

CLOSE T^o HOME



The Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group Newsletter June-July 2008

Annual Neighborhood Celebration and Parade Saturday, June 7th

Join Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group and McRae Park in celebrating summer!

The Parade starts at 10 am at 43rd and Oakland Ave. and winds its way to the Neighborhood Celebration at McRae Park, which runs from 11 am- 3pm.

Activities will include:

- Silent auction featuring items like YMCA Personal Training Gift Certificate, YMCA 20 visit punch pass for the whole family and \$150 worth of energy saving light bulbs donated by CEE.
- Media Sale – books, CDs, DVDs and more
- Entertainment from local musicians including our very own Council Members, Elizabeth Glidden and Scott Benson!

• Dunk Tank, Games, Pony Rides, Moonwalk and More!

• Food Sales: Ribs, Brats, Hot Dogs, and Grilled Veggie Sandwiches

• Instructor from Minneapolis Institute of Art to lead an art project

Win a bike donated in part by Nokomis Cycle, Pepitos and St. Joan of Arc! To register, sign up for the MN Energy Challenge at

www.mnenergychallenge.org and bring proof of registration to the raffle area.

You can also win energy saving items such as light bulbs, shower heads, metro transit bus pass, and re-useable bags all by signing up for the MN Energy Challenge prior to the event!

Proceeds from the food sales benefit McRae Park.

Welcome A-Board!

The FRNNG Annual Meeting and Elections were held on Thursday, April 24th at McRae Park at 6:30 pm. The Organization must hold this meeting yearly to present issues which, according to its by-laws, require a public vote. In addition, elections are held to fill vacancies and positions which are up for re-election during the current election cycle.

This year's meeting saw an impressive turnout despite the rain! Sean Conley, President, opened the meeting by highlighting some of the accomplishments of the Organization, including the formation of a Foreclosures Committee to assist neighbors facing foreclosure and a Greening Committee that will keep the Board focused on sustainability.

Additional discussions were led by City Council representatives Scott Benson and Elizabeth Glidden, Brian Elliot (for Congressman Keith Ellison), 3rd Precinct Lieutenant Knight, and Hennepin County Commissioner Peter McLaughlin. Topics included the construction on 35W, NRP funding, Hennepin County Library System, and crime and safety in the precinct.

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Dwight Gronlund, owner of Nokomis Cycle, 4553 Bloomington Ave.

Visit us online at www.frnng.org

Calendar

June and July

June

- 2 Housing Committee Mtg, LNPC*, 6:30 pm
- 7 Annual Neighborhood Celebration and Parade
- 11 SCABA Meeting, Pepito's, 12 pm
(South Chicago Area Business Alliance)
- 11 Foreclosure Committee Mtg, LNPC, 6:30 pm
- 18 FRNNG Board Meeting, LNPC, 6:30 pm
- 23 3PAC, 3rd Precinct, 6:30 pm
- 24 Community/Safety Committee,
McRae Park Bldg., 7 pm
- 27 *Close to Home* submissions deadline for
August/September issue
- TBD Programs Committee
- TBD Business Committee
- TBD Parks Committee
- TBD Greening Committee

July

- 7 Housing Committee Mtg, LNPC, 6:30 pm
- 9 SCABA Meeting, Pepito's, 12 pm
(South Chicago Area Business Alliance)
- 9 Foreclosure Committee Mtg, LNPC, 6:30 pm
- 16 FRNNG Board Meeting, LNPC, 6:30 pm
- 28 3PAC, 3rd Precinct, 6:30 pm
- 29 Community/Safety Committee,
McRae Park Bldg., 7 pm
- TBD Programs Committee
- TBD Business Committee
- TBD Parks Committee
- TBD Greening Committee

Please contact the office, 721-5424 or
frnng@mtn.org for confirmation of these
dates and times.

*Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church

8th Ward News

by Council Member
Elizabeth Glidden

Dear Friends and Neighbors,
Thank you for this opportunity
to bring you information about
Minneapolis issues.

Over the past two years, the
City has worked with many pri-
vate, public, and non-profit part-
ners to respond to the foreclosure
crisis. Minneapolis foreclosure
information, including data,
maps, and resources information,
can be found on-line at:

[www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/
foreclosure](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/foreclosure). From personal and
financial devastation for home-
owners and tenants, to neighbors
concerned about vacant proper-
ties on their block, to far-reaching
impacts on our entire economy,
we are all affected by foreclosures.

