52nd Neighborhood Celebration May 20

By Maria Gilleece, Chair, Parks Committee
Field Regina Northrop is commemorating 52 years as a neighborhood. Once again we will celebrate our community with an event for friends and family at McRae Park. Our annual neighborhood celebration kicks off at 11 a.m. with a short parade that starts at Ken & Norm’s Liquors on 48th and Chicago. We will move down 48th Street to Elliot Avenue, then head one block north to McRae Park. All ages are welcome to join our promenade to McRae Park where we will kick off the festivities. Since the field at McRae is under construction, 47th Street between Chicago Avenue and 10th Avenue will be closed off to make room for this year’s neighborhood celebration.

From 11:15 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., activities at McRae Park include a variety of musical entertainers, games of chance, balloon artists, face painting, kids’ games, and of course, ice cream and fabulous food. Food-truck vendors will be on hand, serving a variety of treats. Adrian’s Tavern will make a return appearance, accompanied by Pepper Philly and Stream Caribbean Cuisine. There will be plenty of food choices for everyone!

On the stage, we have a program of family-friendly live music and dancers. Come

Annual SCABA Car Show Set for Sunday, June 11

By John R. Dorgan, Attorney, SCABA member
The South Chicago Avenue Business Alliance (SCABA) will host its 8th-annual Classic Car Show on Sunday, June 11, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the intersection of 48th Street and Chicago Avenue in south Minneapolis. As in other years, the car show will feature a wide variety of classic cars and trucks provided photo

President’s Letter

Hello FRN,

Have you ever wondered how your tax dollars are spent? The Minneapolis Capital Long-Range Improvement Committee (CLIC) will host public comment sessions on upcoming capital projects this May. You will be able to learn about the many projects and the cost of these projects.

The one that will be closest to FRN will be held at the Sabathani Center on May 3 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in room J, 3rd floor. The address is 310 East 38th Street.
Looking for Kid-friendly Fun?

Check Out McRae Summer Activities

By Carrie Shidla, Communications Committee

As the weather gets warmer and the days get longer, McRae Park is just bustling with fun and activities. *Close to Home* recently checked in with Heather Susag, recreation leader at McRae Park, to learn about the many fun things planned for this summer. Here are a few.

**Construction on McRae Park is Still in Full Swing**
Completion of the renovation of the athletic field – including leveling, irrigation, and a water fountain – is expected to be wrapped up in early July. Stay tuned for more information about a grand-opening announcement.

**Full-Day Rec Plus**
Last year was the first year of Full-Day Rec Plus at McRae in many years, and it was a phenomenal success! There are still spots available for the 2017 Rec Plus summer program for kids who have completed kindergarten through fifth grade (or who are 12 years old). The Rec Plus program runs from 7:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Monday-Friday throughout the summer.

**Annual Derrick Robinson Football and Cheerleading Camp**
McRae will also be holding its 11th-annual free football and cheerleading camp July 6-8 from 9 a.m.-noon. This free event is open to kids ages 5 and up! Each year, about 300-400 children participate in this wonderful experience.

**British Soccer Camp**
Interested in attending soccer camps with professional players and coaches from across the pond? The annual British Soccer Camp will be held July 24-July 27. Times vary by camp.

For more information on these and other summer activities, stop by the McRae Recreation Center at 906 East 47th Street, call (612) 370-4909, or visit [www.minneapolisparks.org](http://www.minneapolisparks.org) and click on “Activities and Events.”

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**A little history**
Did you know that the area now called Field Regina Northrop (FRN) Neighborhood was part of the first land acquired by the United States in what eventually became Minnesota? In the 1920s, the area was still mainly rural but there were two main commercial districts in FRN – one at 48th and Chicago and the other at 48th and Fourth Avenue. Both were classic examples of the “streetcar corner” that grew up at regular nodes along streetcar lines.

