own Kingfield Empty Bowls event on February 4th! We will then put the roof on and complete the chimney in the spring, a necessary addition for the firing temperature needed for a pizza, and hope to host our inaugural community event in May! Keep an eye out for the specific date in the spring *Kingfield News* and in the weekly eNews as we get closer.

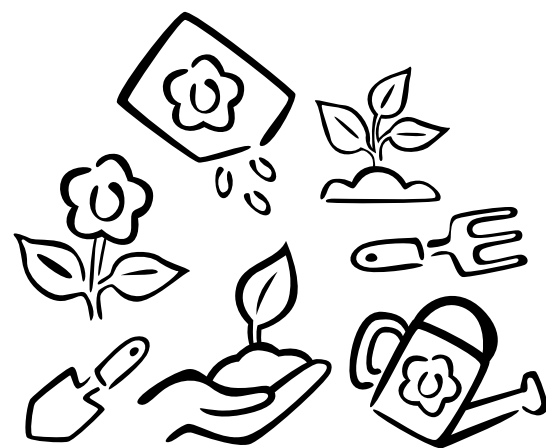
If you are inspired to donate to the Kingfield Community Outdoor Oven campaign, we invite you to visit the project on GoFundMe at www.gofundme.com/kfnaoutdooroven.

IS IT SPRINGTIME YET?

Soon everyone's thoughts will turn to green grass, flowers, and the amazing vegetables we can grow in our area. Don't have a garden of your own? The Kingfield Pleasant Community Garden might be just the spot for you!

Located next to the Center for Performing Arts at 38th and Pleasant, the community garden is a perfect place to strengthen our community through shared garden experiences. Applications for plots will be available in March, so be sure to visit our Facebook page for more details: www.facebook.com/Kingfield-Community-Gardens, or our website at kingfield.org.

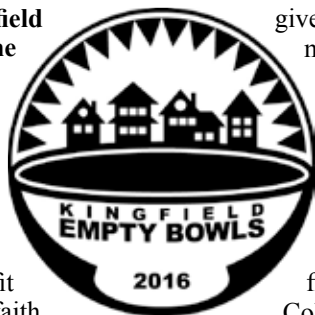
Avid gardeners may also want to keep in mind that we have a wonderful Kingfield Garden Tour every year, where you could have a chance to show off your green thumb and your yard! This year's tour will celebrate the beautiful and diverse gardening on the boulevards and in front yards of our neighborhood. Please contact Cheryl at Cheryl@kfna.org or 612-823-5980 if you would like more information about being on the tour!



Kingfield Empty Bowls:

Stopping hunger and homelessness, one bowl at a time!

On Thursday, February 4th, Kingfield Neighborhood Association will host the fifth annual Kingfield Empty Bowls event, and we would love to see you there! Empty Bowls is a single day event that combines art, food, local businesses, nonprofits, and lots and lots of neighbors raising awareness and funds to combat hunger in our neighborhood. Your support of this event will again benefit Nicollet Square, a project of Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative that provides affordable housing and a supportive environment for youth who have experienced long-term homelessness, or who have been in the foster care system. Last year we were able to donate more than \$7,000 to Nicollet Square through this single evening event!



give everyone a chance to be a part of what makes Kingfield Empty Bowls so special—a community working together, each in our own way, to take care of our own!

KFNA would like to thank everyone who has already donated bowls, and remind others that it's not too late if you would still like to contribute! You may drop off finished bowls through January 31 at the Color Wheel Gallery, located at 46th & Grand, next door to Café Ena. Bowls ideally will be soup-sized and must be created with a food-safe glaze. If you need KFNA to pick up a donation, please contact us at 612-823-5980 or info@kingfield.org.

The bowls will be plentiful at the event, and so will the food! Once again many of our local restaurants have offered to provide soups, breads, and desserts to Empty Bowls. Please join us in thanking the restaurants that have already pledged their support, listed at the right! We know that many more of our incredible community restaurants will be joining these to cook and bake for Empty Bowls as it draws closer.

The concept of Kingfield Empty Bowls is simple: Make a donation (suggested at \$20 per person/bowl), select a beautiful handmade bowl donated by a local pottery artist, and enjoy a hearty meal of soup and bread, much of which is donated by our fabulous Kingfield restaurants. Diners bring their bowls home with them, to keep as a daily reminder that many of our neighbors are in need of food and housing.

The Empty Bowls planning team has been working busily to secure beautiful handmade bowls, and the community is answering the call. Besides direct artist donations of finished pottery, KFNA hosted two pottery "throwdowns" this year in partnership with Fire on the Greenway (FOTG), a local pottery studio of 15 independent potters. You might have seen the trio of wheels set up on the street during Nicollet Open Streets; two were filled by professionals, who spent their time rapidly producing bowls, but the third was open for anyone to try their hand at creating a bowl for the event. FOTG also hosted a 6-wheel, 6-hour throwdown at their studio in November, where they quickly threw another 180 beautiful and varied bowls for our event. The bowls created at these two events have been used at a number of community Paint-a-Bowl events already this fall, to



•• SAVE THE DATE ••

KINGFIELD EMPTY BOWLS
Thursday, February 4, 4-8PM
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park
[4055 Nicollet Avenue]

A fun evening of art, great food,
and lots of lively conversation!

Contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson at sarah@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980 if you are interested in getting involved.
#kingfieldemptybowls

KINGFIELD EMPTY BOWLS SUPPORTERS:

Blackbird Café • Butter Bakery Café • Café Ena
Five Watt Coffee • Grand Café • Kings Wine Bar
La Fresca • Laune Bread • Nighthawks
Rincon 38 • Royal Grounds • Sun Street Breads
The Lowbrow • Victor's 1959 Café

Alex V. Kern Design • B Johnson Photos
ColorWheel Gallery • Fire on the Greenway
Grey Fox Pottery • Litin Eco
Nicollet Ace Hardware • Powderhorn Empty Bowls

From the KFNA President



We welcome winter because, among other awesome stuff, it brings brilliant light displays around the neighborhood, Empty Bowls, and the opportunity to become a board member of the Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA).

Going for late night walks when the snow is falling and there are no cars on the road is one of my favorite wintery things to do. This is a great time to enjoy the impressive light displays that many of our neighbors work so hard to make just right.

Maybe I will bump into you one of these nights.

Empty Bowls has become quite an event over the years, raising lots of money for such a great cause. Please consider joining us on February 4th for some locally made soup and bread enjoyed in hand-thrown and hand-painted bowls that you get to keep; what a deal.

It really is a great time to connect with other Kingfield and Minneapolis residents. (Read more about Empty Bowls in the story on page 1.)

If you've ever thought, "Wow, Kingfield is great, and I know how to make it even better," serving on the KFNA board might be for you. Plenty of positions will be open this year, and we need all of Kingfield represented. Check out our Annual Meeting and Potluck, where current board members will feed you—and if you get there and decide you don't feel like running for a board position, no problem. Eat some food and vote for who you believe will best represent Kingfield.

Lastly, if you see me shoveling our corner lot (40th & Wentworth) this winter, stop by and say hello; I welcome the distraction. Thanks for reading, and have some neighborhood fun this season.

— David Fenley, KFNA President

Kingfield and Lyndale neighborhoods put best feet forward for Nicollet Open Streets

On Sunday, September 20th, the Lyndale and Kingfield Neighborhood Associations hosted the 2nd Annual Nicollet Open Streets. The neighborhoods welcomed over 11,000 participants with pride as bikers, walkers, and vendors flooded the section of Nicollet Avenue between Lake and 46th Streets.

The crowd noticed more than a few changes to our main drag since last year's event. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park's new playground was teeming with energetic children. Parents read plaques with little-known facts about the contributions of Black authors, scientists, and politicians as they looked on. Music radiated from the built-in percussion instruments as both generations pounded out their creativity.

The lines were long at Revival and Nighthawks, two of our newest eateries. Both establishments have earned outstanding reviews in their first year of business, and the neighboring storefronts have freshened their paint and welcomed new patrons.

Bicycles were the primary form of transportation when the street was closed to motorized vehicles. Bikers and walkers coexisted happily as they moved from exhibit to exhibit. People on scooters, rollerbladers, and dog walkers joined the stroll to fill the street from curb to

curb. Storefronts were full and groups gathered around artists' booths.

The noise of usual motor vehicle traffic was replaced by music along the route. Acoustic artists sat on stools lining the sidewalk, while bands of all genres set up on several stages. There was hardly a silent space between their soundwaves. Nicollet Open Streets even offered karaoke. Bikers stopped to add their voices to the musical collage.

Countless volunteers organized by LNA and KFNA set up for the event, assisted vendors, provided information for guests, and cleaned up afterward. They could be seen working from morning to night in their Open Streets T-shirts. As cars reclaimed the pavement, Nicollet Avenue was left free of litter and debris. Despite the hard work, volunteers enjoyed the event as much as the celebrants. This was a great way to meet neighbors, business owners, artists, and musicians.

Each year, this event is a chance for us to reintroduce our neighborhoods to the greater community. In 2015, we proudly presented a beautiful park, a thriving business atmosphere, and two neighborhoods full of people who were able to work together to put on a spectacular event.

— Matt Klausner, KFNA Board Member

SOUTHWEST MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY: Kingfield Responds

This summer a survey was circulated through the Southwest Minneapolis community asking about the qualities and places that defined each of the nine neighborhoods included in the study. More than 400 residents participated, including 101 members of the Kingfield community, whom I would like to take this opportunity to thank for donating their time to my study. The results of the survey will be used in my thesis on the role of community involvement in the field of heritage preservation, as well as shared with the neighborhood associations.

