



KINGFIELD News

PARTY ALL DAY MARCH 3rd AT MLK PARK (and vote too!)

There's a BIG change coming to Minnesota elections in 2020. Instead of holding evening straw polls conducted by each party during their caucuses, Minnesota is joining the ranks of Super Tuesday and will hold a presidential primary for the DFL Party, the Republican Party*, the Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party, and the Legal Marijuana Now Party on Tuesday, March 3rd.

This means that, for all four parties, you can cast a vote that day for your nominee of choice at your normal polling place, which for all Kingfield residents is Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. The polls will be open from 7 AM–8 PM.

Early voting will be in place if you cannot make it to MLK Park between these hours on March 3rd—call 311 for more information—but you'll want to vote in person if at all possible, because voting at MLK Park is a real treat. Not

only do you see your neighbors, but you are also warmly welcomed with free coffee and tea, free treats, and a warming bonfire outside on the park grounds by Kingfield Neighborhood Association and scores of volunteers.

KFNA will be hosting at least two, and possibly three, Polling Party tents all day at MLK Park on March 3rd. We always need volunteers to help staff our tents, so make sure that you are getting the weekly KFNA e-News (sign up at www.kingfield.org) and that you are following KFNA on Facebook and Twitter, and you'll see information on how to sign up to help.

Additionally, from March 1st – March 10th, KFNA will be accepting nominations for the association's board of directors and will hold online voting for said nominees March 11th – 17th. Be sure to stop by any of the tents on Voting Day, March 3rd, to learn

more about becoming involved as a board director.

Finally, KFNA will be hosting a Super Tuesday Returns Watching Party at Harriet's Inn starting at 8 PM. If you tell your server that you're there with KFNA for the election returns, Harriet's Inn will donate 15% of your tab to KFNA to help fund our Get Out the Vote efforts. The 2018 party at Harriet's was a blast, and we'd love to see all of you!

**As of the press deadline for this article, this writer can confirm that the Republican Party ballot will allow for a write-in vote, but they are not allowing any other candidates to be listed on the ballot. Presumably, all other parties will also allow for write-in votes—but it's up to each party.*

Kingfield Empty Bowls: Feeding People. Building Community. Creating Home.



On Thursday, February 6th, from 4–8 PM, 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, nonprofits, and lots and 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 South, St. Paul Academy, and Washburn, as well as by students at Augsburg University. Bowls are also donated by many professional artists including those who throw at Northern Clay, Edina Art Center, and Kingfield's Urban Crow studio. If you are a potter and have a few bowls to donate, please know that bowls can be dropped off any day in January at our longtime partner The Colorwheel Gallery at the intersection of 46th and Grand. If you have a larger donation and would like us to pick it up, please contact KFNA at info@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980.

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The Census is coming April 1, 2020. No Fooling!

In 2020, the U.S. Census will be conducted primarily online—it's the first time in the history of this survey—with the traditional paper forms and field workers being used to a much smaller degree. This new system should add convenience to the process for some, but could create additional barriers and concerns about accuracy for others.

Having an accurate count is critical to our city and state. Census numbers are used to draw state and local legislative districts. They are also used to allocate over \$800 billion of federal funding. Every Minnesotan brings in about \$2,800 per year to our state. Because the Census happens every 10 years, that equals \$28,000 of services per person.

Unfortunately, undercounting is a common problem with the census, and the people who are undercounted are often those who need these resources the most. These historically undercounted populations include renters, people experiencing homelessness, immigrants and refugees who fear deportation, people of color, the LGBTQ+ community, children under age five, and college students. With the census moving primarily to an online form this year, the undercounted could expand to seniors and to anyone without a computer or internet in their homes.

KFNA is interested in connecting with individuals who understand the importance of a complete count for Census 2020 and want to engage in educating others about its importance. We see this work as both being involved with the city's Complete Count Committee and doing direct outreach to populations you have a relationship with. Census 2020 “kick-off parties,” hosted by trusted organizations in safe spaces with computer access, may be one way to help people complete their Census forms. Neighbors with connections to specific institutions or organizations that might be willing to host an event are especially encouraged to reach out to KFNA at info@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980.

