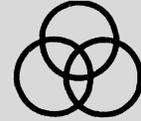


# NRP Link

August 2002

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Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program News



## History and humor inseparable at Lake Harriet historic restroom reopening celebration

Revitalizing the public restrooms at Lake Harriet might not be what some people have in mind when they think about historic preservation. But then again a restroom restoration project, more widely known as "Spiff the Biffs," was significant enough to enlist the support of five neighborhood groups, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, the City of Minneapolis, the Minneapolis Heritage Preservation Commission and a grassroots committee of local residents and area preservationists.

Designed by Minneapolis architect and Park Board member Harry Wild Jones in 1892, the two Lake Harriet restroom buildings, one for men and the other for women, were reopened with much fanfare and several bad restroom jokes at a celebration on Sunday, July 14, 2002.

The \$215,000 project, which required an intensive and far-reaching fundraising campaign, resulted in the complete restoration of the exterior of the women's building to its original colors of dark reddish-brown with green trim. Tours of the building's interior also revealed a late-Victorian tile floor, seven new bathroom stalls and two separate unisex bathrooms for family use. Benches and a refurbished fireplace inside the foyer of the women's facility provide a historical glimpse of how the building also served as a vital amenity to women seeking a comfortable refuge from extreme temperatures. The exterior of the men's building

was also restored as part of the project although the inside is now being used for park maintenance storage.

The two buildings, closed since 1990, represent the oldest buildings in the Minneapolis park system along with the Jones-designed superintendent's building in Loring Park. Jones designed several other buildings near Lake Harriet, including a picnic shelter on Lake

Harriet's west shore that is still in use today. While much of the hoopla surrounding the reopened restrooms was historical in nature, the importance of adding nine new facilities for women to an often-crowded area surrounding the Lake Harriet bandstand can't be overlooked. For years, women attending concerts and picnics at Lake Harriet had only two restrooms available to them.



Mayor R.T. Rybak, 11th Ward Council Member Scott Benson and NRP Director Bob Miller provided some light entertainment as part of the Spiff the Biffs reopening celebration on July 14.

The Linden Hills Neighborhood Council, the East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association, the Fulton Neighborhood Association, the Lynnhurst Neighborhood Association and the Tangletown Neighborhood Association all invested NRP funds in the project. If the Lake Harriet Historic Restroom Restoration Project has piqued your curiosity about the area's rich history, you may be interested in purchasing a copy of a book recently published by the Linden Hills History Study Group. For more information about purchasing a copy of the book, please contact Madalyn Cioci of the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council at 612-926-2906.

## **NRP Policy Board election set for Thursday, November 21, 2002**

### ***Filing forms available August 20, 2002***

Pending final approval by the NRP Policy Board at its August 19 meeting, the process for the election of neighborhood representatives and alternates for seats on the 2003 NRP Policy Board will begin on August 20. The election will be held on Thursday, November 21, 2002. Filing forms will be available at neighborhood organization offices, Minneapolis Public Libraries, the Minneapolis City Clerk's Office (Room 304 in City Hall), the League of Women Voters (LWV) office, the NRP office and on the NRP Web site at [www.nrp.org](http://www.nrp.org). As in past elections, the LWV will be assisting in all aspects of the election process. **Filing forms must be received by the LWV office no later than noon on Monday, September 23, 2002.**

### ***What is the NRP Policy Board?***

The NRP Policy Board is the governing body of the NRP. Its members provide overall direction to the program and are responsible for the review and approval of Neighborhood Action Plans. Neighborhood residents hold four of the 19 seats on the board and serve for a one-year term. Policy Board meetings are typically held one Monday each month from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Hennepin County Government Center.

### ***Who is eligible to run for a seat on the board?***

Candidates seeking a term on the Policy Board must be a resident of the appropriate neighborhood category (i.e. protection, revitalization, redirection) for a minimum of 30 days prior to the election and be at least 21 years old when their term of office begins in January, 2003. A neighborhood representative and alternate will be elected for each of the three neighborhood categories (protection, revitalization, redirection). An at-large representative and alternate will also be elected.

### ***Election proceedings November 21, 2002***

Each neighborhood will select an elector and alternate to vote on behalf of the neighborhood. Information on this process is being sent to each neighborhood organization. A voters guide listing the candidates will also be prepared by the LWV and distributed. Election proceedings, including candidate forums, will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on November 21, 2002 at the Crown Roller Mill building, 105 Fifth Ave S. For more information on the election, call the LWV office at 612-333-6319 or Carsten Slostad at 612-673-5150.

