



News

March 2003

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.***

Fulton Neighborhood
At Pershing Park
3523 W. 48th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55410
(612) 922-3106, Fax (612) 922-5353
info@fultonneighborhood.org

Standing Tall in Fulton *Tina Smith, Political Organizer*

At home with husband Archie, sons, 15 year old Sam and 13 year old Mason, and their Bernese Mountain Dog Charlie, Tina Smith passionately lives her beliefs through political organizing. Most recently, Tina found herself playing a role in history when she became campaign manager for Vice President Walter Mondale's six-day senate campaign following the death of Senator Paul Wellstone.

With a background in marketing and business, Tina was a partner in a national political strategy firm from 1994 to 1999, when she resigned to stay closer to home and focus on Minnesota politics and community issues. In the course of her career, she developed a relationship with Vice President Mondale. When Mr. Mondale accepted the request from the Wellstone family to run for Senate, it was a natural step for Tina to serve as campaign manager.

Tina recalls that six-day campaign as a whirlwind of activity. "I went from having my cell phone ring one or two times an hour – usually from my kids – to answering it 40 to 50 times an hour with the frenzy of local and national press directed to me."

Tina expresses no regrets about being involved with the Mondale run, despite the difficulty of the task and the eventual outcome of the race. She continues her involvement in the public arena in her month-old position at Planned Parenthood of Minnesota/South Dakota as Vice President of Marketing and Public Affairs. In this position, she hopes to work for the prevention of unwanted pregnancies in what she describes as challenging times ahead for women's healthcare.

And Why Fulton?

Tina and her family moved into Fulton neighborhood from St. Louis Park in 1996 to gain the benefits of city life—easy access to downtown; walking to local retail sites like the neighborhood coffee shop, butcher shop and co-op; and friendly, organized neighborhoods.

"With homemade ice cream and badminton in the street," says Tina, "our annual block party the weekend before Memorial Day helped me get to know my neighbors." These neighborly connections have helped make Fulton a place the Smith family plans to remain into the future. (The rosemary potatoes at Zumbro's, she adds, keep her here as well.)

-By Michelle Martin

This is the first in a on-going series of profiles on neighbors in Fulton. If you have any neighbors you would like to recommend for consideration for this column, please call (612) 922-3106 or email to info@fultonneighborhood.org.

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Parks & Schools

What's happening in our Community?

Pershing Park Happenings *Community Events:*

Flashlight Egg Hunt and Dinner—March 21, 6 to 8 p.m. \$3.00 per person

Breakfast at Pershing—April 19, 8 to 10 a.m. \$3.00 at door

Japanese Flower Arranging Class for adults—Wed. April 9th from 7 to 9 p.m. Cost is \$20.00. Must be signed up by April 1st.

Summer Rec+—Registrations will begin on March 18th, between 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., for families in need of full time summer child care. This is a full-day, school age care program for Minneapolis children who have completed K - 6th grades. Rec+ kids are showered with a variety of recreational activities including swimming lessons, park classes, outside games, self-directed play, theme days, field trips and much more. Nutritious snacks are served daily. This program is available June 16th through August 29th (Mondays through Fridays), 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$102 per week. Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

New Look—Pershing Park has been repainted, come and check us out.

Summer Programs—Brochures for summer classes will be available April 1st. Registration will begin May 3rd at 9:00 AM.

Family Sock Hop *Friday, March 28, 2003*

Rock-n-Roll! Southwest Community Education will be sponsoring its annual Family Sock Hop on Friday, March 28th, and YOU'RE invited! You and your children, and/or grandchildren are invited for an evening of great music (50s, 60s & 70s), great games, treats and prizes, and lots of fond memories for rock-n-rollers of all ages! Cindy Gardner's "Rhythm & Swing Dancers" (an advanced swing dance club) will be on hand to show you some of those fancier moves. You'll be able to have your picture taken in front the famous '57 Chevrolet, and you can buy some take-out snacks at our own version of "Porky's Drive-In". We'll be spinning 45's from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The entry fee is \$5.00 per family and a food donation for the Metro Food Shelf. *All youngsters must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.* Please wear tennis shoes, or be prepared to wear stockings-only in the gym.

Southwest Technology Lab Open to Neighbors

Southwest Community Education has a "State-of-the-art" PC Computer lab for neighbors to use.

When is it open? The Lab is open on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., (*excluding Holidays and school vacations*). The winter dates for the lab will be from Monday, January 27, to Thursday, March 20th, and Spring Quarter, from April 7th to May 29th.

What does it cost to use it? The cost of using the lab is \$3.00 per hour (this includes \$.25 worth of printing), or you can buy a 10-hour punch card that includes \$3.00 worth of printing expenses (black & white prints are .05, and color prints are \$.50).

How do I arrange lab time? Please note: You MUST call ahead of time to reserve a computer for yourself. You cannot be guaranteed a spot if you don't call ahead.

You can call SW Community Ed at (612) 668-3100 for more information, or email at: TNeiman@mpls.k12.mn.us.

City News

What's Happening in Minneapolis that Neighbors Need to Know?