**Win prizes from the raffle**
A raffle to benefit FRNNG will feature prizes of a children’s-size and adult-size bicycle from Nokomis Cycle. More raffle prizes will also be available. In addition, representatives from dozens of local businesses and groups will be providing free demonstrations include free massages from Southside Chiropractic, a bike-repair station sponsored by Nokomis Cycle, dog tricks with Minnehaha Animal Hospital, and we will even show off some backyard chickens. Let’s not forget that your little ones might want to explore a fire truck from the Minneapolis Fire Department.

**Lend a hand – and join the fun!**
Since 1965, the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group (FRNNG) has been focusing on improving our community and making our neighborhood exemplary. Be a part of the Annual Neighborhood Celebration. Bring your family and join your neighbors on Saturday, May 20, for a fun day celebrating our community! The neighborhood group is still hard at work planning the celebration so make sure you keep track of the events by visiting our website at [http://frnng.org/](http://frnng.org/) or follow us on Facebook and Twitter for the latest information.

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*Family Fun for Everyone! Join your neighbors at our 52nd Neighborhood Celebration*

Saturday, May 20, at McRae Park

10:45 a.m. Parade prep at Ken & Norm’s
11:00 a.m. Parade down 48th and Elliot
11:15 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Neighborhood Celebration at McRae Park

Musical entertainers, games of chance, balloon artists, bounce castle, raffle, carnival games, dancers, free massages, face painting, backyard chickens, kids’ games, ballerinas, ice cream, food trucks, prizes, bike-repair stations, demos, dog tricks, and more! Be there!

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**Looking for Kid-friendly Fun?**
I’m hoping that some of you will be able to attend this session. You will be able to review and comment on project proposals and give feedback to CLIC members. Below you will find information about other meetings and the joint meeting with CLIC and the Minneapolis Planning Commission. You will also be able to look at CLIC past reports on line. You can go to www.minneapolismn.gov/ncr

FRN, summer is approaching and our kids will be outside playing either in front of their homes and the ball may roll out into the street or sometime our kids will playing in the alleys. FRN, be aware of our kids and drive slowly on our streets and alleys.

If you are working in your yards, back or front, please lock your doors.

FRN, we make our neighborhood safe by looking out for each other.

Be Safe, FNN.

Annual SCABA Car Show Set for Sunday, June 11, continued from page 1

from the 1940s through the 1980s – and hopefully some cars even older than that! Also, as in other years, spectators will be admitted FREE to the show! Everyone is invited to stop by and “stroll through the past” while dreaming about the cars from yesteryear!

Mike Kmiecik, president of SCABA, welcomes everyone to this year’s car show, which has become a true “summer neighborhood celebration.” Kmiecik added that SCABA looks forward to receiving the support of the entire community to make the day a success.

Anyone with a classic car or truck is welcome to enter the show for a small registration fee per car ($8 pre-registration; $10 day of show). Trophies will be awarded in various car classes, and door prizes will be given away throughout the day. The car show will feature a “bounce house” for kids as well as a D.J. spinning classic ‘50s-’80s tunes, plus a “paint car” for kids to work on during the show. Kmiecik even had a surprise announcement about this year’s car show, “We’re talking with Jim Pratt, former owner of Adrian’s Tavern. We’re hoping that he will present one final Adrian’s Rib Fest as part of this year’s car show. Having Adrian’s food as part of the car show would make the day an even more special neighborhood celebration!” Also new this year is a dog-adoption exhibition sponsored by Minnehaha Animal Hospital, in partnership with Underdog Rescue, where people can meet dogs available to be adopted! (Actual adoptions would occur at a later date.) All of that is in addition to the great restaurants and stores around the 48th and Chicago business node that will be open on June 11. Anyone interested in entering the car show should visit the SCABA website at www.48chicago.org for more information. People may also wish to check out the SCABA car show information in the “events calendars” in http://msra.com/ For more information on the dog-adoption demonstration, please go to www.minnehahaanimalhospital.com Anyone interested in volunteering to help out at this year’s show should contact Mike Kmiecik at mike_kmiecik@bikesandpieces.com or John Dorgan at jrd@jdorganlaw.com. We hope to see you on June 11! ✿
By Jon Stumbras, Senior Program Director, St. Joseph’s Home for Children

