

APRIL 2026

Fulton Neighborhood News

LUNAR NEW YEAR RECAP

The Fulton Neighborhood Association successfully hosted its second Lunar New Year celebration, continuing its commitment to celebrating cultural diversity and strengthening community connections. The idea for this event first emerged in November 2024 with the goal of creating a space where neighbors could learn about Lunar New Year traditions while promoting inclusion and representation for Asian American families in the community.

This year’s event featured both returning and new activities. Families enjoyed cultural arts and crafts, including a paper dragon activity hosted by NorthStar Art Club. Children also participated in a Lunar New Year zodiac scavenger hunt, excitedly searching for the 12 zodiac animals and earning chocolate gold coins as prizes.

“For our family, it was a special experience to share with our elementary school child, who even brought a friend along to learn about the holiday together. To see the children explore, try new things, and discover instruments they had never seen before.” —Melanie

“I am wowed by the diversity in this room. I had never met so many other people like myself. It was a lot easier to attend for my family than the bigger celebrations in the City.” —Tam

Entertainment included children’s storytelling and sing-along activities, face painting, photo booth, and the opportunity to try bubble tea and momo dumplings from a local vendor. A professional flute player also introduced several traditional instruments and demonstrated how they are played.

Co-host Sophie Su and Tawnya Artisst-Anderson thank the Fulton Neighborhood Association, volunteers, and partners who made this celebration a success! Show these amazing local businesses some love—hire them for your next party or event. Food by **Amazing Momo US** and **Thirsty Dragon Drinks**; photo booth by **NexGen Events & Design** <https://www.nexgeneventsanddesign.com/>; storytime by **Rose Lani** <https://roselanimusic.com/>; Hulusi performance by **Ziyue Tan**; face painting by **Pink Giraffe MX** <https://www.pinkgiraffemx.com/>; photography by **Suzie Bennett**; and arts & crafts by **North Star Art Club** <https://northstarartclub.com/>.

Volunteers: John Bender, Dani Jimenez, Alexis Knaus, Melanie, Thomas Eaton, Ian Harrison, Kristen Ingle, Melissa Lo, Allison Lu, Mary Lunn, Amanda Niskode-Dossett, Richelle Norton, Sara & Nora Piepenburg, Kimberly Rubel, Max Rosielle, Jason Su, Staci, Jenny & Justin Waldron, Violet Wu, Mike Youngblood.



Revisit the celebration in pictures



Upcoming FNA Events

April

- Earth Day Cleanup & Free Geek Electronics Drive
April 18, 10am-3pm

May

- FNA Board Meeting
May 13, 6:30 pm
- The Great Winter Sendoff
May 17, 12-3pm at Southwest High School

June

- FNA Board Meeting
June 10, 6:30pm
- Community Dinners
June 17, June 24, 5:30pm

Upcoming Pershing Park Events

- Dinner & Movie \$12
April 17, May 1, May 15, May 29, June 12, June 19, June 26, 5:30pm-8:00pm
- Senior Luncheon \$12
April 21, May 19, June 16, 11:30am-1:30pm
- NEW! Summer Rec Plus Full Day care \$46/ day
7am-6pm

Scan QR code for more details.



Southwest Community Ed

- Family Dance Party \$5 and food shelf donation on
April 17, 6:30pm-9pm

Calling rock-'n'-rollers of all ages! Dance to an evening of great music and win prizes. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Fulton Neighborhood Association

The FNA is a 501(c)3 organization funded by the City of Minneapolis and community donations. Our mission and vision is as follows:

Mission: The Fulton Neighborhood Association fosters community connections, supports learning and growth, encourages city engagement, and contributes to the fabric of a stronger community

Vision: A neighborhood where every resident is heard, valued, empowered, and engaged with each other and the broader community.

FNA Board of Directors

- Sophie Su, President
- Melanie Heu-Kanow, VP
- Seth Salenger, Treasurer
- Kristen Ingle, Secretary
- Tawnya Artisst-Anderson
- John Bender
- Ian Harrison
- Jill Lock
- Blaine Miller-McFeeley
- Blake Ward
- Mike Youngblood

Corporate & Legacy Giving

Support your neighborhood by donating to Friends of Fulton! Your gift supports community programs and local initiatives year-round. Friends of Fulton is a **501(c)(3) nonprofit; donations are tax-deductible.** We welcome individual, corporate, and legacy gifts.

For more information:
fna@fultonneighborhood.org

FNA MAKES IMPACTFUL RENT RELIEF CONTRIBUTION



We know mutual aid efforts are providing the most nimble way to support neighbors in this moment in ways the local government cannot meet. We know our community has been carrying heavy burdens, especially our neighbors who have been targeted by federal immigration enforcement directly.

In this acute moment of need, the Fulton Neighborhood Association is announcing a \$20,000 commitment to rent relief for neighbors facing housing instability. This investment reflects our mission and values, grounded in the understanding that housing stability is essential to the fabric of a strong, healthy, and connected community.

Our first \$10,000 donation went to support Harvest from the Heart Emergency Rental Relief Fund. Since January, this fund has disbursed nearly \$600,000 in rent assistance to over 450 families, averaging about \$1,400 per household. We are grateful for their tireless work to serve our neighbors.

The demand for help remains high, and we would love for neighbors to join us in giving. Donations can be made here: <https://www.harvestfromtheheart.org/donate>
Tax ID: 41-0760816

THE GREAT WINTER SENDOFF: SNOW ANGEL CELEBRATION



Sunday, May 17th, Noon-3pm at Southwest High School

We're excited to partner with the City of Minneapolis Public Works Department and Southwest Community Education to host our first-ever event to close out winter together. It'll be a fun, neighborhood-focused gathering with new tasty food vendors—Dirty Docks Soda Company, Pizza Karma, ice cream and more!

