By now you’ve all heard about it, right? The Walldogs are coming! The Walldogs are coming! You have wondered if it is another British invasion or some sort of super-virus. I’m here to tell you it is a little of both. The invasion is not British, but more than anything, they will be looking for friendly faces but more than anything, they will be looking for friendly faces and support to the family and love ones of Katricia Daniels and Robert Shepard, victims of homicide on June 12 in their Kingfield home.

Kingfield Farmers’ Market

If you happened to be near the intersection of 42nd and Nicollet on June 1st you noticed the brightly colored flags lining the West side of the street. Perhaps you were drawn to the hustle of the crowd, or were intrigued by the strains of marching band music. If you followed that sound, expecting a parade led by the Lake Country Band, you may have stopped by to speak with the master gardener at the plant exchange table. That morning she guided many through the weeds of their garden endeavors. Many enjoyed the vegetarian Indian food from a new vendor, Akshay Punjabi who seemed to gather quite a line. The Davidsonos were on hand to sell their popular honey, along with tomato plants and herbs ready to sink into the ground. Rustina’s bread was flying off the table, the scones from Grand Café were a hit and the “meat lady” was busy serving those who wanted fresh meat for dinner.

It was a symphony of community conducted by our new Market coordinator, Sheila Delaney, with the help of community volunteers. Sheila brings enthusiasm and energy to cultivate and keep the market blooming at a time when the market needs all the support it can find. With neighborhood funding dwindling, the Farmers’ Market has been pushed from the KFNA nest and must fly or fail. A committee will work on fundraising and marketing to keep the market growing and will continue to work on creating special events like the upcoming bake-offs.

Committee members will be seeking those who want to become “friends of the Market” with a cash donation or who want to volunteer to work at the market or a special event, but more than anything, they will be looking for friendly faces to come out to the market on a regular basis. Bring your friends, plant a yard sign on your block and spread the word that Sundays in Kingfield are a great time to come out and spend time with family and friends while supporting local growers, crafters and musicians.

Remember that since our market requires all local produce, there will be more and more produce available as the season continues.

PFAs Becomes KFNA Committee

The Crime Prevention and Safety taskforce (CPaS) was formed a few years ago to provide Kingfield neighbors with the tools to deal with crimes and livability issues that impacted their lives and homes. It has been served by a group of committed neighbors who have done great work in solidifying the safety of the neighborhood through citizen walking patrols and monthly meetings with police officials.

KFNA has upgraded CPaS to a formal committee in recognition that this group has moved beyond dealing only with localized crime and safety issues and has begun to focus on the livability of the whole Kingfield neighborhood. This year the committee will focus on strengthening the neighborhood by organizing blocks through the assignment of block club leaders, with the help of the recently added Block Club task force.

One excellent way to get involved with your block is National Night Out (NNO), which is August 5. Blocks should remember to register parties and apply to close streets at www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno or call 311 or 612-673-3000. Blocks that register by July 22 are eligible for a door prize drawing, and while it is not essential to close the street, there is no charge to blocks applying by that date. From July 23-31, there is a $100 late fee. Applications will not be accepted after July 31st. Even blocks that do not close their streets are encouraged to register their party because the number of block parties is an important indicator of stability that the police department uses to solicit donations and support for NNO. As in years past, members of the KFNA Board will visit all registered parties, bearing Sebastian Joe’s ice cream!

If you are interested in joining the CPaS committee, the Block Club task force or a block club leadership, please contact Sarah at kfnas emailed.com or call 612-334-9131. You can also call KFNA if you need help planning your NNO party, securing basic resources such as flyers for your block, or door-knocking your block party with your neighbors and invite them to a planning party.

-Koby Lynn Sussile-James

Homeowners, Tenants and Neighbors Worried About Foreclosure?