As you may have read in Sue Filbin’s “Getting to Know St Joe’s” article in the March/April 2016 issue of Close to Home, St Joseph’s Home for Children (St Joe’s) is located on a 12-acre campus at 1121 East 46th Street in Minneapolis in the heart of the Northrop neighborhood. We are part of Catholic Charities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, which has had programs located on this site since 1885. I serve as senior program director and am proud to have worked here for eight years.

Every day at St. Joe’s, our staff work with children who are abused and neglected, children who need help managing severe mental health issues, and children who simply have no other place to go. We are open 24/7 and serve nearly 1,500 youth each year, many of whom live on site for some period of time. Most kids who come to St. Joe’s have experienced trauma – which means they sometimes express their hurt, pain, and anger physically. We have a team of trained professionals who focus solely on supporting youth in addressing what has happened to them as we work to also address their longer-term needs for shelter, stability, and quality mental health care.

Simply put, at St. Joe’s we serve kids who have nowhere else to turn. We embrace kids who have been turned away time and time again and offer them an opportunity to heal and build hope for a brighter future. We are honored to call this community home, and we are grateful to be based in such a welcoming neighborhood that cares.

**Protection and police: Partnering for safety**

We know that as neighbors you have special insights into what happens here at St. Joe’s, and you likely have many questions.

One dynamic that people often ask about is how we work with police. As background, there are two primary reasons why police vehicles enter St. Joe’s:

**Transporting vulnerable youth:** St. Joe’s provides screening and placement services for all children removed from their homes by the legal system in Hennepin County. Of the approximately 1,100 children per year screened by our intake staff, half of those children are transported to our campus by police officers in squad cars from all of the Hennepin County police jurisdictions. We have provided this care to children for 40 years, and police cars drop off children here virtually every day.

**Helping respond to trauma and vulnerability:** We provide residential care to approximately 45 youth each day, and nearly 300 during the course of a year – in addition to providing shelter to 288 youth each year through Catholic Charities Homeless Youth Shelter, Hope Street. The training and expertise of our staff allow us to care for the kids most impacted by abuse and family disruption. St. Joe’s is an open campus, and our external doors are not locked. We do not lock them on purpose; this is a critical part of our approach to trying to better understand kids’ behaviors as a reaction to what has happened to them in their lives. This means we have to be responsive to their needs (which, sometimes means just allowing them to get out of the building) while also protecting them from additional trauma (which could mean situations outside our doors, such as exploitation or even sex trafficking.) We’re working with young kids who are at a tough time in their lives and, in most cases, are vulnerable on the streets – even more so given their life histories. The police help us keep these kids safe while we work with them through their trauma. We know that police presence is a sign of increased vigilance on the part of our community in caring for some of its most at-risk youth – and is part of our shared commitment to keeping all of us safe.

**Conclusion**

As neighbors, you are a big part of our story. Every day at St. Joe’s, we hear some of the most heartbreaking stories you can imagine – mixed with the joy and success that keep us all coming back to this work every day. We thank you for your partnership.

If you would like more information about St. Joe’s or would like someone to speak to your community group – or if you are interested in learning about volunteer opportunities – please contact Julia Jenson at 612-204-8367 or julia.jenson@cctwincities.org.
Plan for National Night Out

By Jennifer Neale, Crime Prevention Specialist (CPS)
Before we get distracted by the delights of summer and its warm-weather activities, it’s smart for residents to be planning their National Night Out block parties now.

Good for Neighborhoods
National Night Out (NNO) is an annual nationwide event that always takes place on the first Tuesday in August. This year the date is August 1. Block clubs are the focus of Minneapolis’ National Night Out. Block clubs are groups of neighbors who watch out for each other, report crimes and suspicious activity to 911, and work together to improve the quality of life on their block. People who know their neighbors feel more secure and less worried than they did before meeting their neighbors.