If we believe that every person counts, then we are all going to have to work to make sure everyone gets counted. Spread the word. Get involved!

KFNA LANDS NEW OFFICE SPACE

You have heard the cliché, “When one door closes another one opens,” and Kingfield Neighborhood Association has found this literally to be true: When we lost our outdoor lease at the Center for Performing Arts, our longtime friends and neighbors at the Lyndale Neighborhood Association (LNA) opened the doors to their big, beautiful storefront at 36th and Nicollet on the border of our two neighborhoods, and invited us to stay.

As Minneapolis has reduced the budgets for neighborhood associations citywide, we have all had to find ways to do more with less. Sharing an office space makes sense financially, and we hope it will help our already-established partnership grow even stronger. In the last decade, LNA and KFNA have partnered to bring you not only Nicollet Open Streets, but also combined Get Out the Vote efforts, shared community value statements, and even Walldogs on Nicollet. We're excited about what comes next!

Of course, the loss of the old lease came with a major cost, as we sadly had to close the Pleasant Community Garden that we established and nurtured for a decade. It was a beautiful space of eco-experimentation where neighbors learned how to grow vegetables, dabbled with growing oyster mushroom logs, planted hops and 12 varieties of garlic for communal use, held community outdoor garden dinners and tours, nurtured bee hives through three seasons, and built an outdoor wood-fired bread oven, where a dozen neighbors were trained as Fire Meisters at regular community events over the past three years. We will miss this vibrant community space that so many people invested many hours creating. The

Community Garden cannot be replaced, at least for the time being, but we hope a future project will find a place for our dedicated creative gardeners, as well as those looking to gather informally with neighbors in an outdoor community space.

New KFNA Office Hours will begin at the new space on Tuesday, January 21st. Neighborhood staff will be available Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday each week from 9:30-4 PM.

We hope that working side by side with LNA will lead to a strengthened partnership, while making both LNA and KFNA more visible and accessible to our community and invigorating this space and storefront. In that spirit, we will be seeking two to three additional small community-based organizations that are interested in also sharing the space with us. Groups looking to rent a desk and secure storage space, as well as those interested in hosting occasional happenings such as community meetings, art projects, and conversation clubs will be welcome!

We will be working on some changes to the physical space for the next few months, and we are looking forward to hosting an open house and inviting additional partners to our new space in the spring. In the meantime, feel free to drop in during office hours and say “hi,” and check it out! If you want to set an appointment to make sure KFNA staff is available to meet with you or give you a tour, simply contact Sarah at sarah@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980.

Open House for Rehabbed Property in Kingfield

In August 2017, the City of Lakes Community Land Trust (CLCLT) acquired 210 West 46th Street. The foreclosed property had been vacant for several months; however, the CLCLT saw the opportunity to create, in partnership with Kingfield Neighborhood Association, a long-term affordable home in the southwest area of Minneapolis, which is increasingly difficult to achieve.

Fast forward two years, and rehab is now complete on the home. Structural issues with the foundation have been addressed; the kitchen and bathroom were reconfigured

to facilitate better use of space; original wood floors were repaired and refinished; and a carport was constructed. Through the CLCLT, the home will be sold to an owner-occupant earning 80% or less of Area Median Income and will remain affordable long-term through the community land trust resale process.

Please join the CLCLT and Kingfield Neighborhood Association for an open house on Thursday, January 23rd, from 4–6 PM.

From The KFNA President



The City of Minneapolis will completely reconstruct Grand Avenue starting in 2021, and the planning and design work is happening right now!

