

January/February 2015



www.audubonneighborhood.org

Presidents' Day Walk is Saturday February 14

What a perfect day for a walk in the neighborhood. Not only is it Valentine's Day but it is also the 7th annual Presidents' Day Walk.

On Saturday, Feb. 14, the 7th Annual Presidents' Day Walk and Celebration will be held in Northeast Minneapolis. Neighbors will walk together and learn about the presidents – this year's theme "presidential hobbies" – while traversing the streets named for the presidents. Meet at 10 a.m. at Edison High School, 700 22nd Ave. NE.

The route includes one or more warm-up/cocoa stops and ends with a chili lunch at Northeast Middle School, 2955 Hayes St. NE where there will be a trivia contest (pay attention during the walk for answer hints). The "presidential seal" will be awarded to the group that brings the most people, and awards will be announced in the "Paint the White House" coloring contest conducted through local schools.

More details will be available closer to the event, in the February 11 Northeaster and www.MyNortheaster.com and www.nemplsonline.com. The event is free, with donations accepted to help cover lunch.



Last year about a hundred people participated in the walk and program.



Northeast Minneapolis Royalty and the NE Urban 4H Club volunteer each year on the walk.



Presidential sign posts were used to highlight the route.



A member of the NE Urban 4H club reads trivia on President Monroe.



Park Board Commissioner, Liz Wielinski, was one of the public officials who joined the walk.



Friends of the Northeast Library: An Active Group in Northeast by Robin Sauerwein

Love books?

What could be better than to curl up with a good book on a cold winter day? Well, maybe volunteer and be a Friend of the Northeast Library.

Audubon resident, Joan Mitchell, has been involved with the Friends of the Northeast Library about four years now.

"I love the library," Joan said. "I grew up in small town of Vin- ing, MN- 79 population." She remembered getting her first library card and visiting the Book Mobile monthly. It was her only access to books except at school.

Joan said that the library is an important place for the community. "It's a safe place. There are no expectations at the library. Your mind can just reach. I love our little library."

Friends of the Northeast Library meets the fourth Thursday of every month at 6:30 pm at the Northeast Library meeting room. Friends plan events and raise funds for what the budget doesn't cover like summer programming, extra supplies, etc.

All meetings are open to the public. Currently Friends has about 35 members. This year marks the 100th year of the Northeast Library and events will be planned to celebrate.

An art rail recently installed in the NE meeting room gives artists an opportunity to hang work. Friends also supports the neighborhood schools by promoting the art of both Edison and NEMS students.

Friends also promotes local writers by sponsoring two to three author talks a year. Past local authors include Atina Dif- fley, William Kent Krueger and Sarah Stonich.

Book sales take place several times a year including a bag sale in the parking lot during Art-A-Whirl, community events like Johnstock, Spring WingDing and a major one held the first week in December at the library.

They even sponsored a Haiku contest during the Hotdish Revolution.

"Any place that will invite us," Joan said.

Last year Friends was one of the sponsors of the NE Farmers' Market. Once a month during the market they were the designated local nonprofit and set up their book cart for a micro sale.

"We raised about \$100 a month in donations at the Farmers' Market, over \$500 for the season at the Market," she said.

Joan looks at these events as community builders.

When you participate in community people know you exist. She remembers an elderly woman this past summer who came to the farmers' market each week just to visit.

The woman told her, "This makes my week."

"That is what the library is all about. Access. We open that door for people who can't get to the library," she said.

And although there is no book mobile these days, volunteers from the library will bring books to those who are home-bound.

Since volunteering as a computer tutor at the library a few hours a week, Joan has seen an increase in library use. She says that the computer area is always packed.

"It's not just books, it's an information center," she said.

Friends of the Northeast Library can always use volunteers who are interested in helping out by shelving books, working at book sales, tutoring on the computer or participating at meetings.

But if you just have a few books you'd like to donate, Joan will gladly accept them on her porch (1510 27th Ave NE) or you can drop them off at the library, or email *Friends at nelibraryfriend@gmail.com*.



photo by Tom Bobblett

Looking for a Local Book Club to Join? Check Out These in Northeast!

