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Comments, questions, ideas?

Contact Kenny Neighborhood Association: 612-392-4477 or info@kennyneighborhood.org

A publication of the Kenny Neighborhood Association. The Association is open to all Kenny residents. We meet to determine neighborhood needs and establish a sense of community.

The mission of KNA is to foster a welcoming, thriving community that is inclusive in all that it does.

To that end, KNA will encourage and support community involvement in the Kenny neighborhood; to stabilize and improve the residential, educational and economic status of the community; to function as a non-partisan, non-sectarian community action group keeping residents informed of proposals that affect the neighborhood; to coordinate and publicize activities in the community; to facilitate programs and projects to improve the neighborhood; and to represent the Kenny neighborhood before city boards, commissions, and other governmental entities.

South Lyndale Liquors’ Larger Store Enables Bigger Dreams

By Steve Paquin

South Lyndale Liquors has been squeezed for space since Dan Campo took over the family business in the late 2000s. That’s all about to change. In late September the iconic, overstuffed neighborhood liquor store will move two blocks south to a newly constructed building at 55th Street and Lyndale Avenue, allowing Dan and his staff to finally realize their goal of being the “best curated liquor store in the state.” It won’t stop there, though. The new South Lyndale Liquors will incorporate a cheese shop and Italian deli, and to-go meals paired with wine and beer from the store’s carefully selected offerings. Our local liquor store, consistently ranked at the top of Minneapolis “best-of” lists, is poised to take it to the next level this fall.

The new 35,000 square foot building will expand floor display space from 13,000 to 19,500 square feet and feature offices on the second floor and a larger employee break room. “I’ve wanted a bigger building since I bought the store from my family in 2007,” Dan explains. “We are literally out of storage right now. There are cases of wine and liquor stacked under the managers’ desks! Not only will the new store have more space and modern amenities, but the building is an aesthetic improvement over what was previously on the lot, and customers will appreciate the expanded parking. During past Christmas holidays, I’ve been directing traffic in the parking lot, thinking to myself that I should be in the store helping customers with their wine selections. We’re glad to see that problem end.”



“We have been out of space since I took over the store.” — Dan Campo

Kenny Neighborhood Association

Office: P.O. Box 19593
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Message Line: 612-392-4477
email: info@kennyneighborhood.org
www.kennyneighborhood.org

KNA Board 2023

Chairperson Carol Martinson

Co-Chair Barb Brady

Secretary Scott Elton

Treasurer Jon Erickson

Bruce Anderson Tom Leigh

Chris Henjum Vicki Olson

Jason Hofsess Shelly Ragland

Zack Kahn Kimberly Rosenfield

KNA Coordinator: Mike Ferrin

All KNA meetings and events are accessible. Requests for accommodations are welcome. Please make requests at least 10 days in advance by calling 612-392-4477 or writing to info@kennyneighborhood.org.

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month and are open to all community members. We meet at Kenny Park with a hybrid Zoom option. Visit www.kennyneighborhood.org and click on "Calendar" for Zoom meeting information or contact us at info@kennyneighborhood.org for the following:

- For interpreters, listening devices and/or readers
- To place an item on the agenda or for further information

