Veggie Growing Classes This April

Want to grow your own vegetables? Hennepin County Master Gardeners will teach you how, in the park class “Vegetable Growing Basics and Beyond.” Learn to plan a garden, start seeds, and tend the growing plants until harvest time. This class is designed for people new to vegetable gardening, but also for those who have some experience but want to learn new techniques and skills.

The class is hands-on in the soil, so it’s a great way to practice before you start your own garden. Don’t have a garden in your yard? Don’t worry! This class will also give you access to the communal Kingfield garden plot in the park that we’ll be farming this growing season.

Classes will meet from 6:30 PM to 8 PM on Tuesdays starting April 9th, and continuing each Tuesday through April 30th, outdoors at MLK Park.

KINGFIELD EMPTY BOWLS:
Be a part of stopping hunger and homelessness in our community!

On Thursday, February 7th, Kingfield will host its annual Kingfield Empty Bowls event, and we would love to see you there! Empty Bowls is a single evening event that combines art, food, local businesses, non profits, and lots of lots of neighbors raising awareness and funds to combat hunger in our neighborhood. Your support of this project will again benefit Nicollet Square, an organization that provides affordable housing and a supportive environment for youth who have experienced long-term homelessness or have been in the foster care system.

The concept of Kingfield Empty Bowls is simple: Attendees make a donation ($20 per bowl is suggested), select a beautiful handmade bowl donated by a local pottery artist, enjoy a hearty meal of soup prepared by local restaurants, and then keep their bowl as a reminder that many of our neighbors need food and housing.

Bowls are being created by numerous local high school ceramic classes, including those at Washburn and South, as well as by professional artists.

Once again a great number of our incredible local restaurants have offered to provide soups, breads, and desserts for this event. Please join us in thanking those who have already committed to participate and support the event with their fabulous food, whose logos you see here. We had to go to press without a complete list, but know that even more of our local establishments will be joining them as Empty Bowls draws closer!

SAVE THE DATE and join us on Thursday, February 7th, 4 to 8 PM
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center, 4035 Nicollet Avenue, for Kingfield Empty Bowls --
a fun evening of art, great food, and lots of lively conversation with your community.
Contact Sarah Linnes-Robinson at sarah@kingfield.org or 612.823.5980 if you are interested in volunteering at the event!

WANT TO DO MORE TO CHANGE THE WORLD?

Nicollet Square housing was developed by Beacon, an interfaith collaborative of congregations committed to ending homelessness through housing, the Families Moving Forward shelter program, and public advocacy. Recently Beacon has announced a Housing First campaign to create up to 70 homes in a new apartment building in Minneapolis.

Housing First focuses on getting people into stable housing without requiring them to first address other problems they may be facing. It’s easier for people to engage with support services once the chaos of living on the street – or in a tent – is alleviated by the security of a home. Housing First affirms a person’s dignity of choice and timing as they pursue addiction recovery, health treatment, or employment.

Beacon always welcomes new volunteers. Visit their website: www.beaconinterfaith.org

Event Planning Teams Forming:

Kingfield Annual Garage Sale
Do you love a great garage sale? Then we would love to have you help us plan the 2019 event! Each year since 1998, generally on the third Saturday in May, Kingfield comes together to encourage folks to visit our neighborhood and help us recycle once-loved items. It is a perfect activity for those wanting to downsize, or for anyone caring about reusing and repurposing stuff, or wanting to turn unwanted treasures into a few extra dollars! Please send an e-mail to info@kingfield.org to join the fun that will make this year’s sale happen!

Kingfield PorchFest
It’s time to start planning Kingfield’s sprawling annual music fest, fondly known as PorchFest. This summertime event has involved over 50 musical groups at over 30 sites on a single summer evening for the past four years!

Want to help plan and market the event? We need neighbors to contact musicians, schedule events, promote the event and bands, and find a way to grow this event into a financially sustainable annual community happening.

The planning group will begin meeting on February 20th, 7 PM, at Butter Bakery, and will meet monthly until the June event. If you want to be involved, contact KFNA at info@kingfield.org or call 612.823.5980.

REGISTER HERE:
apm.activecommunities.com/
minneapolisparks/Activity_Search/89010

SMOOTHER ROADS ON THE HORIZON

The City of Minneapolis Public Works is preparing to perform street improvements in your neighborhood this summer, on streets that were originally built in 1979 as part of the King Field residential paving area. The area involved is south of 40th Street and north of 46th Street on Pleasant, Pillsbury, Wentworth, Blaisdell, and 1st Avenues. This summer’s improvements will focus on the removal and replacement of the asphalt pavement, and, in certain areas where curb is missing or completely failed, those curbs also will be replaced.