On April 4th, City approved a
new resource to help people
become homeowners — down
payment assistance through the
**Minneapolis Advantage
Program**. This program is avail-
able for home purchases in neigh-
borhoods with high rates of fore-
closed, vacant, and boarded
homes. Southside eligible neigh-
borhoods include Central,
Powderhorn Park, and Phillips.
Minneapolis Advantage offers
qualifying buyers a \$10,000 zero-
percent loan, forgivable after five
years of living in the home, that
can be used to help cover down
payment and closing costs.

Other assistance provided by
Minneapolis includes funding
foreclosure counseling services,
resources and technical assistance
to revitalize housing in the hardest-
hit areas of the city, increasing
resources for maintaining vacant

properties, and estab-
lishing partnerships
with housing organi-
zations and lenders to



fund additional housing revitaliza-
tion efforts. Minneapolis has also
worked with its partners to address
issues of fraud, including joining a
lawsuit brought by North
Minneapolis neighborhoods against
TJ Waconia for fraudulent real
estate practices. This legal action has
resulted in the court ordering 141
properties previously owned by TJ
Waconia to be turned over to a
receiver.

On Friday, May 30, 6-8 pm, at
Sabathani Community Center, 310
E. 38th St., Rm. 218, the 8th Ward
office is helping to organize a
Southside Foreclosure Forum fea-
turing **Congressman Keith Ellison**.
The forum, which has the participa-
tion of many Southside neigh-
borhoods and organizations, will
provide assistance for borrowers (home-
owners) and tenants, public policy
and advocacy ideas, and informa-
tion for neighbors concerned about
the neighborhood foreclosure
impacts. If you cannot attend the
forum but want more information,
please call our office at **673-2208**.

I am always available to answer
your questions at **673-2208**, and
would enjoy meeting with you dur-
ing my Community Office Hours,
9-11 am every Monday morning at
Sabathani Community Center, 310
E. 38th St., Rm 129. If you would
like to receive the 8th Ward
Monthly E-News, please send me
an e-mail at [Elizabeth.glidden@
ci.minneapolis.mn.us](mailto:Elizabeth.glidden@ci.minneapolis.mn.us).

Elizabeth Glidden,
8th Ward City Councilmember

Welcome A-Board... from page 1



Left to right: Lt. Knight, Brian Elliot and Council Member Scott Benson

Sandra Smith, 2nd Vice President, presented the nominees for open positions, including chairs for the Business Committee, Programs Committee, and the Greening Committee (because the Foreclosures Committee is a subcommittee of Housing, it does not have an officially-elected chair). Unanimously elected into those positions were Kris Deniger and Cory Hample as Business co-chairs, Mark Scannell as Programs Chair and Shannon Guernsey as Greening chair.

Residents of each neighborhood then caucused to elect their representatives who now include John Drewes for Regina, Barbara Harris for Field, Mary Overzet for N. Northrop, and Sue Redepenning for S. Northrop.

When the meeting adjourned, neighbors were encouraged to visit informational tables to learn more about each Committee and sign up for volunteer opportunities. Please contact the office if you'd like to contribute to any future activities and events.

Welcome new members of the Board, and thanks in advance for your service!



Help...Your Neighborhood Group Needs You!

The activities of the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group have been funded for many years by the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan (NRP). At this point, it looks like those funds will run out by approximately 2010. So, what has all this money provided? Well, for starters, this newsletter is paid for primarily out of those funds. Also the low interest loans that are available for home improvements, funds that support programs at McRae Park, our Annual Neighborhood Celebration, the Community and Safety Committee that works on crime and safety issues in the neighborhood, the Business Committee that works with neighborhood businesses and any other issues that the neighborhood wants to work on. In the past year we have started a Foreclosure Committee that is working to help homeowners in trouble. We have also started an Environmental Committee that is working on "greening" up the neighborhood.

The board of the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group has been working very hard this past year to figure out ways to continue our work in the future without the NRP Funds. We have taken a very critical look at all of our expenses and found many ways to stretch our available dollars further. Plans are in the works to raise funds at the Annual Neighborhood Celebration by holding a Media Sale and a Silent Auction. We will also be applying for grants to support some of our activities. We also need to ask you for donations. In the past, we have received many generous gifts from neighbors that have helped to pay for *Close to Home*.

We are now going to shift gears a bit and ask you to support not only this great publication, but also all of our other activities. Anything that you can give will be very much appreciated and put to good use. Also, since we are a "501(c)3" organization, any donations you make may be deductible on your income tax return.

There are other ways you can help too. Come to the Annual Neighborhood Celebration at McRae Park on June 7th and bring your checkbook and cash. Plans are in the works for a great Silent Auction and Media Sale in conjunction with the Annual Celebration. Another way you can help is to go to www.frnng.org and sign up to receive *Close To Home* via e-mail. If enough neighbors sign up, we can save a lot on printing, paper and postage.

