Thank you to these Kingfield Empty Bowls Supporters:

- Blackbird Café
- Breadsmith Edina
- Bruegger’s Station 27
- Butter Bakery Café
- City of Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling
- Continental Clay
- ColorWheel Gallery
- Curran’s Restaurant
- Edina Art Center
- Five Watt Coffee
- Gig’s Café
- Hope Creamery
- Kings Wine Bar
- Litt’s Kitchen
- Litin Eco
- The Lowbrow
- Nighthawks
- Northern Clay Center
- Novak Painting
- Royal Grounds
- Rustica
- Patissiere 46
- Pat’s Tap
- Sun Street Breads
- Grey Fox Pottery
- UpTown Clay
- Victory’s 1959 Café

Equity. Outreach. The Time Is Now.

The KFNA Equity and Outreach Community Committee is continuing to work with the KFNA Board of Directors, local businesses, neighbors, and community members to help make our neighborhood even more accessible and inclusive.

Currently, the committee is working together with the KFNA Board on implementing a required diversity training for all board members. The training will give our neighborhood leaders tools and resources to make decisions with a focus on equity and engagement.

Additionally, “We Stand with Our Neighbors” signs are still available at Butter Bakery and ColorWheel Gallery. Displaying a sign is a simple and powerful action that demonstrates our commitment to a community that is welcoming of everyone.

As we continue to work on ways to engage community members and businesses, we ask you to do something today that makes our neighborhood a more inclusive place. Make a commitment to being kind, generous, and to listen to those around you. To truly listen is to allow yourself to be changed by what you hear. Equity is something that can be achieved, but it requires constant maintenance.

KFNA Equity and Outreach Committee meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 5:45-7:30PM.

Building Community in a Community Building ... with a Dash of Activism

When I decided to use “vision statements” for the window signage at Butter Bakery Café’s new home on Nicollet four years ago, the first one on the list was “Community Building.” I like how it is both a thing (the place where our community meets) and an action (the process of creating a community). One of the greatest honors of being a businessperson who lives and works in this neighborhood is to be able to recognize and get to know so many of my neighbors.

True, some I know just by their “usual” order at the café. But many, many others, I know from some connection we have made, some bit of information they shared about their life, some common goal or value we both hold dear.

So, I feel like I have a good sense of the neighborhood, a good feel for its hopes and dreams. When I speak at the City Council, or at the State Legislature, or to a business association meeting, I feel surrounded by my neighbors, pushing me forward, holding me up, cheering me on.

I stepped into the conversation about sick and safe time nearly two years ago. It was an awesome process of alliances and negotiations. I accepted invitations to meet with neighbors, business people, council members, faith organizations, workers, and community organizers. There were so many new and different perspectives coming at me. My own understanding and position shifted and grew during the process. It was an emotional event to be present for the City Council vote, a privilege to participate in the mayor’s ordinance signing, and a gift to just consider the journey it provided for me.

When the Chamber of Commerce was able to find sponsors at the State Legislature for a repeal of the Earned Sick and Safe Time ordinances in Minneapolis and St. Paul, it was an easy decision to volunteer to attend hearings of the bill and provide “public input.” Even knowing the committees were going to vote party line and thus keep the repeal bill moving forward, it has been important for me to be a witness, to speak truth to power, and to do all I can to defend the work of our city as it pushes forward improvements for workplaces.

And because another one of the window signs at the shop is “make connections,” I’ve ended up participating in other efforts, too—promotion for immigrants, living wage campaigns, championing the tip compensation culture, raising awareness of sex trafficking in our city, the need for affordable housing, and encouraging urban agriculture to help build a better local food system.

A cup of coffee ... to go! How would you like your activism today?

– Dan Swenson-Klatt

Dan serves on the Kingfield Neighborhood Association board of directors and is also a business sponsor of the organization, as well as an event supporter of PorchFest, Empty Bowls, and Nicollet Open Streets.
From the KFNA President

Hello, neighbors. On February 22nd, the Kingfield Neighborhood Association held its annual meeting where we ate, conversed, and took care of neighborhood business, including board elections. It is with great honor that I welcome our new board directors to KFNA. You will read about some of them and what they bring to the board in this issue. I have worked with many of them before, and I am excited to both continue as well as move new projects and programs forward with them. I am convinced that our neighborhood will benefit from their leadership and ideas.

One issue that is important to KFNA, as well as to neighborhoods across Minneapolis, is the direction our organizations will take post 2020. In just three years the city’s funding of neighborhood organizations will end, unless the Minneapolis City Council decides to recommit to them. Neighborhood organizations have played an important role developing individuals and ideas over the last few decades, and I believe this should continue.