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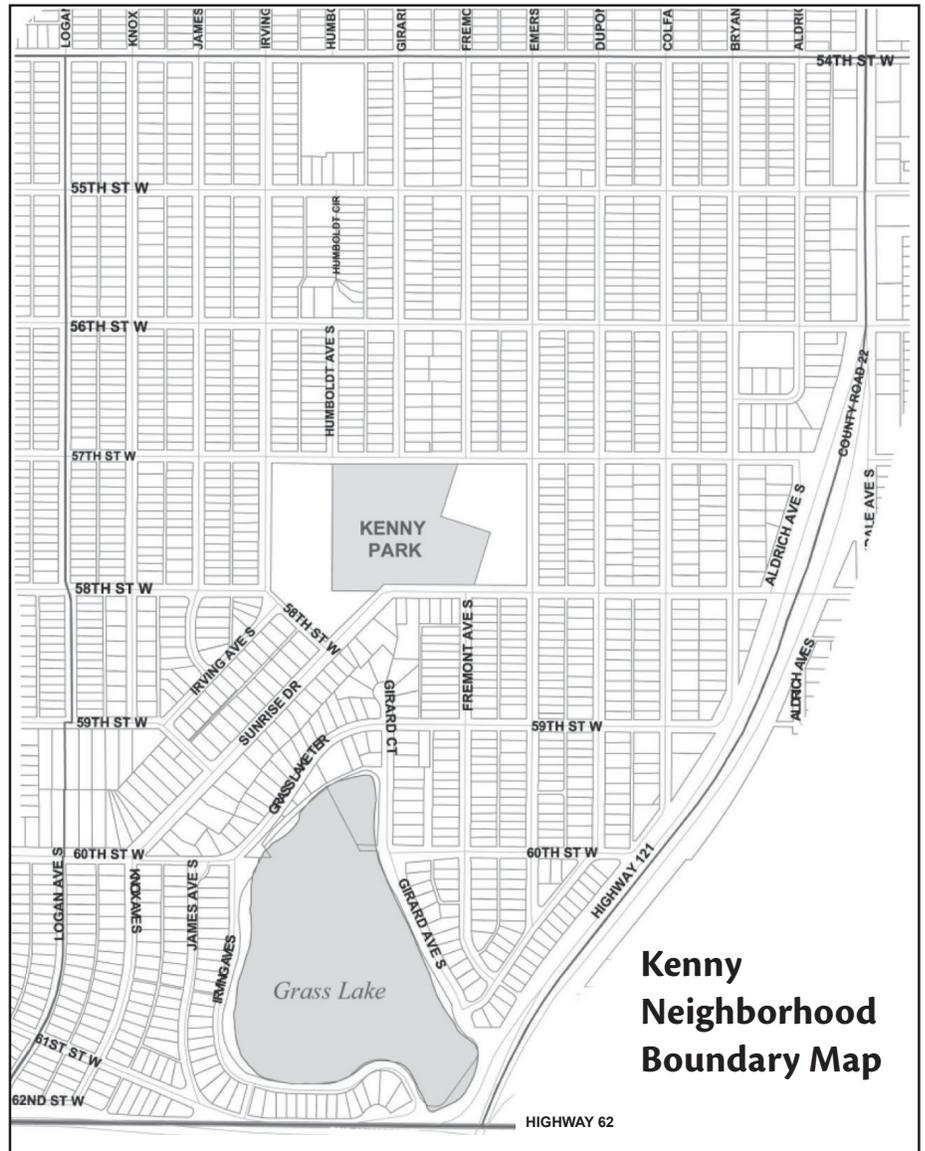
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Jason Lund

Kenny Neighborhood Newsletter is published three times each year. The newsletter is sponsored by the Kenny Neighborhood Association, donations from neighbors, and support from our advertisers. To place an ad, contact Mike Ferrin at info@kennyneighborhood.org.

KNA Board Members Needed

For more information, call KNA: 612-392-4477 or email: info@kennyneighborhood.org.



KNA Committees and Working Groups

GENERAL INQUIRIES AND QUESTIONS:

info@kennyneighborhood.org.

Community Engagement: Meets the first Monday of the month. Goal is to develop and support opportunities for all neighbors to gather. Contact Barb Brady, bbrady127@gmail.com.

Crime and Safety: Currently in development. Looking for neighbors who want to promote a safe, secure, and resilient neighborhood. Contact info@kennyneighborhood.org.

Environmental: Meets the second Monday of the month. Goal is to develop and support education, learning opportunities and activities that support a green environment. Contact Vicki Olson, vicki.t.olson@gmail.com.

GARDENING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL:

Kenny Garden Club/Grass Lake upkeep: Contact Bridget Rau at bridgetrandyrau@gmail.com or Ann Davenport at afdavenport@gmail.com.

Kenny School Gardens: Contact Sarah Staab, sarah.m.staab@gmail.com.

(KORE) Kenny Organizing for Racial Equity: Purpose is to foster a spirit of anti-racism in the Kenny neighborhood building a welcoming, safe and healthy community/city/state/country for all. EMAIL: kennyforracialequity@gmail.com. FACEBOOK GROUP: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/KOREmpis>

KORE Book Club: Meets the first Saturday of every month behind City Church, 8:15-9:45 a.m. Contact Janet, JLDahlem@stkate.edu if you prefer the Zoom link.



Letter from the Chair

By Carol Martinson

Kenny Neighborhood Association Chair

Little Villages

After our block party this past month, one of our newest neighbors sent a thank-you email to the planning group stating, “Thank you everyone for being such amazing neighbors and putting together the annual National Night Out celebration! It is so heartwarming to be a part of this little village.”

I was struck by her reference to being part of a little village. Kenny and each block truly are little villages. And although people

come in and people move out of the village over time, there is a core of caring neighbors who keep that village moving forward.

The Kenny Neighborhood Association (KNA), whose primary purpose is to foster and grow the neighborhood, has also seen changes this past year. Two of our long-term board members, Chuck Ott and Rick Oknick, have left the board after reaching their term limits; and two of our newer board members, Jackie Moes and Nick Winter, have stepped down due to personal work commitments.

KNA Staff Coordinator Lauren Anderson also resigned in May to spend more time with three growing children. My most sincere THANKS to all of them for their time and caring for this village.

But as they go out, others come in. So, the cycle continues. We have a new staff coordinator, Mike Ferrin, and new board members: Jason Hofsess, Zack Kahn, Tom Leigh, Vicki Olson, Shelly Ragland, and Kim Rosenfield. See more about all these new village members on pages 6-7.