City Council Passes 5-Year Budget Direction—Prepares for Cuts in State Aid

The Minneapolis City Council approved a measure establishing a Five-Year Financial Direction for the City. This Financial Direction, which was supported by Mayor R.T. Rybak, provides City departments with a clear picture of the level of financial resources that will be available over the next five years. This information allows departments to be more innovative and do effective planning. Essentially, this proposal will be a road map for how the City cuts \$55 million from its budget over the next five years.

The City of Minneapolis anticipates a \$55 million gap between revenue and expenses over the next five years (2004-2008), based on the Five-Year Financial Forecast. City leaders will take additional steps in the coming weeks and months to cut spending and bridge that gap.

In mid-January, the Minneapolis City Council approved a resolution that sets a ceiling for employee annual wage increases at two percent for all future labor contracts. The measure, which was supported by Mayor R.T. Rybak, could save the City \$35 million in future wages through 2008.

Adopted. Yeas, 8; Nays, 4.

Council passed on Jan. 31, 2003

February 6, 2003, R.T. Rybak, Mayor

*Taken from the City of Minneapolis website. See www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/financial-forecast/ for more information about the budget dilemma.

Publication Information:

Articles Manager & Layout—Michelle Martin

Copy Editor—Ahndi Fridell

Advisor—Dave Delvoye

Distribution—Pat and Jerry Smrekar, Pershing Park youth

To submit article suggestions, please contact the Fulton Neighborhood Line at (612) 929-6157 or email to info@fultonneighborhood.org.

2003 City of Minneapolis Goals

- ◆ Build communities where all people feel safe and trust the City's public safety professionals and systems;
- ◆ Maintain the physical infrastructure to ensure a healthy, vital and safe City;
- ◆ Deliver consistently high quality City services at a good value to our taxpayers;
- ◆ Create an environment that maximizes economic development opportunities within Minneapolis by focusing on the City's physical and human assets;
- ◆ Foster the development and preservation of a mix of quality housing types that is available, affordable, meets current needs, and promotes future growth;
- ◆ Preserve and enhance our natural and historic environment and promote a clean, sustainable Minneapolis;
- ◆ Promote public, community and private partnerships to address disparities and to support strong, healthy families and communities;
- ◆ Strengthen City government management and enhance community engagement.

Adopted. Yeas, 12; Nays, none.

Passed January 17, 2003.

Approved January 23, 2003. R.T. Rybak, Mayor.



After the Election *Thinking Locally Year-Round*

We Voted 'Yes for Kids' . . .

So why is that not enough?

Minneapolis Public School referendums keep passing and yet the city's public schools are facing another round of budget shortfalls. Are you wondering why the referendum isn't enough? Come hear the facts from those who know all the numbers. **School Board Member Dennis Schapiro** and **MPS Chief Operating Officer David Jennings** will discuss the genesis of the current budget shortfalls, the way school funding is calculated and the educational implications of the current budget environment.

Tuesday, March 18th – 7 pm to 9 pm

Ride the Bus Lately?

Making Better Use of Transit Advantages in SW.

Compared to the sprawling suburbs, Southwest neighborhoods with their bus lines, a grid street system, sidewalks, bike lanes and a solid residential/retail mix, ride high on the transit evolutionary scale. But do these transit advantages mean that our job is done? Are we really less likely to hop in the car than our suburban neighbors? While the next generation of state power brokers sorts out regional transit issues, join us in a transit discussion facilitated by **State Senator Scott Dibble**. Our goal: Identify concrete, first steps we can take individually and collectively to reach our potential in Southwest as an example in livability and smart transit planning.

Tuesday, April 15th - 7 pm to 9 pm

Location: All seminars will be held at Southwest High School Community Education, Chowen Ave South and 47th Street – enter the main door on W. 47th St (door #3). The Community Education Staff will direct you to the room. Door #5, on the Chowen Ave (West) side of the building is handicapped accessible.

**This effort brought to you by Southwest Citizens for Civic Engagement and Southwest Community Education. Southwest Citizens for Civic Engagement is a project of the Fulton Neighborhood Association in cooperation with a growing list of neighborhood organizations including Linden Hills, Lynnhurst, Windom, Kenny, Armatage, and Kingfield. Call (612) 922-3106 for more information.*

Fulton Neighborhood Website Up!

Check out

fultonneighborhood.org

Fulton neighborhood has launched its first interactive website. Check it out and learn more about the opportunities for getting involved in your community.

If you would like to receive updates and announcements about important issues in Fulton neighborhood, please send an email to

list@fultonneighborhood.org. You will receive notices about projects in the neighborhood, funding and planning updates, announcements about special events, and updates about important community issues facing Southwest Minneapolis.

Help Plan the Fulton Festival

The date has been set—September 20th—and planning will begin for this 5th annual neighborhood gathering sponsored by Fulton Neighborhood Association (FNA), Pershing park, and Southwest Community Education. If you have attended this event in the past, you know it is a fun, community-building celebration for kids and adults. With a Fall theme, neighbors enjoy BBQ, petting zoo and pony rides, games for kids, and neighborhood involvement information. If you have enjoyed this neighborhood celebration in the past and want to help organize it this year, call the Fulton Neighborhood Line at 612-922-3106 or email to info@fultonneighborhood.org.