



January 2010

The Fulton Neighborhood's boundaries are 47th Street to 54th Street and France Avenue to Penn Avenue.

Fulton Neighborhood News is published bimonthly by the Fulton Neighborhood Association (FNA) with funding from the Fulton Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP).

FNA is a nonprofit organization created by and for the residents and businesses of the Fulton neighborhood. Board meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m., at Pershing Park. All meetings are open to the public.

Fulton NRP is an organization of FNA that implements neighborhood improvement projects. Committee meetings are held the first Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m., at Pershing Park.

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Save Energy & Money
With CES Workshops, Home Energy Visits

This fall, 120 Fulton families took advantage of the opportunity to attend a Community Energy Services (CES) workshop and to receive a \$20 home energy visit (valued at \$400). The second round of CES workshops will be held in March 2010.

Even if you've already insulated and sealed your house, the CES program can help you by providing additional energy-saving aids such as CFLs, low-flow faucets, information on shadow power and other helpful tips. Fulton resident Randy Van Vugt, who had already made many energy improvements prior to his CES assessment, says that even though his house was locked up tight: "CES had good information on how to make our house more healthy by improving ventilation."

SAVE THE DATE
CES Workshops
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Tues., March 9
Good Shepherd
4801 France

Thurs., March 11
LHCS Upper Campus
4912 Vincent

Fulton resident Melinda Czaia reports: "The experience was really helpful to help us determine our energy usage and how to improve it through specific tips and suggestions. We learned that energy savings could be gained through simple changes." She said the workshop was especially helpful in learning of these changes and that the home visit was very thorough.

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Another Artful Year Planned
Arts Committee Invites Artists to Submit Ideas

The Fulton Arts Committee seeks to continue funding the neighborhood arts program, which awarded nearly \$7,500 in grants in 2009. Although the budget for the 2010 neighborhood arts program has yet to be determined, the committee invites resident artists to submit ideas for consideration. Project possibilities range from music, dance, film, art performances, workshops as well as temporary or permanent art installations in the Fulton neighborhood.

In 2009, the committee awarded grants for three art projects:

- ☞ Fulton Favorites lawn sign project led by artist Gail Katz James and displayed at the Fulton Festival
- ☞ A mural at Lake Harriet Upper Campus led by artist Jane Elias of Simply Jane Art Studios
- ☞ Peace Child musical led by Douglas Stewart, with preview performance at Fulton Festival

For more information, please contact Lynn Steele at steele@bitstream.net.

US Census Bureau Hiring

The US Census Bureau is hiring in Minneapolis this spring and needs people from Fulton neighborhood. The work is temporary and most positions are part-time as a census taker which offers flexible hours and pay starting at \$16.50/hr.

Contact the Minneapolis Census office at 612-216-6150 to schedule an appointment to take their standardized test. You may also learn more by visiting www.2010censusjobs.gov.

West 47th Street

Publication Information

To submit article suggestions, please contact the Fulton Neighborhood Line at 612-922-3106 or send an e-mail to info@fultonneighborhood.org

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West 54th Street

Save Energy & Money continued from page 1

Here's what Jeff Alden (FNA/Housing Committee) had to say about his home energy visit:

"On the appointed day, two home energy auditors from CEE showed up at our house promptly at 3 p.m. While one of the guys went around the house unscrewing old light bulbs and replacing them with CFLs, the other began setting up a front door blower test to look for air leaks. While he was rigging that up, he asked if he could drill a hole in a closet, and pulled out a little cap to plug it up afterwards. By now, the other fellow was in the attic measuring the insulation. Soon we were all down in the basement looking at the furnace and hearing, thankfully, that it was in great shape. All the while, the guys were offering tips and gadgets for various low cost adjustments we could make on our own including a filter to lower the flow from the kitchen tap; electric socket sealers; a programmable thermostat and low flow shower head -- though we didn't take them up on the last two. We ended up in the kitchen where they provided us with the names of approved contractors, a rough idea of how much various improvements (like insulation) should cost, and information about significant rebates that are available to homeowners in Fulton -- all in all, a very efficient use of twenty bucks."

Reserve your place at the March home energy workshops now. Contact Ashley Robertson at arobertson@mncee.org or call 612-335-5869.

Funding for this project was provided by, among other sources, the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund as recommended by the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR).

School Choice due Jan. 31

Fulton neighbors are guaranteed placement at Lake Harriet Community School, but residents will also be provided with transportation to the following free, Minneapolis Public Magnet School Programs: Armatage Montessori, Barton Open, Ramsey Fine Arts, Whittier International Baccalaureate, or Windom Dual Immersion. Many of these schools are holding tours and open houses at this time. For more information, visit <http://schoolchoice.mpls.k12.mn.us> or call 612-668-1840. School choice cards can be completed online at: http://schoolchoice.mpls.k12.mn.us/online_request_card.html.

Pershing Park Update

Winter Programs – Space is still available in selected programs. Check online for program information at www.minneapolisparcs.org or call us at 612-370-4928.

Winter Activities – Check out city-wide activities, events and facility information in the "Cool Activities Guide" available at Pershing Park. Information is also available for park programs at www.minneapolisparcs.org.

