

Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 3 ♦ July 1997

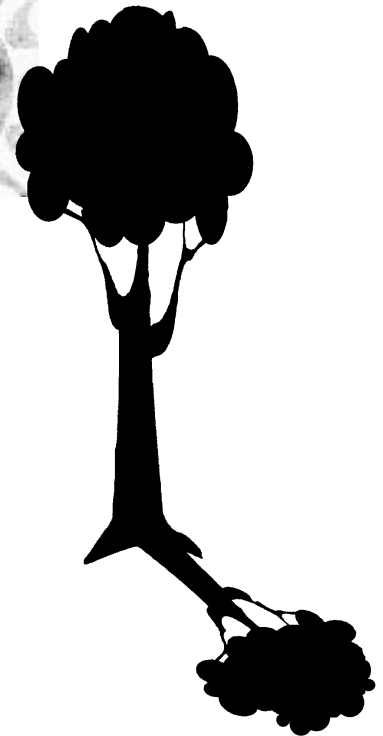


The Big Backyard Get-Together-Don't Miss It! Sixth Annual Picnic in the Park

Wednesday, July 23rd from 5:30PM to 8:30PM at Todd Park (56th and Chicago Ave.)

Mark your calendar for our neighborhood's biggest celebration of the summer . . . Some of this year's activities will be:

- * Dunk Tank
- * Moon Walk
- * Ball Crawl
- * McGruff
- * Door Prizes
- * Cub Pack #56 Field Games
- * Free Pop and Ice Cream courtesy of Jubilee Foods



Be prepared for entertainment by "The Teddy Bear Band" and jazz musicians. Bring extra cash for raffle tickets and carnival games, hot dogs, or meatball sandwiches. Each of these items or activities costs a dollar or less. We also encourage you to bring chairs, blankets, frisbees, picnics, etc. to enhance your evening.

The picnic in the park committee would like to thank the generous sponsors that make this event possible:

- * Jubilee Foods
- * Northern States Power
- * TCF Bank
- * Norwest Bank
- * Nokomis Chiropractic
- * Pearl Improvement and Recreation Council
- * Hale/Page/Diamond Lake Community Organization
- * Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

Hats off, also, to the volunteers who worked on planning this year's event — Viola Carlson, Barb Day, Tom Dial, Geniva Dorsey, Art Coucot, Katie Hasselbauer, Gretchen Huetterman, Heidi Humphrey, Karen Pritz, and Steve Voss. Their volunteer efforts have been invaluable to our community!

More volunteers are needed for the night of the picnic. For more information or to volunteer, call the HPDL office at 824-7707.

by Heidi Humphrey

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The HPDL Newsletter is published quarterly by the HPDL Community Association and is distributed within the Hale, Page and Diamond Lake Neighborhoods.

Newsletter Committee

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Karen Pritz

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Dick Saunders

If you have questions or comments about articles in this newsletter, or would like to contribute to the newsletter or join the Newsletter Committee, please call the HPDL office at 824-7707.

The Hale, Page and Diamond Lake Community Association was formed in 1991. Boundaries are Highway 35W, 62nd Street, Cedar Avenue, and Minnehaha Creek. HPDL serves as a forum/clearinghouse for ideas; provides a meeting place to air grievances, define concerns and develop solutions; provides opportunities to work with other organizations across the city; serves as a conduit between residents and government; and helps us to celebrate our neighborhoods and their own special uniqueness within our diverse city.

NOTES FROM HPDL BOARD CHAIR, JON HALLBERG

Three stories in this issue of the HPDL Newsletter reflect the kind of spirit and dedication for which our neighborhood is best known:

- 1) The annual spring "Clean Sweep" day brought out nearly 75 volunteers to help city Public Works crews dispose of many tons of household and yard trash. Even better, you donated a good-sized truckload of used toys, games, furniture and clothing to Goodwill Industries. Thank you for your thoughtfulness.
- 2) The long-awaited renovation of Hale School is about to begin. When completed, our \$400,000 share of the \$2 million job will add much needed community meeting and recreational resources to the neighborhood while providing a more pleasant and efficient learning environment for our young people. The Hale school project is the second largest of our five-year Neighborhood Action Plan priorities, following only the Pearl Park enhancements completed last year. To all of you veterans who contributed your time and creative ideas to the Hale project, we appreciate you.
- 3) The 6th annual Picnic in the Park July 23 promises again to be the highlight of our community-building year. Typically, more than 2,000 of us turn out to get reacquainted with our neighbors, enjoy the family fun and entertainment and maybe win a raffle or door prize. We look forward to meeting you at "The Big Backyard Get Together" at Todd Park.