This project is a once in 50-year opportunity to improve safety, walkability, and the environmental impact on one

of the major streets in our neighborhood. We know from KFNA’s recent community survey that walkability and pedestrian safety are some of the top (if not the top) concerns for neighbors. To support these concerns, board members have been meeting with the City to provide feedback and help organize additional community/business engagement.

In early November, City staff came out to the community for two open house events and shared the results of the online community engagement as well as three initial design concepts. These concepts can be found on the City of Minneapolis’ Grand Avenue Re-Construction project page. While the concepts are preliminary, it’s exciting to see how Grand Avenue could be improved to provide a better experience for everyone!

In January of 2020, the City will be coming back out to the community to gather feedback on more detailed concepts. Whether you drive, bike, live or shop on, or even just cross Grand Avenue, your input and feedback is essential in helping to create the best design possible for this street. KFNA will inform neighbors when these revised concepts are open for review and further comments.

If you would like to discuss this project further or be included on an email list about bike, pedestrian, and street projects in our neighborhood, please email me: chris@kingfield.org.

– Chris DesRoches, KFNA President

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Once again many of our local restaurants have offered to provide soups, breads, and desserts for this event. Please join us in thanking **Apoy, Baker’s Field Flour & Bread, Butter Bakery Café, Café Ena, Clancey’s Meats & Fish, Edina Breadsmith, Gigi’s, Kyatchi, La Fresca, Lake Country School, Nighthawk’s, Pat’s Tap, The Lowbrow, Seward Co-op Friendship Store, Sun Street Breads, and Victor’s 1959 Café**, who have already pledged their support. We know that many more of our incredible local restaurants will be joining them to cook soup and bake for Empty Bowls as it draws closer!



Kingfield Neighborhood Association (KFNA)

The Kingfield neighborhood runs from 36th to 46th Streets, between Lyndale Ave. S. and 35W.

KFNA OFFICE LOCATION:

3537 Nicollet Ave. S. • Minneapolis, MN 55408-4559

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 Wednesday of the month at 7PM at Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, 4055 Nicollet Ave.

2018-19 KFNA BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chris DesRoches (President) chris@kingfield.org
Sarah Tschida (Vice President) sarahtschida@kingfield.org
Lisa Skieczkoski-Bzdusek (Secretary) lisa@kingfield.org
Lesa Hudak (Treasurer) lesa@kingfield.org
Scott Mueller scott@kingfield.org
Michael Skinner mike@kingfield.org
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BJ Titus bj@kingfield.org
Chris Hong chrishong@kingfield.org
Aiden Keefe aidan@kingfield.org
Dean Laite (Alternate) dean@kingfield.org

KFNA STAFF:

Sarah Linnes-Robinson, Executive Director

KINGFIELD NEWS

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



Donation Garden. Volunteers in the community and Master Gardeners work together to grow a diverse array of vegetables to donate to the Aliveness Project’s kitchen and food shelf. North from the gardens on Nicollet Ave, the Aliveness Project is a community center for and driven by people living with HIV.

Everyone is welcome, whether you’re stopping by for a single gardening topic or interested in coming every week. Check out our Facebook page (“The Donation Garden at MLK Park”) for specifics on weekly events and gardening tips!

– Kaija Bergen

KFNA Bylaw Changes

During October’s regular board meeting, the board of directors voted to amend KFNA’s bylaws to permit neighbors aged 16 or older to serve as members of the board. Previously, neighbors were required to be “of voting age” to be eligible for service on the board of directors. The board believes that its missions of inclusion and sustainability are addressed by expanding the eligibility requirements for board membership. Moving forward, up to two youths may serve simultaneously on the board at any given time. One 16-year-old, Aidan Keefe, has already been seated! (See page 3 for more about Aidan.)

During the same October meeting, the board voted to adopt certain clarifying language that, while not making substantive changes to the bylaws, will help future board members understand and interpret the organization’s governing rules, preempting potential areas of confusion.

Sometime before the annual meeting in March, the board will address whether other potential amendments to the bylaws should be put forward to the broader neighborhood for a vote at the annual meeting. Notice of any potential amendments to bylaws will be provided to members at least 10 but not more than 30 days prior to the annual meeting.

