



Connects

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A Monthly Newsletter for the East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood

MARCH 2008



Notes from the Chair

Matt Perry, EHFNA president

Do you have a partnership that you feel particularly good about? Perhaps, a business partnership, a significant other or even your favorite partner at cards. Now, consider how that partnership is set up.

Is there a written agreement? Mutual expectations? Finally, ask yourself what characteristics make it a particularly good partnership.

Many components of successful partnerships can be codified, such as written documentation outlining the responsibilities of each party. As well, there is usually a discussion of how power will be shared even if it is not referred to by name. Overall, the rights and responsibilities of each party are spelled out and known. However, there are two essential elements in a good partnership that cannot be signed, sealed and delivered in a systematic fashion: trust and respect.

A reality of today's neighborhood organizations is the need to form partnerships. In the past, when they were flush with funds, this was less important. I contend that partnerships are not only necessary but a good thing for neighborhood organizations.

Like other institutions, neighborhood organizations are facing many changes for a variety of reasons. Some are economic. Neighborhood organizations will not be receiving the same amount of funds from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) as they have in the past. In addition, the demographics of our residential population are changing, which will bring new interests and needs. Some are cultural. As we face these changes, our partnerships with other neighborhood organizations, business associations, private enterprise and the city become even more important.

Any organization whose intent is to serve its constituents must respond to changes in order to stay viable and relevant. A great organization will adapt while maintaining the long view of its mission and vision. Neighborhood organizations are no different in this respect.

Your neighborhood association has embraced the need to form partnerships. The East Harriet Neighborhood Association has a long history of working with other organizations to share in the risks and benefits of a common goal. Interestingly, in interacting with some groups who have less experience forming partnerships their focus is only on those elements that can be documented. In these cases, trust and respect are rarely, if ever, considered. These are the partnerships where expectations are least likely to be fulfilled.

We must always keep in mind the importance of mutual trust and respect as we form new partnerships with other groups. There is risk involved in doing so, but like your own successful partnerships, the rewards are well worth it.

Warm regards,

Matt

OUR NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING - JOIN US!

Wed., April 2, 2008 • 7:00 - 8:45 pm
Lyndale Farmstead Park

Free childcare provided. For more information, call Emily Winter at the EHFNA office: 612-824-9350.

Lyndale Construction Kick-Off Meeting on April 15

A construction kick off community meeting has been set to share information with residents about the Lyndale Avenue Reconstruction project which begins this summer. The meeting will be held at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 4100 Lyndale Ave So, from 6:30 - 8 pm on Tuesday, April 15. Commissioner Dorfman, who championed this project, will be there along with Hennepin County Transportation and City staff to present the project's design, construction timeline and the strategy for communication with residents and businesses while the avenue is under construction.



We have set up a special page on our East Harriet website with links and current project information which will be updated while Lyndale is under construction. (www.eastharriet.org/lyndale-project) If you have questions concerning this project, you can also contact EHFNA Coordinator Emily Winter (612-824-9350 or info@eastharriet.org)

Don't Miss Out on the Neighborhood Sale-O-Rama!

Spring is almost here and that means its time to clean out your closets, basement and garage! Join us for the East Harriet Sale-O-Rama, our annual neighborhood garage and yard sale. The event takes place on Saturday, May 31 from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. This year we're hoping to sign up over 50 households and make this event the biggest, most successful Sale-O-Rama ever! A \$10 registration fee gets you great promotion, flyers, a Sale-O-Rama Kit and clean closets. Deadline to register is May 21, so act now. To get your registration form, contact us at 612-824-9350 or info@eastharriet.org.

More Connects on next page!