## **NRP Training Series 2002: Upcoming Workshops**

The following workshops are designed for board members and staff of neighborhood associations.

### ***"Preparing for Phase II"***

**Monday, August 12, 2002**

**6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

An overview of the requirements for Phase II: completing implementation of your Phase I plan; conducting a review of your Phase I Action Plan; creating a participation agreement; planning for and drafting your Phase II plan.

\*Presented by NRP Director Bob Miller.

### ***"Reviewing Your Phase I Plan - Part 1 "***

**Wednesday, August 21, 2002**

**6:30 to 8:30 p.m**

A continuation of Preparing for Phase II. This workshop will provide information on the basics of reviewing your NRP plan. How do you gather information, make sense of it and report it. \*Presented by NRP Director Bob Miller.

### ***"Staff Support Peer Group"***

**Thursday, August 22, 2002**

**11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

Peer group workshops have proven to be an effective way of sharing information among neighborhood organizations citywide. This workshop provides an excellent networking and peer-to-peer learning opportunity for all neighborhood organization staff. If you have topics or issues you would like to discuss, call Robert at 673-5149.

### ***"Reviewing Your Phase I Plan - Part 2"***

**Monday, August 26, 2002**

**6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

Part two of this two-part training will provide more in-depth information on reviewing your Phase I Action Plan, and more specifically how to use focus groups and surveys to help with the review of your Phase I Action Plan.

Please RSVP to Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149 or by email at [rtompson@nrp.org](mailto:rtompson@nrp.org) if you plan to attend any or all of these sessions. The RSVP's determine how many copies of materials to prepare. Please photocopy and post this schedule to assure that other board members and staff from your neighborhood organization are notified of these sessions! Light refreshments will be provided at all workshops! All sessions will be held in MCDA Conference Room 3 at the Crown Roller Mill building, 105 5th Ave S., Suite 200.

# Groundbreakings

## Groundbreaking celebration for Holland Townhomes scheduled for August 6

A groundbreaking celebration will be held for the Holland Neighborhood Townhomes at 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 6, at 824 24th Ave. NE. The Holland Neighborhood Improvement Association (HNIA) has been the driving force behind the nine-unit development that will be built on the site of a US Bank parking lot that has been vacant and in disrepair for more than 20 years.

The development has the distinction of being the first of its kind in northeast Minneapolis to focus on sustainability—including state-of-the-art, energy-efficient appliances and solar panel shingles. An existing home on the site has been remodeled and will be integrated into the development, with townhomes being built on each side of it. The townhomes are expected to sell for \$170,000 to \$220,000.

An NRP investment of \$250,000 helped jumpstart the project which also involved the purchase and renovation of the the property at 824 24th Ave. NE. The developer, Awsumb and Associates, Inc. and HNIA are both equity partners in the development with HNIA set to receive \$155,000 from the sale of the existing house plus 15 percent of the net profit generated



**HNIA Project Director Kevin Reich points out the future site of the Holland Townhomes at 24th Ave and Jackson St. NE.**

by the project. HNIA will reinvest its share of the return in its low-income home rehabilitation program.

US Bank transferred its land to HNIA for an undervalued fee as part of its commitment to community reinvestment. The first model is expected to be completed in September. An open house is being planned for the end of September.



**The entire Minneapolis Public Library Board joined other officials in a groundbreaking celebration on July 13.**

## Construction begins on Pierre Bottineau Library

Construction on the new Pierre Bottineau Community Library is now underway. The library is being built on the historic Grain Belt Brewery campus on Marshall and Broadway streets NE. What was once the brewery's Mill Wright Shop and Wagon Shed will be transformed into a spacious and attractive library where neighborhood residents can gather, browse and read in a friendly and thoughtfully designed space in the heart of the community. By summer 2003, the reinvented, 12,000-square-foot Pierre Bottineau Library will have replaced the overcrowded storefront that has served the neighborhood since 1957. The project received an NRP investment of \$110,000.

# Upcoming Events

## National Night Out is August 6

On August 6, more than 33 million people in 9,500 communities throughout the United States will celebrate the 19th Annual National Night Out (NNO). NNO is the single largest community-building, crime-fighting event in the nation. Here in Minneapolis, it is expected there will be 35,000 neighbors participating in 800 block parties. People celebrate NNO in all kinds of ways – from simply sharing ice tea and conversation to organizing elaborate multi-block extravaganzas with live music and volleyball tournaments.