Gods and Monsters, a free Twin Cities book group which meets monthly (usually the last Sunday of the month, 4 – 5:30 pm) at Eastside Food Coop's Granite Studio, 2551 Central Ave. NE, to discuss books with themes of myth and religion. Questions or RSVP at the group's Facebook page or by emailing Kristin at *godsandmonstersTC@gmail.com*.

The Northeast Book Club meets the 4th Saturday of the month, 3:30 pm at the Northeast Library, 2200 Central Ave. NE. The group is hosted by Friend of Northeast Library member Connie Hill. For more information, call 612-543-6775, or visit *www.supporthclub.org/group/northeast-library*.

Book Club at Waite Park meets the 3rd Monday of the month, 1-3 pm. Call 612-668-1590 for book selection. \$2 at the door. January 19 – March 16.

A Letter from the Audubon Board

by Egan Haugesag, President



Hello Audubon Park Neighbors. I hope this finds everyone in good health and looking forward to a happy new year. I am Egan Haugesag, the newly elected president of the Audubon Neighborhood Association (ANA) Board of Directors. I was involved with ANA back in the mid 2000's and was chair of the housing committee.

Like most volunteers life got too busy with work and a daughter so I took some time off from the ANA, but I am now ready to help make this great neighborhood even better. The current board is a good mix of veteran members and some new ones, all bring a skill to the board and I am excited to be working with them all.

There are some programs that are nearing the end of their contracted timelines and some that haven't had great participation, thus we as a board, need to reach out and get input from the community. The ANA needs you to help steer us in what is important to you and improve our neighborhood. We are currently working on a survey that will be out soon and really would like to hear from all of you!

Programs that have historically been popular and necessary (due to how ANA receives funding), will be revisited to meet current wants and needs. Housing loan programs and Land Use committees are vital and will build our vision of the neighborhood. Some new ideas being discussed are partnering with Northeast Middle School to improve the 29th Avenue frontage as well as some kind of spring early summer get together. Also community art installations in some form to reinforce NE as the Arts District. But we need you to work with us to accomplish these and more, so please come to the community meetings and get involved in a committee that interests you. (Check our website for meeting dates and location). Meetings will be interesting with local elected and municipal officials in attendance so you can ask questions and have a good interaction with your representatives. I am always amazed at our neighborhoods riches from awesome restaurants like Holy Land, Chimborazo, Hazel's, Parkway Pizza and NE Coffee Shop to name just a few. Businesses like Eastside Coop, Turbo Tim's, Lowry Auto Repair, Jesse's Auto, Sara Janes Bakery and more.

The great progress Northeast Middle School has made in the last few years is attributed to many local parents getting involved and believing that they can trust their children's education to the dedicated staff there. Finally the recent board members and new staff member Luke have built a solid foundation to build upon. We are truly a lucky community!

So please feel welcome to contact the ANA with any questions, concerns or ideas. The future of our neighborhood is ours to create so get involved and be part of it.

Thanks,

Egan Haugesag

2015 Community Meetings begin promptly at 7:00 pm at the Audubon Park building.

Feb. 2, April 6, June 1, August 3, Oct. 5, Dec. 7

ANA Needs Your Input

Last month, ANA began a strategic planning process to better understand what types of programs, projects, and events the neighborhood wants and needs. As part of the strategic planning process, we need input from those in our community. Please take a few minutes and answer the online survey that can be found at this link: www.surveymonkey.com/s/ANA4

In the next few weeks, we will be sending out paper surveys to the households in the neighborhood. If you take the online survey, you will not receive a paper survey. This will help save on the cost of mailing, and is more environmentally friendly overall. All respondents who complete the survey will be entered to win the following prizes: \$100 gift card to Eastside Food Co-op (1 winner) and \$50 for your block's National Night Out party in 2015 (25 winners).

Follow ANA on Facebook for other information related to the strategic planning process at [Facebook.com/audubonneighborhood](https://www.facebook.com/audubonneighborhood)

Architectural Assistance Program for Audubon Homeowners

How can you make substantial changes to your home with an eye towards design, form, and functionality? Meet with an architect for a two-hour consultation, and discuss your ideas and options for improving your home. A consultation with an architect can help ensure that your remodeling project fits seamlessly with the style and function of your existing home and is compatible with your neighborhood.