Another difficulty that KFNA and other neighborhood organizations face is in properly representing all residents. For the most part, white homeowners have disproportionately made up neighborhood organizations. This should come as no surprise given that few organizations in our society are immune to structural racism. KFNA and many other neighborhood organizations are aware of this understanding and oppressive phenomena, but awareness is not synonymous with action and change. KFNA has pledged to change as well as work with the city and other organizations to make broader change. As one small step in this direction, KFNA has made a commitment to our Equity & Inclusion Outreach Committee. Also, as we continue to bring in-depth diversity training that will give board directors tools to understand how privilege affects the conversations and decisions we engage in. I ask you to stand beside us as we push for organizations across Minneapolis, including City Hall, that are representative and respectful of each and every resident.

— David Fenske, KFNA President

Back to Basics: Veggie Basics Is Back!

This popular free class held by Hennepin County Master Gardeners is back! Do you want to learn to grow your own vegetables? Then come to the Vegetable Growing Basics classes this spring at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Avenue South. Classes will be held from 6:30 to 8 PM on five consecutive Tuesdays, April 4th through May 2nd. Classes are open to adults 18 and older interested in planning and planting their own vegetable gardens. Hennepin County Master Gardeners will teach you how to plan and plant a vegetable garden, as well as how to care for your veggies until harvest time. Classes will include hands-on activities, and each participant will create a design for their own garden space. Garden designs will be starched in the community at the donation garden located at MLK Park, so they will be available throughout the summer to answer questions that come up as your garden grows.

The park is hoping to offer food preservation classes in the fall. To register for the class, go to https://apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolisparks/Activity_SEARCH/vegetable-growing-basics-804845. Or, phone the park at 612-370-4908. You are registering for Vegetable Growing Basics. You will need to give your name, address, phone number, and email address, if you have one.

— Molly Dean
This class is sponsored by The Minneapolis Park Board, Kingfield Neighborhood Association and the University of Minnesota Extension Master Gardener Program in Hennepin County.

Our Kingfield Pleasant Garden

With the hours of warm weather we have recently had, you may be eagerly anticipating the joy of spring days: the smell of fresh vegetables in the garden, the feel of the sun on your face … Now picture yourself in the Kingfield Community Garden has a spot for you!

With the bouts of warm weather we have recently had, you may be eagerly anticipating the joy of spring days: the smell of fresh vegetables in the garden, the feel of the sun on your face … Now picture yourself in the Kingfield Pleasant Community Garden, sharing the beautiful day with fellow Kingfielders! We will have applications available in March, and they will be due by March 27th. If you are interested in joining the garden (or just want more information), please send an email to Cheryle@kingfield.org to be one of the first people notified when applications become available. We will have several spaces available this year, so please let us know if you would like to join us! Applications will be posted at www.kingfield.org and provided as a link in the weekly Kingfield E-News.

If you are interested in learning how to garden, see the article above; Veggie Basics is a free class that will be held again this spring, and we are happy to notify you directly when it is time to register.

19th Annual Kingfield Community Rummage Sale

The annual Kingfield Community Rummage Sale is coming back, to be held this year on Saturday, May 20th! As in recent years, KFNA will accept registrations — including a nominal fee — from participating households to create a map of the registered sales, to be distributed online and at local businesses. Participants also will be provided a sign to stake into the ground at their own sale.

To be included on the map, you must register as a single household or as a block with your neighbors. Once your registration has yet to open, we encourage you to start reaching out to your neighbors to see if there’s interest in registering as a block. I can speak from experience that, when your block has critical mass of rummage sale household participation, it becomes a super fun hangout with your neighbors!

The sale is still in planning stages. If you’d like to be involved with planning and executing this event, please contact Cheryl@kingfield.org. Be sure to check our Facebook page in advance, and especially during the week just preceding the Saturday, May 20th, event. Also, look for Kingfield News updates for registration details in the coming months.

Sign up for weekly E-News at www.kingfield.org!
WHAT’S UP? Notes from MSP FairSkies

Airplane noise pollution remains a serious problem for residents surrounding MSP Airport. MSP FairSkies Coalition (MSPFSC) monitors overflight impact and works to fight noise increases on a variety of fronts. Details on the group’s many recent successful actions can be viewed at mspfairskies.com under the “Real Impact” tab.