In 1965 the Minneapolis City Council directed the Department of Public Works to improve all 600 miles of residential streets in the city, which back then were made of an old asphalt dirt surface. Streets were replaced with new concrete curb and gutter and an engineered pavement section. This eventually resulted in the reconstruction of all the residential streets in the city, by 1995. By then, the streets that were first built were nearing the end of their 30-year life, and a new resurfacing project began. A new asphalt surface could extend the life of these streets by at least 10 years or a total life of 40 years or more.

Property owners along the streets being resurfaced will receive an assessment, which will pay for a portion of the project. This assessment is based on the uniform assessment rate, in which a standard rate is applied to all properties not only in Kingfield, but to all the streets to be resurfaced in 2019.

Property owners in these project boundaries may want to attend one or both of two public meetings regarding the project. A neighborhood meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 13th, at 6 PM at MLK Rec Center, and the formal public meeting at City Council will be on Tuesday, February 19th, 2019 at 10 AM in council chambers. The Public Works staff will be mailing letters to all the affected property owners in the Kingfield neighborhood along with the amount of their assessment and an invitation to the evening meeting.

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minneapolisparks/Activity_Search/89010
Ceramic classes fire up for youth and adults the end of February; sign up online at kids can get out of the house and have run of the gym every school-out day.

I am a lifelong member of Kingfield, but a short time ago I realized how little I had been involved with or utilized the amazing amenities that comprise my wonderful neighborhood. I had heard about Empty Bowls but had never attended, and decided that needed to change — I needed to fill-up volunteer and do whatever needed to be done on the day of the event. Several meetings later, I found myself in the gym of a park I had never been in, even though I grew up 4 blocks away. We started to load in bowls and treats, and set up tables and chairs. Then it was time. People just started coming in, and coming in, and coming in. Soon the tables were all full, like a huge, functional family dinner and it was beautiful. I actually cried.

I love my neighborhood and my community. In the end Empty Bowls is really about coexisting, eating, dinner and it was beautiful. I actually cried. And remember, whenever kids are out of school the park opens at noon, so your empty.

**From the KFNA President**

The leaves have all fallen and winter white is upon us. I find that this time of the year brings with it some self-reflection for me. What are my goals for this New Year? How can I improve? How am I going to stay warm this winter? As an organization, KFNA is asking these same questions. Well, maybe not that "warm" question ... Those who know me know that winter is always a bit too long and too cold for me, but I am embracing cross country skiing and hand warmers.

**HOW I GOT INVOLVED: The Empty Bowls Event Manager on why she volunteers**

I was looking for something to do that was community based and felt that this was the perfect event for me. I have been involved with Empty Bowls since the beginning and have seen how it has grown over the years. I am excited to be a part of the planning and execution of this event.

If you are looking for community connections, new friends, and a way to help others, please consider volunteering. We will be filling over 100 volunteer hours on Feb. 7th, the day of the event! We also need close to 1,000 handmade pottery bowls that will be given away to all attendees. If you are a potter, or if you know a potter, please consider making, or asking for, a donation of bowls.

If you are ready to drop off donated bowls, you can do so through January 31st at the Color Wheel Gallery, located at 46th Street and Grand Avenue. Bowls will ideally be single-portion 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.

**Update from Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Park**

**WHAT WILL BE THE FUTURE OF MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS? Neighborhoods 2020 will spell it out**

The Kingfield neighborhood runs from 36th to 46th Streets, between Lyndale Ave. S. and 33W.

**OVERVIEW**

The Neighborhood and Community Relations Department (NCR) has been working with community and neighborhood leaders and elected officials to identify the next generation of neighborhood programming, funding and governance structure to support the city’s 70 neighborhood organizations starting in 2020 and beyond. The initiative is called Neighborhoods 2020. Three work groups were established by the City Council to cover the major function areas of the work: programming, funding governance, and engagement policy. The work groups consisted of representatives from neighborhood organizations, cultural groups, those with equity/undoing racism experience, and representatives appointed by City Council and the mayor.

The work groups have met twice a month since August and have committed over 900 volunteer hours to this subject. I have to say that I have been impressed by both the commitment to the work and the creativity that Work Group members brought to the conversation. They were able to create a space that supported creative innovation and thinking.

**THE WORK GROUPS WERE GUIDED BY THESE 5 GOALS:**

1. Increase inclusive and vibrant leadership within neighborhood organizations. Create a space for new ideas, people and planning.
2. Create effective financial and programmatic accountability of neighborhood organizations to the communities they serve and to the Minneapolis taxpayers.
3. Increase the effective capacity of neighborhoods in the areas of administration and program development.
4. Create inclusive, diverse and equitable neighborhood organizations.
5. Clarify and effective role for neighborhood organizations and their relationship with the City of Minneapolis, including its Neighborhood and Community Relations Department.