The 101 Kingfield participants ranged in age from 26 to 75, and on average had lived in the neighborhood for 15 years. Five percent were racial or ethnic minorities, and nine percent were renters. These participants showed a greater diversity of education level and living arrangement than those from surrounding Southwest Minneapolis communities.

The general consensus was that the way the neighborhood feels is more important than the way it looks (a viewpoint shared by residents throughout Southwest Minneapolis). Additionally, Kingfield participants indicated that restaurants, people, parks, and businesses are the most important elements in the creation of Kingfield's character. Residents were asked to describe the character of the Kingfield neighborhood in three words, leading to a list of more than 100 different words (shown in the word cloud graphic, on page 3); the four most frequently utilized words were "friendly," "diverse," "walkable," and "vibrant." When asked what they would change about Kingfield neighborhood if they could change one thing, respondents came up with a list of 27 different changes they would make. The most frequent answers: decreasing the amount of airplane noise (21%), increasing the diversity of neighborhood residents (14%), and increasing the sense of community through more neighborhood events (11%).

Participants were given the opportunity to choose three places in the neighborhood that they would preserve for future generations of Kingfield residents, which led to the identification of 53 places important to maintaining the character of the neighborhood. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park was mentioned by 50 percent of participants, making it the most frequently discussed location. Commercial nodes along Nicollet and Grand Avenues were listed by 45 percent, and the Center for Performing Arts by 11 percent. 110 words were used by Kingfield residents to describe the term "heritage," with the most common being "history," "culture," "tradition," "legacy," and "family."

Thank you again to everyone who took the time to participate. If you have any questions about the study, please contact me at sundb173@umn.edu.

— Madelyn Sundberg



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.

2015 KFNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

David Fenley, *President*..... david@kingfield.org
Whitney Emanuel, *Vice President*..... whitney@kingfield.org
Mark Waller, *Treasurer*..... mark@kingfield.org
Lisa Skzeczkoski-Bzdusek, *Secretary*..... lisa@kingfield.org
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Brigitte Mussack (alternate)
Dean Laite (alternate)
Madelyn Sundberg (alternate)

KFNA STAFF:

Sarah Linnes-Robinson, *Executive Director*
Cheryl DeGroff, *Project Organizer*

KINGFIELD NEWS

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

ANNUAL MEETING

Kingfield Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting & Potluck Redux at MLK Park

Wednesday, February 10, 2016
Potluck and social at 6 PM
Meeting begins at 7 PM.

Come gather with neighbors, hear the news of the year, and celebrate Kingfield and KFNA!

Please note that this date is the regular meeting time (second Wednesday of the month) of the KFNA Board... just in case you want to consider running for the board and this date works with your schedule! Nominations for board members will be taken from the floor at the meeting.

For more information about becoming a board member, you are welcome to contact KFNA Executive Director Sarah Linnes-Robinson at sarah@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980, and she will be happy to chat with you about board needs and responsibilities at any point in the weeks leading up to this meeting. Also plan to attend Kingfield Empty Bowls on February 4th and snag a roving KFNA board member, who will be happy to talk about how much fun it is to be a part of the KFNA leadership team! Board members will all be at this event with an eye toward engaging new neighbors in the organization, as well as soliciting new ideas to include more neighbors in KFNA activities and events.

Thanks to our 2016 Business Sponsors:

Butter Bakery Café • Gee Teez • Nicollet Ace Hardware

STAY CONNECTED, KINGFIELD!

To stay connected this winter and learn what's happening in Kingfield:

Subscribe to our weekly eNews by going to our webpage and clicking on "Connect."

Tweet along with us: www.twitter.com/Kingfield_KFNA

Instantly see the fun happenings in the hood: www.instagram.com/kingfield_kfna/

Meet us Nextdoor: www.Kingfield.nextdoor.com

Running a business or working from home? Join us: www.linkedin.com/groups/gid+4812315

CPAS Year in Review

2015 was a busy year for the KFNA Crime Prevention and Safety Committee (CPAS). More than just hearing from the Police Department about crime trends and statistics, the group created fun and interesting activities to help their neighbors reduce their chances of becoming victims of crime.

In April, we kicked off a Block Walking initiative, to encourage residents to walk with each other through the neighborhood as a way of meeting more neighbors and also to be another set of eyes and ears for safety issues and concerns. The group that covers the south end of Kingfield still meets weekly at Bruegger's Bagels and have become fast friends! In May we celebrated the Block Leads, thanking them for their continuing efforts to keep everyone connected and informed. July found us out in the hood with a traveling meeting, at the corner of 38th and Nicollet, helping those blocks get organized and make contacts with MPD for resources important to them. If you missed the September meeting, you didn't get to see all of the amazing goings-on at the Emergency Communications Center, where communications specialists impressively handled 911 calls and dispatched police and firefighters where they were needed.