Planning a NNO Event
Planning a National Night Out event can be an enjoyable way to meet neighbors and share responsibilities for the event. I recommend contacting every neighbor who lives or works on your block. Inviting people in person is the best way to ensure participation, although printed flyers, emails, and phone calls are also effective. At your planning meeting, tailor your meeting to the people living on your block, involving people of all ages and ethnicities, especially children.

If you want to close off your street for your block club party, you will need the permission of 75% of your neighbors. If you register by Tuesday, July 18, your street will be blocked for free.

In addition to welcoming and visiting with neighbors, National Night Out is the time to talk about crime prevention. Set aside some time to remind neighbors about when and how to call 911, measures they can take to prevent a burglary, and the value of looking out for each other.

To register your event or to find out more about National Night Out, go to http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno/nno_register

New Sunday Liquor Sales Law Affects Two Neighborhood Businesses

By Carrie Shidla, Communications Committee
In February, the Minnesota legislature passed a bill to end the ban of liquor sales on Sunday, after being in place more than 150 years. The new law goes into effect July 1. Though there had been increasing pressure in the past few years to repeal the law, there were still concerns about how the change would impact small, local businesses. The two local businesses in our neighborhood will be offering Sunday hours.

Cork Dork, located at 4703 Cedar Avenue, will be open on Sunday hours from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. When asked about the expanded hours, store manager Brandon Johnson said, “We will be open on Sundays because we’re always looking for ways to serve our customers. In addition to wine, we also now have 250 different beers and 150 different liquors, many of them local. We’ve also really expanded our wine selection to add a lot of interesting new wines.”

Ken and Norm’s, at 4801 Chicago Avenue, will likely be open from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. as well. Store manager Vitalii Zub says, “We want to serve our customers, so our store will definitely be open. We’ll be hiring additional personnel to cover Sunday’s shift, and we’re hoping that people shop on Sunday and sales will be good to cover for additional overhead.”

Close to Home

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http://frnng.org/

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Town Oaks: An Award-Winning Model for Moderately Priced Housing

By Deborah Jahn, President, Town Oaks Association

The Field Regina Northrop residential neighborhood contains mostly small single-family houses built before 1940. However, in the center of Regina is the Town Oaks townhome complex, located in a two-square-block area bounded by 43rd and 44th Streets and 3rd and 4th Avenues South. This is the largest housing complex in the neighborhood, with 112 townhomes. Built in the 1970s, it is also Minneapolis’ first moderately priced townhouse development.

Each Town Oaks unit has 1,178 square feet of space on the first and second floors, in addition to a full basement. About 10% of the units have two bedrooms while the rest have three bedrooms. Each unit also has a private patio, two-story foyer, and an open stairway between levels. A special feature of the property is the large green space with mature trees in the middle of the complex.

All owners are members of the Town Oaks Association and pay a monthly assessment to receive services such as maintenance of the buildings’ exterior and parking lots, lawn care, snow removal, etc. Currently 85% of the units are owner-occupied and 15% are rentals.

A controversial beginning

The site of Town Oaks had remained undeveloped through the 1960s and had become an eyesore, having been used for informal neighborhood dumping and concrete dumping associated with city paving projects. Yet when the townhouses were first proposed in 1970, rather than rejoicing at the property’s improvement, there was much opposition to the plan. The development was relatively dense in terms of land use: the 112 units would occupy property that could have contained a maximum of 44 houses if developed in a conventional manner. After many complaints, the density was somewhat reduced by adding garages for 28 of the units, breaking up the space and adding interest to the roof lines. Yet some worried that the high number of units would bring a flood of children to the neighborhood’s Field School.

But the larger concern was about racial balance. Newspaper articles from the early 1970s stated that both blacks and whites expressed concern about maintaining the essential character of the neighborhood, which was rare in being both racially mixed and middle class. Many feared that Town Oaks would disrupt that balance.