**WORK GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS**

Through these goals and recommendations developed a framework for program guidelines, accountability measures, best practices, and organizational changes within NCR. Underlying these recommendations is a set of necessary cultural changes for neighborhood organizations, civic-cultural and the City. The changes being recommended from the Work Group will result in a resetting of these dynamics and greatly increase the chances for the long-term success of creating a truly equitable and inclusive engagement system.

After completing a series of community meetings with a specific focus on cultural community engagement, the Work Groups met to make some final adjustments to their recommendations. Five community meetings held in early December had more than 200 people attending. There was significant participation from cultural communities, especially the Latinx and East African communities.

**TIME FRAME:**

- 45-day Review and Comment Period (January 14th – March 1st)
- Final recommendations will be available for a 45-day public comment period starting January 14th, 2019.
- City Council Presentation (March 13th)
- Final recommendations, including public comments, will be presented to the City Council’s Public Health, Environment, Civil Rights and Engagement Committee in March 2019.

**KINGFIELD NEWS**

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

**KINGFIELD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (KFNA)**

The Kingfield neighborhood runs from 36th to 46th Streets, between Lyndale Ave. S. and 33W.

**KFNA O ffice 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

**E-mail:** info@kingfield.org

**Website:** www.kingfield.org

**The KFNA Board meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7PM at Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave. • Minneapolis, MN 55409

**2018-18 KFNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

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Sarah Linnes-Boehm, Executive Director
Cheryl Deforell, Project Organizer

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**– Ashley Siljenberg, KFNA President**

**– Steven P. Gallagher, Policy Specialist**

City of Minneapolis-Neighborhood and Community Relations Department
Building a Community of Voters in Kingfield Neighborhood

Many people are turned off from voting by the negative, partisan form of politics that dominates these days. Neighborhood organizations can play an important role in counteracting this by reminding our neighbors that voting is, fundamentally, about coming together as a community. Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA), has embraced this message in a comprehensive Get Out the Vote campaign aimed at creating a community of voters in our neighborhood.

In 2012, KFNA launched its first polling place walk, which provided an opportunity to celebrate Election Day. Starting when the polls opened, KFNA volunteers greeted neighbors from tents stocked with free hot coffee and donuts and thanked them for voting. We also upheld the fun at the booth by making large “I Voted” signs and posting photos of voters on our Instagram and Facebook accounts. We had held polling place parties at every general election since 2012. In 2018 we also added a sign-in sheet by putting up yard signs in the city. Our neighbors know that voting isn’t a solitary act—it’s a celebration of community!

Following the 2016 election, KFNA built on the success of these polling place parties by launching our “We are Kingfield—We Vote!” yard sign campaign. We printed 50 reusable yard signs reminding neighbors that everyone in Kingfield votes at MLK Park. We recruited neighbors to place the signs in their yards in the weeks leading up to the election with a special focus on corner properties and homes across from large apartment buildings. Soon, there were yard signs on every block, serving as a tangible sign of election participation. The city also passed ordinances allowing citizens to place yard signs in residential areas.

Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA) has 30 block captains who are elected by the neighborhood association to determine fast solutions to community problems. KFNA’s goal is to find a way to make NRP dollars work quickly and directly for neighborhoods in ways that help create a feeling of community.

Got a Great Idea for a Project to Improve Kingfield Neighborhood? Plan it, Pitch it, and Do it!

The Kingfield Community Initiated Grant program was designed by KFNA because neighbors often know best what is needed to make their community more friendly, peaceful, safe, and livable—and what it is needed to make a practice or program a reality. Before initiating a project, KFNA staff and volunteers will help small community-initiated projects, neighbors can work with each other and the neighborhood association to determine fast solutions to community problems. KFNA’s goal is to find a way to make NRP dollars work quickly and directly for neighborhoods in ways that help create a feeling of community.

Funding is limited to:

- A maximum of $1,000 for a block project. A “block project” is defined as involving both sides of your street or both sides of your alley. It may involve more than one block but still be classified as a block project unless you prove the project will serve the larger Kingfield community.
- A maximum of $3,000 for a community project. A “community project” is defined as serving a broad spectrum of Kingfield neighbors. It could include site-specific projects if they benefit more than just the immediate block.

Final project ideas are for residents to develop and implementation also falls to residents as opposed to KFNA staff. Project proposals will be accepted on an ongoing basis and will be reviewed monthly, until funds are committed.

If you have an idea that falls in the categories of safety, greenery, or events, contact KFNA staff and we will talk your idea through with you to make sure it is manageable. To make a pitch— or to find out more about guidelines and restrictions—contact KFNA at info@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980.