Earth Day 2008

It was dreary, a bit rainy and downright cold but that didn't stop over 73 volunteers at Earth Day on April 19th. Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group partnered with Minneapolis Parks and Recreation to host an Earth Day Clean Up site on E. Minnehaha Parkway and 12th Ave. This year Minneapolis was able to increase their Earth Day volunteers by 800 for a total of 2,859; as well as increase the amount of garbage picked up by 5,000 pounds to over 22,500 lbs!



John wades in to clean the creek.

FRNNG would like to thank everyone who participated in the event, we were able to pull street signs, chairs, bottles and other debris out of the creek.

McRae Park Schedule 906 East 47th Street

The complete summer program schedule is available at McRae Park or online at the address below. You can register for programs at the address listed. Contact the park for more information.

www.minneapolisparcs.org
370-4909 (voice) 824-4170 (fax)

McRae Summer 2008

Events

“Paws at the Park”

Every dog has his day and this day McRae Park will be all about those dogs! We will be featuring TSS photography for those “pooch pictures,” a Frisbee and ball catching contest, a caricature artist, a paw print craft to take home, a Chuck and Don’s Pet Food Outlet table of goodies, and of course... a hot dog meal! Bring a chair and stay for “Snow Buddies”, the movie in the park afterwards. Well behaved owners and their leashed dogs are all welcome! Wednesday, June 18

7-11:30 pm

Small fee for the meal, everything else is free.

Movie in the Park: “Independence Day”

Find your spot on McRae Park’s big field, set up your lawn chair and get ready for some real entertainment!

“Independence Day” is the movie that made Will Smith famous for fighting off aliens on the 4th of July, a holiday classic. We feature a 24 foot screen and a state of the art sound system. This is the way to experience a cool movie on a summer’s night!

Thursday, July 3

Dusk (about 9-11:30 pm)

The movie is free, and we will be selling treats at the park. This is open to every one of all ages.

Adults/Seniors

McRae Morning Mix-It-Up!

Stop on by McRae Park on Thursday mornings where you will find a lively and friendly 500 game to join, open computer time with help if you would like it, Use It or Loose It fitness class (10-10:45 am), a bright room to work on craft projects and a cup of coffee.

Thursdays, June 19-Aug 21

9:30 am-12 noon

\$1 per week

Upcoming Trips

“Running Aces Harness Track and Gammelgarden” Museum

Gammelgarden is Swedish for Old Farm and this old farm is where our very own Dan Patch lived during his harness racing career. You will be treated to a tour of this fascinating museum and then it’s off to the track. Running Aces Harness Track just opened in April and is located in Forest Lake. We will have trackside tables and dining. The races begin at 6 pm and all wagering is on your own. Monday, June 9

2 -9 pm

\$25 plus any wagering that you do.

“Munsinger-Clemens Gardens” in St. Cloud

These beautiful flower gardens are lovingly maintained and attract visitors from all over the state. There are rose gardens, perineal and annual gardens as well all of this beauty is located on the shores of the Mississippi. We will enjoy a lunch in St. Cloud as well.

Monday, July 21

9 am-3 pm

\$10 for transportation; lunch is on your own and there is no admission cost to the gardens.

Children

Camp-Day-Away Theme Weeks

Camp-Day-Away is the only way to spend your summer afternoons! Each week will feature a different theme and a field trip on Fridays. These fun-filled 10 weeks are open to all boys and girls ages 6-12 and is \$75 per week per child.

A Sampling of the theme weeks: Get to Know You week, Holiday week, Wacky week, Camping 101 week, Mission Impossible week, Olympics week, Sampling of the Friday field trips: Wave Pool, Cascade Bay, Festival of Fishing, Wild Mountain Water Park, Valleyfair June 16-August 22

Kids ages 6-12

\$75 per week per child including the Friday trips.

Youth Sports

All fall sports registration will begin on July 1st. Fall sports include football, flag football, and soccer.

Ages 4-13

JPD Football Camp

June 16-20

9 am-12 noon

Free

Green Machine Football Camp

July 17-19

9 am-12 noon

Free

Pre-School

This is a fun and active way for your child to learn their ABC’s! Our instructor, Miss Amy, has many years of experience combining stretching and rhythm to teach kids between the ages 3-5. The kids will do stretches and exercises that will improve their coordination while learning their alphabet. This is a 2 hour class that meets every Tuesday morning. Children **must be potty trained** to participate in this class.