Along with the entire country, Minnesota is currently facing a high spike in home foreclosures. In 2008, an estimated 80,000 Minnesota homeowners are expected to become delinquent on their mortgage payments. Foreclosures affect individual homeowners, renters and tenants who may be living in a property that is being foreclosed, and neighborhood residents concerned about the crime and property value impacts of blighted, abandoned or neglected properties.

If you are a homeowner and are currently facing a foreclosure, or are falling behind on your mortgage, home equity loan, property taxes or homeownership association fees, you may allow you to keep your home, or help you prepare a ‘soft landing’ to get back on your feet. For free counseling help, call Legal Aid of Minneapolis at 612-384-9700.

If you are a neighbor concerned about a foreclosed property on your block, call or e-mail the Kingfield Neighborhood Association (kingfields.org) to find out what your block can do. In the next Kingfield News we will detail actions concerned neighbors can take to minimize the impact of those properties.

Most importantly, Don’t Wait. Taking action early by talking confidentially with a counselor may allow you to keep your home, or help you prepare a ‘soft landing’ to get back on your feet. And beware of predatory lenders offering to ‘help’ you with your foreclosure - instead, call one of the reputable nonprofit organizations listed above.

Information for this article provided by the Minnesota Home Ownership Center

During Walldogs on Nicollet, artists and volunteers will come together to create murals celebrating the Minneapolis Millers baseball team, the original bath house and lake at Nicollet Field (now MLK Park), Minneapolis Brewing, the trolleys that ran down Nicollet for over fifty years, and even the street’s namesake, Joseph Nicollet, himself. This will be one of the largest creations of public art in Minneapolis history, and you can be a part of it! We need workers and volunteers to come together to create murals celebrating the Minneapolis Millers baseball team, the original bath house and lake at Nicollet Field (now MLK Park), Minneapolis Brewing, the trolleys that ran down Nicollet for over fifty years, and even the street’s namesake, Joseph Nicollet, himself. This will be one of the largest creations of public art in Minneapolis history, and you can be a part of it! We need workers and volunteers to help paint the murals or to support the artists during the meet at wwwwalldogs-hndale.org.

By the time this newsletter arrives at your home, we will have finalized a full schedule of events for the four days, which can be accessed at the above web site. At the time of writing, we can provide you with this basic event outline (page 3).

Yes, they come on July 24th and leave on July 27:
10 murals-8 sites in 4 days! Can it be done? You’ll need to see it happening to find out!

Kingfield Farmers’ Market

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About the Kingfield Neighborhood Association

The Kingfield neighborhood runs from 36th to 46th Streets, between Lyndale Avenue and 35W. The Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFN) office is located in The Center for Performing Arts building, room 101.

KFN Board of Directors (for the 2008-2009 term:

Mark Brandow.....306.0844
David Brauer......822.8601
David Buchanan...808.2894
Chris DeParde, Sec....823.0182
Amy Joe Gracyalny.....824.1065
Tom Parent, Pres. ....331.2463
Karen Pieper.......822.2304
Dave Saddoris.....396.3472
JobyLyn Sassily.....388.6552
David Brauer................822.8601
Karen Rickard.........824.3932
Dave Petrosky......823.6630
Dave Saddoris......823.6472
JohLyN Sassi-Lynn, Treas. .888.6552
Jeff Shaw..............377.3715
Chris Sur.............377.0544
Marie Wolf..........824.3262

KFN Staff
Executive Director: Sheila DeLaneys.....823.5980
Market Coordinator: Sheila DeLaneys.....823.5980x2

Kingfield News
If you are interested in writing, editing, designing, or taking photographs for the Kingfield News, call KFN at 823-5980.

Note From the President

Spring is truly a time of renewal. Every year, the melting snow and climbing temperatures reintroduce us to our neighbors, our neighborhood and the great outdoors. The lift of backyard laughter and friendly greetings from dog-walking neighbors seems a welcome pastime of colder months. It feels as though possibility waits around every corner.