For the second consecutive year, the City of Minneapolis will sponsor a National Night Out Photo Contest, awarding five \$100 gift certificates to photographers who best capture the essence of the event. Prizes will be awarded for the best photograph in five categories: youth, games, entertainment, humor and most creative.

The Minneapolis NNO effort last year was once again recognized as the best in the country for cities with more than 300,000 residents. The National Association of Town Watch (NATW), the national coordinators of NNO, gave Minneapolis the number one ranking for the second time in the past five years. Minneapolis was ranked number two in each of the other three years. NNO helps to build networks that can keep neighborhood crime away. Please contact CCP/SAFE at 612-673-2812 for more information about NNO, the photo contest or to find a block party near you. Information is also available on the NNO Web site at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/nno).

## Minneapolis elections office releases important voter information

Redistricting has created new voting precincts and polling places for the 2002 election season. The city's elections office will be sending postcards to all registered voters notifying them of their new voting precinct and polling place. For more voter information, please contact the Minneapolis Elections and Voter Registration Office at 612-673-20270 or visit [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/elections](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/elections). Primary elections for the 2002 cycle will take place on Tuesday, September 10, 2002 and the general election will take place on Tuesday, November 5, 2002.

## Lake Hiawatha Neighborhood Festival set for August 7

The Seventh Annual Lake Hiawatha Neighborhood Festival is scheduled from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 7, at Lake Hiawatha Park, 2701 E. 44th Street. Once again there will be entertainment and many fun games for children, including the dunk tank, the moon walk, the bawl crawl and pony rides. Wilderness Inquiry will also be on hand to help people get out on Lake Hiawatha in canoes. Live music will feature Mary Cutrufello from 6:00 to 7:15 p.m. and Adam Levy of the Honeydogs from 7:15 to 8:30 p.m.

New to the festival this year is the *Hiawatha Hustle 5K Run* which will begin at 5:30 p.m. For more information on the 5K run, please call Chris of the Standish-Ericsson Neighborhood Association (SENA) at 612-721-1601. This year, nonperishable food items will be accepted for a local foodshelf. Each person who makes a donation will be entered into a drawing for a fabulous prize at the end of the festival. Festival updates can be found on a special festival Web site at [www.lhrc.freesevers.com/festival.htm](http://www.lhrc.freesevers.com/festival.htm).

## Second Central Avenue Celebration set for August 21

Come join residents, Central Avenue businesses and other community stakeholders at the second Central Avenue Celebration from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21, 2002. Celebrate the many great things that have been and will continue to be happening on Central Avenue. The program will feature a ribbon-cutting and grand opening of the newly renovated Holy Land Bakery and Grocery Deli, highlights from the Central Avenue Mainstreet Program, including beautification projects, facade improvements and other initiatives that have contributed to a safer and healthier avenue! There will be live music, food and beverages, prizes, the NEMAA Art Fair as well as face painting and games. For more information, please contact Angela at 612-627-9366. This event is sponsored by the Central Avenue Mainstreet Program and the Northeast Community Deveopment Corporation (NECDC). In the event of rain, this event will be rescheduled on Wednesday, August 28 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

## In Brief

### Nominations now being accepted for 31st annual CUE Awards

The Committee on Urban Environment (CUE) is now accepting nominations for its 31st CUE Awards. Since 1970, the Committee on Urban Environment, a citizen participation committee of the Minneapolis Planning Department, has advocated for design efforts that define and beautify our city's urban environment. The annual CUE Awards recognize excellence in urban, architectural or environmental design, historic preservation, streetscape beautification, parks and open spaces, special events, neighborhood improvement, public art and personal (or lifetime) achievement. In order to be eligible for a CUE Award, projects and/or events must be located within the City of Minneapolis and have been completed within the past five years. To apply, please submit photos or slides and a brief project narrative to CUE, 350 South Fifth Street-Room 210, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415-1385 by September 30, 2002. Nominations can also be made online at [www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cue](http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/cue). For more information, contact CUE at 612-673-3014.

### On CUE to make cable TV debut in August

Tune in to *On CUE* and explore our urban environment. Sponsored by the Minneapolis Committee on Urban Environment (CUE), this new cable television program looks at the diverse people, issues, trends and physical elements of our built and natural surroundings. Starting in August, *On CUE* will air on Minneapolis City Cable 14 Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. August's *On CUE* is recorded on location in City Hall, where much of Minneapolis' planning and policymaking takes place. Phill Lindsay, a veteran of cultural and community development efforts and current chair of CUE, hosts the monthly program. Guests include people who represent community planning perspectives: Nick Koch, an architect for HGA whose passions orient him toward community and design, Peggy Booth, metro area regional forestry manager for the Department of Natural Resources and Janet Abrams, Director for the University of Minnesota's Design Institute. Tune in also for *CUE Facts* and find out why Minneapolis has so much stucco, and see what people on the street claim as their favorite built or natural features in Minneapolis.