Help Shape the Future of Southwest Minneapolis Neighborhood Parks!

As part of the Southwest Service Area Master Plan SW the KFNA Redevelopment Committee attended over 100 public events in 2018 to gather ideas on how to improve Southwest neighborhood parks over the next 20 to 30 years. Input was also gathered via an online survey. In November of last year, over a dozen designers created concept ideas for all Southwest parks based on collected public input to date.

To see the initial concept designs for all 40+ Southwest neighborhood parks, attend any upcoming public workshop:

- Thursday, January 31, 6-8 PM
  - Lynnhurst Recreation Center
  - 1345 West Minnehaha Parkway

- Monday, February 4, 6-8 PM
  - Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center
  - 4055 Nicollet Avenue South

The annual MLK Park celebration for Martin Luther King Jr. Day includes a keynote presentation, live entertainment, refreshments, and a tribute to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other performers to bring the community together. The Celebration is free and open to the public.

Living the Dream

This year at the event, the MPRB will present "Living the Dream" awards to our Ward 8 Council member, Andrea Jenkins. The award is given each year to an individual, business, or community group who has demonstrated dedication and distinguished service to the MPRB and the lives of Minneapolis residents, and whose work embodies Dr. King's message of justice for all and commitment to community.

Feeding the Dream

Bring a nonperishable food item to donate to the “Feeding the Dream” food pantry. The community service project was initiated in the fall of 2009, and since then more than 10,000 pounds of donations have been collected and donated to families in need throughout Minneapolis.

As Plan Becomes Policy, KFNA Advocates For Density and Affordability

On Friday, December 7th, the Minneapolis City Council approved the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan, capping a nearly three-year-long process of engagement, planning, and revisions to the plan that sets the vision for Minneapolis’ future. KFNA and the KFNA Redevelopment Committee have been heavily involved in working to understand the plan and its effects on our neighborhood and shaping the plan with the City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis City Council.

After the initial draft plan was developed, the KFNA Redevelopment Committee held three meetings dedicated to understanding the plan and gathering feedback from residents. KFNA board and committee members also attended a number of community events to understand how residents felt about the plan overall and what they would like see changed. Out of this engagement with residents, KFNA will continue to advocate on behalf of the neighborhoods in regard to the 2040 plan and the subsequent updates to zoning, regulations and policies. If you have any questions about the plan, the process or your property in particular, please reach out to us.

The final draft of the plan (including final updates and addenda) can be found at minneapolis2040.com/pdf.

– Chris DeRouches, KFNA Vice-President, Redevelopment Co-Chair, chris@kingfield.org

KFNA’s Redevelopment Committee meets the 1st Monday of each month 7PM at MLK Park. Please join us at any meeting.

Continued on page 3
Smart Salting This Winter
Dealing with slippery driveways and walkways can damper your winter fun, so do a little advance planning before the big storm. You’ll also be protecting your local lakes and streams in the process!

Salt provides a quick and easy way to melt ice, but did you know that the salt you lay down on your driveway, sidewalk, or steps eventually makes its way into lakes and streams where it hurts fish, birds, and aquatic plants and insects? One teaspoon of salt permanently pollutes five gallons of water, because once it’s in the water it is too costly to remove on a large scale. Additionally, all that salt we are laying down is damaging our lawn and landscaping, corroding cars and infrastructure, and hurting our pets’ paws.

As you prepare for snow and ice, make sure you have the right tools in your tool belt:

- Shovel: the proper shovel (or snowblower) can make all the difference! Shoveling regularly will reduce the need for salt. Ergonomic shovels will make the job easier on your back.
- Sand: Use sand for traction, only if needed, when the temperature drops below 15 degrees F. Salt does not work in temperatures lower than 15 degrees.
- Apply the right product: All salt is not the same. Some, like calcium chloride, work in colder temperatures, but may have other side effects like leaving a slimy residue. Check the label before you purchase so you know what kind of deicer it is and if it will work for your purposes.
- Use just a little: You don’t need to put down much salt to get ice to melt, and applying more doesn’t mean faster melting. Aim for a spread of 3 inches between salt crystals. A 12-ounce mug holds about one pound of salt, which is enough for 250 square feet (approximately two parking spaces).
- Sweep and reuse: Extra salt and sand that is visible on dry pavement can be swept up and reused. This helps keep it out of the storm drain and will save you money in the long run!
- Hire a certified professional: Smart salting winter maintenance contractors have gone through training to learn proper winter maintenance and salt application. You can find a list of certified professionals on the MPCA website: www.pca.state.mn.us/.

Learn more about using salt safely at www.minnehahacreek.org/salt.

— Minnehaha Creek Watershed District