There is always room for more village leaders — board positions, committee members, and volunteers at all events. If you are interested in getting involved, please reach out to us at info@kennyneighborhood.org or leave a voice message at 612-392-4477.

Meet Mike Ferrin, Our New KNA Coordinator

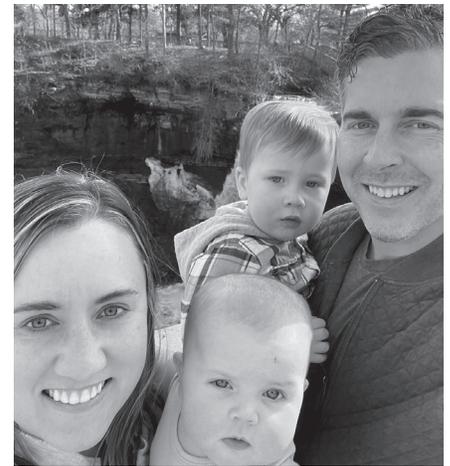
Mike started his journey with the Kenny Neighborhood Association on July 15. He comes to KNA with multiple years of experience working with neighborhood associations. He has been the executive director of the Beltrami Neighborhood Council in Northeast Minneapolis for more than five years. Prior to that, he served as board chair in his own community – Nokomis East Neighborhood Association. He also served as project manager for the Logan Park neighborhood when they were building a new pavilion, which not only involved managing a construction project, but also fundraising and learning about the grant process.

Most recently, as part of his work with Beltrami, he worked with four neighborhoods that are considering consolidating their associations into one to leverage

resources, improve fundraising and reduce total expenses. It’s a very difficult project, since each neighborhood wants to remain unique. He has deep knowledge of how the City of Minneapolis works with neighborhoods and what that means daily for neighborhood organizations.

And just in case working for two neighborhoods isn’t enough to keep him busy, he has been a realtor with Better Homes and Gardens Real Estate for nearly 10 years.

He is a University of Minnesota graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science. As part of that degree process, he interned in the U.S. House of Representatives Office of the Historian.



Mike and his wife, Jenna, and their two children Julian (2) and Rose (10 months) live in the Nokomis East area of Minneapolis. Welcome Mike to Kenny!

South Lyndale Liquors was opened in 1975 by Dan's parents, transplants from Brooklyn, New York, when Dan was a young boy and the family lived in the neighborhood. His folks identified the lack of a good local wine store and purchased the 1920s-vintage building at 53rd Street and Lyndale Avenue to fill the void. Dan grew up in the business but left for 20 years before returning to take it over. Part of his goal with the new store is to realize his mom's dream of including high-quality deli offerings along with the wine, beer, and spirits. "When I was a kid, my mom bought a commercial deli slicer and tried to figure out how to incorporate it into the store. That slicer sat on a shelf unused for years, but we'll now finally have the chance to feature fresh food."



A downside of the upcoming move is losing the painted murals that completely cover three sides of the current store. Those murals have an interesting backstory. "When I bought the store from my father, the outside wall had a painting of Lucille Ball stomping grapes from the 'I Love Lucy' show," Dan recalls. "Somebody from the city inspector's office decided that mural was an advertising sign, and I started to get fined for exceeding the Minneapolis signage statutes! After racking up fines, I finally acquiesced and worked with my friend Erin Sayer, who also worked on the Bob Dylan and Herkimer murals, to paint all new scenes around the perimeter of the store. One theme is 'total absence of alcohol,' so Erin covered the parking lot wall with scenes from Prohibition."

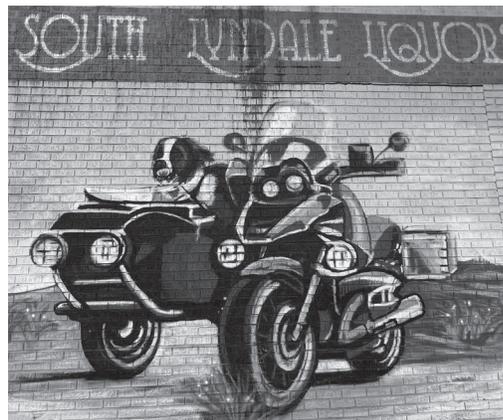


Top: Dan and accomplice transport moonshine
Below: Dan and his wife Kate dance at a speakeasy

Dan has hired a culinary director who previously ran the "best sandwich shop in the North Loop" and a cheese and charcuterie buyer who is so passionate, she has a tattoo of a wheel of Parmesan on her arm. These new team members, alongside the current wine, spirits, and beer specialists, round out a highly experienced team.



Top: Dan's first mascot, Abbey
Right: Dan's second mascot, Tobias.



There are some 'Easter eggs' in the paintings, including images of Dan's parents, noted gangster Bugsy Siegel flirting with Dan's mom,

Dan and his wife dancing in a 1920s speakeasy, and Dan and his store-remodeling contractor pouring out what might appear to be moonshine.