See the ANA website for how the program works or contact the office at 612-788-8790.

Things to know:

- \$50 co-pay (\$250 value).
- One visit per household.
- For Audubon Park residents only.
- Consultation only; no plans are provided.
- No expectation to hire the architect beyond the 2-hour consultation.

They can tell you about the process of working with an architect, and you may decide to continue working with them on your own.

To encourage good design in residential remodeling, the Audubon Park Neighborhood, in partnership with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Minnesota, is helping to cover the cost of two hours of architectural services. The AIA is the professional organization of architects in Minnesota. AIA architects are licensed and required to take continuing education courses to keep current with laws, codes, and new materials.

ANA's Low Interest Loan Program will offer a 2% loan for all homeowners participating in the new Architectural Assistance Program offered through ANA.

Audubon Park Update

by Mitch Waukau



Audubon Park
1320 29th Ave. NE
612-370-4910



Mitch Waukau

Last month's Santa Brunch was a success. We had good food cooked by Josh Madison, Santa supplied from a local American Legion and the ginger bread house craft hit the sweet spot. I can't wait for next year to make the Santa Brunch even bigger and better.

Winter programs began on Monday, January 5th 2015 and we have plenty of room in all programs at Audubon Park. Check out the programs online at www.minneapolisparcs.org and search for Audubon Park or stop in to grab seasonal program brochure. We will be having some new programs for the winter session that includes: Parents time out (1st and 3rd Fridays 6 pm – 9 pm), floor hockey and dodgeball. Flyers with information regarding each new program are available so spread the word and let's get this park filled up. There is still limited space in the gymnastic programs so sign up now before they fill up.

Get your calendars out and mark this date down On Friday, February 13 from 6 pm – 8 pm Audubon Park will be hosting a Valentines Dance. Come celebrate Valentine's Day with your whole family at Audubon Park. We will have a DJ and dance area for the whole family to enjoy themselves. We will also have a light dinner, cookie decorating and card making for Valentine's Day. Pre-registration is required by 2/11/15 and small fee will apply to each participate.

Audubon Park winter hours:

Monday – Thursday 3:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Friday 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm and closed on the weekends.

Audubon is always looking for new programs, so if you have a class or program you can run stop down and talk to Mitch.

If you are looking for a place to throw birthday parties call or stop by to inquire about fees and scheduling.

Any questions or comments contact Mitch at Audubon Park at 612-370-4910.



Minneapolis
Community Education

Community Education at Northeast and Edison

Minneapolis Public Schools [MPS] Community Education offers a wide range of classes and activities at Northeast Middle School and Edison High School. Winter session classes will start on January 20.

You can study a new language, stay fit, learn a craft, express yourself painting and drawing while connecting with your neighbors. Our classrooms, gyms, dance studio and pool are active with everything from Creative Writing to Dog Training.

We also have free family fitness activities in our Shape up Together and Friday Family Swim programs.

Community Education along with many area partners will hold the 7th annual Presidents Day Walk and Celebration on Saturday, February 14. Come and join us for the walk which begins at 10:00 at Edison High School and ends with our celebration at Northeast Middle School.

For further information please call 612-668-1515 [Northeast] or 612-668-1306 [Edison] or contact the coordinator, David Warnest via email at dwarnest@mpls.k12.mn.us

Please visit our web site www.mplscommunityed.com. Thank you.

Recycling Reminder:

Remember that plastic bags are not accepted in the One-Sort Recycling program. Please collect recyclable wrapping paper (paper with minimal glitter or reflective areas) in paper bags or stuff loose into your one-sort recycling cart. Plastic bags get caught in the gears at the processing facility requiring them to shut down for multiple hours each day to cut plastic bags off the equipment.

Extra Recycling: Recycling that goes not fit into your one-sort recycling cart may be placed next to the cart in cardboard boxes or paper bags. Do NOT place extra recycling out in an old blue or green curbside bin. If you do, the crews will take the bin itself for recycling and you will not be able to get it back. If you consistently have extra recycling, call us to request a second cart at 612-673-2917. (There's no added charge for extra recycling carts!)