France Avenue South

Penn Avenue South



Laura Martinez, pictured right, with son David, daughter Rebecca and their cat, Tilly. David is in 9th grade and Rebecca in 4th. Laura's older daughters are both married and have children. Laura has 5 grandchildren. "This is the first time the family has lived in the same metro area... the same state even."

Now there are many opportunities for her family to get together. "My daughters love spending time here. We've designated that Halloween will be celebrated at our house. I love the safety and security."

Laura, in addition to working part time, will start classes this term at St. Kate's with the goal of becoming a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesiologist.

At Home in Fulton

With the Help of FNA & the City of Lakes Community Land Trust

Laura Martinez is thrilled to own her own home. "Rebecca and David and I have shared a home with another family member for most of the past 10 years," Laura said. They've lived in a small cabin in northern Minnesota, then in a family member's home caring for her sister during a long illness. They've shared a home in Texas with one of Laura's older daughters and her family. Most recently, they returned to the home in Burnsville where Laura grew up as one of ten children.

The need for their own space has grown stronger over the years. But, looking at her options, Laura didn't believe she could afford to stay in the Twin Cities. "The idea of finding our own place was so out of my realm of possibility." Discovering the FNA/CLCLT's Homebuyer Initiated Program made ownership seem reachable for the first time. The affordability was built by \$50,000 from Fulton neighborhood, \$60,000 in State and Hennepin County funding through the CLCLT, plus \$25,000 in City rehab funding.

Laura worked with CLCLT to find a land trust home. "When we walked into this house, we were in love," she said. They had to wait out another potential buyer, a contractor, but time was on their side and they were able to buy the home. With the help of City rehab funding, a new roof was added as well as new plumbing. They reinforced the basement wall and filled in the backyard. They discovered the original roof had not been installed correctly and water was running down the wall, so the exterior framing on the north wall and the east side were replaced.

"It's a pleasure to be here," Laura says. "I'm so happy and grateful about this program, I could shout it out my front door. This is it. This is home."

FNA still has funding for two more land trust homes. For more information, visit the CLCLT website at www.clclt.org or call 612-721-7556 x 18.

Friend of Fulton Nancy Lo: Trashbasher

Fulton Resident Shares her Recycling Know-How

by Suzy Troha

When Barbara Daenzer called the city to request a smaller garbage cart, the woman she talked to had a hard time believing that a family of four could get away with something smaller than the enormous carts most city dwellers use. Barbara credits Nancy Lo, whom Barbara nominated for a Friend of Fulton award last fall, with the Daenzers' low household waste. For the past two years, Nancy has collected recyclables that the city doesn't accept — Styrofoam, yogurt cups, light bulbs, plastic screw lids, pizza boxes, you name it — from nearly anyone who's interested and distributed them to a network of recyclers throughout the region.

She started down this path when she learned about a Coon Rapids facility that recycles Styrofoam and plastics not accepted by any of the local curbside collections. She felt she had to use it. Then, since she was going to Coon Rapids anyway, why not take other people's plastics too?

"It's hard to stop once you know you can do it," she says. She is working on letting other people know how to recycle more than what goes into the city bin. Nancy has started a blog, The Trash Basher, to give people centralized information on how, where and what to recycle in the Twin Cities region. (You can find Nancy Lo's blog at trashbasher.blogspot.com)

"A lot of people don't know how many plastic bags they can recycle," Nancy commented. She says that more than just newspaper bags, grocery bags and dry cleaning bags are recyclable, but recyclers don't publicize that cereal bags, bread bags, chip bags and zipper bags (with the zipper end of the bag removed) are recyclable because of the cost to sort out the wet or crumbly bags. "They have to be clean: no crumbs, no food left in them at all. And they have to be dry."

Nancy's hopes for future trash reduction in Minneapolis include more curbside composting and plastics recycling. "It would be good if was mandatory. Because I think that a lot of people, even though they know that they can do it, they don't."

So how much has Nancy reduced her own family's trash output from all this recycling?

"You know those plastic Kemps ice cream buckets? It takes us 2-3 weeks to fill it. The Linden Hills curbside composting pilot program makes a big dent in our trash. We have the smaller garbage cart that the city offers and we put it out once a month, and even then it's not full," she said. Organics collection is not yet available in Fulton, but the City of Minneapolis Solid Waste Department hopes to make this a city-wide program by January 2013. For now, Fulton residents must rely on "eco-friends" in Linden Hills or East Calhoun neighborhoods.

Where do Nancy's recyclables go?

Styrofoam and some other plastics go to the Coon Rapids recycling facility.

Yogurt, cottage cheese, and hummus containers (#5 plastic tubs) go to Whole Foods & Eastside Food Co-op.

Ikea takes **fluorescent and incandescent light bulbs**.

Plastic, threaded lids go to Aveda stores (They make them into new shampoo bottles.)

Pizza boxes land in the curbside composting bins of friends taking part in the Linden Hills organics collection pilot program.

Plastic bags are recycled at "It's In the Bag" stations at local grocery stores, including Lunds, Linden Hills Co-op.

For lists of more goods you can recycle and where, visit Nancy's blog: trashbasher.blogspot.com.