"We already have the largest selection of any independent liquor store," Dan says, "And soon we'll have the world's largest beer cooler and an incredible amount of additional shelf space to expand our offerings. It's important for us not only to offer the everyday options, but also provide access to unique and global products. I think of it as allowing our customers to have travel experiences through their palate."

Dan acknowledges that even though the new store is only two blocks south, moving all the inventory, restocking, and staging will be an enormous undertaking for South Lyndale Liquors' 30 employees. "I think of our team as a family, and this will be a stressful family event," he says. "But we all know that the space and amenities we'll have after we're moved in will be amazing."



Neighborhood Update

By Mike Ferrin
Kenny Neighborhood Coordinator

I am so excited to be a part of the Kenny community. It's been wonderful getting to know residents and folks involved with KNA over the last few weeks. I truly appreciate how welcoming everyone has been, and I can't wait to get to know more of you.

I've been involved with neighborhood organizations for seven years, and it's fascinating to see what's important to communities and how organizations like KNA help provide connections, programs, events, and so much more. There are many differences in the 70+ neighborhood organizations throughout Minneapolis, but there are also many things in common. Most importantly, they are run by residents — your friends and neighbors. Minneapolis neighborhood organizations don't exist without the countless number of volunteers. Whether that's coming to a meeting, helping plan an event, coming to us with a great idea or project — we are always looking for ways to get people involved. Don't hesitate to reach out if perhaps you would like to know more about KNA and opportunities to help out in your community. I'm looking forward to meeting and connecting with all of you in the days ahead.

Kenny Events

June: The KNA Ice Cream Social and Green Fair was a tremendous success! More than 300 residents stopped by to enjoy Sebastian Joe's ice cream, music from the Crosstown Community Band, bubbles, balloons, children's story hour, and more. The Green Fair was a great addition for this year, as folks were able to learn about Hennepin County Master Gardeners, Adopt a Drain, Minneapolis Solid Waste & Recycling, Minneapolis Park Foresters, and Electrify Everything. This annual event is one of my favorite things about Kenny! Thanks as always to the volunteers and sponsors!

Special thanks to our sponsors All Energy Solar and Field Outdoor Services for their assistance and participation.

You can find photos from the May 27 Asian-American Pacific Islanders' potluck and the Ice Cream Social/Green Fair on page 8.

Mark your calendars — September 14

KNA's annual New Neighbor/Renter gathering is at Kenny Park on September 14 from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

If you've moved to the neighborhood in the last couple years or so, or are a renter, please join us to make friends, learn about KNA, and enjoy pizza. Watch for details on Facebook and Instagram and in the mail.

KNA Challenge: Matching Grant

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who has donated to the KNA over the last six months! And helping our village be strong — an anonymous neighbor has stepped up and offered to match all funds donated to the KNA Challenge up to \$3,000 by December 31. This spring and summer, KNA raised \$1,275 of our \$3,000 goal.

If you are able, please help us reach this challenge and the matching grant. Every donation, big or small, supports the KNA's advocacy and work in the community and helps offset the loss of city funding. The KNA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization so your donations are tax-deductible and eligible for employer matching.

Please make your tax-deductible contribution to the Kenny Neighborhood Association by sending a check to: **KNA, PO Box 19593, Minneapolis, MN, 55419.** For an **electronic transaction, scan this QR code** to make a secure donation through GiveMN.org.



Thank you for your support!

ATTENTION!

Did you plan National Night Out for your block or are you a Block Leader?

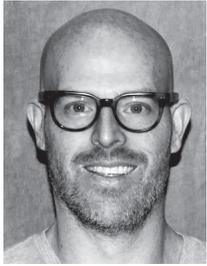
Then we need your contact information to gain more information about the Kenny Neighborhood community!

Please email Kelly Barbes with your information at barbes11@msn.com.

New KNA Board Members

By Tom Leigh

Jason Hofsess



Jason is originally from upstate New York and moved here from San Francisco eight years ago. He met his partner who is originally from Minnesota soon after.

“I joined the board to become more involved in the community,” he says. “More specifically to be an example

to my young kids: volunteering, making an impact on where we live. We have been in Kenny for seven years. After looking at a lot of houses, we really liked Kenny. We have grown to enjoy the community and our neighbors and look forward to meeting more people. I run a small entertainment company that does “bar trivia,” as well as corporate teambuilding.”

Jason and his partner, Jocelin Johnson, have two kids, and an 11-year-old golden retriever named Leni. Fun fact from Jason: “I almost exclusively wear gray V-neck T-shirts. I have about 10 of them. Makes getting dressed so easy!”

Zack Kahn



Zack has lived in Kenny for several years and joined the Board to help with communications and technology, as well as help focus some attention on the many young families in the community.

He and his wife moved to Kenny in 2020 “after the walls in our downtown condo began to close in on our young family during the pandemic. While living downtown we loved having the ability to walk and bike everywhere, so we looked at several homes near the commercial corridor at 54th and Lyndale. We have two young children in pre-school and love how many young families are on our block as well as surrounding ones.”