What’s ahead for FairSkies? We have been working with other citizen groups to support new federal legislation that would require Environmental Impact Studies that could potentially change noise metrics. Of great concern to us is the Trump administration’s recently announced plans to relax airline regulations.

Additionally, the FAA recently announced that MSP needs to restrict flights on runway 17, the nearly billion-dollar runway that was built a few years ago. As a result, it appears the FAA will increase the number of flights along the 35W corridor. It is believed that in the next two years the FAA also will try to implement NextGen (RNAV) departures out of MSP. We need to be prepared for this.

If you are concerned about airport noise, please stay tuned-in and engaged. Here are a few things you can do:

• Register your noise complaints. Call 612-726-9411, or go to macnoise.com.
• Contact our elected officials. It’s important to let the governor, state representatives, and federal elected officials know your opinion regarding aviation noise. Share your personal story—how the noise affects your quality of life, or changes you have noticed.
• Share your concerns with other influential officials, including city council members and MAC/NOC commissioners. Contact the MAC/NOC commissioners through the MAC web site at metroatport.org.
• Follow MSPFSC co-founders Steve Kittleson and Kevin Terrell on Facebook or Twitter.

Street Resurfacing This Summer

The City of Minneapolis, Department of Public Works is planning a road resurfacing project for the summer of 2017 in two areas that include parts of Kingfield. Roads in these areas—called the Harriet Area and Lakewood Area—were originally built in 1980 & 1978 respectively. The project is part of the ongoing improvement plan for the city’s streets, which requires roadways to be resurfaced approximately every 40 years.

The total estimated cost of the 2017 street resurfacing project is $6,715,861. As part of the funding for this work, property owners in the areas will be assessed. A letter was mailed to affected property owners this February with details of the assessments and assessed property owners were also invited to a public hearing and informational meeting held in February.

The specific locations of the street resurfacing are as follows:

Lakewood Area
• 17th St W from Dupont Av S/Kings Highway to Stevens Av S
• 39th St W from Kings Highway to Lyndale Av S
• 39th St W from Bryant St S to Stevens Av S

Harriet Area
• 41st St W from Kings Highway to Grand Av S
• 42nd St W from approx. 120 ft. west of Fremont Av S to the alley-opening, to Nicollel Av S
• 43rd and 44th Sts W from E Lake Harriet Pkwy to Grand Av S
• 45th St W from Kings Highway to Grand Av S
• Fremont Av S from 42nd St W to 46th St W
• Colfax, Aldrich, Garfield and Harriet Avs S from 40th St W to 46th St W

If you are a property owner in these areas, you should have received a letter with the amount of your personal assessment and important details for making payments to the city. The letter included the following details:

• Assessments of more than $150 are collected in several annual installments on the real estate tax statements beginning in 2018.
• Payment is charged on assessments at the interest rate of 3.5%.
• At any time during the five-year period, a person may pay the remaining principal balance of the assessment plus the interest that has accrued to that point.
• Assessments of $150 or less are to be collected in their entirety on the 2018 real estate tax statements with interest charged on the assessments at the interest rate of 2.8%.
• Prepayment of the entire assessment lump sum will be allowed, without interest charges.
• Prepayment must be in full.
• Prepayments will be accepted from November 2017 through December 31, 2017.
• To prepay, request a pay statement: call 612-673-2401 or visit the Minneapolis City Engineer’s Special Assessment Office, 309 Second Ave. S, Room 209, Minneapolis, MN 55401-2268.

No further notice of prepayment will be published or mailed.

Questions can be directed to Suzette Hjermstad, Supervisor, Public Works Special Assessment Office at 612-673-2401, or 612-673-2157 (TTY); Suzette.Hjermstad@minneapolismn.gov.

Meet Your KFNA Board

John Sessler
I moved to the 4200 block of Pleasant Ave, with my husband, Anil, in the spring of 2016. After stints in Chicago, Boston and D.C., we felt it was the right time to return to the Midwest. Anil and I fell in love with Kingfield because of the vibrant community, walkability, and ease of access to great food and shops. As Anil and I start a family, we are excited that our child will grow up in an inclusive community. I am committed to ensuring that all individuals and families are welcomed and feel that they are valued members of the neighborhood.

Anthony Hsu
I have lived in Kingfield for the past six years. I graduated from the University of Minnesota (Psychology major, Leadership minor) and currently work for Target. I was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, specifically in the Silicon Valley suburbs. My motivation to serve on the Kingfield board was sparked from my involvement in planning Kingfield Empty Bowls for 2016 and 2017. I was energized by the dedication from the committee, the generosity of businesses, and the passion of the community planning Kingfield Empty Bowls for 2016 and 2017. I was energized by the dedication from the committee, the generosity of businesses, and the passion of the community.