A depressed economy slowed the original plan to complete construction in 1971 and the final units were not sold until 1975. Yet by completion, the project was deemed a great success by both the builder and the neighborhood. The high density had minimized the land and construction costs so that units were able to be moderately priced. The townhomes attracted predominately younger, middle-income couples without children who were comfortable living in a racially mixed neighborhood. In summer 1975, Town Oaks received a national award from “Design and Environment” magazine for its “attractive, single-family, moderately priced housing” that helped to “stabilize the racial and financial balance of the community.”

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Choose a lawyer you can talk to – Dave Porter
612-722-1001 * 5208 Bloomington Avenue
The memories of an early resident
Wayne Marsh is an original resident of Town Oaks, still living in the unit he purchased for $29,000 in 1972. According to Wayne, the units were barely livable when owners started to move in. The parking lots and sidewalks were just dirt – or mud when it rained. The residents lived in their basements for weeks while the workers finished their first and second floors.

Because the Town Oaks site had been used as an informal dump for years, the excavation of basements turned up lots of trash and, occasionally, some treasures, including many antique bottles. Some early residents became treasure hunters, digging through the dirt to find unbroken bottles. Wayne was one of them. He collected many bottles. His most prized find was an intact “Golden Wedding” Carnival Glass whiskey flask, dating from the early twentieth century.

Broken pipes and the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) loan
When Town Oaks was built, rigid two-inch cast-iron pipe was used for water distribution which, at the time, was an acceptable material for water lines. Some of these pipes were laid over – and even under – concrete and other hard materials used as backfill, and were prone to breakage as the fill material above pressed down on them. Adding to the problem, a flaw in the initial design of the complex had all 112 individually owned units connected to one water meter. When a water line broke, water to the entire complex needed to be shut off for repairs. Additionally, the Town Oaks homeowners’ association was responsible for billing the individual owners for water usage. With only one water meter, the association had no recourse when an owner did not pay his or her water bill.

In order to rebuild the water system with individual metering, the association requested and received approval from the City of Minneapolis in 1997 for two loans. The first, for $68,000, was fully paid off by the association in 2004. The second loan, given through the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), was for $380,000 to be paid over 15 years beginning in 2005. This loan had a clause that the payments could be forgiven or deferred if the association was unable to pay.

For many years, Town Oaks struggled financially to make necessary repairs to the property and to collect assessments from homeowners who, themselves, might be having financial problems. This was especially true during the years following the 2008 recession when many of the townhouses were foreclosed. The City granted Town Oaks deferments on its payments of the NRP loan during these years. As the economy improved, Town Oaks was able to build up its reserves. In fall 2015, Town Oaks board members sat down with representatives of the City and the FRN Neighborhood Group to review and renegotiate the NRP loan. It was agreed that the repayment period would be lengthened and, with each semi-annual payment of $12,700, $6,350 would be forgiven. Town Oaks began making payments in January 2016 and will continue to do so until 2025.

Town Oaks and FRNNG today
Town Oaks’ earlier years of rotting wood siding, crumbling concrete, and overgrown landscaping are behind it now. With a thoughtful and fiscally careful board and management company, the association is using its reserves to fund much-needed long-range improvements, including regular siding replacement, planting new trees and bushes, newly paved sidewalks and parking lots, etc. Town Oaks continues to pursue the vision of being a desirable living community where moderate-income families of many backgrounds can grow and thrive. In addition, Town Oaks’ annual loan payments of over $25,000 will go to FRN and will be reinvested back into the area to help ensure the continued vitality of our neighborhood.
Dear Neighbors,

Thank you for the opportunity to update you on city and neighborhood issues.

City Supports #SeekingSanctuary
Council Vice President Elizabeth Glidden joined Sanctuary Cities from around the country in a national convening to support those #SeekingSanctuary for city leaders, researchers and policy experts, and community groups. Council Member Elizabeth Glidden was the lead author of this change, with co-authors Council Members Abdi Warsame and Lisa Goodman.