Zack has worked in software and web development for the entirety of his professional career. He and his wife have enjoyed traveling and hope to resume doing so, this time with toddlers in tow.

CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING for an hour at one of our events, joining the KNA Board, participating on a committee or volunteering for activities like the Welcome Packets and Earth Day Clean-up. You'll strengthen our community and make new friends!

Tom Leigh



It feels awkward to write about myself, but here goes: I grew up in New York City but always wanted to live in a place that had a variety of weather (yes, including winter), not to mention a mellower vibe. My wife and I moved into our “starter home” in Kenny 30 years ago and by choice we're still here.

That says a lot about the comforting but honest and authentic feel of this neighborhood! I joined the Board because I felt it was time to give back to the community that I've come to call home. I've worked in the book industry for a number of years, so you could say writing is in my bones. I've also had a lifelong fascination with weather. We live roughly midway between Kenny Park and Grass Lake, with our two crazy cats. We often enjoy walks to Grass Lake.

Vicki Olson



Vicki has already been quite involved in the community, and her joining the board was a natural extension of her work on the Kenny newsletter, the Environmental Committee, and Block Coordinator project. She enjoys making connections with others and “feeling like I am helping the

neighborhood.” Vicki has lived in Kenny for eight years, having also lived in Windom and Armatage neighborhoods. Now retired from nursing and healthcare, Vicki has worked in various leadership positions, most recently in patient safety and healthcare improvement. Now her focus is on the environment and mitigating the impact of climate change on people and our natural world.



Shelly Ragland



Shelly has lived in Kenny since 2016, having moved here by “happy accident.” Shelly originally wanted to live in Northeast Minneapolis but couldn’t quite find what she wanted.

“I grew up in a small town and Kenny has a small-town vibe inside a big city, which I love. I joined the board because I believe it’s important to be involved in your neighborhood. Community is so important to our growth as people. My parents were very involved with church, schools, and community so it’s in my DNA.”

Shelly is a resource director for a Minneapolis-based advertising agency, and loves walking around Grass Lake and the neighborhood with her dog, Buck.

Kim Rosenfield



Kim was born in the state of Virginia and raised in Florida, but her husband grew up in Southwest Minneapolis and went to Kenny School as a kid! She sees Kenny as a way to live somewhere “familiar,” with warm and friendly neighbors. Kim says, “I’m a big fan of the outdoors and love how close I am

to trails, Minnehaha Creek, and lakes. Being close to the commercial corridor on Lyndale Avenue, I love not having to rely on my car to do my chores. Living in a walkable neighborhood is very important to me, and I’m so happy to live in one that allows me to do so easily. I joined the Board as I thought it would be a great way to keep engaged in the community, meet my neighbors, and find ways to help my neighbors engage with one another.”

Kim is a marketing strategist for Thomson Reuters’ publishing department. She and her husband have a shared goal visiting all national parks in the United States. So far, they’ve been to 21 of 63!

Brian Hall: Getting Into a Groove

Brian Hall is settling in after four months as the Recreation Supervisor at Armatage and Kenny Parks. “I’m getting a good handle on Southwest now, after spending my early career in north side parks,” Brian says. “Every park is different, with unique demographics and the number of kids and adults who use the facilities. This is a great neighborhood for me because I love working with kids and building a strong Rec Plus program (grades K-6).”

Through his experience with park-based athletic programs, Brian has worked with many kids who grew up to play college and professional sports. “My goal with sports is to get kids to love the activity and play into high school if they can,” Brian says. “If you stay at a park for several years, you see kids grow up, stay healthy, and learn how to be good teammates. I think sports teaches life skills. I have 335 kids playing soccer this fall at Armatage so wow, we have a lot of great participation.” Plans for basketball and baseball tournaments are also in the works.

Brian and Mark Johnson, the Kenny Park staff member, are applying for a grant to bring an archery program to Armatage and Kenny. “We can do it outdoors at Kenny against the hill, and indoors at Armatage in the long, narrow multi-purpose room. It seems like a big ambition, but we’ve learned how to do it safely and will have certified instructors. We think it can bring a great new experience to the neighborhood.”



Aiden, Erin and Brian



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Fall intermezzo!

Come play in the band!
All ages/levels welcome

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www.crosstowncommunityband.org

Spring and Summer Full of Fun For All

By Barb Brady

Kenny neighbors came together to socialize and have fun at a variety of events in the park this spring and summer, starting with a May Welcome to Spring and KNA Board of Directors election kick-off. Election results are on pages 6-7.



Asian-American Pacific Islander Month potluck

On May 27, Kenny neighbors Claire Scheible and Terri Lindenbaum organized the second Asian-American Pacific Islander Month potluck featuring delicious food, cooking demonstrations, a bounce house, and Bollywood dancing.