Organics Drop-Off: One last thing, please remember that reduce comes before recycle (or in this case compost). Do your best to reduce waste by making meal plans prior to grocery shopping and learning how to properly store food. Eureka Recycling's Zero Waste Composting website has helpful tips to help you plan meals, purchase the right amount of food, and store food to remain edible longer. If hosting events, make sure to get RSVPs from attendees so you don't make too much food. Rethink Recycling's Event Planning guide has tools to walk you through planning small and large events. Receiving RSVP's is essential to pre-event planning. If any leftovers spoil, be sure to bring the down to the park organics drop-off!



NEWS FROM NE MIDDLE SCHOOL



Potential Updates to Northeast Middle School

With support from school representatives and City Councilmember Kevin Reich, the ANA submitted a grant request to the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO). The purpose was to obtain funds to develop specifications and plans for a raingarden to replace some of the current, underused parking lot. The grant application passed the first step. The second step will involve an in-person presentation to the MWMO, followed by a more detailed grant application. If the planning grant is approved, we can apply for a \$50,000 action grant to install the raingarden. Each grant would require a 25% match from ANA.

The key members of the planning team will present the overall plan at the community meeting to be held February 2. Please come to learn more about the project and provide input that will help us refine our presentation to MWMO.

NEMS Essay Contest

The Audubon Neighborhood Association once again sponsored an essay contest for all Northeast Middle School students. The deadline was December 15 and interested students wrote essays on What can I do to make a difference in my community?

All essays have now been received and will be judged.

The three winning essays will be published in the spring Audubon Park newsletter and the authors will receive cash prizes.

Thank you to all the NEMS students, teachers and staff who participated and promoted the contest.

Got School News? Let Us Know!

Free Family Fitness Classes At Northeast Middle School

Everyone must register. Call 612-668-1515

- **Shape Up Family Fitness**

7 Tuesdays:
January 27-March 10, 6:00 -7:00 pm

- **Family Zumba**

7 Thursdays:
January 29-March 12, 7:00 -8:00 pm

- **Free Open Family Swim**

8 Fridays:
January 23-March 13, 6:15 – 7:15 pm.

\$5 HATHA YOGA

Be peaceful, be happy, be whole.

* LOCATION GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS CHURCH
* DAY EVERY TUESDAY
* TIME 6:00-6:45 PM
* CONTACT o: 612.789.7256
e: bayli.vandelanotte@gmail.com

ALL FITNESS LEVELS WELCOME!

No need to sign up in advance - drop-ins welcome! Dress in comfortable clothing, bring a towel and yoga mat and enjoy! A limited number of mats will be available to use.

Support NEMS PTA

Support NEMS PTA by eating at Parkway Pizza, 29th & Johnson St. NE, the first Monday of each month.

Five percent of all Parkway's sales (delivery, dine in or to go) will go directly to the PTA.

Audubon Moments

The Neighborhood Has Changed, It Has Stayed the Same *by Nic Baker*

Meet Justin Felicetta



Justin Felicetta grew up in Windom Park, then crossed Lowry Avenue to Audubon Park in 2005. He says that while the neighborhood has changed in significant ways, it has retained much of the character he experienced growing up on Roosevelt Avenue. For example, he notes that the neighborhood has always been diverse, but the populations have changed. As a boy, his neighbors to one side spoke German; the neighbors on the other side were of Eastern European descent. Now he finds that the smaller populations are from other areas, such as Ecuador and Somalia. In particular, consider Holy Land on Central: "I challenge you to find a single business that reflects as many walks of life."

Justin now lives with his wife, Piyali Nath Dalal. They have two kids. Anjali, 7, whose name is Bengali for "an offering to God." Their five-year-old son is named "Amadeo," Italian for "The One Whom God loves."

There's another difference in his experience in Audubon: While Justin went to St. Charles, Anjali is in second grade at Yinghua Academy, a Mandarin immersion school. Justin was nervous the first time he saw the school. "It was a leap of faith." However, he has been very happy with the school since, saying that Anjali has "thrived" in the program. He also notes that while the school draws students from all over the Twin Cities, there are four other neighborhood students in the Audubon neighborhood at the bus stop every morning.

Amadeo is currently in Kindergarten at St. Charles, where he loves drawing, singing, and religion class.