I think it’s no coincidence that KFNA has its annual meeting while spring spirits are running high, both in its sense of reconnecting, investing in our community and helping to make Kingfield a vibrant place paves the way of these meetings, and inevitably a few people who are swept up and impulsively run for a seat on the Board of Directors (speaking from experience). When the new and old faces emerge as the coming year’s Board, it’s hard not to speculate what great things may happen during their tenure. This year an exceptional number of people who have made incredible long-term commitments to Kingfield joined the Board. Mark Brandow has owned and operated Quality Coaches on 38th & 35W for 35 years and has been an active member in the Nicollet East Harriet Business Association since it formed. Chris DeParde signed on for his second stint on the Board after a hiatus, newly energized by the notion of rekindling mid-level passions of colder months. It feels as though possibility waits around every corner.

In the vein of change, if you thought this column seemed amateurish compared to the last few issues, you would be correct. David Brauer, who served as President of KFNA this past year, did not seek reelection, but will stay on the Board and continue to serve as one of our ambassadors to the ever-changing world of the Neighborhood Revitalization program.

Dawn Boudreau
Executive Director

Towards Zero Waste

Following last year’s successful ‘Pledge to Unplug’ program, KFNA has again received a City of Minneapolis Climate Change Micro Grant. This year’s grant will fund a program called ‘Towards Zero Waste,’ which will be focused on minimizing the impact of food service products on water, energy and raw materials during the entire life cycle of these products. All KFNA-sponsored events this summer, including the Farmers’ Market, the Summer Festival, and the Kingfield-affiliated Walhops on Nicollet parties, will be served in biodegradable cups and napkins. Separate containers will be provided at the events for cups and containers, and the compostable waste will be hauled to a commercial composting facility. This fall our research and findings on food service products and composting collection will be shared with the local restaurant community for further implementation. At the conclusion of this year’s program, the Kingfield Neighborhood should be well positioned to be a pilot for neighborhood-wide curbside compost pickup by the City of Minneapolis next year.

Dave Saddoris

Court Watch Update

One month and residents and staff from Lyndale, Kingfield and CARAG neighborhoods meet with the Minneapolis Police Department and City and County Attorneys office to review the status of specific criminal cases that residents have chosen to monitor through the judicial system. Volunteers have received positive feedback that their involvement with the system is indeed making a difference, although results can be slow in coming. The Court Watch Program is following 29 defendants; below are the results of two notable cases.

Murder of Mark Losch

Donald Eugene Jackson is one of two co-defendants charged in the murder of Mark Losch (Jackson’s name was changed for privacy in this column). He was sentenced on March 20th to 58 months in prison. The sentencing was influenced by a pre-trial request from the defense attorney. The defense attorney requested a non-restrictive bail hearing, saying that Jackson was likely to reoffend. The judge denied the request and sentenced Jackson to 5 years 8 months in prison. Jackson has since been convicted of murder and kidnapping. Jahrsshi has been convicted of murder and kidnapping.

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Kingfield Kidnapping/Stabbing

October 2007 - 2 defendants: On October 1, 2007, Donald Eugene Jackson was charged with aggravated robbery/aggravated assault and kidnapping. Derny was allowed to plead guilty to Aggravated Assault for 45 months in prison. The court was scheduled for July 13, August 10, September 14, and October 12. The court was scheduled for July 13, August 10, September 14, and October 12. Derny has pleaded guilty to Aggravated Assault and kidnapping. The court was scheduled for June 30, 2008.

The deals in this case were proof-driven. Both defendants have extensive criminal histories. However, the circumstances of the offense strongly suggested that it was a drug-fueled crime, not an intended robbery, with the understanding that Jackson will testify against his co-defendant (Jamaal Bernard Freeman). Jackson will be sentenced for this case on July 25, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. The sentencing has taken place as scheduled. Freeman’s case is expected to go to a jury trial, with Freeman’s trial is now scheduled to begin July 7, 2008. Freeman’s anticipated sentence is 78 months. Court Watch collected a number of Community Impact Statements from KFNA residents for both of these defendants and will be monitoring Freeman’s trial and Jackson’s sentencing.