Pictured to the left: Claire Scheible and Terri Lindenbaum

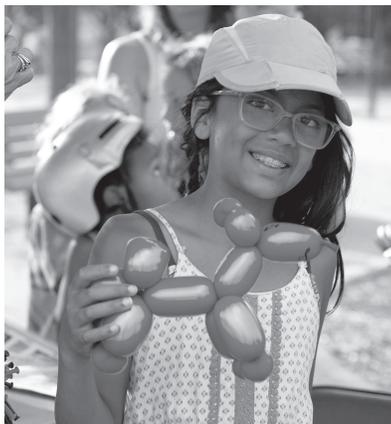
Ice Cream Social/Green Fair

On June 22, KNA hosted the annual Ice Cream Social with a new feature: a Green Fair. Hundreds of neighbors and friends enjoyed ice cream provided by City Church and visited tables featuring sponsors and environmental-related organizations.

Special thanks to sponsors All Energy Solar and Field Outdoor Spaces for their generosity and great information at their tables!



Field Outdoor Spaces' table at the Ice Cream Social /Green Fair.



Please visit KNA on Facebook and Instagram for more photos.

What is a pollinator garden?

By Bridget Rau, Kenny Environmental Committee

Pollinator gardens are increasingly popular — and important — these days. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on pollinators to reproduce. The number of pollinators has declined precipitously in recent years, so there's now a worldwide movement to restore them and protect our environment and food supply.

The most common pollinators in our area include bees, monarch and swallowtail butterflies, and hummingbirds. Other pollinators are ants, wasps, and moths. The decline of these pollinators is due to the over-use of pesticides, artificial light pollution, the climate crisis, and deforestation.

So what can we do about it? We can create spaces in our gardens to protect these important species. One of the most effective ways is to stop using or severely limiting the use of pesticides and to understand that some insect damage is part of a healthy and thriving environment. If you create safe spaces for pollinators, there will be more natural predators like bats and birds; and beneficial insects like ladybugs, lacewings and praying mantis to take care of unwanted insects.

A good pollinator garden features different flower types, sizes, shapes, and different bloom times throughout the season so there is always something available for pollinators. Native plants are the best option, as they have evolved with insects, bees, and birds. Native plant communities require no irrigation — except during extreme drought — and no fertilizer, so they can be more cost-effective as well.

Ideally, you want blooming plants all season long. For early spring, try beardtongue, wild geraniums, and columbine. Transition into summer with bee balm, coneflowers, black-eyed Susans, swamp milkweed, and butterfly milkweed. Late summer and fall bloomers like turtlehead, stiff goldenrod, and asters will get pollinators through the season. Grasses can provide structure to your garden — think about bluestem or prairie dropseed.

There is also a lot of buzz about bee lawns. Bee lawns provide

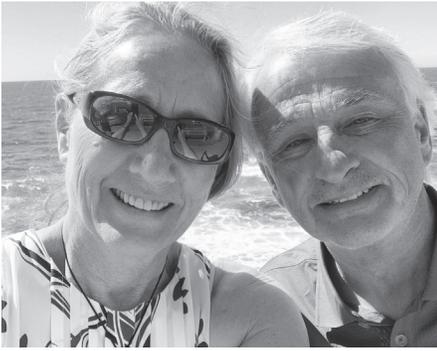
early nectar sources for native bees and can consist of prunella (self-heal), creeping thyme, yak yarrow and clover along with a variety of fescues that don't brown out during hot, dry summers. Bee lawns do two things: they support pollinators and discourage Japanese beetles, whose larvae will eat grass roots.

And you could take the plunge and landscape your entire yard using native shrubs and trees. Chokeberry, New Jersey tea, buttonbush, and dogwood give pollinators food and shelter. If you are looking to add a tree to your yard, how about looking at a catalpa or Kentucky coffeetree? They are less widely known, but are native and adapted species.

You can find more information at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum (as well as seeing some pretty fabulous examples), the Wild Ones organization, or your local garden centers, which are providing more pollinator-friendly plants and becoming very knowledgeable as pollinator/native gardens become more popular.

If we all do just a little something, we can improve our neighborhood and our planet for years to come.





Word on the Street

Pat and Brenda asked:

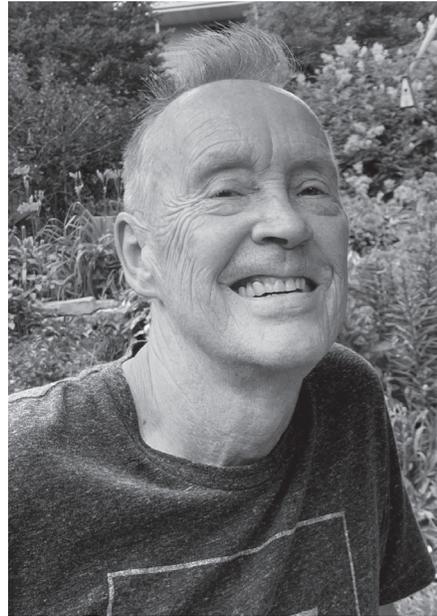
Have you noticed or made changes in yards or boulevards with new plantings?