Despite continued threats from the federal government, Minneapolis will never back down from its values of equity and inclusion and support for all residents. We will not participate in mass deportation strategies and remain firm in our #NoBanNoWall stance – the Trump Administration’s attempt to coerce cities and counties through threats of reduced resources is unconstitutional and un-American.

Since 2003, Minneapolis has had a separation ordinance that prohibits police and other city employees from asking about the immigration status of residents. Police Chief Janeé Harteau has been a vocal supporter of this ordinance as being critical to local safety priorities that include encouraging residents to report crime and seek public services without fear that the city is doing the work of the federal ICE officers.

Council Approves Civil Rights-Section 8 Protection
Thank you to the Minneapolis City Council for unanimous support of an ordinance prohibiting discrimination against Section 8 voucher holders. Councilmember Elizabeth Glidden was the lead author of this change, with co-authors Council Members Abdi Warsame and Lisa Goodman.

The Minneapolis Civil Rights Ordinance has prohibited discrimination based on receipt of public assistance for decades. Including a specific provision prohibiting discrimination against Housing Choice Voucher participants continues that tradition. Minneapolis joins nearly 60 jurisdictions across the country that have similar measures providing Housing Choice Voucher (or Section 8) protections.

With this change, landlords will no longer be able to advertise “No Section 8 need apply,” and housing choice voucher recipients will now get a fair chance at housing choices throughout our city.

$1.5 Million Fund Approved for Affordable Housing
The City Council, on April 14, approved $1.5 million for the Minneapolis Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH) Preservation Fund to assist non-profit housing providers to acquire and preserve NOAH rental property in Minneapolis.

NOAH generally refers to unsubsidized multifamily rental housing that is affordable to households with incomes at or below 60 percent of the area median income ($51,480 for a family of four.) Rents in NOAH units average between $550 and $1,200 per month. The strong

city has experienced a disproportionate share of these sales. In 2016, Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) released “Sold Out,” a report stating that from 2010-2015, Minneapolis saw the greatest number of apartment property sales compared to all other communities in the metropolitan region.

In response to this affordable housing crisis, the Greater Minnesota Housing Fund, with the support of the McKnight Foundation, Minnesota Housing, Hennepin County, and private investors, launched a new regional $25 million affordable housing impact fund, or the NOAH Impact Fund, in 2017. The NOAH Impact Fund provides a source of funds for socially minded owner-operators to acquire and preserve the affordability of NOAH properties.

Minneapolis Considers Municipal Minimum Wage
The City has been holding minimum-wage listening sessions since late January to gather feedback from the community about a potential minimum-wage policy for employers in the City of Minneapolis. The City Council directed City staff to present minimum-wage policy recommendations mid-year after doing community engagement and research on the topic. The City Council will begin discussions of an ordinance after the staff presentation of minimum-wage policy recommendations.

Council Member Elizabeth Glidden has been a strong public supporter of a $15 municipal minimum wage, specifically

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Sisters Sludge Relocating to Standish

By Carrie Shidla, communications committee

After celebrating 20 years of serving the community on the corner of 46th Street and Bloomington Avenue, Sisters Sludge will relocate this summer to the Standish neighborhood, about a mile away from the current location.

The coffee shop, which is run by triplet sisters Judy Morris-Meyer, Katie Morris-Buch and Maggie Morris-Gronlund, has been an institution in the Northrop neighborhood. However, the recent sale of the building in which Sisters Sludge was housed necessitated a change.

Along with the change of location, there will also be some exciting business changes as well. The sisters recently signed a lease on the former Social Dance Studio space at 38th Street and 23rd Avenue South, which is a space more than twice the size of their current storefront. The expansive location will allow them to maintain a coffee shop like the one they have now, and also add a room to serve wine, craft beer and small plates or tapas. “We don’t want to become a full-service restaurant; rather we want to keep that informal feeling of neighbors and friends just hanging out,” says sister Judy Morris-Meyer.