Justin points to many features of the neighborhood that kept him here. "Piyali and I are passionate about the neighborhood. It is very walkable. We have the merchants' district on Johnson with thriving businesses. People know each other. There's a real sense of community here—I don't know how you could bring together a group of people more invested in their homes and community."

Justin also points to the NE Arts District, which he says has grown over the years. He likes to see the re-purposing of old buildings in that district.

Another consistent but changing feature: The NE athletic field. As a kid, Justin played baseball there. Now it serves as a place for internationally appealing sports, including soccer and cricket.

Justin is still into baseball: He is a rabid Twins fan who has had season tickets for many years. He particularly enjoyed the All Star festivities last summer. He participated in all the events, which he describes as taking a "disproportionate amount of time. I've spent the rest of the year making it up to Piyali!"

Like many people in the neighborhood, Justin appreciates being close to downtown. "We are close to the urban core and freeways, but still tucked away with a small-neighborhood feel. He commutes by bus throughout the year—I was impressed to see him walking by, laptop in hand, on the way home from the bus stop in the coldest days of last winter. His commitment to public transportation began with his paternal grandfather, a long-time resident of Waite Park, who used to commute from the neighborhood by trolley.

Justin's pride in being a Nordeaster continues, as does his family's. Who knows—Anjali and Amadeo just may be the fourth generation in the family to live in Audubon!

We'd like to get to know our neighbors in Audubon Park.

Got a story to tell? Have some history about our neighborhood?

Have an idea on making our neighborhood better?

Audubon Park is a neighborhood of neighbors. Let's get to know you!

Contact Robin at robindyson@msn.com for story ideas or people we should know. Let's share your story.

BULLETIN BOARD

The 2015 Audubon Neighborhood Association community meetings will be held Feb. 2, April 6, June 1, August 3, Oct. 5, Dec. 7 at 7:00 pm at Audubon Park, 1320 29th Ave NE.

Check our website at audubonneighborhood.org for what's happening in the neighborhood.

The Minneapolis Police Department has launched a new web-based crime mapping tool called RAIDS Online (Regional Analysis and Information Sharing). The interactive crime map system can be accessed through the MPD's website at: <http://www.minneapolismn.gov/police> or through <http://www.raidsonline.com>. Additionally, there is a free mobile app for iOS devices that can be downloaded at <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/raids-online-mobile/id496011979?mt=8>

EASTSIDE MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM NEEDS YOU

Our non-profit meal delivery service provides meals to people who are unable to shop and prepare adequate meals for themselves on a regular basis. Some recipients are elderly and some are mentally or physically challenged. For some recipients we become a temporary service as they recuperate from an injury or a hospital stay. For others it will probably be their source of nutrition as long as they remain in their homes. Many times our service enables the elderly to maintain their autonomy and their independent living.

A typical meal recipient is in their 80 s, widowed and living in their own home. Our daily visit provides security to their families who know that a volunteer driver will be checking in on their loved one each day and will report anything unusual. Sometimes our driver is the only person the recipient will see all day.

If you or someone you know would like to help those who need our services and can volunteer to drive one day a month, please contact us at 612-277-2529. We will work with you to schedule your days around your other activities. Meal delivery normally takes less than an hour and the show of appreciation by our clients is priceless. If you can't drive, remember that financial contributions are always appreciated!

The Eastside Meals on Wheels program is always looking for volunteers. If you would like to become a driver for the Meals on Wheels program, or are interested in serving on one of the operations/event committees, please contact our office at 612-277-2529. or info@eastsidemeals.org <http://www.eastsidemeals.org/>.

Audubon Eight Writer's Group is looking for writers of any level to join them each Wednesday at Diamonds Coffee Shop to share new writing based on prompts. For more information, email Nic at nicinmn@gmail.com.

NORTHEAST SENIOR SERVICES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Northeast Senior Services, Inc.,
2580 Kenzie Terrace, Suite 2A,
Minneapolis MN 55418
<http://www.nescrc.org/volunteer.html>

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS pick the days and times that they are available to drive. It could be once per week or it could be once per month. You let us know and when seniors call in for a ride, we call you to confirm your availability and schedule the pickup and drop off times and locations. All volunteer drivers apply for the opportunity. We invite you in to meet with our staff and we screen both your driving record and conduct a criminal background check. Call 612-781-5096 to become a volunteer driver.