Lastly, we're excited about the arrival of our two new staff members, Scott Dauner and Sarah Lindeman, succeeding Gwen Pfeifer. Each has strong qualifications and experience in volunteer organization-building and project conception, leadership and facilitation. These are skills we'll need as we begin the critical transition from a group with 100% dependence on public funds to one with a mix of public, private and foundation support. Please take a moment to greet Scott and Sarah as they make their rounds of the neighborhood in coming weeks. And offer them your full support to help broaden the base of citizen participation in our exciting programs.

*by Jon Hallberg,
HPDL Chair*

CLEAN SWEEP: A CLEAN SUCCESS

Clean Sweep, HPDL's annual spring home and yard cleanup day, was an overwhelming success.

More than 75 HPDL volunteers teamed with city public works trucks to collect many tons of used furniture, carpeting, home remodeling debris, garden decorating rock and stone and metal debris that aren't normally taken by our weekly garbage service -- far in excess of the volunteers' capacity and expectations.

Cars, vans and trucks loaded with throwaway items also descended on the main crew at Pearl Park nearly all day Saturday, May 17th. One full truckload of used toys, books, games, bicycles, clothing and other donated

items were delivered to Goodwill Industries late that afternoon.

Three large piles of leftover rock, metal and miscellaneous material were picked up by city workers the following Monday.

Kellie Wiersma, chair of the HPDL committee for Building Community, thanked the volunteers, former staff members Gwen Pfeifer and Brent Kurkoski, and the Minneapolis Solid Waste and Recycling Department for their help and cooperation.

by Dick Saunders



HPDL has a new e-mail address: HPDL.juno.com.

Send us your e-mail address so that we may update you periodically on community activities and to notify you of upcoming meetings and events.

GRAFFITI ATTACK

don't
DEFACE
my space

The city is getting more aggressive about graffiti. If you are a victim of graffiti, report the damage to 348-9392. To report graffiti in progress, call 911.

Tags on city property and equipment will be removed by the three Public Works graffiti removal crews within 72 hours. Eradication costs from privately owned business surfaces are split with the city.

BOARD NEWS

In other board news, Kate Achhamer has been elected a board member representing the Page neighborhood, succeeding Kellie Wiersma, who has moved out of state. Doug Frevert has been appointed board secretary, succeeding Kellie. Buck Humphrey has been appointed treasurer, succeeding Michael Guest, who has moved out of the neighborhood. John McNicoll has resigned.

These changes leave three board positions open: Hale (at large), Page and Diamond Lake (at large). If you are interested in learning about the qualifications, please call the HPDL office at 824-7707.

HALE SCHOOL RENOVATION TO BEGIN

The long-awaited renovation of Hale School, designed in part by our neighborhood to help the K-3 facility become more of a community gathering place and resource, will begin this summer.

Built in the 1920s, the school's staff and 600 students have been affected by many problems, including building age, overcrowded classrooms, lack of a gym or assembly space, insufficient media center, computers and music room, shifting art room, main entrance identity, room accessibility and playground safety issues.

Phase I of the renovation plan calls for an auditorium-gymnasium for physical education, large gatherings and community recreation programs to be built northward along 13th Ave. S. Also to be created are small meeting room areas, a new classroom, more accessible rest rooms and deferred maintenance, including a sprinkler system.

This plan will allow for needed space to be freed up in the existing building

for classrooms, media and computer center, resource areas and a more welcoming, spacious administrative office.

Phase I, estimated to cost \$2.0 million, is expected to be completed in about six months. Funding is being provided by the Minneapolis School District (\$1.5 million), the HPDL Neighborhood Revitalization Plan (\$400,000) and the School Board's NRP funds (\$100,000).

Phases II and III, which would include a new playground for the school and community, a new cafeteria/multipurpose space, additional classroom improvements and full-scale welcome center with a restored 54th St. entrance, await future funding decisions.