– David Robbins, KFNA Board Member

Growing Kingfield!

Join your neighbors at the KFNA Annual Meeting and Celebration

Wednesday, March 18, 5:30–8 PM
MLK Park Multipurpose Room

Come meet your neighbors, have a bite to eat, and vote on the next slate of candidates for the KFNA Board of Directors! Hear about the past year’s accomplishments and the future year’s goals! We will also vote on our new Diversity and Inclusion Statement, review our bylaws, and vote on revisions. Children are welcome at this event, and childcare is available for those younger than 9 years old. RSVP for childcare at info@kingfield.org.

The past six months, Kingfield Neighborhood Association has been working to create a Diversity and Inclusion Statement to guide our work and assure that we are reaching out and welcoming every member of our community. The draft statement is printed above and we welcome your comments. The Diversity and Inclusion Statement is also posted online at bit.ly/KFNADiversityStatement. We will use your feedback to revise the draft and present and vote on it on March 18th.

Street Resurfacing on 1st Avenue

The City of Minneapolis Public Works will perform street improvements on 1st Avenue South this summer. These improvements will focus on the removal and replacement of the asphalt pavement, and may include curb repair in areas where needed.

Property owners along 1st Avenue South 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

Growing Community (and Vegetables!)

Outside the snow is falling, but the Hennepin County Master Gardeners and members of the MLK Donation Garden are dreaming of spring and all the ways you can get outside and grow some food!

Join the Master Gardeners this March for their Vegetable Growing Basics classes at MLK Park. They’ll teach you how to plan a garden, start seeds, and tend your garden until harvest time. Hands-on activities are designed for people new to vegetable gardening and also for those who want to learn new techniques and skills.

Classes are Tuesdays from 6:30–8 PM, beginning on March 31st, with a themed focus each week. Call 612-370-4908 to register or visit https://apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolisparcs/Activity_Search/104971.

After you’ve taken the class, come join us on Tuesday evenings throughout the spring and summer at the MLK

KFNA Diversity and Inclusion Statement

KFNA is committed to being an equitable and inclusive organization that reflects the diversity and many identities in our neighborhood. We are stronger as an organization when we have a broad vision that includes diverse voices, ways of knowing, and ways of doing. We are committed to taking action to realize this vision. KFNA specifically seeks to foster the leadership and participation of people who neighborhood organizations have historically underinvested in. This includes people who rent, and people who identify as BIPOC (black, indigenous, people of color), LGBTQ+, youth, and seniors.

50 FORWARD

In honor of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day on April 22, 2020, Kingfield artist Camille Gage* is partnering with the Kingfield and Lyndale neighborhood organizations to present “50 Forward: Acting for Our Earth.” 50 Forward will include a series of round table discussions, clean-ups, gatherings, and activities to celebrate Earth Day and encourage environmental action on global climate change. 50 Forward events will take place during the month of April 2020. Watch the KFNA e-News and Facebook page in the coming months for announcement of activities.

**Since 2016, Gage has celebrated Earth Day with creative projects produced under the banner Fierce Lament. Gage has curated a gallery show, hosted a “Big Green Dance Party,” and edited an anthology of topical poems, essays, and art for Red Bird Chapbooks.*

Join the KFNA Board of Directors

Are you looking to flex your civic engagement muscles and get involved at the hyperlocal level? Are you interested in working alongside your Kingfield neighbors to make the neighborhood and KFNA thrive? We need directors who are energetic, committed, and passionate about building their leadership and that of fellow neighbors.

See what two members have to say about their experiences with the KFNA Board—one new director, and one outgoing director—in their statements below.

To learn more about serving on the board, attend a KFNA Informational Open House at either the home of KFNA Vice President, Sarah Tschida (sarahtschida@kingfield.org) on Sunday, February 9th, 4–6 PM, or KFNA Board Member Alice Johnson (alice@kingfield.org) on March 9th from 6:30–8 PM. To RSVP for either of these events, contact each host directly.

