



Connects

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A Monthly Newsletter for the East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood

MAY 2008



Notes from the Chair

Matt Perry, EHFNA president

Your money or your time? Which do you think is more important to your neighborhood association and why?

Almost every active neighborhood organization has been receiving funds from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP) over the last 17 years. At the end of 2009, the current mechanisms funding NRP will end.

Does this mean the end of neighborhood organizations? Some people say yes. Neighborhoods are facing huge challenges such as crime, rampant foreclosures and struggling local businesses. These issues, along with other services they have provided in the past, could cost neighborhood organizations across the city at least \$10 million per year.

I believe when NRP funding ends, neighborhood organizations will still be able to function. However, those organizations need to revisit where they add the most value to continue to be relevant.

The bedrock of a healthy neighborhood is a sense of joint ownership and pride by those that work and live there. It is not large amounts of discretionary funding by neighborhood organizations. Instead, it is contributing that precious commodity we carefully guard - our time. Acting together with a common purpose, driven not by money but by pride of place, is a powerful magnet in drawing in other organizations and gaining the attention of government. It shows others we care enough to shoulder some of the responsibility. This invariably leads to the availability of program funds, partnerships and resident-driven change. The most important role neighborhood organizations can play going forward is being the focal point for recognizing, supporting and aggregating individual volunteer efforts. Neighborhood organizations cannot do this alone. They need you.

In my years of corporate management, I learned it is not big salaries that keep and motivate people, but rather being paid a fair wage, knowing their contribution is valued and having a sense of camaraderie. Similarly, having sufficient funds to administer a neighborhood organization with all residents participating in neighborhood activities is essential to sustaining a safe and vibrant community. Each individual act of volunteering in the neighborhood contributes to this goal.

So, which do we need more, your time or your money? It is your participation in neighborhood activities that is most important. As the old saying goes, many hands make light work. The more neighbors volunteering for upcoming events like RoseFest, the more time we all will have to enjoy them. Maybe even more importantly, participation brings people together through a positive shared experience. When we work together, relationships grow and a sense of joint ownership is created. This foundation of unity creates the sustainability and vitality of a community no amount of money can replace.

Warm regards,
Matt

OUR NEXT NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING - JOIN US!

Special guest speaker: Jay Walljasper, author of The Great Neighborhood Book

Wed., June 4, 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.

Public Hearing for Wine and Beer License Application on June 4

A public hearing on the wine and beer license application by Fabrizio Ciccone, owner of Café Agri, will be held at Lyndale Farmstead Park from 6:00 - 7:00 pm on Wednesday, June 4th. Café Agri is opening its restaurant at the location previously occupied by My-T-Fine at 43rd and Bryant Ave. So. The meeting is being held by City of Minneapolis Licensing Department in cooperation with Council Member Betsy Hodges and the East Harriet Farmstead Neighborhood Association. At the meeting, residents, business owners and property owners will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide input concerning the granting of a wine & beer license to Café Agri. The restaurant is scheduled to open in mid-May without a beer and wine license. No alcohol will be served until the license is granted. If you have any questions regarding the public hearing, please contact Council Member Hodges' office at 612-673-2213 or the EHFNA office at 612-824-9350 or www.eastharriet.org.

Sign Up Now for Your Garage Sale

Join us for the Sale-O-Rama, our neighborhood-wide garage and yard sale. You'll end up with clean closets, make some money and have FUN! The date is

EAST HARRIET
Sale-O-Rama
GARAGE & YARD SALES

Saturday, May 31st, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Don't delay! Get your registration form by contacting us at 612-824-9350

or visiting the Sale-O-Rama 2008 page on our website: www.eastharriet.org.

More Connects on next page!

Dutch Elm Treatment Rebate Offered

We all want to do our part to save the great, towering elm trees in our neighborhood. East Harriet has partnered with Rainbow Treecare to encourage residents to do just that. In addition to a group discount offered to East Harriet residents by Rainbow, your Neighborhood Association will rebate \$200 of the cost. Please contact Emily at the East Harriet office, 612-824-9350 or info@eastharriet.org, to indicate your interest.

