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Linden Hills e-newsletter

from the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council

February 15 2008 - Vol 2, Issue 1

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Dear Scott,

Aren't you ready for Spring? One way to keep warm is by getting out in the community and making connections. As usual, there's loads of activities and there's always volunteer opportunities, from a 2 hour commitment (Festival anyone? It's not too early to sign up!) to an ongoing commitment to be available to neighbors on your block for compost questions. No previous experience is required for joining in or giving back - try it, you might surprise yourself!

Senate District 60 Leaders Town Hall Meeting

The three legislators representing Senate District 60 will hold a town meeting from **10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 16**, at **Bryant Square Park, 3101 Bryant Avenue South in Minneapolis.**

Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives **Margaret Anderson Kelliher**, **State Representative Frank Hornstein** and **State Senator Scott Dibble** will be available to discuss the upcoming legislative session and receive constituent questions and concerns.

The 2008 legislative session convenes Feb. 12. Major issues expected to dominate this year's agenda include transit and transportation, the I-35W bridge collapse response, property tax relief, health care access and costs, job creation, and environmental and energy policies. All are welcome to attend the town meeting to discuss these and other topics.

Bryant Square Park is located at West 31st Street and Bryant Avenue South, one block South of West Lake Street. Please call 651-296-4191 if you need special accommodations or with additional questions.

LHINC Spring 2008 Grants Available

LHINC generates revenue from the Linden Hills Festival and donates much of it back to the community. These funds support organizations and projects that make Linden Hills a better place to live and work. Consider applying if your organization is looking for funds for a specific project.

Guidelines Overview- Applications for the Spring 2008 grant cycle are due **March 15**. Call 612.926.2906 or visit www.lindenhills.org for an application. LHINC prefers to award grants to tax-exempt, nonprofit organizations. Grants cannot be used for planning, operations, or capital expenses, nor are they provided to

promote religious or partisan political purposes.

Upcoming Events at Linden Hills Park

School age kids are invited to stop by for **"Dinner and a Movie"** on **Friday Feb 22 6pm-8pm**. The movie is "Arctic Tale" and pizza, salad and orange sorbet will be served. Cost: \$5. The next Dinner and a Movie will be March 14th, movie to be advised closer to the date.



Teens 12-17 years are invited to attend **"Friday Night Under the Lights"** - an evening of games, ice skating, sports and tournaments **6:15-8:15pm**. Activities are indoors and out, and are free. Also on **Fridays** is **"Girls Night Out"**. Join park staff for music, journaling, crafts, games, discussions and fun. Bring your friends and meet new ones. Time: **6:15 -8:15pm**. Ages 10-15; \$1 supply fee pay on arrival. Register for remaining sessions for both classes [online](#).

Want to try out yoga at Linden Hills Park but can't make all of the sessions or only want to try one? Buy a Yoga Pass online and go to any class! \$35 for 4 classes or \$10 for one class, and then just show up! (Weds nights men only). Check out all of our Yoga options [here](#).

Ice rink closing: The ice rink is scheduled to close Monday evening **Feb 18th**, so get out there quickly if you want to practice your figure eights. Lake of the Isles will remain open till **Feb 24** weather and ice conditions permitting.

Don't miss the **Spring Fling Egg Hunt -Saturday, March 22, 10:30 am- 12 pm** and **Mothers Day Tea, Sat 10th May 12:00-1:30 pm**. For full information and to register, visit www.minneapolisparcs.org after Feb 22.

"Foreclosure and Neighborhood Home Values"

Join neighborhood experts at **Linden Hills Park Tuesday, March 4, 6:00-7:00pm** to discuss Foreclosure and Neighborhood Home Values. Find out more about:

- What is foreclosure?
- Why are there so many foreclosures?
- How does this effect lending?
- How has the lending industry reacted/responded?
- What are the local value trends in Linden Hills and surrounding neighborhoods?
- How has an increase in foreclosures affected the real estate market?
- Who is most affected by foreclosures?
- Where can I get assistance with a potential foreclosure?

Ward-Wide Meeting on Community Engagement

We are seeking input on what residents feel have been valuable contributions by the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council during its decade of work in collaboration with the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP). Your insight will help us provide a neighbor-centric organizational response to the City's proposed "Framework for the Future" and their proposed changes to the NRP structure. This input will also help us form a more effective neighborhood organization as we continue to interact with the City on the neighborhood's behalf. Lakes-area neighborhood organizations, including LHiNC, are sponsoring a ward-wide meeting at Lynnhurst Park to provide some additional background and gather your local perspective and insight:

Monday, March 10, 7:00-8:30 p.m. Lynnhurst Recreation Center, 50th/Minnehaha Pkwy

All of your opinions- whether at this session or submitted by phone or email, are equally valued. Feel welcome to contact Scott Engel, our neighborhood coordinator, by phone at 612-926-2906 or email: scott@lindenhills.org.

Taking Care of Business

The Linden Hills Business Association prints and distributes business directories to all 4,000 households in Linden Hills. Neighborhood shoppers pick up additional directories at the Village shops throughout the year. The directory is a useful tool for area residents and shoppers, and a great marketing piece for our many wonderful neighborhood businesses.

Last year's directory received rave reviews with its fresh new look. It'll be changed up again with new colors this year. Be sure to purchase your ad -- or just submit your contact info for your free business listing -- and be part of the success and excitement that is Linden Hills. Contact Mark Dwyer at mark_dwyer@msn.com. Submission deadline is **March 10**.