Online and in-person nominations for the KFNA Board of Directors will be accepted March 1–10 (including March 3rd at the Presidential Primary at MLK Park, see page 1). For a nomination form, email info@kingfield.org or visit the KFNA Website at www.kingfield.org and search for 2020 KFNA Board Nomination Form.

Online voting for KFNA board candidates will be open from March 11–17. Watch the KFNA e-News for details on viewing candidate profiles and on how to vote. Or plan to attend the meeting on March 18th and vote in person instead! If you aren’t receiving the e-News, you can sign up for it at www.kingfield.org.

To learn more about KFNA or other ways to get involved with the organization, contact KFNA Executive Director Sarah Linnes-Robinson at sarah@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980.

MEET YOUR KFNA BOARD MEMBERS:



Aidan Keefe
Being a member of the board is an interesting experience. It allows me to get a first-hand view of how government works. When I’m older I want to get into public service possibly as a career path. Seeing how finances, projects and other miscellaneous tasks are done could be a valuable learning experience that would prove useful later in my life. Not to mention the opportunity to give back to community I grew up in is pretty fulfilling.



Scott Mueller
As I finish my fourth and final term as a volunteer KFNA Board Director, I’d like to share what I’ve learned since I started my commitment to Kingfield way back in 2012:

I’ve learned that my neighbors will warmly embrace hanging around outside in November temperatures before and after voting at MLK Park. That they would help staff three tents at our Election Day polling parties, turn out in increasing numbers to vote, and enthusiastically request the “We Are Kingfield / We Vote at MLK Park” yard signs.

I learned that neighbors would come out come out in masses to break their cabin fever and dance HARD to ‘80s “So Alive” soundtracks, all to help raise money to finally bring The Aliveness Project into Kingfield and help those living with HIV/AIDS.

Through PorchFest I learned how magical Kingfield is, and how treasured we are to have such talented artists in our neighborhood.

Throughout my eight-year journey with KNFA, I’ve learned how dedicated and visionary the KFNA Executive Director Sarah Linnes-Robinson and former staffer Cheryl DeGroff-Gunter could be, and that a multitude of friendly, kind, talented people would take time to volunteer for and help lead Kingfield Neighborhood Association.

Term limits prevent me from continuing to serve on the Board of Directors, but I assure you that I’ll still be pushing PorchFest merch, calling on you to host a yard sign, making sure you’re signed up for KFNA’s weekly e-News and offering you free coffee and treats when you come to MLK Park to vote in March, August, and November 2020. Will you please join me, neighbor?

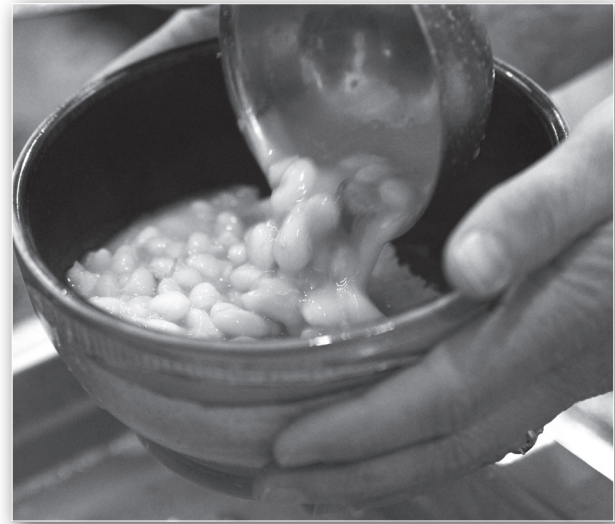
Creating a “Home” for Myself in Kingfield, While Working to Do the Same for Others: Why I Volunteer at Kingfield Empty Bowls

Snow swirled through the air last February as I trudged against the wind to my first Kingfield Empty Bowls. The weather outside may have been raw, but inside the Martin Luther King, Jr. Recreation Center the comradery of people coming together to share dinner and support Nicollet Square warmed me.