We'll have live music from the Northern Winds Concert Band, plus a special hulusi performance by Ziyue Tan. She'll even teach a bit about this beautiful instrument, so come early if you want a spot. There will also be booths from local organizations and a Gratitude Wall to share appreciation.

We'll also be celebrating our Snow Angel volunteers for everything they've done to keep our neighborhood accessible this winter. A special shout out to **Sophie Su** and **Jenny Waldron** for all the time and energy they poured into the program. The event is free, open to all ages, and everyone is welcome.

Why I joined the Fulton Snow Angel Team

"I found the Fulton Snow Angel Program through the neighborhood newsletter. Watching my aging parents struggle with tasks they once handled easily made me realize how important dependable help is. Joining felt like a meaningful way to support older adults in our community." — Paul

METRO TRANSIT E LINE

Neighbors jumped aboard the excitement for the new BRT E Line!



Thanks to a Metro Transit grant, we hosted two info sessions and two chances to ride together. About 30 neighbors kicked things off with an opening-day meetup at Raag before hopping on the E Line to France 44.

In February, another group rode to the Walker for an art-filled outing. These adventures made it easy (and fun!) for neighbors to learn the route, try the new service, and connect along the way.

More information can be found at: <https://www.metrotransit.org/e-line-project>

EARTH DAY CLEAN UP & ELECTRONICS RECYCLING



Saturday, April 18, 9:30-1:00, Pershing Park

A Pershing Park tradition! Join your Fulton neighbors for family-friendly Earth Day fun and service. Volunteers will be on-hand to coordinate trash cleanup in the park, raking and mulching, and flower planting. We'll provide supplies along with FREE coffee from a neighborhood favorite, Jones Coffee, and donuts! We'll also be staging an electronics recycling drive in the parking lot, sponsored by **Free Geek Twin Cities**, with on-site data destruction for many devices.

See the qr code for a list of acceptable items (TVs, computers, printers, phones, chargers, cords, media, and more!).



ELIZA WINSTON

At Fulton Neighborhood Association's March Board Meeting, we were joined by MPS Educator Jason Benjamin, who has been working to build awareness about an important figure in Minnesota history, Eliza Winston. Eliza Winston essentially ended de facto slavery in Minnesota after asserting her freedom in a landmark court case brought on her behalf in 1860. Enslaved in Mississippi, Winston was brought to Minnesota by her enslaver, where she sought her freedom with the help of local abolitionists.

Her case argued that being held in a free state made her enslavement illegal, and a Minnesota court ultimately ruled in her favor. Minnesota's constitution established that "there shall be no enslavement nor involuntary servitude in the state of Minnesota." Winston's courage and the community support she received made her case a powerful example of resistance to slavery in the North. The location where Winston was rescued from enslavement was in the Fulton neighborhood.

The Fulton Neighborhood Association will be working with Jason, Minneapolis Park Board and many other stakeholders on a project to properly recognize this significant event in Minnesota and U.S. history. Watch our socials and e-news for more information.

Local Highlight: Dharma Field

Interested in Buddhism, Zen, or meditation? You don't have to leave Fulton to explore them. Dharma Field Meditation and Learning Center, located at 3118 W. 49th Street, offers a welcoming space for study and practice.

Founded in 1997 by Steve Hagen, author of *Buddhism Plain and Simple*, Dharma Field provides daily meditation, talks, classes, retreats, and community outreach.

Newcomers can start with twice-monthly meditation instruction, or join a Sunday session for meditation and a free talk. Learn more at dharmafield.org or connect with us at an FNA event.

Pets of Fulton



Kona is a lovable 55-pound mini Sheepadoodle with a soft white-and-apricot coat, a big, playful personality, and a love for meeting new people!

He spends his days chasing critters, greeting neighbors, and lounging near Pershing Park—or stopping for a pup cup at Jones Coffee. A local favorite, he's often spotted atop "Kona's Rock" at 49th and Zenith.

Who's Your Block Captain?

FNA is increasing its efforts to engage and support Block Captains & Neighborhood Leaders. If you'd like to get more involved, reach out at fna@fultonneighborhood.org

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SAVE THE DATE: COMMUNITY DINNER KICKOFF JUNE 17TH

Wednesday, June 17th, 5:30 pm at Pershing Park Rec Center

Summer is one of our favorite times of the year to be part of the Fulton community! The warm weather brings a season full of fun, organized by the Fulton Neighborhood Association, park staff, and our neighbors. Join us on June 17th as we kick off this summer's Fulton Community Dinners!

What are the Fulton Community Dinners?

Wednesdays at Pershing Park, together with neighbors, the Fulton Neighborhood Association is cooking up dinner for the community. Stop by starting at 5:30 pm to grab a free dinner. This is a great time to make connections, chat with neighbors, play at the park, and enjoy summer. All are welcome!

Where & When are the Dinners?

- Wednesdays starting 6/17, 5:30-7:00 pm (or until food runs out)
 - Mark all the dates: 6/17, 6/24, 7/8, 7/22, 7/29, 8/5, 8/12
- Inside the air-conditioned Pershing Park Rec Center building
- Rain or shine!

Want to help out?

Volunteer: We need help cooking, serving, and cleaning up.

Donate: We'd be grateful for your support. Fulton Neighborhood Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit neighborhood organization. Your donation is tax-deductible.

Scan the QR code to sign up to volunteer and donate, or visit our website fultonneighborhood.org/events/community-dinners/

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Fulton E-news



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