Help Clean Up Our Backyard on Earth Day 2008

The Minneapolis Earth Day Watershed Clean Up draws attention to our lakes and the effect individual actions have on urban water quality. The 2008 event takes place Saturday, April 19, 2008 at 36 locations around Minneapolis. East Harriet Farmstead and Linden Hills Neighborhood Associations will be supporting the efforts at Lake Harriet; stop by the bandshell area between 9:30 - 12:00 that day and make a difference in your own backyard. Gloves and bags will be provided. For more information about the Clean Up, visit www.minneapolisearthday.com

Your Input Needed for Pedestrian Master Plan on March 26

The City is hosting an open house to gather public input on the Pedestrian Master Plan and discuss some of the major challenges the city faces in meeting pedestrian needs. Mark up maps, record your observations and opinions, and discuss key issues with City staff, the consultant team, and other members of the public. Come to the Minneapolis Central Library, 300 Nicollet Mall on Wednesday, March 26, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Opening Presentation is at 6:00 pm. Arrive at any time and stay as long as you like. For further details, please visit <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/pedestrian/pedestrian-masterplan.asp>

Lyndale Park Panel Celebrates East Harriet Family's History

A new panel has been installed at the Lyndale Park Gardens kiosk thanks to the generosity of the family of Jean Swanson Ramsey and George Ramsey. The panel details the history of the garden tied to the history of this family who visited and enjoyed the gardens during the 20th century. Jean Ramsey, who lived near 41st & Bryant Ave. So., first visited the gardens at age 3. There is a family history line that runs the center of the panel along with several interesting photographs. Please stop by and check out the panel which is along Roseway Road near the entrance to the Rose Garden parking lot.



Upcoming EHFNA Committee Meeting Dates & Times

All meetings are open to the public and residents are encouraged to attend. If you would like to get something on the agenda, please contact the EHFNA office at 612-824-9350 or info@eastharriet.org. Otherwise, just stop in!

PARKS, ENVIRONMENT & SCHOOLS COMMITTEE:

Tues., April 8, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, SW Senior Ctr, 3612 Bryant

COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE:

Thurs., April 10, 7:00 pm, Java Jack's, 46th & Bryant

BUSINESS, HOUSING & ZONING COMMITTEE:

Sun., April 20, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, SW Senior Ctr, 3612 Bryant

CRIME, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY & NOISE COMMITTEE:

Mon., April 21, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, Java Jack's, 46th & Bryant

QUICK NOTES IN AND AROUND EAST HARRIET NEIGHBORHOOD

Fight Crime at Your Place of Business

The next meeting of the Nicollet-East Harriet Business Association will focus on "Crime Prevention for your Business." Stop by on Wednesday, March 19 from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. at Java Jacks (46th & Bryant). There have been a number of business burglaries in the association over the last four weeks. We will discuss best practices for crime prevention and businesses can sign up for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessment with the MPD (free).

Join us at the Park's Annual Egg Hunt!

This annual event at Lyndale Farmstead Park includes a petting zoo, basket-making activity, egg hunt and treats for the whole family. Stop by on Saturday, March 22, 10:00 am - noon. Fee is \$2/child.

Trees Available for \$25 Each to Residents

The City of Minneapolis is making 1,000 trees available to city residents for planting this spring. Minneapolis funds the City Trees program which is in its third year, to provide a low-cost way for folks to help build the city's urban tree forest. Residents can choose from five tree varieties. Orders can be placed online between March 11 and April 11 by visiting Tree Trust at www.treetrust.org or by picking up an order form from your neighborhood group (send us an email at info@eastharriet.org and we will get a form to you) or local library. For more information, follow this link to the City website: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/newsroom

HELP PLAN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FESTIVAL!

It may seem early, but plans are underway now to make this the best RoseFest ever! Whether you can contribute one hour or three hours, your participation is welcome both before and during the event. RoseFest is on Saturday, July 19, from noon - 8 pm, at Lyndale Farmstead Park. Volunteers will be needed in all areas: food & beverage; inflatables; publicity; garden tour; set-up; pony rides and more! If you have any questions about volunteering or RoseFest in general, contact the East Harriet office: 612-824-9350 or info@eastharriet.org. Join in the FUN!

**EAST HARRIET
ROSEFEST
SATURDAY, JULY 19**