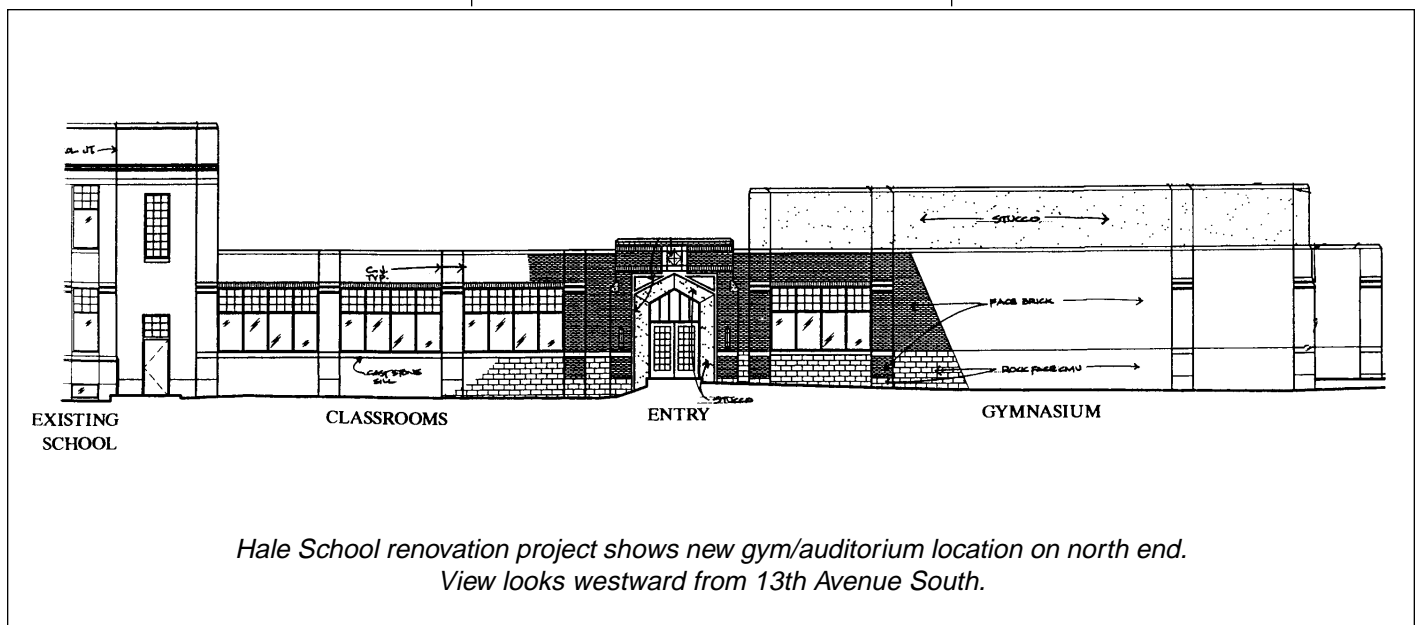
Design work is being guided by the architectural firm of SMMA/Winsor Faricy, St. Paul, whose staff has worked diligently with parents, community members, school staff and teachers to ensure the changes will provide "the biggest bang for the buck" in an era of limited school

funding.

The Hale improvements were spelled out as one of the neighborhood's three most important priorities when the HPDL neighborhood action plan was developed four years ago, notes Karen Pritz, education committee chair. "We want to recreate Hale as a dynamic focal point for future community activities, collaborating with the school, private schools, parks, community agencies, and churches to create programs that will increase our sense of community."

(Hale is technically the Hale Campus of the Hale/Field Community School. While kindergarten-third grade classes are held at Hale, fourth-sixth grades are offered at Field.)

by Karen Pritz



The HPDL board has selected Scott Dauner and Sarah Lindeman as its two community organizers, effective June 2 and June 16, respectively.

Scott will manage the office and facilitate the work of two board committees and six community committees—Housing, Education, Commercial Development, Environment, and Airport Issues.

Scott holds a B. A. degree in Political Science from Moorhead State University, where he served as student body president and was selected Outstanding Student Leader in 1993. He studied international diplomacy and politics at Portsmouth University, Portsmouth, UK, and studied leadership and group dynamics at Antioch New England Graduate School, Keene State College, Keene, N.H.