Have you had to water your trees or gardens more with the heat and dryer weather?



Brian and Cheryl Reiners

We have had problems with grubs for a couple years. We have tried to keep our yard low maintenance for now. We have also been taking care of a large city easement. Brian's grandfather planted the trees and seeds many years ago.



Rocky

I have been watering a lot to keep our joint yard and large group of plants healthy. The back yard has been a work in progress with a waterfall, tropical plants, and perennials. We have been adding more plants to reduce the weeding needed in our yard.



Oliver, Mark, and Carolyn

Every week, we have had to water in the front. Every other week, we need to water on the sides of the house. There is a nice perennial garden out to the street that's taken care of by our nice neighbor.



Gregg Cutshall and Hazel

We have caged plants and tomatoes to keep the rabbits away. We made some plantings in our yard. There has been less watering of our lawn recently.

Who's in the 'Hood

By Jasmine Avent

Living in Kenny has different benefits for different people. For this Kenny neighbor, it has been a sweet place to watch her family flourish. Meet Jennifer Jensen.

Jennifer and her husband, Kyle, have called their house on Dupont home for nearly 20 years. They grew up in southside neighborhoods, met at work in the early 1990s and decided to become a family. With the birth of their first child in 2003, where most would seek the suburban life, Jennifer and Kyle found themselves on a different path. They were living in Woodbury and worked in downtown Minneapolis.

"Then Gray came along in 2003, and we were lucky that our parents, being retired, wanted to care for our children," says Jennifer. "We found ourselves commuting every day to the city, even on the weekends. So finally, we went house-hunting in Minneapolis."

Going into the home search, rambler-style homes weren't at the top of her list, but Jennifer changed her mind when she walked into her now-home. She remembers thinking, "Yep, this is it, this is the house," and the family became a part of the Kenny neighborhood in 2004.

Raising their children, Gray and Max, now 20 and 17 years old, in Kenny had great benefits, but also some missed opportunities. To Jennifer, a notable and welcome recent change in the neighborhood is the growing number of children.

"When Gray and Max were growing up, we didn't have as many kids on this side of Kenny to connect with," says Jennifer. She is enjoying a new renaissance of little kids. "We just love it so much. Having new, younger families coming in just brings a breath of fresh air, and just joy to the neighborhood."

She is also pleased to see the neighborhood becoming more diverse. "I think, and I hope, that Kenny is more open and welcoming to families coming from everywhere. We talk about so many people wanting to leave the city, it's so nice to see families wanting to stay in the city. I've observed the transition of families over time."

Although Kenny has changed quite a bit, Jennifer points out that Kenny neighbors have always taken great pride and interest in gardening, landscaping, and capitalizing on the neighborhood's



natural beauty. "You can see it just walking the neighborhood, how much effort and love are put in."

As almost empty-nesters, Jennifer is looking forward to what the future holds for her and Kyle in Kenny. "I hope that Kenny can continue to offer housing options for people of all income levels and needs. I think it's important that we can cater to everybody." She mentioned the Minneapolis 2040 plan and hopes that folks really work to define what affordable really means. If you see Jennifer around the neighborhood, be sure and say hello!

Who Should We Know About in the 'Hood? NOMINATE A NEIGHBOR!

If you have a neighbor who has a unique background, does things to quietly support the neighborhood, or would be a wonderful role model for others, please let us know. We would love to tell others about that person in our newsletter.

Here's what you need to tell us:

- Your name and contact info (email, phone)
- The name of the person you would like to nominate and why you are nominating them.
- Name and contact information for the nominee. (They would only be contacted after the newsletter team has talked to you and then you have a conversation with them.)

Questions should be directed to
info@kennyneighborhood.org
or the message line: 612-392-4477.



Kenny Park News

By Brian Hall

Recreation Supervisor at Armatage/Kenny

Kenny Park Recreation Center

1328 W. 58th St.,
Minneapolis, MN 55419
612-370-4901

RECREATION SUPERVISOR

Brian Hall
Office 612-370-4785
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SUMMER BUILDING HOURS:

(June 16 – September 4)
Monday-Thursday 12 pm-9 pm
and Friday Noon-6 pm

SCHOOL YEAR BUILDING HOURS:

(Sep 5, 2023- June 14, 2024)
Monday-Friday 3-9 pm and
Saturday Noon-5 pm

Hello Neighbors:

Happy Summer to you all!

Spring/Summer sports teams filled the fields in the evening hours at Kenny Park daily. Kenny/Armatage sports teams ended up with more than 250 kids participating across levels of 5u and 6u Tball, 8u Machine Pitch and 8u girls softball, along with 12u baseball teams and in the track/field program. We also had 45 volunteer coaches to help these young people learn the game, gain experience, and build skills.