I am so proud we have Nicollet Square in our neighborhood. As a long-time high school teacher, I know the challenges so many teenagers face. Having this safe space for teens who need it is a credit to the neighborhood. On this night, the idea of soup with neighbors for a great cause just felt like a perfect way to spend a midwinter evening. I was still fairly new to the area and looked forward to feeling part of the community.

I gave my donation of 20 dollars and went to the room where bowls were set out for my choosing. I love pottery, and it took me at least 10 minutes to select from the many colors and shapes. I went with a blue bowl that had a white rim because it felt good in my hands. Inside was inscribed “Love kindness.”

After a volunteer washed it for me, I carried my bowl to the center’s gym, which was converted into a dining hall. One table was heaped with bread and large slabs of butter. Another was filled with desserts. And along the wall were tables lined up with stainless kettles full of steaming soups. All were donated by local restaurants and shops. The good news was that I didn’t have to choose just one this time. My favorite was a cream soup from Café Ena,



but the black bean soup from Victor’s was pretty good, too.

I sat down at a table among strangers, but the food provided an easy entry into conversations with my new neighbors. Eventually, Sarah Linnes-Robinson, executive director of KFNA, came by and introduced herself. I joined the Kingfield Neighborhood Association’s mailing list, and here I am, ready to volunteer this year for a neighborhood that increasingly feels like home.

– Kaye Thompson Peters

First 2020 Youth & Family Event: Winter FunFest!

Come join us for sledding and building/painting creations with the snow.
Don’t let the cold keep you away— we’ll have hot chocolate to keep us warm.

January 25th, 10 AM – 12 PM • Sledding hill to the south of MLK Park Rec Center

Contact Lisa Skrzeczkoski-Bzdusek at Lisa@kingfield.org to help, or just show up and sled!

Community Sap Tap Back for Year Two!

Kingfield’s sweet treat of sugar mapling is back for a second year with an addition: a pancake breakfast to sample our product.

For \$20, residents will get a kit that can be used to tap sap from any privately owned tree in the maple family (including box elders). Then we’ll have two Saturday sap boils in March at MLK Park, at which participants and other curious residents can watch the transformation of the mostly watery sap to a concentration of sweet syrup. The all-day boil downs on March 14th and 21st are an opportunity to bond with other neighborhood residents and learn more about how sap is turned into syrup.

Those who already have a mapling kit can participate for \$10. Register here: apm.activecommunities.com/minneapolisarks/Activity_Search/105680.

Email king@minneapolisarks.org with your tree’s diameter and species.

The kits will include a bucket, tubing, a spout, and a page of instructions for tapping any maple with a diameter of at least 10 inches. Residents can bring sap to MLK Park for storage until the communal boil dates, and then bring home their sweet reward.

Participants and other community residents can sample the fresh bounty of syrup at a March 21st breakfast at the park. Read more about the Community Pancake Breakfast below, and follow the weekly Kingfield e-News for more details as we get closer to the date.

Community Pancake Breakfast • Saturday, March 21, 9–11 AM

As a celebration of our Community Sap Tapping program, KFNA is hosting a pancake breakfast fundraiser! Come watch the sap boil outside at MLK Park, and talk to the sap harvesters and cooks. Then sample some of our very own Kingfield-made syrup while you and enjoy a pancake breakfast in the warmth of the MLK Rec Center multipurpose room. Breakfast will include pancakes, fruit, juice, and coffee.

Breakfast will be a donation of \$7 per adult and \$3 per child. This fundraiser will benefit both KFNA and MLK Park, with donations supporting this project, and other similar programs, that both groups organize.