He gained experience in volunteer programming work as a member of the Americorps National Civilian Community Corps in Aurora, CO and with the Americorps Learn and Serve Program at Keene, N.H. He is a volunteer coordinator with Clearcorps, Minneapolis.

Sarah is a May graduate of St. Thomas University, St. Paul, with a B. A. degree in Justice and Peace

Studies and East Asian studies. She will assist the newly formed HPDL Youth Committee and help the Building Community and Crime and Safety Committees in carrying out their programs.

Sarah was a project coordinator for Future Leaders of America/Future Homemakers of America, St. Paul, from 1993-1996. There she developed an intergenerational mentoring program called Learning is Fun Together (LIFT) that has been implemented in 35 schools throughout Minnesota.

She also organized training sessions for teens, teachers and community volunteers, presented workshops on diversity and leadership, organized advisory board meetings and researched and wrote grants and training materials.

Be sure to give Scott and Sarah your heartiest HPDL welcome when you meet them on their rounds of our blocks.



Scott



Sarah

The project, *Diamond Lake: Analysis of a Wetland and Projections for the Future*, has begun. An application for an intern was accepted from the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA), which is part of the Neighborhood Planning for Community Revitalization (NPCR). The study will be conducted by Charity Miller. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Natural Resources and Environmental Studies at the University of Minnesota.

Her task is to produce a report of Diamond Lake wetland. A compilation of the historical facts concerning Diamond Lake is needed. The changing treatment and appreciation of wetlands over the years influences the community view of environment and stewardship of natural resources. The report is intended to be an information resource to insure water quality in the future. We will use the report as a tool to promote sound ecological principles and to encourage education for responsible nurturing of our natural resources.

Charity has taken on a large task. Those of you who have information and concerns about Diamond Lake can contact her at the HPDL office. Copies of documents and old photographs would enhance the report.

The Community Garden at the corner of Diamond Lake Road and Hampshire Drive, will be expanding. Work will commence the middle of July. Gardeners and community spirited persons are requested to join in the fun. Call the HPDL office, or express your interest when an HPDL committee person visits you in the next few weeks. *by Kay Hughes*

Important Dates

Wednesday, July 23

Picnic in the Park
5:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Todd Park

Weekend of July 26th

Hampshire Community Gardening
at Diamond Lake
call 824-7707

Weekend of August 2nd

Hampshire Community Gardening
at Diamond Lake
call 824-7707

Monday, August 4th

14th Annual National Night Out
"Making Every Night Safe"
2nd Annual Kickoff Parade
Nicollet Mall, Noon

Tuesday, August 5th

National Night Out Block Parties
Interested? Call 673-3015...

Weekend of August 9th

Hampshire Community Gardening
at Diamond Lake
call 824-7707

Monday, September 15th

Community Meeting to elect new
HPDL Board Members

November 19th

Building Block Grant deadline

Every 3rd Monday

beginning in August
Community Meeting
7:00 at Pearl Park

Every 4th Monday

HPDL Board Meeting
7:00 at HPDL

HPDL COMMITTEES

1st Monday
Youth Committee
7:00 at HPDL

1st Wednesday
Environment
7:00 at Pearl Park

FROM THE DESK OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBER, DORÉ MEAD

At long last, summer, the season many of us live for. Let's savor it while we can.

And with summer comes that other season: road repair! All potholes are supposed to be repaired by the end of July. If you come across one the city has missed, please call me with the location.

Summer is also open season on south Minneapolis—oops, make that open window season in south Minneapolis. I am adamantly opposed to any expansion of the current airport. I hope the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) will nip in the bud Northwest Airlines' proposal for an \$8.5 million "temporary" extension of the south parallel runway. There are much better ways MAC could invest those dollars—to expand the noise insulation program, to name just one.

By the time you read this, the City either is just about to change or has just changed the way Chicago Avenue works between 56th and

57th Streets. The new test restores parallel parking on the west side of the street and provides "islands" in the center of the street to make it safer by slowing traffic down. If this test proves successful, the plan would

eventually be implemented on a permanent basis, with most of the island area landscaped with hardy plants. Feel free to call me with your comments on the new test and any suggestions for improvements.

In related news, I am exploring the possibility of providing a small, off-street parking lot within Todd Park.