JOIN THE NEWSLETTER ASSEMBLY TEAM

Volunteers meet at the NE Seniors' office to prepare the *Ne Senior Connections* newsletter for mailing every three months. It takes 3-4 hours to finish the newsletter mailing preparations. If you are interested in volunteering for the newsletter assembly team, please call 612-781-5096. Newsletters are mailed quarterly, March, June, September and December.

City Trees Program

Plant a tree through the City's tree program. Over 1300 trees will be available for all Minneapolis property owners - including multi-family properties, for just \$25 on a first-come basis this spring with ordering typically starting in March and picking up of the trees in May. A variety of trees will be available and are from 4-7 feet tall depending on the type of tree. There is also a free tree planting workshop for those interested. Exact details are still being worked out. Learn more about the City's efforts to enhance our tree canopy, and get updates about the 2015 City Trees program starting in January at www.minneapolismn.gov/sustainability/WC-MS1P-080826.

Save the date: February 19, Windom Park Center to discuss playground improvements. Time: TBD. Look for Windom Northeast Park Playground Improvements on this page: www.minneapolisparcs.org/default.asp?PageID. Follow ANA's Facebook page for updates.



Audubon Neighborhood Association

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church
1509 27th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Twin Cities, MN
Permit No. 30308

Sign up for ANA's monthly e-newsletter
at www.audubonneighborhood.org

Join Friends of the Audubon Association on Facebook

Shop your local grocery,
Eastside Food Co-op
Central Ave and 26th St
Open daily from 8am-9pm

EASTSIDE



FOOD CO-OP

Northeast Minneapolis' Community-
Owned Natural Foods Grocery Store!

The mission of the ANA is to encourage interaction and involvement among the people in our community and its organizations, to foster the continuing improvement of property and businesses within its boundaries, to increase security and safety within the neighborhood, to convey to other organizations, including government and business, the concerns of the neighbors represented.

Audubon Neighborhood Resources

City of Minneapolis
• 311 Minneapolis Non-emergency

Elected Public Officials:

- Diane Loeffler • 612-781-1307
- Kari Dziedzic • 651 296-7809
- Jenny Arneson • jenny.arneson@mpls.k12.mn.us
- Councilmember Ward I
Kevin Reich • 612-673-2201
- Park Board Commissioner
Liz Wielinski • 612-788-5688

Community Services

- Audubon Park • 612-370-4910
- East Side Neighborhood Services
612-781-6011
"Adult, child and senior services" www.esns.org
- Northeast Senior Services
612-781-5096
- Pierre Bottineau Library
55 Broadway St. NE
952-847-2850
- Northeast Library
2200 Central Ave NE • 612-543-6775
- Literacy Council
612-789-9024 Free adult ESL classes

Audubon Neighborhood Association (ANA) Information

ANA Board of Directors

Nic Baker
Egan Haugesag - President
Melissa Haugesag
Sean Koebele
Justin Kwong
Sonja Peterson
Don Sellers - Treasurer
Adam Sieve - Secretary

ANA Board Meetings

2015 Board meets monthly at 7 pm at the ANA office when there is no community meeting that month. January 5, *February 2, March 2, *April 6 May 4, *June 1, July 6, *August 3, September 14, *October 5, November 2, *December 7

*these meetings will start at 6:00 p.m.
(prior to the Community Meetings)
at the Audubon Park building.

2015 Community Meetings

February 2, April 6, June 1, August 3, October 5,
December 7 at 7:00 pm promptly
at the Audubon Park building, 1320 29th Ave NE
(board meetings will take place at 6 pm)

ANA Office - Location

Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church (basement)
1509 27th Ave. NE. (27th & Johnson)
612-788-8790
www.audubonneighborhood.org
mail@audubonneighborhood.org

- NE Citizen Patrol
612-708-3064
- Salvation Army
612-789-1512
Social services & spiritual ministry.
- NE Dinner Bell
612-789-6548
Meals-on-wheels for seniors & the homebound.

The Audubon-
boundaries are:
Central Ave.
to the west,
Stinson Blvd.
to the east,
St. Anthony
Parkway
to the north
Lowry Ave.
to the south.