KFNA is looking at creating a Youth and Family Team to organize family events like this one, three to four times throughout the year. Please contact Lisa Skrzeczkoski-Bzdusek at Lisa@kingfield.org if you’re interested in helping at this event, or future ones!

Pilgrim Church Offers Monthly Community Dinners

Starting in January, Pilgrim Church (3901 1st Avenue South) will offer free dinner on the last Sunday of each month at 6 PM. The goal of the community meal is to

meet people and provide a service to the community. Upcoming dinners will be on January 26, February 23, and March 29.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, contact Jordan Gaal at jordangaal@gmail.com or call Bonnie in the church office at 612-825-5375.

Parks Aren’t Just for Kids Anymore

Send your teens over to MLK this winter!

MLK Park is working hard to provide exciting opportunities for youth through the Youthline program throughout the year. One of the most consistent programs for youth is a cooking class on Wednesday nights from 4:30–6 PM. This is a drop-in class where cooking is broken down into simple terms, and kids can learn fun new recipes and try ingredients from all over the globe. The kids really shine as they push themselves out of their comfort zone and learn new things.

There is also the park’s annual celebration on Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. This year the youth are planning a really creative video segment and collaborating

with parks from all over the city to make it happen. They are really dedicated to Dr. King’s legacy and the ways they can carry it into the future.

Many other things are happening for youth here and around the city. Youth can register by stopping in and having a parent or guardian fill out a permission slip. They can contact KJ at 715-797-2054 or kkrzyzanowski@minneapolisparks.org to register for a program or a field trip, or to find out more about youth opportunities at the park.

– KJ Krzyzanowski, Youthline Mentor

Rejoicing Organics Recycling at Victor’s 1959

This season we celebrate Victor’s 1959 Café, who besides having the best Cuban Hash and the coziest dining space in Kingfield, also added organics collection to their restaurant’s waste practices this fall! According to owner Niki Stavrou, “It’s shocking how much more is going into the ‘organics recycling’ vs. trash. It’s pretty cool and my staff has adapted well!” Within two months of starting their organics program, they were already talking to their waste hauler about switching to a dumpster for organics and using smaller bins for trash.

If your restaurant is considering adding composting to your waste hauling services, contact KFNA and staff will be happy to help you talk through the process and walk through your site. KFNA can be reached at info@kingfield.org or 612-823-5980.

BOOMERANG BAGS

In September Kingfield launched a chapter of Boomerang Bags, an international, volunteer-fueled project focused on making and distributing reusable shopping bags. Bags are given away free at select stores for people to reuse over and over, or to borrow and return. Boomerang Bags has become a movement that is shifting society’s throwaway mentality to a more sustainable revolution of repurposing and re-use, and it is now over 850 communities strong!

The timing couldn’t have been better to begin this community project, as the Minneapolis City Council passed a Bring Your Own Bag Ordinance in November, which mandates many retail and grocery stores to charge 5 cents per bag starting January 1st, 2020. It’s one small step toward reducing unnecessary plastic consumption

in our city, but a step that many of us are ready to take. Kingfield Boomerang Bags is excited to keep sewing bags, and also to begin providing education on this ordinance, so that people are prepared for the 5-cent change. Do you need a reusable shopping bag? Come to an event and we will help you make one!

We got off to a great start in the fall, when about a dozen sewers met each month in Butter Bakery’s lovely community space to create bags and begin forging new friendships. Outside of the event we also forged relationships with new fabric donors (including the Minneapolis Children’s Theatre and Repair Lair) as well as new partners interested in receiving and using bags (including Barton School, Neighborhood Roots, and, of course, Butter Bakery!)

In January the group will resume meeting monthly

Mark your Calendar — Community Connections Conference:

Feb. 1, 8 AM – 4 PM
Minneapolis Convention Center

This conference is a free, public event that brings together residents of Minneapolis, community groups, neighborhoods, and decision-makers to connect, learn, and address community issues. The theme for the 2020 Community Connections Conference is “We Count,” emphasizing how welcome and valued all communities are in the City of Minneapolis. On February 1, 2020, join us to learn about special election voting, the importance of the upcoming 2020 census, and important local issues and City policies such as housing, immigration and wage theft.