Farriers’ Market

Farriers’ Market continued from page 1

unfolds. Buying locally will provide you with the freshest produce. It supports local growers but also supports the environment by saving the gas it takes to truck produce cross-country.

If you would like to get involved and contribute to the market in some way, please stop by the Farmers market tent during market hours or contact Sheila at 612.823.5980 x2

You can also receive the Farmers’ Market E-mail for market updates and schedules. Email Sheila at kingfield@mn.org; put “Add me to the FM List” in the subject line.

Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:

July 13 Signature Ice Cream Flavor Tasting
July 27th Kids Day at the Market
August 10 Corn Bake-Off
September 14 Apple Bake-Off
October 12 Pumpkin Bake-Off
November 23, 2007 Holiday Market

If you have not been to the market lately, please check it out - it’s a great destination for lunch, entertainment and shopping.

See you on Sunday!

Please note, the Pledge to Unplug program continues in Kingfield this summer. For more information, visit www.kfnm.org. Energy Calculators can be checked-out and returned at the Kingfield Farmers’ Market 2nd Sunday Bake-Off events, which are scheduled for July 13, August 10, September 14, and October 12.

News, Notes, and Opinion

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Walldogs on Nicollet Events

Thursday July 24th
Kingfield Summer Festival
MLK Park, 6-8 PM

This family-friendly festival will offer inexpensive food and free kids-oriented fun, as well as a chance to rub elbows with the Walldogs artists and get a glimpse of the two murals being painted for the MLK Park building. Pick up a copy of the Walldog Mural Scavenger Hunt which will require you to visit all eight sites over the next 3 days to answer questions related to each mural and/or mural theme. This form can also be downloaded from the Walldogs’ website at www.walldogs.lyndale.org. It can be submitted at any site to be included in a prize drawing at the Walldogs Street Family Friendly Fest.

Saturday July 26
Walldogs Block Party
Zion Church Parking Lot, 33rd & Pillsbury, 5-11 p.m.

Join us for dinner at a nominal charge of $5 per person and also enjoy a headline dance band (TRAX) and an amazing hypnotist and magician. Participate in the raffle for fabulous prizes and an auction of the mural mock-ups, the small versions of the mural paintings. Say good-bye to our visiting Walldog artists, many of whom will have completed their walls and will be packing up on Sunday to return to their own towns.

Saturday July 26
Walldogs on Nicollet Events
MLK Park, 1-5 PM

Enjoy all the murals on Saturday by hopping on MetroTransit buses for free rides along Nicollet Avenue from 10 a.m.-midnight. Just visit the Walldogs web site and download a Walldogs pass for each member of your family, and hop on and off the Nicollet bus all day! Bring your scavenger hunt form or pick one up at any site, and be sure to stop at MLK Park between 1-5 p.m. for the Family Friendly Fest featuring:

- Andrew Wilkowski and Karin沃尔顿的MN Opera公司选择;
- Council members Glidden and Benson sowing the painters with a light operatic selection of tunes;
- High School apprentices from the MN Opera Company;
- o Mini-Mural painting with the Minneapolis Institute of Arts/Art in the Park;
- Large-scale spin-art and splat ball painting with Leonardo’s Basement;
- Free on-site childcare, provided by local teens and overseen by an experienced mom of two, for volunteer painters and workers; and
- And more!

highlighted Opporunities:

- Par Level Golf Lesson
- The First Tee golf program
- July 21st - Aug 6th, 1-2:15 p.m.
- Fee: $30.00
- Lessons at Hiawatha Golf Course
- Children’s Nutcracker Dance Class:
  - July 28th to Aug 1st, 7-8 p.m.
- Children ages 8-12 with no previous dance experience
- Fee: $15.00 (fee waiver available)
- Those that continue in the fall are invited to perform in The MN Dance Theatre & The Dance Institute Winter Showcase.