I am the MPRB Track & Field announcer for Thursday meets at Roosevelt High School. It's fun to look across the field and see all the athletes participating and the sea of red uniforms representing Kenny/Armatage. What a great community!

I want to encourage and engage with folks to see what you want to see in the parks in the future. Feel free to reach out and email or call with thoughts and ideas for the future, like an archery program coming soon.

This fall, Kenny Park will be alive again with soccer players, and Armatage Park has added flag football. We currently have more than 330 youth playing soccer and another 110 playing flag

football. We are looking for more volunteer coaches, especially for 5u and 6u teams. If anyone is interested or knows anyone, please contact me. We are hoping practices will begin by the week of August 21.

Preschool KIDS classes are Monday through Thursday from 9 am-noon. Classes focus on the importance of social interactions and social skills for preschool-age children, with emphasis on working together, problem-solving, and active listening. We also include academic curriculum, incorporating projects, activities, and group discussions around monthly themes (such as seasons, community helpers, science) and a weekly focus on letters, numbers, shapes, and colors.

Join us to meet new friends, learn new things and make fun memories! Fall class registration is ongoing www.minneapolisparcs.org. Class begins September 11 and children must be three years old and potty trained. Join anytime depending on availability.

KidCreate Studio is an art studio just for kids! Your child will create fridge-worthy masterpieces, learn art concepts, and experiment with many different art materials.

We have a variety of classes planned for school out days to keep children active and engaged. Themes include Messy Monster, Simple Silly Stuff, Turkey Time, Holiday Ornament Making, Lets Draw, Paint and Sculpt at Armatage/Kenny Parks.

New water fountain with bottle filler are inside Kenny building:

It's a great reason now to stop inside and take a break, talk with staff, check out flyers and information, and fill up your water bottle!

For the latest programs, special events and offerings:

www.minneapolisparcs.org.

Sports information:

www.kennyarmatagesports.com.

Questions? Contact the park at 612.370.4901.

Find the Kenny Neighborhood on Facebook and Instagram!

Find and follow us to keep updated on all things Kenny. You can also reshare content and help us reach even more neighbors. We're also looking for volunteers from the neighborhood who can share photos from around Kenny while they're out for a walk, at park activities and more.

EMAIL US AT info@kennyneighborhood.org or sign up at bit.ly/knavolunteers



New Secure Entrance at Anthony Middle School



You've probably seen construction at Anthony Middle School this summer. The school district is working on a three-phase construction project to create a 3,822 square foot safe and welcoming entry and stair addition to meet MPS guidelines for 'safe and secure entrances.'

Previously, the door configuration was confusing and it was difficult to figure out which door was the main entrance. The access on the southwest corner led directly into a hallway instead of a reception area.

In this first phase, the new safe and welcoming entry and stair addition improves the primary first-floor entrance on the Irving Avenue/ 58th Street corner and provides a new entry for the ground level south side parking lot. The project includes renovation of a new secure reception space, conference room, and the addition of an administrative office.

The completion of all three phases is slated to be completed in 2025.

Hello Neighborhood Families and Friends!

Anthony Middle School is getting ready for the school year and is in need of some groundwork/ outdoor maintenance such as trimming bushes, weeding, and cleaning up brushes, leaves, and trash. Do you have some time to stop by and help us out? Feel free to just come over with your hedge trimmer, clipper, weedwacker, gloves, and trashbag to help us beautify the school. If you are able to bag things up in lawn bags or haul it with you or to the nearest compost site, we would so appreciate it.

If you have any questions or would like to connect with someone, feel free to contact Principal Vue at MaiChang.Vue@mpls.k12.mn.us or 612-668-3241. Thank you for your support!

Check out changes at Red Wagon Pizza

By Kelly Barbes

I've dined at Red Wagon Pizza Company many times, but now there is something new at 5416 Penn Avenue South. Red Wagon's success in our adjacent neighborhood has enabled their business to grow with the addition of new event space. The new space is adorned with additional booths with black leather and gold accent lighting. Owners Peter and Jacquie Campbell have affectionately named the new space The Brookside, after a street where Peter's family home lived many years ago. The Brookside is available to reserve for personal and professional gatherings with a curated menu available.

Upon entering the restaurant, you will see other changes aside from The Brookside addition. The bar seating has increased from five to 20 seats, which do not require a reservation. You will also note that their patio seating has doubled in size. While there are many structural changes at Red Wagon, one thing that hasn't changed is Red Wagon's family-friendly feel and same great recipes!

What to know before you go:

- Full service
- Ample parking in lot
- Reservations encouraged
- Community table
- Dogs welcome on the patio
- Pizza dough available upon request for children seeking to hone their pizzaiolo skills.



KENNY

NEIGHBORHOOD

Kenny Neighborhood Association

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