Ahoy Compost Captains



Do we have the most active neighborhood in the city or what!!! Last month Linden Hills Power & Light put out a call for residents to become their block's expert on the organics collection (starting this Spring) and so far 55 people have responded! We have 117 blocks and we have a few double ups, so it's not too late to sign up. Full training and snacks provided at an event on **February 20th; 7pm at 2720 W 43rd St # 300**. For full details, email info@lhpowerandlight.org with "more details" in the subject line.

Community Activities

Take advantage of these local events to mingle with friends and neighbors.

The [Linden Hills Library](#) features a number of regular and one-off events including **children's story hour Thursdays 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.**; and **toddler story hour Wed 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.** The **Teen book club** meets **7pm to 8pm Tues February 18th** to discuss CARPE DEMON: ADVENTURES OF A DEMON-HUNTING SOCCER MOM; and Teens are invited to watch the movie **"Clueless" on Thurs Feb 24th 6pm-7.30pm**. Popcorn and pop will be provided. Adults are encouraged to join the **adult bookclub** to discuss "Zorba the Greek" **Tuesday March 4, at 7:30 p.m.** Several copies are available at the library.

[Lake Harriet Spiritual Community](#) invites you to join them at upcoming events and classes.

New Orleans Fundraiser Dinner - Sunday, February 17 at Noon. Donations.

Karen Onny, of My Neighborhood Fitness, hosts an **introductory Yoga class** as a fundraiser for Lake Harriet Spiritual Community on the **first Sunday of each month**. The next one is **March 2 @ 5:30 pm**. \$5 suggested donation at the door.

The LHSC Meet-Up Group has a **singles Potluck and Game Night on March 15 @ 7 pm**. \$5 at the door

Jill Englund continues her series of **12-Step Meditations classes on Wednesdays at 7 pm**, thru April 30. \$10 per class

Lou Longmire continues to facilitate an ongoing Spiritual discussion group on **Wednesdays, from 7-8:30 pm**. Currently, the discussion centers on the book, "Ishmael." (The group is Free & books are available for purchase thru LHSC)

Cori Lee Stahlecker continues to teach **Fire Dancing classes on Thursdays from 7-8:30 pm**, thru February 21 \$15 per class

For information about these events, the LH Spiritual Community and more, please visit lhscweb.org or call Lily or Cori in the Church Office at 612-922-4272.

Toddler's will enjoy [Wild Rumpus'](#) **story hour on Mondays at 10:30am**; and [Creative Kidstuff's](#) **story hour on Thursdays at 10am**. Continuing through February, Creative Kidstuff will be collecting books for the non-profit Learning Disabilities Association of Minnesota (LDA). Drop off new or gently used books which will be donated to families in need in an effort to encourage a continued pattern of reading during summer months when school is not in session.

People for Parks

People for Parks is looking for additional Board members. If you love our parks and lakes and

have grant writing or fund-raising experience, or just time to give, please email info@peopleforparks.net with "potential board member" in the subject line and include your contact details. People for Parks is a 501c3 organization that raises funds to improve and enhance Minneapolis Parks.

From the Chair- Think Outside the Vote

The huge turnout in our caucuses this month was inspiring to me. The degree to which people have invested themselves in this year's elections is admirable. From Facebook forums to the dinner table, we are buzzing about the issues of our world today.

With every lawn sign I see on my nightly walks, I hope this electoral passion extends beyond November. Great emphasis is placed on voting as the crucial form of civic engagement. While it symbolically represents values that already exist, it can feel disempowering if you don't think it makes a crucial difference. If any specific group can, I know that Linden Hills can carry this momentum beyond casting a vote and into the vitality of our public square. While candidates are still being worked out, it is clear to me that the issues at hand won't disappear after November. So I'm curious: *what are you doing about it?*



Real change is more complex than "government should..." It relies on us and participation of everyone. We are all capable of contributing. Electing people in high office and expecting them alone to carry this out on our behalf is impracticable yet what we often expect.

Like a billboard that says "Watch This Space" in big bold letters, your neighborhood council is off and running behind the scenes with a lot of preparations to strengthen our businesses, our urban forest, and our ties to one another. We have clear initiatives going on this year around environment, housing, communications and community-building. A current challenge facing LHiNC is the future of neighborhood organization funding. It will require us reaching out beyond the City's former NRP governance structure and involve ourselves as a necessary component of a lasting and sustainable solution. I am certain that year-round work of individual hearts and minds becomes an effective form of social change. It's easy to start when we recognize that politics are not just "buzz" but real issues that affect our own lives and the communities which we live.

This month I invite you to challenge the status quo, and to be builders of a healthier world. We can start by building community here together. If you find a new way to give your talents to your surroundings this month, Linden Hills will be a better place for it. Former President John F. Kennedy's proclamation from his 1961 inaugural address certainly holds as true in 2008 as ever: "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country." And that means always.

Regards,

Linea

Help **spread the news** - forward this newsletter to friends and family in Linden Hills suggesting they "**Join the Mailing List**". We don't want anyone to miss out! To submit articles for the e-news, please email Felicity at felicitybritton@gmail.com by March 10th with "e-news" in the subject line.

'Till next month...

Felicity Britton
for the Linden Hills Neighborhood Council

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