A little farther from home (but not from our pockets), a serious grass-roots movement is picking up steam to put the question of City funding of professional sports facilities on the ballot in this November's general election. During July and August, we're likely to come across people seeking signatures on a petition in parks, in front of grocery stores and other locations with lots of foot traffic.

I hope to see you at the Picnic in the Park on July 23. In the meantime, as always, please call me at 673-2211 with news, views and concerns.



*S. Doré Mead
Minneapolis City Council Member
Eleventh Ward*

2nd Tuesday
Housing
6:30 at HPDL Office

Every other Wednesday
Building Communities

3rd Thursday
Commercial Development
6:30 at HPDL Office

3rd Tuesday
Diamond Lake Business Assn.
5:30 at Nokomis Cup

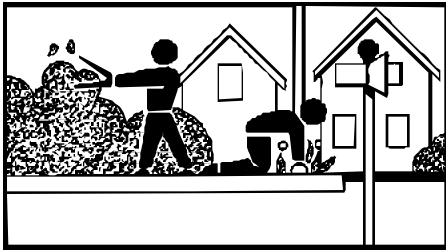
HPDL BUILDING BLOCK GRANT MONEY
 [AVAILABLE ONLY UNTIL MID-FALL]

Do you want to beautify your block? Hold a block garage sale? Or better yet, hold an arts-in-crafts workshop? Apply for a grant up to \$200 from the HPDL Building Block Grant Program. Funds for the 1997 year are available only until mid-fall, so gather your neighbors and apply soon.

This program is a great opportunity for you and your neighbors to work together and get to know each other better. Receiving grant money to fund an activity is as simple as 1,2,3. First, assess the needs of your block and think a project that would meet those needs. If that is too difficult, use one of the Building Block Grant Program premade projects. Second, have the project coordinator(s) submit an application to the HPDL office no later than November 19, 1997. And third, get a majority of your block to participate and the money will be approved.

HPDL has \$8,500 available on a first come, first serve basis. Get involved and make improvements that will benefit you and your community. For more information on the HPDL Building Blocks Grant Program contact the HPDL office at 824-7707.

by Kate Achhamer



Yes!

I want to help HPDL keep my neighborhood a great place to live. Here is my contribution:

\$10 \$15 \$25
 \$50 \$100 Other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Please return this form with check payable to HPDL, 5144 13th Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55417.

THANK YOU!

You Make the Call!

Bus Ride Information..... 373-3333

Humane Society522-7130

Animal Control348-4250

CCP/SAFE673-3015

Mary Etzioni673-3717

Street Maintenance .673-5720

Street Lights Out673-2429

Airport Noise726-9411

Graffiti Removal.....673-5858

Pearl Park370-4906

City Council Member

Dore Mead673-2211

Hennepin County

Commissioners: District 3,

Mark Andrew348-7883

District 4,

Peter McLaughlin348-7884

Senator Carol Flynn,

District 62296-4274

Rep. Wes Skoglund,

District 62B296-4330

Sen. Jane Ranum,

District 63S297-8061

Rep. Jean Wagenius,

District 63A296-4200

Rep. Edwina Garcia,

District 63B296-5375

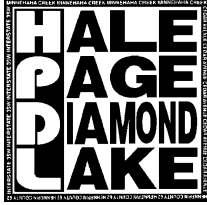
SMAAC822-8118

MN Public Lobby378-0285

HPDL Office824-7707

Internet address:

.... stryker@freenet.msp.mn.us



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Minneapolis, MN 55417

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PROMOTE YOUR GARAGE SALE!

HPDL has recently purchased four 3'x9' vinyl banners that read "BLOCK SALE." The banners easily hang across an alley or from a couple of trees. The signs are available for neighborhood or individual rental at \$5 per sign per day. Call the HPDL office at 824- 7707 to reserve one (or several) today.



COMMITTEE UPDATES

Crime and Safety Committee:

The walk patrol program has 19 members who patrol the streets in their respective HPDL phone-tree areas and get to know their neighbors while they keep an eye out for potential problems and prevention measures. If you would like to walk in your neighborhood, call 824-7707 and find out how.

Environment Committee:

Weekly weeding dates for community garden(s) are Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. Call the HPDL office at 824-7707 to sign up. If you have a group interested in stenciling to promote water quality, call Jill Hurst, 927-8563.