Help Make RoseFest Happen

RoseFest, our neighborhood's community building and fundraising event on Saturday, July 19 at Lyndale Farmstead Park, needs your participation to be a success. Volunteers are encouraged to help in many ways before, during and after the event. Among the needs prior to the event: distributing promotional materials, securing sponsors, setting up tents and building kids' games. During the event, which runs from noon - 8:00 pm, we need

**EAST HARRIET
ROSEFEST
SATURDAY, JULY 19**

ticket takers and sellers, ride supervisors, garden tour participants, food servers, and face painters. After the event, of course, we will need many hands to help with clean-up. If you can spare

an hour or two to make this event a memorable one for the neighborhood, please contact the EHFNA office via email at info@eastharriet.org or via phone: 612-824-9350. You can always check our website for updated volunteer information as well: www.eastharriet.org.

Planning a Home Improvement?

Keep it "in the neighborhood" by taking advantage of the East Harriet loan program. Home improvement loans of up to \$15,000 are available at 2-4% interest rates to eligible residents through this neighborhood program. Contact the East Harriet office to learn more at 612-824-9350 or visit the loan program page on our website, www.eastharriet.org.

Upcoming EHFNA Committee Meeting Dates and 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., June 10, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, SW Senior Ctr, 3612 Bryant

COMMUNITY BUILDING COMMITTEE:

Thurs., June 12, 7:00 pm, Java Jack's, 46th & Bryant

BUSINESS, HOUSING & ZONING COMMITTEE:

Sun., June 15, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, SW Senior Ctr, 3612 Bryant

CRIME, TRANSPORTATION, SAFETY & NOISE COMMITTEE:

Mon., June 16, 7:00 - 8:00 pm, Java Jack's, 46th & Bryant

QUICK NOTES IN AND AROUND EAST HARRIET NEIGHBORHOOD

Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off

East Harriet will once again be the site of a Hennepin County Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off! Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 28, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. Drop-off will be in the parking lot just behind the Park Building at 38th & Dupont Ave. So. Watch for more details in the next newsletter and on our website:

www.eastharriet.org

Community Garden to Benefit Area Seniors

The Mental Health Collective is sponsoring a community garden at its location at 3548 Bryant to bring gardening opportunities to area seniors and to help provide them with nutritious fruits and vegetables. Volunteers are needed to help plan the project, prepare the garden, plant, water and weed. For more information, call Stephanie at (612) 822-8227. Dates to remember: Planning Meeting on Thursday, May 29 at 4:00 pm at Mental Collective; Rototilling Party: Saturday, May 31 at 9:00 am. Bring your shovels and gardening gloves if you have them.

Memorial Day Event at Lakewood Cemetery

Memorial Day, Monday, May 26, at Lakewood Cemetery includes a Memorial Day Service at 10:30 am along with family and educational activities between 12:00 - 4:00 pm. Activities include tours of Lakewood's history, gardens and art, music concerts and exhibits in Lakewood's historic chapel, and horse and carriage rides around the cemetery's oldest section with views of Lake Calhoun. For more information on this free event, visit their website: www.lakewoodcemetery.com.

Classic Cars and Streetcar Rally on June 1

The Como-Harriet Streetcar Line will host classic automobiles at Lake Harriet on Sunday, June 1st. This event is one of several planned throughout the summer to celebrate the 100th birthday of Twin City Lines streetcar number 1300. The classic car rally will be held from 12:30 - 4:00 pm and will feature classic automobiles from the 1920s through the 1950s. Come and enjoy classic cars and streetcars. Visit our website for more information: www.trolleyride.org

Make a Lasting Impression at Lake Harriet

Give a unique gift to the people and parks you love! People for Parks are fund-raising to pave the audience area in front of the bandshell and refurbish the worn benches. Celebrate birthdays anniversaries, marriages, a favorite friend, your business—any occasion with a personalized bench or paver: 5 x 5 paver - logo or three 9-character lines \$75; 5 x 11 paver - logo or three 24-character lines \$125; adopt a bench with no engraving: \$1,000 and adopt a bench with 37 character inscription \$1,250. All benches and pavers will be installed in the audience area at the Lake Harriet bandshell. For more information, see www.peopleforparks.net



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