“We hope to be able to keep a lot of our customers, as we are only just over a mile away, and 38th Street is a major thoroughway,” she continued. “If our old friends can’t stop in for coffee, maybe they will come by for a good glass of wine or beer.”

Though they are excited about this new chapter for their business, they will miss Northrop. “We have been so amazingly happy here on our little corner in the Northrop neighborhood…for us it was hard to tell the difference between work and play,” says Morris-Meyer. “It has been the most amazing, fun, gratifying, energizing, loving relationship with a neighborhood! Even though it is exciting to work on a new venture, we will deeply miss this corner.”

The space won’t be vacant for long, as Mollie Miller, proprietor of Sift Gluten Free Bakery, will be the new owner and occupant of the building on 46th and Bloomington. The sisters wish Mollie the best in her new endeavor, and hope that the new business will thrive in the neighborhood.

Nokomis Farmers Market

By Alexandra Cortes, Executive Director, Neighborhood Roots

The days are getting longer and the nights are getting warmer. It’s almost time for the Nokomis Farmers Market! Mark your calendars for the market’s opening day on Wednesday, June 14. We’re starting off the season with a bounce house for kids! Also on opening day: fresh local veggies (likely snap peas, greens, radishes, rhubarb, new potatoes, and more depending on how warm it’s been), eggs, pastured chicken and pork, honey, granola, and Korean hot sauce, plus dinner from Northern Fires Pizza, Dumpling, and Whole Sum Kitchen!

The market runs every Wednesday between June 14 and September 27 and is located at 52nd and Chicago Avenue. Hours are 4-8 p.m. in June, July, and August, and 3:30-7:30 p.m. during the month of September. The market is open rain or shine!

New vendors you’ll find during the course of this season include Best Cellar Pickle Co. (pickles and mushroom jerky), Sun Street Labs (apprentice bakers developing new recipes for Sun Street Breads), Hip Pop (popcorn), and Spark-Y (a nonprofit in Regina neighborhood that runs an urban agriculture lab for youth). MN Knife Sharpening will offer knife-sharpening services on-site every-other week throughout the season, starting June 21.

There’s always something going on at the market. We have live music every week, kids’ activities and vegetable samplings, and lots of shaded seating for you to sit and relax, or chat with friends or family.

Thanks to the Field Regina Northrop Neighborhood Group and 3 Bears Landscaping for their support of our 2017 season!

Stay tuned for updates on what’s in season along with market activities. Find the Nokomis Market on Facebook, on Instagram @neighborhoodrootsmn, or on our website at www.neighborhoodrootsmn.org See you at the market!
In the Know About Lepto

By Nikko Grossapoulos, D.V.M.

This month’s veterinary topic is Leptospirosis. What, where, who and how should you be concerned about this bacteria? Please, please, hold all questions until the end.

What?

Under the microscope, Leptospirosis is a fun-looking, corkscrew-shaped-party-animal of a bacterium. However its idea of fun is no bar mitzvah. Common spots in the body that Leptospira like to go “clubbing” are to the kidneys, liver and eyes. Clinical signs vary greatly depending on the strain and the body’s reaction to the bacterium. Signs of illness often include fever, flu-like symptoms and loss of appetite. As the disease progresses, it can lead to kidney and/or liver failure, respiratory failure, sudden blindness, clotting disorders and even death.

Where?

Leptospira resides in much of our wildlife population. Dogs (and people) typically become infected through contact with infected urine from raccoons, rodents, skunks, opossums and squirrels, just to name a few. Contact can occur through intact mucous membrane tissue (the mouth), eyes or broken skin, and less commonly through eating infected tissue or bite wounds. The bacteria can stay viable in the environment for extended periods of time, especially in wet/damp areas. More cases are commonly seen after rainfall, where run-off into streams and lakes occur.

Who?

