



The Cleveland Connection

A Newspaper by and for the residents of the Cleveland Neighborhood of Minneapolis

<http://www.clevelandneighborhood.org>

COMMUNITY MEETING, May 26th

Please join the CNA Board of Directors and other members of our neighborhood at the **CNA community meeting on Wednesday, May 26th, at 7:00pm at the Lucy Craft Laney School, 3333 Penn Ave No – Multipurpose Room.** In addition to refreshments and an opportunity to meet your neighbors, we will be sharing information and asking for your input on two important initiatives during this meeting.

The first item of discussion involves an NRP Phase II Action Plan Modification. The CNA Board of Directors is seeking neighborhood approval to reallocate \$85,000 from strategy A.4.A. Lot Redevelopment to Strategy A.2.A *to provide incentives to encourage people to purchase abandoned, vacant, sub-standard or current rental property in the Cleveland Neighborhood.* The \$85,000 will fund a Targeted Home Ownership Program. The CNA Board approved this plan modification, but it can only be approved by the city if there is also broad neighborhood support. If you would like more information and/or would like to express an opinion for or against this modification and cannot attend the meeting, please call the office at 612-588-1155 prior to May 26th.

The second item on the agenda is a discussion about an exciting initiative that is being addressed by multiple agencies and throughout several neighborhoods in Minneapolis called the *Blue Print for Action: Youth Violence Prevention.* The main focus of this initiative is to treat youth violence as a public health epidemic that can be **prevented** when a community works together. Our speaker will be Bass Zanjani, the Youth Violence Prevention Coordinator for the City of Minneapolis. Recent research has indicated that Cleveland is a high risk neighborhood for youth violence so this will be an opportunity for CNA residents to learn how we, as a community, can make a positive impact to help prevent youth violence. You can find more information about this initiative at <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/dhfs/yv.asp>.

2010 Landscape Grants Available

The Cleveland Neighborhood Association Landscape Grant Program has returned for the 2010 growing season with an exciting change! In 2010, Landscape Grants will be available to assist with rain gardens as well as boulevard gardens. Cleveland residents can apply for a reimbursement of up to \$100 for native, perennial plants that will be planted in a new garden on the boulevard or a new rain garden installed in a resident's yard. The rain garden must be installed to manage stormwater and/or contain runoff in order to reduce yard waste or pollutants entering the stormwater system.

Residents who are thinking about installing a rain garden are encouraged to attend a Metro Blooms Rain Garden workshop this spring to learn more about rain gardens and how to install them. A workshop is planned for Tuesday, May 25 at 6:30pm at Lucy Craft Laney School, but there are a number of other workshops planned at various locations in Minneapolis beginning April 8 (you can view the complete schedule and register for a workshop at www.metroblooms.org). After you attend a rain garden workshop, you will have the opportunity to be partnered with a Cleveland resident who installed a rain garden last year, and that person will assist you with your design and installation. Once a garden plan is complete, each resident can apply for a landscape grant to offset the cost of some of the plants for the rain garden.

The CNA landscape grants are limited, but once your plan is approved, the funds are "reserved" so as long as you complete the installation and reimbursement request, the funds will be paid after inspection. Each household may only apply for one CNA Landscape Grant. Recipients of 2009 Landscape Grants are **not** eligible to receive one this year.

You can obtain more information or a Landscape Grant application by calling 612-588-1155, by e-mailing the CNA office at cna@clevelandneighborhood.org, or by going to the link on the CNA website at www.clevelandneighborhood.org.

Spring Cleaning, Saturday, May 15th

It's time to pick up the litter, sweep the sidewalks, and get ready for summer! Volunteers are needed on Saturday, May 15th to help. The Cleveland Neighborhood association will supply fliers and garbage bags for block clubs to participate. Just call the office at 612-588-1155, and they will be delivered to your home on May 13th. Let's make Cleveland shine!



- Pg 2 - Community Garden
- Spring Inspections
- Pg 3- Rain Barrels
- Blight
- City Trees
- Earth Day
- Weatherization
- Solicitors

Northend Community Garden



Fifteen Northside neighbors and friends gathered at Folwell Park on Saturday, March 6, to share and discuss plans for a community garden to be planted this spring on an empty lot at 3031 Penn Avenue North. The property is owned by Darryl Weivoda (owner of North End Hardware), and he has given enthusiastic support to the use of this land for a community garden. The lot will be divided into 24 individual plots which gardeners will agree to maintain and care for using organic practices. In addition, there will be a communal flower garden in the front and a shared area in the center for growing food for local food shelves or other places of need.

Energy was high at the meeting, even with plenty of snow still covering the ground! Many requests have already been made for an individual plot. There are still plots remaining, as well as the possibility of expansion, so don't hesitate to express interest. There will be plenty of opportunities for involvement for those who do not desire an individual plot. Several community organizations supporting youth and vulnerable adults in our city have already gotten connected with this project.

A spring workday is scheduled for Saturday, April 10, starting at 10 am. A class taught by a master gardener is being planned. There is some wood work to be done -- compost bins, a bench, etc. Several of those present on March 6 took on other responsibilities and organizational tasks. If you are interested in being part of this neighborly adventure, contact us at: northendcommunitygarden@gmail.com. Colorful fliers are available at the hardware store and a few other locations in the neighborhood.