So, regarding those statistics...is crime getting worse in Kingfield? Although numbers do not tell the whole story, here are some stats to think about: 2015, from January to October, had 4 more robberies but 2 fewer aggravated assaults than the same time period of 2014. We had a spike in burglaries in August this year, but other than that, the number of burglaries compared to last year is the same.

Want more than just numbers? Come to the monthly CPAS meetings for a chance to see the crime maps that the Police Department uses to assign patrol units and resources. Find out why NOT reporting minor crimes hurts our ability to fight crime, and learn the real stories behind the numbers (did you know that most burglaries are the result of open or unlocked doors?) so you can decide how best to protect your family and your belongings!

Get Psyched for EARTH DAY 2016



Once again, MLK Park will serve as host for the **Kingfield Earth Day Clean Up**, happening on **Saturday, April 23, 2016**. We are looking for a volunteer to serve as the neighborhood ambassador, who would help park staff to coordinate the efforts of other volunteers cleaning up the park and our neighborhood in the morning; the time commitment is very flexible. If you would like to volunteer to help us with this event, please contact Cheryl at Cheryl@kfna.org or 612-823-5980.

This year, the morning clean-up will dovetail with two exciting activities: a Hennepin County Fix-It Clinic from 12 noon to 4 PM in the MLK Rec Center's multipurpose room, and organics education for those interested in participating in the city-wide organics curbside collection program.

At Fix-It Clinics, residents bring in small household appliances, clothing, electronics, mobile devices and more, and receive free guided assistance from volunteers with repair skills to disassemble, troubleshoot, and fix their items. Fix-It Clinics teach valuable skills, build community connections, and reduce the number of repairable objects that are thrown into the trash. And they're really fun!

Bring your items in for repair—or, if you're someone who can troubleshoot repairs for broken items, consider volunteering at this, or another, Fix-It Clinic. Volunteer fixers who have skills in soldering, electronics repair, electrical repair, sewing, and general tinkering are essential to making the clinics successful.

Email nancy.lo@hennepin.us or call 612-348-9195 for more details on volunteering.

At the organics event, learn more about the curbside organics collection that is coming to Kingfield in 2016. City workers will begin their spring delivery of carts to registered homes on April 25th. (Other neighborhoods across the city are in the same general roll-out period as Kingfield.) Because Kingfield was one of the last neighborhoods to get single-sort recycling containers, we are really lobbying to be one of the first this spring to get curbside organics carts. Let's show the City how much we value this change by signing up early for this service!

As of early December, over 40% of Kingfield households had already signed up for organics pick-up. While this is impressive, about a dozen other neighborhoods (including Lynnhurst, East Harriet, and Tangletown) have a higher percentage of residents signed up. Additionally, statistics show that in neighborhoods already served by the program, up to 63% of households are participating, and the percentage keeps growing. This demonstrates that neighbors are happy with the program and encouraging each other to participate. KFNA encourages you to sign up now before the City runs out of capacity to register or to order additional carts for 2016. To sign up to have a cart delivered to your home, call 612-673-2917 or email SWRcustomer@minneapolis.gov. Include your address and the message "I want to sign up for the organics recycling program."

What should you do with organic matter until your cart arrives at your home? It's easy to use the MLK Park compost drop-off in the winter! Simply store your bagged organics in your garage or outside in an old curbside recycling bin, kitty litter pail, or other plastic container. They'll freeze, and you'll only have to go to the drop-off once every month or so. Read more about this program on page 3, including how to sign up.

Date	Event
Open Now	Registration for Winter Activities at MLK Park Register online at www.minneapolis.gov or in person at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center 4055 Nicollet Ave. S. (See page 3.)
Mon, Jan. 18	Annual MLK Day Celebration Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park & Recreation Center 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
Thurs., Feb. 4	Empty Bowls Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center 4055 Nicollet Ave. S. (See page 1.)
Wed., Feb. 10	6 PM Potluck and Social; 7 PM Meeting Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park & Recreation Center 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
6-9PM	KFNA Board Annual Potluck and Meeting: New Board Members Elected
Tues., Apr. 5	Vegetable Growing Basics classes begin. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
6:30 to 8:00PM	Classes continue on consecutive Tuesdays, April 12, April 19, April 26, and May 3. Free. (See page 3.)
Sat., April 23	Earth Day Events at MLK Park Park and Neighborhood Clean Up; Hennepin County Fix-It Clinic (12 Noon to 4 PM); Organics Curbside Recycling Education (See page 4.)
May TBD	Outdoor Community Bread Oven inaugural community event More details to come in spring <i>Kingfield News</i> and weekly eNews.

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"Creating connections at Nicollet Open Streets, 2015" photo by Ajith George