## Job Opportunity

### City of Lakes Community Land Trust seeks program director

The City of Lakes Community Land Trust (CLCLT) is an exciting new organization whose mission is to provide and foster stewardship of permanently affordable ownership and rental housing opportunities for low- and moderate-income families throughout Minneapolis. The CLCLT's Initial Board is seeking a qualified leader who can move the CLCLT from a planning and organizational development stage through to implementation. The CLT Program Director will be the lead staff person for the new City of Lakes Community Land Trust and will be responsible for all components of the organization.

**Specific responsibilities:** Working with a volunteer Board of Directors to manage and coordinate the activities of the CLCLT, including finalizing the organization's IRS 501 (c) (3) status, standard ground lease, fundraising and other activities; managing and supervising staff and contracted and consulting services and managing and coordinating partnerships with existing affordable housing developers.

**Essential skills and experience:** A demonstrated commitment to social and economic justice in general, and affordable housing in specific; demonstrated leadership skills; demonstrated fundraising ability; public speaking experience; strong interpersonal and communication skills, excellent written and verbal skills; thorough understanding of property development, affordable housing finance and community and economic development strategies; knowledge of the Minneapolis community organization environment and experience working with a non profit board.

**Salary for this FTE position** is \$40,000- \$50,000, commensurate with experience, plus a generous benefits package. To apply, please send a letter of interest, résumé and three references to: CLCLT Director Search Committee, 2017 East 38th St., Minneapolis, MN 55407, or fax to: 612-721-7708. For more information or to obtain a complete description, contact Cara Letofsky at 612-721-7556 extension 17, or by e-mail at [cletofsky@yahoo.com](mailto:cletofsky@yahoo.com). The deadline for applications is August 19 at 4:30 p.m.



Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program  
 Crown Roller Mill, Suite 425  
 105 Fifth Avenue South  
 Minneapolis, MN 55401 Phone: (612) 673-5140

### Jeremiah Program expansion underway



Photo by Richard Anderson

On July 23, Jeremiah Program residents participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for an expansion project that will create 21 additional units of housing for families headed by single parents. The NRP and the Citizens for a Loring Park Community (CLPC) invested \$1 million from the Affordable Housing Reserve Fund in the \$4 million project.

### NRP Policy Board Report

Approved July 22, 2002



Hennepin County 7.5% NRP Funds for Holland Neighborhood



McKinsey report response forwarded to the Mayor and City Council

\*View the board's response to the McKinsey report on the NRP Web site at [www.nrp.org](http://www.nrp.org)

## — August 2002 Calendar of Events —

### 6 Holland Townhomes Groundbreaking

1:00 p.m., 24th Avenue and Jackson St. NE,  
 See insert or call Kevin Reich at 612-781-2299 for more information.

### 6 National Night Out

See page 3 for more information.

### 7 Lake Hiawatha Neighborhood Festival

5:00 to 8:30 p.m., Lake Hiawatha Park,  
 27th Avenue South and East 44th Street  
 See upcoming events insert page or call Joyce at 612-721-1601 for more information.

### 12 NRP Training Series 2002: *Preparing for Phase II*

6:30 to 8:30 p.m., MCDA Conference Room 3,  
 Crown Roller Mill Suite #200, 105 Fifth Ave. S.  
 See page 2 or call Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149 for more information.

### 19 NRP Policy Board meeting

4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Room C-2350 Hennepin  
 County Government Center.

### 21 NRP Training Series 2002: *Reviewing your Phase I Plan - Part 1*

6:30 to 8:30 p.m., MCDA Conference Room 3,  
 Crown Roller Mill Suite #200, 105 Fifth Ave. S.  
 See page 2 or call Robert Thompson at 612-673-5149 for more information. **Part 2 of this workshop will take place on August 26.**

### 22 NRP Training Series 2002: *Staff Peer Group*

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., MCDA Conference  
 Room 3, Crown Roller Mill Suite #200,  
 105 Fifth Ave. S. See page 2 or call Robert at 612-673-5149 for more information.

### 26 September Link submission deadline

Call 612-673-5158 or fax your submission  
 to Brett at 612-673-5138.

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For more information, call  
 Brett Feldman, editor, (612) 673-5158.

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