



News

January 2004

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

Fulton Neighborhood News is published every other month by a committee of 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. Its board meetings are held: **The 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7p.m. at Pershing Park—all meetings are open to the public.**

Fulton NRP is an organization of FNA that implements neighborhood improvement projects. Its committee meetings are held: **the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at Pershing Park.**

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Attention Block Leaders... And Neighbors Who Organize

It is not the streets, houses or sidewalks that make Fulton a neighborhood. It is you, our residents! Fulton Neighborhood Association, in partnership with the City of Minneapolis' SAFE team, works to support this neighborhood asset by helping blocks organize their residents.

A newly formed Fulton Neighborhood Association (FNA) committee has been developed to support block clubs in Fulton. We will begin uniting current block leaders and fill the gap for those blocks without leadership.

Are you active with your block and find yourself organizing events 'unofficially', but need some help getting connected with the neighborhood and/or city? Are you unsure whether you have a person officially representing your block? Contact Rae Ann Vandeputte at vandeputte@netzero.net or 612-922-3651.

In March we will publish a list of blocks without a leader. Please consider becoming a block leader today and help keep our neighborhood strong!

See the back page for information on Fulton NRP planning and the Southwest High parking proposal.

Getting to the bottom of the ballot



Before the Election "So It's Your First Caucus"

Bob's Political Story—Getting to the Bottom of the Ballot, or "Get Bob", brings you the story of "Bob" and his on-going struggle to find his way through local political issues and elections. If you have ever found yourself wishing for deeper understanding or involvement with local politics, you may be very interested in Bob's political journey. This week, we bring you:

Bob's First Caucus—Bob has always known in the back of his mind that political types get together annually to set their party-of-choice agenda at something called a caucus. One year he even took the time to look up the meeting location for his party-of-choice. But when Tuesday arrived, he decided to stay home instead. He just wasn't sure what to expect or how he could contribute. But this year, he's attending Get Bob's "So It's Your First Caucus" discussion where he'll learn what it all means and how he can lend his political voice to the party.

Join Bob in getting caucus-ready at . . .

"So it's Your First Caucus"

A non-partisan discussion on getting involved in party politics
Tuesday, February 10th, 7—9 p.m.

Southwest High School Community Education
Chowen Ave South and 47th Street – enter corner doors

City News

Minneapolis & St. Paul 2004 Home Tour

Home Nominations Now Accepted

Nominations are now being accepted from homeowners ready to showcase their homes on the Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour on May 1-2, 2004. Last year, more than 5,100 visitors made more than 27,000 visits to the 39 Minneapolis homes on the tour. In addition, five neighborhood tours gave visitors a more in-depth look at the communities supporting these homes.

Now in its 17th year, the Home Tour is an inspiring celebration of city living that brings thousands of home enthusiasts together for a weekend of sharing home remodeling ideas and new rental and ownership opportunities. From new construction to creative renovations, the Home Tour showcases hip downtown condominiums and lofts, cozy cottage-style homes, vintage Queen Anne Victorians and more.

Nomination forms can be obtained on the official Home Tour Web site at www.msphometour.com or by calling Brett at 612-673-5158. The deadline for nominations is Friday, February 13, 2004. As always, neighborhood tours will be a major focus of the event. Neighborhood organizations are encouraged to do their own recruiting for the tour, so they can show off their charming homes, friendly neighborhoods and bustling commercial corridors.

The Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour is presented by the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) in cooperation with the cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul and others. The Home Tour's most important partners, of course, are the homeowners who volunteer to open their homes.

2004 Minneapolis Library Hours Changed

Reductions at Local Branches

Due to recent budget cuts, public libraries in Minneapolis will be reducing hours beginning Monday, January 5, 2004. The new schedule keeps all city libraries open and provides service at six or more libraries every day but Sunday. The city-wide schedule is designed to meet the diverse needs of library users with a combination of morning, afternoon, evening, and Saturday hours. For more information about Minneapolis Public Libraries, check out www.mplib.org.