Fundamental Soccer Summer 2008

- What: Fundamental Soccer Program
- Who: Boys and Girls ages 4 through 8+
- When: Twice a week July 1st - August 9th
- Tuesdays 6-9 p.m.
- Fee: $35.00
- Recruits: Parent Coaches/teachers

MLK Park Activities

Martin Luther King Park is buzzing with activities thanks to park staff programming, resident initiatives, and neighborhood partnerships. Brian Cornell, MLK Park Recreation Director, provides programming based on resident requests and needs of patrons. Besides programming options already provided, Brian is willing to develop new programming based on resident requests and demonstrated participation. Recently a mother from the neighborhood met with Brian to develop a skateboard program for her son, an avid skateboarder. The park was able to coordinate a skateboard club that will meet four times this summer to skate at area skateboard parks. Other initiatives include a summer soccer program coordinated by Michael Vanderford, a longtime MLK soccer coach, in partnership with MLK Park and KPNA, and again this year a number of MLK residents participated in the Adult Dodgeball League hosted at Martin Luther King Park. Be sure to stop by and cheer your neighbors on during Dodgeball League playoffs!!!

What do you want to see at your neighborhood park? If you have an idea for adult, youth or child programming and willingness to help coordinate an event, please contact Brian Cornell, Recreation Supervisor. Martin Luther King Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55409; phone: 612-370-4908 / Fax: 612-827-2482; email: bcornell@minneapolisparks.org.

The First Tee golf program

- The First Tee golf program is an evidence-based, research-driven, positive youth development program that has a 50/50 gender split.
- It is led by trained coaches and is free of charge.
- It is hands-on curriculum-based, and the coaches are trained in positive youth development.
- The program is designed for young people ages 7-18.

Recruit Parent Coaches/teachers

- Who: We are seeking parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents and older siblings of kids 4 through 10 years old.
- What: Learn to coach families to teach soccer skills and team-work, then share coaching and teaching role with others.
- When: Coach when you can make it. We hope for a pool of 15 parent-coaches. July through Aug 9.
- Call: Please let us know if you are interested, and/or are planning on coming to the training session on June 26.
- Michael Vanderford 612.827.3014
- Brian Cornell, MLK Park Director 612.370.4908
On May 2nd the City Council passed a resolution directing CPED to establish a contract with the Nicollet-East Harriet Business Association (NEHBA) to be an administrator of $50K over two years for the Great Streets Business Facade Improvement Program (BFIP). NEHBA was one of thirteen applicants chosen citywide to administer this program.

The Great Streets Program provides matching grant money for exterior facade improvements. More than one improvement project is permitted for a business, as long the total grant amount does not exceed a maximum of $5,000. Having already received a KFNA business façade improvement grant does not make a business ineligible for a Great Streets BFIP grant.

This program is targeted at businesses in city-designated nodes. Within the Kingfield neighborhood, geographically eligible businesses for a 1:3 match are those at 38th & Nicollet and from 43rd through 46th & Nicollet.

Visit the new www.kingfield.org and blog!

NEHBA Awarded Great Streets Business Facade Improvement Grant

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Partnerships with other organizations were a key element in NEHBA’s grant application. In addition to KFNA, NEHBA’s grant partners and advisors include four other neighborhood organizations, Crime Prevention Specialist Tom Thompson, Inspector Kris Arneson and the Minneapolis Police Department, the Latino Economic Development Center, Maria Cristina Tavera, and Marc Partridge, AIA, CID of RSP Architects.

To continue the work already begun by the individual neighborhoods’ NRP-funded business façade improvement programs, NEHBA will be using the design guidelines of both the Great Streets program and those of KFNA.

If you are interested in making improvements to your business façade, already have plans in place to update your façade or are unsure whether you are geographically eligible, please contact NEHBA Coordinator Joanna Hallstrom (info@nicolleteastharriet.org / 612-825-3472).

- Matt Perry

Visit the new www.kingfield.org and blog!