-- The Kosowski Family

LIVE ON THE DRIVE

6-8pm Thursday

June 10th - Jevetta and Fred Steele

July 8th - To be announced

August 12th - Seven Steps To Havana



Special thanks to our founding partner North Memorial Medical Center and to North End Hardware for their generous donations to help make this summer's Live on the Drive concerts a reality.

SPRING INSPECTIONS SWEEP

Just a friendly heads up, neighbors...the City of Minneapolis has started to conduct inspection sweeps in the Cleveland Neighborhood this spring which will continue into early summer. In general, the inspectors will be looking for tall weeds or grass, trash in the yard, inoperable motor vehicles in driveways and other things that can be observed from the street or alley such as peeling paint on houses or garages. They will also be looking for deteriorating and/or crumbling front steps.

If you are a senior citizen or are disabled, and you receive a citation to paint or repair your house, there are resources where you may be able to obtain assistance:



Metro Paint-a-thon – paints the exteriors of houses and garages for low income seniors and disabled (<http://paintathon.gmcc.org/>). CNA has applications and more info.

A Brush with Kindness – Is a program of the Habitat for Humanity which assists low income homeowners with repairing and maintaining their homes (<http://www.tchabitat.org/Page.aspx?pid=299>).

The mission of Rebuilding Together Twin Cities is to bring volunteers and communities together to improve the homes and lives of low-income homeowners. (<http://www.rebuildingtogether-twincities.org>).

Hearts and Hammers -Twin Cities provides exterior painting and home improvement assistance for seniors and low-income homeowners. **Hearts & Hammers - Twin Cities, Inc.** (<http://www.heartsandhammers.org/>).

The Cleveland Neighborhood Association through their “Cleveland Paints” program can help you to apply for any of these programs or can help you to request an extension from the Inspections Department.

Do you need information about Rain Barrels?

Using a Rain Barrel can be a great way to manage Storm Water on your property and can reduce the amount of water you pay to keep your lawn and garden healthy and green. Besides the cost of purchasing or making your own rain barrel, you will also need to make some modification to a downspout to collect the water. The neighborhood would like to know if concern over making these changes has prevented you from installing a rain barrel.

CNA would also like to know if you feel you need additional resources or information to assist you with making a decision about adding rain barrels to your yard. Let us know what type of information would be helpful to you by calling the neighborhood at 612-588-1155 or by email: cna@clevelandneighborhood.org.

If there is interest, we will include further information and resources in the next newsletter.

CELEBRATE EARTHDAY!

The 16th annual Earth Day Watershed Clean Up will be on Saturday, April 17th, from 9:30am-12 noon at parks throughout the twin cities. The parks closest to the Cleveland Neighborhood are:

- Creekview Park, 5001 Humboldt Ave N
- Folwell Park, 1615 Dowling Ave N
- Webber Park, 4400 Dupont Ave N

No preregistration is required; you can sign up on the morning of the event. However, groups of 20 or more are asked to contact the coordinator, Arik Rudolph at 612-230-6484. You can get more information online at www.minneapolisearthday.com.

Neighborhood Supports City’s Efforts to Reduce Blight

The Cleveland Neighborhood has provided the City of Minneapolis with letters of support for their intended acquisition of 3301 Russell Ave N and 3750 Queen Ave N. Each of these properties is in foreclosure, and the City’s plan is to either rehabilitate or to demolish each property depending on an evaluation of the condition of each. These properties have been a concern for the immediate neighbors, and the entire neighborhood looks forward to the City addressing blight in our community.

SOLICITORS

The sunny and warm spring weather tends to bring out more than just the robins; soon the solicitors will be at our doors, trying to sell us windows, roofs or alarm systems. If you find a solicitor on your doorstep, DO NOT invite him inside; rather ask to see his license. The City of Minneapolis defines a solicitor as *a supplier who engages or employees agents or representatives to go door to door to offer for sale goods or services for future delivery with advance payment*. Minneapolis requires that all solicitors have a license. Charitable solicitors must wear an ID badge with their name, the name of the organization, and the organization’s solicitation permit #. If the person on your doorstep does not produce a license or ID close the door and dial 311 to report them. If at any time you feel threatened or harassed by a solicitor, close the door and dial 911.



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**Cleveland Neighborhood office is located at the south end
of Lucy Craft Laney at Cleveland Park School—3333 Penn Ave No.**
OFFICE HOURS: 8 am-4 pm Tuesday and Thursday and by appointment on Friday
CNA: PO Box 11635 Minneapolis, MN 55411
Phone: 612-588-1155 E-mail: cna@clevelandneighborhood.org

This newsletter is made available through the sponsorship of the
Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP)

Cleveland Community Calendar

Board meeting
7 PM, CNA office, Monday
April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19

Events
6:30 PM, CNA Office Thursday
April 8, May 13

Community Development
6:30 PM, CNA office, Monday
April 12, May 10, June 14, July 12

Cleveland Neighborhood Meeting
7 PM, Lucy Craft Laney Multipurpose Room
Wed, May 26th (see page 1 article)

Crime and Safety
6:30 PM, CNA office, Monday
April 5, May 3, June 7, July 6 (Tuesday)

4PAC
7 PM, Fourth Precinct, Tuesday
April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20
(call 4th precinct police department to confirm)

Any one of these events are a great way to contribute and meet your neighbors!