New Hours for Libraries Near Fulton:

Washburn Library

Monday 1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Wednesday 1:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Thursday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Saturday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Linden Hills Library

Monday 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Wednesday 12:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Friday 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Park Happenings

Pershing Park Updates

- ◆ **The Winter Wonderland Dinner—January 31st, 5 to 7 p.m.**
Event will include crafts, entertainment and a great meal to help break up the doldrums of winter. Please register by Jan 24th so we will be sure to have enough food. Cost is \$5 per person.
- ◆ **Winter Program Registration—January 5th, 1:00 p.m.**
Classes start Monday Jan. 12th and run through March 19th.
- ◆ **Adult CPR Class—February 4th, 5 to 9 p.m.**
This is an American Red Cross Class. Cost is \$35.00. Register at Pershing Park by February 2nd.
- ◆ **Adult Card Night—Friday nights beginning January 16th, 7 to 9 p.m.**
Beginning January 16th, Friday nights are adult card nights at Pershing Park. Cribbage, Rummy, 500, and Canasta are all available between 7 and 9 p.m. Bring your friends and get to know your neighbors.
- ◆ **Pershing Neighborhood Breakfast—Saturday, February 21st, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.**
Cost is \$4 at the door, but only \$3 if you call ahead of time.

City of Lakes Loppet

Ski Event Returns with an Uptown Finish

Returning for its second run, the Minneapolis City of Lakes Loppet has moved the finish line from Lake Calhoun to Uptown, creating an even more exciting end to this unique urban winter event. Cross country skiers from around the world will travel to Minneapolis to compete in a variety of ski races, including a 35K loppet going through the heart of Minneapolis, its parks. But, this event is not just for the cross country ski expert—novices and children have many opportunities to participate. And, for the spectator, check out the scheduled neighborhood gatherings along the race route (for example, West Calhoun's Loppet Luau—a winter beach party). For up to date information on race registration, schedule, and spectator options, go to

www.cityoflakesloppet.com.

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Fulton Neighborhood Communication Disclaimer: FNA publishes this newsletter to enhance public access to neighborhood information. While we try to keep the information timely and accurate, we make no guarantees. Readers should be aware that information in this publication may not reflect official positions of the Fulton Neighborhood Association Board of Directors or its individual members. FNN does not print unsolicited input from readers, though it welcomes any comments or suggestions readers may wish to provide.

Fulton's Phase II NRP Planning

Planning Process Culminates in February

At the beginning of 2003, FNA chartered a Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) Steering Committee to plan for a second allocation of neighborhood improvement funding. The funding allocation, although still uncertain in its size due to city budget cuts, will soon become available to neighborhoods who have completed most of their NRP Phase I projects. The planning process in Fulton included reviewing projects implemented through Phase I, completing a neighborhood survey, holding focus groups, and researching the potential for creating new projects and continuing successful ones.

With at least a 51% requirement to spend funds on housing-related projects, Fulton focused much of its planning efforts to assess neighborhood attitudes toward housing. The Housing Committee formed to manage this task implemented a random sample survey to learn what neighbors think about urban housing issues in Fulton. The input received from this process will be used to shape the Phase II housing projects and will soon be available to the public.

After a draft Phase II Action Plan is developed, neighbors will have an opportunity to weigh in with their opinion on the funding allocations and priorities laid out in the plan. Look for information about Fulton's housing process and the proposed Phase II projects in the March 2004 FNN publication. For more information about Fulton's NRP planning, go to www.fultonneighborhood.org.

Southwest High School Parking

Plan to Address Neighbor Concerns

Over the last few years, both the City and Southwest High School have heard an increasing number of concerns from neighborhood residents about accessing their homes due to the number of cars parked on their streets by school users (e.g., teachers, students, parents and community education participants). A task force was created consisting of residents, Minneapolis Public Works staff, Council Member Barret Lane's office, Community Education staff and Southwest High School management and students. After months of discussion, adjustments, alternate plans, meetings with neighbors and re-examination of neighborhood parking, the task force finalized a proposal.

Residents immediately surrounding the school are being asked to participate in a permit parking zone to ensure that school visitors are spread more evenly throughout the neighborhood. This will be a two-tier plan. Tier 1 would include Abbott, Beard, Chowen and Drew on streets 46th—48th Streets. Tier 2 will have the option of choosing permit parking after evaluating the impact of Tier 1. This tier includes Ewing and Zenith from 45th to 48th Streets, along with the 4500 blocks of Abbott, Beard, Chowen and Drew.

After the New Year, petitioners will visit homes on designated Tier 1 blocks to ask residents to consider signing the petition in support of permit parking. If 75% support is garnered, the request will be submitted to the City for approval by the City Council. The City is not setting a timeline or deadline for implementing Tier 2, since it cannot predict if parking behavior will change to necessitate the need for Tier 2.

Details regarding this project can be viewed from the Ward 13 website – www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/council/ward13, and click on "Current Ward Issues." If you do not have internet access, call the Ward 13 office (673-2213) and they will forward you hard copies of any materials you need.

The task force feels this proposal is an appropriate approach to addressing the issue of school-related parking, while taking the concerns of all residents into consideration.