In the past, this disease was commonly seen in large-breed hunting dogs. As a veterinary community, we are seeing the disease shift to smaller, city-dwelling pets.

How?

How is Leptospirosis treated and prevented? Diagnosis is made by assessing clinical signs, bloodwork and x-rays. Specialized blood and urine testing can confirm disease; however your veterinarian will often implement therapy immediately if suspicious. Because of acute kidney failure, often pets need to be hospitalized for several days for intravenous fluid therapy. In extreme cases, support for breathing or other intensive care measures might be necessary. With early and aggressive therapy, most pets have a good prognosis; however, not all pets survive, despite treatment. As with the reasons for exposure, prevention is also multifactorial. Avoid attracting disease to your area by not feeding wildlife populations, ridding rodents from your home and covering garbage cans with secure lids to keep away raccoons. Limit play and drinking from streams, lakes or puddles. Finally, a vaccination is widely available. Often combined with the vaccine against Lyme disease, it is the single best way to reduce the risk of infection. Talk with your veterinarian to see if your pet or communities are at risks for Leptospirosis.

Nikko Grossapoulos is a veterinarian at Minnehaha Animal Hospital and PetDoctors Animal Clinic
www.minnehahaanimalhospital.com

With early and aggressive therapy, most pets have a good prognosis

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Fulton Southside Sprint Bike Race Named Midwest Flyover Series Finale

Popular South Minneapolis Bicycle Race Concludes Five-state Series July 23

By Jason Lardy

The 2017 Fulton Southside Sprint celebrates a major national honor. Minnesota’s most popular amateur bike race weekend has been named the Grand Finale of the $120,000 5-state Midwest Flyover Race Series. Sunday’s race in south Minneapolis, the Fulton Southside Sprint, concludes the three-day Big Waters Classic July 21-23.

The Big Waters Classic starts with the popular Drag Race evening in downtown Minneapolis on Friday, July 21, as part of the Minneapolis Aquatennial. Saturday brings racing to St. Paul and the new Rondo Rush before returning to south Minneapolis for the 7th-consecutive year. “The Big Waters Classic is the most popular sanctioned amateur road race in Minnesota,” notes Big Waters Classic co-founder, Jason Lardy. “We’re honored to have been named the Grand Finale of the prestigious Midwest Flyover Series. With races in Iowa, Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin, the competition will bring riders and fans from across the US to the vibrant host neighborhoods in Minneapolis and St. Paul.”

At each venue, family-fun activities will keep fans engaged throughout the day. The Kids Activity Area gives kids a chance to make art with their race numbers, practice their sidewalk art skills and have their faces painted. The Athletes’ Village brings racers and their team tents right into the middle of the action. Fans can get up close and personal with their favorite racers as they prepare for their state championship pursuits.

One of the most popular spectator events in south Minneapolis, the 2016 Southside Sprint was the largest amateur road bicycle race in Minnesota for the fifth consecutive year. More than 400 racers will showcase the speed and skill of US bike racing in front of 700+ spectators each day in the 2017 series.

More information about the Big Waters Classic is available at http://bigwatersclassic.com/

FRNNG Meeting

Information

Full Board
3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Lake Nokomis Presbyterian Church (LNPC) 17th Avenue and East 46th St. The full board does not meet in July or December.

Business Committee | business@frnng.org
1st Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m., Turtle Bread Company, 48th and Chicago

Communications Committee | communications@frnng.org
2nd Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Sovereign Grounds, 48th and Chicago.

Community and Safety Committee | communityandsafety@frnng.org
4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., McRae Park Rec. Center

Education Committee | education@frnng.org
1st Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m., McRae Park Arts & Crafts Room

Greening Committee | greening@frnng.org
2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., Turtle Bread Company, 48th and Chicago

Housing Committee | housing@frnng.org
1st Monday of each month at 7 p.m., Town Hall Tap, 48th & Chicago

Parks Committee | parks@frnng.org
1st Monday of each month at 7 p.m., McRae Park Rec. Center