If I am not out running or biking or at one of the local shops, you can often find me at the 135 or 535 headed out of MSP. We need to be prepared for this.

From the KFNA Treasurer

As I write this, we are just wrapping up Empty Bowls and have been enjoying an unseasonable warm February, but anticipating the rain and snow that is yet to come this week. Spring is in the air, but that inevitable last snowfall (or two or three) has yet to hit us. Spring always brings spring cleaning for me: Windows open, spaces to clear out, and donations/garage sale items piling up. There are so many fun events coming up in Kingfield that follow along these same lines. On Saturday, April 22nd, we will have our Earth Day clean up event. We are looking for volunteers to staff the table at MLK Park. In May we will be having the annual neighborhood garage sale. This will be a great opportunity to pass on treasures you no longer need or go looking to see ones you can find.

As you look forward to the spring, please consider giving back to KFNA in any way that you’re able—financially, or through volunteering. Volunteer for events is a great way to meet new neighbors, always fun, and incredibly rewarding.

– Leda Hudak, KFNA Treasurer

Summer in the Park

The summer brings baseball, softball, T-Ball and tennis to MLK Park. Our athletic programs serve youth ages 5 to 15 years, so please check the park for details. Registration is done in person, and birth verification is required.

Our summer program registration opened March 8th, and space is limited for camps and classes. MLK Park offers camps and clinics in ceramics, archery, tennis, farming, aeronautics, robots, moviemaking, basketball, Little Kickers soccer, and more. Does any of that interest you? If so, I encourage you to check out what’s happening in the parks and keep your family busy this summer.

To find an activity, browse, and to register, go to minnepolisparks.org and I will send one directly to you.

– Peter Jaeger, MLK Park Director

The Oven Opens on May 11th!

KFNA will celebrate as the Kingfield Community Outdoor Oven opens for the 2017 season on Thursday, May 11. Please join us that day, beginning at 5PM, for the opening, hearth-baked pizza! We plan to hold monthly oven events the 2nd weekend of each month, continuing (barring a return of the Halloween snowstorm!) through November. The oven is located behind the Center for Performing Arts building at 38th and Pleasant.

We are in the process of creating an Oven Management Team, which will be responsible for scheduling and coordinating the monthly events. We are seeking 8 people to serve on this Team for 2017, if you think you might be interested, contact KFNA at info@kingfield.org and request the job description.

– Jeff Novak, Painting and Decorating
Any Ward 8 resident who wishes to discuss candidates and issues, and to elect delegates to attend the ward convention at a later date, where they will vote on endorsing candidates and issues. This year, caucuses will begin the endorsement process for Minneapolis city council and mayoral contests, plus our park board and the board of estimate and taxation.

In odd-number years like 2017, each political party decides IF and WHEN to hold precinct caucuses. The DFL precinct caucuses for Ward 8 precincts 6 and 7 will be held this year on Tuesday, April 4th, at Lyndale School, 312 West 34th Street (between Grand and Pleasant avenues). Registration begins at 6:30 and the caucus will be called to order at 7 PM. The DFL Ward 8 convention is on Saturday, April 29th, at Sabathani Community Center.

• At deadline, your reporter was not able to find information about MN-GOP precinct caucuses in 2017; call your local party office for more information.

Who can attend caucuses? Any Ward 8 resident who will be eligible to vote by election day can caucus. This includes 17-year-olds who will turn 18 by election day can caucus. This year, caucusers will begin the endorsement process for Minneapolis city council and mayoral contests, plus our park board and the board of estimate and taxation.

It’s always a great time to get involved in politics at the neighborhood level. You can make a difference.

**Precinct Caucuses 2017**

Voting precincts are the smallest subdivisions of a city for the purposes of elections. The city of Minneapolis is made up of 13 wards, and each ward is divided into several precincts. Kingfield neighborhood is located at the west end of Ward 8 and nearly contains two precincts, 8-6 and 8-7 (that’s “ward eight, precinct six” and “ward eight, precinct seven” to be precise). See the map to find your precinct!

The precinct caucus is a meeting for people who live in one precinct to discuss candidates and issues, and to elect delegates to attend the ward convention at a later date, where they will vote on endorsing candidates and issues. This year, caucuses will begin the endorsement process for Minneapolis city council and mayoral contests, plus our park board and the board of estimate and taxation.

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