Enjoy food, networking opportunities, and over 100 exhibitors, informative breakouts, speakers, panels and performances! Visit the conference page at minneapolismn.gov/ncr to learn more.

each 3rd Tuesday, gathering from 6–9 PM, but we will move to the new Kingfield-Lyndale community space at 3537 Nicollet Ave South. The format is causal, so drop in for as much time as you have free. Bring your own machine if you are a sewer, or just show up and help iron, cut, and pin. All levels of participation are welcomed, and we look forward to connecting with each other and sharing conversations about how we can all leave a lighter footprint on our earth. Stay in touch with the group via Facebook at www.facebook.com/groups/507876746461602.

If Tuesday sewing bees don’t work for your schedule, feel free to attend a session on the 3rd Saturday of each month in Linden Hills. More information is available on their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/BoomerangBagsMpls/.

Kingfield Neighborhood Association
3537 Nicollet Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55408-4559
612-823-5980 • info@kingfield.org
www.kingfield.org

ACT ON CLIMATE is a peaceful and inclusive one-hour vigil created to raise awareness and demand action on issues related to global climate change. Thursdays 4-5 PM, on the 36th St bridge over I-35W. Volunteers are needed weekly to help hold the banner. Additional signage only related to climate change and environmental issues, please.



Open Now • Registration for spring activities at MLK Park
Register online at www.minneapolisparks.org or in person at
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
Mon., Jan. 20 • Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration • 6:30–8 PM
the Dream award • MLK Park Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
Tues., Jan. 21 • Kingfield Chapter Boomerang Bags Sewing Bee • 6–9 PM (pg. 4)
3537 Nicollet Ave South
Thurs., Jan. 23 • Open House for 210 West 46th Street • 4–6 PM (pg. 1)
Hosted by KFNA and City of Lakes Community Land Trust (CLCLT).
Sat. Jan. 25 • Youth & Family Winter FunFest: Sledding party • 10 AM–12 PM (pg. 3)
MLK Park sledding hill.
Sun. Jan. 26 • Community Meals begin at Pilgrim Church, 3901 1st Ave. S. • 6 PM (pg. 3)
Sat., Feb. 1 • Community Connections Conference • Minneapolis Convention Center (pg. 4)
Thurs., Feb. 6 • Kingfield Empty Bowls • 4–8 PM (pg. 1)
MLK Park Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
Wed., Feb. 12 • Public Meeting re: 1st Avenue Resurfacing Project • 6:30 PM (pg. 2)
Central Gym Rec Center, 3400 4th Ave. S.
Tues., Feb. 18 • Kingfield Chapter Boomerang Bags Sewing Bee (pg. 4)
3537 Nicollet Ave South
Tues., Mar. 3 • Super Tuesday: Presidential Primary Voting (pg. 1)
Vote at MLK Park Recreation Center, 7 AM–8 PM
Super Tuesday Returns Watching Party • Harriet’s Inn, 8 PM
Sat. Mar. 14 • Saturday Sap Boil (pg. 3), MLK Park, 9 AM–5 PM
Tues., Mar. 17 • Kingfield Chapter Boomerang Bags Sewing Bee • 6–9 PM (pg. 4)
3537 Nicollet Ave South
Wed., Mar. 18 • KFNA Annual Meeting and Celebration • 5:30–8 PM (pg. 2)
MLK Park Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S., Multipurpose Room
Sat., Mar. 21 • Community Pancake Breakfast & Sap Boil (pg. 3)
MLK Park Recreation Center, 4055 Nicollet Ave. S.
Breakfast: 9–11 AM • Sap Boil 9 AM–5PM
Tues., Mar. 31 • Vegetable Growing Basics class starts (pg. 2)

Calendar of Events