We offer 2 sessions to choose from:

Tuesdays, June 17-22, July 29-August 19

\$45 per child per session

9:30-11:30 am

Ages 3-5

Anne Kegley, Director
akegley@minneapolisparcs.org
906 E. 47th St.

Mpls, MN 55407

370-4909 (voice) 824-4170 (fax)

www.minneapolisparcs.org

Oakland Church's Annual BBQ

The 26th Annual Oakland Church barbecue will be Saturday, July 26, beginning at 11 am. Purchase rib dinners or slabs, to eat under the tent or take home. Oakland Church UMC is at the corner of 44th St. and Oakland Ave. For information call **823-4483** or visit our website:

www.oaklandchurchumc.org

Open Air Labyrinth

During most of the summer an open air labyrinth is mowed into the grass on the grounds of Oakland Church UMC, where the alley comes to 44th St. (between Park and Oakland Aves.)

Many people use the labyrinth for guided meditation or prayer. The paths of the labyrinth lead into the center, and then back to the entry; you cannot get lost.

You are welcome to use Oakland's labyrinth during daylight hours.

Vacation Bible School

Holy Cross Lutheran Church will be hosting Vacation Bible School July 20-24th from 6-8 pm. All children preschool - 6th grade are invited and welcome. Holy Cross is located at 1720 E. Minnehaha Parkway. Please call **722-1083** to register or if you have any questions.



Jump In... Make a Splash!

Preserve Your Favorite Creek Experience

Join our new group: Citizens for the Minnehaha Creek Corridor (CMCC) Our group's mission is to help people experience, understand, advocate for and appreciate the Minnehaha Creek resource.

Find information on upcoming meetings and events at:

www.minnehahacreekcorridor.org

Thanks to our Sponsors!

Close to Home would like to thank the following local businesses and organizations in our community for their generous financial contributions to the production and mailing of this newsletter. We appreciate their assistance in keeping communications strong in the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood. If you would like more information on how your organization or business can become a sponsor, please call the FRNNG office. **We also encourage residents to support these local businesses so that they can continue to be a strong and vital sector of our community.**

Partner Level- \$100-\$199

St. Joan of Arc Church
4537 3rd Ave., 823-8205

Donor Level- \$200-\$599

Dick's Metropolitan Carpet
48th and Chicago, 827-5646

Patron Level- \$600 or better

South Chicago Avenue Business Alliance (SCABA)

Get Us Online!

We are looking for ways to cut cost and reduce waste – please help us by registering to receive

Close to Home electronically.

Visit www.frnng.org and look for the link to register. You can also register to receive other communications via email as well.

Your email address will be used for FRNNG in only the way you intend and you may unsubscribe at any time.

Thank you for supporting us in this effort.



CLOSE T^o HOME

Close To Home is the official publication of the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group, Inc., and is published six times per year by the FRNNG Communications Committee.

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*Articles, photos, and
announcements of interest to
the FRN Community are welcome.*

Call 721-5424 or Fax 721-4539

E-mail: frnng@mtn.org

**Copy deadline for the next
issue is June 27**

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**The Field Regina
Northrop Neighborhood Group, Inc.**

Established in 1965

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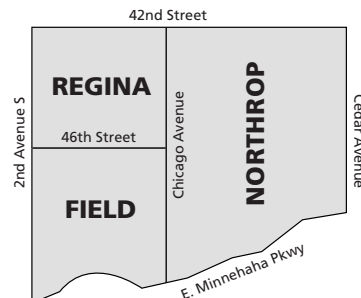
2008-2009 FRNNG Board

**Executive Committee Officers*

- *President: Sean Conley
- *1st V.P.: Tom Arneson
- *2nd V.P.: Sandra Smith
- *Treasurer: Jane Kaiser
- *Secretary: Sverre Gropen
- *Field Neighborhood Rep: Barbara Harris
- *Regina Neighborhood Rep: Jon Drewes
- *Northrop No. Neighborhood Rep: Mary Overzet
- *Northrop So. Neighborhood Rep: Sue Redepenning
- Business: Kristofer Deniger/Cory Hample
- Communications: Gary Johnson
- Community & Safety: Kim McCoy
- Education: Gerry Sell
- Greening: Shannon Guernsey
- Housing: Stearline Rucker
- Parks: Mike Nicholls
- Programs: Mark Scannell

Useful Phone Numbers

- 8th Ward Council Elizabeth Glidden 673-2208
- 11th Ward Council Scott Benson 673-2211
- Sue Roethle CCP/SAFE 673-2839
- Housing Inspector 673-5858
- Senior HelpLine 729-5499
- McRae Park 370-4909
- Airport Noise Complaints 726-9411



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